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SPORTS

Pogacar dominates Stage 19

SATURDAY

2024

220 FILS

ISSUE NO.9994

Tadej Pogacar extends lead, nearing historic Tour-Giro double with two stages remaining | P12





Ariana Grande slams double standards over changing voice

BUSINESS

Stocks slide as global tech outage rattles investors

Bahrain committed to bolstering Malaysia ties

TDT | Kuala Lumpur

 \mathbf{H} is Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa emphasised with Malaysia to fulfill the aspirations of both countries' leaderships and benefit the people of both nations.

HM the King was speaking as he received Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim yesterday at HM's residence in Kuala Lumpur.

During the meeting, HM King between the two countries. Hamad discussed with the Prime Minister the historical Bahraini-Malaysian relations the Kingdom of Bahrain's com- and efforts to promote coopermitment to bolstering relations ation in various domains. They the coronation ceremony of His cluding Prince Ismail, Prince also exchanged views on several topics of common interest.

The two sides affirmed their cooperation in various fields.

Ibrahim expressed his appreciation to HM King Hamad for in strengthening cooperation HM Sultan Ibrahim to attend His Malaysia.

Coronation ceremony

Majesty Sultan Ibrahim ibni Sultan Iskandar of Malaysia.

keenness to further enhance Majesty the Sultan success in tions of Malaysia, and His Exachieving his goals for the benefit of the people of Malaysia.

his ongoing interest and support laysia, upon an invitation from bers of the Bahraini embassy in

Majesty's coronation ceremony in Kuala Lumpur.

Upon arrival, His Majesty HM King Hamad expressed the King was received by the his delight at participating in sons of HM Sultan Ibrahim, in-Idris, Prince Abdul Rahman, Prince Abu Bakar, Fahmi Fad-HM the King wished His zil, Minister of Communicacellency Dr. Waleed Khalifa Al Manea, Ambassador of Bahrain HM King Hamad visited Ma- to Malaysia, as well as mem-



HM the King receives Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim

'Stay away from foreign calls for violence'

TDT | Manama

The Chief of Public Security, Lieutenant General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan, has issued a stern warning against responding to calls for violence and illegal protests emanating from suspicious sources operating abroad.

In a statement released yesterday, Al Hassan emphasised that participating in or responding to any incitements or actions that disrupt public order and security is a crime punishable by law. He cited Bahrain's Penal Code, which considers the act of incitement itself a crime, regardless of whether the instigated action is carried out.

The statement comes in response to recent calls for violence and illegal protests disseminated by unidentified entities operating outside Bahrain.

Curfew imposed in Bangladesh after deadly unrest

AFP | Dhaka

Bangladesh yesterday announced the imposition of a curfew and the deployment of military forces after police failed to quell days of deadly unrest that has spread throughout the country. This week's clashes between student demonstrators and police have killed at least 105 people, according to an AFP count of victims reported by hospitals, and pose a momentous challenge to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's autocratic government after 15 years in office.

The curfew would take immediate effect. (Detailed report on World Page)

220 fils (includes VAT)



Global Gridlock

CrowdStrike major outage affects businesses around the world in unprecedented scale

AFP | Paris

irlines, banks, TV channels and financial institutions were thrown into turmoil yesterday by one of the biggest IT crashes in recent years, caused by an update to an antivirus program.

Air passengers crowded into airports to wait for news as dozens of flights were cancelled and operators struggled to keep services on track, after an update to a program operating on Microsoft Windows crashed the

Microsoft said the issue began at 1900 GMT on Thursday, affecting Windows users running cybersecurity software Crowd-Strike Falcon.

CrowdStrike said it had rolled out a fix for the problem and the US news channel CNBC he want- (AFP) ed to "personally apologise to every organisation, every group and every person who has been impacted".

US President Joe Biden's team was talking to CrowdStrike and reporting major difficulties. those affected by the glitch House said in a statement.

Full impact

and Britain suggested health services may have been affected by the disruption, meaning the full impact might not yet be



firm's boss, George Kurtz, told Travelers navigate customer service and ticketing lines at Ronald Regan Washington National Airport in Washington, DC.

Media companies were also go down in history," said Ju- all flights, in others airline staff ed its morning news broadcasts adding that the last incident ap-

Banks in Kenya and Ukraine "and is standing by to provide reported issues with their digital take days or weeks for systems assistance as needed", the White services, supermarkets in Austo be patched up. tralia had problems with payments, mobile phone carriers slumped by nine percent in early were disrupted and customer trading in New York. Reports from the Netherlands services in a number of companies went down.

Unprecedented

"The scale of this outage is un-services. precedented, and will no doubt

struggling, with Britain's Sky nade Ali of Britain's Institution had to check-in passengers man-News saying the glitch had end- of Engineering and Technology, ually. and Australia's ABC similarly proaching the same scale was

Shares in CrowdStrike

Singapore to Hong Kong, airissues that were disrupting their LaGuardia.

While some airports halted cluding Berlin, which had sus- rattled - Page 5)

Grounded

The US Federal Aviation Ad-Experts suggested it could ministration (FAA) initially ordered all flights grounded "regardless of destination", though airlines said they were re-establishing their services.

From Amsterdam to Zurich, frustrated and stranded passengers in airports from Milport operators flagged technical waukee Mitchell to New York

to check the status of their flights with their respective airlines before arriving at the airport.

Bahrain airport

fully operational

 $B^{
m ahrain\ Airport\ Company}_{
m (BAC)\ confirmed\ that\ all}$

technical systems at Bahrain

International Airport (BIA)

are fully operational and unaffected by the recent global

BAC noted that it is proactively monitoring the global situation and working closely

with the relevant authorities

to implement any necessary

BAC advised all passengers

precautionary measures.

TDT | Manama

technical issue.

The BAC added that in reference to recent local media reports regarding the cancellations, delays, or rescheduling of some flights, these disruptions were not related to BIA's technical systems and were due to external factors and are being actively managed by the respective airlines.

But AFP footage showed pended all flights earlier vesterday, said departures and arrivals were gradually resuming.

(Bahrain beats the bug - Page In Europe, major airports in- 3; Global stocks slide, investors

UN top court 'advisory opinion'

Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory 'illegal'

AFP | The Hague

that Israel's decades-long occuwas "illegal" and needed to end which called it "historic". as soon as possible.

The UN's top court said in a Court of Justice was immediately sweeping opinion yesterday ately slammed as a "decision of and destruction in Israel's war threat." In The Hague, ICJ prethe judge said at the Peace Palpation of Palestinian territory by the Palestinian presidency group's brutal October 7 attacks. "The court has found that Isra-

The ICJ's statement, called an diplomatic pressure on Isra- Palestinian Territories is illegal." tivities immediately."

The advisory opinion by The "advisory opinion", is not bind- el, whose lawmakers voted on Israel is "under the obligation

Hague-based International ing, but it comes amid mount- Thursday to oppose a Palestini- to bring to an end its unlawful lies" by Israel, but welcomed against Hamas sparked by the siding judge Nawaf Salam said: ace, seat of the ICJ.

The ICJ said Israel was "under It is also likely to increase el's continued presence in the an obligation to cease illegal ac-

news of bahrain

Bahrain's C-SIPA to go 'global'

HH Shaikh Nasser highlights Kingdom's leadership in regional peace efforts at Aspen Security Forum



HH Shaikh Nasser speaks at the event



C-SIPA will evolve from a bilateral agreement to a multilateral one with a wider scope. **Beyond the Middle** East, the US has many friends globally. This agreement will unite all these allies

LIEUTENANT GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH NASSER BIN HAMAD AL KHALI-ROYAL GUARD COMMANDER

Impact of Abraham **Accords on Middle Eastern Diplomacy**

Role in Red Sea **Conflict Resolution**

Actions on **National Identity**

Ashen Tharaka TDT | Manama

Highness Shaikh Nass- Shaikh Nasser stated. er bin Hamad Al Khal-

ifa, National Security Advisor and Royal Guard Commander, announced Bahrain's plans to expand the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA) beyond its current bilateral framework with the US.

"C-SIPA will evolve from a bilateral agreement to a multilateral one with a wider scope," HH Shaikh Nasser stated. "Beyond the Middle East, the US has many friends globally. This agreement will unite all these

HH Shaikh Nasser made this announcement at the 15th annual Aspen Security Forum in Colorado, USA, an event dedicated to driving global change through dialogue, leadership, and action to address society's greatest challenges.

He emphasised that the C-SI-PA represents the most significant agreement Bahrain has established with the US.

Unlike traditional military and defense arrangements, C-SIPA encompasses a broader scope, integrating comprehensive security measures with a focus on prosperity.

"It's not just a military and defense cooperation. It's a compreieutenant General His element in the agreement," HH

нн Shaikh Nasser under-

scored the distinctive nature of Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al against one party, or let me say as the first security guarantee coming peace conference, with world's interest," he stated. provided to an Arab state.

as a call to advance the initiative. itiative.

Peace and Stability in the Middle East

the collective push for peace Sea region, in this forum. observed at the Arab Summit.

ceasefire," he stated.

In line with these efforts, His

Bahrain's foreign minister em-He urged progress, referenc- barking on a global diplomatic ing Article Five of the agreement tour to advance this peace in-

SPEAKERS

Operation Prosperity Guardian

HH Shaikh Nasser responded Responding to questions to a question regarding Bahabout Saudi Arabia's normali- rain's active participation in national identity. As a nation, sation process with Israel amid Operation Prosperity Guardian the ongoing conflict in Gaza, (OPG), a key initiative aimed at next week or tomorrow plans. HH Shaikh Nasser underscored resolving conflicts in the Red

He highlighted Bahrain's role "Our stance is clear; it's a in OPG, emphasising that the Forum wrapped up yesterday hensive security integration, and two-state solution, but we have kingdom's involvement is not moreover, it has the prosperity to proceed step by step. I must directed against any single party, of State Antony Blinken, who reiterate the importance of a such as the Houthis, but focused addressed urgent security conon safeguarding global interests. cerns facing both the region and

"Bahrain is a part of OPG not the world.

this agreement, highlighting it Khalifa has announced a forth- Houthis, but we are securing the

Bahrain's Leadership and Vision

In his address, HH Shaikh Nasser also emphasised Bahrain's dedication to national identity and proactive leadership.

"I am very much keen on our we truly believe in action, not Actions are more important," he said.

The three-day Aspen Security with a speech by US Secretary

Celebrating enduring love affair with chess

Bahrain honours World Chess Day amid growing interest and international achievements

Mohammed Darwish TDT | Manama

uly 20th heralds World Chess the centuries-old game.

centenary of the International various factors. Chess Federation (FIDE).

corded history dating back to plains. "Additionally, the success

tracted a modest group of enthugame." siasts who gathered out of sheer curiosity.

Momentum

pate in matches.

Interest grew steadily, thanks Al Arrayed, who volunteered currently ranked sixth on FIDE's to train players, guiding them list of endorsed academies. through chess puzzles and analyses of international games.

tist and former minister Yousif in Manama on July 20th. Al-Shirawi.

Base

The Bahrain Chess Federation lenges remain. was officially established in 1981,

base grew and diversified with participants of various nation-

International Master Mo-July 20th heralds world Chess
Day, a global celebration of hamed Tissir, Chairman of the Bahrain Chess Academy, spoke This year's occasion carries to The Daily Tribune, attributing extra significance, marking the the recent surge in interest to

"The COVID-19 restrictions led In Bahrain, chess has long people to explore more menheld a special place, with a re-tal sports and hobbies," he exof the American miniseries 'The The Bahrain Chess Club, es- Queen's Gambit' has also reigtablished early on, initially at- nited global fascination with the

Growth

Tissir noted the significant growth of chess locally, crediting The activity gained momen- support from HE Shaikh Khalid tum in 1960, prompting the Bah- bin Hamad Al Khalifa and the rain Club's Sports Committee to Ministry of Education's initiainvite the Chess Club to particitives in organising tournaments and training camps.

in part to Bahraini poet Ibrahim established in 2014 by Tissir, is

To mark World Chess Day, the academy will host tournaments He was later joined by scien- and activities at its headquarters

Challenges

Despite the progress, chal-

Tissir pointed out that finanheaded by now Shura Council cial support is still insufficient and contribute to the overall recalling his own achievements period, an international coach Member HE Dr Mohammed Ali to cover the needs for coaches, well-being of individuals and in the 1980s, beginning with his was brought in." Al-Khuzai, as the club's visitor event organisation, and devel- society.



Chess match at Bahrain Chess Club in 1962

oping a strong national team for international competition.

ers improves when they rep-The Bahrain Chess Academy, resent the Kingdom and gain media attention and public support," he remarked, indicating an area needing further enhance-

> numerous benefits of chess, including improved mental focus, cased an archive of photos, problem-solving skills, and the achievements, and the early be- cant period for Bahraini achievedevelopment of discipline and courtesy.

These qualities, he argues,

The Daily Tribune also spoke with Dr Bassem Mohsen, a "The morale of Bahraini play- prominent figure in Bahrain's chess scene since the 1980s.

Weekly classes

train players. There, he show- the Asian level in the late 1980s. resenting Bahrain at the 2002

first championship at the age of

Additionally, the success of the American miniseries 'The Oueen's Gambit' has also reignited global fascination with the game

INTERNATIONAL MASTER MOHAMED TISSIR, CHAIRMAN OF THE BAHRAIN CHESS ACADEMY

The COVID-19

restrictions led people

to explore more mental

sports and hobbies.

Dr Bassem invited the Trib- 14 at the local junior level, folune to the Al Oruba Social Club lowed by championships at the achievements is Maher Ayyad's in Manama, where he and his Arab and Gulf levels, culminat-Tissir also emphasised the brother hold weekly classes to ing in his first championship at

"The eighties were a signifi-Dr Bassem then took us on in the World Chess Olympiad in the country to receive inter-

Dr Bassem recalled Ziad Jan- 2024.

ahi, a star of that period, who became a FIDE Master at nine and later won championships at the Arab world level, including gold in the Arab Universities Championship.

As an emergency consultant, Dr Bassem emphasises the mental benefits of playing chess, viewing it as a break from the pressures of his work.

He advises practising chess as a mental activity that enhances planning and analytical skills, while also stressing the importance of complementing it with physical sports activities.

Preparations

Bahrain is stepping up preparations to organise the 2024 School Games, scheduled to be held next October under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, with participation from 80 countries, including a prominent presence of chess.

Among the Kingdom's victory, winning the Olympic gold medal in chess while rep-World Olympiad in Slovenia.

Additionally, Maliha Al Jamginnings of chess in Bahrain in ments in chess," he said. "This ri, a Bahraini chess referee and era saw Bahrain's participation coach, became the first woman extend beyond the game itself a journey down memory lane, for the first time, and during that national accreditation in chess arbitration, earning the title of International Arbiter (IA) in

Bahrain beats the bug

Bahrain International Airport maintains normal operational capacity despite global technical disruptions



ahrain Airport Company (BAC) confirmed yesterday that all technical systems at Bahrain International Airport (BIA) are fully operational and unaffected by the global technical issue.

BAC reassured passengers that for businesses globally. the disruptions seen, including flight cancellations, delays, and rescheduling, are due to external factors and not related to BIA's technical infrastructure.

In light of the global issue, BAC pany. has been proactively monitoring the situation and collaborating Windows-based systems crashclosely with relevant authorities to implement any necessary precautionary measures.

istry of Foreign affairs issued a measures fail. statement yesterday advising the airport.

Widespread Disruptions

The Daily Tribune reached out to regional Artificial Inteltechnical situation behind this global issue.

spread computer outage has operations. sectors worldwide, including services airlines to the services of the services represented by the services of caused chaos across various airlines, banks, media outlets, and other major companies.

offline, and disruptions to bank- 100,000 passengers. ing services.

displayed the infamous "blue



Bahrain International Airport

significant operational problems

Haji explained that the root cause of this massive disruption appears to be a faulty cybersecurity update from Crowdstrike, a prominent cybersecurity com-

The problematic update led to ing, highlighting the delicate nature of software updates and the potential for widespread Meanwhile, Bahrain's Min- consequences when security

The outage seems to have passengers to check the status originated from a combination of their flights with their respec- of factors. The problematic cytive airlines before arriving at bersecurity update was pushed out to numerous systems, which then encountered critical errors upon attempting to restart or update.

Additionally, issues with Miligence expert and executive, crosoft's cloud services, particu-Jassim Haji, to understand the larly Microsoft 365 and Azure, compounded the problem for many organizations relying on

The issue, which began on United, and American – were erators across three countries disruptions. Thursday, has resulted in flight forced to ground hundreds of experienced problems with their

Over 20 international airports Windows PCs unexpectedly reported significant disruptions. Financial institutions, includ-

screen of death" error, render- ing Visa, Mastercard, and at least ing them unusable and causing six national banks, reported is-



The root cause of this massive disruption appears to be a faulty cybersecurity update from Crowdstrike, a prominent cybersecurity company

JASSIM HAJI, REGIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EXPERT AND EXECUTIVE

tomer transactions.

Media outlets like Sky News Critical infrastructure such over 1 million commuters.

Impact on Middle East

An outage of this magnitude



amidst the crisis underscores the country's pioneering role in digital transformation and its robust integration into the international information and communications community

YAQOOB AL-AWADHI, CEO OF NGN INTEGRATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS

According to Haji, a wide- these platforms for their daily sues affecting millions of cus- region's increasing reliance on digital technologies.

> in the UK, with its 107 million as oil and gas facilities, finan-In the aviation sector, at least monthly viewers, faced broad-cial services, and transportation

global hubs, would likely expe- to the Internet worldwide. rience chaos similar to what was

for the Middle East, given the that depend on digital platforms not experienced the extensive well as for individuals.

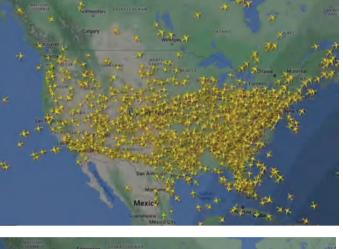


Actions

Severe consequences

Meanwhile, Yaqoob Al-Awadhi, CEO of NGN Integrated Information Systems, confirmed that Bahrain had largely escaped the effectiveness of the country's three major US airlines — Delta, casting difficulties. Train op- networks could face significant the severe consequences of the cybersecurity initiatives and the recent "Crowd Strike" cyberse- advanced measures in place to The region's major airlines curity flaw that has disrupted ensure operational continuity cancellations, TV stations going flights, affecting an estimated information systems, affecting and airports, which serve as systems and devices connected during emergencies.

> seen in other parts of the world. the incident, Bahrain's govern- amination of the flaw to enhance Additionally, government serment services, companies, in-Bahrain's cyber defenses across could have severe implications vices and healthcare systems stitutions, and individuals have public and private sectors, as





Flights over the US before and after the technical glitch

could be severely impacted, po- damage seen in other countries tentially affecting millions of and cities. people across the region.

Microsoft has gradually fixed the problem affecting access to its 365 apps and services.

They worked on rerouting formation and communications impacted traffic to alternate community. systems to alleviate the impact more quickly.

Crowdstrike has identified the rain's proactive cybersecurity issue with their update and has measures and advanced techrolled it back, though affected nical solutions," Al-Awadhi computers still require manual intervention to resolve the issues.

Preparedness

stated.

The "Crowd Strike" defect has affected numerous systems globally, but Bahrain's preparedness has minimised its impact.

Al-Awadhi highlighted that

Bahrain's resilience amidst the

crisis underscores the country's

pioneering role in digital trans-

formation and its robust inte-

gration into the international in-

"This global imbalance reaf-

firms the significance of Bah-

The incident has highlighted

However, Al-Awadhi empha-Despite the global scale of sised the need for a thorough ex-

Teacher's appeal hearing set for sexual assault charges

TDT | Manama

The High Appeals Court nas sexually assumed a school school old student outside of school September 30th to review the grounds. The prosecution, led case of a 27-year-old teacher by the Deputy Public Prosecusentenced to 15 years in pristor for Family and Child Affairs, on for sexually assaulting two investigated the incident. young students. The teach-

the crimes in the initial trial, a shopping mall. The teacher expressing remorse and apolo- admitted to the charges. The gising to the community.

Northern Governorate Police er's confession.

Directorate received a report alleging that the teacher had The High Appeals Court has sexually assaulted a seven-year-

The victim's father reporter was initially convicted by ed that the teacher had inapthe High Criminal Court for propriately touched his son, separate incidents involving and the child confirmed the a 12-year-old and a 7-year-old account, stating that the teacher had touched him in a pri-The defendant confessed to vate area while they were at investigation revealed physical The case came to light af- evidence corroborating the victer the Ministry of Interior's tim's statements and the teach-

'Tough penalties' for Tamkeen fund abusers

Mohammed Darwish TDT | Manama

Tisuse of labour incentives Moffered by the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) will be confronted with the full might of seeks to uphold the principles law under a proposed law set for of social justice enshrined in the debate in the upcoming convening period of Parliament.

Under this legislation, employers who benefit from Tamkeen funds to hire Bahrainis will the Bahraini worker's contract end to such practices.

ma Abdulkarim and support- subsidies to repay those funds keen was established to encour- when their employers have bened by several other legislators, if they dismiss Bahraini em- age the employment of Bahrai- efited from state support.

targets employers who exploit Tamkeen funding to recruit Bahraini nationals, only to dismiss them unjustly afterwards

According to the explanatory memorandum, this proposal constitution, specifically citing Article 13, which mandates the state to ensure fair employment conditions for its citizens.

The memorandum further Labour. be mandated to return these points out that some employers

The new law would require mere financial gain. This initiative, led by MP Bas- companies receiving Tamkeen



MP Basma Abdulkarim

ployees without valid reasons approved by the Ministry of

Lawmakers believe this measfunds if they fail to uphold the have been exploiting the system, ure will deter businesses from condition of not terminating and this initiative aims to put an abusing the government's labour support programme for

nis and strengthen their position in the job market.

Purpose

However, many instances have been reported where employers take the money and then release these workers arbitrarilv. which undermines the entire purpose.

The proposed amendment seeks to bring the Labour Law more in line with constitutional principles of dignified work and social justice.

Proponents are hopeful that the new measures will ensure Bahraini employees receive the Abdulkarim noted that Tam- protection they deserve, even

bined with any other existing academic qualification bonus,

and it would not apply to posi-

tions where a specific academic

qualification is a prerequisite

for employment or promotion.

law is purely procedural.

to the civil service.

Policy

The second article of the draft

The government has high-

lighted that the draft law contra-

dicts the established legislative

policy governing the enactment

of laws and regulations related

It emphasises that lawmak-

ers must adhere to this policy,

ensuring that when regulating

a specific matter, they define

its general framework while

leaving the details to executive

news of bahrain

Voter list displayed for Muharraq by-election

Mohammed Darwish

TDT | Manama

The voter list for the Coun- ■ cil of Representatives election in the first constituency of Muharraq Governorate has been displayed at the Supervisory Committee for Integrity.

This was announced by the Chairman of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission, Chancellor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza and Executive Director of the By-Election for Membership in the Council of Representatives, Advisor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza.

This will take place from next Sunday, 21st July, until Saturday, 27th July.

Hamza stated that, in accordance with the provisions of Decree-Law No. (14) of 2002 concerning the exercise of podate, the executive management of the elections has completed all technical, logistical, for voters to ensure their ID and administrative prepara- card information is up-to-date, tions to welcome voters at the including the expiry date, and Supervisory Committee for to submit registration or corthe Integrity of the Council of rection requests during the Representatives election in the display period before the final first constituency of Muharraq approval stage by the judges, Governorate, located at Al-Bu- making the list unchallengesaiteen Intermediate Girls' able.



Chancellor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza

School, during the announced period from 5pm to 9pm.

Available online

He also pointed out that the voter list will be available online on the official elections website vote.bh, enabling votlitical rights, which mandates ers to check their constituency the display of the voter list for and submit requests for changa week and at least 45 days es and corrections to their inbefore the scheduled election formation without needing to visit the centres in person.

He emphasised the necessity

Research rethink

Government calls for review of bill aiming to boost scientific studies

TDT | Manama

he government has urged the Council of Representatives to reconsider a draft law designed to encourage scientific research, recognise the contributions of national workforce in the public sector, and enhance government performance.

The proposed legislation aims to incentivise government employees with higher qualifications, improve the quality of public service, and provide opportunities for ambitious tal-

It also seeks to replace government-funded scholarships with a new system of academic qualification bonuses.

preamble, consists of two ar-



adding a new clause, numbered known as "Academic Qualifica-(15) bis, to the Civil Service Law tion Bonus." issued by Decree Law No. (48)

This clause would entitle The first article proposes university to receive a bonus

The aim of the proposal, as suggested by the lawmakers

who drafted it, is to encourage scientific research, support

national talents among government sector employees.

and appreciate their efforts through incentive measures

that enhance and develop their work, as well as attract

Bonus amounts

The bonus amounts would The draft law, apart from its every Bahraini employee hold- be as follows: BD20 for a higher ing a recognized academic qual- diploma, BS40 for a master's deification from an accredited gree, and BD60 for a doctorate.

This bonus cannot be com-

regulations and ministerial decisions. This approach allows for flexibility and ease of amendment in response to evolving circumstances that may necessitate

swift legislative intervention. Conversely, laws require more time-consuming procedures for amendments, as mandated by constitutional provisions, the government stated.

and found that the evidence

based on Articles

1/12, 10, 9/45, and

2, 1/51 of the Traffic

Law No. 23 of 2014,

and Article 256 of

the Criminal Proce-

The court further

determined that the

offenses committed

by the defendant

were interconnected

and could not be separat-

ed, thus considering them

Consequently, the

court imposed the max-

as one single crime.

dures Law.

Trust shattered, wallet adjusted

Court orders man to repay BD7,000 to friend in loan dispute

TDT | Manama

local court has ruled in fa-Avour of a plaintiff who filed a lawsuit against a friend for failing to repay a loan within the agreed-upon timeframe.

The court ordered the defendant to repay the full amount of the loan, along with legal interest and legal fees.

According to lawyer Iman Hassan, the plaintiff filed a lawsuit against the defendant, ing the defendant from trav-tiff to file the lawsuit. eling and compelling him to The court, in its ruling, re- valid legal document.

of BD7,000 through a signed discharge." confession of debt.

Despite repeated requests, the defendant failed to repay



seeking an injunction prevent- the loan, prompting the plain- fact that the confession of debt,

repay the BD7,000 loan, plus lied on the principle of proof man, acknowledged his debt debtor is obligated to prove its

Confession of debt

The court also considered the est and legal fees.

signed by the defendant, was a

The court found that the de-10% legal interest from the date outlined in Article (1) of the fendant had not presented any of demand until full repayment. Evidence Law, which states evidence to refute the plaintiff's The plaintiff argued that that "the creditor is obligated claim or to show that he had the defendant, a 40-year-old to prove the obligation, and the repaid any portion of the loan.

Consequently, the court ruled in favor of the plaintiff, ordering the defendant to repay the full BD7,000, along with legal inter-

Man sentenced to one year in prison for injuring friend during car argument

TDT | Manama

Bahraini court has sen-Atenced a 29-year-old man during a heated argument in

The defendant, who is a re-

The incident occurred on

friends, engaged in a verbal al-vened to separate the two tercation while riding in the men. victim's car.

to one year in prison for causing a physical confrontation, with bitten the victim's ear but did a permanent injury to his friend the defendant punching the vic- not intend to cause any permatim in the nose and continuing nent injury. to assault him.

tired individual, was found defendant, after stopping the a 3% permanent disability, was guilty of assault resulting in a car, grabbed him by the neck consistent with a bite wound. 3% permanent disability, even and bit his left ear with force, though he did not intend to holding him for approximately defendant's prior convictions

March 27th when the defend- break free and seek help assault resulting in permanent ant and the victim, who were from passersby who inter-injury.

The defendant admitted to The argument escalated into the assault, stating that he had

A medical report confirmed The victim testified that the that the victim's left ear injury,

The court, considering the for similar offenses, sentenced The victim managed to him to one year in prison for the

Court fines drunk driver BD1,000 for damaging public property

ambitious competencies.

TDT | Manama

court has fined a man centre. ABD1,000 for causing damage to public property while driving under the influence of alcohol.

The court found the defendant guilty of reckless driving and causing damage to a public barrier.

According to the case details, the incident occurred on Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway when the defendant, while driving under the influence of alcohol, failed to exercise due care and attention, resulting in a collision with a metal barrier.

The collision caused damage vealed a high to both the defendant's vehicle level of alcohol and the barrier.

Confession

The court relied on the de- inability to confendant's confession during the trol his vehicle. trial and the results of a blood

alcohol test conducted by the sidered the defendant's con-Ministry of Interior's health fession, deemed it reliable,

presented proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant committed the crimes charged. Sentence The court then sentenced the defendant

in the defendant's blood, confirming his

The court con-

imum penalty for the combined offenses, fining the defendant

flecting Bahrain's commitment the homeland.

Al Asfoor praised the role of all service agencies, expressing gratitude for the voluntary participation of Royal, Kims, Al Hilal, and Bahrain Specialist Hospitals, as well as the Nabdat

These groups provided He stated, "Ashura is our sub-first aid services, addressed He highlighted their crucial limity... Ashura is the noblest of stress-related cases, handled role in maintaining security, morals," underscoring the vir- emergencies, and transferred order, public cleanliness, and tues of the Prophet's honorable some cases to hospitals, demonensuring the safe conduct of family and the embodiment of strating a high level of commu-

Successful Ashura season praised

TDT | Manama

Torthern Governorate Governor Ali bin Shaikh Abdul frameworks. Hussain Al Asfoor commended the departments of funeral halls partnership efforts during the son's success. Ashura season.

Husseini rituals, thereby re- love, sacrifice, and solidarity for nity solidarity.

to the freedom of practicing religious rituals within legal

Governor Al Asfoor emphasised the government's direcand mourning processions for tives aimed at facilitating sertheir exemplary cooperation, vices for funerals and mourning Hayat and Paramedic Academy coordination, and community processions, enhancing the sea-

Stocks slide as global tech outage rattles investors

AFP | London, United Kingdom

tock markets slid yesterday after computer systems crashed worldwide, with sentiment also hit by US election uncertainty and Chinese economic worries.

The London Stock Exchange saw a delayed start to trading due to the glitch -- the result of an update with a bug -- which also affected airports, airlines, trains, banks, shops and even doctors' appointments.

Later, the calculation of London's blue-chip FTSE 100 index was frozen during part of the afternoon, as was the main index for the LSE-owned Milan stock exchange. Trading in stocks was unaffected.

"Risk aversion is taking hold yet again, with news that banks, airports, train companies, TV stations including Sky News, stock exchanges including the LSE, Microsoft's cloud services and cyber security services have all been hit by major online outgrees" said Kathlaan Procks outages," said Kathleen Brooks, research director at XTB.

The crash was caused by an update of CrowdStrike antivirus software on Microsoft's cloud computing service.

Shares in CrowdStrike, which has already issued a software fix, tumbled 14.2% but recovered part of the loss during morning trading.

Microsoft's shares were Stock Exchange share price in Tokyo

Kev figures around 1530 GMT

New York - S&P 500:	▼ 0.6 at 5,512.71
Nasdaq Composite:	▼ 0.6% at 17,760.94
London - FTSE 100:	▼ 0.6% at 8,155.72 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.7% at 7,534.52 (close)
Frankfurt - DAX:	▼ 1.0% at 18,171.93 (close)
EURO STOXX 50:	▼ 0.9% at 4,827.24 (close)
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 0.2% at 40,063.79 (close)
Hang Seng Index:	▼ 2.0% at 17,417.68 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 0.2% at 2,982.31 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.0886 from \$1.0900 on Thursday
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.2914 from \$1.2946
Dollar/yen:	■ at 157.36 yen
Euro/pound:	▲ at 84.29 pence at 84.17 pence
West Texas Intermediate:	▼ 1.3% at \$81.77 per barrel
Brent North Sea Crude:	▼ 1.2% at \$84.11 per barrel



A woman walks past an electronic board displaying the numbers of the Tokyo

down 0.7% approaching midday. ready to begin reducing rates.

Wall Street's main stock indices tried to push higher in morning trading but failed to hold stocks this year -- has taken a

across the board, as did most Asian markets.

off sentiment," said Axel Rudolph, senior market analyst at online trading platform IG.

ed States briefly grounded all investors are apparently mostly planes and airlines elsewhere cancelled or delayed flights, as than pulling money from the systems running Microsoft Windows crashed.

because of a global IT meltdown shows the dark side to technology and that relying on computers does not always make life its following the week-long easier," noted Dan Coatsworth, rotation out of tech and into investment analyst at stockbro- value, than adding to their exker AJ Bell.

Prior to the news, investors were already on edge after a Nation. report said the White House was considering a crackdown on com said: "Market participants firms supplying chip technology to Beijing.

Political worries

They were also nervous after off the table." Donald Trump's call for Taiwan to pay Washington for help defending itself against China.

recent days to suggest they are health.

However, the tech sector -- which has led the surge in hefty hit after the report of the European shares closed lower White House's warning over supplying China and Trump's remarks about Taiwan, home to "A global IT outage led to risk some of the world's biggest chip producers.

The tech stock rally has also resulted in excessive valuations, Aviation officials in the Unit- according to many analysts, but shifting into other sectors rather equity market.

But the broadest US stock mar-"The world grinding to a halt ket index, the Russell 2000, also fell sharply on Thursday.

"It appeared that investors were happier taking some profposure," said David Morrison, senior market analyst at Trade

Patrick O'Hare at Briefing. will be watching today's price action closely to see if there is a buy-the-dip inclination or a continued bid to take some money

There is also growing uncertainty over who will run against Trump in November, Markets have been enjoying as calls for President Joe Biden a healthy run-up as Federal Re- to step aside continue to grow serve officials have lined up in owing to questions about his

Massive global IT outage: what we know

AFP | Paris, France

disrupted worldwide on Friday an, told AFP. following a major computer systems outage linked to an update on an antivirus program.

What do we know at this

What caused the outage?

The outage was linked to a faulty update on Windows systems of an IT solution from the American cybersecurity group CrowdStrike.

"CrowdStrike is actively working with customers impacted by a defect found in a single content update for Windows hosts. The issue has been identified, isolated and a fix has been deployed." CEO George Kurtz said in a message on social media platform X.

The update bug was triggered on Thursday from 1900 GMT, according to a Microsoft publication, and many companies



around the world began reporting malfunctions on Friday

"There are a lot of systems that go live at night and have

What happened?

The Crowdstrike security software is called Falcon Sensor and is similar to an antivirus. Its update suddenly prevented the computers

from starting up. "Imagine you have a little ta, United and bracelet that protects you from American Airlines, ground-The problem did not affect mosquitoes, and all of a sud- ed their planes due to "comusers of Mac and Linux systems. den this anti-mosquito bracelet munications issues". starts sending electric shocks through your wrist," Kayssar IT-related disruption on sev-Daher, a cybersecurity expert at GitGuardian, told AFP.

move, you're totally paralysed. host city Paris. That's exactly the situation in CrowdStrike have found themselves", he said.

Kaspersky, the group ignored which begin in a week. "all the processes required to manage the risks of their soft-

updates in the morning," Carole software must always "test the itself in this situation, noted the spread and so is CrowdStrike",

CrowdStrike's shares were down by nearly 17 percent at where in companies that struct housands and thousands of around 1000 GMT on Friday in ture our lives", Winquist added. Windows computers, it will electronic trading before the opening of the New York Stock Exchange.

Who was affected?

outage impacted the airline industry worldwide. Major

US airlines, such as Del-

Air France said it was facing eral of its services, but not at the Charles de Gaulle and Orly "You can't walk, you can't airports serving the Olympics

Britain's largest rail operator as did the London Stock Exchange, Australian and French

"This is one of the rare occasions when security software has been found to be the cause of

The scale of the phenomenon he added.

Microsoft is present "every-

When will things be back to

Fixing the bug is simple: "you have to go into the system and delete a file so that the system can restart", said Daher.

However, all the ex-

perts interviewed agree that this irlines, banks, TV channels Winquist, marketing director of quality of its updates before de- can be explained by the fact that is a manual process that needs to Aand other businesses were IT security company GitGuardi- ploying them" to avoid finding "Windows is extremely wide- be carried out on each affected device.

"For large companies that have IT infrastructures with be very hard to restore", said

There could be "people stranded for several hours, even several days", said Winquist.

However, some companies, such as American Airlines, an-

nounced as early as Friday that they were resumoperations.



Renewable electricity to outstrip coal next year: **IEA**

Paris, France

The amount of electricity produced from renewable sources worldwide is set to surpass output from coalfired plants for the first time in 2025, the International Energy Agency said Friday.

The forecast comes as electricity demand is set to rise four percent this year and next, up from 2.5 percent in 2023.

That would be the highest annual growth since 2007, excepting spikes seen after the global financial crisis that began that year and during the Covid-19 recovery, the Paris-based agency said. Soaring demand reflects "the growing role of electricity in our economies as well as the impacts of severe heatwaves," said Keisuke Sadamori, the IEA's director of energy markets and security.

Hydroelectric, solar, wind and other renewable sources are forecast to provide 35 percent of global supply next year, up from 30 percent in 2023, the agency said.

Solar alone is set to supply half the demand growth through 2025, with wind a further 25 percent.

Coal use is not expected to decline, however, as electricity use soars in China and India in particular, the IEA said.

Heatwaves across India are expected to lift electricity demand in the country by eight percent this year, while China's demand is expected to grow six percent.

European demand is set to climb 1.7 percent. In the United States, where mild weather saw demand decrease last year, electricity use is set to rise three percent this year -- not least as the development of artificial intelligence spurs the creation of massive data centres.

"It's encouraging to see clean energy's share of the electricity mix continuing to rise, but this needs to happen at a much faster rate to meet international energy and climate goals," Sadamori said in a statement.

Sri Lanka scraps plan to sell lossmaking national airline

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has scrapped plans to sell off its indebted national airline detential buyers, the govern-

which systems equipped with also announced it was affected, For Alexander Liskin, from media and the accreditation the cybersecurity company system for the Paris Olympics,

A company that sells security such a huge outage," said Daher.

spite shortlisting three poment's privatisation agency said vesterday.

Colombo called for bids in September to sell SriLankan Airlines, a key IMF demand when granting a bailout loan to the country last year.

Six firms had initially expressed interest in taking a stake in the airline, which owed more than \$2.0 billion at the end of the 2022/2023 financial year.

Chief Sitting Bull

surrenders to US

federal troops

Apollo 11 lunar module carrying Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin lands on the surface of the Moon. Seven hours later Armstrong becomes the

News in brief

♦ Nguyen Phu Trong, Vietnam's most powerful

contemporary leader and architect of the country's largest anti-corruption campaign, died yesterday at the age of 80, state media said. During Trong's 13 years as general secretary of the Communist Party, thousands of people were arrested on corruption charges and a crackdown on dissidents and activists intensified in the one-party state. Trong was president from 2018-21 and served three consecutive terms as general

secretary, the first to do so since the "doi



sewage: Gaza,

moi" era of economic reform began in 1986 The unprecedented feat made him the most powerful leader in decades. Trong's high-profile anti-corruption drive, which analysts say was also linked to political in-fighting, swept through the party, police, armed forces and business.

Britain's new government announced yesterday it has lifted the January funding suspension for the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) and committed to providing £21 million (\$27 million) in new funds. "We are

overturning the suspension of UNRWA funding,"

British foreign minister David Lammy told parliament,



adding that the UN agency was "absolutely central" to providing humanitarian aid to Gaza, which is facing a humanitarian crisis sparked by Israel's war against Hamas. "Humanitarian aid is a moral necessity in the face of such a catastrophe and it is aid agencies who ensure UK support reaches civilians on the ground", Lammy added. UNRWA coordinates almost all of the aid distribution in Gaza, but has been struggling with a lack of finances after international donors cut off funding n January due to Israeli

claims that some UNRWA staff were involved in Hamas's October 7 attack that detected in Gaza triggered the war.

◆ The poliovirus has been found in sewage Israel health samples from war-torn Gaza, the health ministries in the Hamas-run territory and Israel said Thursday. The Gaza ministry said thousands of people living in crowded displaced persons' camps were now at risk of contracting the highly infectious disease that can cause deformities and paralysis. The Gaza ministry said tests carried out with the UN children's agency, UNICEF, "showed the presence of poliovirus" in



CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Billionaire Ken Griffin revealed as \$44.6m dinosaur fossil buver



The Stegosaurus specimen nicknamed Apex is on display at Sotheby's in New

AFP | New York, United States

The buyer who spent a refund chief has a net worth of a stegosaurus fossil at auction according to Forbes. was Ken Griffin, CEO of the He intends to explore loan-Citadel hedge fund, according ing the specimen to a US into a person familiar with the stitution, the source told AFP. acquisition.

The skeleton, nicknamed orated with museums in the

cheering as the price jumped. \$16.5 million donation.

"Apex was born in America His latest purchase measthat Griffin was the buyer. total of 319.

A regular donor to the Republican party, the hedge **⊥** cord \$44.6 million to buy approximately \$37.8 billion.

The executive has collab-

Apex, is estimated to be 150 past. In 2021, he paid \$43.2 million years old and is the million for a first-edition copy largest stegosaurus ever found, of the US Constitution, later according to the auction house. loaning it to the Crystal Bridg-Griffin placed his bid over es Museum of American Art in the phone to beat six others in Arkansas. He also helped fund a 15-minute-long bidding war a dinosaur exhibit at Chicago's on Wednesday, a live audience Field Museum in 2018 with a

and is going to stay in Amer- ures 11 feet (3.3 meters) tall ica," he said after the sale, and 27 feet (8.2 meters) long, according to The Wall Street and is near complete, with 254 Journal, which broke the news bones out of an approximate

World Cup winner Boateng let off with warning in assault retrial

AFP | Munich, Germany

ermany's World Cup Winner Jerome Boateng yesterday won a legal odyssey against his former girlfriend who had accused him of assault, receiving only a warning from a Munich court in a

Judge Susanne Hemmerich said there was not enough evidence to back the accusation the 2014 World Cup winner Former Bayern Munich's German was a "notorious woman beat- defender Jerome Boateng

She imposed a warning and for a moment during a heated a conditional fine of 200,000 argument. euros (\$217,709) which is only The alleged incident happayable in case of any new conpened in the weeks after the

Boateng's former partner when Boateng was in the and mother of his twins had Germany squad which was accused him of assaulting and knocked out in the group stage. insulting her during a Caribbe- Boateng's former partner an holiday in 2018.

Boateng, now 35, was con- against my eye with his thumb, victed in 2021 and fined 1.8 bit me in the head and pulled million euros in an initial trial, me to the floor by my hair". and his appeal to overturn the She said he repeatedly inruling then was unsuccessful. sulted her and hit her on But in a third legal try, he the back with "one strong

won a bid for a retrial as the punch and several light court agreed with Boateng's punches". legal team that one of its chal- Defender Boateng played for lenges for bias had been un- German giants Bayern Munich fairly decided.

During the initial trial, France's Lyon in 2021. Boateng's former partner told He joined Austrian club the court he had punched her, LASK earlier this month on a causing her to lose her breath two-year deal.

Trump triumphs in Milwaukee

Trump bathed in adulation an iconic political moment and

as he accepted the Republi- had a unified convention that

can presidential nomination in elevated him to sainthood,"

Milwaukee on Thursday after Sabato told AFP. "Biden could

four days of a convention un- barely walk up and down the

derlining his total domination steps of Air Force One -- filmed

would recast himself as a great "More senior members of his

unifier in the wake of surviving own party turned on him and

an assassination attempt last are trying to push him out of

weekend quickly fizzled once his reelection campaign. And if

Trump began with lofty lose badly to the worst presi-

words about Americans being dent in American history."

cratic Party for him to step

Republican presidential candidate

Battling a Covid infection belonged to Corey Comperatore,

Biden will again likely be out Trump survived an assassination

in his Delaware beach home, who was fatally shot at a rally where

as Biden crisis deepens

America is witnessing a mate J.D. vance split-screen moment for ids, Michigan.

House bid as his Democrat- Larry Sabato.

ic rival Joe Biden's campaign

Campaign promises that he try."

"bound together by a single fate and a shared destiny." But

for more than an hour he then

veered into a meandering lit-

any of false accusations and

dark exaggerations painting

the country as crippled by

violence and reeling from an

Still, if Trump missed an

opportunity to reach out to

the wider country, he accom-

plished his main mission of

demonstrating absolute con-

trol over the Republican Party

Meanwhile, an increasing-

ly isolated Biden watched

from the sidelines, while calls

mounted within his Demo-

aside for a younger candidate

of public view Saturday, while attempt

immigrant "invasion."

and firing up his base.

in November.

teeters on a cliff edge.

he took the stage.



2018 World Cup in Russia,

for a decade before signing for

"Trump survived an assassi-

nation attempt, turned it into

and shown to the entire coun-

he doesn't go, he'll very likely

COMPERTORE

Former US President and 2024

Donald Trump stands next to a

helmet and firefighter's jacket that

"The arrest of Amin Ul-Haq is described how he "pressed a major victory in the ongoing efforts to combat terrorism in Pakistan and worldwide," a statement from Punjab's Counter Terrorism Department said. He was listed by the United

country

States, the European Union and

important installations" in the



activities" and seeking to "target Amin Ul-Haq was listed by the US, EU, and UN as an associate of Al-Qaeda and Bin

Pakistan arrests 'close

associate' of Bin Laden



Osama bin Laden was a huge fan of Whitney Houston. He allegedly had plans to make her one of his wives and was infatuated with her music, even though it was against his strict beliefs. This curious detail about his personal life was revealed by Sudanese poet and novelist Kola Boof, who claimed to have been held captive by bin Laden in the 1990s.

the United Nations as an asso- en, the head of Punjab's coun- Akram Gonadal, said in a press shelter on Afghan soil while preciate of Al-Qaeda and Bin Lad- ter-terrorism department, Usman conference. "He resurfaced after paring assaults on Pakistan.

the withdrawal of western NATO forces (from Afghanistan). He visited Afghanistan in August and he began his efforts to reorganise Al-Qaeda."

US troops backed by NATO toppled the Taliban's first regime in 2001 for refusing to hand over Al-Qaeda militants behind the 9/11 attacks

Bin Laden was later discovered living in Pakistan and shot dead in a nighttime US operation in 2011.

The Taliban took back power in Afghanistan in 2021, kicking out the foreign-backed government after two decades of fighting US and NATO troops.

Militancy has since surged along Pakistan's border, with Islamabad accusing Kabul's rulers of failing to root out groups taking

Killing of Gaza girl may be Israeli war crime: UN experts

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

AFP | Milwaukee, United States Trump holds his first rally The death of Hind Rajab, a Palestinian girl whose final with newly minted running merica is witnessing a mate J.D. Vance in Grand Rapappeals for help moved public the ages: a wounded but trium
The contrast could not be opinion worldwide, may constiphant Donald Trump uniting more brutal, said University tute a war crime, UN experts said Republicans behind his White of Virginia politics professor yesterday.

"The killing of five-year old Hind Rajab, her family and two paramedics may amount to a war crime," the experts said in a press statement.

Israeli claims its troops were not in the area at the time were "unacceptable", they added.

The Israeli embassy in Geneva rescue workers sent to find her. said in a statement that its own army was investigating.



Hind's body was recovered along with those of relatives and two Red Crescent

The UN experts said "the ab- accountability" five months after Council, do not speak in its sence of proper investigation and the facts "is deeply troubling and name.

may in itself amount to a violation of the right to life".

They also referred to "compelling evidence" on where the family's car was in relation to an Israeli tank "and how it was shot at from very close range using a type of weapon that can only be attributed to the Israeli forces"

"Audio recordings of calls between Hind and emergency services suggest that she was the only survivor in the car before she was also killed," the experts added.

The UN experts, while mandated by the Human Rights

40 migrants dead after boat catches fire off Haiti

AFP | Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

At least 40 migrants have died and several others were injured after a boat they were traveling in caught fire off the northern coast of Haiti, a UN agency said yesterday.

The UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported that the Haitian Coast Guard rescued 41 survivors, 11 of whom were hospitalized, including some for

But "at least 40 migrants have died, and several others were injured," the IOM

The boat, carrying more than 80 people, had left the port of Labadee on Wednesday en route to the Turks and Caicos Islands, a 150mile (240-kilometer) journey, the IOM reported, citing Haiti's National Office for

There was no immediate information on the cause of

Migration from the poverty-stricken Caribbean country has been surging for months, as thousands of people flee a spike in violence from criminal gangs that now control wide "Haiti's socioeconomic

situation is in agony," said Gregoire Goodstein, IOM's chief of mission in the countrv. "The extreme violence over the past months has only brought Haitians to resort to desperate measures even more.

Zelensky makes 'historic' address to UK Cabinet

AFP | Gaza Strip, Palestinian

Israel lawmakers

Palestinian state

vote to oppose

The Israeli parliament ▲ voted Thursday to oppose a Palestinian state as an "existential threat", a day after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told lawmakers the army had Hamas "by the throat". The vote, which drew

swift criticism from the Palestinian leadership and the international community, is largely symbolic but laid down a marker ahead of a planned address by Netanyahu to the US Congress next Wednesday.

The veteran hawk has shown little interest in efforts by the US administration to broker a truce and hostage release deal for Gaza, saying that "absolute victory" over Hamas is within reach and vowing to ramp up the military pressure. But on a visit to Israeli

troops in Gaza Thursday. he rejected criticism from hostages' families that his policies are obstructing an agreement to bring their loved ones home, insisting that pressure on Hamas was "not delaying the deal, it is advancing it". in February 2022.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky (C), receives a standing ovation from Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer (centre L) Cabinet Ministers as

European leaders to remain

trademark army fatigues, and

range capability".

Khan Yunis Brigade.

"well and directly overseeing"

But Hagari said the two Ha-

"hiding what happened" to

instead of being at least a year

away from having the breakout

Colorado, specifying that the

ployer.

Gershkovich

was sentenced af-

Israel army says signs increasing that

The Israeli army said yester- A Hamas official, without

day there are mounting in-providing proof, has said Deif,

dications that a strike in Gaza commander of the Islamist

killed Hamas military chief group's military wing, was

"There are increasing signs operations despite the strike.

nation of (Mohammed) Deif," mas leaders "were sitting next

Israeli military spokesman to each other at the time of the

Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari strike". He accused Hamas of

July 13 strike killed Rafa Sala- "We will find out, confirm

ma, commander of Hamas's and reveal it," Hagari said.

Iran capable of producing fissile material in

Tran is capable of producing capacity of producing fissile

⊥ fissile material for use in a material for a nuclear weapon,

nuclear weapon within just is now probably one or two

"one or two weeks," US Secre- weeks away from doing that,"

tary of State Antony Blinken Blinken said at a forum in

"Iran, because the nuclear country still had not developed

he arrives to address an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet at 10 Downing Street in central London

AFP | London, United Kingdom

T Tkrainian President Volod- here," he told Starmer, who led U vmvr Zelensky on Friday Labour to victory in elections received a standing ovation two weeks ago and has reaffrom senior ministers as he firmed UK support for Ukraine became the first foreign leader "for as along as it takes". to address the British cabinet Zelensky on Thursday urged in person since 1997.

Zelensky gave members of united against Russian aggresthe new Labour government a sion, as he seeks more military rundown of the latest situation help, including much-needin Ukraine after a red-carpet ed air firepower to push back welcome at Prime Minister Russian troops. Keir Starmer's 10 Downing At Cabinet, dressed in his Street residence and office.

He and Starmer had a one- flanked on either side by Briton-one meeting beforehand, in ain's Union flag and the bluewhich he thanked Britain for and-yellow flag of Ukraine, he its sustained backing for Kyiv renewed his call for help in since Russian forces invaded boosting his country's "long-

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

that imply a successful elimi-

Israel has already said the Deif.

'one or two weeks': Blinken

agreement was thrown out, a weapon.

told a press conference.

AFP | Washington, United

Mohammed Deif.

Hamas chief Deif killed

We can't build a fu-ture for our grandchildren with a system for our grandparents. I spoke with @VeeKativhu "Thank for the invitation, about the upcoming for the privilege, for me to be

> for young people. @antonioguterres

Summit of the Future

and why it's so important



Tt has been 30 years Lsince the Iran-backed Hizballah bombing of the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina in Buenos Aires. Today, we remember those lost and continue to condemn all manifestations of anti-

@SecBlinken



the Vietnamese leader General Secretary H.E. Nguyen Phu Trong. We pay our respects to the departed leader. Extend our deepest condolences and stand in solidarity with the people and leadership of Vietnam in this

hour of grief. @narendramodi



ongratulations to Eu-

Cropean Commission President @Vonderleyen on her re-election. I look forward to working with you, European Council President Costa, and Eu ropean Parliament President Metsola as we build on our strong partnership and address shared global challenges.

@POTUS

need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

Bangladesh protesters storm prison as police fail to quell unrest

D angladeshi student protesters **D**stormed a prison and freed hundreds of inmates yesterday as police struggled to quell unrest, with huge rallies in the capital Dhaka despite a police ban on public gatherings.

This week's unrest has killed at least 75 people, according to an AFP count of victims reported by hospitals, and emerged as a momentous challenge to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's autocratic government after 15 years in office.

Student protesters stormed a Anti-quota protesters clash with the police in Dhaka

jail in the central Bangladeshi district of Narsingdi and freed the ity. "I don't know the number of drastic step of banning all public facility's inmates before setting inmates, but it would be in the gatherings for the day -- a first nation of Sheikh Hasina. The govthe facility on fire, a police officer hundreds," he added. told AFP on condition of anonym- Dhaka's police force took the fort to forestall another day of killings."

essions and public gatherings in Dhaka today," police chief Habibur Rahman told AFP, adding the move was necessary to ensure "public safety". That did not stop another round

of confrontations between police and protesters around the sprawling megacity of 20 million people, despite an internet shutlown aimed at frustrating the organisation of rallies. "Our protest will continue," Sar-

war Tushar, who joined a march in the capital and sustained minor injuries when it was violently dispersed by police, told AFP. "We want the immediate resig-

since protests began -- in an ef- ernment is responsible for the

"We've banned all rallies, pro-Migration. the fire.

swaths of territory.

Russia jails US reporter Gershkovich for 16 vears AFP | Yekaterinments and his em-

burg, Russia

U^{S reporter Evan} Gershkovich was sentenced by a Russian court yesprison for "espio-

a "sham" by Western govern- trip in March 2023.

ter just three court sessions in a secre-

terday to 16 years US journalist Evan tive closed-door trial in the Urals City of Yekaterinnage", a verdict slammed as burg, the city where he was "despicable", "disgraceful" and arrested while on a reporting

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and

Millie Bobby Brown and Jake Bongiovi 'planning second star-studded wedding'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Millie Bobby Brown and Jake Bongiovi are planning a second wedding ceremony - and Michelle Keegan and Mark Wright are on the guest

The happy couple got married in a low-key affair in May, with Jake's father, superstar singer Jon Bon Jovi, later confirming it was a "small family wedding".

But it's now been revealed the 'Stranger Things' star, 20, and the Millie Bobby Brown and Jake Bongiovi



22-year-old model and actor are set to - who Millie has been pals with since join Millie and Jake. go "all out" for a "huge" star-studded nuptials in September.

A source told The Sun newspaper's meaningful and totally romantic, with going to be held in America. just their family there, the first time

"But they are going all out for their second. It is going to be huge."

Millie's 'Stranger Things' co-stars cially close to. and 'Fool Me Once' actress Michelle and her reality TV star husband Mark be flying out to the US in September to Millie.

2017 - are expected to attend the USbased bash.

The source added: "People have al-Bizarre column: "Millie and Jake want- ready started booking their flights for again." ed a very quiet -wedding - something the big day which, like their first, is

> "Millie and Jake have a long list of Things' co-stars as well as Mark Wright also had two weddings. and Michelle Keegan, who she is espe-

"It will be the whole hog, too, with Millie walking down the aisle and saying her vows to Jake all over

It wouldn't be the first time a showbiz power couple have married twice.

Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck have celebrity pals, including her 'Stranger done so, and Justin and Hailey Bieber

In May, 'It's My Life' hitmaker Bon Jovi revealed his son was as "They have all made the cut and will "happy as can be" after marrying

Ariana Grande slams double standards over changing voice

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

riana Grande has hit out at the double standards she's faced after being criticised for her changing voice.

The 'Thank U, Next' hitmaker was mocked last month when she spoke in a lower octave before switching back to a higher pitch during an appearance on Penn Badgley's 'Podcrushed', but she's insisted a man wouldn't face such ridicule if they had gone method for a role.

Speaking about her role as Glinda in 'Wicked', she told Evan Ross Katz on his 'Shut Up Evan' podcast: "I did just character every single day and training my voice to do differ-

ent things. 'The voice is in the body, it's an instrument, and muscle memory is a real thing. That's a normal thing for people who, it's their job to transform.

'You see male actors - sure, people make jokes here and there as well about everybody who experiences something like this — but it's always after the fact that thev're like, 'Oh, wow, h o w dedicated to his craft.

What an



The voice is in the body, it's an instrument, and muscle memory is a real thing. That's a normal thing for people who, it's their job to transform

ARIANA GRANDE

amazing transformation! He's a brilliant performer!'

"And God forbid I sneeze like Glinda.

"I had a job to do. People spend a long time playing a change and habits happen. It's a strange thing to be under such a microscope."

Evan, who has been friends with Ariana for several years, agreed and told listeners "both" tones are her real voice and it all depends on circumstances such as how intense her vocal regime is and what she is working on as to how she sounds at the time.

And the presenter argued people don't understand what goes into being a professional singer or have a sense of "vocal literacy". Ariana agreed: "[It's] a full-time commitmentand it's a lifestyle; it's not something you can f** around with." Ariana Grande

Johnny Depp 'strikes up bromance with Will Smith'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Johnny Depp is said to have struck up a bromance with Will Smith.

The 'Pirates of the Caribbean' actor, 61, and 'Bad Boys' star, 55, are said to be long-time "fans of each other" - with the pair apparently bonding over their passion for music and gigs.

A source told People they have a friendship that goes back "years" after they were seen at a concert to honour Andrea Bocelli following a yacht outing together in Italy.

The insider added: "(Johnny and Will) have known each other for years (and are) fans of each other.

"They see each other from time to time — both have busy traveling schedules, and Depp spends most of his time in the

of France at the same time, as most of Europe (is) at the mo-



Johnny Depp, Egyptian singer Ahmed Saad and Will Smith

ment... they both share a passion stagram on Tuesday showed for music outside of their acting Ahmed, 42, smiling while stand-

The A-listers recently enjoyed

A photo uploaded to In- @willsmith @ismailmansour1 juez Con Tu Amor'.

ing between the two stars.

He captioned the image: downtime together during their "Great feeling to gather with "The two men are in the south trip to Europe, on a yacht with friends Thanks my friends for Egyptian singer Ahmed Saad. the lovely visit @johnnydepp for a performance of 'En Aran-

#AhmedSaad #jonnydepp #willsmith."

A source added to People Johnny and Will were "en route to the Andrea Bocelli concert they're both performing at" when the snap was taken.

The pair were also at last year's opening night of the Red Sea International Film Festival in Saudi Arabia, where they hugged and were seen chatting.

They were among several celebrities who helped celebrate Andrea Bocelli's career as part of the singer's three-day concert event at the Teatro del Silenzio in Lajatico, Italy, on Wednesday.

Will's contribution to the event was a spoken-word rendition of the 1940s show tune 'You'll Never Walk Alone' while backed by a piano.

Johnny also lent a hand backing Andrea, 65, on guitar

Bob Odenkirk reflects on losing out on Office lead role to Steve Carrell

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

 ${\bf B}^{
m ob\; Odenkirk\; believes\; being}$ "oddly earnest" led to him losing out on the lead role in 'The Office'.

The 'Better Call Saul' star was one of the frontrunners to play Michael Scott in the US reboot of the sitcom - which ran from has no hard feelings because Office']."

he thinks he was the "better"

He told hosts Jenna Fischer and Angela Kinsey - who played Pam Beesly and Angela Martin respectively - on the 'Office Ladies' podcast: "I am, in a strange way, a very earnest person for a person in comedy.

"I am oddly earnest, and ... it's 2005 to 2013 - but the part ul- one of the reasons I think Steve timately went to Steve Carell, Carell is a better, you know – is though the 61-year-old actor the one who got the role [in 'The

Across



Bob Odenkirk

And the former 'Saturday Night Live' writer admitted that wasn't the only time he's lost out on a role to Steve, but he ultimately believes his skillset is better suited to drama.

He added: "There were other parts that I think I was up for that Steve got, and it's because he's better at being genuinely

"I think I bring with me a little bit too much earnest seriousness, and it's just kinda there.

SUDOKU



Yesterday's solution

resterady s solution										
6	3	1	8	7	4	5	2	9		
7	8	2	9	5	1	4	3	6		
5	4	9	3	2	6	7	8	1		
9	5	4	2	3	7	6	1	8		
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8	6	7	1	4	9	2	5	3		
3	7	8	4	6	2	1	9	5		
2	1	6	5	9	3	8	7	4		
4	9	5	7	1	8	3	6	2		

How to play Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all

of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

1- Snatch; 5- Catchall abbr.; 9- Career golfers; 13- Traditional passed-down knowledge; 14-Come up; 15- Ethereal: Prefix; 16- Mormon state of western USA; 17- Attire; 18- New Orleans music; 19- Regard; 21- DDE opponent; 22- Shampoo additive; 23- Sale condition; 25- Swarm 27- Golf hazard; 31- Tidy up; 35- General __ chicken; 36- Somewhat; 38- Composition; 39-Proverb ending?; 40- Unit of volume; 42- City in GA; 43- Part of TNT; 46- French 101 verb; 47- Yes __?; 48- Agreement; 50- Put away; 52- Red sign; 54- "The Clan of the Cave Bear" author; 55-Put __ on (limit); 58-Never, to Nietzsche; 60-In the direction of; 64-Rani's wrap; 65-"Inferno" writer; 67-Robt. __; 68-Physical suffering; 69-Finished, terminated; 70-Pool division; 71-Hang-up; 72-Ascended, flower; 73-Falsehoods;

1- Adhesive; 2- Decomposes; 3- Smell __; 4- Decapitates; 5- Make a mistake; 6- __yellow ribbon...; 7- It's a plus; 8- Reduce; 9- Nightclothes; 10- Authentic; 11- Rice-shaped pasta; 12-Dimensions; 14- Commander in chief of a fleet; 20- Body shop fig;; 24- French composer Erik; 26- A really big shoe?; 27- Tour of duty; 28- Light __; 29- Nick of "Lorenzo's Oil"; 30- Singer LaBelle; 32- Former Russian rulers; 33- Jack Sprat could __ fat; 34- Thermoplastic yarn; 37- Skin layer; 41- Putative; 44- Grating; 45- Slugger Mel; 47- Drilling result; 49- Over there; 51- Rock's __ Speedwagon; 53- Device with 88 keys; 55- Dangerous snakes; 56- James of "The Godfather"; 57- Operatic solo; 59- Breaks off; 61- Jai __; 62- Russo of "Get Shorty"; 63- Poor grades: 66- Kicker's aid:



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BLUE LINE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUN-TANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32321283 or bluelinetrading65@gmail.com

WARTH VEGETABLES & FRUITS CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39666813 or WARETH.ALNOOR17@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEAN-ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@ dreamgroup.bh

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

AAB FOOD STUFF has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39826949 or ASKARE2004@HOTMAIL.COM

Smart line Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER(-CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33018191 or STARSPEED_20@HOTMAIL.COM

AMBALI CLEANING AND CONTRACT-ING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39375444 or AM-BALICLEANING@GMAIL.COM

Abu Abdulla Bakery has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GEN-ERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39800971 or SO-MAYAAHMED366@GMAIL.COM

AHLI UNITED BANK B.S.C.(C) has a vacancy for the occupation of MAN-AGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17585778 or girish.menon@ahliunited.com

ALZUBARA CARPENTRY EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17874212 or alzubara.carpentry@hotmail.com

MARBIAI CONNSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36550065 or AL.HIKMACAR-PENTRY75@YAHOO.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEAN-ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@ dreamgroup.bh

ALSAYAH GATE FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33140333 or AMMAR_ALBINALI@ HOTMAIL.COM

LAYALI AL-FISHAWY CAFE AND RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39869229 or TOPSRESTOBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

AL HAFEED INTERIOR & CARPENTRY CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17331203 or alhafeedinterior@gmail.com

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GOLDEN SAND CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORK-ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34318217 or BLOSOMFASH-ION@GMAIL.COM

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AL AMEEN GATE LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORK-ER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33354664 or MOHAMEDSALEMMOOSA@GMAIL. COM

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SAMA SAFETY AND SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17684492 or SAMA@SAMASAFETY.NET

POULLAIDES CONSTRUCTION COM-PANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39093137 or PCCBAH@BATELCO. COM.BH

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

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Busco Contracting Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33334107 or FAIS-ALKHANSADIQ@GMAIL.COM

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MATROOK SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES-MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36117747 or AZIZMA-TROOK@HOTMAIL.COM

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RIDER TAILORING SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34570702 or info@riderbh.com

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cants can contact 17715021 or hel-lo@wooholdings.com

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FOOD WORLD W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTION-IST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37381111 or FOODWORLD. WLL@GMAIL.COM

AL SAI ALUMINIUM WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39966255 or Younis.shakeri@gmail.com

Vega International Service WII has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666996 or M.K.ALMUSALAM@ GMAIL.COM

Abu Majid Laundry 2 has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/ PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35107272 or ABORASHID689@GMAIL.COM

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HRDCO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of THERAPIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13303353 or AHUBAIL@BAREEQ. COM.BH

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LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or CAREERS@BH.LULUMEA.COM

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LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING &

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the occupation of STORE MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39446162 or MOENOOR9@GMAIL.COM

BARBAR BAKERY1 has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-

SALES), suitably qualified applicants

can contact 39377216 or ABDULLA.
RASHED207@GMAIL.COM
DIZOD FASHION BOUTIQUE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY
has a vacancy for the occupation of
SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36002344 or

ELAUADAMCV@GMAIL.COM

CLEAN LOOK CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORK-ER-CLEANING-(HAND & CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33857611 or WIN.STAAR10@GMAIL.COM

SUPER CROWN IT SOLUTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORK-ER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34328775 or WIN. STAAR10@GMAIL.COM

RAJUS AIRCONDITION WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-COIL WIND-ER-(HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33269604 or RAJKUMAR123ASMS@GMAIL.COM

SAROJINI REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENER-AL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33689001 or SAROJINIDE-SIGNE@GMAIL.COM

HIGHWAY BREAK RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002790 or SALMAN_BAHRAIN@YAHOO.COM

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Norris tops Hungarian GP practice

Lando Norris sets pace ahead of Max Verstappen in second free practice session amid close competition

Lando Norris clocks fastest time of 1:17.788

Verstappen second. 0.243 seconds behind

Leclerc suffers minor crash, causing brief red flag

AFP | Budapest

cLaren's Lando Norris outpaced world champion Max Verstappen of Red Bull to top the times in yesterday's second free practice session, run in hot conditions, seconds in a tightly-contested ahead of this weekend's Hungarian Grand Prix.



McLaren's British driver Lando Norris (R) drives during the first practice

The 24-year-old Briton, who rari, one-tenth down, ahead of ian victory, was seventh ahead Four, ran over the kerbs and hit trails the three-time champion an improving Sergio Perez in the of RB's Daniel Ricciardo, Alex the barriers. by 84 points in the drivers' title second Red Bull, George Russell Albon of Williams and two-time race, clocked a best time of one of Mercedes and Haas's Kevin champion Fernando Alonso of ported, having damaged his car minute and 17.788 seconds to Magnussen, who is set to leave Aston Martin. beat his friend and rival by 0.243 the team at the end of the year.

Hamilton, hoping to claim a re-Carlos Sainz was third for Fer- cord-increasing ninth Hungar- control and ran wide at Turn

Eight different teams were

represented in the top ten, signalling how close the field has become -- only Red Bull and Mercedes providing both drivers -- and how a tight race is in prospect for Sunday.

The session began with Nico Hulkenberg leading the way in searing heat amid temperatures of 32 celsius (air) and 60 (track), setting the first lap time on mediums before being usurped by Perez in 1:18.568, the Mexican at last finding some pace.

On his first run, Verstappen complained that his brakes were "not working, they're not biting". He was fifth and then went second behind his Red Bull team-mate.

After a promising first ses-Seven-time champion Lewis sion, Ferrari's fortunes dipped when the luckless Leclerc lost

> "I touched the wall," he reand the advertising hoardings.

BETTER YOU

The session highlighted how close the field has become, with eight different teams represented in the top ten. Only Red Bull and Mercedes had both their drivers in the top positions, signaling a potentially tight race on Sunday

for 14 minutes before resuming. For Mercedes, it was also a troubled day following technology problems arising from partner Crowdstrike's global Friday performance since Chi-IT glitch which had resulted na," said Red Bull team chief The session was red-flagged in them working with blank Christian Horner.

screens on the pit-wall during opening practice.

Russell and Hamilton were first out on the re-start with the leading contenders all taking softs for some qualifying simu-

Russell clocked 1:18.294 to go top ahead of Hamilton by 0.069 seconds before Norris took over in 1:17.788, four-tenths clear of Sainz who had set the pace for Ferrari in the opening session until Verstappen slotted into

After this flurry of action, most returned to mediums for race preparation while Piastri returned to McLaren for repairs to the floor of his car, his second lengthy absence of the day.

In this period, Perez showed he was back on form in race trim, making it important for him to recover some pure pace in qualifying on Saturday.

"I think this was Sergio's best

FA identify 'number of candidates' to replace Southgate as England boss

FA has identified "number of candidates" but is open to applications

FA looking for a manager to "win a major tournament"

AFP | London

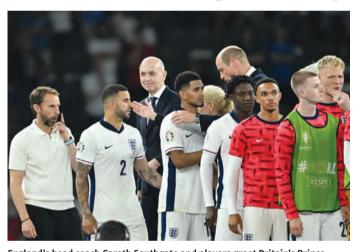
The Footban Associate have identified a "number The Football Association of candidates" to replace Gareth
England's head coach Gareth Southgate and players greet Britain's Prince England manager capable of

land's Euro 2024 final defeat next England manager. against Spain.

them linked with a host of can-

vourites are Newcastle manager coach Ange Postecoglou.

However, the FA insist the



Southgate as they search for an William after the UEFA Euro 2024 final match

The end of Southgate's eight- stated: "Our succession plan- cessor. year reign has forced the FA into ning process has already iden. The FA said they are look- delivering results in the Premier

Eddie Howe, former Chelsea dits for restoring England's in the world". bosses Graham Potter, Mau-tarnished reputation, he failed ricio Pochettino and Thomas to end the country's wait for a provide "inspiring leadership" Tuchel, as well as Tottenham first major trophy since the 1966 to the FA's technical team and for an "exceptional leader", World Cup.

"winning a major tournament". meets the criteria it published and a 2018 World Cup semi-fi-Southgate resigned on Tues- yesterday in a job profile detail- nal loss, finally winning a major day in the aftermath of Eng- ing the qualities required in the prize with a squad packed with world-class talent is clearly the The text of the role profile top priority for Southgate's suc-

a selection search that has seen tified a number of candidates; ing for a manager able to "lead League and/or leading internain addition to this we are com- and develop the England sen- tional competitions". mitted to open recruitment pro- ior men's team to win a major Among the bookmakers' fa- cesses in the football industry." tournament and be consistently criticism Southgate endured While Southgate earned plau-ranked as one of the top teams

The right person would also develop and maintain strong re-After successive European lationships with clubs who em- able in a very high-profile role process is open to anyone who Championship final defeats ploy English-qualified players. with intense public scrutiny".



includes an email address for applications, potentially opening the way for fans to submit offers alongside genuine candidates, highlighting the high-profile nature of the position

The successful candidate would need to hold a UEFA Pro Licence, possess "significant experience" of English football and have "a strong track record

In a pointed reference to the during his time in a role once dubbed the "impossible job" by then England boss Graham Taylor, the FA highlighted the need "highly resilient" and "comfort-

Euros champion Morata signs for AC Milan

AFP | Milan

Alvaro Morata signed for "Morata has signed with the Rossoneri until 30 June 2028, days after winning Euro 2024. a statement.

The 31-year-old has signed Italian media report that Mia four-year deal with Milan lan paid Morata's 13-million who brought him in to replace euro (\$14.2M) release clause departed Olivier Giroud fol- and that the player will earn

ternational's transfer to Los Angeles FC.

"Morata has signed with the Madrid yesterday, the Spain with an option to extend for an striker returning to Serie A additional year," said Milan in

lowing the former France in- around 4.5M euros per season.

Japan gymnast Miyata pulled from Olympics for smoking, drinking

AFP | Paris

Teenage gymnast Shoko Miyata has been pulled from Japan's team for the Paris Olympics after being caught smoking and drinking, officials said yesterday.

The 19-year-old, a world Shoko Miyata bronze medallist and captain camp in Monaco and admitted she had violated their code of conduct.

after discussions on all sides, it setting in Tokyo some time at has been decided that she will the end of June or beginning withdraw from the Olympics," of July.



of Japan's women's gymnas- Japan Gymnastics Association tics team for the Games, was (JGA) secretary general Kenji sent home from their training Nishimura told reporters in Tokvo.

Nishimura said the association had been told that Miyata 'With her confirmation and was seen smoking in a private

Australia hockey player amputates part of finger for Olympics

AFP | Sydney

ustralian hockey player Matt Dawson Ahas made the ultimate sacrifice to be at the Paris Olympics by having part of his finger amputated in order to play.

The 30-year-old, who was a member of the silver medal-winning team three years ago in Tokyo, recently broke the ring finger on his right hand, plunging his bid to compete at a third Olympics into

Doctors advised him to put it in a cast and let it recover or have the top cut off.

He opted for the latter, undergoing surgery this week.

"I made an informed decision with the plastic surgeon at the time not only for the opportunity to play in Paris but for life after Australia's Matt Dawson in action



as well," he told Australia's Channel Seven as he boarded the plane to France.

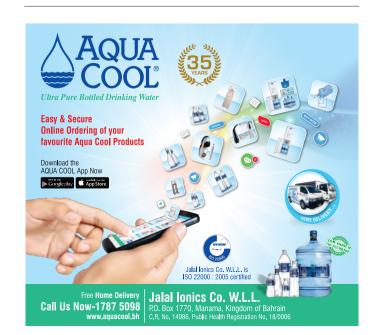
"The best option was for me to take the top of my finger off. It's a bit of a change at the moment and an exciting challenge,

Australian coach Colin Batch said it was an incredible show of commitment.

"It's not something a coach can decide for a player," he told the broadcaster.

"Full marks to Matt. Obviously he's really committed to playing in Paris. I'm not sure I would have done it, but he's done it, so great."

Australia, who lost to Belgium in a penalty shootout in the Tokyo final, face 2016 Olympics champions Argentina in their first match in Paris on July 27.



Pogacar dominates Stage 19

Tadej Pogacar extends lead, nearing historic Tour-Giro double with two stages remaining



Remco Evenepoel remains third at 7min Olsec

Two stages left, Pogacar eyes historic double

AFP | Paris

√adej Pogacar climbed to a convincing victory on stage 19 of the Tour de France vesterday, extending his overall lead over defending champion Jonas Vingegaard to close on a historic Tour-Giro double.

With two tough stages remaining, the 2020 and pion Pogacar leads Vingegaard by 5min 3sec. Remco Evenepoel Vingegaard might wilt, but he



It helps that I live near here. I've trained here a lot and well. I also had good legs. **Coming second in** the Tour gave me a lot of motivation to get better. This is no chance thing that I'm here

TADEJ POGACAR

away from a Giro d'Italia and Tour de France double, which would be a first in 26 years.

A dominant and confident Pogacar had promised to attack been happy riding under overhere on the "Queen" stage with its massive mountains. He came to 18.5 Celsius (65 Fahrenheit). into stage 19 with a 3min 11sec lead over Vingegaard, with Evenepoel at 5min 11sec in third.

did well."

A happy Pogacar, who lives in nearby Monaco, celebrated at the line with his girlfriend.

"It helps that I live near here, I've trained here a lot and well, I also had good legs," said Pogacar, who raced sparingly this

"Coming second in the Tour gave me a lot of motivation to get better. This is no chance thing that I'm here."

Cool day

Previous weak moments for remains third, now at 7min 1sec. the Team UAE rider have come Pogacar is also two stages at altitude and in hot weather as he let slip the last two Tour de France titles to the Dane Vingegaard.

cast skies as the mercury dipped

There was plenty of altitude on the menu however as the pack first crossed the fan-packed

Tadej Pogacar, the 2020 and 2021 Tour de France champion, is now two stages away from achieving a Giro d'Italia and Tour de France double, which would be a

ski resort is hardly less crush-So the 25-year-old will have ing and Pogacar attacked with a jaw-dropping 10km to go.

first in 25 years

He left his rivals trailing and chewed up the attackers in quick succession.

Matteo Jorgenson ended up second on the stage at 21sec. points way ahead of the peloton. "He set a terrible pace, he Col de la Bonette, a 23km climb Simon Yates, who had led much gian Evenepoel. "I was hoping the dizzying altitude of 2,800m. 40sec. Richard Carapaz was The final climb to Isola 2000 fourth at 1min 11sec and Eve-four.

nepoel fifth with Vingegaard on his wheel.

Vingegaard won his two titles by tailing Pogacar doggedly, wearing the more attack-minded rider down.

But yesterday, Vingegaard looked haggard as he slumped over his handlebars at the Isola ski resort.

The 27-year-old suffered a life-threatening accident at the Tour of the Basque Country in March, and has raced with courage under the circumstances.

Saturday is also mountainous with two climbs and a downhill finale.

The final stage, which could shake up the standings even more, is a 34km individual time trial from Monaco to Nice.

Eritrean break-out star Biniam Girmay retained the green sprint jersey ahead of Jasper Philipsen as the escape group took the intermediate sprint

Girmay and Philipsen have 2021 Tour de France cham- was just stronger," said Bel- at 7 percent average gradient to of the way, dropped to third at both won three stages on this year's race, while Pogacar has

I was able to hold

physically till the end.

Let's see how I am

tomorrow. Today I'm

alive and I'm in the

semi-finals. So that's

super important

RAFAEL NADAL

Indian players 'trust' Suryakumar more than Pandya: report

AFP | New Delhi

Tadej Pogacar

19th stage

cycles during the

SATURDAY, JULY 20-2

The Indian cricket board's more than choice of Suryakumar Ya- Pandya day as T20 captain over Hardik and were Pandya has been attributed to m o r e him having the backing of play- c o m ers, according to a report.

Suryakumar, 33, was named work-Rohit Sharma's successor in ing under the T20 format as selectors late him". Thursday announced the squads for India's white-ball tour of Sri Lanka starting July 27.

Suryakumar will lead a downs, includ-15-member squad in three T20 ing an ankle inmatches in Pallekele, but has not jury during the ODI been selected to play the following three ODI matches.

Rohit, who along with Vi- him. rat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja quit T20 internationals after new coach Gautam India's World Cup triumph last Gambhir did not want a month, will continue to lead captain with injury conthe ODI team, which will face cerns and was impressed Sri Lanka on August 2, 4, and with Suryakumar's game 7 at Colombo's R. Premadasa awareness. Stadium.

The 30-year-old Pandya, who was Rohit's deputy during the T20 showpiece, lost out in the T20 regular who captaincy race to a player who redefined batting made his debut five years later in the format, made than the star all-rounder.

A report in the Indian Express at the age of 30 but soon newspaper said, "feedback re- became the team's go-to ceived by the board was that batter in the middle order.

players trusted Surya fortable

Pandya's frequent injury break-

World Cup last year at home, also went against According to reports,

'Circle of captaincy'

Suryakumar, a a late debut for India Suryakumar Yadav

His audacious strokeplay, including a lap shot behind the stumps, makes him a bowler's nightmare, considered a "360 degree" player for hits all around the Most recently, Suryaku-

mar took a stunning catch at the boundary in a tense last over from Pandya to help India clinch a thrilling victory in the World Cup final over South Africa in Barbados. Suryaku-

> previously in domes- Indians. tic cricket, win over up with a 1-1 aration from his Africa.

mar, who

good World Cup ovic. They will with bat and ball, co-parent a son but the ride has from their fourbeen rough for the year marriage.



regular who redefined batting in the format. made a late debut for India at the age of 30 but soon became the team's go-to batter in the middle order

captained Indian star, who replaced Ro-M u m b a i hit as IPL captain at Mumbai

He was booed across venues last year led by fans of Rohit, and Mumbai India to a 4-1 ended bottom of the 10-team

T20 series table in the T20 tournament. Pandya has also struggled Australia and on the personal front, and on followed it Thursday announced his sep-

result in South wife and Serbian model Pandya had a Natasa Stank-

Nadal reaches Bastad semis after four-hour marathon

AFP | Bastad

Rafael Nadal fought into the Semi-finals of the Bastad Open yesterday as he defeated Argentina's Mariano Navone 6-7(2/7), 7-5, 7-5 in three hours and 59 minutes.

The 22-time Grand Slam champion is through to the last four of a tournament for the first time since Wimbledon two years ago.

tiring," said Nadal, whose near four-hour victory was the second longest three-set match of his career -- after the 2009 vak Djokovic, which lasted 4hr ponent who became the first

"For moments he was in seeded in his maiden Grand control. For moments I was in Slam appearance at this year's control. At the end, no one was French Open. in control. That's the truth," added Nadal.

ly till the end. Let's see how I set, saving two set points in the am tomorrow. Today I'm alive 10th game before eventually and I'm in the semi-finals. moving 6-5 ahead.

"It was very close, long and against the fast-rising Navone, now ranked 36th in the world after beginning the year outside the top 100. He dropped serve three Madrid semi-final against No- times in a row against an op-

man in the Open era to be

The Spaniard trailed 4-1 and was down a double break but "I was able to hold physical- battled his way back into the

> Nadal himself had two set points as Navone served to stay in it, the fourth seed showing his mettle to force a tie-break in which he won the first five points to take charge.

Navone secured the first set when Nadal sprayed a forehand wide, but the Spaniard quickly regrouped and raced

> into a 3-0 lead in set two.

tage was swiftly erased though by Navone who pocketed four games on the spin before Nadal stopped

Rafael Nadal

Marseille sign Greenwood from Man Utd amid controversy

AFP | London

Mason Greenwood from Manchester United, the Ligue 1 side announced, despite the objection of some of the French club's fans.

The 22-year-old, who has played once for England, was suspended in January 2022 by



Mason Greenwood

Manchester United following and sexual assault but prosecu-

ary 2023. He spent last season ment. They called Greenon loan at Getafe in La Liga.

"Olympique de Marseille an "English nugget". are delighted to announce said the French club on their United. website.

allegations of attempted rape tors dropped charges in Febru- of the allegations in their state- lion euros (\$32.7m).

wood "a precocious talent" and

The southern club, eighth in the signing of Mason Green- Ligue 1 last season, said their wood from Manchester Unit- new striker will wear the numed. The 22-year-old striker ber 10 shirt but did not specihas signed for the club fol- fy the length of his contract or lowing a successful medical," mention any fee to Manchester

However the deal is reported Marseille made no mention to be worth an estimated 30 mil-



