

'This one was for Gino'

Bahrain Victorious rider Matej Mohoric wins final stage of Tour of Slovenia, dedicates victory to late teammate Gino Mader | P12

MONDAY
 JUNE, 2023
 220 FILS
 ISSUE NO.9600

His Majesty back from UAE visit

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday returned to the kingdom following a visit to the UAE.

Upon arrival, HM King Hamad was welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

During the visit, HM the King met UAE President, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

HM the King and HH President Mohammed bin Zayed held talks on the solid fraternal relations between the two countries, as well as areas of joint cooperation and coordination.

Eid Al Adha on June 28

Riyadh

The crescent for the Islamic month of Dhul Hijjah during which the annual Hajj pilgrimage takes place has been sighted, Saudi Arabia's Supreme Court announced yesterday.

This means that the pilgrimage, which all healthy and able Muslims are required to undertake once in a lifetime, will start on June 26 and the day of Arafah will fall on June 27.

Muslims in Saudi Arabia will celebrate Eid Al Adha on Wednesday, June 28th.

Bahrain condemns terrorist attack

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain has strongly condemned and denounced the terrorist attack that targeted a secondary school in Mpondwe, western Uganda, resulting in dozens of deaths and injuries.

In a statement, the Foreign Affairs Ministry expressed condolences and sympathy to the families of the victims, the government, and the Ugandan people, wishing a speedy recovery for those injured.

It further reiterated its call for concerted efforts by the international community to combat violent extremism, and terrorist crimes that aim to terrorise the innocent, and are inconsistent with all religious, moral, and human values.

Royal praise for 'serving nation'

HM King highlights HRH Prince Salman efforts to enhance Bahrain international standing

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa praised His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for his efforts to serve Bahrain and enhance its international standing, reinforce its competitiveness, and support initiatives for further development.

HM the King also commended the pioneering projects accomplished by the Government across all fields that serve the country's development momentum and meet citizens' aspirations.

HM King Hamad was speaking as he received yesterday His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, at Al Sakhir Palace.

Present were HM the King's Personal Representative His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, National Security Advisor,



HM King receives HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

Royal Guard Commander Lieutenant-General HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and Staff Colonel HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of the General Sports Authority and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, and Royal Court Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.

The meeting focused on local issues, highlighting mainly comprehensive development and ways to further reinforce national achievements.

His Majesty hailed Bahrain's youth and sports strides, undertaken by HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa and HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa which contributed to landmark achievements in different collective and individual games.

HM the King commended the Bahrain Defense Force (BDF)

for achieving third place in the competition for the best international sniper team, which was held in Turkey with the participation of 32 international teams. It was organised by the Royal Military College Sandhurst, in the UK.

He also praised the Ministry of the Interior for winning the first place in the World Championship for the Military Step Measuring Stick for the tenth time, which was organised by

“These achievements reflect Bahrainis' constant keenness and strong resolve to enhance the country's standing in all regional and international arenas”
 HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

BRAVE CF 71 main event

Stage set today for 'clash of technique vs strength'

TDT | Manama

Two of the top featherweights in mixed martial arts will clash in the main event of BRAVE CF 71, which goes down in the Kingdom of Bahrain, today.

Omar Solomanov and Ilyar Askhanov face off knowing that the winner guarantees a title shot at 145 pounds - which is on the line on BRAVE CF 72, on June 23, as the champion Roman Bogatov defends his crown against top contender Nemat Abdrashitov.

The main event bout has been billed as a clash of technique vs strength, with the wizard Solomanov taking on the seemingly stronger Askhanov. However, it's difficult to quantify how fair it is to say that Omar's strongest point is his technique, while Askhanov purely relies on toughness to push through fights.

"The story of this fight is

technique vs strength. But when people say that, I don't know whose technique and whose strength! When I see Solomanov, yes, I see technique, but I also see strength. I see both attributes in both guys. They're highly-skilled in all areas of mixed martial arts, but they're also strong and powerful. So that makes it very interesting, because it is the highest level of MMA we're talking about here," said Mohammed Shahid, BRAVE CF commentator.

However, BRAVE CF commentator Kirik Jenness pointed out a solid road for Ilyar Askhanov to get it done: make it a dog fight.

"They say 'you box a fighter, and fight a boxer' - if you're less technical than your opponent, you need to make it a dog fight. Get in there, under the hips, grind out a win. And if Ilyar can implement that gameplan, then I absolutely think he can beat



Omar Solomanov versus Ilyar Askhanov ... world title shot on the line

Solomanov," Jenness said. BRAVE CF 71 is the first event of a series of two cards held by the promotion in the Kingdom

of Bahrain. The June 19 fight night will be headlined by the aforementioned featherweight title eliminator bout between

Omar Solomanov and Ilyar Askhanov. The event will be broadcast live on BRAVE TV App and Bahrain TV.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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BDF praised for 'efficiency, professionalism and achievements'

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and Prime Minister, commended the Bahrain Defence Force's efficiency, professionalism, selflessness, and achievements, as well as their role in safeguarding the Kingdom's national security and stability.

He added that the BDF's per-

sonnel will remain a symbol of loyalty and a source of inspiration for all.

HRH Prince Salman was speaking as he visited yesterday the General Command of the BDF.

His Royal Highness was received by the Commander-in-Chief of the BDF, HE Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Minister of Defence, HE Lieutenant General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, and other senior officers.

He highlighted that the King-



HRH Prince Salman receives the BDF Commander in Chief

dom is making considerable progress on its wide-ranging goals, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister noted citizens' commitment to furthering the Kingdom's development and strengthening its position globally across all sectors.

His Royal Highness emphasised the BDF's role in supporting the Kingdom's comprehensive

development, led by His Majesty the King.

The Armed Forces' Deputy Supreme Commander was briefed on the BDF's future development plans and programmes and commended its advanced training and combat readiness.

HRH Prince Salman expressed his gratitude to the Commander-in-Chief for strengthening the BDF's military capabilities and safeguarding regional security alongside the Kingdom's allies.

For the benefit of Bahraini citizens

HRH Prince Salman: National efforts will sustain economic and investment successes

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, underlined national efforts to sustain economic and investment successes and provide quality opportunities for Bahraini citizens.

HRH Prince Salman, also Chairman of the Bahrain Economic Development Board, was speaking as he chaired yesterday the EDB's Board of Directors Meeting, at its headquarters in Bahrain Bay.

The Deputy Prime Minister, HE Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, several senior officials, and members of the board of directors of the EDB, also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Bahrain's economic indicators, the EDB's milestones in the first six months of 2023, and the SME Development Board Key Performance Indicators were reviewed.

His Royal Highness highlighted Team Bahrain's achievements in furthering economic growth and attracting investments, in support of Bahrain's Economic Recovery Plan and Economic Vision 2030, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister noted the role



HRH Prince Salman chairs the Bahrain EDB Board Meeting



of Bahraini citizens in supporting the Kingdom's wide-ranging development and in building a prosperous present and brighter future for all.

He emphasised the EDB's role in attracting direct investments across vital priority sectors and creating quality opportunities for Bahraini citizens. This has helped to position Bahrain as an attractive investment destination, in line with Economic Vision 2030.

His Royal Highness commended existing public-private partnerships and the legislative authority's cooperation, which helped expand the Kingdom's economic development.

EDB key achievements

The Chief Executive of Bahrain EDB, HE Khalid Ebrahim Humaidan, presented the EDB's key achievements noting

a \$1.1 billion direct investment attracted in 2022. As of June 2023, the EDB attracted direct investments of \$1.1 billion, in line with the Economic Recovery Plan's goals that aim to attract more than \$2.5 billion in investments by the end of 2023.

The investments attracted for 2023, stemming from 42 investment projects, are expected to create more than 2,900 jobs for Bahraini citizens over the next three years.

Humaidan then reviewed Bahrain's economic indicators in the non-oil sector, which was the largest contributor to Bahrain's overall economic growth.

He indicated that the data showed that the Kingdom of Bahrain recorded an average annual nominal GDP growth of 8% over the last 20 years, in comparison to a world average

of 5.5% over the same period.

The data also revealed that the sector contributed 17.5% to real GDP, while the oil and gas sector contributed 16.9% and the manufacturing sector contributed 14%.

Humaidan also noted positive indicators regarding the Kingdom's real GDP growth for the rest of 2023.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce, HE Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, then presented the latest developments of the SME Development Board's strategic plan and highlighted key performance indicators that demonstrated a 14% growth, corresponding to an increase in the GDB from \$13.6 billion to \$15.4 billion of the SME sector between 2021-2022.

Fakhro concluded on initiatives adopted to increase SMEs' contributions to the national economy.

Providing Bahraini women tourism jobs, business opportunities



Al Sairafi with RUW officials and administrative staff

TDT | Manama

The Tourism Ministry is keen to promote the promising job and investment opportunities provided by this important sector to female Bahraini students, graduates, entrepreneurs, and businesswomen.

This includes job opportunities in various departments of tourism establishments, such as administration and accounting, as well as in companies specialising in organising entertainment events, travel agencies, and others.

This was pointed out by Tourism Minister Fatima bint Jaffar Al Sairafi as she visited the Royal University for Women (RUW) and met Professor Yusra Mouzoughi, RUW President and the University's Board of Trustees.

Professor Mouzoughi provided an overview of the programs, achievements and future plans of RUW.

They exchanged ideas on promoting the inclusion of

youth in the growing tourism sector, with a particular focus on women.

Al Sairafi praised the vision and mission of the RUW in graduating generations of pioneering Bahraini students across diverse academic fields.

She encouraged the university's students and graduates to explore business opportunities within the tourism sector and establish innovative projects and companies offering unique products and services in various fields.

The minister emphasised the tourism sector's welcome for the new generation of Bahraini women. She highlighted numerous success stories of pioneering women who have established their own establishments, such as restaurants and more.

Al Sairafi expressed her confidence in the exceptional capabilities of Bahraini women across various sectors and fields, she affirmed their potential to excel in the tourism sector.

'Manthan' Yoga Conclave-2023



On the occasion of the 9th International Day of Yoga, under the patronage of the Embassy of India in Bahrain, BICAS & PROP Yoga & Therapy Center jointly presented "Manthan" Yoga Conclave-2023 at Golden Tulip Hotel yesterday. India Ambassador to Bahrain, Piyush Srivastava, was present at the event. The main purpose of the conclave is to showcase the collective spirit, native skills and talent of Yogasana and sports from both countries followed by keynote speech from invited dignitaries and common yoga protocol practice. India Ambassador to Bahrain, Piyush Srivastava, was present at the event.

Works Ministry hands over NBB Multi Sclerosis Centre to Government Hospitals

TDT | Manama

The Works Ministry has handed over the newly-built National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) Multiple Sclerosis Centre to the Government Hospitals.

Supreme Council of Health (SCH) President Lieutenant-General Dr. Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa patronised the handover ceremony, which was also attended by Works Minister Ibrahim bin Hasan Al Hawaj and Health Minister Dr. Jaleela bint Al Sayyed Jawad Hasan.

Also present were Government Hospital Board of Trustees' Board of Trustees' Chairman Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, Government Hospitals CEO Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al An-

sari, Shaikh Mishal bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and NBB Head of Corporate Communications Hisham Abul Al Fateh and other officials.

The center is considered the first specialized and independent medical facility in terms of building and equipment for the treatment of MS patients Bahrain, which will contribute to providing the best diagnostic and treatment services.

It features seven outpatient clinics, wards for MRI diagnosis, physiotherapy, manual exercise therapy, in addition to private and public treatment rooms, a laboratory, pharmacy, a scientific research center, a lecture hall, medical warehouses, a service building, administrative offices and parking lots.

Public workout spaces to 'reduce' obesity in Bahrain

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

Obesity has been prevalent in the Kingdom for decades, as from 2000 to 2020, Bahrain has seen an increasing amount of the population suffering from the concerning health issue.

But if the proper tools and awareness are implemented in a country to efficiently combat the health issue, obesity could easily be prevented.

However, the government and the public must act quickly as current predictions indicate that by 2030, an estimated quarter of the region's population in GCC countries will be diagnosed with diabetes, according to the Ministry of Health.

What are the factors that limit frequent exercise?

Though it is apparent that frequent exercise reduces the chance of obesity, many Bahrainis highlighted that working out may not be an option for everyone in the country.

When speaking to the Bahraini public on the matter, they said that it's difficult to exercise regularly when they are met with sub-standard infrastructure and poor air quality.

For that matter, they also said



Olga Ghali



Moayyed Feroze



Regular exercise can help avoid health problems like obesity

that gym memberships can be an expensive cost for many. And usually, many of the low-cost gyms don't possess decent equipment to get a satisfactory workout. Additionally, many people are just trying to get by. The mingled issues of poor wages and the soaring cost of living, prohibit the public to pay for

a monthly gym membership, they said.

When speaking on the matter of public spaces in Bahrain to work out, Moayyed Feroze, a top nutritionist and fitness coach, said that there are certainly not enough public spaces for the community to use.

Moreover, depending on

“For those who wish to cycle, or run will always be at risk from the traffic. And often, many people will drive to areas in the country where it is safer to walk, however, this can cause an inconvenience when met with the grueling traffic.”

MOAYYED FERZE, TOP NUTRITIONIST AND FITNESS COACH

where you live in Bahrain, the traffic-ridden roads are not a feasible option to get a regular run in either.

“For those who wish to cycle, or run will always be at risk from the traffic. And often, many people will drive to areas in the country where it is safer to walk, however, this can cause an inconvenience when met with the grueling traffic,” the nutritionist said.

But, he noted, that developing bike lanes in the country would be a great encouragement for Bahrainis.

Most importantly, it would be safer for cyclists.



Tailors are racing against time to meet Eid demand

Tailors will no longer take orders as Eid draws near

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Due to their extreme workload, long hours, and pressure to complete orders, several tailors have stopped taking orders as Eid approaches.

Customers continued to place additional orders up until the last few days, and several tailors reported receiving twice as many orders as they usually would.

The Daily Tribune learned that due to a shortage of employees in several tailoring shops and a large volume of orders, many tailors are not accepting new orders.

Every year, the tailors work tirelessly to take orders and deliver clothing in time for Eid, with customers requesting a variety of garments.

Sajid Khan, a tailor, disclosed to The Daily Tribune

that the stitching charges had been raised due to the extra effort required during the busy Eid season. “Our business has always been good. This is the only time we make profit compared to other months.”

Meanwhile, a few customers, who had procrastinated with their wardrobe plans, reported being rejected by a few tailors as they were already fully booked.

According to Shabana Ahmed, a resident, “Last week, I went to a nearby tailor shop to give my clothes

Our business has always been good. This is the only time we make profit compared to other months

SAJID KHAN, A TAILOR

that I brought from Pakistan for stitching, but the tailor didn't take it and said we have stopped taking it because we have many orders.”

In Manama, where there are numerous tailoring shops, Shabana continued, “I decided to go around while I approached many other tailors, but they all responded the same. I'll have to choose from my wardrobe and wear the old one if I can't locate another tailor.”

Another resident, Maryam Janahi, added, “I had the same problem last Eid, which is why I was very quick to give my clothes for stitching for this Eid, however it's unfair that the tailors increase their prices and that during such festive season we have to spend a lot for stitching. She went on to clarify that, “While we often pay BD5 to BD6 for a full dress on normal days, we must pay BD8 to BD9 during Eid, depending on the various types of clothing and embroidery used.”

Woman must relocate to Bahrain or forfeit custody of children

TDT | Manama

A Sharia Court has ruled that a Gulf national woman must relocate to Bahrain to maintain custody of her three children, or forfeit custody to their Bahraini father.

According to Family Law, the custodian is not authorised to reside with the child in a country other than the father's without his permission.

The court dismissed the mother's custody request and her demand that the father pay an estimated BD100,000 annually for child support.

The case was brought by a Bahraini man whose Gulf national wife obtained a divorce in her home country.

The woman filed a lawsuit in Bahrain's Sharia Court, seeking custody of the children and annual payments of BD100,000 from her ex-husband.

In response, the defendant requested that the plaintiff move to Bahrain to maintain custody of their children or face having custody transferred to him.

The court cited Article 134 of Bahrain's Family Law, which states that a female custodian may not reside with the child in



The woman filed a lawsuit in Bahrain's Sharia Court, seeking custody of the children and annual payments of BD100,000 from her ex-husband.

another Gulf country, which the court deemed detrimental to their safety.

The defendant presented bank checks demonstrating his commitment to the children's expenses, and proof of his monthly income to refute the plaintiff's financial demands.

Lawsuit for daughter's private school tuition fees dismissed

TDT | Manama

A woman who demanded that her former husband pay for their daughter's private school tuition fees has had her lawsuit rejected by the High Sharia Court.

Despite a previous ruling that obligated the defendant to pay, the court found that he was insolvent and unable to make the payments.

The defendant's salary was deemed insufficient to cover the monthly instalments, and the court emphasised that alimony rulings are temporary and subject to change.

The defendant's lawyer explained that her client had initially been ordered to pay for the



daughter's tuition fees following their divorce. However, the defendant appealed the ruling and requested that the girl be transferred to a public school, which was rejected.

A year later, the plaintiff transferred the girl to another

private school and filed a new lawsuit demanding that the father pay for her tuition again.

During the hearing, it was revealed that the defendant was unable to afford the payments from the start, as his monthly salary of BD464 was less than

the monthly instalment of BD527.

The court received a letter from the Execution Court, stating that the defendant had failed to pay late tuition fees and had filed several lawsuits requesting that the tuition fees be dropped.

The High Sharia Court noted that alimony rulings are temporary and subject to change due to changing circumstances. The court ruled that the plaintiff's request to compel the defendant to pay for the private school tuition fees did not correspond to the defendant's insolvency and had no lawful grounds.

As a result, the court rejected the lawsuit and obligated the plaintiff to bear the expenses and attorney fees.

Joint inspection campaign



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) conducted a joint inspection campaign in the Northern Governorate, in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) and the Governorate's respective Police Directorate of the Ministry of Interior. The campaign resulted in reporting a number of violations related to the Labour Market and Residency laws. The cases were referred for legal action. The LMRA renewed its call on all members of the society to report violations via the electronic form on LMRA's website www.lmra.gov.bh or by calling the authority's call centre on 17506055.

CAPTAINS CORNER

Challenging the negative growth narrative



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

It has been a week of economic headlines for Bahrain and the news has been encouraging.

Last year, faced with a challenging slow recovery from the pandemic's impact, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, had outlined an economic recovery plan which included measurable goals.

These were built around the goals of job creation, streamlining trade procedures, implementing significant infrastructure projects, fostering growth in promising sectors, and promoting financial sustainability and economic stability.

Just in the past week, we have seen some of these goals hit the mark when the government announced approval of five projects as recipients of the sought-after 'Golden License' which gives the companies coveted 'fast-track' approvals in return for investments in Bahrain that brought in a total value of 1.4 billion US dollars. These projects are expected to create 1,400 new jobs over the next three years, contributing significantly to the priorities of the recovery plan.

Similarly, the approval of the 2023-2024 budget stands as a notable achievement in the collaborative efforts between the concerned authorities to prioritise economic stability and the strengthening of the partnership with the private sector.

Notably, the private sector workforce is being supported through advanced and diversified programmes, as the Minister of Finance highlighted. Rightly, there is an emphasis in increasing the capabilities and competitiveness of citizens through recognised Tamkeen-funded training.

The public-private participation is most apparent in the housing sector where 19 real estate companies and eight banks collaborated to present 10,000 properties during a recent property development and financing exhibition.

In tandem, the Projects Office in the Council of Ministers announced a government land investment platform, presenting nine new investment opportunities spanning agriculture, investment, and residential sectors, contributing to the targeted investments worth over \$2.5 billion. The government also offered 132 ready-to-sell modern housing units including the "Suhail" housing project in Al-Lawzi area.

Bahrain's achievements have been recognised by international entities, such as the Global Report of Emerging Enterprise Ecosystems, which positions Bahrain among the top 10 nurturing environments for emerging enterprises in the region.

Considering these accomplishments, it is natural to question the perspectives of those who harbor pessimism, discouragement, or criticism. As the great G.B. Shaw said, "It is impossible to progress without change, and those who do not change their minds cannot change anything."

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

The economic recovery plan is built around the goals of job creation, streamlining trade procedures, implementing significant infrastructure projects, fostering growth in promising sectors, and promoting financial sustainability and economic stability



Education sector's pillar of development: Edu. Min

UoB hosts Bahrain Teachers' College graduation ceremony

TDT | Manama

Education Minister Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma highlighted His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's unwavering support for the education sector and its affiliates, given its importance as pillar of development and a major tributary of progress.

Dr Juma also paid tribute to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, whose constant support has contributed to achieving the national goals in this vital sector.

The minister was speaking as he attended the graduation ceremony of the Bahrain Teachers'



Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma at the event

College (BTC) for the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th batches (from 2017-2018 to 2019-2020).

Under the patronage of HRH

Prince Salman, the event was hosted by the University of Bahrain (UoB) yesterday.

The graduation ceremony for the Education Leadership Program (ELP) the Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE), and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) Programme is held at the Shaikh Abdulaziz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa's Hall at the UoB on Sunday and Monday.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Dr Juma, who is also Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Higher Education Council, expressed thanks and appreciation to HM the King's Special Representative, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed

bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, for his special support for BTC, which was established to meet the kingdom's needs for national qualified teaching competencies.

The graduation ceremony coincides with BTC's success in obtaining the international accreditation from the US-based Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for seven years, between 2023 and 2030, noting that the global achievement gives an additional academic value to its programmes and outputs.

Dr. Juma congratulated all the graduates, parents, board members and the administrative staff for their efforts to provide a suitable environment conducive for success, paying tribute to the academic staff for their endeavours to prepare qualified teachers.

As many as 11 batches, or 3,992 students, have graduated from BTC since its establishment in 2008, noting that the Education Ministry will accelerate the employment of the new batch of graduates.

The Education Minister honoured members of BTC Board of Directors, and presented the graduates with certificates.



The graduates are proud of their achievements

Stage set for first natural pearl auction tomorrow

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain is set to host a groundbreaking event — the inaugural international auction of natural pearls.

This historic auction will take place at Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones's headquarters, located at the Bahrain

World Trade Centre in Manama. This highly-anticipated event will unfold tomorrow, showcasing the magnificence of natural pearls to a global audience.

The auction, initiated by the Rapaport Group in the US on June 7, has already traversed various cities within and outside the United States.

DANAT has been instrumental

in collecting, grading, and certifying the pearls. Only natural pearls will be offered for sale, and all will be certified as natural by DANAT.

On this occasion, Mrs. Noora Jamsheer, CEO of Danat Institute, said: "We eagerly anticipate collaborating with Rapaport International Group to foster the growth of the natural

pearl market. This endeavour aligns with the fourth objective of the national plan aimed at reviving the pearl sector in the Kingdom of Bahrain." sale on a regular basis. Bahrain has produced natural pearls for centuries as it is blessed with sea-beds fed by fresh water, an ideal setting for natural pearl growth.

Bahrain-Canada Friendship Group launched



Washington-based Bahrain Ambassador to Canada Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid Al Khalifa attended the launch of the the Canadian-Bahrain Friendship Group. During the launch ceremony Senator Salma Atallahjan was elected as chair of the parliamentary group which includes also a number of Canadian Senators and members of the House of Representatives. The ambassador congratulated Senator Salma Atallahjan on her election, lauding long-standing Bahrain-Canadian relations, which spans 50 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties. He commended Canada's stances in support of global peace and security as well as commitment to security of maritime navigation through its participation in the joint forces, in line with the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the follow-ups of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to reinforce cooperation.

BRCS Ambulance for Bahraini Hajj Mission



The Bahrain Red Crescent Society (BRCS) has assigned a fully equipped ambulance to accompany pilgrims from the Kingdom of Bahrain, following a yearly tradition that has been ongoing for 19 consecutive years. Mr. Mubarak Al-Hadi, the Secretary-General of the Society, commended the instructions given by His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr. Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Society's Board of Directors, to provide comprehensive ambulance services to Bahraini pilgrims. He emphasised the Society's commitment to utilise all its resources effectively in implementing these instructions.

GFH launches GFH Partners to further expand base of partners

TD | Manama

GFH Financial Group yesterday announced its ongoing growth and diversification with the launch of GFH Partners Ltd, a fully-owned subsidiary focused on expanding the Group's global asset management capabilities with a particular focus on the real estate sector. GFH Partners currently manages over US\$6 billion of real estate assets as part of the total US\$18 billion of assets managed by the Group.

GFH Partners manages assets in the stabilized and core markets of the US, the UK, KSA and UAE, where it aims to capture and capitalize on strong economic growth prospects in



Nael Mustafa

these regions.

GFH Partners' affiliate in the UK, Roebuck Asset Management, is a pan-European asset

management company specialising in UK and European logistics that has transacted over EURO 2.5 billion since its formation in 2009.

Leading GFH Partners is Nael Mustafa, who has been driving the Group's global real estate investment strategy and growth since 2020 and brings to GFH Partners more 30 years of experience in private equity and real estate investments across regional and international markets.

Mustafa, Chief Executive Officer of GFH Partners, said, "Leveraging our reach, regulatory and business set-up as well as the access provided by our partners on the ground, our

aim is to continuously provide a strong pipeline of opportunities to our investors and look forward to accelerating our business and assets under management growth in the US, UK, KSA and UAE."

GFH Partners is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA), and its investments and offerings are further regulated by respective regulators such as the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) and the Saudi Capital Market Authority (CMA), as well as respective global regulators of the investment vehicles, ensuring best practices in line with global investment standards.

BisB backs "Coins Through Culture & History" exhibition



BisB officials at the expo

TD | Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has announced its sponsorship of the "Coins Through Culture & History" exhibition by Mohammed Abdul Hakim Al-Aradi. Opened on the 22nd of May, the exhibition at the Bahrain National Museum, organised by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities will continue until Saturday.

The coins featured in the exhibition are part of Moham-

med Al-Aradi's collection, who previously participated in the BisB Outstanding Achievements Award, qualifying for the final stage. He is the owner of the Arados Auction and is one of the region's most prominent researchers specializing in the field of Islamic and Byzantine coinage.

Yaser Alsharifi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB, stated: "We are proud to sponsor this exhibition and support the work of Mohamed Al-Aradi, given his distinctive and unique talent."

BATELCO is now BEYON

Bahrain Telecommunications company changes ticker symbol

TD | Manama

Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa announced changing the Ticker Symbol of Bahrain Telecommunications Company from "BATELCO" to "BEYON" effective 18 June.

The announcement was made during a special ceremony which took place at the Bahrain Bourse in the presence of Abdulkarim Bucheery, the Chairman of Bahrain Bourse.

This change is in line with the launch of Beyon in December 2022. The Beyon group of companies oversees a wide range of local and international businesses, which includes



Officials during a special ceremony at the Bahrain Bourse

Batelco, the four Beyon Digital companies, Beyon Money, Beyon Solutions, Beyon Cyber and Beyon Connect, and a number of overseas investments.

Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said, "As Beyon has established

a strong presence in the market, the Batelco ticker is no longer reflective of our identity, so we are delighted to announce our ticker symbol change to Beyon marking another key milestone in our journey."

"The change of ticker sym-

bol will have no impact on the Company's legal structure or the value of shares. Shareholders will continue to own the same number of shares, and their rights as a shareholder will remain unchanged," Shaikh Abdulla added.

TRA and US Federal Communications Commission join hands

TD | Manama

Bahrain has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to formalise bilateral relations between the two organisations.

The agreement was signed by FCC's Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel and TRA's General Director Philip Marnick on the sidelines of the ITU Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-23).

The MoU will increase coordination between the TRA and FCC, enabling discussions and



Officials following the deal signing

the exchange of best practices on issues such as fifth-generation technologies (5G), spectrum licensing, broadband deployment, accessible and inclusive communications, robocalls,

and secure networks.

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), representing Bahrain, also participated in the Head of Regulators roundtable discussion

at GSR-23. TRA General Director, Philip Marnick, showcased Bahrain's leading position in telecommunications and held bilateral meetings with international telecommunications regulators and ITU officials.

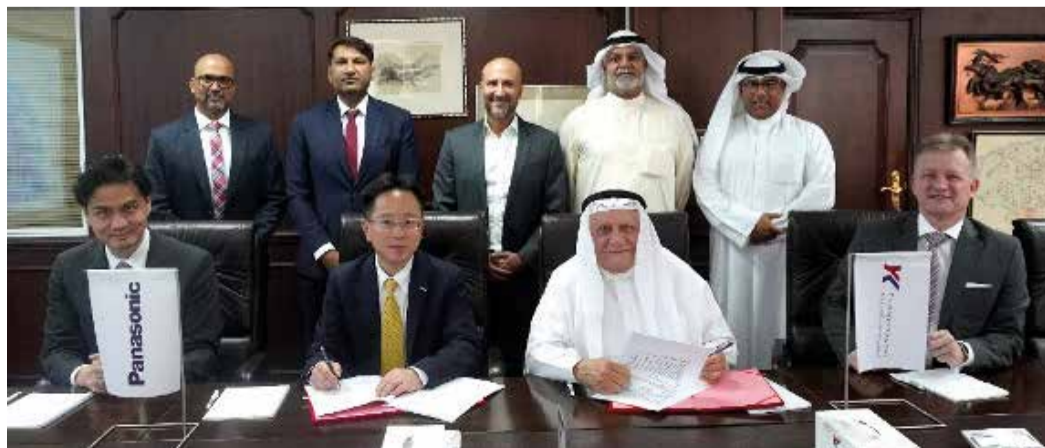
General Director of TRA, Philip Marnick, stated: "In our ever increasingly interconnected world it is important for regulators to collaborate, to share ideas and best practices and work together to enhance protection for consumers. The collaboration will also support our efforts to further enhance services in Bahrain."

Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons appointed official distributor of Panasonic

TD | Manama

Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons (YKA) Electronics & Home Appliances Division has signed an agreement to be the exclusive distributor of Panasonic consumer electronics in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This contract signing was held at a ceremony at the YKA Head Office in Manama by Farouk Almoayyed - Chairman of YKA Group, and Hiroyuki Shibutani - Managing Director of Panasonic Marketing Middle East and Africa FZE.



In picture, Farouk Almoayyed - Chairman of Y. K. Almoayyed & Sons (YKA) Group (front row, 2nd from right), Hiroyuki Shibutani - Managing Director of Panasonic Marketing Middle East and Africa FZE (front row, 2nd from left), John Hardy - Director of Panasonic Middle East & Africa Consumer Division (front row, 1st from right), Mohammed Almoayyed - Director YKA (back row, center), Alok Gupta - CEO of YKA (back row, 2nd from left), Pradeep Mathias - General Manager YKA Electronics & Home Appliances division (back row, 1st from left), along with other officials from Panasonic.



The Bahrain International Schools Eco-Summit 2023, 'Bahrain - Hear our Voice,' took place on May 24, 2023, at Bahrain Polytechnic, and received support from the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB). This event, initiated and hosted by St Christopher's School Bahrain, brought together approximately 300 students aged 10 to 16 from 16 different schools across the country. Yara Ebrahim, the Sustainability Officer at NBB, actively engaged with the students during the summit. She shared insights into the bank's sustainability journey and highlighted several initiatives undertaken by NBB. In addition, Yara listened attentively to the students' ideas and gained an understanding of the challenges they encountered while working on their own projects.

Foulath hired 160 Bahrainis through graduate training programme



Bader Al Tamimi

TD | Manama

Foulath Holding, an industrial holding company with major steel investments, has employed over 160 Bahraini graduates from its Graduate Training Programme since the scheme's inception in 2016.

The training programme, which is geared towards the technical and soft skill development of fresh graduates, has empowered young Bahrainis with valuable vocational experience in the manufacturing sector.

Dilip George, Group CEO of Foulath Holding, stated: "Our training programme provides the relevant experience to equip a fresh graduate with the necessary skillset to facilitate their entry into the job market and meet the needs of employ-

Dilip George

ers in the industrial sector."

Foulath's Graduate Training Programme is open to fresh graduates from both public and private academic institutions. Trainees undergo 3 years of tailormade on-the-job training best suited to their individual needs, covering technical, soft skill and vocational training. If required, candidates also have the opportunity to obtain additional technical certifications from reputable institutions.

Bader Al Tamimi, General Manager of Human Resources and Administration at Foulath Holding, said the company is committed to empowering young Bahrainis and establishing a strong and capable workforce, especially in the industrial sector which is fast growing and transforming.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

LIFE IS LIKE RIDING A BICYCLE. TO KEEP YOUR BALANCE, YOU MUST KEEP MOVING
ALBERT EINSTEIN

News in brief

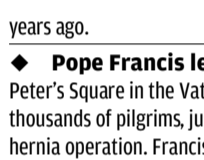
◆ **President Emmanuel Macron's** new special envoy for Lebanon heads to Beirut in the coming week as France seeks a new push to end a political crisis that has left the country without a president for over half a year, a diplomatic source said yesterday. Former foreign minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, appointed by Macron to the role earlier this month, is to fly to Beirut on Wednesday, the source told AFP, asking not to be named. Another source close to the issue also said Le Drian would leave on Wednesday but it was not clear how long he would stay in Beirut or who he would meet. His visit comes after Lebanese lawmakers last week failed for a 12th time to elect a new president, an impasse that is causing increasing exasperation in Paris as the country faces an economic and financial crisis. Macron and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman after talks on Friday called for a "rapid end to the institutional political vacuum in Lebanon".



Macron envoy heads to Lebanon in bid to end crisis

◆ **Yemen's government** and Iran-backed Huthi rebels are locked in talks in Jordan to set the ground for a possible prisoner exchange, a Red Cross official said yesterday. The negotiations since Friday in the Jordanian capital Amman are overseen by the office of the UN special envoy to Yemen and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said Jessica Moussan, ICRC's media adviser for the Middle East. They are meeting "together with... parties to the conflict in Yemen to address issues pertaining to negotiations on a future release operation", she told AFP. On Friday, the UN envoy's office said the Amman talks were a follow-up to an agreement stuck by the two sides in Stockholm five years ago.

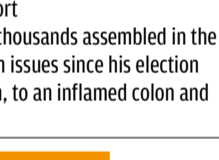
◆ **Yemen rivals discuss possible prisoner swap in Jordan: Red Cross**



years ago.

◆ **Pope Francis** led Angelus prayers at Saint Peter's Square in the Vatican on Sunday before thousands of pilgrims, just days after undergoing a hernia operation. Francis expressed his gratitude to those who had sent him messages of support during his stay at Rome's Gemelli hospital as he spent 10 days convalescing. "I want to express my gratitude for the affection, the concern, the friendship" expressed in those messages of support, the Argentine pontiff said, following his third stay in hospital in the past two years. "This human support has been a great help and comfort to me," said Francis to cheers and applause from the thousands assembled in the square. The 86-year-old has suffered a series of health issues since his election in 2013, from hip problems, knee pain and weight gain, to an inflamed colon and respiratory infection.

◆ **Pope leads Vatican prayers after surgery**



CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Iraq unveils ancient stone tablet returned by Italy



A 2,800-year-old stone tablet is presented during a press conference in Baghdad, after it was handed over by the Italian authorities to the Iraqi president during his recent visit to Bologna

Baghdad

"I would like to thank the Italian officials for their efforts and cooperation in bringing back this piece," Rashid said during a ceremony Sunday at a Baghdad presidential palace to hand the artefact over to the national museum.

The tablet had arrived in the 1980s in Italy, where it was seized by police, said Laith Majid Hussein, director of Baghdad's council of antiquities and heritage.

Iraqi Culture Minister Ahmed Fakak al-Badrani said the circumstances behind its discovery were unclear.

"Perhaps (it was found) during archaeological excavations or during work on the Mosul dam," Iraq's biggest built in the 1980s, he said.

Iraq unveiled yesterday a 2,800-year-old stone tablet returned by Italy, as the war-ravaged country works to recover from abroad antiquities looted from its territory.

The tablet -- whose text is written in cuneiform, the Babylonian alphabet -- bears the insignia of Shalmaneser III, the Assyrian king who ruled the region of Nimrod, in present-day northern Iraq, from 858 to 823 BC.

The circumstances surrounding the tablet's arrival in Italy remain unclear, but the Italian authorities handed it over to Iraqi President Abdul Latif Rashid during a visit to Bologna over the past week.

Jailed Bangladesh hangman freed after sentence

AFP | Dhaka

A jailed Bangladeshi hangman who executed more than two dozen fellow prisoners including killers and coup plotters in exchange for sentence reductions was released yesterday, officials said.

Shahjahan Bhuiyan gained notoriety for putting 26 people to death during his time inside after he highlighted to officials his skills with a noose upon entering prison 32 years ago for murder.

His executions included military officers found guilty of plotting a 1975 coup and of killing the country's founding leader, who is

the father of current prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

"His jail sentence was reduced for hangings he carried out," Tania Zaman, deputy chief of Dhaka Central Jail, told AFP, saying his executions numbered 26 while incarcerated.

Among those he hanged were top Islamist leader Ali Ahsan Mujahid and opposition stalwart Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury after both were charged with war crimes, according to another jail official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In 2007 he also hanged Siddique Islam, alias Bangla Bhai, an Islamist leader of the outlawed

Jamayetul Mujahideen Bangladesh, which led a nationwide bombing campaign two years earlier, the official added.

The 74-year-old defended his acts, saying it helped him cut his sentence.

"If I didn't hang them, someone else will do it," Bhuiyan said.

"Even if I feel sympathetic towards him, as a convict, I am bound to do it."

Bangladesh inherited capital punishment from its British colonial rulers, and has executed nearly 500 people since independence from Pa-



His executions included military officers found guilty of plotting a 1975 coup and of killing the country's founding leader, who is the father of current prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

kistan in 1971. Human rights groups say more than 2,000 prisoners are on death row, including hundreds of Islamist extremists and border guard mutineers convicted of murdering senior military officers. The nation is one of a handful that still carry out

US, China see path to more stable ties

AFP | Beijing

The United States and China agreed yesterday to expand dialogue to try to bring relations back from historic lows, as Secretary of State Antony Blinken held what officials called candid talks on soaring tensions during a rare trip to Beijing.

The highest-ranking US visitor to Beijing in nearly five years, Blinken spoke to his Chinese counterpart for seven and a half hours -- an hour more than expected -- at an ornate state villa, including over a banquet dinner.

The two sides said Foreign Minister Qin Gang agreed to pay a return visit to Washington at a later date and that the two top diplomats would work together to expand flights between the world's two largest economies.

Blinken stressed "the importance of diplomacy and maintaining open channels of communication across the full range of issues to reduce the risk of misperception and miscalcu-



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (L) and China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang greet each other ahead of a meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing

lation", State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said, calling the talks "candid, substantive and constructive".

Blinken will hold a second day of meetings today and address reporters before leaving. Behind closed doors, Qin told Blinken that relations between the United States and China "are at the lowest point since the establish-

ment of diplomatic relations", according to state-run broadcaster CCTV.

"This does not conform to the fundamental interests of the two peoples, nor does it meet the common expectations of the international community," Qin said during the talks at the ancient Diaoyutai gardens.

But he issued a warning on Taiwan, the self-ruling democracy claimed by Beijing, which has launched live-fire military drills twice near the island since August in anger over actions by top US lawmakers.

"The Taiwan issue is the core of China's core interests, the most important issue in China-US relations and the most prominent risk," Qin said.



Pakistani migrant's final call home foretold Greece

- **Authorities in Europe still have no clear idea how many people were aboard the boat when it sank**
- **Estimates range from 400 to over 700**

Muzaffarabad

Before 21-year-old Pakistani Muhammad Akash boarded a rickety fishing trawler in Libya on a journey he hoped would take him to a brighter future in Europe, he contacted his family one last time.

"He made a heartfelt phone call to his brother, urging the family to pray for him as he embarked on what he acknowledged to be a perilous journey," his uncle Amanat Ali told AFP Sunday after learning Akash was one of hundreds who drowned off the coast of Greece on Wednesday.

Authorities in Europe still have no clear idea how many people



A view taken from a rescue helicopter, of migrants onboard a fishing vessel in the waters off the Peloponnese coast of Greece

were aboard the boat when it sank -- estimates range from 400 to over 700 -- but likely hundreds came from Pakistan, and many from Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Four of Akash's friends from the town of Khuiratta were also aboard, but only two survived. They had the grim task of breaking the news to his family.

The uncle told AFP that Akash started his journey three months ago. He had been in regular contact with two other friends who

had already made their way to Italy by similar means, and he wanted to follow them.

'Severe punishment'

On Sunday Pakistan officials said 10 suspected human traffickers had been arrested, and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif vowed "severe punishment" for those involved in the trade.

Pakistan is in economic freefall. A dire downturn has drained dollar reserves, spurred runaway inflation and caused widespread

factory closures.

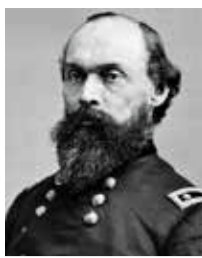
The desperate situation is creating an incentive for Pakistanis to take perilous, illegal routes to Europe. Akash's father passed away 12 years ago, leaving him to assist his older brother in managing the family-owned catering business in Khuiratta.

"He became fascinated by the enhanced living standards of the local residents whose families had established roots in Europe," said Ali.

"The family isn't impoverished,

The Earl of Pembroke's army defeats Robert the Bruce's Scottish army at the Battle of Methven

Slavery outlawed in US territories



World War II: First day of the 2 day Battle of the Philippine Sea, US naval forces defeat Japanese fleet

Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar surrenders to police

cut for kills

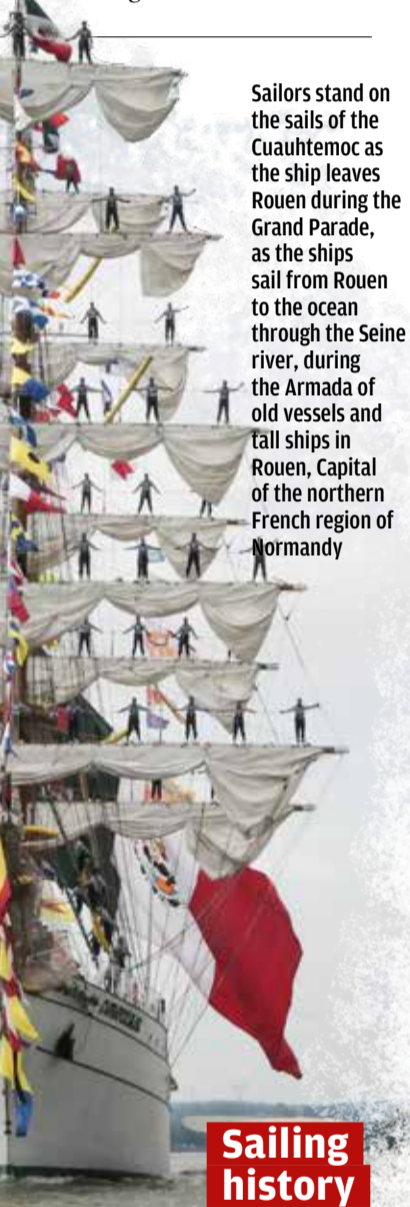
death sentences by hanging. All of Bangladesh's executioners are, like Bhuiyan, long-serving prisoners who have been selected and trained.

Bhuiyan was first drafted in to execute Ershad Sikder in 2007, a mass murderer accused of killing 24 people.

"No matter what crime a person does, when he is in front of death, you'll feel some sympathy for him," the lifelong bachelor told reporters.

"I served a prison term for a long time... The authorities ensured my comfort and honoured me," Bhuiyan added.

"I had a good time."



Sailors stand on the sails of the Cuauhtemoc as the ship leaves Rouen during the Grand Parade, as the ships sail from Rouen to the ocean through the Seine river, during the Armada of old vessels and fall ships in Rouen, Capital of the northern French region of Normandy

Sailing history

ek tragedy

rather it is the lack of faith in the system among the youth in the area that is leading them to consider leaving the country."

Ali said the family clubbed together to pay an agent two million rupees (around \$7,000) to organise his journey, which started with a flight to Dubai, onwards to Egypt, and finally to Libya.

Then on Monday came the call when he shared fears of the boat journey ahead. "Despite our attempts to dissuade him, he remained adamant," Ali said.



Greece is one of the main routes into the European Union for refugees and migrants from the Middle East, Asia and Africa. Last month the Greek government came under international criticism over video reportedly showed the forceful expulsion of migrants who were set adrift at sea.

72-hour truce takes effect in Sudan



People walk among scattered objects in the market of El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur Khartoum

A 72-hour ceasefire between Sudan's warring generals took effect yesterday to allow for the delivery of desperately needed aid to the country, on the eve of a humanitarian conference.

The army led by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan has since April 15 been battling paramilitary forces commanded by his former deputy Mohamed Hammad Daglo, after the two fell out in a bitter power struggle. Multiple truces have been agreed and broken in the war that has claimed the lives of more than 2,000 people and driven over two million from their homes, including at least 528,000 who fled abroad.

The latest ceasefire came into force at 6:00 am (0400 GMT), with the mediators saying the two sides had agreed to refrain from attacks and allow freedom of movement and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

"The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and United States of America announce the agreement of representatives of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on a ceasefire throughout Sudan for a period of 72 hours," the Saudi foreign ministry said.

Witnesses in Khartoum said the situation was "calm".

The United Nations will on Monday host an international donors' conference for Sudan in the Swiss city of Geneva.

Mexico authorities find 129 migrants packed in cargo truck

Mexico City

Mexican authorities found 129 migrants packed into the back of a cargo truck, the National Institute of Migration said on Saturday.

The "migrants from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and India" were discovered on Friday night in the eastern state of Veracruz, it said in a statement. Mexico is in the middle of a heat wave that has killed at least eight people.

The truck full of migrants

was found in the town of Sayula de Aleman, where temperatures are forecast to hit 44 degrees Celsius (111 degrees Fahrenheit) on Sunday, according to the National Meteorological Service.

The migration institute said 51 migrants from Guatemala were returned to that country.

Another 19 unaccompanied minors from Guatemala and Honduras were transferred to a special shelter and the rest were transferred to a migration station.

Cyclone leaves 13 dead in Brazil

Rio de Janeiro

A cyclone tore through southern Brazil killing at least 13 people and forcing thousands from their homes, authorities said yesterday.

Authorities lowered the number of people declared missing amid the violent weather in Rio Grande do Sul state Thursday and Friday from 10 to four.

Torrential rain and strong wind caused damage in dozens of towns in that state, including its capital Porto Alegre, in the latest in a string of climate disasters in the South American country.

The death toll rose to 13 with the discovery of two more bodies in the town of Caraa, one of the hardest hit, the state civil defense agency said.

A four month old baby is

among the fatalities, local media said. They broadcast footage of a car being swept into a cemetery by powerful winds.

"The water came up to our waist inside the house. Thank God, the firemen arrived quickly and got us out on boats. It seemed like a nightmare," a woman in the town of Sao Leopoldo told the newspaper Estadao, which did not give her name.

Other people were evacuated by helicopter.

A total of 3,713 people were left with damaged houses, and 697 were evacuated from areas at risk from the cyclone.

Rio Grande do Sul Governor Eduardo Leite visited the worst-affected areas by helicopter on Saturday together with government and rescue officials.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



For every dollar the fossil fuel industry spent on drilling & exploration last year, only 4 cents went to clean energy & carbon capture —combined. The world needs the industry to apply its massive resources to drive —not obstruct —the global move from fossil fuels to renewables.

@antonioguterres

02



Congratulate Gita Press, Gorakhpur on being conferred the Gandhi Peace Prize 2021. They have done commendable work over the last 100 years towards furthering social and cultural transformations among the people.

@RishiSunak

03



Happy Father's Day to all the dads working to help raise their children—and all our children—to be honorable, generous, and kind.

@JoeBiden

04



Today, I met with People's Republic of China State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang in Beijing and discussed how we can responsibly manage the relationship between our two countries through open channels of communication.

@SecBlinken

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

LEGAL VIEWPOINT

Legalising internet banking and control of cyber crimes



DR ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB AWARSAMA@WARSAMLC.COM

Internet transactions are increasing around the clock everywhere. The fruitful useful impact of the internet usage has been proved, no doubt, in many electronic transactions including Internet banking.

Needless to say, the Internet banking depend to a large extent on the output of electronic software that requires proper utilization and implementation of the internet and its related fields. One of the main infrastructures needed, for the new technological services, is the legal platform and the legal framework that should be cemented carefully, with due diligence and professionalism, taking into account the experience of other advanced jurisdictions.

The e-banking will effectively enhance the expansion of business entities. However, we have to admit that Internet banking transactions are still facing some legal, commercial and logistical problems as, the payments system is still facing some practical difficulties, additional cost for freight, customs duties, insurance charges and postage, some companies may be out of competition because they are unable to display their products in an attractive way, many commercial entities or individuals are still facing computer literacy, some of the software companies inventing required Internet programs are facing certain legal litigation.

Above points explain that Internet banking is not without its share of obstacles. Some of these obstacles raise a call for positive legal steps to be taken, so as to prepare a healthy legal environment for such projects.

IT is facing certain criminal acts such as trespassing, hacking, robbery, theft, forgery, criminal misappropriation etc. These criminal acts and new cyber-crimes have increased dramatically.

Legally speaking, are we prepared to face such modern crimes? Do we have clear-cut definitions to what is known now as electronic or cyber-crimes? Do we have enough cybersecurity? As a matter of fact the relevant criminal laws, in most Countries, are not referring nor including clear-cut definitions to cover such modern sophisticated electronic crimes related to Internet banking. The absence of clear definitions in the law for such misdeeds or crimes, could lead to ambiguity and doubts that could be taken to the benefit of criminal suspects.

According to the basic constitutional and legal principles there shall be no crime without a law and, also, no penalty without committing a criminal act according to the law. Taking these constitutional and legal principles in consideration, we strongly say that new laws should be issued to cover the new cyber-crimes that could happen due to the usage of new technologies that could be used according to the spread of e-banking projects. We need to fill-in the gaps by issuing modified laws, or new special laws to give proper technical definitions to such new electronic crimes, and at the same time, to provide for penalties according to the gravity of the crime committed. Issuing such laws or modifying the existing legislations will certainly create a healthy environment for e-banking transactions and all related services.

As a matter of fact, we could notice that banks are striving in electronic most of their banking transactions with the aim of giving modern, easy and fast services to their customers and the community. However, we have to say that there are certain legal issues or, if we could say, legal problems that could affect the natural process of the Internet banking and its normal development.

The electronic evolution in the information technology necessitates an urgent evolution and revolution in all related legislations and laws so as to fill the gaps to legalize the new electronic transactions and to face the new cybersecurity dangers.

Loose security measures would, certainly, threaten the process of Internet banking and all e-transactions. Cyber crimes and other similar white-collar crimes should be well defined along with the required cybersecurity measures and stringent penalties to combat such crimes.

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

The electronic evolution in the information technology necessitates an urgent evolution and revolution in all related legislations and laws

CELEBS

celebs



Arnold Schwarzenegger says he would run for President in 2024 if he could

ANI | Washington

American actor Arnold Schwarzenegger told Chris Wallace on a recent episode of Max and CNN's "Who's Talking?" interview series that if he were eligible, he would run for President of the United States, Variety reported.

The action movie legend already has a political background, having served as the 38th governor of California from 2003 to 2011.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Wallace asked Schwarzenegger, "The Constitution says that the President has to be a natural born US citizen. If not for that, would you have run for president?" Schwarzenegger answered, "I think the field was wide open in 2016. And I think the field is open right now. I mean, think about it right now. I mean, who is there? There is really not a person that can bring everyone together. Who is here today that people say okay, he's not too old or he's not too this or too that, or is that because it's now a question about who

do you vote against then who do you vote for?"

"You're saying you would run for president in 2024?" Wallace asked.

Schwarzenegger replied "Absolutely. Put me in because it's, look - it's a no brainer. I see so clearly how I could win that that election."

He added, "I mean, it's like me and California. "And when that was, you know, running for governor, it was clear that people are looking for some new answer, not a right-wing or left wing, but someone that can



There is really not a person that can bring everyone together. Who is here today that people say okay, he's not too old or he's not too this or too that, or is that because it's now a question about who do you vote against then who do you vote for?

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

bring the nation together and doesn't see the other party as the enemy...There's just so many things that need to be done. And can be done. And what makes it so wonderful is because it's doable. It's all doable, or at least it's just people coming together and say yes, we can do it."

According to variety, Ronald Regan served as the 40th President of the United States from 1981 to 1989, a Hollywood actor taking on the role of America's Commander in Chief is not unheard of.



Rita Wilson and Tom Hanks

Rita Wilson reveals Tom Hanks turned down 'When Harry Met Sally' because he 'could not understand' the role

Fox | Los Angeles

Tom Hanks had two rom-com hits with Meg Ryan, "Sleepless in Seattle" and "You've Got Mail," and it turns out there could have been a third if he hadn't turned down "When Harry Met Sally."

On the "Table for Two with Bruce Bozzi" podcast, Hanks' wife, Rita Wilson, revealed the reason he turned down the iconic movie.

"People probably don't know this, but Tom was offered 'When Harry Met Sally,' and he turned it down because he was going through a divorce, and he was very happy to be not married," Wilson explained.

"And so, he could not understand that a person going through a divorce would have anything other than just like, 'I'm so happy,'" she continued. Hanks was married to his first wife, Samantha Lewes, from 1978 to 1987. They had two children together, actor Colin Hanks and daughter Elizabeth Hanks.

Hanks and Wilson married in 1988 and had two sons together, Chet and Truman.

"When Harry Met Sally," starring Ryan and Billy Crystal, whose character goes through a divorce, was released in 1989.

Crystal shared a fun throwback photo on his 75th birthday this year, celebrating his role in the movie.

Crystal donned a white sweater, jeans and sneakers and took a photo of himself in a low squat, putting it side by side with a near-identical looking moment in the movie.

He simply captioned the images "Thank you all..." on Twitter.

In speaking with the Library of Congress about making the movie, Crystal said, "I just felt so plugged into the process of making the movie. ... Not that anything is ever easy, but it was just such a joy to see it come to life."

As for the movie's ongoing appeal, the actor said, "The movie is beautiful and simple and appropriate, and every shot is just right."

The movie was written by Nora Ephron, who also wrote "Sleepless in Seattle" and "You've Got Mail."

Wilson said she loved Ephron's scripts and ran into her at a party, asking to audition for a role in "Sleepless in Seattle." She ended up appearing in the film as Hanks' sister, Suzy, and delivered the memorable monologue about "An Affair to Remember."

Pete Davidson charged with reckless driving following Beverly Hills crash

ANI | Los Angeles

Comedian Pete Davidson has been charged with reckless driving, three months after crashing into a home in Beverly Hills, California.

In an email statement, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office said, "We believe that Mr. Davidson engaged in reckless driving, which ultimately resulted in his involvement in a serious collision into a home. Luckily, no one was seriously injured as a result of this collision."

The charge comes around two months after the Beverly Hills



Pete Davidson

Police Department forwarded the case to the D.A. The local police department had been investigating the crash since March, The Hollywood Reporter reported.

The mishap occurred on March 4. Davidson was allegedly in a Mercedes and traveling at a high speed in a residential area when the vehicle jumped the curb while he was driving. The accident allegedly involved the car knocking over a fire hydrant and clipping the corner of a house. Neither Davidson nor any of the home's residents were injured.

Davidson is expected to be arraigned in court in July

I feel the pressure of public opinion, says Tom Holland

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Tom Holland feels the "pressures of public opinion".

The 27-year-old star is one of the most popular actors in Hollywood, and Tom admits that he's very conscious of the public's expectations.

Tom - who is best known for playing Peter Parker in the Spider-Man film franchise - told

The Hollywood Reporter: "I wouldn't say I particularly have a history of issues with mental health.

"I just feel like I am a young person living in a world where we are expected to share every moment online. We are under the pressures of pub-



Tom Holland

lic opinion and other people's opinions, and you've got these pressures of delivering to a certain standard. And it's stressful. It's hard."

Tom has gained a huge following on social media during the course of his career.

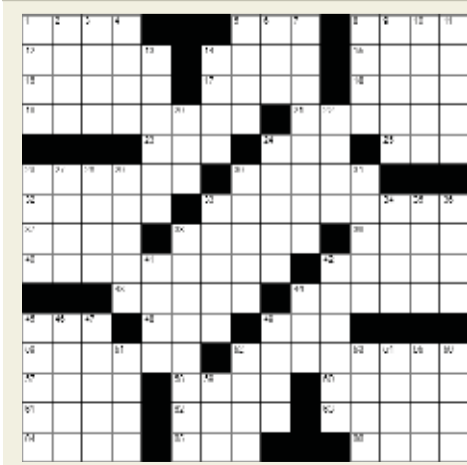
Despite this, the London-born actor has made

a concerted effort to distance himself from various platforms in recent times.

He shared: "It's tough when every time you leave your front door, you are working. You're on camera.

"I can't walk around New York without clicking everywhere I go. And social media was bringing that outside world into my house.

CROSSWORD



Across

1- The wolf ... the door; 5- Long-jawed fish; 8- Metrical foot; 12- Sight-related; 14- Go out with; 15- Fraternal org.; 16- Currency unit in Nigeria; 17- I've Got ... in Kalamazoo; 18- Weight; 19- Rulers; 21- Put in; 23- Summer shade; 24- Month after april; 25- Ques. response; 26- Prefer; 30- Long hard seat; 32- Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree; 33- Hidden; 37- Ill humor; 38- Bring about; 39- Narcotic; 40- She's on her toes; 42- Unit just above a yard; 43- Pen's inferior, they say; 44- Hurry; 45- Kernel; 48- That, in Tijuana; 49- Cub Scout group; 50- Way out; 52- Beautiful; 57- Airline to Tel Aviv; 58- Tree trunk; 60- "South Pacific" hero; 61- Gaming cubes; 62- Banned apple spray; 63- Stair part; 64- Words of understanding; 65- Flushed; 66- Driving aids;

Down

1- Actress Skye; 2- Junk e-mail; 3- Take ... from me; 4- Make weary; 5- Jokes; 6- One ... time; 7- Confidence; 8- Native Nigerians; 9- Sleep disorder; 10- Feel grief; 11- Outdoes; 13- 39th president of the U.S.; 14- Mend with rows of stitches; 20- Boat propeller; 22- Pleasing; 24- Brainy bunch; 26- Former Virginia senator Charles; 27- Bhutan's continent; 28- Work the soil; 29- Backs of feet; 30- Tied; 31- Where the Styx flows; 33- Africa's most populous city; 34- Trent of the Senate; 35- Piece of fencing; 36- "Jurassic Park" actress; 38- Goalpost part; 41- Farm females; 42- Trough from which livestock eat; 44- That woman; 45- ... say more; 46- Citrus hybrids; 47- Vestige; 49- Go-getter; 51- Gen. Robert ...; 52- Delighted; 53- Let out; 54- River to the Seine; 55- Peter Fonda title role; 56- Sun. speeches; 59- Good ... boy;

Yesterday's solution



Classifieds



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VACANCIES AVAILABLE

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suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556665 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

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SAHI MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35008074 or REHMANSAHIO512@GMAIL.COM

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JARAMANI GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39939397 or NADERJARAMANY@HOTMAIL.COM

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FINAL TOUCH INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39441637 or AQEEL.RAWALIA@GMAIL.COM

HOME DELIGHT MAINTENANCE SERVICE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34569303 or VISTAWORLDBH@GMAIL.COM

TAMANNA SECOND HAND FURNITURE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33923239 or FATIMA_ALSELAITI@HOTMAIL.COM

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LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID_BUALI@JALAL.COM

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TRUST TRADERS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17704144 or info@trusttraders.com

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ALHARAMAIN BUILDING MATERIAL has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36550099 or ALHARAMAIN.BM@GMAIL.COM

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AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM

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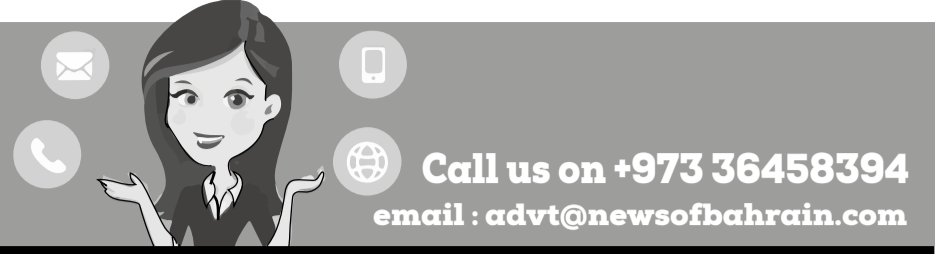
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SCRIPT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009759 or INFO@SCRIPTBH.COM

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

Hybrid electro mechanical company w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730017 or vincent.hybrid@gmail.com

AL AHBAB TRADING WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 17125204 or ALAHBAB.CO@HOTMAIL.COM

New Sky Trading W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212465 or NEWSKYBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

Fareeq Bin Aqool Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 6666081 or MKHONJI@FANDBCREATIONS.COM

Al Baraka United Trading Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36090031 or gazal.01@hotmail.com

ELLOODS HAIRDRESSING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38887099 or info@ellood.com

Dessange Beauty Center WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrvp@alghalia.com

Alkafeel construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17231022 or alkafeelconstruction@gmail.com

Burj Mohammad laundry has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17879166 or BURJMUHAMMAD786@GMAIL.COM

Mk Spa Beauty Lounge has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37773361 or M-ALKOOHEJI@HOTMAIL.COM

SPICE COURT RESTAURANT. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414208 or BAIGSAJJAD@GMAIL.COM

HOME APPLY TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy

for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34352941 or JAMAL33484966@GMAIL.COM

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Al fateh cleaning and Maintenance Company w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830078 or kanakaraj.pk@horizontlgroup.com

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Martin holds off Bagnaia to win German MotoGP



Jorge Martin (R) and Francesco Bagnaia battle it out in the German motorcycle Grand Prix

AFP | Sachsenring

Jorge Martin edged world champion Francesco Bagnaia after a cut-and-thrust battle over the last 10 laps to win yesterday's German MotoGP, to trim the Italian's lead in the standings.

It was Martin's second Grand Prix victory. His last was in the Styria Grand Prix in Austria in 2021.

"Emotional moment after almost two years fighting for it, finally it arrived," said Martin in the winner's enclosure. "It was a tough, tough race. Peco (Bagnaia) was pushing so hard."

After beating Bagnaia in Saturday's sprint race, Martin, a Spaniard who rides for the Pramac Ducati team, this time resisted late counter-attacks to win. Frenchman Johann

Zarco, on another Pramac, completed the podium.

On Saturday, Martin, starting from the second row of the grid, overtook pole-sitter Bagnaia, on a factory Ducati, on the fourth lap. Yesterday, he made his move even earlier and took first on the third lap.

Bagnaia gave chase and overtook with 10 laps to go but Martin hit back and regained the lead.

Bagnaia pressed hard and the bikes touched on the second-last lap, but both riders remained upright. Martin stayed ahead to close out the win.

The Spaniard had built a large lead by the middle of the race before Bagnaia started clawing back his advantage.

"I had some issues at the middle of the race with the rear tyre so I didn't strain too much."

Verstappen on pole at Canadian Grand Prix, Hulkenberg second

AFP | Montreal

Max Verstappen drove with extreme poise and skill on Saturday as he claimed pole position for Red Bull ahead of Haas driver Nico Hulkenberg in a rainswept qualifying session at the Canadian Grand Prix.

The defending double world champion and series leader outpaced the German driver by 1.244 seconds in a very wet top-ten shootout to secure his 25th career pole.

It also completed a hat-trick for the Dutchman after poles in Monaco and Spain.

It will be the third front row starting position for Hulkenberg and the first for the American-owned Haas team.

Two-time champion Fernando Alonso was third-fastest for Aston Martin and will share the



Red Bull Racing's Dutch driver Max Verstappen races during the qualifying session

second row of the grid with seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes.

George Russell was fifth in the second Mercedes ahead of Esteban Ocon of Alpine, Lando Norris of McLaren, Carlos Sainz of Ferrari and Oscar Piastri in

the second McLaren.

Alex Albon was 10th for Williams while both Red Bull's Sergio Perez and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc failed to proceed from Q2 for the second consecutive event.

"We made changes after a

"
I'm from Holland so I like driving in the wet. It was a wild and crazy session in changing conditions with the walls so close in the wet - we were changing tyres and the team did a great job

MAX VERSTAPPEN

tricky day yesterday, said Verstappen.

"And it was completely wet but the car felt improved to drive. In these conditions, you have to stay on top of everything as it is super-slippery and but we made all the right calls and I am very happy to be on pole here.

Australia captain Cummins rocks England in first Ashes Test

AFP | London

Australia captain Pat Cummins starred with both bat and ball as the Ashes-holders had the better of a rain-marred third day in the first Test against England in Birmingham yesterday.

The lower-order batsman made a useful 38 in a total of 386 that left Australia just seven runs behind on first innings.

And the fast bowler then dismissed Ben Duckett before England also lost their other opener, Zak Crawley, in a dramatic 20-minutes' play between the showers.

England were 28-2 in their second innings, a lead of just 35 runs, at stumps after a huge downpour at 1450 GMT had sent the players from the field.

They had made steady progress when an initial rain delay stopped play for an hour-and-a-quarter.

But after the match resumed



England's Joe Root (R) consoles Australia's Usman Khawaja (L) after he is bowled by England's Ollie Robinson

in overcast skies, with the Edgbaston floodlights piercing the gloom, conditions were now hugely in favour of World Test champions Australia's pace attack.

And they made the most of a brief 22-ball session by taking

two wickets for no runs as England slumped from 27-0 to 27-2.

Cummins led the way, with Duckett edging the 30-year-old low to all-rounder Cameron Green, who dived forward to hold his latest excellent catch in the gully.

Scorecard

England 393 for 8 declared and 26 for 2 trail Australia 386 (Khawaja 141, Carey 66, Robinson 3-55, Broad 3-68)

Three balls later, Scott Boland had Crawley caught behind off a superb full-length delivery that angled in and straightened to take the edge.

Ollie Pope and star batsman Joe Root, whose unbeaten 118 was the cornerstone of England's first-innings 393-8 declared, were both yet to get off the mark when the umpires finally abandoned play for the day at 1713 GMT.

Earlier, England finally saw the back of Usman Khawaja but only after his painstaking 141 had effectively turned the first of a five-match series into a one-innings showdown.

Australia, bidding for a first Ashes series win in England in 22 years, resumed on 311-5.

CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Suniti** W/o Mr. Akshay Kumar Holding Indian **Passport No. N8035933** Dated 26th September 2016, issued at Kingdom of Bahrain, having permanent residence at 18, Sanghi Bhawan, Kadma Market, Kadma, Jamsheedpur, Jharkhand, India presently residing at Flat No. 12, Building No. 975, Road No. 2711, Block No. 927, Riffa, Kingdom of Bahrain. Will henceforth be known as **Suniti Akshay Kumar**. Objection(S), if any, maybe forwarded to Embassy of India, P.O. Box No. 26106, Adliya, Kingdom of Bahrain.

Double podium for 2 Seas

Bahraini-British motor racing team finish second and third in season's sixth round in 2023 British GT Championship

● **2 Seas' James Cottingham and Jonny Adam come 0.042s shy of victory**

● **Teammates Ian Loggie and Jules Gounon finish in third place overall**

TDT | Manama

Bahraini-British motor racing team 2 Seas Motorsport claimed a double podium yesterday in the sixth round of the 2023 Intelligent Money British GT Championship, held at Snetterton Circuit in Norfolk, the UK.

The pair of James Cottingham and Jonny Adam in 2 Seas' #4 Mercedes AMG-GT3 Evo challenger finished as runners-up in what was the second 60-minute sprint race of the weekend.

Meanwhile, teammates Ian Loggie and Jules Gounon in 2 Seas' #1 car were right behind them in third.

The two 2 Seas cars also had a strong performance in the fifth round, held earlier in the day yesterday, with both



2 Seas' #4 car, right, tries to close in as Ram Racing are about to cross the finish line in the season's sixth round yesterday, with 2 Seas' #1 car right behind in third place

crews finishing in the points in sixth and seventh place, respectively.

The Snetterton event was the last of just two meetings in this British GT season featuring two races. The other

was at Oulton Park in Cheshire, where the campaign's opening two rounds took place.

In the second race of the day yesterday, it was a hotly contested finish with



2 Seas' pair of contending crews added to their podium appearances in yesterday's second race by taking some valuable points from the day's earlier 60-minute sprint. James Cottingham and Jonny Adam were classified sixth in that opening event and Ian Loggie and Jules Gounon were seventh

both 2 Seas crews amongst a leading group of four battling bumper to bumper over the last two laps.

At the finish line, the Ram Racing tandem of John Ferguson and Raffaele Marciello finished just inches ahead of Cottingham and Adam to claim the win

by a mere 0.042 seconds.

Loggie and Gounon followed not far behind but not after a tough fight with Orange Racing Team by JMH, shared by Simon Orange and Michael O'Brien. They had an incident over the final corners that saw both cars go off the track, but Loggie and Gounon were able to get ahead of their rivals at the finish.

They were classified 0.422s from first.

In yesterday's earlier race, Cottingham and Adam were classified 30.430 seconds behind winners Shaun Balfe and Sandy Mitchell of Barwell Motorsport. They had started from sixth on the grid.

Loggie and Gounon, starting from 11th, finished 31.924s from the victors for a solid seventh place.

The 2023 British GT campaign features nine rounds in all. Following this weekend's action, the series now heads for Autodromo do Algarve in Portugal, for its only round outside of the UK on July 22 and 23.

The championship will then race at Brands Hatch on September 9 and 10, and then at Donington Park again for the season-finale on October 21 and 22.

ISB Community Sports Fest: Cricket-league round begins in style



Event organisers and team officials pose for a photo after the captain's meeting

TDT | Manama

The Indian School ground in Isa Town has come alive with the commencement of the Floodlit Cricket Tournament, as part of the ISB Community Sports Fest 2023.

With 40 teams participating in this round, divided into eight groups of five teams each, the competition promises to be fierce as the teams battle it out to secure a spot in the final stage.

In Group A, the Bharati Tamil Sangham A team has taken an early lead with 2 points. In Group B, the Shaheen Group-A team is currently at the top with 2 points, while Sahar Auto Parts and Asri Lions are leading the pack in Group D with 2 points each.

The PCD Mavericks have dominated Group E with 2 points, and in Group F, both Shaheen Group B team and Jai Karnataka Smart CC are leading with 2

points each. Pacct-Blue stands out in Group G with 2 points.

The tournament has already seen some outstanding performances on the field. Vivek Soman Nair of PCD Mavericks has emerged as the leading scorer, showcasing his prowess with an impressive 40 runs at a remarkable strike rate of 307.69.

Close behind is Shyamkumar Sukumaran of Pacct-Blue with 27 runs. On the bowling front, Raheem Moideen from IYCC Avengers has established himself as the leading wicket-taker, having claimed 3 wickets so far.

The first round of matches took place on June 15, 16, and 17, and the tournament will continue in the following weeks.

To ensure the smooth running of the event, a captain's meeting was held at Jashanmal auditorium, where the fixtures were finalized. ISB Chairman Prince S Natarajan, Secretary Saji Antony, EC Member - Sports Rajesh



Action during a match

MN, and Organizing Committee General Convener Tawfeeq, along with team captains, attended the meeting.

The cricket tournament is being conducted in collaboration with the Bahrain Cricket Federation for Indian nationals residing in the Kingdom, as part of the grand ISB Community Sports Fest 2023, under the patronage of the Indian Embassy in Bahrain.

Alongside cricket, the festival will feature a range of other exciting sports events, including Badminton, Table Tennis, Football, Volleyball, Tug of War, Kabaddi, and Athletics, in the weeks to come. Sports enthusiasts can look forward to an action-packed and thrilling series of events that celebrate the spirit of athleticism and camaraderie within the community.

Maysara Mohamed hailed as the "Egyptian Conor McGregor"



Maysara (right) pushes Ruel yesterday at the BRAVE CF 71 staredowns

● **BRAVE CF president believes the energy Maysara brings is compared to that of the Irish MMA legend**

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation's Maysara Mohamed has been compared to Conor McGregor in the way they both set the pace of their fights in terms of energy before and during their bouts.

BRAVE CF president Mohammed Shahid hailed Maysara as a fighter who can deeply impact his opponent, through the "aura" he possesses.

Mohamed makes his return to BRAVE CF when he takes on Ruel Panales in the preliminary card of BRAVE CF 71, today, and he will look to control the fight the same way he has done in the past.

"There's something that usually happens in a fight, when two fighters are competing, and one of them controls the aura of the cage. Fighters like Conor McGregor, for example, come in and control the energy. You look at his opponents and you feel sad for them - and the fight hasn't even begun! You look at all the data and you

think they're evenly matched, but then you get them face to face right before the fight begins, and it's another story. That fighter has everything under his control and the aura, the energy is by his side. That's Maysara Mohamed for you. I've seen that in him, he has that it factor, he makes people stand up, they get that energy from him and he feeds off of that exchange as well. That's something you can't see, but you can feel every time Maysara fights", said Mohammed Shahid, BRAVE CF president, during the taping of Hawk's Corner.

And this time around, Maysara has even gone as far as kicking things off before the fight begins. Usually reserved outside of the cage, the Egyptian Conor McGregor has gone out of his shell this fight week and had an altercation with his opponent Ruel Panales during their staredown.

BRAVE CF 71 is the first event of a series of two cards held by the promotion in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Today's fight night will be headlined by the aforementioned Featherweight title eliminator bout between Omar Solomanov and Ilyar Askhanov.

The event will be broadcast live on BRAVE TV App and Bahrain TV.



Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) has kicked off its BTC Members Tennis Tournament 2023 at the BTC courts in Juffair. The tournament features several categories including the men's super singles, men's singles, men's doubles, ladies' singles and ladies' doubles. An opening ceremony was held with BTC president Dr Khamis Al Muqla on hand. Above, Dr Al Muqla, standing ninth from right, with players on the competition's first day

BOC holds welcome ceremony for Manama basketball team



Manama team members and officials at the welcome ceremony

TD | Manama

The Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) organised yesterday a special welcome ceremony for the Manama Club basketball team upon their return to the Kingdom from Dubai, where they made basketball history

after becoming the first-ever champions of the FIBA West Asia Super League.

The reception was held at the Hall of Ceremonies at Bahrain International Airport, and in attendance were General Sports Authority (GSA) vice-president His Highness Shaikh Salman bin

Mohammed Al Khalifa, GSA CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar, BOC secretary general Faris Al Kooheji, Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) Captain Waleed Al Alawi, and other GSA, BOC, BBA and Manama officials.

The celebrations included a cutting of a cake which was

decorated with a picture of the team.

Manama captured the gold medals in the inaugural edition of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA)-sanctioned tournament after defeating Kuwait SC 67-59 in the final of the FIBA WASL Final Eight



HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa cuts the cake with Manama Club president Yousif Zaman, left, and team captain Hasan Nowrooz

'This one was for Gino'

Bahrain Victorious rider Matej Mohoric wins final stage of Tour of Slovenia, dedicates victory to late teammate Gino Mader

● **Triumphant Matej Mohoric completes 142.6-kilometre, fifth and final stage in 3:07:49**

● **Slovenian claims first stage victory of his season, ranks second in general classification**

TD | Manama

Team Bahrain Victorious rider Matej Mohoric won an emotionally charged final day at the 2023 Tour of Slovenia yesterday.

Mohoric crossed the finish line in the southeastern city of Novo Mesto with tears in his eyes, smiled, and pointed to the sky in honour of the Late Gino Mader, his Bahrain Victorious teammate who tragically passed away on Friday following a very serious crash during stage five of the Tour de Suisse.



Matej Mohoric, left, with other race winners

"This one is inspired by Gino, and for Gino," Mohoric said.

The Slovenian completed the 142.6-kilometre, fifth and last stage yesterday in a total time of three hours seven minutes and 49 seconds, finishing ahead of Filippo Zana and Luka Mezgec, both of Team Jayco-AlUla, who rounded out the top three.

Towards the end of the race,

Zana had no answer for Mohoric's superiority over the last few hundred metres of cobbles.

"I knew that today's course suited me, and in the finale, I was so focused," Mohoric said. "I wanted to win so badly; I just wanted the stage win, I certainly wasn't thinking about the GC [general classification]."

"For me—to get the first one

“For me—to get the first one on the board this season, and above all, for Gino. It was a little bit emotional today for what happened this week, but I wanted to give it all on the road”

MATEJ MOHORIC

on the board this season, and above all, for Gino. It was a little bit emotional today for what happened this week, but I wanted to give it all on the road. Everything went as planned."

Mohoric was classified at the end of the Tour of Slovenia second overall on the GC. His stage win was his first triumph of the season.

Amongst Bahrain Victorious' other riders, Wouter

Poels claimed a place in the final stage's top 20 in 20th, while Nicolo Buratti was 54th, Phil Bauhaus 96th, Dusan Rajovic 97th and Cameron Scott 106th from nearly 120 competitors.

This year's Tour of Slovenia was the 29th edition of the five-stage race. It is a part of the UCI ProSeries, featuring some of the top teams and riders in the world.



Sports hall of famer Kirik Jenness says HH Shaikh Khalid improved martial arts forever

TD | Manama

Brave Combat Federation, the Bahrain-based Mixed Martial Arts promotion founded under the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, is at the forefront of combat sports worldwide. Those are the words of Kirik Jenness, the official record keeper of MMA in the United States and Combat Sports Hall of Famer.

In Bahrain, where he will serve as a colour commentator for the upcoming BRAVE CF 71 and BRAVE CF 72 fight cards, which take place at the Bahrain National Stadium on June 19 and 23 respectively, Jenness spoke about the impact of the Bahraini initiative in the sports



Kirik Jenness

world.

"BRAVE CF is different from other MMA promotions in a number of ways", Jenness said.

"The significant transforma-

“The significant transformation that the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa has had on this sport cannot be overstated. Bahrain has become a focal point for the entire combat sports community”

KIRIK JENNESS

tion that the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa has had on this sport cannot be overstated. Bahrain has become a focal point for the

entire combat sports community", he continued.

"The amount of talent found by BRAVE CF's scouting program and then converted into international superstars is enormous. That's something that has the entire world keeping a close eye on the country and His Highness's initiative. He has definitely changed Mixed Martial Arts forever!"

BRAVE CF 71 is the first event of a series of two cards held by the promotion in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Today's fight night will be headlined by a Featherweight title eliminator bout between Omar Solomanov and Ilyar Askhanov. The event will be broadcast live on BRAVE TV App and Bahrain TV.

Murray claims Nottingham Open to extend winning streak

AFP | Nottingham

Andy Murray claimed a second title in two weeks at the Nottingham Open yesterday to continue his fine preparation for Wimbledon.

The three-time Grand Slam champion followed up his win at Surbiton last week with a flawless display to beat Frenchman Arthur Cazaux 6-4, 6-4 to claim the tournament without dropping a set.

Murray's 10-match winning streak is now his best since he topped the world rankings in 2017 and before he required career-threatening hip surgery.

After winning two Challenger Tour events, the 36-year-old faces a step up in quality when he heads to the ATP 500 event



Andy Murray poses with the winners trophy

at Queen's Club this week, where he will face world number 18 Alex de Minaur in the first round.

But a strong showing at the tournament he has won five times could improve Murray's ranking sufficiently to be seeded at Wimbledon next month.