

Bahrain ready for 'difficult match' against Kuwait

Defending champions focused on challenge at hand to advance to semi-finals of 25th Arab Gulf Cup in Basra, Iraq | P12

WORLD 6 Ukraine says fighting to hold Soledar

THE DAILY **tribune**



Hugh Jackman opens up on behaviour on sets of 'X-Men' movies that 'wouldn't happen now'

8 CELEB

BUSINESS 5 Southern Tourism Company signs MoU with Abu Dhabi Maritime

Pope thanks HM King



TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received a cable of thanks from His Holiness Pope Francis, the Head of the Catholic Church, for HM's congratulations on Christmas.

Pope Francis expressed pride in HM King Hamad's congratulations, wishing the kingdom further progress and prosperity, under HM the King's leadership.

Oil minister welcomes COP28 UAE President-Designate



Mubarak bin Daina
 TDT | Manama

Bahrain welcomed yesterday the appointment of Dr Sultan Ahmed Al-Jaber, the UAE minister, as President-Designate of the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28).

COP28 will be hosted by the UAE at Expo City Dubai from November 30 to December 12, 2023.

Dr Al-Jaber, the UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and Special Envoy for Climate Change, was named by UAE President HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed.

Welcoming, Dr Mohammed Mubarak bin Daina, Bahrain's Oil and Environment Minister and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, expressed confidence in the UAE's ability to host COP28 and its accompanying events.

Shamma Al Mazrui, UAE Minister of State for Youth Affairs, and Razan Al Mubarak, President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), will join Dr Sultan as the Youth Climate Champion and UN Climate Change High-Level Champion, respectively.



19th NAO report

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister receives the 19th NAO Annual Report 2021-2022 at Riffa Palace from the Auditor-General of the National Audit Office (NAO), Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa

Ministry cancels prior approval, fees for promotions

TDT | Manama

Food shop owners in the Kingdom will not be required to seek any approval or remit a fee for launching promotional campaigns for three months.

The Consumer Protection Directorate at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce said this yesterday announcing a temporary suspension for approval and fees for supermarkets to run promotional campaigns.

The move, aimed at boosting retail activity, follows a decision by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The directorate called on all to take advantage of the offer by contacting the directorate at 17574991 or promotion_enquiries@moic.gov.bh.

More jobs, better income GAP gets unanimous nod

Improving living standards, wages, and purchasing power focus of four-year Government Action Plan

● **Priority for justice, security and stability, economic recovery and sustainable development, quality and competitive government service**

TDT | Manama

Raising people's standards of living and purchasing power formed the crux of the Government Action Plan (GAP) that received a unanimous nod from parliamentarians yesterday.



The urgent extraordinary session yesterday endorsed a consensual 4-year Government Programme

The approval came during an urgent extraordinary session that saw more than five hours of heated debates, discussions and amendments.

During the session, the GAP also set other priorities, which include attaining justice, security and stability, economic recovery and sustainable devel-

opment, improving quality and making government services more competitive. The session set these priorities after reaching consensus on six themes: Raising the standards of living, the sovereign and legislative theme, infrastructure and environment, economic recovery and financial sustainability,

community services, government performance and digital transformation.

All these "will be implemented through the policies and initiatives included in the Government programme," said Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Deputy Prime Minister, chairing the session that saw

MPS proposing several amendments and their approval.

Shaikh Khalid assured MPS that the government is committed to making citizens the priority and theme of the 2023-2026 Work Programme.

"The aim is to boost the efficiency of public services, achieve financial balance, and enhance private sector partnership," added Shaikh Khalid.

The decisions came after discussions on reports by specialised committees and their proposals regarding priorities in the GAP in parallel with the Fiscal Balance Programme.

(Continued on page 2)

Breakthrough tech

3D printing reaches new heights with two-story home

Reuters | Houston

A 3D printer is taking home building to a new level — literally.

The enormous printer weighing more than 12 tons is creating what is believed to be the first 3D-printed, two-story home in the United States.

The machine steadily hums away as it extrudes layers of con-



A 12-ton industrial 3-D printer is used to print concrete two-story home

crete to build the 4,000-square-foot home in Houston.

Construction will take a total of 330 hours of printing, said architect Leslie Lok, co-founder of design studio Hannah and designer of the home.

"You can actually find a lot of 3D-printed buildings in many states," Lok said. "One of the things about printing a second

story is you require, you know, the machine...And of course, there are other challenges: structural challenges, logistic challenges when we print a second-story building."

The three-bedroom home with wooden framing is about halfway finished and is being sold to a family, who wish to remain anonymous, she said.

(See page 2)

220 fils (includes VAT)



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Ministries, departments to start implementing Government priorities, policies and initiatives

(Continued from page 1)

Deputy Prime Minister, Shaikh Khalid, further said the improvement of the government's four-year action plan embodies the Representatives Council's confidence in it, noting that all ministries and government departments will begin implementing the Programme's priorities, policies and initiatives immediately, in line with HM the King's visions and HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's directives.

Budget to reflect all decisions: Finance Minister

The Minister of Finance and National Economy, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, told the MPs that all the agreements reached in the House of Parliament - giving priority to citizens, improving their living standards, raising wages and purchasing power - would be reflected in the upcoming decisions and laws, especially in the general budget. Creating promising opportunities for citizens calls for following the spirit of one Bahrain team and focusing on all sectors, which also calls for proper training and correct investments, the minister said, saluting Bahraini workers for boosting the economy.

Emphasising his pride in all Bahrainis in various positions, the minister said that the employment plans should include

'Unanimous approval' sets road map for sixth term, says HM King

Citizens are ultimate goal of development: HRH CP, PM

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday hailed the unanimous approval of the Government Action Programme as a road map that serves the interests of Bahrain and its loyal people during the sixth legislative term.

HM King said this in a cable of congratulations to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

His Majesty said the unanimous endorsement reflects parliamentary confidence in the ability of HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister and the members of the Government to achieve the aspirations of the people of Bahrain.

HM King said he looks forward to continuing fruitful



cooperation and coordination between the executive and legislative branches, stressing trust in HRH for the future of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

King Hamad praised HRH Prince Salman's dedicated efforts to bolster comprehensive development, enhance Government work and support vital sectors.

In his reply, HRH CP, PM reiterated loyalty to HM the King, pledging to continue dedicated work and give priority to

citizens as the ultimate goal of development.

HRH said that the endorsement of the Government Action Programme ushers in a new phase of national work led by HM the King.

"The approval of the plan by the Council of Representatives, which showed fruitful and commendable cooperation, requires the efforts and cooperation of the Team Bahrain and the contributions of loyal citizens so that the paths of development continue towards broader horizons," said HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Prince Salman further pledged continued cooperation between the executive and legislative, reiterating his commitment to solid partnership for the sake of the nation and its people.

of the two authorities.

"It is a greeting to every Bahraini in the Kingdom," the minister said, indicating new plans to create more job opportunities.

Set BD850 minimum salary: Al Salloum

MP Ahmed Al Salloum yesterday proposed creating 30,000 jobs for citizens in the private sector, with average salaries, as a radical solution to improve living standards.

Raising the salaries, Al Salloum said, will help Bahrainis fulfil their needs without government intervention, which they currently fail to achieve for their low income.

"The growth rates also reflect this," he said, calling for the ceiling of the minimum wage to be set at BD850 or BD1,000.

Representatives Council Speaker, Ahmed bin Salman

Al-Musallam, extended deepest congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on the approval of the Government Programme, commending the prominent role played by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, in attaining such a national accomplishment.

Speaker Al-Musallam also praised the constructive cooperation of the government team, led by Deputy Prime Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, who, he said, responded positively to the remarks and visions of the Representatives Council.

He also thanked the parliamentary committee in charge of studying the Government Programme, and Secretariat-General for reaching a consensus on the government blueprint.



FINANCE MINISTER, SHAIKH SALMAN

not only new entrants but jobs for all, and their career development.

"What has been achieved yesterday is a good start," the min-

ister stressed, reminding that mutual trust is crucial in going forward.

The general budget, the minister said, is decided only through

a consensus with the representatives.

The minister also told the session that the amendments made yesterday reflect the agreement



National Security Advisor, Royal Guard Commander, Major-General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday received Foreign Minister, Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al-Zayani, along with the heads of Bahrain's diplomatic missions to brotherly and friendly countries, marking the kingdom's "Diplomatic Day". HH Shaikh Nasser welcomed the heads of diplomatic missions, commending their efforts to enhance Bahrain's cooperation with other countries. He also praised their keenness to achieve the national goals and aspirations, as well as open up new horizons of cooperation, within the comprehensive development process, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and Prime Minister. HH Shaikh Nasser called for encouraging and supporting Bahraini youth by creating opportunities for them to engage in the diplomatic field and wished the heads of Bahraini diplomatic missions success in carrying out their new diplomatic duties and strengthening the kingdom's ties

Less workers needed as printer does all the heavy lifting

(Continued from page 1)

The project is a two-year collaboration by Hannah, Peri 3D Construction and Cive, a construction engineering company.

Hikmat Zerbe, Cive's head of structural engineering, hopes the innovative technique can one day help more quickly and cheaply build multifamily homes.

In addition, concrete can withstand the hurricanes, heavy storms and other severe weather in Texas that is becoming more frequent and severe due to climate change.

And since the printer does all the heavy lifting, less workers are needed at the construction site.

"Traditional construction, you know



A 12-ton industrial 3-D printer is used to print concrete for the first 3-D-printed, two-story home under construction in Houston, Texas

the rules, you know the game, you know the material properties, the material



A construction worker watches as a 3-D printer lays concrete

"The material is new, although concrete is an old material in general, but 3D printing concrete is something new."

behavior. In here, everything is new," Zerbe said.

HRH Prince Salman receives 19th NAO report, urges optimal management of public funds

HRH calls on government agencies to follow NAO recommendations

TDT | Manama

His Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, called on Government agencies criticised for administrative and financial non-compliance in the National Audit Office report to correct them immediately. HRH Prince Salman also urged such agencies to ensure that “they are not repeated in future reports.”

HRH Prince Salman said this while receiving the 19th NAO Annual Report 2021-2022 from the Auditor-General of the National Audit Office, Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, at Riffa Palace.

“It’s important to ensure that Government administrative and financial procedures follow the best practices to safeguard public funds and resources,” HRH said.

Strengthening accountability and responsibility across government workstreams, HRH further stressed, are crucial to achieving the comprehensive development goals of His



HRH Prince Salman during a meeting after receiving the 19th NAO Annual Report 2021-2022

Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

His Royal Highness also commended ministries and agencies for performing their duty responsibly and efficiently, highlighting, “these are critical for ensuring optimal management

of public funds.”

In this regard, HRH Prince Salman stressed that the ongoing cooperation between ministries, agencies, and the NAO is integral to strengthening regulatory frameworks and ensuring the optimal use of public resources

for the benefit of Bahraini citizens.

Shaikh Ahmed attributed the growth of NAO and its development to the unwavering support of the HM King and oversight of the HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Shaikh Ahmed also appreciated the ministries and agencies helping NAO to complete its tasks.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Charity Educational Charitable Trust, His Highness Shaikh Isa

bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Deputy Prime Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, and the Minister of Finance and National Economy, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.



It’s important to ensure that Government administrative and financial procedures follow the best practices to safeguard public funds and resources. Strengthening accountability and responsibility across government workstreams, as these are crucial to achieve the comprehensive development goals of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

HRH CP, PM

LMRA holds four inspection campaigns, books several



TDT | Manama

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority conducted four inspection campaigns yesterday and booked several for violating labour and residency laws in the Kingdom.

The campaigns, LMRA said, for ensuring a competitive, fair and stable labour market were in the Capital, Southern and Northern Governorates.

The inspections in the Capital Governorate were with the

General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Evidence and the Governorate’s respective Police Directorate, while in the Southern Governorate the campaign was with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs and the Governorate’s Police Directorate.

LMRA officials also held two campaigns in the Northern Governorate. These campaigns were with the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Evidence, the General Directorate of Verdict Enforce-

ment and Alternative Sentencing and LMRA’s Enforcement sector.

LMRA calls on all to report violations via www.lmra.bh or by calling 17506055.



Information minister honours woman @ work with selfie

TDT | Manama

A Bahraini woman was caught by surprise when Dr Ramzan Al Nuaimi, the Information Minister, stopped at Al Osra Market yesterday.

The minister interacted with the woman, a cashier on duty at the market and took time to click a selfie.

Later, the minister posted it online and wrote: “We are proud of your contribution... Team Bahrain.” The picture, the minister said, expresses appreciation and respect for Bahrainis who work in all positions and jobs.



Weather depression to soak Bahrain

TDT | Manama

The Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf will witness unstable weather patterns in the coming days influenced by a depression or low-pressure system, weather officials warn.

During the past few days, Bahrain was experiencing stable weather accompanied by north-westerly winds causing temperatures to drop below the monthly average for January.

However, AlAyam, quoting unnamed sources at the Meteorological Department, said they expect cumulus rain clouds over the peninsula as the depression drags in the air from the surroundings.

“This would bring thunderstorms in some areas, which would extend its influence towards the south, Bahrain and its neighbours, starting today,”



the report added.

Weather, the report said, would remain cloudy today in Bahrain with a chance of occasional sporadic rain.

Sources said the depression would enter the region on Tuesday, creating chances for thunderstorms with fast downward winds.

“The wind would remain south-easterly from today until Tuesday and then turn north-westerly. Accompany-

ing cold air mass would create a noticeable drop in temperature to as low as 12 degree Celsius.”

The Meteorological Department also warned that the weather might be unsuitable for marine activities with high-speed gusts and strong north winds.

The wave heights are likely to reach 8 feet at sea, the report said, cautioning sea-goers to take all safety measures.

EWA starts refund of infrastructure fees

TDT | Manama

The Electricity and Water Authority announced it has started communicating with those eligible to receive a refund of infrastructure connectivity costs.

The move follows a decision by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to scrap infrastructure connectivity fees for issuing building permits in areas with pre-existing amenities.

EWA said the new decision follows a circular issued by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning and is valid for those paid fees after October 14.

Electricity and Water Authority will receive enquiries on 17515555.

Resume Causeway passbooks

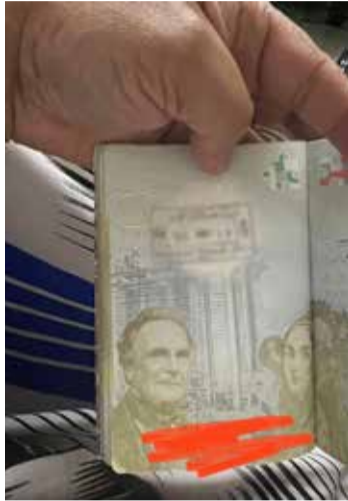
Residents call for bringing back causeway passbooks to avoid frequent passport renewals

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Many residents in the Kingdom, especially top executives, who frequently travel to Saudi Arabia are pleading with the authorities to have a separate document for stamping their entry and exit visas to avoid frequent renewals of their passports.

One of the top executives in the Automobile Industry said, "I hold a British passport with 52 pages. Unfortunately, the emigration officer stamped the entry visa on a new page, ignoring my request to stamp it on a used page."

"One of my friends who also faced a similar problem recently applied for a Schengen visa and was forced to renew his passport due to the shortage of a new



Some officials take a new page each time to stamp visas, as there are also others who like to save space

page for stamping the Schengen visa. "Most often, Saudi Emigration takes long hours to verify the documents. When they have all the information in their sys-

tem, why do they take so much time to process a visa? Bahrain has a very efficient system, and the biometric system is very convenient, easy, and comfortable.

While speaking to another frequent traveller to Saudi Arabia, he said that I often meet a lady officer at emigration, and she is very supportive.

She makes sure to stamp visas on the same page to save more space in my passport. It depends on the officer in charge. If you get a nice person, they can help

the travellers. It is always better if the authorities concerned can issue an additional document or a causeway passport exclusively for a Saudi trip.



Blank pages are mandatory before arrival for getting a visa stamped, but that norm changes from country to country. Reports say Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Oman need one blank page on passports, whereas Qatar needs two. However, if you enter the territory of Palestine from Israel, your passport will not be stamped - and the blank passport pages rule won't count. Also, for travellers entering Israel, Hong Kong or Macau, the stamp will be printed on a paper, which one should keep until the end of your stay.



The passport stamp of the country of Palau is a full-page pledge, in which you sign that you will protect the nature of the country and not cause any harm.

There is a trick, says social media

According to social media claims, some travellers say they put a sticky note on blank passport pages, asking not to stamp there, to escape this scenario. People say that has worked for them.



Police arrest man for allegedly stealing from vehicles



TDT | Manama

Southern police yesterday arrested a 20-year-old man allegedly for stealing from parked vehicles.

Cops said they arrested him after receiving complaints regarding the loss of personal

belongings and cash from several vehicles.

Southern Governorate Police said a quick investigation led to identifying the suspect and recording his arrest.

Public Prosecution is pursuing legal actions.



Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday visited one of the BDF units to review units' readiness and administrative and military preparations. The commander-in-chief appreciated the efforts of the officers, non-commissioned officers and members of the BDF in defending the homeland, preserving its historical capabilities and protecting its civilisational gains.

Capital Governorate Police Directorate yesterday organised an exhibition to combat tobacco as part of efforts to certify health-promoting workplaces (Diamond Level), in coordination with the Health and Social Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Interior. Director General of Capital Governorate Police Directorate Brigadier Ibrahim Saif Al-Najran said they had formed a specialised team for the certification process by providing training courses. The exhibition opened on January 10 and continues until 26, aims to educate the employees of the directorate about the harmful effects of smoking. The programme focuses on introducing the side effects of tobacco and smoking, passive smoking, and electronic smoking, in addition to quitting and then following up to avoid a relapse into smoking.



BIC hosts annual F1 Bahrain GP coordination meeting with ministries, government agencies

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) hosted yesterday its annual coordination meeting with the Kingdom's various ministries and government agencies to discuss all matters related to the organisation and running of the fast-approaching Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2023.

Preparations have ramped up in recent weeks for the biggest event of the year, taking place from 3 to 5 March at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" in Sakhir.

BIC said it is always keen to coordinate with the Kingdom's



The coordination meeting

public offices to ensure the successful hosting of the region's

most anticipated sporting and entertainment occasion, which



attracts thousands of fans from all over the world. The year-

ly gathering organises means of management around the required procedures at various levels and reviews previous reports in order to promote a more integrated response.

The meeting was led by BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa and a number of senior management members from the various departments at the circuit. They spoke of the latest preparations and the necessary joint work with the Kingdom's ministries and government agencies for the upcoming global event.

BIC Corporate Services Director Beshara Abdu Beshara reviewed the most important as-

pects and changes in the annual plan. He also presented details of the ongoing preparations to receive the F1 teams and officials coming from abroad, and the coordination regarding the entry of the fans as well as traffic control measures within the vicinity of BIC during race week.

Beshara further discussed the reception procedures at Bahrain International Airport as well as other logistical needs and formalities. This year's F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix will be the opening round of the 2023 FIA F1 World Championship. It is the fifth time that BIC is hosting the first race of the season, following 2006, 2010, 2021 and 2022.

Southern Tourism Company signs MoU with Abu Dhabi Maritime

● The signing took place at Abu Dhabi International Boat Show

TDI | Abu Dhabi

Southern Tourism Company, a subsidiary of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company "Mumtalakat", has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Abu Dhabi Maritime, the custodian of Abu Dhabi's waterways, to explore a number of development goals in key business areas.



The deal signing

The signing took place at Abu Dhabi International Boat Show in the presence of Ahmed Al-Aseeri, Chairman of Southern Tourism Company and the representative of Mumtalakat, Yusuf Al-Manea, CEO of Southern Tourism Company and Captain Saif Al Mheiri, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Maritime.

Ahmed Al-Aseeri said: "This will enable Southern Tourism Company to enhance its contribution to the national economy in alignment with Mumtalakat's objectives".

Yusuf Al-Manea said: "This agreement will enable us to exchange knowledge, technical know-how and expertise to explore opportunities and build strategic collaboration in the region".

Capt. Saif Al Mheiri, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Maritime commented: "Abu Dhabi Maritime is delighted to team up with Southern Tourism Company, to consider the development of Bahrain's maritime infrastructure and services."

The MoU will enable both parties to work closely together to develop solutions for sea transportation logistics and the development of marine facilities as well as ferry services.

Alba to start installing Solar PV Panels over 37,000 m2

TDI | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), one of the world's largest Aluminium smelters, announced it has awarded its Solar Farm Project to Advanced United Systems (AUS) for installing Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panels over 37,000 m2 with a capacity of more than 6 Megawatts (MW).

The Solar Farm Project will consist of around 11,300 solar panels to be fixed on the rooftop of Alba car parks and some of its buildings including the Spent Pot Lining Treatment (SPL) Plant.

Commenting on the importance of the Solar Panel Farm to Alba, Alba's Chairman of the Board Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa stated: "Sustainability is entrenched in our Vision, Mission, and Values; this Project is fully aligned with our Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ambitions and our pledge to realise HRH the Crown



Ali Al Baqali



Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa

Prince and Prime Minister's objectives of Net Zero Emissions by 2060 as made during the 26th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)."

"I trust that upon the completion of installing the solar panels, will see more environmentally responsible projects across the Kingdom to scale up the local clean energy genera-

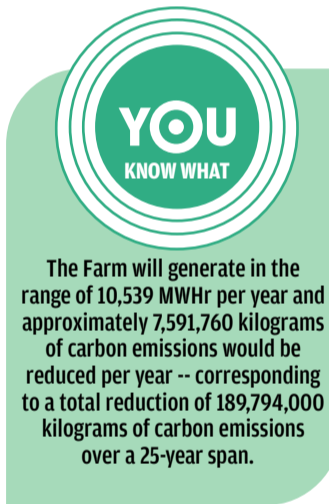
tion and transition to a net-zero economy."

Adding further, Alba's CEO Ali Al Baqali stated: "Safety is first and foremost in Alba; that's why we have engaged with Advanced United Systems to deliver this Project within 15 months."

"I also take the opportunity to call upon all corporates to participate in the energy transition

revolution that is taking shape in the Kingdom so together we contribute to Bahrain's aspirations of Net Zero Emissions by 2060."

The Solar Farm Project is one of the many initiatives under Alba's ESG Roadmap as the Company journeys to further sustainable value for its people and society.



OrderJet wins investment of \$125,000 in Beban 2

TDI | Manama

Hope Ventures, the investment arm of Hope Fund and producers of Beban TV show, and private investors invested \$ 125,000 in Bahrain-based F&B solution 'OrderJet'.

OrderJet, a Bahrain-based app co-founded by Ali Haji and Yusuf Almahmood to digitise restaurants' operations through the provision of QR code services, pick-ups, and bring-to-car services, raised \$ 125,000 from Hope Ventures and a Saudi angel investor Dr Abdulelah Algosaibi.

"At OrderJet, we are on a mission to streamline and ease operations for the F&B sector by providing the ultimate dining experience for customers in the Kingdom of Bahrain," Ali Haji, Co-Founder, and CEO of OrderJet said.

Fajer Al Pachachi, General Manager at Hope Ventures stressed that Beban aims to be a regional investment platform that matchmakes high-potential businesses with investors who exponentially help them scale beyond local borders.



Ali Haji

She pointed out that OrderJet is a prime example of that; through Beban, the company raised an investment from Hope and Saudi investor Dr Abdulelah Algosaibi, whose expertise will contribute to the company's growth and expansion.

"I am thrilled to be investing alongside Hope Ventures in OrderJet, as I believe the company has tremendous growth and expansion potential," Dr Abdulelah Algosaibi said.

"I hope to convey my expertise in technology to OrderJet, and I look forward to having a complementary relationship that takes the company to new horizons and boosts the efforts of supporting youth to compete regionally and globally."

Citi Global Tech Hub in Bahrain is on track to employ 1000 Bahraini coders

TDI | Manama

Citi Bahrain has celebrated the first anniversary of its Global Technology Hub, which is on track to employ 1000 Bahraini coders over ten years. Currently, the hub comprises of 110 Bahraini employees, out of which 91 Bahrainis have started at the Citi Seef premise, with 19 additional hires set to join soon. Female participants at the Hub make up 22% of the total Bahrainis, outperforming the average of females in other Citi tech hubs around the world.

When selecting a country for its Global Technology Hub, Citi conducted a rigorous technical coding test and interview process, with Bahraini talent showing the highest pass rate when compared to other regions. Even more encouraging was the level of female talent



in Bahrain's candidate pool, as Bahrain ranks first globally in

multiple subindices according to Meta's Inclusive Internet Index

(2022), including female digital skills training and STEM edu-

cation, open data policies, and privacy regulations.

HH Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al-Khalifa, Member of the Supreme Council for Women and Chairwoman of the Bahrain Women in Fintech Committee, said: "It makes us proud to see Bahraini women directly contributing to the operations and growth of Citi's Global Tech Hub."

The Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain, Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, said: "The Financial services sector has progressed over the last decade, and we expect more changes in the coming years as the pace of digitisation increases. We are proud to see Bahraini talents and competencies benefiting and contributing in developing global centres affiliated with reputable financial institutions in order to promote digital solutions in the financial sector".

According to Citi Bahrain's CEO, Michel Sawaya, Citi has witnessed great results since the launch. "The coders had a big impact on developing our digital platforms, such as Citi Velocity and CitiFX Pulse. Their positive contribution helped implement important features, and subsequently take part of bigger projects that have helped us serve Citi clients globally."

Citi launched its Global Tech Hub last year as part of a strategic partnership between Tamkeen, Bahrain's labour fund, and the Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB), the Kingdom's investment promotion agency.

A first in the region, the Hub aims to develop and improve digital solutions for Citi's regional and global clients while creating 1000 tech jobs for Bahrainis over ten years.

News in brief

Canada sends armored vehicles to Haiti to fight gang violence



Canada delivered armored vehicles to Haiti on Wednesday to help combat criminal gangs as the Caribbean nation faces a humanitarian crisis, the Canadian foreign ministry said. Canadian military aircraft made the delivery to the Haitian National Police in the capital Port-au-Prince, it added. Haitian gangs have seized control of much of the country since the 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, leading to routine gun battles with police.

Embattled U.S. Representative George Santos

Embattled George Santos defies New York Republicans' call to step down

Santos said he had no plans to heed fellow New York Republicans' calls to step down, a plea they made on Wednesday due to what they called "lie after lie after lie" about his career and history. Top House of Representatives Republican Kevin McCarthy said he had no intention of pressuring Santos, part of his narrow 222-212 majority, despite the public plea by more than a dozen top Republicans, many of them from Santos' suburban New York City district.



Illinois bans semiautomatic gun sales, legal challenge expected

Illinois has banned the sale of many common kinds of semiautomatic guns with immediate effect in response to a massacre at an Independence Day parade in Highland Park last year and other mass shootings. The new law, which Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed on Tuesday evening, bans selling many kinds of weapons that automatically load the next bullet after a shot, including semiautomatic rifles and pistols with detachable magazines. The law lists dozens of popular gun brands made by US gun makers. Rifles that hold more than 10 bullets and pistols that hold more than 15 are also banned, as are rapid-fire attachments and .50-caliber guns. People who already own such weapons will be able to keep them but must register them with state police.

The US Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed New York to enforce a Democratic-backed gun control law

Supreme Court lets New York enforce new gun restrictions

adopted after the justices last year struck down the state's limits on carrying concealed handguns outside the home in a landmark ruling that expanded gun rights. The justices rejected a request by six members of the firearms rights group Gun Owners of America to throw out a lower court's decision allowing the law to be enforced. U.S. District Judge Glenn Suddaby in October blocked enforcement of much of the law but the Manhattan-based 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in December put that decision on hold while the state pursues an appeal.



Second set of classified papers found at Biden's home, White House says

Reuters | Washington

President Joe Biden's legal team has discovered a second set of classified documents from his time as vice president at a storage space in the garage of his home in Wilmington, Delaware, the White House said yesterday.

The statement by Richard Sauber, a special counsel to Biden, came days after the White House said an earlier batch of documents had been discovered in November in the closet of an office at a University of Pennsylvania think tank that Biden had used after leaving the vice presidency.

The discoveries have presented legal and political headaches for Biden as he prepares for an



President Joe Biden talks with reporters before he and first lady Jill Biden board Marine One

expected 2024 re-election campaign in the upcoming months.

A single document was found in a room adjacent to the garage in Wilmington and no documents were found in the Bidens' Rehoboth Beach home, Sauber said in a statement. The administration is "fully cooperating" to ensure that the records are handled properly, Sauber said.

There are differences between the revelation that Biden's legal team found classified documents in his properties and the ongoing Justice Department investigation into former President Donald Trump's refusal to hand over classified documents taken from the

White House.

Trump kept thousands of government records, a few hundred of which were marked as classified, inside his personal residence in Florida for more than a year after departing the White House, and did not return them immediately or willingly despite numerous requests by the National Archives.

When he finally handed over 15 boxes of records in January 2022, the Archives discovered more than 100 were marked as classified. It referred the matter to the Justice Department in the spring and a special counsel has been named to oversee the investigation.

YOU KNOW WHAT

The discoveries have presented legal and political headaches for Biden as he prepares for an expected 2024 re-election campaign in the upcoming months

Ukraine

Ukraine says troops ho

Moscow has not claimed victory

Moscow puts chief of general staff in direct command of invasion

Reuters | Kyiv

Ukraine said yesterday its troops were holding out despite heavy fighting on a battlefield littered with bodies in a salt mining town in eastern Ukraine, where Russian mercenaries have claimed Moscow's first significant gain in half a year.

The ultra-nationalist contract militia Wagner, run by an ally of President Vladimir Putin outside the main chain of military command, claims to have taken Soledar after intense fighting that it said had left the town strewn with Ukrainian dead. But Moscow has held off officially proclaiming victory.

"At the moment, there are still some small pockets of resistance in Soledar," Andrei Bayevsky, a Russian-installed local politician,

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Robbers pull off multimillion-dollar copper heist in Chilean port



A panoramic view of the San Antonio port, Chile

Reuters | Santiago

Chilean authorities said on Wednesday they were investigating a violent heist in Chile's main seaport where thieves stole several shipping containers filled with copper belonging to state-owned giant Codelco.

Juan Carlos Catalan, the local prosecutor, said in a statement that ten armed men entered the San Antonio port early on Tuesday morning, attacked workers and stole 13 containers, 12 of which had copper.

"There was one guard and four workers that (the assailants) tied up and beat and left locked up," Catalan said, adding that workers alerted authorities after they freed themselves.

Catalan said authorities are investigating and reviewing security footage but have not detained any suspects.

YOU KNOW WHAT

The violent robbery adds pressure over shipment security in the world's largest copper producer. Mining companies in Chile have repeatedly complained about copper thefts by specialized gangs

In a statement to Reuters, Codelco said the copper was scheduled to be exported and was insured. Citing police sources, local media reported the copper plates were worth an estimated \$4.4 million.

US first lady Jill Biden has surgery to remove cancerous skin lesions

Reuters | Washington

US first lady Jill Biden had cancerous skin lesions removed from her face and chest during surgery on Wednesday, and a third lesion was removed from her left eyelid and sent for examination, the White House physician said.

The 71-year-old first lady, accompanied by President Joe Biden, spent more than eight hours at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for the outpatient procedure.

All cancerous tissue was removed, the White House physician said.

The president returned to the White House later on Wednesday afternoon. The first lady re-



Jill Biden walks before boarding the Marine One helicopter to travel to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

turned separately, her spokesperson, Vanessa Valdivia, said, and was "doing well and in good

spirits."

Jill Biden went to the hospital for removal of a skin lesion above her right eye. White House physician Kevin O'Connor said in a statement that the procedure "confirmed that the small lesion was basal cell carcinoma."

"All cancerous tissue was successfully removed, and the margins were clear of any residual skin cancer cells. We will monitor the area closely as it heals, but do not anticipate any more procedures will be needed," he said.

In addition, a small lesion was discovered on Jill Biden's left eyelid and it was fully excised and sent for further examination, O'Connor said.

California is deluged by record rain with more storms coming

Reuters | Mendocino

The seventh consecutive atmospheric river since Christmas dumped more rain on Northern California on Wednesday, offering little relief for a state already battered by floods, gale force winds, power outages and evacuations of entire towns.

While Wednesday's deluge was relatively minor, with less rainfall and mostly contained to northwestern California, another atmospheric river was expected to drench most of the state this weekend, said Zack Taylor, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center.

The parade of storms is forecast to continue, bringing even more heavy rain next week, the



View of flooding from the rainstorm-swollen Sacramento and American Rivers, near downtown Sacramento

weather service said.

That will add to record-breaking rainfall.

Downtown San Francisco recorded a phenomenal 13.6 inches (34.5 cm) of rain from Dec. 26 until Wednesday

morning, while San Francisco International Airport, the city of Oakland and the city of Stockton all recorded 16-day records over the same period, said the National Weather Service said.

Prince Harry hits reports of Afghan



A staff member arranges Britain's Prince Harry's memoirs at Waterstones bookstore, in London

Reuters | London

Britain's Prince Harry has hit back at "hurtful" responses to his record-selling memoir, saying he was particularly upset by the "lie" he had boasted that he had killed 25 people in Afghanistan when serving as a military helicopter pilot.

In his book "Spare", King Charles's younger son recounts his two tours of Afghanistan, first as a forward air controller in 2007/08 and again in 2012, when he was a co-pilot gunner in Apache attack helicopters, and the number of people he had killed.

British newspapers, heavily criticized in the book, and some senior former British military figures have attacked his decision to make public the figure of those he had killed, saying it could put him and others at risk of reprisals.

Speaking to U.S. chat show host Stephen Colbert on "The Late Show", he said the press had spun his words to take his disclosure out of context, and that he had included the material to reduce the number of suicides by military

Nika riots begin in Constantinople, revolt against Emperor Justinian I, prompted by chariot racing

John Walter publishes 1st issue of "The Times" of London



Adolf Hitler declares "Total War" against the Allies

Microsoft chairman Bill Gates steps aside as chief executive and promotes company president Steve Ballmer to the position

He says fighting to hold Soledar

Ukrainian soldiers hold out in corpse-strewn battlefield of Soledar as Russian mercenaries claim to have captured the mining town



Ukrainian soldiers watch as smoke billows during fighting between Ukrainian and Russian forces in Soledar

said in an online broadcast. Ukraine has acknowledged Russian advances but Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Malyar told a briefing yesterday that fighting was still fierce. The Russians were "moving over their own corpses", she said. Reuters was unable to independently verify the situation. Malyar said Russia had increased the number of units in Ukraine to 280 from 250 in the past week as it seeks to regain the

initiative. Kremlin-watchers were poring over Russia's latest switch of battlefield leadership, a day after Valery Gerasimov, chief of the military's general staff, was unexpectedly given direct command of the invasion. The previous commander of three months' standing, Army General Sergei Surovikin, was effectively demoted to become one of Gerasimov's three deputies. Moscow explained the deci-

YOU KNOW WHAT

Soledar would be Moscow's biggest gain since a series of humiliating retreats in the second half of 2022 - but at immense cost, with huge losses on both sides

sion - at least the third abrupt change of top commander in the 11-month conflict - as a response to the campaign's growing importance. Russian and Western commentators alike saw attempts to shift blame for setbacks in which Russia has lost around 40% of the territory it had seized since February. **Fixer or fall-guy?** Gerasimov had become a target of abuse from nationalist bloggers, who have flourished even

as the Kremlin has shut all independent media and jailed critics of the war. "The move is likely to be greeted with extreme displeasure by much of the Russian ultra-nationalist and military blogger community, who have increasingly blamed Gerasimov for the poor execution of the war," Britain's Ministry of Defence said. One prominent Russian military blogger who posts on the Telegram messaging app under the name of Rybar said Surovikin was being made a scapegoat for military debacles. However, Mick Ryan, a retired Australian major general, suggested in a tweet that Putin and Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu had "set up Gerasimov as the fall guy for all of Russia's failures". Semyon Pegov, another Russian military blogger, noted that "now the General Staff is directly and uncompromisingly responsible for absolutely everything". Ukraine's defence ministry offered mockery. "Every Russian general must receive at least one opportunity to fail in Ukraine," it tweeted. "Some may be lucky enough to fail twice." Soledar would be Moscow's

biggest gain since a series of humiliating retreats in the second half of 2022 - but at immense cost, with huge losses on both sides. It had barely 10,000 inhabitants before the war. Russia has failed in repeated attempts to capture the far more important nearby city of Bakhmut, ten times as large. Donetsk governor Pavlo Kyrylenko told Ukrainian state TV that 559 civilians remained in Soledar, including 15 children, and could not be evacuated. Across Ukraine, the front lines have barely budged since Russia's last big retreat in the south two months ago. Kyiv hopes heavy armour from Western allies will allow it to resume advances. With the West upping the ante in a way that seemed unthinkable a few months ago, the United States, Germany and France last week pledged armoured fighting vehicles - and the focus has now shifted to main battle tanks. Polish President Andrzej Duda, who was cheered in the Ukrainian city of Lviv on Wednesday, promised a company of 14 German-made Leopard battle tanks, part of what he called an international coalition.

out at press over killings in book



Harry's autobiography 'Spare' at

” I made a choice to share it because having spent nearly two decades working with veterans all around the world, I think the most important thing is to be honest and be able to give space to others to be able to share their experiences without any shame

PRINCE HARRY

veterans. "Without doubt the most dangerous lie that they have told is that I somehow boasted about the number of people that I killed in Afghanistan," he said. "I made a choice to share it because having spent nearly two decades working with veterans all around the world, I think the most important thing is to be honest and be able to give space to others to be able to share their experiences without any shame."

Police clear first buildings in abandoned German coal village

Reuters | Luetzerath

German police were trying to clear hundreds of climate protesters holed up in an abandoned village in western Germany for a second day yesterday, in a continuing standoff over the expansion of a coal mine. For over two years demonstrators have occupied Luetzerath, a village in the brown-coal district of the western state of North Rhine-Westphalia, to stop the expansion of the Garzweiler lignite coal mine, run by energy firm RWE. Following a court decision allowing RWE to proceed with the expansion, hundreds of police in riot gear moved in on Wednesday morning, clearing barricades erected by



Police officers use shields as activists demonstrate during a sit-in protest the activists. But progress has been slow; two people have been detained and three more were

in custody since the operation started on Wednesday, according to Aachen police spokesperson Andrew Mueller said. Activists said hundreds of protesters were still at the site. Equipped with ladders on rainy yesterday morning, police climbed the walls of one of the abandoned houses in the village as protesters in the building and on its roof chanted "People got the power" and "Luetzerath stays". Protesters have formed human chains, staged sit-ins and occupied deserted buildings which will be razed to make way for the mine's expansion. Some have dug themselves into holes in the ground while others hung suspended from wooden tripods.

Benedict's confidant spills beans on two-popes tension

AFP | Vatican City

Just one week after the funeral of Benedict XVI, his closest aide released a much-trailed memoir yesterday, revealing details of tensions between the late pope emeritus and his more liberal successor Pope Francis. Georg Gaenswein's book reveals private conversations with both popes in charting the German ex-pontiff's rise to power and the decade spent in retirement following his shock resignation in 2013. The Vatican has not officially responded but Pope Francis called Gaenswein in to a private meeting on Monday, following days of pre-publication interviews in which the 66-year-old German aired years of grievances. In one, he claimed it had "pained Benedict's heart" when Francis effectively reversed his predecessor's decision to relax restrictions on the use of the traditional Latin mass.



Pope Francis meets Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI as Archbishop Georg Gaenswein looks on (file photo)

Up until his death on December 31 at the age of 95, Benedict had remained a figurehead for the conservative wing of the Catholic Church, which views Pope Francis as too liberal. **Shocked and speechless** As his secretary since 2003, Gaenswein was a constant presence at Benedict's side, and during his final years living

in a monastery in the Vatican grounds, his gatekeeper. After Benedict's death, Gaenswein led the mourners, greeting visitors to his mentor's lying-in-state and kissing the coffin in front of tens of thousands at St Peter's Square during the funeral led by Pope Francis. In "Nothing But the Truth: My Life Beside Pope Benedict XVI", Gaenswein describes

YOU KNOW WHAT

As his secretary since 2003, Gaenswein was a constant presence at Benedict's side, and during his final years living in a monastery in the Vatican grounds, his gatekeeper

Benedict's perplexity at some of Francis's decisions, and the latter's apparent attempts to keep his predecessor in check. After becoming in 2013 the first pope in six centuries to resign, Benedict promised to live "hidden from the world", but broke that pledge to speak out on several explosive issues.

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

13 years ago, a devastating earthquake claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in Haiti, including 102 members of the @UN family. They will never be forgotten.

@antoniogetterres

02

3 years ago, the first SARS-CoV-2 sequence was shared. Today, sequencing remains vital. We urge all countries to keep testing & sharing sequences. We understand efforts won't be as intense as before but we can't beat this virus with our eyes closed.

@DrTedros

03

Discussed current security challenges with President of Cyprus @AnastasiadesCY. Thanked for humanitarian aid for Ukraine and willingness to support the increase in sanction pressure on the aggressor country.

@ZelenskyyUa

04

For the sixth month in a row, yearly inflation is down. It might be rising in economies around the world, but it's coming down here. And gas prices, food, and more are following. That adds up to a break for families and proof that my plan is working.

@POTUS

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

celebs

Britney Spears denies attending Cade Hudson's birthday party with Paris Hilton

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Britney Spears has denied attending Cade Hudson's birthday party.

The 41-year-old pop star appeared to have celebrated the celebrity agent's birthday over the weekend when heiress Paris Hilton posted a photo of the three of them onto Instagram, but it now appears the picture was old.

Britney wrote on Instagram: "Also have no idea about these pics of me from a birthday party ... I haven't been to a bday party in forever!!! And as for the pics, those have to be from years ago!!! Kind of creepy and weird that no one is talking about that ... makes no sense whatsoever!!!!" The birthday party took place



The image shared by Paris Hilton

in California and was thought to have been attended by the likes of Robert Pattinson, Emma Roberts, Demi Lovato, and Tiffany Haddish, and TMZ also claimed

that the "...Baby One More Time" hitmaker spent "all night" with the 'Paris In Love' star but an insider has now confirmed that Britney was not there

at all.

The confusion appears to have come when Paris created a birthday tribute post for Cade, in which she posted the photo in a mix of new and old snaps.

She wrote: "Happy Birthday @CadeHudson22! Sending you so much love on your special day! So many fun memories together over the years! We always have the best time! You always make me laugh. You are so much fun and you have a heart of gold. Thank you for always being such a loyal and true friend. Feel so lucky to have you in my life! Excited to celebrate you this weekend and make more epic memories together Love you forever and always." (sic)

Hugh Jackman opens up on behaviour on sets of 'X-Men' movies that 'wouldn't happen now'

IAN S | Los Angeles

"X-Men" star Hugh Jackman has admitted that the early "X-Men" movies saw on-set behaviour "that would not happen now."

The Hollywood star has spoken about events behind the scenes on the hit film franchise after co-star Halle Berry previously claimed she had clashed with director Bryan Singer, reports 'The Mirror'.

The Australian star thinks a positive change has occurred in the movie industry since he took on the project - his first big US release. Halle previously told 'Variety' how she had got in a row with Bryan on the set of the 2014 "X-Men" film, "Days Of Future Past", claiming he was "not the easiest dude to work with".

Talking to 'The Guardian', Hugh elaborated further on his own experience of the movie business.

"This was my first movie in America, you gotta understand; it was all so new to me. I think it's fair to say that... there are some stories, you know. I think there are some ways of being on set that would not happen now."

"And I think that things have changed for the better. There's way less tolerance for dis-



This was my first movie in America, you gotta understand; it was all so new to me. I think it's fair to say that... there are some stories, you know. I think there are some ways of being on set that would not happen now

HUGH JACKMAN

respectful, marginalising, bullying, any oppressive behaviour. There's zero tolerance for it now and people will speak out, and I think that's great," he added.

'The Mirror' further states that Singer has found himself at the centre of sexual misconduct claims recently, however, the filmmaker has robustly denied the allegations.

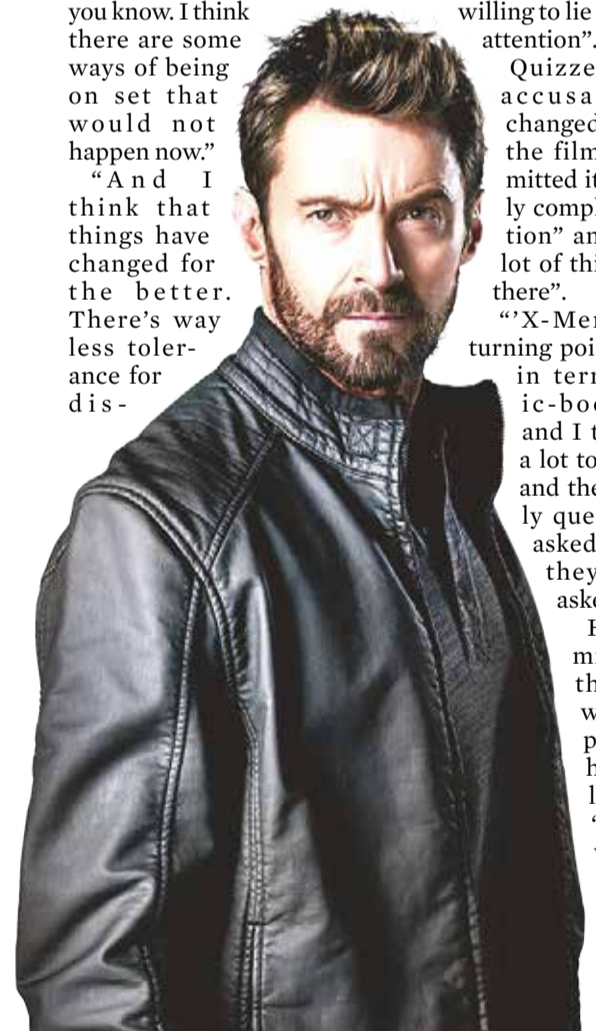
He released a statement to Deadline in 2019 branding the reports "rehashed claims from bogus lawsuits filed by a disreputable cast of individuals willing to lie for money or attention".

Quizzed on if the accusations had changed his view of the films Hugh admitted it was a "really complicated question" and "there's a lot of things at stake there".

"X-Men" was the turning point, I believe, in terms of comic-book movies and I think there's a lot to be proud of and there's certainly questions to be asked and I think they should be asked."

He then admitted feeling the situation was "complex" and that he ultimately looks back "with pride at what we've achieved and what momentum that started".

Hugh Jackman



Influential rock guitarist Jeff Beck dies at 78, family says



Jeff Beck

Reuters | Los Angeles

Jeff Beck, the influential, genre-bending English guitarist who rose to fame with The Yardbirds before later embarking on a solo career, has died at the age of 78, his family announced on social media on Wednesday.

He passed away peacefully on Tuesday after suddenly contracting bacterial meningitis, the family said.

Margot Robbie says she shocked Brad Pitt with her improvised kiss in 'Babylon'

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actress Margot Robbie insists she improvised her kiss with Brad Pitt in 'Babylon'.

The 32-year-old 'The Wolf of Wall Street' actress previously claimed it wasn't in the script of her latest film, in which she plays self-destructive silent film star Nellie LaRoy in the debauched Hollywood of the Roaring Twenties, reports aceshowbiz.com.

But Brad said in December that he asked its makers to write in his screen kiss with co-star Robbie.

Robbie told the new issue of W magazine: "In 'Babylon', Nellie kisses a lot of people. I actually improvised a kiss that wasn't in the script. We were doing a party scene, and Nellie goes up to Brad Pitt's character and Katherine Waterston's character, and I was like, 'F***

it."

"I'm just gonna kiss them and see what happens. They were a little bit shocked. I don't know if it made it into the movie."

Pitt said during an interview with Australian news show 'The Project' it was him who didn't want to pass the opportunity to kiss Margot.

He said: "No (it wasn't scripted.) I had asked for it, if we can

write that in. You know, when was I going to get a chance to do this again? And we did it. I might add too that Nellie (Margot's character) kisses 15 people in this movie."

Pitt is said to be dating jewellery executive Ines de Ramon, 32, after divorcing Angelina Jolie in 2019, while Margot has been married to 32-year-old film producer Tom Ackerley since 2016.

Margot told E! News about the kiss at the start of December: "That wasn't in the script, but I thought, 'When else am I gonna get the chance to kiss Brad Pitt? I'm just gonna go for it.' I said, 'Damien (Chazelle, the director), I think Nellie would just go up and kiss Jack (Brad's character).'"



Margot Robbie



Ben Affleck takes orders at a Dunkin' Donuts drive-through in Boston

Ben Affleck serves coffee at doughnut joint

IAN S | Los Angeles

'Argo' star Ben Affleck has landed the job of serving customers at a Dunkin' Donuts drive-through in Boston.

The Oscar-winning actor was snapped taking orders and serv-

ing up coffee at a drive-through window, with his wife Jennifer Lopez pulling up in a white SUV to order her own takeaway, reports 'The Mirror'.

But things weren't as they seemed, as 50-year-old Ben was

actually shooting a commercial for his beloved Dunkin' Donuts, with JLo acting alongside him. According to 'Mirror', it's the first time the pair have acted together since their 2003 film 'Gigli'.

SUDOKU

4		7						1
5			3					9
7		1			3			8
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6		7		2				4
	2		6					7
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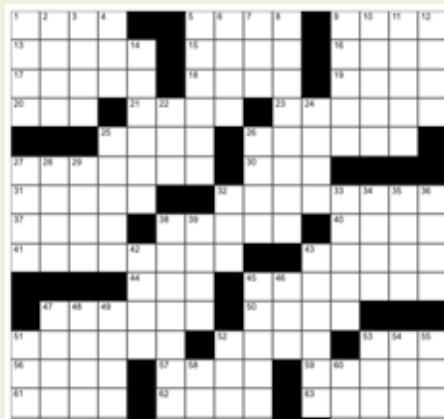
Yesterday's solution

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

How to play

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

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Islamic chieftain; 5- Pig; 9- Clock face; 13- Domesticated; 15- Israeli round dance; 16- ___ want for Christmas...; 17- 1836 siege site; 18- Are you ___ out?; 19- Narrow inlets; 20- Metal, often used as a container; 21- Volcano shape; 23- Trattoria treats; 25- Adjutant; 26- Marquis ___; 27- Danced at Oktoberfest, perhaps; 30- Guido's high note; 31- Disney mermaid; 32- Deceitful; 37- Type of phone; 38- Port near Hong Kong; 40- Romance lang.; 41- Entirety; 43- Knowledge gained through meditation; 44- Boxer Laila; 45- Become more muscular; 47- Idle talk; 50- Soviet news service; 51- Floor covering; 52- Factual; 53- Part of HRH; 56- Verdi opera; 57- Bern's river; 59- Trick; 61- Husky burden; 62- Hwys.; 63- Rush; 64- Fictional Jane; 65- Tibetan oxen; 66- Apians;

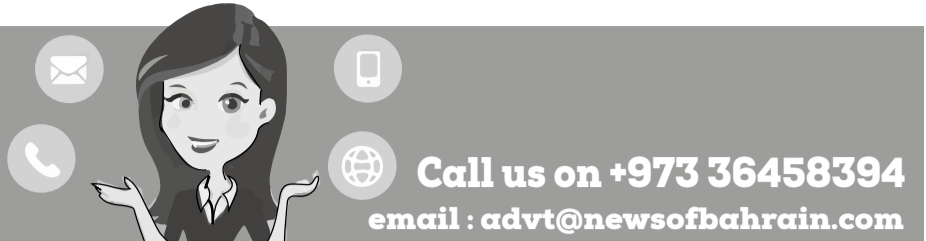
Down

1- Coup d' ___; 2- Timbuktu's land; 3- Model married to David Bowie; 4- Sleep stage; 5- Directed a light; 6- Single; 7- Guadalajara gold; 8- Needlepoint; 9- "Our Gang" girl; 10- Greek epic poem; 11- Winged; 12- Actress Virna; 14- Church party; 22- Shelley's ___ to the West Wind; 24- Son of Isaac and Rebekah; 25- Pack leader; 26- Boxer Oscar ___ Hoya; 27- Agreement; 28- Black-and-white cookie; 29- Rhythmic swing; 32- Slick; 33- Nasal cavity; 34- Let's just leave ___ that; 35- Turbine blade; 36- Dash; 38- Pertaining to war; 39- Take ___ from me; 42- Emit coherent light; 43- Son of Jacob and Rachel; 45- Emphasis; 46- 19th letter of the Greek alphabet; 47- Merrily; 48- Command; 49- One in a black suit; 51- Portfollio; 52- Arduous journey; 53- Fabled loser; 54- As to; 55- The ___ the limit; 58- ___ glance; 60- Chafe;

Yesterday's solution

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

Classifieds



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Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

NU ASIA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38700027 or salwa@al-abraaj.com

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SMS DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33721386 or AMWAJ.VIP@GMAIL.COM

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Lab phone W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33376624 or LABPHONEGOSMALL@GMAIL.COM

H G AWAN MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32380806 or IZZANNISA456@GMAIL.COM

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AUTO CREW TRADING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34143852 or AUTOCREW.BH@GMAIL.COM

FLY BUY GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35446910 or SADATHBH@GMAIL.COM

AMIR IKRAM FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39034941 or AMIRIKRAM121@GMAIL.COM

RED DEER BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33640042 or NASEERBH86@GMAIL.COM

MOANA INTERIORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39227008 or ASIM.HAFEEZ76@GMAIL.COM

NAEEM ARFAN COMBINED FACILITIES SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33305287 or NAEEMNAEEMNAEEMNAEEM536@GMAIL.COM

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

BANNU BEEF PULAO RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33224880 or BANNUBEEF10@GMAIL.COM

VENTURE INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34537438 or SADAQATSHARIF85@GMAIL.COM

Al Helli Supermarket B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or HANAN@ALHELLI.COM

VISION ERA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33203536 or GHUBARY2003@GMAIL.COM

GOLD DUST CLEANING SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33361701 or GOLDDUST.BH@GMAIL.COM

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

BAHRAIN TOURISM COMPANY - CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17525848 or HASSANALI.MOHSIN@YAHOO.COM

BAHRAIN TOURISM COMPANY - CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17525848 or HASSANALI.MOHSIN@YAHOO.COM

BAHRAIN TOURISM COMPANY - CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17525848 or HASSANALI.MOHSIN@YAHOO.COM

GRAND TIGER FOR MECHANICAL AND INDUSTRIAL B.S.C. CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of STRUCTURAL STEEL WORKER (WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or SKDGRPCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

GRAND TIGER FOR MECHANICAL AND INDUSTRIAL B.S.C. CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or SKDGRPCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

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

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

ESMAELY LENZOHM ELECTRICAL CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830909 or info@esmaelylenzohm.com

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

ALGHANAH GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact

17722333 or info@alghanah.com

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m11111@gmail.com

BIG BEN SCAFFOLDING CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENTS RENTAL has a vacancy for the occupation of EMPLOYEE(OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39416687 or STAR_STAR2009@HOTMAIL.COM

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or h.bukhamas@tamcon.bh

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BLACKSMITH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or h.bukhamas@tamcon.bh

HAWASHIM COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or h.bukhamas@tamcon.bh

Ever Fine Trading W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227206 or GEEPASBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697979 or HASSAN800@GMAIL.COM

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

Air resources limited - foreign branch has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33626221 or salwa.albalushi@aiswift.com

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjinath@urbaser.com

BDC MANPOWER SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17180530 or mona.alnokhedha@bas.com.bh

Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

SIYAM HASAN CONTRACTING AND CLEANING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33237198 or rameez.akhtar13@gmail.com

ALABRAJ RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38700027 or salwa@al-abraaj.com

FROSTED LEAF BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35312509 or HARDIKBHATTBH130877@GMAIL.COM

SOMAN INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34393188 or SOMANREALESTATE94@GMAIL.COM

SHAH KHALID FLOATING STRUCTURES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37154911 or MORAYKHAN78@GMAIL.COM

AVATHAR GOLD CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33337604 or SAJIVCHOOIYAD@GMAIL.COM

BARZAN MARKETING SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33543825 or BARZANCOBH@GMAIL.COM

ENGLISH TREE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35947209 or DANIYALARAIN2285@GMAIL.COM

ENGLISH TREE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35947209 or DANIYALARAIN2285@GMAIL.COM

FARHAN ASLAM PACKING & SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34520834 or FARHANB668@GMAIL.COM

BEST DREAMS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34000816 or SHEHROZMAQSOD07@GMAIL.COM

ISA ALAMDAR EBRAHIM ZAINAL (SAQR ALHEJAZ - 8191) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675062 or ZAINAL.ESSA@GMAIL.COM

ALI ALMATROOK CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39663131 or KHALID@AL-MATROOK.COM

Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

BRIDGETON INTERNATIONAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37219947 or Sbrakesh@GMAIL.COM

S Hotel has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785704 or RADHI.ALMIHAL@GMAIL.COM

ALRAWASI MAINTENANCE CONTRACTING ESTABLI has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39609921 or alrawasi1@hotmail.com

HAWASHIM COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC(MOTOR-VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17295287 or S.HASHIMMAJID@GMAIL.COM

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

FADHEL ALI ABDULWAHAB ALTAWEEL (KHOKHA - 2060) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36300065 or AYYS1976@HOTMAIL.COM

AL WAJIH TRANSPORT has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39661808 or MK.ALKHALIFA36@HOTMAIL.COM

AL BIDAA SWORD AND DAGGER has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17342474 or SHAKER@DEPAJ.COM

Manares For Home Furniture has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39946444 or BSHAWAI@GMAIL.COM

SANTORINI SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666692 or ISABAB896@GMAIL.COM

CLASSIC MOON BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33366038 or masoorna.shubber.1990@gmail.com

AL WED RESTURENT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462005 or GULFCENTER.SMS@YAHOO.COM

ASWAR ALBAYAN CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600715 or AYSHA1001@GMAIL.COM

COSMOS PROJECTS CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17124578 or awalmohd52@gmail.com

MARASHEEN RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33138800 or ebrahimim.hassan@ewa.bh

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

AL RAWASI RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664427 or SMUSTAF71@HOTMAIL.COM

OM NADA FOR IMPORT & EXPORT AND SALE OF SECOND HAND FURNITURE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39077995 or YUSUF96637@GMAIL.COM

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

ALMIQAT RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36673077 or AL.MIQAT@YAHOO.COM

HABSON ROCKS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33338689 or hasgroupbahrain@gmail.com

WESTPOINT HOME (BAHRAIN) W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

SPLASH SWIMMING POOL Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39640528 or splashpools.bh@gmail.com

SPLASH SWIMMING POOL Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39640528 or

splashpools.bh@gmail.com

Al Getara for removal and fixing home and offices furniture has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17141162 or SUNDUS@ALZAHACARGO.COM

MOHAMMAD ASGHAR CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39868030 or REHMATALI.ASGHAR@GMAIL.COM

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

ESMAELY LENZOHM ELECTRICAL CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830909 or info@esmaelylenzohm.com

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

CAPITAL REEF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17686100 or CAPITALREEF.BH@GMAIL.COM

I CLEAN SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or mellanie.hr@dreamgroup.bh

ZAFEER CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39339937 or ZAFEER2030@YAHOO.COM

Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of INSULATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

J & P MIDDLE EAST HOLDING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17243791 or JAYANS15@GMAIL.COM

Farsana Construction S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39829698 or FARSANABAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

SAMADAIR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33358176 or yyhh1965@gmail.com

A Y A SHIPPING AND CARGO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666651 or ALWADI2000@HOTMAIL.COM

FAISAL SHARAF FOR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17246616 or FSEENG@BATELCO.COM.BH

BUTTERFLY SPKING ALRABEA has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39120609 or FAISALM.ALMULLA@GMAIL.COM

ROOCHI GENTS TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33756142 or SHAHBAZ.BH75@GMAIL.COM

M R A LIVE RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36889233 or MRADC2020@GMAIL.COM

WINGMAN BUDAYA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226616 or govt@zainalent.com

USMANS WORLD Personal Events Planners has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33704554 or USMAN_DC@YAHOO.COM

RESTAURANT LEGEND ABU SHEHAB has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34042266 or UMALI7UBAIL@GMAIL.COM

SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697979 or HASSAN800@GMAIL.COM

I CLEAN SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or mellanie.hr@dreamgroup.bh

Harata albaik shawarmah and pastries and grills has a vacancy for the occupation of PASTRY MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33377921 or OLDDREEM_12@HOTMAIL.CO

360 GENT SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33070333 or hamadshamsr@gmail.com

SUPER PAINTS EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39474471 or SUPERPAINTBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ANADA BHAVAN INDIAN RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants

can contact 39971555 or ANAND@ALRIYADHGROUP.COM

Chemco Plastic Bahrain W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464159 or vijaysharma@chemcogulf.com

POWER TECH DEVELOPMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34010755 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

MADHIF AL MODDAWEB REETA VRANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39413377 or EBRAHIMALMB14@GMAIL.COM

BASPA bahrain automotive services, spare parts & accessories W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005343 or BASPAWLL@GMAIL.COM

BAHAR JEWELLERS CO.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39992788 or JANI788@LIVE.COM

IDEAL GARDEN NURSERY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or idealgarden.bahrain@gmail.com

EXPRESS MY OWN LAUNDRY BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39550042 or AA22AA99@HOTMAIL.COM

NATIONAL EXCAVATING EST. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39455537 or NEEWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

TAMCON CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or h.bukhamas@tamcon.bh

GOLD DUST CLEANING SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33361701 or GOLDDUST.BH@GMAIL.COM

303SECURE SHIELD W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or AQEEL@BASMA.COM.BH

Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ABU HAZAR BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66937703 or ALIHAZAR1234@GMAIL.COM

ABBAS ABDULAMEER JAAFAR AHMED HUSAIN / TARWAT ZAETER 1 /10847 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33949659 or aazzaz7@hotmail.com

SALSABEEL JEWELLERY DESIGN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005939 or fakhermalk@yahoo.com

TOLINE CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39744994 or salmanmadan6@gmail.com

VAM SYSTEMS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533701 or VINAY.NAIR@VAMSYSTEMS.COM

KUL ALZAIN FITNESS AND BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of HENNA MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39115535 or KULALZAIN@GMAIL.COM

HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993977 or MOHAMMED.ALDERAZI@HUAWEI.COM

RAZAN EXPRESS CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39670099 or K.HAMADA@GDNPR.GOV.BH

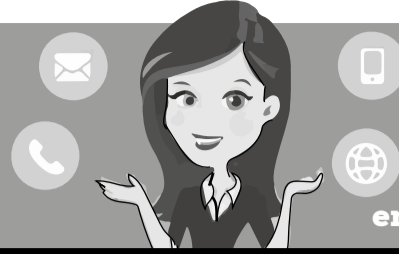
GOLDEN PALACE FALAFEL AND SAMBOSA has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33022259 or ALWANIOO@HOTMAIL.COM

Intertech Trading W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17680566 or ssshakeeb@batelco.com.bh

OCEAN 7 FISHING EQUIPMENTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333575 or LAGOON_FISH@HOTMAIL.COM

NAJMAT ALBALAD SPURPATS AND CAR ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39319636 or HLLH81@HOTMAIL.COM

Classifieds



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VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

MASHTAN CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36668870 or S.MASHTAN@YAHOO.COM
TAURUS CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39120524 or NOREENYASIN@MAIL.COM
Morocco nights ladies beauty saloon has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335052 or JAMEELA_0711@ICLOUD.COM
ZAMZAM LOGISTICS TRANSPORT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313181 or ZAMZAM_SPRING@HOTMAIL.COM
USMANS BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39133187 or USMANS_DC@YAHOO.COM
WTE Wassertechnik GmbH- foriegn Branch has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (INTERNAL WORKS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38406071 or Kawther.Al-ghazal@wte.de
ALFALAH PRIVATE SCHOOLS CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37770996 or hr@falahschool.com
UP DATE GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33200511 or ALFALAH2003@HOTMAIL.COM
UM HAWRA BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of WOMEN'S

HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33136565 or UMHAWRAASALON2@GMAIL.COM
THE VENTURE SOLUTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17712034 or MOHD_AKTER@YAHOO.COM
LILOU ARTISAN PATISSERIE has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrrvp@alghalia.com
ALGHANIM INTERNATIONAL GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. - For has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300616 or karim.eissa@falghanim.com
BIN HINDI MOTORS Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17408000 or lmra1@BINHINDI.COM
BABA RAMADAN CARGO has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39064201 or BABARAMDHANCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM
AL AMRIYA HOSPITALITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIR, HUMAN RESOURCES, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36552208 or MBUSANDAL@THEPALACE.COM.BH
SUN CHAISER DECORATIONS EST has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35301525 or USMANBAH887@GMAIL.COM
SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of

WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH
Eastern Asphalt & Mixed Concrete Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH
AFAAQ ALKALIJ EXCAVATION & BUILDING EQUIPMENTS RENTAL BSC has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13644244 or afaqalkhalij@gmail.com
YOUNG JIN ENTERPRISE COMPANY LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700711 or JEONG.DONGJIN.0102@GMAIL.COM
AL REEM GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of STRUCTURAL METAL PREP.&ERECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771192 or inter.island.bh@gmail.com
HAYA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39635396 or NASSER00@BATELCO.COM.BH
DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH
QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh
CREATIVITY SECRETS DECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17595006 or jaffar.csdecor@gmail.com

CAPITAL REEF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17686100 or CAPITALREEF.BH@GMAIL.COM
MOON STAR CLEANING CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16199376 or MOONSTAR.C.BH@GMAIL.COM
Commissioning specialist services co s.p.c Owned by RUAIRI THO has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR INSTRUMENT TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36663995 or OFFICE@CSSMIDDLEEAST.COM
DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH
Okay Petrol Stations (Delaa) W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66737850 or M.ALUMFAZER@GMAIL.COM
Access & Coating Gulf Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212471 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM
ARHAM GATE CONSTRUCTION AND CLEANING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17215189 or ahramconstruction769@gmail.com
AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17177711 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH
Wyndham Garden W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONCIERGE (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66316666 or mohammed@panoramabh.com

PURE DIAMOND FOR GENERAL TRADE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36553358 or BOTAMEM55@GMAIL.COM
Al enma house for security services W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36633319 or admin@enmabh.com
668 cafe has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33113352 or 668.BHR@GMAIL.COM
SAMUI THAI RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291133 or ISA.ALHADDAD@HOTMAIL.COM
PRO STITCH GARMENTS FACTORY Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77082293 or prostitchgarments.bh@gmail.com
ROTANA ALUMENIUM AND DECOR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17611997 or DELMASER@GMAIL.COM
KAKA BABA FINEST CUISINE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35565354 or HDHBD786@GMAIL.COM
GARAGE GOLDEN SAND LINE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36638117 or ALIALMAHARI08@GMAIL.COM
TAG LINE Management- A BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY OWNED BY ARS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants

can contact 17258779 or ARSHADKH89@GMAIL.COM
Seven Energy W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PURCHASING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com
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The Best Horse Condition award launched

TDI | Manama

Under the patronage of Her Highness Shaikha Noora bint Hamad Al Khalifa, Head of Al Fursan Team, the Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Private Stables Race will witness the launch of the competition for the best horse condition in private stables

race of 120km. The top ten horses will compete for the award that includes prizes and financial rewards for the jockey, the trainer and the groomer. The award has been accredited and supervised by the International Federation for Equestrian Sports.

Nasser breeze past Nabih Saleh in volleyball league



Al Nasser's double block tries to stop the spike of Nabih Saleh's Peter Camara

TDI | Manama

Al Nasser powered past Nabih Saleh 3-0 (25-15, 25-23, 25-22) last night in their round-of-six contest of the 2022/2023 Isa bin Rashid Bahrain Volleyball League.

The game was played at the Isa bin Rashid Arena at the Bahrain Volleyball Association headquarters located in Isa Sports City in Riffa.

Spearheading the victors were Mohammed Jassim, Ali Sultan, Ibrahim Mohammed, Hussain Mahdi and Jassim Turki, amongst others; while Nabih Saleh relied on the play of Hussain Ashoor, Sayed Hashem, Jaafar Radhi and Kenyan professional Peter Camara.

Nasser claimed their second win in four matches so far in this stage of the league while Nabih Saleh suffered another loss and stayed winless, also in four contests.

BRAVE CF Arab Awards: five explosive bouts nominated for Fight of The Year

● Athletes from Lebanon, Algeria, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan have received nominations in the first-ever BRAVE CF Arab Awards

TDI | Manama

Brave Combat Federation showcased some of the most explosive fights this past year as athletes did their best to make a name for themselves in the most-global MMA cage. Now, with the inaugural BRAVE CF Arab Awards around the corner, the nominees for the BRAVE Combat Federation Arab Fight of the Year Award have been selected.

The first entry is the BRAVE CF 57 battle between Lebanon's Mohammad Fakhreddine and Switzerland's Mohamed Said Maalem. Following their first challenge for the vacant Light Heavyweight title that controversially ended in a No Contest, the hype was shifted into overdrive as the two warriors prepared to settle the score in the rematch. BRAVE CF Middleweight champion Fakhreddine eventually became the first BRAVE CF and Arab double champion when he finished his Swiss opponent via TKO due to strikes in the second round after



Fight of the Year

- Mohammad Fakhreddine (Lebanon) vs Said Maalem (Algeria) 2
- Ahmed Labban (Lebanon) vs Carl Booth
- Hamza Kooheji (Bahrain) vs Brad Katona
- Abdullah Al-Qahtani (Saudi Arabia) vs Yong Soo Jung
- Abdullah Al-Yaqoob (Bahrain) vs Fouad Shami (Jordan)

a barn-burner first round. The second entry is the BRAVE CF 65 Super Welterweight fight between Lebanon's Ahmed Labban and England's Carl Booth. These athletes proved why BRAVE CF matchmakers shifted

this fight to the main card. It was wall-to-wall action, with the ever-entertaining and acrobatic Ahmed Labban taking control of the bout for the entire three rounds with his unorthodox striking before recording a

unanimous decision (3x 30-27) win.

One of the most nail-biting fights ever in the history of BRAVE CF took place this year at BRAVE CF 57. And the epic Bantamweight title fight between Canada's Brad Katona and Bahrain's Hamza Kooheji was always going to make the shortlist for the BRAVE CF Arab Fight of the Year. Both men had good moments in the war of attrition. Kooheji damaged Katona in the clinch, and the Canadian earned takedowns before dominating the grappling. In the end, two judges saw it in favor of Katona, who became only the second Bantamweight world champion in BRAVE CF history.

The Featherweight division also lit up the BRAVE CF cage this year with incredible bouts. But Abdullah Al-Qahtani's hard-fought unanimous-decision victory over Yong Soo Jung at BRAVE CF 58 eventually made the cut. The final bout to make the shortlist is the Bantamweight scrap between Bahrain's Abdulla Al-Yaqoob and Jordan's Fouad Shami at BRAVE CF 65 that ended in Al-Yaqoob securing the split decision (30-27, 28-29, 30-27) after three breathtaking rounds.

The 2022 BRAVE CF Arab awards include four categories: Arab Fighter of the Year, Finish of the Year, Fight of the Year, and Breakthrough Arab Fighter of the Year.

Naomi Osaka announces she is expecting her first child

Reuters | Tokyo

Four times Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka said on Wednesday that she is expecting her first child, days after withdrawing from the Australian Open.

The 25-year-old said this

week that she was pulling out of the year's first Grand Slam after not competing on the WTA Tour since the Pan Pacific Open in September.

"Can't wait to get back on the court but here's a little life update for 2023," the former world number one, who represents



Naomi Osaka

Japan, said in a Twitter post, accompanied with a photo of a sonogram image.

"I know that I have so much to look forward to in the future, one thing I'm looking forward to is for my kid to watch one of my matches and tell someone, 'that's my mom.'"

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Bahrain take on Tunisia in handball world championship



Bahrain head coach Aron Kristjansson

● **Tonight's match is scheduled for an 8pm start, Bahrain time**

● **Bahrainis also set to face Denmark, Belgium in Group B**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain take on Tunisia this evening to begin their campaign in the 28th International Handball Federation (IHF) Men's Handball World Championship, being co-hosted by Poland and Sweden.

For this opening stage of the tournament, the nationals are in Group H, which will be played at Malmo Arena in the Swedish city of Malmo.

Bahrain's game tonight is scheduled for an 8pm throw-off, Bahrain time. It is the first of three matches in their division. They next play reigning world champions Denmark on Sunday before closing out this phase on Tuesday next week against Belgium.

The Bahrainis are one of 32 national teams from five confederations competing in the worlds. They have been divided into eight groups for the preliminaries.

After a single round-robin, the top three teams from each of the eight groups move on to the main round, where they will be divided into four further groups of six teams apiece.

The other eight squads will vie for the President's Cup.

Bahrain head coach Aron Kristjansson from Iceland has 19 players at the world championships. They are long-time skipper Hussain Al Sayyad, Mohammed Mirza, Ali Mirza, Jassim Al Salatna, Mohammed Abdulhussain, Mohammed Habib Mohammed, Ali Eid, Hasan Alsama-heejji, Ahmed Fadul, Mohammed Ali, Hassan Mirza, Komail Mahfoodh, Hesham Ahmed Isa, Qassim Qambar, Abdulla Alzaimoor, Mujtaba Alzaimoor, Mahmood Hussain Mohammed, Muntadher Ebrahim Ali and Abdulla Ali.

Four in a row for BRX!

Sebastien Loeb extends stage-winning run to close in on second in Dakar Rally

● **Sebastien Loeb wins 247km 11th stage for fifth triumph in this year's Dakar Rally**

● **French star moves within reach of outright second place with three days remaining**

TDI | Manama

After a fourth successive stage victory for Bahrain Raid Xtreme (BRX), Sebastien Loeb aims to extend his winning run as the Dakar Rally continues its dramatic passage through the Empty Quarter in Saudi Arabia.

Partnered by Fabian Lurquin in his BRX Prodrive Hunter, Loeb's victory on yesterday's 247km 11th stage, his fifth in this year's event and 21st overall, moved him within reach of outright second place with three days remaining.

It was another day to underline the power and versatility of the Prodrive Hunters, with Guerlain Chicherit and Alex Winocq recovering from a difficult time yesterday to take second place, within 2mins 16 secs of the nine-time World Rally Champion.

Also recovering superbly after yesterday's broken suspension, Vaidotas Zala and Paulo Fiuza



Sebastien Loeb in action in yesterday's 11th stage

were on course for another podium finish in the third Prodrive Hunter yesterday before coming to a halt for 20 minutes before resuming.

BRX Team Principal Gus Bete-li commented: "Seb drove brilliantly today to give us here at Bahrain Raid Xtreme another stage victory to now make six from eleven stages so far.

"That's proof of the hard work that everyone here on the rally, and those back at Prodrive International, have done since the start of this project. We're now within striking distance of second overall too.

"With Guerlain making second place, it was another good day for BRX, although frustrating for Vaidotas after a strong start to the stage. However,

there are sure to be some further twists and turns over the remaining three days before Sunday."

Fifth fastest yesterday, Nasser Al Attiyah has an overall lead of 1 hr 21 mins 4 secs in his Toyota from Lucas Moraes, but the Brazilian driver is under pressure in second place in his Toyota, with Loeb now just 9 mins 37 secs away.

The first half of the two-day Shaybah Empty Quarter Marathon stage delivered the cars to a remote bivouac set amongst huge dunes, reflecting the early days of the Dakar before the arrival of the Internet and smart phones.

With assistance trucks and mechanics also excluded, there was a strong emphasis yester-



Seb drove brilliantly today to give us here at Bahrain Raid Xtreme another stage victory to now make six from eleven stages so far. That's proof of the hard work that everyone here on the rally, and those back at Prodrive International, have done since the start of this project

GUS BETELI

day on protecting the cars, as there will be tomorrow, and Loeb produced a master class in all-round driving through the majestic, but potentially hazardous, dunes of the Empty Quarter.

After securing another maximum points-haul with his latest stage victory, he has extended his lead over Al Attiyah in the World Rally-Raid Championship standings, with finishing positions in Dammam on Sunday to decide who leads after this year's opening round.

Chicherit, who felt ill on yesterday's stage after a hard impact, again underlined his liking for the Prodrive Hunter which he drove to a milestone first victory for the car in the Rallye Du Maroc three months ago.

Bahrain Darts Masters 2023 gets underway with fantastic first day of action at BIC

TDI | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) kicked off last night one of the Kingdom's biggest international sporting events this year with the first night of action in the highly anticipated Bahrain Darts Masters 2023, supported by Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority. The spectacular event marks the opening round of the PDC World Series of Darts.

Sixteen of the world's greatest players, including eight of the game's juggernauts and another eight of Asia's best, shone in the spotlight at the beautifully decorated Dome Tent at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", which was transformed to replicate the electric atmosphere at the famed Alexandra Palace in the UK, best known as the host venue of the World Darts Championship.

Among the sport's protagonists in action at BIC were recently crowned World Champion and current world number one Michael Smith, who took on Bahrain's very own Abdunaser Yusuf.

Reigning World Series of Darts Finals champion Gerwyn Price played against legendary Singapore icon Paul Lim, while world number two Peter Wright locked horns with World Championship qualifier Toru Suzuki of Japan.



Dimitri Van den Bergh greets fans before his match



Fans cheer during the event

Rising star and world number five Luke Humphries made his World Series of Darts debut against Hong Kong's Man Lok Leung, while five-time World Champion Raymond van Barneveld, making his first World Series appearance since 2019, took on Japan's Yuki Yamada.

Former World Champion Rob Cross marked his World Series return against India's Nitin Kumar, while former Premier League and World Cup of Darts champion Jonny Clayton played Bahrain qualifier Bassim Mahmood.

Dimitri Van den Bergh, winner of two World Series of Darts



Rob Cross interacts with fans attending the event

titles last year, rounded off the first round match-ups against the Philippines' Alain Abiabi.

They all went head-to-head for the chance to advance to the quarter-finals.

Play continues tonight at BIC with the evening's programme scheduled to start at 7pm. The semi-finals and final will follow right after the round of eight.

Gates will open to fans from 6pm. All those attending will be able to enjoy the event's incredible atmosphere, with fancy dress encouraged and an extensive range of food and drinks on offer.

Tickets can still be purchased. They start at BD25 for general admission. Premium seating is

also available with hospitality options inclusive of food and beverages. All options can be purchased at bahraingp.com or through the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.

The Bahrain Darts Masters 2023 is being supported by Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority (BTEA). BIC and leading sports promoter CBX teamed up with the PDC to bring the World Series of Darts to Bahrain, in partnership with the BTEA. The event is also supported by DSV and The Gulf Hotel.

The Bahrain Darts Masters 2023 is being broadcast live to a TV audience reaching over 200 million people in more than 185 countries worldwide.



Play continues tonight at BIC with the evening's programme scheduled to start at 7pm. The semi-finals and final will follow right after the round of eight

George Baker sets his sights on more Bahrain Turf Series glory

● **Bahrain Turf Series continues with Al Adiyat Cup and Al Wasmiya Cup**

TDI | Manama

George Baker has enjoyed a fantastic start to the season in Bahrain.

In the shape of Lucander (5 1/2-length winner of Al Muharraq Cup), Watchya (2nd in Al Riffa Cup) and Get It (5th in Al Manama Cup), he has already pocketed over £50,000 in prize money. He is hoping to continue that form with a runner in each of today's two £60,000 Bahrain Turf Series races.

Lucander, who stormed to victory in the opening Bahrain Turf Series race on 9th December, was raised 10lbs to 107, putting him into firm contention for the prestigious Crown Prince's (Sponsored by Howden) Cup at the start of February.

From a field of 12, Lucander is one of six European-trained contenders in the Al Adiyat Cup, a conditions race run over 1m 1f (1800m), and Baker feels that the horse is "thriving".

He said: "Lucander is in great order. It was a thrill for all concerned to see him win so well on his Bahraini debut. I thought he would come on for that run,



Action from a previous race at REHC

so to see him go and do it like that and put the race to bed very impressively was fantastic.

"In fact, he probably won a little bit too far. As we know the handicapper didn't miss him and he's now up to a mark of 107. He's taken to this place really well and he loves the ground. He's just a really happy horse and that's clearly the key here. We've got a horse who's in good order, enjoying the change of scenery and he is thriving

with a bit of sun on his back and quite frankly, who can blame him?"

Lucander will be taking on some of the best horses in Bahrain, including last year's impressive King's Cup winner Zagato and The Covex Kid, who has won his last five races, including the most recent Bahrain Turf Series race, the Al Dana Cup.

When asked about the quality of the field, Baker said: "It looks really tough, but we thought the last race was uber

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It looks really tough, but we thought the last race was uber competitive and we certainly didn't expect to go and win by 5 1/2-lengths that day. I'm not expecting the same tomorrow!

GEORGE BAKER

competitive and we certainly didn't expect to go and win by 5 1/2-lengths that day. I'm not expecting the same tomorrow!

"I'd love to see him go and be competitive and back it up. He's going to be a fun horse for his owners when we get back to the UK. I guess he's done a job here already. It's a bit of a cliché, but after the last race, anything else is a bonus."

Newmarket-based trainer Alice Haynes has travelled out to Bahrain to saddle Mr Professor in today's Al Adiyat Cup for owners Amo Racing. Mr Professor could only finish eighth on his one start to date in Bahrain but Haynes believes that he was too keen to do himself justice.

Haynes said: "It was his first run for a while and he was a bit fresh. He did a little bit too much, and his run just pe-

tered out in the last furlong. He seems in great order. He's fresh and he did a nice canter this morning.

"Tomorrow's race does look competitive but I think the drop back to 1m 1f (1800m) will definitely suit him as the 1m 2f (2000m) seemed to stretch him last time. I'd be hopeful of a good run."

Over 5f (1000m), 15 horses are set to go to post for the Al Wasmiya Cup which is also worth £60,000 and forms part of the Bahrain Turf Series. There are four European-trained contenders including Nomadic Empire who won the Al Manama Cup for David O'Meara and Neil Callan in December.

Behind Nomadic Empire that day was Get It for George Baker. Baker is hoping that Get It can build on his promising run in that race and he said: "Get It missed the kick last time and we were also drawn away from the action. The first four were down the far side and we won our race down the stands side but there are no prizes for that. We're drawn on the far side tomorrow, where I think a few of the fancied ones are drawn.

"He seems to have come on for that run so we've got to go there full of hope. These sprinters have got a bit of a habit of throwing in bad runs and good runs. I couldn't be happier with the way he is, if he could run the same race and be amongst the same horses then hopefully he'll be involved."

Bahrain ready for 'difficult match' against Kuwait

Defending champions focused on challenge at hand to advance to semi-finals of 25th Arab Gulf Cup in Basra, Iraq

● **Bahrain to face Kuwait, Qatar to take on UAE, both starting at 6pm, Bahrain time**

● **Bahrainis need only a draw in their match to ensure their place in the final four**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain faces a tough task against Kuwait tonight but are prepared to make the most of the moment to secure their berth in the semi-finals of the 25th Arab Gulf Cup, national team head coach Helio Sousa says.

The Portuguese tactician said yesterday in his pre-game Press conference that the Bahrainis are totally focused on the task at hand as they embark on their third Group B game to conclude this stage of the tournament.

Bahrain, who are the defending champions, need only a draw to make it through to the final four. A win would also ensure their spot, but if they lose, the two advancing semi-finalists will be determined on the table.

"We did what we must do until this stage of the competition—to play two games and win both of them—but still we did not qual-



Helio Sousa, centre, with defender Waleed Al Hayam, right, and national team media coordinator Mohammed Abdulghaffar during yesterday's Press conference

ify yet for semi-finals, the next stage of the competition," Sousa said. "In short competitions like this, there are many conditions until the end.

"Now we just count on ourselves on what we can manage, without knowing what the other teams are doing. We must count on what we can do to pass, not what the others need to do."

The nationals are currently in first place with six points, while Kuwait and Qatar are on three points each and are still also in contention. The Qataris take on the UAE in tonight's other di-

Standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Bahrain	2	2	0	0	2	6
Qatar	2	1	0	1	1	3
Kuwait	2	1	0	1	-1	3
UAE	2	0	0	2	-2	0

visional fixture. The Emiratis also still have a mathematical chance to advance, depending on tonight's results.

Both games are scheduled for simultaneous 6pm kick-offs, Bahrain time, with the Bahrainis and Kuwaitis facing off at Basra International Stadium and the

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It will be very difficult. The last two games were very difficult, and the Kuwaiti team are now a more consistent team. It will be a very difficult game again, but we will do like we try to do every game—to be in the best conditions to try and get the three points again

HELIO SOUSA

Qataris and Emiratis playing at Al Minaa Olympic Stadium.

"It will be very difficult; the last two games were very difficult, and the Kuwaiti team are now a more consistent team," Sousa said. "It will be a very difficult game again, but we will do like we try to do every game—to be in the best conditions to try and get the three points again."

Sousa highlighted that Bahrain will be counting on their entire squad in their game tonight, and it will not matter who starts.

"Our main players are the 23 that we brought here; not only the ones who started our first or second game, but all 23 players we have—those are the main players for the competition and we count on all of them," Sousa stressed.



Bahrain national team players during their training last night

"We hope to do all to stay in the competition the longest we can. For that we must be able to maintain our performance and the quality of our football depending on who is starting each game.

"We were able to do that so far and we hope to keep doing it again."

Sousa added that the Bahrainis are not thinking about about who they will face in the semi-finals, should they go through. They are only focused on the task at hand, nothing more.

"Our target is to win the next game, to be possible to fight for more things," Sousa said. "If we

can pass to the next stage, then we will think to be in final, but for that we must win the next game.

"We can achieve only what is in front of us. We are prepared for what is coming. We must work for the moment and for what we have tomorrow, and tomorrow is a game against Kuwait."

Sousa thanked the Bahraini fans who have travelled to Kuwait to support the team, and also all the fans in Basra for what he described as a fantastic atmosphere that has helped boost the players in their performance.