

'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

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Double podium for 2 Seas 11 SPORTS

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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

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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

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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 lo-

cal 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

the Royal Military College Sandhurst in the United Kingdom.

He praised Manama Club which won the Super West Asian Basketball Championship and Al Najma Club which clinched the 25th Asian Clubs Handball Championship.

"These achievements reflect Bahrainis' constant keenness and strong resolve to enhance the country's standing in all regional and international arenas," said HM the King.

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 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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