

Bahrain claim dramatic win!

Star midfielder Ali Madan fires in stoppage-time winner against Malaysia in AFC Asian Cup | P12

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THE DAILY tribune



Heidi Klum bedridden with sickness after Emmy Awards

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US Fed official says 'premature' to expect rate cuts soon

Two Royal Navy warships collide off coast of Bahrain

● No one was injured in the accident

TDT | agencies

An investigation is under way after two UK warships collided at a port in Bahrain, the Royal Navy says.

Video widely shared on social media appeared to show HMS Chiddingfold reverse into HMS Bangor off the coast in the Middle Eastern port.

No-one was hurt in the incident, the Ministry of Defence said, declining to comment on the nature of the collision while investigations continue.



Video on social media showed the HMS Chiddingfold, reversing into another, HMS Bangor, which was moored, causing a loud crashing noise and Bangor to rock.

The two ships are part of the UK's long-standing presence in the Gulf.

Both are specialist mine-sweeper vessels, helping ensure the safe flow of trade through the waters, the Royal Navy said.

"We are aware of an incident concerning two minehunters alongside in Bahrain. There are no casualties as a result of this incident and it would be inappropriate to comment further whilst investigations are

ongoing," a spokesperson for the Ministry of Defence told the BBC.

Meanwhile, Rear Admiral Edward Ahlgren said the cause of the collision "is still to be established".

"We train our people to the highest standards and rigorously enforce machinery safety standards, but unfortunately incidents of this nature can still happen," he told PA news agency.

A full and thorough investigation "is already under way," Rear Adm Ahlgren said, "and any changes in procedure that could prevent further incidents will be rapidly implemented."

"In the meantime, the UK will continue to play a key part in ensuring the safety of merchant shipping in the region."

Footage unverified by the BBC showed what seemed to be a large hole in the fiberglass hull of HMS Bangor following the crash.

It is not the first time HMS Chiddingfold has been involved in such an incident. In 2021, also off the coast of Bahrain, it struck HMS Penzance, a ship of the same class as HMS Bangor.

Missiles hit US-led coalition base in Iraq: security sources

Baghdad, Iraq

At least a dozen missiles were fired yesterday at a military base used by US-led coalition forces in western Iraq, a US defence source and Iraqi police said.

"Al-Asad airbase was targeted by 15 rockets" fired from Anbar province, which is home to the military base, an Iraqi police official from the region told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity. He said 13 of the projectiles were shot down by anti-air defences but that "two fell on the airbase".

US again targets Yemen's Huthis in new strikes

Washington, United States

The United States carried out fresh strikes against Yemen's Houthi rebels yesterday, the military said, targeting an anti-ship missile that was "prepared to launch."

At around 4 am Sanaa time (0100 GMT), US "forces conducted airstrikes against a Houthi anti-ship missile that was aimed into the Gulf of Aden and was prepared to launch," a statement from US Central Command said Saturday.

"US forces determined the missile presented a threat to merchant vessels and US Navy ships in the region, and subsequently struck and destroyed the missile in self-defense."

Knock! Knock!

Job for every Bahraini graduate on the horizon!

● **Lawmakers to rope in private sector for skilling Bahraini graduates**

● **Shura Council to discuss the proposal today**

● **Parliamentary committee suggest approval**

TDT | Manama

It's good tidings for Bahraini job hunters. Fresh graduates here will no longer have to face the daunting task of going around under the scorching sun to knock open closed doors.

Just wait for lawmakers here to pass a new proposal into law, and jobs will be a reality.

If approved today, corporates here will be required to ensure a ratio of one trainee for every fifty workers in their facilities.

The Council was supposed to elaborate on this law last week, but postponed it until Sunday's session.

Lawmakers say, the proposal will reshape the landscape of employment opportunities for the aspiring graduates of Bahrain.

The rationale behind this move stems from the recogni-



tion that in the rapidly evolving business landscape, employability has become a more significant concern than rising unemployment, attrition, or other macroeconomic factors affecting businesses.

Specifics such as the number of trained graduates, nomination conditions, benefits, programme follow-up, and the state's financial contribution are to be determined by the Labour Ministry.

This transformative proposal is embedded in a supplementary report from the Services Committee, introducing an amendment to Law No. (17) of 2007 on vocational training.

Proposed by committee members Ejlaal Isa Bubshait, Dr. Hani Ali Al Sa'ati, Dr. Jameela Mohammed Redha Al Salman, Dr. Mohammed Ali Hassan, and Sadeq Eid Al Rahma, the com-

mittee endorses considering the proposal as law.

The proposal highlights the prevalence of unemployment among graduates citing the absence of mandatory vocational training in the private sector. Recognising this challenge, lawmakers say they deem it necessary to intervene, proposing a comprehensive legal framework that mandates employers to actively engage in fulfilling their social responsibilities.

Lawmakers emphasise that such a law would not only contribute to raising awareness among foreign university graduates about the importance of working in the private sector but also helps the Ministry of Labour's efforts to bolster graduate employment and manage unemployment rates. The proposal places the

Ministry in charge of overseeing employer training programs for graduates, covering various facets.

The suggested law underscores the need for collaboration with business owners to implement necessary amendments and determine financial benefits, funding sources, and the state's contribution to training costs for the benefit of the trainees.

Specifically, the proposal dictates that employers with 50 or more workers must annually provide on-the-job training for university graduates nominated by the Ministry, maintaining a ratio of one trainee for every fifty workers.

The second article of the proposal outlines the executive aspects of this transformative law.

Bahrain reiterates call for immediate Gaza ceasefire at NAM

TDT | Manama



Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Foreign Affairs Minister, reiterated the Kingdom's appeal for an immediate cessation of the conflict in the Gaza Strip during his address at the 19th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in Kampala, Uganda.

Emphasizing Bahrain's strong opposition to the forced displacement of Palestinians from their land, Dr. Al Zayani stressed the Kingdom's commitment to a diplomatic approach.

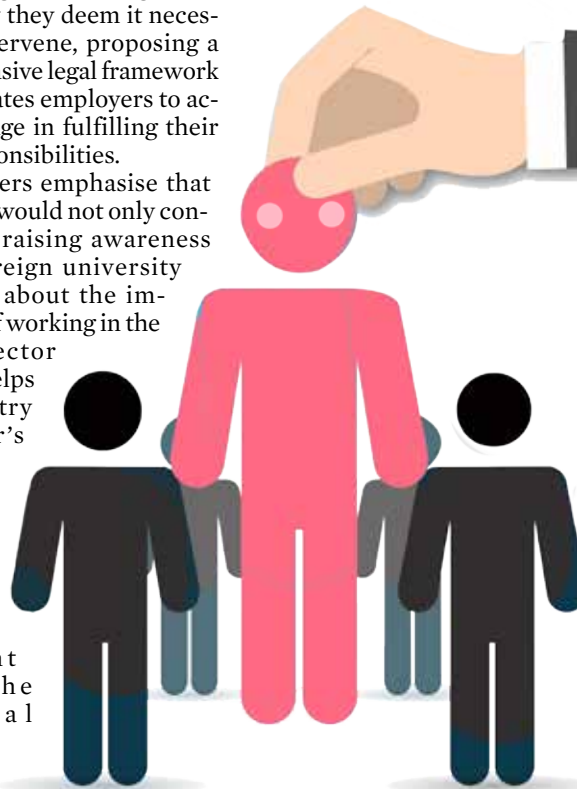
Advocating for the protection of civilians, the release of hostages and detainees, the delivery of humanitarian aid, and the alleviation of civilian suffering in Gaza, the minister called for prioritising peaceful solutions.

Bahrain, he said, rejects forced displacement and supports the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in alignment with the two-state solution and international legitimacy resolutions.

Dr. Al Zayani also urged concerted global efforts to ensure free and secure maritime navigation in the Red Sea, emphasising the importance of this for global security and peace.



In June 2023, the data for the Private Sector workforce reached 633,636 individuals, reflecting a rise from the previous figure of 629,517 individuals reported in March 2023.



It's just not possible!

Labour Ministry opposes proposed hike in unemployment allowances, citing financial concerns and increased dependency

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Labour has opposed a parliamentary proposal seeking to increase unemployment allowances by up to 100 dinars, deeming it non-viable. Lawmakers had advocated for raising the allowance from 200 to 300 Bahraini dinars per month for unemployed individuals with university qualifications and from 150 to 200 Bahraini dinars for those without university degrees.

The Labour Ministry asserted that the existing system, established after extensive studies



Representative picture

on unemployment risk, funding sources, and benefits, cannot be

modified without a comprehensive study to assess the feasibility

Any modification requires a comprehensive study to determine the feasibility of increasing the amount of the allowance or compensation

of increasing allowances or compensation.

"Any modification requires a comprehensive study to determine the feasibility of increasing the amount of the allowance or compensation," the ministry stressed.

In alignment with the Ministry of Labour, the General Organisation for Social Insurance (GOSI) emphasised that the purpose of the unemployment insurance account is to offer necessary insurance protection against the risk of unemployment.

The organisation expressed concern that implementing the proposed increase might negatively impact the motivation

and seriousness of unemployed individuals in seeking job opportunities, potentially creating a segment dependent on unemployment benefits.

GOSI further warned of adverse effects on account revenues, increased expenses, and potential impacts on the pension and social insurance fund. "This would lead to a decrease in account revenues alongside an increase in expenses. Moreover, it would impact the pension and social insurance fund due to this group not being subject to pension or social insurance systems," the GOSI stated.

Rewarding talents: cash incentives await

Allowance for Bahraini employees with advanced degrees in the pipeline

TDT | Manama

Employed individuals with advanced degrees from recognised universities may soon qualify for an allowance.

This scenario will unfold if a proposal presented by a group of MPs receives approval from the parliamentary body.

The allowance would be 20 Bahraini dinars for holders of a higher diploma, 40 Bahraini dinars for master's degree holders, and 60 Bahraini dinars for individuals with a doctoral degree.

According to them, Government should reinstate educational allowances for employees with advanced degrees, varying in amount based on the academic qualification and according to specific regulations.

The proposed law introduces a new provision stipulating that every Bahraini employee who has obtained an academic qualification from a recognised



Representative picture

university, in accordance with the law, is entitled to an allowance called the "Educational Qualification Allowance."

The allowance cannot be combined with any other educational qualification allowance. Additionally, this allowance

does not apply to positions in which an academic qualification is a prerequisite for employment or promotion.

The aim of the proposal by the parliament members 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 ambitious competencies.



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During the 19th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement in Kampala, Dr Abdullahif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Bahrain's Foreign Affairs Minister, held discussions with India's Minister of External Affairs, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. The meeting centred on strengthening Bahrain-India friendship and cooperation, delving into diplomatic initiatives aimed at enhancing political, economic, and trade collaboration to fulfil shared aspirations. The two ministers also addressed regional issues of mutual concern.



Osama bin Ahmed Khalaf Al Asfoor, Minister of Social Development, welcomed Okai Asako, the recently appointed Japanese Ambassador to Bahrain. The minister underscored the enduring relations between Bahrain and Japan, highlighting the importance of fortifying these connections to accomplish shared objectives. He conveyed his best wishes for the Ambassador's success in fulfilling her diplomatic responsibilities.

Parliament gears up to debate Zakat tax on Commercial Companies

Despite the absence of feedback, the Parliamentary Committee on Financial and Economic Affairs has recommended the approval of the proposed law

TDT | Manama

The Parliament is set to deliberate a proposed law next

An advisor to the Committee raised concerns about the law, particularly the concept of obligating all types of companies to pay Zakat without considering individual partners in those entities.

Tuesday, focusing on the imposition of a tax and regulation of Zakat Al Maal (wealth tax) on commercial companies, overriding concerns raised by advisor.

Despite the absence of feedback from government and private entities, the Parliamentary Committee on Financial and

Economic Affairs has recommended the approval of the proposed law, with no expressions of opposition or objections thus far.

The law outlines the specified amount of Zakat to be imposed on companies, equivalent to a quarter of the tenth of Zakata-

ble net assets—25% for financial statements prepared based on the Hijri year or 2.577% for financial statements prepared based on the Gregorian year.

Proposed by MPs Mohammed Al Aliwi, Mohammed Al Rifai, Mohammed Al Ahmed, Mohammed Al Hussein, and Ahmed Qarata, the legislation aims to establish a framework obligating and regulating the payment of Zakat Al Maal on commercial companies. The proponents argue that it addresses a legislative gap, considering Zakat as one of the five pillars of Islam, a divine

obligation, a financial worship, and a solidarity ritual rooted in Islamic law.

However, an advisor to the Committee raised concerns about the law, particularly the concept of obligating all types of companies to pay Zakat without considering individual partners in those entities.

He added that it raises several questions about the soundness of its legal basis, given that Zakat is a pillar of Islam imposed on every Muslim who meets the conditions of Zakat. In this context, a Muslim refers to a natural

person who adheres to the religion of Islam.

"The requirement stated in Article 4 of the proposal, which obligates the legitimacy of the wealth subject to Zakat, raises practical challenges, particularly concerning how to verify its validity," the advisor said.

The advisor questioned the legal basis and practical challenges, emphasizing the need for feedback from relevant government entities for legal opinions in accordance with the Parliament's internal regulations (Article 28).

The dark side of charm

Crackdown on illegal cosmetic salons underway



”
We cannot allow unlicensed cosmetic salons to continue operating without adhering to essential health and safety regulations. These establishments pose a significant risk to public health, and our priority is to ensure the safety of individuals seeking cosmetic treatments.
DR. MARYAM AL-DHAEN



”
Botulinum-toxin products, including Botox, are derived from a poison called botulinum toxin, which causes botulism. While these products have approved medical and cosmetic uses, the unregulated use of Botox and related products can lead to serious adverse events
AZZA ABUDAGGA



The surge in interest surrounding the camel industry has inadvertently given rise to unauthorized cosmetic salons offering services at significantly reduced prices.

● While these salons may attract budget-conscious individuals, they pose a grave risk to their health due to their blatant disregard for essential health and safety regulations

Zahra Ayaz

TDI | Manama

In a bid to protect public health and safety, the Health Professionals Regulatory Authority (HPRA) is taking decisive action against unlicensed cosmetic salons

that operate without permits and disregard essential health standards.

Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen, a prominent Member of Parliament, confirmed that the HPRA is intensifying its efforts to combat the proliferation of these illegal establishments.

Speaking to *The Daily Tribune*, she said: “We cannot allow unlicensed cosmetic salons to continue operating without adhering to essential health and safety regulations. These establishments pose a significant risk to public health, and our priority is to ensure the safety of individuals seeking cosmetic treatments.”

The surge in interest surrounding the camel industry has inadvertently given rise to

unauthorized cosmetic salons offering services at significantly reduced prices.

While these salons may attract budget-conscious individuals, they pose a grave risk to their health due to their blatant disregard for essential health and safety regulations, as outlined by Dr. Al-Dhaen.

Dr. Al-Dhaen emphasised, “The popularity of cosmetic treatments inspired by the camel industry has created a dangerous situation. We need stricter oversight to protect individuals from the potential risks associated with unauthorised cosmetic procedures.”

To shed light on the potential risks associated with Botox injections, *The Daily Tribune* reached out to Azza AbuDag-

ga, Ph.D., a Health Services Researcher at the Washington-based consumer rights advocacy group, Public Citizen.

Dr. AbuDagga explained, “Botulinum-toxin products, including Botox, are derived from a poison called botulinum toxin, which causes botulism. While these products have approved medical and cosmetic uses, the unregulated use of Botox and related products can lead to serious adverse events.”

Dr. AbuDagga further elaborated, “Beyond approved uses, such as medical conditions and cosmetic treatments, the unauthorized use of Botox and related products, like in the camel industry, is highly dangerous. These products can spread from

their injection sites to other areas of the body, leading to severe complications such as aspiration pneumonia, difficulty breathing, and muscle weakness.”

When asked about the emergence and popularity of this cultural trend, Dr. AbuDagga highlighted the lack of awareness regarding the risks associated with Botox and related products. She stated, “Many people are unaware of the potential dangers of using Botox and similar products for unauthorized purposes. It is crucial to educate the public about these risks to prevent harm.”

Dr. AbuDagga cited an analysis of the FDA’s Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS) and said, “We found 5,414 reports with serious outcomes, includ-

ing 511 deaths, 1,652 hospitalisations, and 222 life-threatening reactions, where one botulinum-toxin product was the only primary suspect.

“Approximately 2 per cent of these reports specified botulism as an adverse reaction. Moreover, 53 per cent of the 5,414 reports included signs or symptoms suggestive of iatrogenic botulism, consistent with the effects of Botox and related drugs.”

With the HPRA’s intensified efforts, including stricter oversight and legal action against unlicensed cosmetic salons, the aim is to curb the proliferation of these illegal establishments and ensure the safety of individuals who may unknowingly put themselves at risk.



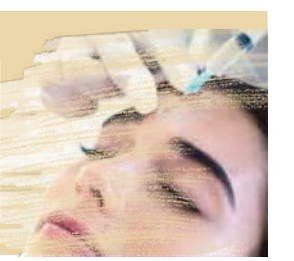
Botox was discovered accidentally

Ever wondered who actually invented Botox?

Turns out, it was discovered purely by chance... It happened way back in the 1820’s, when a number of Germans ended up with food poisoning after eating some blood sausage. A scientist

named Justinus Kerner studied these cases to try and pinpoint exactly what was causing the food poisoning, and discovered a toxin called “botulism”. Bacteria produces this toxin, which

later started being offered as a treatment under the brand name of Botox. It wasn’t until much later in 2002 that the FDA officially approved Botox as a safe and regulated cosmetic treatment.



Court awards three-year jail, deportation for drunk driver

The accused was charged with causing an accident resulting in a death

TDI | Manama

A man arrested for drunk driving and gross vehicular manslaughter has been handed down a three-year jail term, culminating in deportation.

The Court of Cassation’s latest decision comes on the heels of a dramatic series of legal twists and turns.

The defendant found himself behind bars after judges rejected the appeal, citing procedural irregularities in filing appeal.

The latest development stems from a defence attorney’s appeal against the three-year jail term verdict issued by a Lower Criminal Court on charges of drunk



driving, negligence, and causing the death of a victim

The accused allegedly operated a vehicle under the influence of alcohol, resulting in a tragic accident that claimed the life of a pedestrian and caused severe damages to others.

The Lower Criminal Court initially sentenced the defendant to three years in prison, coupled

with an order for permanent deportation. Although the Court of Appeals upheld the verdict, the defendant’s lawyer persisted in challenging it before the Court of Cassation. However, in an unexpected turn, judges at the Court of Cassation declared the power of attorney authorising the defence lawyer to file the appeal as invalid, citing pro-

cedural violations. They emphasised that the right to file an appeal in criminal cases is a deeply personal one, exclusive to the party against whom a judgment has been rendered. The court underscored that this right cannot be exercised by anyone else unless explicitly authorised through a valid power of attorney.

The Court highlighted that the specific power of attorney for the appeal was issued on August 29, 2023, whereas the appeal itself was lodged on August 24, 2023. This discrepancy played a pivotal role in the court’s decision to reject the appeal.



Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, took part in a tree-planting initiative at the residence of Clemens Hach, the German Ambassador to Bahrain, as part of the National Afforestation Campaign. The event, organized by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, saw the participation of various social sectors, including diplomatic missions in Bahrain. Minister Al Mubarak praised the German Embassy’s dedication to supporting the kingdom’s afforestation endeavors, emphasizing their role in environmental protection and addressing challenges posed by climate change. He also underscored the strong bilateral relations between Bahrain and Germany across various domains. In response, the German Ambassador commended Bahrain’s commitment to reducing carbon emissions, acknowledging the nation’s efforts in this regard.

CAPTAINS CORNER

CHANGING THE
EDUCATION
YARDSTICK

CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

We always talk about how Female Labour Force Participation – FLFP – is speeding up the economy in our part of the world. The biggest example of course is Saudi Arabia where social reforms have made education, labour and financial rights more accessible for Saudi women. But did you know that there is also a global women's health action plan? At the World Economic Forum in Davos last week, the Global Alliance for Women's Health announced 42 organisations have collectively pledged \$55 million to improve women's health outcomes worldwide. There is a specific report called 'Closing the Women's Health Gap' which shows that addressing the women's health gap could potentially boost the global economy by at least \$1 trillion annually by 2040.

World leaders pause in the business of governance each year and converge at Klosters, Switzerland for ideating on the way forward and taking stock of global economic goals and assessing their own country's performance indicators. This year AI and climate change dominated discussions because, going forward these two powerful disruptors are going to shape our world. And while talking about rebuilding trust between nations, economic leaders such as Ajay S. Banga, President of the World Bank Group, emphasised the interconnectedness of crises; "We cannot think about eradicating poverty without caring about climate, about healthcare or about food insecurity and fragility."

As a small island nation in an arid zone of the world, all these are valid points for the Kingdom of Bahrain to ponder. We are looking at rapid change in our country's economic profile. Bahrain's hydrocarbon sector is expected to register small growth of 0.1% during 2023-24 while the non-hydrocarbon sectors will continue expanding at nearly 4% supported by the recovery in the tourism, service sectors, and the continuation of infrastructure projects. That means we are moving steadily to a knowledge and service economic growth model.

I hope our education sector is looking at this and working with the private sector to reshape education priorities to suit this futuristic goal. We have a responsibility to our young people who need to be properly equipped and trained for the future which they will be stewards of. Each country must march to the drumbeat of its own progress blueprint. Only then can we converge on the global canvas with the assurance of making a mark in the future

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

iGA Deputy CEO advocates innovation
and Design Thinking at BIBF's Forum

TDT | Manama

Dr. Zakariya AlKhajah, Deputy Chief Executive of Electronic Transformation at the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA), participated in the Design Thinking Forum organized by the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) in collaboration with Eskan Bank. The event, attended by decision-makers, thought leaders, and experts from various sectors, focused on the role of design thinking and innovation in promoting sustainable economic growth in Bahrain.

During the 'Design Thinking in Action: Solving Problems, Inspiring Innovation' session, Dr. AlKhajah emphasized the significance of integrating innovation to enhance government services, improve service delivery methods, and elevate the quality of life for citizens and residents. He highlighted that innovation encompasses everything contributing to the public good, fostering transparency, and encouraging collaboration between government entities and the community.

Dr. AlKhajah described design thinking as a user-centered approach that addresses individual needs for problem-solving, creativity, and swift implementation of processes. This structured yet flexible method aims to tackle complex social challenges while creating value for the public. He emphasized the



Participants during the forum

positive impact of design thinking on communication between government entities and the public, leading to the provision of user-friendly services and systems through platforms like the National Portal, bahrain.bh, and other channels, promoting digital literacy.

The iGA's Deputy Chief Executive reviewed notable eServices and applications that have played a crucial role in meeting user needs, including ID cards, justice sector services, medical examinations for expatriates, notary services, the BeAware Bahrain app, and more.

He highlighted ongoing efforts to restructure eServices, prioritizing those essential to the public.

Addressing challenges in implementing design thinking and embracing innovation, Dr. AlKhajah mentioned resistance to change, managing potential risks, limited resources, and a lack of required skills. He acknowledged the vital role of government support in creating an innovation-friendly environment in Bahrain, facilitating the launch and adoption of digital initiatives.

In conclusion, Dr. Zakariya discussed trends shaping the future

of innovation, emphasizing digital transformation and the integration of technologies such as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), and blockchain. He also highlighted the importance of developing digital skills, providing accurate data, preparing the environment, and innovating in cybersecurity.

The Design Thinking Forum included executive workshops and discussions on crucial topics, including the basic principles of design thinking, the impact of digital innovation, and design thinking for a sustainable future.

UPDA CEO stresses global collaboration for sustainable Urban Planning

TDT | Manama

Ahmed Abdulaziz AlKhayat, Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Planning and Development Authority (UPDA), highlighted the significance of gaining insights from global experiences and expertise to implement best practices in the urban planning sector.

During a meeting with a Slovak delegation, led by Martin Hypky, Head of Spatial Planning and Construction Authority, on their visit to exchange expertise in sustainable urban planning, Al Khayat presented UPDA's role in overseeing the general policy of sustainable



Delegates during the visit

urban planning in the kingdom. He also discussed the authority's efforts in executing large-scale development projects.

The UPDA CEO expressed the commitment to strengthen ongoing cooperation with

Slovakia in the field of urban planning and sustainable development. He underscored the importance of exchanging expertise and technologies to realise concepts related to the humanisation of cities.

As part of the visit, Al Khayat and the Slovak delegation explored the Diyar Al-Muharrag Projects, a mega development initiative in collaboration with the government and private sector. The UPDA-designed

master plan reflects an integrated community equipped with vital facilities and advanced services to cater to residents' needs.

Ahmed Alammadi, Chief Executive Officer at Diyar Al Muharrag, welcomed the delegation and provided insights into the project, including its residential and commercial aspects.

The delegation learned about residential villas in the Al-Bareh and Al-Naseem projects and visited Souq (Market) Al Baraha, showcasing traditional Bahraini architecture and contributing to the national identity.



Pravasi Guidance Centre WLL, a leading education service provider focusing on mental health introduced Diploma in Applied Counselling in partnership with the State Resource Centre, Government of Kerala and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and administered by the General Education Department, Government of Kerala. At a ceremony held at the McIndeez Hall in Mahooz, Adv. Binu Manil, Chairman of the Executive Committee of The Indian School Bahrain, inaugurated the course. Vice chairman of PGC WLL, Pradeep Puravankara, welcomed the guests, and the event was felicitated by Dr. Baiju E.B., Programme Coordinator, SRC, Kerala, and Rev. Dr. George Varghese, Director, Be+ve Counselling Centre, Kerala. The vote of gratitude was expressed by PGC WLL Chairman Dr. John Panackel. The master of ceremony for the occasion was Miss Parvathi Sajikumar.

US Fed official says 'premature' to expect rate cuts soon

AFP | Washington, United States

The US Federal Reserve's fight against inflation is far from over and it is "premature" to expect rate cuts around the corner, a senior US central bank official said Friday.

The Fed recently held its key lending rate at a 22-year high and penciled in up to three rate cuts this year, as inflation has continued to ease toward its long-term target of two percent.

As financial markets grew increasingly confident that rate cuts were coming as soon as March, Fed policymakers used recent public events to caution against starting the process of loosening monetary policy too soon, citing ongoing inflationary risks.

Speaking to Fox Business on Friday, San Francisco Fed President Mary Daly -- who is a voting member of the US central bank's interest rate-setting committee this year -- indicated that rate cuts were unlikely anytime soon.

"We are fully committed to restoring price stability and doing it of course as gently as we can, but we have a lot of work left to do," she said. "We are not there yet, and it's far too early to



Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell

declare victory."

"While I think it's appropriate for us to look forward and ask when would policy adjustments be necessary so we don't put a stranglehold on the economy, it's really premature to think that that's around the corner," she added.

While Fed officials have seemed reluctant to support a March cut, some of them have clearly signaled they expect rate cuts to begin this year.

On Thursday, Atlanta Fed President Raphael Bostic told

a conference in the city that recent "unexpected progress" in the fight against inflation had led him to move up his forecast for the start of rate cuts from the fourth quarter of this year to the third quarter.

"If we continue to see a further accumulation of downside surprises in the data, it's possible for me to get comfortable enough to advocate normalization sooner than the third quarter," he said.

"But the evidence would need to be convincing," added Bostic,

who is also a voting member of the Fed's rate-setting committee this year.

The interventions from Fed officials this week appear to have changed market perceptions of when the US central bank will start loosening monetary policy, with futures traders now far less confident of a March rate cut.

They now assign a less than 50 percent chance of a March cut, according to CME Group data, with a May move seen as much more likely.

Tata Steel axes UK jobs as industry forges 'greener' future

Port Talbot, United Kingdom

Indian-owned Tata Steel is to cut up to 2,800 UK jobs, it announced on Friday, as the industry struggles to finance greener production of the metal.

Tata said it will shut its "two high-emission blast furnaces and coke ovens" in the Welsh town of Port Talbot this year, delivering a blow to a region already hit hard by deindustrialisation.

"Up to 2,800 employees are expected to be potentially affected" by restructuring at the company, including 2,500 roles over the next 18 months, the company outlined.

A company spokesman told



Raw materials to make iron sit in heaps at the Tata Steel Port Talbot integrated iron and steel works in south Wales

AFP the "vast majority" of job losses would be in Port Talbot,

employs about 8,000 staff.

The European steel industry is confronting major upheaval.

On Thursday, Italy proposed to place a heavily indebted giant steelworks, majority-owned by ArcelorMittal, under special administration in a bid to secure production and thousands of jobs.

The news of the Tata job cuts was greeted with alarm in the industrial town, where virtually all of the local economy revolves around the steelworks.

"It's more or less a wasteland now," lamented Robert Jones, on one of the town's main streets.

"Things will get progressively worse for the town now," he told AFP.

the biggest steelworks in the UK, a country where Tata Steel

Riyadh Real Estate Future Forum 2024 to focus on innovation, opportunities

TDT | Riyadh

The Real Estate Future Forum 2024, to be held in Riyadh on January 22-24, will see discussions and dialogues on strategies of the real-estate sector at the local and global levels with the participation of more than 300 speakers from over 85 countries.

According to Saudi Press Agency (SPA), the closing day of the three-day forum will witness the signing of several deals and memoranda of understanding in real-estate development, housing unit construction, and the establishment of real-estate funds and alliances which will im-

pact real-estate development at the local and global levels.

The Real Estate Future Forum 2024 seeks to enable its participants to raise professional standards in the real-estate sector and apply the latest technologies and innovations in accordance with international standards.

More than 50 sessions and 40 workshops will be held during the forum's third annual edition.



Jetblue, Spirit file appeal over blocked merger



● **The merger, if ultimately approved, would create the fifth-largest airline in the United States.**

AFP | New York, United States

US carriers JetBlue and Spirit filed an appeal in federal court Friday seeking to reverse a judge's decision to block their planned merger.

The airlines "hereby appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit" against Tuesday's ruling in Boston, according to a notice of appeal filed with the court.

The merger, if ultimately approved, would create the fifth-largest airline in the United States.

US District Judge William Young rejected the plan earlier this week after the Justice Department last year sued to block the merger, noting the move would hurt consumers

and violate antitrust law.

Lawyers for the airlines had argued that the tie-up stands to benefit customers "by bringing low fares and great service" to more markets, and would boost their ability to compete with dominant US carriers.

But President Joe Biden and US Attorney General Merrick Garland instead called Young's ruling a "victory" for American consumers.

JetBlue's bid to acquire low-cost Spirit was announced in July 2022 after several months of twists and turns in the volatile airline industry, with JetBlue's offer of \$3.8 billion prevailing in a bidding war with competitor Frontier.

Should the merger go through, the new entity would rank behind the "big four" -- American, United, Delta and Southwest airlines -- in number of seats offered.

According to figures provided by JetBlue and Spirit at the time, it would hold roughly a nine percent share of the US market.

Turkey's central bank chief denies nepotism allegations

AFP | Ankara, Turkey

The head of the central bank of Turkey has denied press allegations that she has granted relatives privileges inside the institution.

Hafize Gaye Erkan, 44, the first woman to be appointed president of the bank, granted her father Erol Erkan special favours, according to recent press reports.

He enjoyed an office, an official car and bodyguards, former bank employee turned whistle-blower Busra Bozkurt told the daily newspaper Sozcu, which is close to the opposition.

"I was fired on the orders of



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (R) posing for a photo with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at Vahdettin Pavilion, in Istanbul.

her father," she told the paper.

"There are video recordings showing him coming every day to the bank with an official car, giving orders to staff when he had no authority for that."

Bozkurt said Erkan senior had fired her because she had refused to work outside office hours. Sozcu published a copy of the complaint that Bozkurt said she had sent to the Turkish presidency.

News website DW Turkece carried similar allegations, citing an unnamed employee still working at the bank.

"Erol Erkan got involved in the work of the administrative

Hafize Gaye Erkan, 44, the first woman to be appointed president of the bank, granted her father Erol Erkan special favours, according to recent press reports.

services and human resources... and gave them direct orders," said the source.

In a statement posted Friday on X, formerly Twitter, Erkan denounced the reports as "unfounded allegations" designed to undermine confidence in the

bank, and threatened legal action.

Erkan took up her job last June following the re-election of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, one of a team of market-friendly economists appointed to turn the economy around.

She spent two decades in the United States, where she also studied, before taking up the job in Ankara.

Turkey was struggling with an inflation rate of 65 percent in 2023.

Neither Erdogan or Finance Minister Mehmet Simsek have commented on the allegations.

QUOTE OF THE DAY THE WORLD BREAKS EVERYONE, AND AFTERWARD, SOME ARE STRONG AT THE BROKEN PLACES ERNEST HEMINGWAY

TODAY IN HISTORY

1789

The 1st American novel, William Hill Brown's "The Power of Sympathy" is published by Isaiah Thomas

1793

Louis XVI of France is executed by guillotine in Paris, following his conviction for "high treason" by the newly created French Parliament (Convention nationale), during the French Revolution



1952 2008

Jawaharlal Nehru's Congress party wins general election in India

Fears of a possible US recession cause a Black Monday for global stock markets. European stocks suffer their worst result since 9/11, and Asian stocks drop as much as 15%

News in brief

Eight people were killed in a factory explosion in eastern China's Jiangsu province yesterday, state media reported. The blast occurred at 3:38 am local time (1938 GMT on Friday) in the workshop of a metal product factory in Changzhou city, 180 kilometres (111 miles) northwest of Shanghai, according to the official Xinhua news agency. "A dust explosion occurred in the production workshop of Shenrong Metal Technology Limited, killing eight people and lightly injuring eight others," Xinhua said. A dust explosion occurs when flammable particles, including metals, in the air ignite.

Seoul's chief of police has been charged with professional negligence over the deadly 2022 Halloween crush that killed nearly 160 people, prosecutors in the South Korean capital said. On October 29, 2022, tens of thousands of people -- mostly in their 20s and 30s -- had been out to enjoy post-pandemic holiday celebrations in Seoul's Itaewon nightlife district. But the night turned deadly when people poured into a narrow, sloping alleyway between bars and clubs, the weight of their bodies and a lack of effective crowd control leaving more than 150 crushed to death.

French officers in a rare case of police brutality came to court, after a black man suffered irreversible rectal injuries. Theo Luhaka was left disabled after suffering severe anal injuries from a police baton, as well as wounds to his head, during a stop-and-search in the Paris suburb of Aulnay-sous-Bois in 2017. Activists said the police officers had got away lightly however and called for firm prison terms.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

US authorities to return artworks stolen by Nazis



Drawings by Egon Schiele which were recently returned to the heirs of their former owner, Fritz Grunbaum, whose art collection was stolen by the Nazis during World War II

US authorities announced that two drawings worth \$2.5 million stolen by the Nazi regime and eventually displayed in American museums will be returned to relatives of Fritz Grunbaum, an Austrian Jewish cabaret performer killed in the Holocaust. It follows the return last year of seven works of art stolen from Grunbaum in 1938 and sold by the Nazis to fund their war machine. "Girl with Black Hair" had been held by the Allen Museum of Art at Oberlin College and is valued at approximately \$1.5 million, while "Portrait of a Man" was in the Carnegie Museum of Art collection and valued at approximately \$1 million.

They are both by Egon Schiele, an Austrian expressionist artist. "This is a victory for justice, and the memory of a brave artist, art collector, and opponent of Fascism," said Timothy Reif, a judge and relative of Grunbaum who died in Dachau concentration camp. "As the heirs of Fritz Grunbaum, we are gratified that this

Fighting rages across Gaza where death toll surges

Escalating conflict in Gaza as fighting persists, death toll surges, and international concerns mount

Israeli forces engage in intense fighting across Gaza, focusing on southern areas, as they press southwards against Hamas

AFP | Gaza



The rubble of a demolished house in the refugee camp in Tulkarm

Fighting raged yesterday across the Hamas-run Gaza Strip, whose health ministry reported a surging death toll, as Iran's Revolutionary Guards said four of its members were killed by a strike in Syria that it blamed on Israel. The Syria strike is the latest regional incident raising fears of wider conflagration. It came even as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Joe Biden discussed the post-war future of Gaza where the humanitarian situation remains dire. Gaza's health ministry reported at least 165 people killed over the previous 24 hours --

by far the largest such toll it has issued in days, and more than double the previous day's figure. An AFP correspondent reported gunfire, air strikes and tank shelling into the morning, particularly in southern Gaza's Khan Yunis city. Israel is pressing its push southwards against Hamas, after the army in early January said the Hamas command

structure in northern Gaza had been dismantled, leaving only isolated fighters. But the armed wing of Hamas reported fierce combat with Israeli troops in north Gaza yesterday. The military said troops backed by air and naval support were striking Hamas infrastructure throughout the Gaza Strip, including the north. Also yesterday an Israeli

strike on Damascus killed the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' spy chief for Syria and three other Guards members, Iranian media reported. The unprecedented October attacks by Hamas resulted in the deaths of about 1,140 people in Israel, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures. Israel has vowed to destroy Hamas in response. Its relentless bombardment and ground offensive have killed at least 24,927 people, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's health ministry. The United States provides Israel with billions of dollars in military aid but has urged it to take more care to protect civilians, and the two sides have disagreed over Gaza's future governance. Biden said it was still possible Netanyahu could agree to some form of Palestinian state, after the two leaders spoke for the first time in nearly a month. Netanyahu had said on Thursday that Israel "must

have security control over the entire territory west of the Jordan River", which "contradicts the idea of (Palestinian) sovereignty". US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has said that Israel could not achieve "genuine security" without a "pathway to a Palestinian state" -- a goal sought by Palestinians for decades. The United Nations estimates the war has displaced 1.7 million people, about one million of whom are crowded into the Rafah area in Gaza's far south, near Egypt. UN agencies have warned better aid access -- including through Israel's Ashdod port -- is needed urgently as famine and disease loom. After Friday's call, the White House said Israel would allow flour shipments for Palestinians through Ashdod. Bread is a staple food for Palestinians but aid agencies said only 15 bakeries were operational across Gaza, the UN humanitarian agency OCHA reported.

Taiwan completes eighth presidential election, setting another milestone in its democratic development

TDT | Agencies

The elections of the 16th-term president and vice president and the 11th Legislative Yuan of the Republic of China (Taiwan) were smoothly completed through a fair and free process on January 13. The elections of the 16th-term president and vice president and the 11th Legislative Yuan of the Republic of China (Taiwan) were smoothly completed through a fair and free process on January 13. Candidates Lai Ching-te and Hsiao Bi-khim were elected the next president and vice president, respectively, with more than 5.58 million votes, or 40.05 percent of the vote. The governments of Taiwan's diplomatic allies Palau, the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Nauru, Haiti, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Guatemala, Belize, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, and Eswatini extended their felicitations. Taiwan also received congratulatory messages from the US House of Representatives speaker; senior members of the European Parliament and more than 30 national parliaments, including those of the United States, Japan, and European nations; and the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, which comprises more than 30 member countries. Over a dozen delegations from diplomatic allies, the United States, Japan, European nations, and other countries will be arriving in Taiwan to offer congratulations



Taiwan's President-elect Lai Ching-te (centre L) and his running mate Hsiao Bi-khim (centre R) attend a rally outside the headquarters of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) in Taipei

in a concrete demonstration of support for democratic Taiwan. These elections represent an important accomplishment of Taiwan's democracy. They not only demonstrate to the world that the Taiwanese people unequivocally and staunchly uphold their free and democratic constitutional system and self-determination but also underscore Taiwan's strong and healthy democratic resilience, setting another major milestone in its democratic development. Considering the expansion of malevolent influence around the world by authoritarian regimes, the smooth completion of Taiwan's eighth presidential and vice presi-

The elections mark a significant achievement for Taiwan's democracy, showcasing the unwavering commitment of the Taiwanese people to their constitutional system and self-determination

dential election bears testament once again to the fact that Taiwan is a mature democracy, a beacon of freedom, and a bastion of human rights in Asia, as well as an exemplary model of democracy for the world, a statement released by the MOFA of Taiwan said in a statement. In these elections, the people of Taiwan fully demonstrated their will to safeguard the values of democracy and freedom, it added. It further stated that Taiwan will continue to work hand in hand with democratic partners to jointly counter authoritarianism; prevent all attempts to erode democratic systems worldwide; preserve peace, stability, and prosperity across the Taiwan Strait and in the region; and protect the rules-based international order. This will enable Taiwan to remain a force for good and a reliable partner to the international community.

Iran blames Israel, vows revenge after Guards die in Syria strike

AFP | Damascus

Iran yesterday accused Israel of a strike in Damascus that killed five Revolutionary Guards members, and vowed to avenge the latest attack on the Islamic republic's personnel abroad. Israel has been accused of intensifying strikes targeting senior Iranian and allied figures in Syria and Lebanon -- both backers of the Palestinian group Hamas -- raising fears that the Gaza conflict could expand further throughout the region. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) confirmed it lost five members in the strike that it blamed on Israel, its regional arch-foe, updating an earlier toll from four. Hamas condemned what it called a "heinous crime". In Tehran, foreign ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanani also accused Israel of being behind the attack and said Iran "reserves the right to respond to organised terrorism" at the appropriate time and place. Quoting an informed source, Iran's Mehr news agency said "the Revolutionary Guards' Syria intel chief" and his deputy were among those "martyred in the attack on Syria by Israel". Mehr later quoted the IRGC as saying a fifth member wounded in the strike had died. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor said the Israeli strike on the



People and rescuers gather in front of a building destroyed in a reported Israeli strike in Damascus

During more than a decade of civil war in Syria, Israel has launched hundreds of air strikes, primarily targeting Iran-backed forces as well as Syrian army positions

Mazzeh neighbourhood of the capital killed 10 people. The Guards' Sepah news agency blamed the attack on the "evil and criminal Zionist regime (Israel)", and named four of those killed as Hojatollah Omidvar, Ali Aghazadeh, Hossein Mohammadi and Saeed Karimi. The mid-morning strike, which sent a large plume of smoke skywards, was also reported by Syrian state media. Official news agency SANA said a residential building in Mazzeh had been targeted in what it called "an Israeli aggression". The defence ministry said the strike killed "a number of civilians". An AFP journalist said the building had been reduced to debris. It was cordoned off, and ambulances, firefighters and Syrian Arab Red Crescent teams were on site as rescuers searched for survivors. "I heard the explosion clearly in the western Mazzeh area, and I saw a large cloud of smoke," one resident told AFP, requesting anonymity over security concerns. "The sound was similar to a missile explosion, and minutes later I heard the sound of ambulances."

13 students dead in China school fire: state media



Police stand outside a school where 13 people died in a fire in Yanshanpu in China's central Henan province

AFP | Beijing

Thirteen schoolchildren died in a dormitory fire in central China's Henan province, the official Xinhua news agency reported yesterday. The blaze at the Yingcai School in Henan's Yanshanpu village was reported to the local fire department at 11:00 pm (1500 GMT) Friday night, Xinhua said. Thirteen students were confirmed dead and one injured. A teacher at the school told state-run Hebei Daily that all the victims were from the same third-grade class of nine and 10-year-olds. Yesterday evening AFP journalists saw the area around the school cordoned off, with more than a dozen police officers patrolling the scene. The owner of a supermarket told AFP she was asleep when the blaze took hold, but had heard about the tragedy. "The kids at the school are definitely mostly living around this area," she said of the nearby boarding school. "Our kids don't go there so we're not sure about the details," she added. Other shopkeepers in the area said they too had gone to bed by the time the deadly fire hit the dormitory. AFP reporters were blocked from the immediate scene of the inferno, but China National Radio said that some windows of the dormitory building had been smashed. Yanshanpu village was quiet and foggy yesterday night, AFP journalists saw, with just a handful of shops, some unlit buildings and hardly anybody walking on the streets.

Iran says it launched satellite in new aerospace milestone

Tehran, Iran

Iran's Revolutionary Guards launched a research satellite yesterday, a minister said, putting it into a higher orbit in a new milestone for its aerospace programme that has faced Western criticism. The United States has repeatedly warned Iran against such launches, saying the same technology can be used for ballistic missiles, including ones designed to deliver a nuclear warhead. The Islamic republic says its satellite and rocket launches are only for civil or defence purposes, denying any ambition to develop a nuclear weapons capability. "The Soraya satellite of the Iranian Space Organisation... was successfully launched with the Ghaem-100 satellite carrier of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps," the official IRNA news agency said. "This is the first time that Iran has successfully placed a satellite in orbits higher than 500 kilometres (310 miles)," IRNA said. The news agency cited Telecommunications Minister Issa Zarepour as saying that the satellite, which weighs about 50 kilograms (110 pounds), was put in orbit 750 kilometres above Earth. The Ghaem-100 carrier rocket is manufactured by the aerospace organisation of the powerful Revolutionary Guards. It is the country's first three-stage solid-fuel satellite launcher. While Tehran has struggled with several satellite launch failures in the past, the successful launch of its first military satellite Nour-1, into orbit in April 2020, drew a sharp rebuke from the United States. Other Western governments have voiced similar concerns about Iran's aerospace programme. Tehran has been under crippling US sanctions since Washington's 2018 withdrawal from a landmark nuclear deal which granted Iran sanctions relief in return for curbs on its nuclear activities, designed to prevent it from developing a nuclear weapon.

Denial of Palestinian statehood 'unacceptable', says UN chief



Secretary General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres

Kampala, Uganda The right of the Palestinian people to build their own state "must be recognised by all", UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Uganda yesterday. "The refusal to accept a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians, and the denial of the right to statehood for the Palestinian people, are unacceptable," the UN leader insisted in the Ugandan capital Kampala. Such a stance "would indefinitely prolong a conflict that has become a major threat to global peace and security; exacerbate polarisation; and embolden extremists everywhere," Guterres warned. "The right of the Palestinian people to build their own state must be recognised by all." The ongoing bloodshed in the Palestinian Gaza territory was prompted by the October 7 attack on Israel by Hamas fighters. That attack resulted in the deaths of about 1,140 people, most of them Israeli civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures. Israel's relentless bombardment and ground offensive since then have killed at least 24,927 people in Gaza, mostly women and children, according to the Hamas govern-

ment's health ministry. In its final summit communique, the Non-Aligned Movement on Saturday "strongly condemned the illegal Israeli military aggression against the Gaza Strip", and called for "a lasting humanitarian ceasefire". The assembled leaders in Kampala also called for "the independence and sovereignty of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in order to achieve a two-state solution". The Non-Aligned Movement is a forum of 120 countries that aren't formally aligned to any major power bloc. Its members include India, Iran, Iraq and South Africa. The World Health Organization (WHO) has deplored the "inhuman living conditions" in the small coastal territory of 2.4 million inhabitants, many of whom have been displaced by the Israeli action. On Monday, Guterres appealed for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. The United States, Israel's main ally and key supporter in its war against Hamas, has also recently reiterated its support for the creation of a Palestinian state. In recent days, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reaffirmed his opposition to the creation of a viable Palestinian state, drawing criticism from his American ally.



TOP 4 TWEETS 01



What is Netanyahu still doing in post anyway? A two state solution is the only viable plan to avoid a decades long conflict. No peace as long as there is extremism on both sides. @guyverhofstadt

02



The Biden-Harris Administration just approved another nearly \$5 billion in student loan debt cancellation for 74,000 Americans -- the majority of whom are teachers, nurses, firefighters, and other public servants. This is historic progress, but @POTUS and I won't stop here. @VP

03



Places across America that were once left behind are coming back. It's the folks that I meet in our cities and towns that are a big reason why I've never been more optimistic about our nation's future. @POTUS

04



If you post interesting art, either written or visual, add it to the highlights section of your profile. @elonmusk

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

CELEBS

celebs

Julia Roberts jokes about using disgusting technique to maintain youthful looks
Celebretainment

Julia Roberts has joked she “pickles” her head for 36 hours a month to maintain her youthful looks.

The ‘Pretty Woman’ actress, who turned 56 in October, made the admission in a cover interview for British Vogue in which her ‘Notting Hill’ director friend Richard Curtis, 67, quizzed her on what he said were her “seven faces” – which he reckoned ranged from her “famous face” and “career face” to her “feminist face”.

When the filmmaker asked her about her physical appearance and the secret to her youthful appearance Julia put it down to her family, telling Richard: “I don’t know your parents – I’m sure they were lovely people. But my parents? Both very good genes.”

Julia Roberts



Heidi Klum bedridden with sickness after Emmy Awards

Celebretainment

Heidi Klum was bedridden with sickness after the Emmy Awards.

The 50-year-old supermodel may have suffered food poisoning as she shared a video of herself suffering in bed after a very stressful start to the year.

In the short clip shared to her Instagram Story on Tuesday, Heidi gazed into the camera with emoji animations depicting vomiting around the screen.

The previous night, she appeared on ‘America’s Got Talent’ before turning up to Disney’s Emmy Awards after party, which came just one week after attending the Golden Globes.

While Heidi has stunned in various gorgeous gowns during award season, it’s her iconic Halloween outfits that often get people talking.

Back in October, she hosted her now legendary annual spooky party and stepped out in a wild peacock outfit which saw her flanked by backup dancers in green bodysuits acting as a full plume of feathers.

She previously revealed the elaborate costume took six hours and 10 Cirque Du Soleil artists to create, and she deliberate went for something ambitious after

dressing as a “minimal kind of rainworm” in 2022.

She told ‘Entertainment Tonight’: “Hair and makeup maybe took six hours, but really it was more in the planning, meeting with the artists, figuring out their costumes and makeup.”

When it came to deciding on this year’s extravagant outfit, she was keen to get “multiple people” involved after going more lowkey and static with last year’s costume.



Heidi Klum

Kaley Cuoco calls out mom-shamers as she admits baby daughter watched Succession

Celebretainment

Kaley Cuoco let her nine-month-old daughter watch ‘Succession’.

The ‘Based On A True Story’ star, 38, has nine-month-old Matilda with her actor partner Tom Pelphrey, 41, and she has admitted she is not against her little girl having screentime, be it TV or an iPad, and has called on people to stop being so judgemental after a conversation with another mom on a flight.

Revealing she and her little one watched the finale of the hit satirical comedy-drama, which has some colourful language use, she told Jimmy Kimmel on ‘Jimmy Kimmel Live!’. “I knew our flight was coming up. I was like, ‘Oh, my god. How are you going to do this?’...I said, ‘Are you going to watch some TV, put some TV on for the kid?’ She was like, ‘Oh, no. We don’t allow TV yet for our kid.’ And I was thinking, Matilda just watched the first season of Succession last week.

“I was like, okay, so are we not supposed to do that? I don’t understand. I’m like not kidding. We watched the finale. She’s like, oh my god.”

Matilda was “really shocked” by the ending of the pro-

gramme and burst into tears.

Kaley continued: “I told her the show was over, she cried.”

“I think I’m doing everything the opposite than people are doing.”

Jimmy reassured her that he was brought up on television.

He noted: “Now I think television is books, and iPads are television.”

Kaley agreed.

He then quipped: “Like, if you can keep them off the iPad, yeah, put her in front of the television, no problem at all.”

The ‘Big Bang Theory’ star then admitted: “Oh, she loves her iPad, too.”

He asked: “Oh, she’s got an iPad?”

Kaley replied: ‘Oh, she’s watching everything. I have no shame. As long as she’s not crying.’

Jimmy then asked how the tot can work the iPad and for the kid?”

Kaley revealed: “She is getting really good. It’s scary. She can move. The hands move.”

Kaley called out the mom-shamers and insisted a little ‘Succession’ for her baby is no harm.

She added: “One or the other, we’ll see. A lot of judgement. Stop judging the moms out there. Come on, guys. Let them watch Succession.”

Kaley then gushed over how protective Tom is of Mat-Kaley Cuoco



‘We’ll be putting our own stamp on things’: Rachel Brosnahan promises a fresh approach to Superman: Legacy

Celebretainment

Rachel Brosnahan has promised that she and her ‘Superman: Legacy’ co-stars will be putting their “own stamp” on the legendary superhero.

The 33-year-old actress has been cast as Lois Lane in the upcoming DC Universe movie that is being directed by James Gunn and has vowed that the flick – which features David Corenswet in the lead role – will be different from what has come before.

Speaking to Extra

on the Golden Globes red carpet, Rachel said: “We’ve been having a lot of great conversations, David and I, with James Gunn, the director.

“We’ve been talking a lot about where this project fits into the canon of the Supermans

that we know. So hopefully, this’ll be... we’ll be putting our own stamp on things.”

The ‘Marvelous Mrs. Maisel’ star was tight-lipped when quizzed on whether her version of Lois Lane will be wearing glasses in the film.

Rachel replied: “I don’t know, actually. Maybe. We haven’t gotten that far in the fittings yet.”



Rachel Brosnahan

‘I hated making that movie’: Kristen Stewart slams Charlie’s Angels reboot

Celebretainment

Kristen Stewart “hated making” the ‘Charlie’s Angels’ reboot.

The 33-year-old played Sabina Wilson in the 2019 film from director Elizabeth Banks but doesn’t have fond memories of working on the picture.

Playing Variety’s game of ‘Know Your Lines’, Kristen re-

sponded to the quote ‘Did you know that it takes men an additional seven seconds to perceive a woman as a threat compared to a man?’: “This was a mouthful at the time. I remember saying that.

“That was from a little movie called ‘Charlie’s Angels’. We wanted a strong opener, you know? We wanted to really like broadcast what the movie was about. It was a good idea at the time.

“I hated making that movie. I

don’t know what else to say to you.”

Stewart hinted that it was a mistake trying to emulate the two 2000s ‘Charlie’s Angels’ movies that featured the leading trio of Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore and Lucy Liu.

The ‘Love Lies Bleeding’ star explained: “Honestly, the three... you can’t touch (that). Cameron, Lucy and Drew... I love that movie. I love that movie! If that says anything.”

The ‘Charlie’s Angels’ reboot per-

formed poorly at the box office and Elizabeth lamented a “disconnect on the marketing side” that meant that the flick was presented as “just for girls”.

The 49-year-old director told The New York Times newspaper in 2022: “I wish that the movie had not been presented as just for girls, because I didn’t make it just for girls. There was a disconnect on the marketing side of it for me.

“Let me say I’m proud of the

movie. I loved Kristen Stewart being funny and light. I loved introducing Ella Balinska to the world. I loved working with Patrick Stewart. It was an incredible experience.

“It was very stressful, partly because when women do things in Hollywood it becomes this story. There was a story around ‘Charlie’s Angels’ that I was creating some feminist manifesto. I was just making an action movie.”



SUDOKU

1	5		3					
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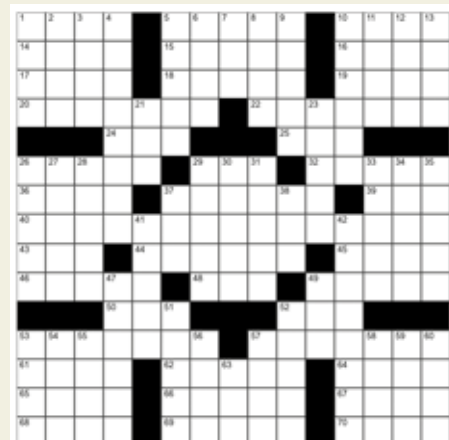
Yesterday’s solution

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



Across

1- Thick slice; 5- Boring tool; 10- Off-the-wall; 14- Lumpy fuel; 15- Babble; 16- Arrow poison; 17- Pearl Mosque city; 18- More healthy; 19- Colada; 20- Garden’s necessity; 22- One’s first needlework piece?; 24- Tiny amount; 25- Miss-named?; 26- Knight’s suit; 29- Sugar amt.; 32- Skill; 36- Idle away time; 37- Zealot; 39- Big Calif.; 40- Make a trade?; 43- Alibi; 44- Sellick film; 44- Yield; 45- Cutting tool; 46- Wrong; 48- Some M.I.T. grads; 49- Follows orders; 50- Family; 52- Comedian Phillips; 53- Collection of weaponry; 57- Engage in textual misprision; 61- Period; 62- Well-founded; 64- Think tank product; 65- In vogue; 66- Elicit; 67- Polo of ‘Meet the Parents’; 68- Third son of Adam; 69- ‘See ya!’; 70- Slaughter of baseball;

Down

1- Move off hastily; 2- Trademark; 3- Over-50 org.; 4- Launching of a rocket; 5- Garden pest; 6- Caspian Sea feeder; 7- Guy’s partner; 8- French summers; 9- Aired again; 10- Slide fastener; 11- Natural blue dye; 12- Panamanian baby; 13- Age unit; 21- Lever for rowing; 23- Birthplace of Muhammad; 26- A, as in Athens; 27- Composer Ned; 28- New Zealand aboriginal; 29- Sip; 30- Long-billed sandpiper; 31- Sanctimonious; 33- Line in a play directed to the audience; 34- Blurred; 35- Forest makeup; 37- East Lansing sch.; 38- Pantry pest; 41- Reddish dye; 42- Member of political party; 47- Rough design; 49- Mantric syllables; 51- Umbilicus; 52- Duck with soft down; 53- Basics; 54- Architect Mies van der; 55- Interview-wear; 56- Hot rock; 57- Open night; 58- Elysium of Genesis; 59- Prefix with -drome; 60- Speaker’s spot; 63- Parking place;

Yesterday’s solution

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

Classifieds



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BEHARI DREEM STAR CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33599768 or BT4WLL@GMAIL.COM

GULF BANGA MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36619658 or ahmedashik41@gmail.com

HARON INTERNATIONAL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675632 or HAFIZHARON666@GMAIL.COM

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

444CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33247176 or ABDULAZIZ593@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

SECURI CORE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or HRGUARDS@SECURICORE.BH

Burj Mushraf Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36167111 or bmc.bahrain111@gmail.com

CAFETERIA NAYNAWI SKY has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37744431 or BOTAMEM5@GMAIL.COM

CHEEMA SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35102428 or RASHIDBAIG1232@GMAIL.COM

HAWAI WELDING SMITHERY & WORK SHOP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33554689 or INFO@HAWAI.BH.COM

SALON DANMAR HAIRDRESSING MENS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33225190 or ALEID.ALNOOR@GMAIL.COM

BU WASEEM W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33416524 or MSD008700@GMAIL.COM

HIP HOP HAIR EXPRESSO BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33302709 or SHIBU_SAJU@YAHOO.COM

IRON CENTER AUTO SERVICE WLL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888815 or INFO01BH@GMAIL.COM

UHAMMAD AJMAL CARGO HANDLING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34348129 or MIANQASIM248@GMAIL.COM

KHALIL ABDULLA MOHAMMED SHARIF (WANA7965) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17672220 or mahmoodbali@hotmail.com

DAWAS COLDSTORE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13982814 or ahmedha.nasser@ewa.bh

SUPER TRUCK STORE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37774590 or miraj.electric@gmail.com

WADIYAN FASHION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38816557 or WFC32338@GMAIL.COM

AYAT CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33086723 or TAMUERAMIR@GMAIL.COM

ABU AAZAM TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33549786 or sadiyousif@gmail.com

FANSO MARKETING & PROMOTION ACTIVITIES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37447677 or SAMELIKE472@GMAIL.COM

CRAZY HAIR SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34664669 or JAHANGIRANDSONSRESTAURANT@GMAIL.COM

ALRABAB ALPAKISTANI CAFETERIA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36138761 or shaheennaz030@gmail.com

ASIL HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558755 or SHEZAD.MUMTAS@ASIL.COM.PK

TAIMOOR PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37275995 or JSREACTIVE6@GMAIL.COM

NURULISLAM RAMJANALI GARAGE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36574283 or NURULIALAM4283@GMAIL.COM

ARISE TRADING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38786000 or INFO@ARISE.BH

U&S CONTRACTING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36758776 or SHAHIDP824@GMAIL.COM

SECURI CORE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or HRGUARDS@SECURICORE.BH

CITY GLASSES W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39813203 or acityglass@yahoo.com

NATIONAL HOTELS COMPANY B.S.C. (DIPLOMAT HOTEL) has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530838 or zalajawi@nhcbahrain.com

GULF MARKETS INTERNATIONAL W .L .L has a vacancy for the occupation of FABRICATOR(FIBERGLASS RODUCTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17490040 or MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM

BLUE ORCHID TRADING & CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001640 or INFO@SSS.BH

ALHARAMEEN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17294041 or RAED.MAHMOOD.AMEEN@GMAIL.COM

AL-SALAM GAS ELECTRONICS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66390986 or cv@SALAMGAS.COM

Strong Force-MGC W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36065102 or jessica@alghanah.com

NEW GOLDEN DIYAR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33448080 or BURASHEDDOCUMENT@YAHOO.COM

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedog.com

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

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

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of HOUSEKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

BLESSY PERFECT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35096931 or BOSEBH@GMAIL.COM

CAPRI CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36620900 or mbkbrm@hotmail.com

New Millennium Construction W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39450511 or WSSBAHRAIN@YAHOO.COM

BAHRAIN HARBOUR EVENTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/ BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17102116 or ACCOUNTS@APEXBAHRAIN.COM

SYNERGIC MAN POWER CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(MOTOR-CYCLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39100088 or HESSAHESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM

HILIA GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34689956 or alaaalaa6680@gmail.com

MOHAMED RASHED BUILDING COMPLETION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051349 or MOHAMEDRASHEDBH50@GMAIL.COM

SMIFA FOODS has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39933199 or THAN19177@GMAIL.COM

NATIONAL BANK OF BAHRAIN has a vacancy for the occupation of SYSTEM ANALYST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32328686 or nawaf.zubari@nbonline.com

ARAD CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17256338 or ACE.5391@GMAIL.COM

AL MANAMA CENTRE FOR HIRING HEAVY MACHINERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17550011 or azizbr@gmail.com

AL YASEEN ELECTRIC CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291154 or A_Y_A_Y@HOTMAIL.COM

AL-SALAM GAS ELECTRONICS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66390986 or cv@SALAMGAS.COM

ALSALAM GAS ELECTRONICS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401212 or MOHSEN@SALAMGAS.COM

AHMED SULTAN ALMUTAWA CONSTRUCTION EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39449659 or ASALMUTAWA.39@GMAIL.COM

ABU HAMEED SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39894173 or FIVE_STAR_CENTER@HOTMAIL.COM

COPY TOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39559832 or ALMARJANTRADING@GMAIL.COM

Alsefah Laundry has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/ PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39678625 or SALMEEN_10_SALMEEN@HOTMAIL.COM

ASKAR CORNER FOOD STUFF has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33327778 or SAEED_SPEED@HOTMAIL.COM

ABU ALHASAN CENTER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270946 or MASHAEL.ALMUTAWA@AL-BUSTANI.COM

BAHRAIN ARTISTIC FRAMES CENTRE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36511786 or bahrainframes@gmail.com

WADI ALNAHRAYN SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39859343 or ANGELEMARIYAM@GMAIL.COM

ALKAYID COLLECTION has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39081800 or QANNASS01@GMAIL.COM

AL KAWAFEL CARPENTRY WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36740125 or ME_WORKSHOP@JALAL.COM

ALANADHOL LAUNDARY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39452539

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedog.com

GULF MARKETS INTERNATIONAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17490040 or MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

BAHRAIN MECHANICAL & DIVING SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SHEET METAL WORKERS (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600924 or info@bmds.co

PREMATOR GULF W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDBLASTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39616888 or NASCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanss.net

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

EBENEZER BUILDING CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39889555 or hanan.adei3313@gmail.com

AMNA SHAHZADI GHULAM HUSAIN LAL DEEN OMER DEEN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17214915 or AMNA56689@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ASHAD SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37977863 or HASANA462@GMAIL.COM

GOLDEN DIYAR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33448080 or BURASHEDDOCUMENT@YAHOO.COM

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

REHAB CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33244441 or YOUNIS-DMS@HOTMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN SKY LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33244441 or YOUNIS-DMS@HOTMAIL.COM

LONGINES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17587140 or HRCHOICE@BATELCO.COM.BH

Rivoli has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561500 or HRCHOICE@BATELCO.COM.BH

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

ALHABIBA SWEETS has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36099235 or KEYANN67@GMAIL.COM

Um Reem Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39071916 or khalifa.aldoser88@gmail.com

TOP TEN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33718905 or Farahiram28@gmail.com

Today foodstuff has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36776376 or ALABASIS31@HOTMAIL.COM

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

SECURI CORE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or HRGUARDS@SECURICORE.BH

HARSH JEWELLERY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38108908 or HARSHJEW.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALSAMER GOLD PLATING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666618 or alamegop@gmail.com

AL SHARAFI GLASS MATERIALS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36393777 or info@alsharifigroup.com

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

OTTAWA TRADING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16511997 or ALMAHRIN4364@YAHOO.COM

BLUE BELL COMPUTER has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596993 or BLUEBELLCOMP@HOTMAIL.COM

Arab Asian Contracting WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or buahmed101@hotmail.com

WADI AL-QAMAR SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34444129 or BINRAJAB2007@GMAIL.COM

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

SABAR AYOUB ZADAH REASTURANT AND GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33112527 or HUSSAINZADAH7@GMAIL.COM

FOUAD JASSIM SALMAN MAKHLOOQ ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39993106 or hasan.fuad@hotmail.com

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

MASKATI BROTHERS & COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464646 or jobs@maskatibros.com

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

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanss.net

Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

OTAWA TRADING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16511997 or ALMAHRIN4364@YAHOO.COM

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Manar Alomran Scaffoldings Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992388 or bahrain@manar.com.sa

AI HELLI SUPERMARKET B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or hanan@ALHELLI.COM

ALHAJ HASSAN GROUP B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPEFITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or HR.ADMIN@HAJIHASSAN.COM

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or profice@almoayyedog.com

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

JAHECON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

ABDULRAHMAN EBRAHIM ALMOOSA CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17531235 or GALIBALMOOSA@YAHOO.COM

MOHAMMED AHMADI CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17268111 or HRD1@MACBH.COM

CIRCLE INTEGRATED SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822218 or INFO@CIRCLE.BH

AL JAZEERA SECURITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822202 or info@jssbahrain.com

AVH INTERIORS CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33224643 or SHYFINBH@GMAIL.COM

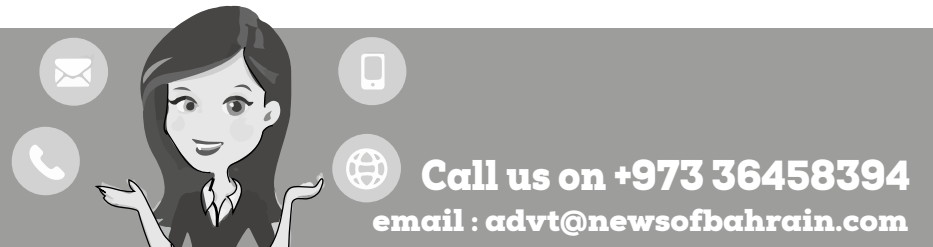
BAHRAIN HARBOUR EVENTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17102116 or ACCOUNTS@APEXBAHRAIN.COM

MIRAL QUEEN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36233838 or BADARMOHAMMADD@GMAIL.COM

ISMAEEL IDREES FOR CARGO HANDLING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33880076 or ISMAILIDRESS16@GMAIL.COM

ADNAN SAYED INTERNATIONAL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34690477 or ADNAN.SCONSULTANCYBH@GMAIL.COM

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

TEN SQUARE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39660750 or KAINAT.HAMEED@GMAIL.COM

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3656639 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

DAR MASAA SALON AND SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37371334 or BATOOL313@GMAIL.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36509129 or info@magicshinebh.com

BARAAN SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36893541 or baraanservices@gmail.com

NILAS GULF MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33661515 or rvintergroup@gmail.com

MARKHOUR MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66968294 or TOFEEQRAJA121@GMAIL.COM

NAJWAN CAFETRIA has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37772188 or OMISA1960@GMAIL.COM

BADER 69 CARS SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably

qualified applicants can contact 33032222 or 69CLASSIC69@GMAIL.COM

BAB AL BALOCHISTAN BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39553866 or NABEELBDC2021@GMAIL.COM

ALHaddad Motors has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785999 or RASOOL@ALHADDAD-MERCEDESSENZ.COM

CALICUT TRADING Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33025777 or CALICUTTRADING786@GMAIL.COM

ROCKLAND TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32229307 or mohammadimranyasin@GMAIL.COM

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

ABU AYAAN INTERIOR DECOR CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECTS COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17673400 or BMCSPC.BH@GMAIL.COM

FINE SIGHT FOR TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS Bahraini partnership company has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR SALES, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39658225 or keepers.bh@gmail.com

GRAND ARAB STAR TECHNICAL SUPPLIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34558032 or MIRRAGE_WAJHI@HOTMAIL.COM

EAGLES GENERAL SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35386088 or NEWEAGLES1957@GMAIL.COM

Gulf Express Lubrication and Oil Center co.wl has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827600 or HRD@THEJUFAIRGRAND.COM

Al enma house for security services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36633319 or admin@enmabh.com

PARADISE STEEL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38784951 or paradisesteel.bh@gmail.com

IQRAS SWEETS AND RESTAURANT has a

vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33405333 or abrarasi93@gmail.com

BODY & MIND LADIES SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33305676 or INFO@BM-BAHRAIN.COM

TRADERS VICS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ARTIST(DISPLAY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17586906 or TARIQ.SHARIF@RITZCARLTON.COM

ANBI FASHION DESIGN CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35436822 or RAJAAANBI38@GMAIL.COM

THE KNOT COFFEE ROASTERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROASTER(COFFEE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39757677 or YOUSIF@AMJASSIM.COM

VARAKALAM TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37050560 or BURJALHARAMSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

MULTIPOINT CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33159624 or AFZAL.MULTIPOINT@GMAIL.COM

CREATIVE LEADER AUTO COSMETICS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34422930 or RAKAN_ALTERY94@HOTMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3656639 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

Blue Cross Veterinary Clinic W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT VETERINARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38271503 or DRNIMISHAKN@GMAIL.COM

HAMEED ALI SAYED COLD STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37016777 or HAMEEDAL80@GMAIL.COM

STAR MANPOWER SUPPLY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000585 or HRSUPPORT@ALSHAMMARYGROUP.COM

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Djokovic admits Federer tensions early in career



Serbia's Novak Djokovic (R) holds the winner's trophy and passes runner up Switzerland's Roger Federer (L) during the presentation at the end of 2019 Wimbledon final (file photo)

AFP | Melbourne

Novak Djokovic has opened up on how he riled Roger Federer when he broke onto the scene as a cocky upstart but said it only fired up his quest to become the best player in the world.

The Serbian world number one is gunning for a historic 25th Grand Slam in Melbourne, where he has already won the title 10 times.

Djokovic is already the most-decorated player in the men's game, with two more majors under his belt than the injured Rafael Nadal and four ahead of the retired Federer, fellow members of the so-called "Big Three".

The 36-year-old enjoyed a storied rivalry with the Swiss great, winning 27 of the 50 matches they played.

He is gunning for an 11th Australian Open in Melbourne to pull clear of Margaret Court, who also has 24 Grand Slam singles crowns.

On Friday, Djokovic coasted past 30th-seed Tomas Martin Etcheverry in his 100th match at the tournament, looking close to his best after patchy performances in the opening two rounds.

He was asked after his victory on Rod Laver Arena to reflect on his early career as he sought to challenge the established powers in the game.

Shots fired! BRAVE CF legend Fakhreddine: I would beat Kamal and Marcin on same night

TDI | Manama

Brave Combat Federation legend and former two-weight champion Mohammad Fakhreddine is eager to return to the most global MMA organization in the world in search of history. A former Light Heavyweight and Middleweight titleholder, "The Latest" now has his eyes set on a third throne, with a run to the Super Welterweight belt firmly on his mind.

Fakhreddine spoke about the motivation behind his return, after being heavily involved outside of the cage at the BRAVE International Combat Week, helping Team Lebanon in the IMMAF Asia Championship, as well as cornering Lebanese fighters in the BRAVE CF cards.

"It was a great experience for



Mohammad Fakhreddine

me to be honest. I coached, I reffed, I judged, I cornered. I did everything that I could possibly do, but there was something missing in there. And, you know,

watching those fights brought that fire back and it made me want to fight", said the former champion.

Aside from that, Fakhred-

dine also explained why he was not impressed with the Super Welterweight title fight and claimed he could beat both the new champion Kamal Magomedov and the former titleholder Marcin Bandel in one night.

"To be honest, the first day I got to Bahrain, I was watching the Super Welterweight title fight, when (Kamal) Magomedov and Marcin (Bandel) went to war. From what I saw from that fight, I could beat both guys on the same night".

While there's no confirmed return for Fakhreddine, the former champion has amped up his training ahead of a return, with the intention of looking to become the first-ever triple champion in mixed martial arts history.

Jokic, Murray star as Nuggets hand Celtics first home loss

AFP | Los Angeles

Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray combined for 69 points as the Denver Nuggets ended Boston's unbeaten home start to the season with a thrilling 102-100 victory on Friday.

A heavyweight showdown between the reign-

ing NBA champions and a league-leading Celtics side lived up to the billing in a gripping battle at Boston's TD Garden.

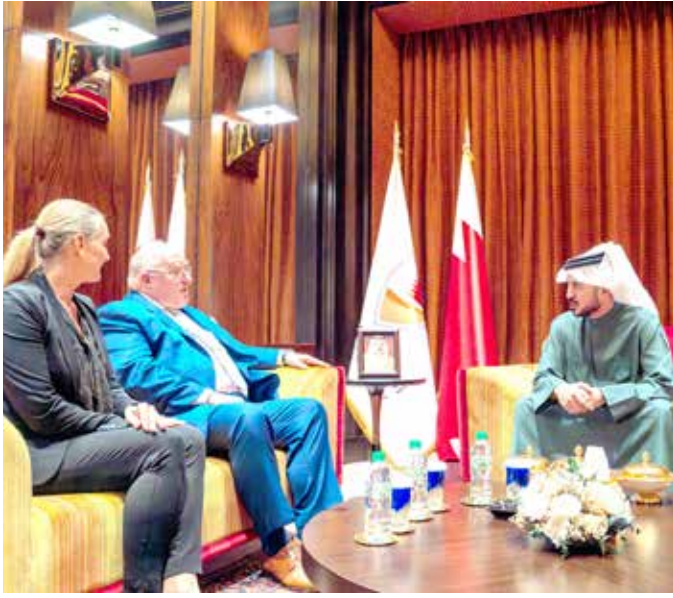
Denver's victory snapped Boston's 20-game unbeaten run at home this season, the Nuggets laying down a psychological marker in what could well turn out to be a

possible NBA Finals preview. Both two-time NBA Most Valuable Player Jokic and Murray were in scintillating form throughout.

Jokic finished with 34 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists while Murray led the Nuggets scoring with 35 points from 15-of-21 shooting.



Nikola Jokic (L) in action



Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) first deputy chairman, General Sports Authority (GSA) president and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa received yesterday German Basketball Federation president Ingo Weiss and International Basketball Federation (FIBA) COO Patrick Mariller. During the meeting, HH Shaikh Khalid and the visiting basketball officials discussed ways of joint-cooperation to further contribute to the development of Bahraini basketball. Also in attendance at the meeting were GSA vice-president His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, BOC vice-president His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, SCYS secretary general Aymen bin Tawfeeq Almoayyed, and GSA CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar. Above, HH Shaikh Khalid with officials during their meeting

Littler's limitless potential showcased in historic Bahrain win

TDT | Manama

Teenage darts sensation and newly crowned Bahrain Darts Masters champion Luke Littler says he had no expectations coming to the Kingdom and playing in his first-ever PDC World Series of Darts event.

Littler, who turns 17 today, continued his amazing rise in global darts over the weekend with a stunning performance at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), which included capturing the coveted title, defeating two former world champions and a World Matchplay winner in the process, and hitting a stunning and rare nine-darter.

He also became the youngest player to win a Professional Darts Corporation (PDC) televised title, and was only the second to ever land a nine-darter on the world series stage.

All these just weeks after finishing as runner-up in the 2024 PDC World Darts Championship held earlier this month—while not competing in any other tour-



Luke Littler receiving his Bahrain Darts Masters champion's trophy alongside BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa, left, and CBX Founder and CEO Carlo Boutagy

naments before Bahrain.

"I've not picked a dart up since the world championship, so I was not expecting anything," said the Englishman after his sensational victory Friday night.

"I just came over to Bahrain thinking to win my first-round game and see who I will be playing in the next round; but I've won all my games and I've got-

ten over the line against a very good Michael van Gerwen [in the final].

"I've proven I've got the ability to win tonight, and I'm happy to win it."

Littler is now looking forward to maintaining his fine form at the highest level of international darts and continuing to make history.



"I can't wait to play in everything. I've not set any goals and I don't want to. I take every competition as it comes, game by game, and see if I can come out as the winner"

LUKE LITTLER

"I can't wait to play in everything," he said. "I've not set any goals, and I don't want to. I take every competition as it comes, game by game, and see if I can come out as the winner."

The 2024 Bahrain Darts Masters was the first stop on this year's World Series of Darts calendar.

BIC and CBX teamed up with the PDC, and in partnership with the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority, to bring the World Series of Darts to the Kingdom for the second straight year.

Swiatek dumped out as Alcaraz shines

Top seed Swiatek shocked as men's world number two Alcaraz delivers a commanding performance in Australian Open

● Noskova, ranked 50th, secures an unexpected win over Swiatek

● Daniil Medvedev overcomes after-effects of late-night match to beat Felix Auger-Aliassime

AFP | Melbourne



Carlos Alcaraz in action

World number one Iga Swiatek joined the rapid exit of top-10 women's seeds from the Australian Open yesterday as Carlos Alcaraz sent a chilling warning to his rivals.

Poland's Swiatek came into the third-round match against Czech teenager Linda Noskova on an 18-match unbeaten run, targeting a first title at Melbourne Park.

But the tournament is turning into a graveyard for the stars and the 22-year-old four-time major winner lost her way after winning the first set, going down 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

A crestfallen Swiatek said she felt the match was under control until she was broken in the second set.

"I feel like I did really everything I could in pre-season to improve some stuff that I wanted to," she said. "Then I came here and I wasn't playing kind of natural anymore."

Noskova, playing in her first Australian Open, said she was "speechless".

"I knew it was going to be an amazing match, but I didn't really think it would end up like

this," said the 50th-ranked player, who faces Ukraine's Elina Svitolina next.

Just three of the top 10 women's seeds remain in the draw at the end of the first week -- defending champion and hot favourite Aryna Sabalenka, Coco Gauff and Barbora Krejickova.

Alcaraz stars

A day after defending champion Novak Djokovic returned to top form, men's world number two Alcaraz laid down a marker in a lopsided contest against Chi-

nese teenager Shang Juncheng lasting just 66 minutes.

The 20-year-old, playing a tour-level match against a player younger than himself for the first time in his career, was leading 6-1, 6-1, 1-0 when his 18-year-old opponent had to retire.

Shang entered the clash on Rod Laver Arena with his upper right thigh strapped and received treatment on the injury during the second set.

Dominant Alcaraz did not face a single break point to set up a last-16 meeting with Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic, who saved two match points to beat last year's semi-finalist Tommy Paul 6-4, 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (9/7), 6-0.

The Spanish second seed is vying with Djokovic for the number one ranking and if they both reach the final it will double as a straight shootout for the top spot.

Alcaraz, who missed last year's Australian Open with an injury, said it was "not the way anybody wants to move on" after the injury to Shang.

But he added: "This is the first time I have moved to the second week in Australia. It feels special."



"I feel like I did really everything I could in pre-season to improve some stuff that I wanted to. Then I came here and I wasn't playing kind of natural anymore"

IGA SWIATEK

Third seed Daniil Medvedev brushed off the after-effects of his 3:40 am finish in his second-round match on Friday to beat Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime in straight sets.

Medvedev, who faces Portugal's world number 69 Nuno Borges next, admitted the early-hours finish had taken its toll.

"It was not easy, I'm not feeling fresh, I'm not feeling 100 percent," said the Russian, who lost to Djokovic in the 2021 Melbourne Park final and Rafael Nadal a year later.

"It was tough, especially after the last match I had."

Borges, who beat 13th seed Grigor Dimitrov, is the first Por-

tuguese player in the Open Era to reach the round of 16 at the Australian Open.

There were also wins for ninth seed Hubert Hurkacz and 19th seed Cameron Norrie, who put out 11th seed Casper Ruud.

Britain's Norrie will play sixth-ranked Alexander Zverev, who brushed aside unseeded American Alex Michelsen in straight sets.

In the women's draw, two-time champion Victoria Azarenka rallied past fellow Grand Slam winner Jelena Ostapenko 6-1, 7-5, winning the last five games.

"I think I'm just ready to give whatever it takes," said Azarenka, who won back-to-back Australian Opens in 2012 and 2013.

"I love a challenge, I love the challenge whenever something is difficult. I love to do that, that makes me excited. I think that brings out the best in me."

She will meet Ukrainian qualifier Dayana Yastremska for a place in the quarter-finals.

Chinese 12th seed Zheng Qinwen said she was inspired by Chinese great Li Na's win in the 2014 final after she beat compatriot Wang Yafan 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (10/8).

Arsenal thrash Crystal Palace to ease back to winning ways

AFP | London

Arsenal breathed new life into their Premier League title challenge as a 5-0 win over Crystal Palace got the Gunners back to winning ways.

Centre-back Gabriel did most of the damage before half-time as he headed in the opener then forced Palace goalkeeper Dean Henderson into an own goal.

Leandro Trossard made it 3-0 on the hour mark before substitute Gabriel Martinelli struck twice in stoppage time.

Victory moves Mikel Arteta's men level with Manchester City and Aston Villa, two points behind leaders Liverpool.

"We wanted to start the second part of the season with a great performance, with a great result, and build that positivity and momentum again," said Arteta. "I think the boys did a good job today."



Gabriel Magalhaes (centre) celebrates after scoring

Arsenal had won just once in seven games prior to a two-week winter break.

However, a warm weather training camp in Dubai looked to have refreshed last season's runners-up, even if they did have very obliging visitors in struggling Palace.

The Eagles have won just once in 12

games to leave them still perilously poised above the relegation zone and pile the pressure on 76-year-old boss Roy Hodgson.

Arsenal's lack of a natural goalscorer up front has been scrutinised during their downturn in form and the fact it was one of his defenders that ended a barren run in front of goal will remain a concern for Arteta.

No side has scored more goals from set pieces in the Premier League this season than Arsenal and it was two corners that undid Palace before half-time.

"Credit to all the coaches, to (set-piece coach) Nico (Jover) for the amount of time and belief we put in," added Arteta.

"It's got a huge impact - we've seen that as well in recent games that we've lost when we've conceded set-pieces. The outcome is very different when you don't concede and score."

Something 'miraculous' needed to stop Djokovic in Australia: Laver

AFP | Melbourne

Tennis great Rod Laver suggested yesterday that engravers could start putting Novak Djokovic's initials on the Australian Open trophy, with something "miraculous" needed to prevent him winning an 11th title.

Laver, the only player to twice win all four singles Grand Slams in the same calendar year, called the Serbian superstar "amazing" and admitted he would be shocked if anyone beat him.

"He has all the shots, he knows exactly when he can play them, when he can't play

them," the 85-year-old told Australian media after arriving at the tournament from his California home.

"He's priming himself to get through to the final."

Laver, who has the centre court at the Australian Open named after him, added that Djokovic's athletic prowess and tennis brain set him apart from everyone else.

"It almost unfolds in front of him, what he should be doing. He's a great champion," said the Australian 11-time Grand Slam winner.

"He serves well. His ground strokes are unbeatable."

Bahrain claim dramatic win!

Star midfielder Ali Madan fires in stoppage-time winner against Malaysia in AFC Asian Cup

● Bahrain claim first victory of tournament to keep hopes of knockout stages alive

● Nationals have one fixture left in Group E against Jordan on Thursday this week

TDI | Manama

Ali Madan fired in a dramatic winning goal in the fifth minute of second-half stoppage time to lift Bahrain to a hard-earned 1-0 victory over Malaysia last night in the AFC Asian Cup in Doha.

The star midfielder sent in a left-footed effort from the outside edge of the penalty box that barely made it past the opposing goalkeeper and into the net.

Madan's strike earned the Bahrainis the full three points with their first win of this year's competition, keeping their hopes alive of making it past the preliminary stage.

Bahrain are currently third on the Group E standings with their lone victory so far, which followed a 1-3 loss to continental giants South Korea earlier last week.

The South Koreans and Jordan top the group, with the Jordanians occupying first place on goal difference. The two teams played to a 2-2 stalemate in yesterday's other divisional fixture.

Malaysia are bottom of the table following their second straight loss yesterday.

The nationals play one last game in this phase as they hope to make it to the next round.

They take on Jordan on Thursday later this week in their



Mohammed Al Hardan challenges for the ball against Syamer Kutty Abba

decisive fixture, which will be played at Khalifa International Stadium at the Qatari capital. The Bahrainis must win to ensure their place in the round of 16, or at least be one of the four best third-placers from the six groups in the preliminaries to make it through.

South Korea and Malaysia face off in the other Group E clash that same day. Both matches are scheduled to kick off at 2.30pm, Bahrain time, at separate venues.

In last night's encounter, both sides had a few chances on either side of the break but neither could break through.

Heroics

Just as it appeared that Bahrain would end the game with

a disappointing draw, Madan provided his end-game heroics with the late winner.

His shot came after a corner-kick by Ali Hassan Saeed was cleared by Malaysia defender Shahrul Saad. Madan received the ball outside the area and then set himself up for a left-footed shot.

His attempt was low and it rolled past

Standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Jordan	2	1	1	0	4	4
South Korea	2	1	1	0	2	4
Bahrain	2	1	0	1	-1	3
Malaysia	2	0	0	2	-5	0



Bahrain have three points on the Group E standings with their lone victory so far. They must win their last fixture against Jordan on Thursday to ensure their place in the round of 16, or at least be one of the four best third-placers from the six preliminary round groups

a group of players in the box before



Abdulla Al Khalasi celebrates Bahrain's win after the full-time whistle

squeezing into the bottom-right corner of the net past goalkeeper Syihan Hazmi, who tried to make a diving save.

The goal sent the Bahrain team, including their bench with head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi,

into jubilant celebrations. The nationals were able to hold on to their slim advantage until the final whistle soon after.

Earlier in the contest, chances were few and far between. Prior to Madan's winner, Bahrain's best

chance was from Saeed, also in second-half stoppage time in the 91st minute. He had a brilliant one-two with Abdulla Yusuf, who provided the perfect through-ball. But Saeed's left-footed effort in the face of goal was too weak, and it was saved by Hazmi with his left leg.

Bahrain goalkeeper Ebrahim Luthfallah also made a good stop early in the game on a 16th minute shot by Arif Aiman from the centre of the box.

Malaysia's best chance came late on when defender Matthew Davies hit a powerful volley that flew just inches over the cross-bar.

Pizzi started last night's match with Luthfallah between the posts, Mohammed Adel, Sayed Mahdi Baqer, Waleed Al Hayyam and Hazza Ali in defence. Madan was joined in the five-man midfield by Komail Al Aswad, Mohammed Marhoon, Moses Atede and Mohammed Al Hardan, while Abdulla Al Hashash was the lone man in front.



Ali Madan celebrates after scoring

Bahrainis take on South Korea in crucial game

● Bahrain need to win or at least draw to ensure place in semi-finals of 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship

TDI | Manama

Bahrain play a crucial game against South Korea tonight in a tie that will decide their fate in the 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship, being hosted by the Kingdom.

The nationals are vying for a place in the semi-finals and are currently leaders in Group Two of the competition's main round. They have three points from a win and a draw from their two games so far, but Kuwait and the South Koreans are just a point behind on the standings, with Iraq in fourth with one point.

The nationals need to win or at least draw against South



Bahrain's Mohammed Habib Ahmed...key player

TODAY'S MATCHES

Main Round:
(Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town): 1pm Iran vs UAE; 3pm Kuwait vs Iraq; 5pm Japan vs Qatar; 7pm South Korea vs Bahrain

Martyr Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah Cup:
(Bahrain Handball Association Arena in Um Al Hassam): 1pm Kazakhstan vs India; 3pm Saudi Arabia vs Hong Kong; 5pm China vs Oman; 7pm New Zealand vs Chinese Taipei

Korea to make sure that they advance to the last four. A loss could possibly knock them out of further title contention.

Bahrain's match with the nine-time winners is scheduled for a 7pm start at Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town.

Kuwait and Iraq face off at 3pm in another critical clash that will decide the final Group Two ranking and the two advancing semi-finalists.

Standings

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Bahrain	2	1	1	0	5	3
Kuwait	2	0	2	0	0	2
South Korea	2	0	2	0	0	2
Iraq	2	0	1	1	-5	1

Powerhouses

Five-time defending champions Qatar and powerhouses Japan have already secured their berths in the final four, having won both their games in Group One so far. They face off at 5pm today for group supremacy.

In the semis, which are scheduled for Tuesday, the winners of Group One play the runners-up of Group Two, while the winners of Group Two face the runners-up of Group One.

The final will take place on Thursday later this week.

The 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship also acts as a qualifier for 2025 IHF World Men's Handball Championship.

ship. The top five senior men's national teams secure berths in next year's worlds, to be held in Croatia, Denmark, and Norway.

The Bahrain squad, coached by Icelandic tactician Aron Kristjansson, is spearheaded by inspirational captain and international handball star Hussain Al Sayyad. The rest of the roster includes Mohammed Abdulhussain, Mohammed Mirza, Ali Mirza, Mohammed Habib Ahmed, Ali Eid, Hassan Shehab, Ahmed Almaqabi, Ahmed Jalal, Hassan Al Samaheji, Mohammed Habib Nasser, Mujtaba Al Zaimour, Mohammed Hameed, Qassim Qambar, Ahmed Redha, Abdulla Al Zaimour, Hassan Madan, Jassim Khamis, Ali Al Ashiri and goalkeeper Hesham Issa.

The Bahrainis have never won the Asian men's title, but have claimed the silver medals five times in the past and also won the bronze medal once.