

Bahrain juniors clinch GCC golf title

Trio of Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea, Abdulrahman Ebrahim Alseedi and Abdulla Rashid Saeed win first place | **P12**

THURSDAY
MARCH, 2023
220 FILS
ISSUE NO.9498

WORLD **6** NATO chief warns Bakhmut may fall 'in coming days'



Arnold Schwarzenegger talks about his Nazi father, says anti-Semitism needs to stop

8 CELEBS

BUSINESS **5** NBB launches ALGhalya Credit Card for women

Bahrain condemns storming of Jenin camp by Israel

TDT | Manama

The Foreign Ministry yesterday condemned the Israeli forces' storming of the Jenin camp in the West Bank, which caused the deaths of several Palestinians.

In a statement, the ministry called for de-escalation and urged protection for civilians, stressing the importance of providing an appropriate atmosphere for the resumption of the peace process, in a way that fulfills the rights of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state, in accordance with the two-state solution, the international law and the Arab Peace Initiative.

Policewoman honoured for courageous act



The Interior Minister with Shareefa

TDT | Manama

Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa honoured yesterday policewoman Shareefa Riyadh Ahmed who rescued a woman and two children from a house fire in Hamad Town on February 23.

Shareefa is from the General Directorate of Verdict Enforcement and Alternative Sentencing.

General Shaikh Rashid hailed the honourable act of the policewoman, her courage and swift response in dealing with emergencies.

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'Observe calm and restraint'

UN urges 'immediate' end to Israeli-Palestinian violence following deadly raid in West Bank

AFP | Nablus, Palestinian Territories

The United Nations yesterday urged Israel and the Palestinians to "immediately" end violence as intra-Palestinian tensions erupted following a deadly Israeli military raid in the occupied West Bank.

Palestinian Authority security forces in the West Bank city of Nablus fired tear gas at mourners attending the funeral of a Hamas militant killed in Tuesday's raid, amid a surge in violence in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"We are in the midst of a cycle of violence that must be stopped immediately," UN Middle East peace envoy Tor Wennesland said in a statement.

"The Security Council has spoken with one voice, calling on the parties to observe calm and restraint, and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric."

Abdel Fatah Hussein Khroushah, 49, and five other Palestinians were killed on Tuesday during intense fighting with Israeli forces in Jenin, a scene of frequent clashes in the



People inspect the wreckage of a building that was hit by rockets during an Israeli army raid in the Jenin camp for Palestinian refugees. (AFP)

northern West Bank.

In January, in the aftermath of another deadly Israeli raid in Jenin, the PA said it was ending security coordination with Israel.

The PA is controlled by president Mahmud Abbas's Fatah

movement, a rival faction to Hamas.

Palestinian security service spokesman Talal Dweikat said officers securing the funeral had intervened when an argument broke out after "a group unrelated to the martyr's family kid-

napped the body and lowered it to the ground", Palestinian news agency Wafa reported.

Hamas spokesman Abdul Latif Al Qanou condemned the PA officers' violence, arguing in a statement it "confirms the PA is part of the plan to repress the

resistance" to the Israeli occupation.

'Outrageous behaviour'

Al Qanou accused PA leadership of "going against the current and against the will of our people" with what he dubbed "outrageous behaviour" by the officers.

Businesses in Palestinian cities across the West Bank shuttered yesterday in a general strike to protest the deadly Israeli raid.

It was the latest in a string of fatal military operations in the Palestinian territory, which Israel has occupied since the Six-Day War of 1967.

Thousands gathered in Jenin for the funerals of the five Palestinians killed alongside Khroushah, with heavily armed masked fighters firing volleys into the air.

Near the blockaded Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip, the Israeli army said an "explosive device" was set off close to troops patrolling the border barrier, without causing any injuries.

The army responded to the incident with fire.

IPU meetings

Bahrain ready for biggest global parliamentary gathering

TDT | Manama

More than 1700 parliamentary personalities from more than 143 countries will participate in the 146th session of the General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and associated meetings in the Kingdom of Bahrain from March 11 to 15.

Speakers and representatives

of parliaments, organisations and parliamentary unions are taking part in the meetings.

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh and Speaker of the Council of Representatives Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam announced that all preparations to receive the parliamentary delegations have been completed.

They pointed out that around

60 parliament Speakers will arrive in Bahrain to take part in the biggest international parliamentary gathering.

Al Saleh and Al Musallam were speaking during a visit yesterday to the Exhibition World Bahrain to follow up on preparations to host the IPU meetings.

The visit was made in the presence of chairman and members of the national organising

committee of the 146th session of IPU General Assembly.

The Shura Council Chairman and Speaker of the Council of Representatives asserted that the event is considered a good opportunity to build relations with regional and international parliaments and highlight Bahrain's civilisational image to the participants.

They took pride in the king-

dom's approach of coexistence, tolerance and peace, which turned it into a unique model at all levels.

President of the national organising committee of the 146th session of the IPU General Assembly, Jamal Mohammed Fakhro, said the IPU Secretariat General has put in place a comprehensive programme for the meetings and the issues on their agenda.

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'Strategic partnerships' vital in oil, gas sector

HH Shaikh Nasser highlights Bahrain's lead achievements in developing industry

Houston

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, has stressed the importance of building strategic partnerships, cooperation and exchanging experiences to advance the oil and gas sector.

HH Shaikh Nasser, who is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Oil and Gas Holding Company B.S.C. (nogaholding), highlighted the importance of Bahrain accords to the national energy strategy and its pivotal role in the growth of the local sector and in contributing to building a sustainable future free of carbon emissions.

This came as His Highness held bilateral meetings with a number of representatives and heads of international companies in the oil and gas sector on the sidelines of their participation in the "CERAWEEK 2023".

HH Shaikh Nasser met with Bechtel, APA Corporation, Chevron, Palantir Technologies, and Italian company Eni.

The meetings were in line with the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Salman bin Ham-



HH Shaikh Nasser holds talks with Bechtel



"The Kingdom is keen to provide sustainable and safe energy supplies in line with the sustainability goals and the Kingdom's Economic Vision 2030."

- HH SHAIKH NASSER BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

ad Al Khalifa in securing the Kingdom's energy needs in the future, and achieving the zero neutral goals set out during 26th Conference of the Parties to

the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26).

HH Shaikh Nasser highlighted the lead achievements made

by the Kingdom in developing the oil and gas sector, and the importance of exploring more opportunities that ensure the continuity of the sector's development and growth through the application of the latest technologies and qualitative innovations that would boost the efficiency of infrastructure and protect the environment.

He also stressed the Kingdom's keenness to provide sustainable and safe energy supplies in line with the sustainability goals and the Kingdom's Economic Vision 2030.

Frustration grows amongst King Fahd Causeway travellers

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

The ongoing expansion and maintenance work at the King Fahd Causeway has disrupted travel plans for many the past couple of days.

There is growing frustration amongst those crossing the border, as people continue to experience hours of waiting, traffic jams, and congestion.

The King Fahd Causeway Authority (KFCA) has begun the expansion aimed at increasing the capacity and improving the experience of travellers crossing the bridge.

According to reports, the ongoing expansion will be developed in several stages, beginning with the first stage, aimed to be completed in three months. Other stages will be completed within a year, according to KFCA.

Nour, an avid causeway passenger, was informed that there was no entry crossing the

border, after making a quick trip into Bahrain, planning to leave the same day back to Saudi Arabia.

"I had planned a quick trip to do some shopping as well as have dinner with some friends on Monday to Bahrain, and then travel back to Saudi the same day," she said.

However, when she was trying to leave back to Saudi Arabia through the Causeway, authorities notified her that she can't pass the border, and was told to travel back to Bahrain.

"As there was a high amount of traffic that day, the authorities explained to me to travel back to Bahrain. I stayed in a hotel, slept the night, and the next day I travelled back to Saudi," she said.

The King Fahd Causeway set a new record for the highest number of passengers crossing the border, as more than 136,000 passengers crossed through the border on Saturday, March 4.

BDF continues to send more humanitarian aid to Turkey



Delivery of relief aid to Turkey

● **Part of royal directives to help quake victims**

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Defense Force (BDF) continues sending humanitarian aid to Turkey in a second operation that consists of relief materials, medical, shelter tents, food and logistical aid.

The relief aid, flown by Bahraini Royal Air Force aircraft, is in implementation of the direc-

tives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, to provide the necessary support to the affected victims in Syria and Turkey after the devastating earthquake.

The relief operation was coordinated with the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) to carry out its delivery and distribution process to the affected people.

The air bridge will continue to send aid through flights over several days as part of the Kingdom's vision of providing assistance to different countries.

Social media posts 'warning'

TDT | Manama

The Director-General of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security asserted yesterday that the monitoring and follow-up operations indicated that some exploit social media by circulating posts against civil peace, social stability and safety of the community.

He said those who repost posts or write supportive comments that promote incitement would be held legally accountable.

The Director-General urged the public to use social media wisely.

Arab meetings



Foreign Minister Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani yesterday participated in the meeting of the Council of the League of Arab States at the ministerial level, which was held at the headquarters of the League of Arab States in Cairo. Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry chaired the session, in the presence of Arab Foreign Ministers and the Secretary-General of the Arab League. The session discussed a number of issues related to strengthening joint Arab action in various fields, coordinating Arab stances towards current regional and international challenges, issues related to maintaining security and stability in the region, and ways to strengthen friendship and cooperation in a way that enhances Arab interests.

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NEWS OF BAHRAIN

'Poor financial management, unethical behaviour, delay in holding elections'

Indian School management says parent's committee allegations are 'baseless'

TDT | Manama

A parent's committee in one of the largest expatriate schools in the Kingdom has allegedly accused the school management of poor financial management, unethical behaviour towards the students, and delay in conducting the elections.

The chairman of the parent's committee raised many allegations, including poor financial management, resulting in an accumulated deficit of BD1,282,410, and threatening students from the poor economic background by withholding their results and not promoting them to the next level.

Abraham John, the chairman of the Indian School parents committee, told The Daily Tribune that the school management is delaying the school elections inordinately without valid reasons. He also accused the school committee of not replacing the board members who left the committee for various reasons.

According to reliable sources, the principal of the Riffa School campus sent a circular to the parents of those students who failed to pay the fees due to the impact of the pandemic.

The circular also describes the overdue fees of BD634,932 from parents of 5,719 students on February 6, 2023, and demands immediate payment or else withhold their results and restrict them from upgrading to higher classes.

The parent committee, popularly known as UPP, claims that the school management has postponed the annual general meeting without any reason. He also challenged the status



"It is a completely false allegation, I am not concerned about these false rumours, nor do I have any comment on this matter. However, the management always does its best to benefit the school, parents, students, and staff."

- PRINCE NATARAJAN, CHAIRMAN OF INDIAN SCHOOL



"The school managed to raise nearly BD4 million in 2015 by increasing the fee structure. Where are those funds? We increased the fees to improve the cash flow and increase the teachers' salaries. The school also collected infra-structural development fees even during the pandemic, but the school management failed to pay 25 instalments, nearly BD1.2 million. Where are those funds utilised?"

- ABRAHAM JOHN, CHAIRMAN OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL PARENTS COMMITTEE



of many of the board members, including the chairman, whose kids left the school for good.

While speaking to The Daily Tribune, John said: "The school managed to raise nearly BD4 million in 2015 by increasing the fee structure. Where are those funds? We increased the fees to improve the cash flow and increase the teachers' salaries. The school also collected infra-structural development fees even during the pandemic, but the school management failed to

pay 25 instalments, nearly BD1.2 million. Where are those funds utilised?"

Baseless

The Indian School Bahrain stated the allegations as baseless. The school formally sent a statement issued by the school committee clarifying their end.

The statement issued by the school committee confirmed that the Schools Executive Committee had informed the Minis-

try of Education (MoE) that the AGM and the election to the Executive Committee 2020-2023 were due to be conducted at the end of October 2020 through a letter dated September 6, 2020. The EC requested the MoE's directives and advice for further action during the pandemic.

The school received the directives from the MoE on November 24, 2020, granting the option to extend the current board's term for a further three-year period or elect a new board of

directors (EC) through electronic voting.

The EC convened an emergency meeting on November 25, 2020, and discussed the options granted by the MoE. After thorough deliberations, all the members unanimously opted for continuing with the current EC until the situation becomes feasible to conduct the AGM and the election to the EC safely, securely and fairly with the necessary approval from the MoE. The ISB parents were informed about

these decisions in a circular dated 26/11/2020 from the school.

Following this, a parent who had contested and lost the election filed a case in the Supreme Administrative Court, Kingdom of Bahrain, against the MoE's decision to extend the term of the present EC due to the prevailing conditions of COVID-19. The case was filed against MoE, The Indian School and 11 EC Members.

The lawsuit was pleading to dismiss the current EC and appoint the complainant (plaintiff) and the other candidates who lost in the election held in 2017 as the new members of the EC, even if temporarily until the next elections are held. The petition was also pleading to conduct the polls for the EC as soon as possible, following provisions of the school's constitution through the usual methods of elections.

The Honourable Supreme Administrative Court issued the judgment in the public hearing held on 28/04/2021. The review states that 'the court ruled with rejecting the case and obligated the plaintiff to pay the expenses against the attorney's fees'. The ISB parents were informed about these rulings in a circular dated 16/05/2021 from the school.

AGM

The school applied to the MoE in September last year seeking approval for conducting the AGM and the election for the EC, for which the MoE has given directives to conduct the AGM.

Accordingly, the AGM will be held in the ISB Riffa Campus auditorium on March 10, 2023, with the concerned authority's approval.

'Sporadic rain' in Kingdom sparks Twitter reactions

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

While the Meteorological Directorate predicted partly overcast conditions with a chance of sporadic rain showers tomorrow, several Twitter users expressed their opinions.

Throughout the previous several days, the Kingdom has seen warm weather during daytime, with temperature reaching the mid-thirties.

Many people are tweeting about how they are relieved if there is a chance of rain and how they are hoping for slightly better weather before the start of Ramadan as summer is coming and Ramadan is soon to follow.

"This morning I went out and was astonished to find the overcast weather," Fatoom tweeted.

"For a moment I thought it was going to rain after waking up today," tweeted Amal98.

Jailed for laundering drug money from drug sales

Two Asian men buy and resell digital currency

TDT | Manama

Two Asian men who laundered money obtained from drug sales by buying digital currency and reselling have been hit with heavy punishments.

The first defendant was sentenced to 10 years in prison, while the second received five years in prison.

Both men were fined BD100,000 each, while the Court ordered for the seizure of BD61,000 from the first defendant and BD19,520 from the second defendant.

Security investigations revealed that the defendants were part of an international drug trafficking network where their role was to receive sale proceeds and legitimise them through laundering. The first defendant received BD61,000, while the second received BD19,520.

The two defendants conducted laundering operations through three methods: mon-



Both men were fined BD100,000 each, while the Court ordered for the seizure of BD61,000 from the first defendant and BD19,520 from the second defendant.



ey transfers through exchange companies, cash withdrawals from ATMs that were re-positing in banks; and finally, by buying and reselling digital currency.

The second defendant confessed to receiving those sums and transferring them to his home country despite knowing their origin.

He indicated that on one occasion, he contacted the first defendant with a request to use his phone for the transfer of some amounts.

It turned out that the first defendant was in contact with individuals who transferred money, and thus, the two defendants worked together. The sums which they obtained and laundered exceeded BD80,000.

The prosecution charged the defendants with carrying out money laundering operations in the year 2022 with intention of legitimising sums obtained from the sale of narcotics.

Auction operator ordered to pay BD8,500 to gold store

TDT | Manama

The High Civil Court obligated an auction operator to pay BD8,500 to a famous jewellery store after failing to cover the value of 25 gold coins which he received from the store to auction them.

The defendant is said to be

involved in running auctions, and the store approached him to use his service to sell the 25 gold coins.

The base value of the coins was more than BD8,000, and the store was interested in generating more than their value by inviting bids on them. However, the defendant claimed that the

coins were stolen before they were put up for auction.

"My client is a jeweller and has connections with retailers. He had 25 gold coins, whose combined value exceeds BD8,000. He agreed to put them up for auction as per a written agreement which included a clear description of the coins

and their value. However, the defendant handed neither the money nor the coins, although requests were sent to him," the plaintiff's lawyer told the court.

"He is obligated to compensate my client or return them back as per the agreement signed between them. My client has nothing to do with his claims that they

were stolen before the auction. It was his responsibility to keep them safe and protect them."

"His claims confirm the fact that he took the coins and didn't return them back," the lawyer pointed out.

The Court also refuted the defendant's claims, obligating him to pay BD8,500 to the plaintiff.

On World Kidney Day, patients urged to seek medical guidance

Kidney stones incidence and prevalence in Bahrain is amongst the highest in the world

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

On the occasion of World Kidney Day, experts encourage everyone to get their kidney function checked, especially those with risk factors.

A blood estimation of creatinine and a simple urine test are some of the easiest screening tests that can be done to assess kidney function.

The World Kidney Day theme for the year 2023 is "Kidney Health for All - Preparing for the unexpected, supporting the vulnerable".

The 2023 campaign focuses on raising awareness about disastrous events, natural or man-made, international or local, and their impact on people living with kidney disease.

The World Kidney Day is a global campaign initiated by the International society of nephrology (ISN) to raise awareness about the importance of our kidneys in overall health. It is observed during the second Thursday of March annually since its inception in the year 2006.

The general population is made aware about the preventive behaviours, about the risk factors and also on how to live with a kidney disease once diagnosed through various campaigns planned worldwide.

Dr Ranjith Menon, Consultant Nephrologist and Internal Medicine at Middle East Hospital, told The Daily Tribune that most common causes of kidney disease in the Kingdom are renal calculus disease or kidney stones, abuse of over the counter painkiller medications or analgesics, and obesity.

"It is important to note that kidney diseases if not detected early can result in kidney failure and if untreated commonly can lead to heart attacks," Dr Ranjit said.

"Around 8 and 10 per cent of the adult population have some form of kidney disease, and every year millions die prematurely due to complications arising from Kidney Diseases.

"Most patients do not have symptoms of kidney disease very early, some manifest with symptoms only when 90 percent of their kidney function is damaged. Hence early detection of kidney disease is important.

"Some symptoms of kidney disease include swollen ankles, fatigue or tiredness, poor concentration, reduced appetite, blood in the urine and foamy urine."

Dr Ranjit explained some ways of preventing kidney disease that include regular health checkups, good control of diabetes and hypertension, adopting healthy lifestyle which includes



"It is important to note that kidney diseases if not detected early can result in kidney failure and if untreated commonly can lead to heart attacks."

- DR RANJITH MENON, CONSULTANT NEPHROLOGIST AND INTERNAL MEDICINE AT MIDDLE EAST HOSPITAL



"To prevent kidney stones, you should hydrate yourself well and drink 2-3 liter per day of water if you don't have underlying heart failure or advanced kidney disease. Limit salt and meat intake."

- DR TEERATH KUMAR, CONSULTANT NEPHROLOGIST AND INTERNAL MEDICINE AT BAHRAIN SPECIALIST HOSPITAL

a balanced diet, avoiding fast food and carbonated drinks, doing daily regular exercise, reduce smoking and maintaining ideal body weight, avoid overuse of analgesics

"It is estimated that around 60 to 70 per cent of human body weight is composed of water. Our kidneys play the most important role in water balance in the body, it is important that

we drink adequate amounts of water daily for kidney health," he said.

"Higher amounts may be needed for those who are exposed to very warm climates like we encounter commonly in Bahrain."

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Dr Teerath Kumar, Consultant Nephrologist and Internal Medicine at Bahrain Specialist Hospital, said: "Predominant etiology of chronic kidney disease in Bahrain are diabetes mellitus and hypertension and chronic glomerulonephritis. Along with Smoking, Obesity and Family history of kidney disease."

Since Ramadan is approaching, he warned that prolonged fasting may be harmful for CKD patients. Individuals with stable moderate to severe CKD (stages 3-5) may be discouraged from fasting, whereas those with mild to moderate CKD (stages 1-3) may be allowed to do so with appropriate monitoring and counseling.

"If their transplant team closely monitors them, patients with stable renal transplants may also be permitted to fast. Individuals on hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis shouldn't be urged to fast, but if they do, they need close weekly observation."

"To prevent kidney stones, you should hydrate yourself well and drink 2-3 liter per day of water if



The World Kidney Day is a global campaign initiated by the International society of nephrology (ISN) to raise awareness about the importance of our kidneys in overall health. It is observed during the second Thursday of March annually since its inception in the year 2006.

you don't have underlying heart failure or advanced kidney disease. Limit Salt and meat intake."

He urged everyone to keep up an appropriate level of physical activity and weight. Limit your salt intake, stay away from processed foods, monitor and manage your blood sugar, and keep an eye on your blood pressure. Drink enough water, avoid smoking, which lowers kidney function by slowing blood flow to the kidneys.

24 Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School students dish out stellar performance

TDT | Manama

Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School (BIS) students exhibited an outstanding performance in the World Scholar's Cup held at St. Christopher's School.

The World Scholar's Cup is an international academic competition inspired by contests like the 'Academic Decathlon'. It gives the opportunity to students from around the world to compete in a variety of challenges. It is a global celebration of learning, leadership, and the love of alpacas.

The contest witnessed participation of 650 students from 18 schools in Bahrain. The Scholars take part in four key events over two days: Collaborative Writing, Debating, Scholar's Challenge and the Scholar's Bowl.

Twenty-four students from BIS (of Grades VII to XII) participated in the two-day event.

Students bagged as many as 123 medals in various categories and competitions. Four junior and four senior teams participated in the event and all the eight teams from BIS were qualified to the Global Round.

Participants at each Global Round will continue the same inclusive learning experience and will have opportunity to qualify for the 2023 Tourn-



Triumphant Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School students with their proud teachers

ment of Champions. The program enabled students to explore beyond the academic curriculum and interact with students from different

cultural backgrounds. Directors Mr. Himanshu Verma and Mrs. Ritu Verma and Principal Mr. Saji Jacob applauded and congratulated the

students on their outstanding performance and encouraged them to continue achieving great heights in the Global Rounds.

Philippine School holds successful Sports Festival 2023



Kindergarten students performing their limbo rack game

TDT | Manama

"Learn to Move, Move to Learn: Fostering Health and Wellness Through Sports."

This theme marked the annual celebration of Sports Day of Philippine School (Bahrain) which was held last March 1 and 2, 2023.

The event gave a lot of chances for the Kindergarten and Elementary pupils as well as Junior and Senior High School students to move and learn through various relays and ball games. Some of these are Pass the Ball, Potato and Balloon Relay, Dodge Ball, Volleyball and Basketball.

The first day was filled with fun and excitement when the different teams walked by pairs while wearing their colourful uniforms and jerseys through a parade followed by



Lee-Ann A. Manalo and Jairelle Prince Resurrection... muse and escort of Green Vipers Team

the opening ceremony. Vice Principal of Elementary Department, Mr Jestoni M. Jasmin, announced the declaration of the formal opening of the Sports Day.

"The two-day sports fest enhanced the spirit of sportsmanship among students and teachers," he said.

Alba maintains status quo as world's largest aluminium smelter ex-China

TDT | Manama

With a production of 1,600,111 metric tonnes (MT) in 2022, Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) continues to be the world's largest Aluminium smelter ex-China.

Alba said this citing a recent rating released by Wood Mackenzie – a global research, analytics and consultancy business that provides



Starting as a 120,000 tonnes per annum smelter in 1971, Alba, today, is the world's largest aluminium smelter ex-China with a production of more than 1.6 million metric tonnes per annum (2022).

quality data, analytics, and insights across multiple industry sectors.

Alba's Chairman of the Board

of Directors Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa stated: "Alba's journey of a thousand miles starts with a vision and I

take this opportunity to thank the Leadership of Bahrain and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom for his strategic vision that has seen Alba to where it is today."

He added: "We are proud to be the world's number one Aluminium smelter ex-China thanks to the successful operations of Potline 6. Potline 6 not only has boosted Alba's per-annum



Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa

production by 540,000 metric tonnes but also set global benchmarks in sustainable aluminium production."

It is noteworthy that Alba has been surpassing its annual production target for more than 5 years, the credit of which goes to the Company's ambitious organic growth objectives and its dedicated workforce who always go by 'Safety is Operating License'.

Tatweer Petroleum obtains CIPS International Certificate

TDT | Manama

Supply chain management department from Tatweer Petroleum has obtained an international certificate in professional ethics in the field of procurement and supply from the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS).

Ghassan Al-Muhanna, Acting Managing Director of Tatweer Petroleum said the achievement reflects the Tatweer Petroleum's commitment to adopting international best practices and the highest international standards in the field of purchasing and sales management.

Managing Director of CIPS in



The CIPS certificate

the Middle East and North Africa, Sam Achampong, expressed his happiness at this achievement, and the commitment of the company's employees to

learn, explore and expand their knowledge, which reflects their deep awareness and importance of ethical dealings.

LuLu Exchange Bahrain launches special campaign for women customers

Assured gift for all women customers who send money via LuLu Money App before 8 April, 2023

TDT | Manama

LuLu Exchange Bahrain has come up with a new campaign named 'The Digital Women' for empowering women digitally.

The campaign gives an assured wireless headphone as a gift to every woman customer who makes a payment gateway transaction through the LuLu Money App between March 8 and April 8, 2023. Eligible customers are expected to collect their gift from any of the LuLu Exchange branches be-



fore April 15, 2023.

Edison Fernandez, GM of LuLu Exchange Bahrain, said, "Being in this digitally en-

hanced era, we at LuLu Exchange believe that women should also lead in this digitization. That is why we are offering this campaign to inspire women to start making use of the digital world and thereby bring themselves to the forefront."

LuLu Exchange's campaign is a testament to the organization's commitment to supporting women. It is a powerful reminder of the importance of promoting gender equality and empowering women in all spheres of life.

NBB launches AlGhalya Credit Card for women

"For a limited time period"

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has recently launched "AlGhalya" Credit Card for a limited time from 8th March 2023 to 8th June 2023, designed exclusively for women.

In line with its brand promise 'Closer to You', NBB's "AlGhalya" credit card aims to reward all women through service personalisation and extensive benefits.

Cardholders will benefit from attractive interest rates and raffle eligibility for a chance to win valuable prizes. In addition to 1,000 bonus points annually, 200 bonus points on special celebration days for women and double points accumulated on targeted occasions during the year. Applicants can also get a waiver on their loan processing and insurance premium fees



Shadi Baraka

once they apply for a loan along with the card, in addition to exclusive offers with various merchants, and access to a variety of airport lounges around the world.

To mark the launch of the new "AlGhalya" card, and for a limited time period, applicants will benefit from discounted interest rates for a period of 6



months and will be rewarded with 1,000 basis points along with 1,000 bonus points which can be redeemed through the Bank's loyalty rewards platform "Points". The Bank will also reward the first fifty applicants with BHD 30 which will be automatically deposited into their card.

Shadi Barakat, Head of Card Business, said: "We have specially designed "AlGhalya" credit card to cater to the financially independent female customer base, with a host of one-of-a-kind features and offers".

UK cyber security firm warns over ChatGPT

London, United Kingdom

British cyber security firm Darktrace on Wednesday warned that artificial intelligence bot ChatGPT may have increased the sophistication of phishing scams.

Content creation bot ChatGPT, Silicon Valley's latest app sensation, was launched by Microsoft-backed start-up OpenAI in November.

"Darktrace does not believe that ChatGPT has yet lowered barriers to entry for threat actors significantly," the firm said in a results statement.

"But it does believe that it may have helped increase the sophistication of phishing emails, enabling adversaries to create more targeted, personalised, and ultimately, successful attacks."

Generative AI, of which ChatGPT is an example, can upon request wade through reams of data to conjure up original content -- an image, a poem, a thousand-word essay -- in seconds.



Content creation bot ChatGPT, Silicon Valley's latest app sensation, was launched by Microsoft-backed start-up OpenAI in November.

ChatGPT had "ignited a conversation about the implications of generative AI for cyber security", Darktrace noted Wednesday.

It added however that email attacks on its customers were "steady" despite the release of ChatGPT, with a decline in the number of those containing malicious links.

Yet it warned that the "linguistic complexity" of those emails -- including punctuation, sentence length and text

volume -- had increased.

"This indicates that cyber-criminals may be redirecting their focus to crafting more sophisticated social engineering scams that exploit user trust."

Darktrace also revealed Wednesday that its net profit sank 86 percent to \$581 million in the first half of its financial year, or six months to December.

Its performance was slammed by surging costs and tax charges.

Darktrace shares rose 1.2 percent to 267.10 pence in London midday deals, but the stock is down 40 percent compared with the same stage last year.

The company, which uses cutting-edge artificial intelligence technology to combat cyber attacks, floated on the London stock market in 2021.

However shares have tumbled over the last year and a half on concerns over the group's accounts, and after US private equity firm Thoma Bravo ended its takeover interest in 2022.

Al Baraka Islamic Bank and Qodwa Mentorship Programme ink partnership deal

TDT | Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank has announced signing a programme partnership agreement with Qodwa Bahrain, the CFA Society Bahrain's Mentorship Program.

The signing held at Al Baraka headquarters was in the presence of Fatema AlAlawi - Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, Noorhan AlZann - CFA



The deal signing

Board Member - CFA Society Bahrain and Qodwa Chairperson, Dr Ali J. Al-Moulani - CFA, President of the CFA Society Bahrain, and Maryam Ismael - Global Relations at Qodwa, and officials from both parties.

AlAlawi applauded this step and stated: "This one-of-a-kind program partnership will also foster stronger leadership skills and networking opportunities, as well as the development of a

vibrant community of Bahraini professionals, and thus providing a holistic growth for 'Aspire' and Qodwa".

AlZann expressed delight to have Al Baraka Islamic Bank as a Programme Partner and aspire to continue our growth and impact together within Bahrain and globally.

Dr Al-Moulani said his company takes pride in giving back to its community through its edu-

cational activities and flagship initiatives like Qodwa.

Conceptualized and launched in 2018 in Bahrain, QODWA, CFA Society Bahrain's Mentorship Program is designed to pair members and candidates who are best suited to realize their full potential together while ensuring the success of each individual as they achieve their academic and professional goals.

News in brief

◆ **The UK yesterday** announced the opening of a military base in the far north of Norway to strengthen NATO's capabilities in the Arctic amid concerns following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The newly established Norwegian site, called Camp Viking, will serve as a hub for Royal Marines Commandos, said Britain's Royal Navy. It described the troops as "the tip of the Arctic spear" and "the unit the UK turns to when it needs troops able to fight in cold weather extremes. "A new Arctic operations base will support Britain's commandos for the next 10 years as the UK underscores its commitment to security in the High North," the statement added. Norway, which borders Russia, refuses to host permanent bases for foreign soldiers, so Camp Viking is due to remain open for just a decade. The purpose-built base, located around 40 miles (65 kilometres) south of Tromsø, will be able to accommodate all personnel from the elite commando-led Royal Marines force which reacts to emerging crises in Europe.



UK opens military base in northern Norway

◆ **The leaders of the United States, Britain and Australia** will meet in the United States next week to discuss security and foreign policy, the British Prime Minister's office announced on Wednesday, ahead of an expected nuclear submarine deal aimed at countering China's growing assertiveness in the Pacific. After 18 months of negotiations, it is anticipated that Australia will reveal plans to obtain eight nuclear-powered submarines, in what Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has called "the single biggest leap" in defence capability in his country's history. The deal is part of the fledgling regional security pact between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States known as AUKUS.



Australia, US, Britain leaders to meet, submarine deal expected

◆ **US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin** and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi reaffirmed their countries' close military ties Wednesday, Sisi's office said, during the Cairo leg of Austin's regional tour. Sisi highlighted "Egypt's eagerness to strengthen its strategic partnership with the United States", particularly in military and security cooperation, presidential spokesman Ahmed Fahmy said. The Pentagon chief's stop in Cairo comes on the heels of his surprise visit to Baghdad ahead of the 20th anniversary of the US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein, as well as after talks in Amman with staunch US ally King Abdullah II.

Austin and Sisi reaffirm US-Egypt military ties: presidency



CURIOSER & CURIOSER

White tiger cub found dumped on Greek street: animal park



picture courtesy of Yahoo Athens, Greece

Greece's leading animal park yesterday said it had recovered a rare white tiger cub found abandoned on a nearby street earlier this week. Attica Zoological Park outside Athens said the four-month-old female cub, which was found beneath a garbage bin near the premises, was paralysed from the waist down. "No one knows where it came from or how it got here," park founder Jean Jacques Lesueur told Proto Thema daily, adding that the feline was likely abandoned on Monday.

"It's in terrible condition," he said. Conservation group World Wildlife Fund (WWF) describes white tigers as "a genetic anomaly," with none known to exist in the wild. They are often the result of inbreeding, exposing them to a host of health problems at birth. The park says it hosts more than 2,000 animals from 290 different species. It was criticised last year after an alpha male chimpanzee escaped its enclosure during operating hours, and was later shot dead for public safety reasons.

NATO chief warns Bakhmut may fall 'in coming days'

Wagner claimed to have captured the eastern bank of the industrial town

● The intense fighting around Bakhmut has been the longest and bloodiest in Russia's more than year-long invasion

● Zelensky told CNN that his armed forces were resolved to stay in Bakhmut

AFP | Kyiv, Ukraine

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg warned yesterday the eastern Ukrainian city of Bakhmut may fall into Russian hands in the coming days following months of intense fighting. His remarks come as Russia's Wagner mercenary group, which has spearheaded the attack on Bakhmut, claimed to have captured the eastern bank of the industrial town that has been devastated in the longest battle since Moscow invaded. In Stockholm, EU ministers were discussing plans to ramp up defence production and rush ammunition to Ukraine as it burns through thousands of howitzer shells each day. Wagner chief and Kremlin ally Yevgeny Prigozhin said on social media Wednesday that his forces "have taken all of the eastern part of Bakhmut", a salt-mining town with a pre-war population



Ukrainian servicemen fire a 105mm Howitzer towards Russian positions, near the city of Bakhmut

of 80,000. The intense fighting around Bakhmut has been the longest and bloodiest in Russia's more than year-long invasion, which has devastated swathes of Ukraine and displaced millions of people. "What we see is that Russia is throwing more troops, more forces and what Russia lacks in quality they try to make up in quantity," Stoltenberg told reporters in Stockholm on the sidelines of an EU defence ministers meeting. "We cannot rule out that Bakhmut may eventually fall in the coming days," the head of the

US-led military alliance said, adding that "this does not necessarily reflect any turning point of the war". Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky warned in an interview with CNN what could happen if Bakhmut falls to Russian forces. "We understand that after Bakhmut, (Russian forces) could go further" and attack nearby cities in the Donetsk region. "They could go to Kramatorsk, they could go to Sloviansk, it would be an open road for the Russians after Bakhmut to other towns in Ukraine, in the Donetsk

direction," Zelensky said in an interview set to air Wednesday. **Russia aims for 'further offensive'** Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu told military officials during a televised meeting on Tuesday that taking control of the city would allow for "further offensive operations" in eastern Ukraine. Prigozhin estimated the day before that between "12,000 and 20,000" Ukrainian troops were still defending the town. Zelensky told CNN that his

Pele's widow to inherit 30 percent of his

AFP | Sao Paulo

The widow of late football legend Pele will inherit 30 percent of his assets, according to his will, which also mentions a woman who could be Pele's unrecognized daughter, the widow's lawyer said on Tuesday. The will states that Marcia Cibele Aoki, Pele's third and last wife, will inherit his mansion in



Marcia Aoki

Guaruja, a seaside resort town south of Sao Paulo, where the couple lived, according to her lawyer Luiz Kignel. Other assets belonging to Pele, who died after battling cancer in late December at age 82, include more real estate and a stake in the Pele brand, Kignel said, adding that a complete inventory has yet to be made. The remaining 70 percent is reserved for Pele's children, including an unrecognized daughter that he may have.

In September 2022, a court in Sao Paulo ordered Pele to submit to a DNA test, according to the G1 website. The test must now be performed on one of his seven recognized children.

135 years after abolition

AFP | Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

It sounded like a good job: Picking grapes at a vineyard in southern Brazil. It was only when workers were awakened with electrical shocks, beaten and threatened with death that they realized they had been recruited into the nightmare of modern-day slavery. One hundred thirty-five years after Brazil became the last country in the Americas to abolish



slavery, in 1888, stories like this are disturbingly common -- and have been growing more so. "There are more and more people in Brazil working in conditions resembling slavery," says Italvar Medina, a prosecutor on the national anti-slave labor task force, CONAETE. The number of workers freed from slave-like conditions in Brazil has more than doubled in two years, from 936 in 2020 to 2,075

Adam Smith publishes the influential economics book "The Wealth of Nations"



Russian Bolshevik Party becomes the Communist Party

US Congress is called into special session by President Franklin D Roosevelt, beginning its "100 days"

Soviet flight Sputnik 9 carries and returns from orbit a dog named Chernushka (Blackie), frogs and a guinea pig

Bakhmut says'

OWN

armed forces were resolved to stay in Bakhmut.

"Of course, we have to think about the lives of our military. But we have to do whatever we can whilst we're getting weapons, supplies, and our army is getting ready for the counter-offensive."

Zelensky on Wednesday hosted UN chief Antonio Guterres in Kyiv as he makes his third visit to Ukraine since Russia's invasion.

In a statement following the talks, Guterres underscored the importance of extending an expiring deal that has allowed Ukraine to export its grain.

"I want to underscore the critical importance of the rollover of the Black Sea Grain Initiative on 18 March," Guterres said.

EU defence ministers were meeting in Stockholm to discuss a plan to rush one billion euros worth of ammunition to Ukraine as pressure mounts on Kyiv's allies to bolster supplies to the war effort.



Zelensky said Russia would have an "open road" into eastern Ukraine if it captures the besieged city of Bakhmut

assets

"He indicated the possibility of the existence of another daughter, whose recognition will depend on a DNA test, which could not be carried out (on Pele) due to the pandemic and the state of his health," said Kignel.

According to Kignel, the woman in question is a Brazilian national and she has taken legal steps to be recognized as Pele's daughter.

WHO regional chief Kasai ousted over bullying claims



Geneva, Switzerland

The World Health Organization has terminated the contract of its powerful Western Pacific regional director Takeshi Kasai following staff accusations of abusive and racist behaviour, a diplomatic source said yesterday.

The WHO executive board called a two-day, closed-door special session at its Geneva headquarters to discuss the case of Japanese doctor Kasai, who was suspended after allegations first surfaced in January 2022.

"The regional director's appointment has been terminated", the source told AFP.

A WHO letter said the decision was made "after careful consideration".

The WHO said the executive board meeting was scheduled to consider "the recommendation of the regional committee", which was held in the Western Pacific headquarters in Manila last week -- also in private.

While the WHO did not say what that recommendation was, another diplomatic source told AFP that the Manila meeting had called for Kasai to be dismissed.

"Up to the 11th hour they were giving him the option to resign," but Kasai refused, one source said.

"The vote was very close, 13-11... There were a lot of phone calls behind the scenes," the source said, adding that Japan had tried to block a report on an investigation into the case from being published.

Headquartered in the Philippines' capital, the WHO's Western Pacific region covers almost 1.9 billion people across 37 territories.

Four dead in Syria drone strike

AFP | Beirut

A drone strike killed four people in government-held eastern Syria yesterday in an area controlled by Iran-backed factions, a war monitor said.

"Four people were killed and eight wounded in a drone strike near a weapons factory belonging to Iran-backed groups and near a truck loaded with weapons," Rami Abdel Rahman of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights told AFP.

There was no immediate word on who carried out the strike in the eastern city of Deir Ezzor or whether the dead were fighters or civilians.

The strike targeted a part of the city that is home to residences of top Iranian commanders and senior officers of Lebanon's Hezbollah movement as well as an Iranian hospital to treat cholera patients, Abdel Rahman said.

Pro-Iran factions aligned with the Syrian government, including Hezbollah, are heavily deployed south and west of the Euphrates River which bisects Deir Ezzor province.

Israel has carried out re-



Aftermath of drone strike reveals destruction and wreckage of vehicles

peated air and missile strikes against government forces and their Iran-backed allies. A US-led coalition has also carried out strikes.

State media said a land mine planted by "terrorists" exploded in the same neighborhood, causing casualties.

"A number of citizens were killed and wounded when a land mine planted by terrorists exploded in the Al-Hamidiya neighborhood of Deir Ezzor," state news agency SANA reported. SANA published photographs of the aftermath of the blast which showed extensive damage to a building and

a truck. Wednesday's attack followed a series of unclaimed drone strikes on January 30 that targeted a suspected Iranian weapons convoy in the province and killed 11 people, including a pro-Iranian commander, the Observatory said at the time.

The conflict in Syria started in 2011 with the brutal repression of peaceful protests and escalated to pull in foreign powers and global jihadists.

The war has killed nearly half a million people and forced around half of the country's pre-war population from their homes.

France makes new arrests in two million euro German heist

AFP | Paris, France

French police investigating the armed robbery of over 2 million euros from a money transporter in Germany have arrested eight more people, sources close to the investigation said Wednesday.

The eight, detained on Tuesday and Wednesday, include the suspected brains of the operation, identified only as Gemal D., 58, who is known to police, the sources said.

Early in January, a team of five or more heavily armed people used explosives to attack an armoured money transporter in Sarrelouis in Germany close to the French border.

One of the transporter's guards and a policeman were injured in the attack, which also involved gunfire.

The attackers fled in several vehicles and fired shots at German police during a car chase, a document seen by AFP said.

Gemal D. and three others were arrested in the southwestern region of Pyrenees-Orien-



Representative picture courtesy of NBC News

tales, and the others in northern France and the Paris region, they said. All were being questioned by anti-gang investigators.

One source said everybody connected to the robbery was now under arrest.

Ten other suspects have already been apprehended for their part in the heist.

Within hours of the attack, five suspects were arrested near Paris, including two well-known figures in the French gang underworld, a source said. Abdelkrim Lho, 56, and Loic

Deliere, 45, both have convictions for an attack on an armoured money transport in 2000 in which a guard was killed.

Five others, one of them a woman, were apprehended later in January and in February.

The robbers got away with 2.1 million euros (\$2.2 million), according to a German police estimate, of which 860,000 euros were recovered during the first waves of arrests.

The rest of the money is still missing.

n, slavery still exists in Brazil

in 2022, official statistics show.

Last year's figure was the highest since 2013, when there 2,808.

And the trend appears to continue: late last month, Brazilians were shocked by news of a police operation that freed 207 people from slave-like conditions at three vineyards in the seemingly idyllic southern region of Bento Gonçalves, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, a picturesque area known for its sparkling wines.

Debt slavery

The government said the vineyard workers had been recruited 3,000 kilometers (more than 1,850 miles) away, in the northeastern state of Bahia -- home to the largest black population in Brazil.

Authorities were alerted after a group of them escaped. They told harrowing stories of supervisors using electrical shocks to wake them at dawn and beating them

The number of workers freed from slave-like conditions in Brazil has more than doubled in two years, from 936 in 2020 to 2,075 in 2022

with clubs and broomsticks.

"The only good Bahian is a dead Bahian," workers remembered being told.

Forced to sleep in an overcrowded shed, the workers were

served food that had been left to rot in the sun, they said.

To avoid starving, they had to buy additional food from the farm store at exorbitant prices, forcing them into debt that their employers then used to justify not paying their wages.

The vineyards involved said they repudiated the use of slave labor, and blamed the company that recruited the workers.

"This isn't an isolated case. It's

the product of an economic model that kills," says Andrei Thomaz Oss-Emer of the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), a Catholic organization that fights for rural workers' rights.

"A lot of companies in the food and beverage sector use this hiring model, where they bring in third-party firms that employ workers in demeaning conditions, to the point that it is essentially slavery," he told AFP.



TOP
4
TWEETS

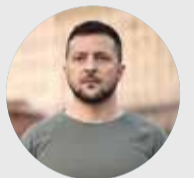
01



Women and girls everywhere are demanding their rights - and their words reverberate around the world. Investing in women and girls is the surest way to uplift all people, all communities and all countries.

@antonioguterres

02



Russia is kidnapping four children. It is the largest state-sponsored kidnapping of children. With this forced deportation, tries to erase the family & national identity of young Ukrainians. It is the genocide of a nation. Everyone who organized it will be held to account.

@Zelenskyyua

03



India eagerly awaits your arrival! Looking forward to productive deliberations to further the India-Australia friendship.

@narendramodi

04



Last year the @Lionesses changed the game and changed our country. On #IWD2023 I am pleased to say from now on every girl will have the opportunity to do the same sports as boys in school - with a minimum of 2 hours of PE. So future generations can bring it home.

@RishiSunak

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

celebs

Saudi female DJ Cosmicat to make her US debut on March 25

AFP | Riyadh

Cosmicat, a Saudi female DJ and producer, will make her US debut at Ultra Miami on March 25, 2023.

MDL BEAST Records has announced that global artist Cosmicat has secured a worldwide representation agreement with the label.

Cosmicat's distinct style seamlessly combines elements of Pop, R&B, and Hip-Hop.

Her distinct combination of genres has enthralled crowds everywhere, from Saudi underground dance parties to Sound-

storm, Exit Festival, Tomorrowland, and Boiler Room, among other big worldwide events and venues.

"We are thrilled to have an artist as dynamic and vibrant as Cosmicat on MDL BEAST Records.

Her audience continues to grow worldwide, with her recent EP "Ascension" being well received by influential international DJs, at radio and on Global DSPs, and with US, UK and European festival shows planned for this year.

"She is blowing up worldwide and MDL BEAST is behind her



DJ Cosmicat

100%," said Talal Albahiti, COO of MDL BEAST Records.

The artist made her first major appearance at MDL BEAST's inaugural festival Soundstorm in Saudi Arabia in 2019, performing to hundreds of thousands. She has been a staple headliner at parties across the MENA region, and globally ever since.

"I am so grateful to MDL BEAST Records for this opportunity to partner and grow together.

As a Saudi label with global ambitions, my music and their vision are very much aligned," Cosmicat said. "I can't wait to

show Miami — and the world — what we are able to do."

Cosmicat grew up in Jeddah at a period when parties and public performances were frowned upon, and pursuing a career as a musician was nearly impossible.

Despite the absence of venues and possibilities, Cosmicat began DJing in her bedroom, writing, vocalising, and producing her first tracks utilising internet instructions and her intuitive grasp of music.

In 2018, she began playing at private events for Saudi Arabia's underground music scene.

CINEMA

TU JHOOTHI MAIN MAKKAAR (PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/COMEDY) (NEW) RANBIR KAPOOR, SHRADDHA KAPOOR

DEMON SLAYER: KIMETSU NO YAIBA TO THE SWORDSMITH VILLAGE (PG-13) (NEW) (JAPANESE/ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FANTASY) ZACH AGUILAR, ABBY TROTT, ALEKS LE

SAVAGE SALVATION (15+) (ACTION/THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA) (NEW) ROBERT DE NIRO, JACK HUSTON, JOHN MALKOVICH

MOONBOUND (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/FANTASY) (NEW) ALEKS LE, HOWARD NIGHTINGALL, JOLIE HANDLER

OUT OF EXILE (15+) (CRIME/DRAMA) (NEW) ADAM HAMPTON, RYAN MERRIMAN, PETER GREENE

CHEBI: MY FLUFFY FRIEND (PG) (NEW) (ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY) SERGEY GARMASH, ELENA YAKOVLEVA, OLGA KUZMINA

CHEBURASHKA (PG) (NEW) (ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY) SERGEY GARMASH, ELENA YAKOVLEVA, OLGA KUZMINA

CHHAKA PANJA 4 (PG) (NEW) (NEPALI) (NEW) DEEPAK RAJ GIRI, DIPAA SHREE NIROULA

MARTYR OR MURDERER (PG-15) (FILIPINO/DRAMA/HISTORICAL) (NEW) CESAR MONTANO, RUFFA GUTIERREZ, CRISTINE, REYES

THURAMUKHAM (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) (NEW) NIVIN PAULY, INDRAJITH SUKUMARAN, JOJU GEORGE

MAHESHUM MARUTHIYUM (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) (NEW) ASIF ALI, MAMTA MOHANDAS

AGILAN (PG-13) (TAMIL) (NEW) JAYAM RAVI, PRIYA BHAVANI SANKAR

SANTHOSHAM (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) (NEW) ANU SITHARA, MALLIKA SUKUMARAN,

KALABHAVAN SHAJOHN SEEF (II): 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM

SHAZAM! FURY OF THE KING (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FANTASY) (NEW) ON WED 15th

OASIS JUFFAIR (ATMOS): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

CREED III (PG-13) (DRAMA/SPORT) III MICHAEL B. JORDAN, TESSA THOMPSON, NATHAN MAJORS

65 (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/DRAMA) ADAM DRIVER, CHLOE COLEMAN, ARIANA GREENBLATT

ANT-MAN AND THE WASP: QUANTUMANIA (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/FANTASY) PAUL RUDD, EVANGELINE LILLY, MICHAEL DOUGLAS

PLANE (PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER) GERARD BUTLER, MIKE COLTER, YOSON AN

SEEF (II): 5.30 + 8.00 + 10.30 PM

MUMMIES (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) SEAN BEAN, ELEANOR TOMLINSON, HUGH BONNEVILLE

OPERATION FORTUNE: RUSE DE

(PG-15) (ACTION/COMEDY/THRILLER) BAILEE MADISON, JERRY O'CONNELL, ANTHONY TURPEL

PLAY DEAD (15+) (THRILLER/HORROR) BAILEE MADISON, JERRY O'CONNELL, ANTHONY TURPEL

MISSING (PG-15) (THRILLER/DRAMA) STORM REID, JOAQUIM DE ALMEIDA, KEN LEUNG

MAVKA: THE FOREST SONG (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NATALIYA SUMSKAYA, ELENA KRAVETS, NATALIYA DENISENKO

NABIL EL GAMIL AKISAJE TAJMEEL (PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY) MOHAMMAD HENIDY, NOUR, MOHAMED SALLAM

ROMANCHAM (PG-13) (MALAYALAM) SOUBIN SHAHIR, CHEMBAN VINOD JOSE, ARJUN ASOKAN

PATHAAN (PG-15) (HINDI/ACTION/THRILLER) SHAH RUKH KHAN, DEEPIKA PADUKONE, JOHN ABRAHAM

Arnold Schwarzenegger talks about his Nazi father, says anti-Semitism needs to stop

IAN S | Los Angeles

Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger is using his platform to denounce a rise in anti-semitism and other forms of hate across the US.

Following a recent visit to Auschwitz, the former governor of California, 75, pondered how "we stop this from ever happening again" in a 12-minute speech he shared on YouTube, noting he doesn't "want to preach to the choir here", reports 'People' magazine.

"Today, I want to talk to the people out there who might have al-

ready stumbled into the wrong direction, into the wrong path," he explained.

"I want to talk to you if you've heard some conspiracies about Jewish people or people of any race, gender or orientation and thought, 'That makes sense to me.' I want to talk to you if you've found yourself thinking anyone is inferior or out to get you because of their religion or the colour of their skin or their gender..."

He further said, quoted by 'People', "I don't know the road that's brought you here, but I've seen enough people throw away their futures for hateful beliefs, so I want to speak to you before you find your regrets at the end of that path".



Arnold Schwarzenegger

Paris Hilton: 'I've never had anything of my own'

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Paris Hilton has "never had anything of her own" because of her fame.

The 41-year-old hotel heiress - who found worldwide fame as a reality star and occasional pop singer in her teenage years - secretly welcomed son Phoenix with husband Carter Reum via surrogate in January and explained that she decided to keep

news of the arrival to herself because she wanted the "journey" to be private.

Speaking on her 'This is Paris' podcast, she said: "No one knew, literally, until he was, like, over a week old. So it was really nice just to have that with Carter, (have) our own journey together. I just feel that my life has been so public, and I've never really had anything just be mine. I just really felt that I wanted to have this journey with us only."



Paris Hilton

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzle grid with some numbers filled in.

Yesterday's solution

Sudoku solution grid.

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with some letters filled in.

Across

1- Bushy hairstyle; 5- L.A. clock setting; 8- Japanese soup; 12- Yarn spinner; 13- Madame de ...; 15- ... uproar; 16- Mont Blanc, par exemple; 17- Tidal bore; 18- Hurt; 19- Coins; 22- Not in the pink; 23- A collection of articles; 24- Singer Stefani; 26- Beautifully imaginative; 29- Place for a face; 31- TKO caller; 32- More tender; 34- Less common; 36- Aware of; 38- Thermoplastic yarn; 40- Defense grps. since 1949; 41- Get the better of; 43- "The Taming of the Shrew" setting; 45- Hanoi holiday; 46- Commence; 48- Makes rhapsodic; 50- Drive...; 51- China's Chou En...; 52- Singer DiFranco; 54- Not of the Christian religion; 61- San ... Italy; 63- Tribe ruler; 64- Alley; 65- Normandy city; 66- Firm; 67- Novel ending; 68- Estimator's phrase; 69- Stutz contemporary; 70- Highly ranked competitor in sporting events;


Down

1- Sigher's word; 2- Thin layer; 3- ... Nui (Easter Island); 4- Ultimatum words; 5- Egyptian deity; 6- Heroic adventure tale; 7- Small gull; 8- Actress Farrow; 9- Cremate; 10- Satirist Mort; 11- Like Nash's lama; 13- Subdivision; 14- Having long gams; 20- Permits; 21- Large jug or pitcher; 25- Brio; 26- Old Finnish money; 27- Quite a bit; 28- Subterranean vault; 29- Wear down, physically or emotionally; 30- French beans?; 31- Outback hopper; 33- Guido's high note; 35- Decay; 37- "That smarts!"; 39- Render legally void; 42- Andean country; 44- Small batteries; 47- Blow with the fist; 49- Names; 52- Sacramento's ... Arena; 53- In the neighborhood; 55- Burn slightly; 56- Bring on board; 57- Start from scratch; 58- Must've been something ...; 59- Start the pot; 60- Requirement; 62- Lennon's lady;

Yesterday's solution

Crossword solution grid.

Classifieds



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India skipper Rohit hits back at 'absolutely rubbish' criticism



India's captain Rohit Sharma attends a training session

AFP | Ahmedabad

Rohit Sharma yesterday angrily dismissed suggestions his India side had become overconfident, calling the criticism from former head coach Ravi Shastri "absolutely rubbish".

India will look to clinch the series against Australia with victory in the fourth Test starting Thursday in Ahmedabad and book their berth in the World Test Championship final.

The hosts took a 2-0 lead in the four-match series to retain the Border-Gavaskar Trophy before losing the third Test in Indore in just over two days.

Shastri accused the team of "a little complacency, a little bit of overconfidence".

Skipper Rohit hit back, saying: "Honestly, when you win two games and people on the outside feel that we are overconfident, it's absolutely rubbish, because you want to do your best in all four games."

He called his side "ruthless"

Honestly, when you win two games and people on the outside feel that we are overconfident, it's absolutely rubbish, because you want to do your best in all four games

ROHIT SHARMA

more than arrogant.

"Ravi himself has been in this dressing room, he knows what sort of mindset we have," said Rohit.

India lost the previous match by nine wickets on a viciously turning pitch at Indore, but the track at the world's biggest cricket stadium is expected to give the batsmen some respite.

Rohit though has had enough of the talk about pitches.

"How challenging the pitches are? How much is it turning? How much is it seaming? We are trying to keep all of that away," said Rohit.

Australia's Smith hopes for 'bigger totals' on fourth Test pitch

AFP | Ahmedabad

Stand-in Australia skipper Steve Smith said yesterday the pitch for the fourth Test looks good for batsmen and different from the usual day-one turners in the previous matches in India.

Australia will look to level the series at 2-2 in the final Test starting Thursday in Ahmedabad after they bounced back from two losses to win the third Test on a viciously turning pitch.

"It's just playing what's in front of us really, obviously the scores haven't been big throughout this whole series. India scored 400 in that first Test match and Rohit got 100 and 400 proved to be way too many," Smith told reporters.

"This wicket may be a little bit different. Perhaps it may not spin as much from the first ball or the first day but I do think it will spin as the game goes on."



Australia's Steven Smith (2L) speaks with ground staff at the pitch of the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad

So yeah, there might be opportunities for bigger totals on this wicket."

Smith was unsure of which pitch the crunch final Test would be played after the curators kept two tracks covered at the world's biggest cricket

stadium.

But doubts for the visitors cleared as the day progressed on a hot afternoon in Ahmedabad.

"Yeah rocked up today and there was only one covered so yeah looks like they have chosen," said Smith.

"This wicket may be a little bit different. Perhaps it may not spin as much from the first ball or the first day but I do think it will spin as the game goes on. So yeah, there might be opportunities for bigger totals on this wicket"

STEVE SMITH

"Looks like probably of the four wickets we've seen so far, potentially the flattest on day one. Having said that, it's I think 38 degrees out there at the moment, it's pretty hot. Looks like it'll dry out as the day goes on."

The 33-year-old Smith, standing in as captain in place of Pat Cummins, had earlier said he could not recall ever having been in this situation so close to the start of a Test.

New Zealand hope Williamson ready for Sri Lanka despite bereavement

AFP | Christchurch

New Zealand expect record-breaking batsman Kane Williamson will be "ready to go" when their Test series starts against Sri Lanka on Thursday, despite his late arrival because of a bereavement.

Williamson remained at home in the build-up to attend a memorial service yesterday for his grandmother.

Ahead of the opening Test in Christchurch, captain Tim Southee said the Black Caps were "feeling for Kane at the moment".

Southee said that while Williamson had not been part of the team's preparations he had



New Zealand's Kane Williamson prepares to take the field (file photo)

trained with his domestic side "so I am sure he will be hitting plenty of balls and making sure he is ready to go come Thursday".

Williamson's grandmother made headlines recently in New Zealand when she rang a radio talkshow to criticise a caller who complained the cricketer's undemonstrative style made him look "disinterested" at times

The 32-year-old Williamson is key to New Zealand's chances in the two-Test series.

He overtook Ross Taylor to become their highest run-scorer in history in last month's second Test against England, when the

hosts won by just one run in Wellington to draw the series.

Williamson's grandmother made headlines recently in New Zealand when she rang a radio talkshow to criticise a caller who complained the cricketer's undemonstrative style made him look "disinterested" at times.

"We're not a family that goes yahooping around," she said.

Speaking on the eve of the first Test, Southee said his players had moved on from the extraordinary England triumph.

"It is a match that will be talked about for a long time, but they are a very humble group, now our focus will shift to Sri Lanka," he said.

BREEF gears up for HH Shaikh Nasser show jumping championship

TDT | Manama

Under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty the King's Representative for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, and Honorary President of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF), the Show Jumping Championship of His Highness will be held on Saturday, at the Arena of the Military Sports Federation in Al Raffa, at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club.

On this occasion, Shaikh Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Head of BREEF Show Jumping Committee, expressed the Committee's pride of HH Shaikh Nasser's sponsorship of the championship, which is expected to witness the strongest competitions of the season and is eagerly awaited by the athletes.

Shaikh Abdullah praised the initiatives of HH Shaikh Nasser in supporting equestrian sports in general and show jumping in particular, hailing His Highness's directives to allocate three cars as prizes for the public and



HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa

BD10,000 for athletes.

Commenting on the occasion, Shaikh Abdulla stated: "We extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa for the continuation of his initiatives in support of show jumping sports in the Kingdom, significantly contributing to the advancement of this traditional sport. In the Show Jumping Committee, we value the initiative and support of His Highness by allocating prizes to the public and participants, as such supportive



Action from a previous show jumping event

initiatives from His Highness constitute a distinctive addition to the success of this important tournament and will contribute to enriching the show jumping competitions."

Shaikh Abdulla added that the Committee will spare no effort to ensure the success of the Championship in cooperation with the Organising Committee and the other committees.

Meanwhile, the Organising

Committee of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Show Jumping Championship opened the door for registration for the fans to win the prizes presented, including three brand new cars.

The Committee clarified that those wishing to enter the draw must register via the website: www.endurancebahrain.com/btc/, with the need for those registered to be present during the time of the championship.

Bahrain Jewellery Centre sponsors show jumping championship

Bahrain Jewellery Centre has announced their sponsorship of the upcoming Show Jumping Championship of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Abbas Abdulmajeed Shirazi, Managing Director of Bahrain Jewellery Centre, expressed pride in sponsoring HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Show Jumping Championship, noting to the great efforts exerted by His Highness to develop equestrian sports in general and show jumping in particular.

Shirazi explained that the support of Bahrain Jewellery Centre for athletes and sporting events is considered a national duty and even a social responsibility towards the community, stressing that it is an integral part of the company's policy towards the society and adding that the Centre will continue to provide all forms of



Abbas Abdulmajeed Shirazi

support for the various youth and sports activities and events in the Kingdom.

He added, "We are honoured to support and sponsor His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Show Jumping Championship, and we have complete faith and confidence in the importance of this support and the generous initiatives of His Highness, which contributes to the advancement of equestrian sports in general and the sport of show jumping in particular."

Ten Hag sticks with Fernandes as United captain after Liverpool pain



Manchester United's Bruno Fernandes (L) talks to the team's manager Erik ten Hag during a training session (file photo)

AFP | London

Erik ten Hag launched a robust defence of Bruno Fernandes yesterday after the Manchester United captain was branded a "disgrace" for his attitude in last weekend's humiliation against Liverpool.

Fernandes was accused of giving up and showing poor body language as Liverpool scored six times in the second half of their historic 7-0 victory at Anfield on Sunday.

The Portugal midfielder appeared to push one of the assistant referees and clashed with Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold, leading some fans to call for him to be stripped of the captaincy.

Former United star Roy Keane called Fernandes a disgrace, but Ten Hag said the 28-year-old was the right man to lead the team and would remain skipper when club captain Harry Maguire does not play.

Bruno Fernandes was fiercely criticised by former United skippers Gary Neville and Roy Keane for his body language during the game and there have been calls for him to be stripped of the captaincy

He's pointing and coaching players. He's an inspiration for the whole team but no one is perfect. Everyone has his mistakes and everyone has to learn. I have to learn and he will learn as well because he's intelligent

BRUNO FERNANDES

Hailing Fernandes as an "inspiration" ahead of Thursday's Europa League last 16 first leg against Real Betis at Old Trafford, Ten Hag told reporters: "I think he's playing a brilliant season."

"He's had a really important role in why we're in the position where we are because he's giving energy to the team."

"He's pointing and coaching players. He's an inspiration for the whole team but no one is perfect. Everyone has his mistakes and everyone has to learn."

"He will learn as well because he's intelligent. I'm really happy to have Bruno Fernandes in my team and I am really happy that Bruno Fernandes, if Harry is not on the pitch, is our captain."

United forward Marcus Rashford also backed Fernandes, insisting he was a role model for the rest of the team.

Najma make winning start to Gulf handball

Bahraini defending champions score resounding victory over Al Salmiya of Kuwait in opening game of 39th Gulf Clubs Men's Handball Championship

● Al Arabi of Qatar beat Al Ahli Sidab of Oman 30-23 in their Group B fixture

● Bahrain's Al Ahli open tournament campaign today against Kuwait SC at 7pm

TDT | Manama

Defending champions Al Najma Club of Bahrain made a winning start last night to the 39th Gulf Clubs Men's Handball Championship, being hosted by the Kingdom.

Najma posted a resounding 27-22 victory over Al Salmiya of Kuwait in their opening Group B fixture, played at the Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town.

Meanwhile, also triumphant yesterday were Al Arabi of Qatar, who beat Al Ahli Sidab of Oman 30-23, also in the same preliminary round division.

Eight teams from across the region are taking part in the tournament, which continues until 17 March.

Bahrain is represented by Najma and Al Ahli, who are joined in the competition by teams from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar.

Bahrain's Ahli are in Group B for the preliminaries alongside Kuwait SC of Kuwait, Sharjah of the UAE and Al Safa of Saudi.

Today's fixtures will see Bahrain's Ahli take to the court for the first time, facing Kuwait SC of Kuwait in their Group B clash at 7pm. At 5pm, Sharjah of the UAE face off with Al Safa of Sau-



Al Najma's Hassan Kaddah looks to score against Al Salmiya during their match last night

di Arabia.

Najma held a narrow 12-11 lead at the half in their game against Salmiya, and then did well in the final 30 minutes to

extend their advantage on the way to the final whistle.

Najma were led by their top players including goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulhussain, Mo-



Action from Al Arabi's win over Al Ahli Sidab



Eight teams from across the region have been divided into two groups for the competition's preliminary round. After a single round-robin, the top two in each move on to the semi-finals

ammed Habib Mohammed, Mohammed Mirza, Ahmed Al Maqabi, Egypt national team standouts Hassan Kaddah and Ahmed Alahmer, and tournament signees Mohammed Habib, Qassim Qambar and Qassim Al Shuwaikh.

The preliminaries continue until Monday next week, after which the semi-finals will take place with the top two clubs from each of the two groups advancing.

Najma won last year's Gulf handball title after defeating Saudi outfit Mudhar in the tournament final in Kuwait City.

It was the sixth time the Bahraini side claimed the coveted championship. Their triumph also ended a two-decade title drought, as their previous victories came in 2001, 1998, 1990, 1985 and 1984.

Najma had also won the competition's silver medals thrice in 2006, 2004 and 1999; while taking bronze twice in 2003 and 1982.

Bahrain juniors clinch GCC golf title

Trio of Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea, Abdulrahman Ebrahim Alseedi and Abdulla Rashid Saeed win first place

● **Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea wins juniors individual bronze medal with a 24-over-par total of 240 score in 14th GCC Juniors U18 Golf Championship**

● **Bahrain's men, led by Ahmed Mohamed Al Zayed, stay in contention for medals in seniors' tournament**

TD | Manama

Bahrain's junior national golf team were yesterday crowned champions of the 14th GCC Juniors U18 Golf Championship, which came to a close at the Royal Golf Club.

The young Bahrainis clinched the coveted title after finishing the 54-hole competition with a total team score of 44 over par.

The team featured Abdulrahman Hasan Mehaizea, Abdulrahman Ebrahim Alseedi and Abdulla Rashid Saeed.

The nationals finished five



Bahrain's Khalifa Mohammed Khalifa in action yesterday

shots ahead of silver-medal winners Oman (+49), while 11 shots adrift were the UAE (+55), who completed the podium-placers in third.

Kuwait (+92) and Qatar (+105) were classified fourth and fifth, respectively.

Mehaizea was the top-ranked Bahraini on the individual rankings, going third overall and narrowly missing out on the juniors title. He came away with the bronze medal with a 24-over-par total of 240 after three rounds. Mehaizea finished four shots



Bahrain's junior national golf team members

behind champion and gold-medallist Salem Alabkal of Kuwait, who had a 20-over-par total of 236. Ahmed Khalil Alwahaibi of Oman was the silver-medallist one shot behind.

Bahrain's Alseedi came fourth on a 28-over-par 244 total, while Saeed was ninth overall at 32-over 248.

Meanwhile, Bahrain's senior men's national team stayed in contention for the teams and individual podiums in the 25th GCC Men Golf Championship, being played alongside the juniors event.

The seniors' tournament is taking place over 72 holes, with the final day set to be held today, to be followed by the awarding and closing ceremony.

Bahrain were third heading into the final round with a 40-over-par total—12 shots behind leaders Qatar (+28). The UAE (+39) followed in second, while Saudi Arabia (+71) and Oman (+93) were ranked behind Bahrain fourth and fifth, respectively.

On the individual classifi-

YOU
KNOW WHAT

Bahraini juniors finish five shots ahead of silver-medallists Oman and 11 strikes in front of bronze-medal winners the UAE on the podium

cation, Bahrain's Ahmed Mohamed Al Zayed was third with a four-over-par total gross of 220. He played a 70 in yesterday's third round.

Saleh Ali Alkaabi of Qatar stayed in first place with a two-under-par 214 total, while Ahmad Akram Skaik of the UAE was second on an even par 216 score.

Amongst the other Bahraini players, Khalifa Duaij Alkaabi was sixth on a 15-over-par 231 score, while Fahad Al Hakam (+24) and Khalifa Mohammed Khalifa (+25) were 11th and 12th, respectively, heading into today's final day of play.

Manama return to top in Nasser bin Hamad football league

● **Mahdi Abduljabbar scores winning goal for Manama against Al Hala**

● **Al Shabab defeat Bahrain Club 3-2 in the other fixture last night**

TD | Manama

Manama returned to the top of the table in the 2022/2023 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League after defeating Al Hala 1-0 last night in their week 16 match.

Football League after defeating Al Hala 1-0 last night in their week 16 match.

Mahdi Abduljabbar scored the winning goal in the 18th minute of the contest from close range off a rebound after the shot of Mohammed Yahya Al Hallak was kept out of the net



Manama's Mahdi Abduljabbar, left, is congratulated by teammates after scoring their winning goal in the first half against Al Hala

by the Hala defence.

Both teams tried to add to the score line over the remainder of the contest but neither could find the finishing touches.

Manama came away with their ninth win in 16 games and

went back to first place with 31 points. Hala were handed their sixth loss and stayed on 18.

In another match last night, Al Shabab defeated Bahrain Club 3-2 in a match between

Standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Manama	16	9	4	3	15	31
Al Khaldiya	16	9	3	4	14	30
Muharrraq	15	7	6	2	11	27
Sitra	15	7	6	2	8	27
Riffa	16	7	5	4	7	26
Al Ahli	16	5	6	5	-3	21
Al Shabab	16	6	2	8	0	20
Hidd	16	5	4	7	-10	19
Al Hala	16	4	6	6	-3	18
East Riffa	15	4	6	5	-2	18
Bahrain Club	16	3	4	9	-8	13
Budaiya	15	1	2	12	-29	5

clubs in the bottom half of the standings.

Shabab claimed their sixth win to rise to 20 points, while Bahrain Club suffered their ninth loss and remained on 13 markers.

League action continues tonight with Muharrraq facing Budaiya and Sitra taking on East Riffa.

'Nonsense' to suggest Man Utd gave up against Liverpool, says Rashford



Manchester United's Marcus Rashford (R) vies with Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk

Marcus Rashford defended Manchester United's effort in a historic 7-0 thrashing at the hands of Liverpool, with the Red Devils' top scorer putting a second half collapse down to a lack of organisation.

United equalled their heaviest ever defeat in a competitive game and worst since 1931 at Anfield after conceding six times in the second period.

"We didn't give up, that's nonsense," said Rashford at a pre-match press conference yesterday ahead of United's Europa League last 16, first leg against Real Betis.

"We were unorganised, yes, communication was bad, yes, that's why we conceded the goals.

"But it comes down to the fact that I believe everyone was trying to get back in the game that much we came away from the team's principles in and out of possession."

Bruno Fernandes has been singled out for criticism for his attitude while captaining the

"We were unorganised, yes, communication was bad, yes, that's why we conceded the goals. But it comes down to the fact that I believe everyone was trying to get back in the game that much we came away from the team's principles in and out of possession"

MARCUS RASHFORD

side at the weekend.

The Portuguese midfielder has regularly been appointed Ten Hag's skipper this season as club captain Harry Maguire has slipped down the pecking order.

Fernandes frequently chastised his teammates and even pushed one of the referee's assistants in his frustration.

But Ten Hag confirmed he will remain captain when Maguire is not selected.

Murray 'won't go nuts' if Wimbledon scraps Russia ban

AFP | London

Andy Murray has said he will "not be going nuts" if Russian and Belarusian players are allowed to feature at this year's Wimbledon, even though the British tennis great would have mixed emotions regarding their return.

Murray, 35, received the ATP's Arthur Ashe Humanitarian Award for 2022 after donating more than £500,000 (\$592,000, 562,000 euros) in prize money to help children in Ukraine affected by Russia's invasion, but



Andy Murray of Great Britain in a practice session during the BNP Paribas Open

"My understanding is that they are going to be allowed to play and I'm not going to be going nuts if that is the case. But if Wimbledon went down another route, I would be understanding of that"

ANDY MURRAY

has previously said he was "not supportive" of last year's ban.

But British media reports last week suggested the ban was about to be lifted, with three-time major winner Murray telling the BBC: "It's a really difficult one and I do feel for the players who weren't able to play last year -- but I also understand the situation and why it's really hard for Wimbledon to make a call on it as well."

The Scot added: "My understanding is that they are going to be allowed to play and I'm not going to be going nuts if that is the case.