

Bahrain drawn in tough Group H for preliminary round of 28th IHF Men's Handball World Championship, taking place January 2023, co-hosted by Poland and Sweden | P12



Palestinians hand bullet that killed journalist to US for examination



Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

Reuters | Ramallah, West Bank

The Palestinian Authority has handed the bullet that killed prominent Palestinian-American Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh to US authorities for forensic examination, a Palestinian official said yesterday.

Abu Akleh was killed on May 11 while covering an Israeli military raid in the Palestinian city of Jenin in the occupied West Bank. Her death sparked Palestinian outrage and international condemnation.

"The relevant parties in the state of Palestine agreed to allow the U.S. side to conduct ballistic works on the bullet. It was handed over to them," Akram al-Khatib, General Prosecutor for the Palestinian Authority, said in a statement published by the official Palestinian news agency WAFA.

Defence Minister Benny Gantz said in May that Israel was "prepared to conduct an investigation in collaboration with international actors".

After its own investigation, the Palestinian Authority said Abu Akleh had been shot by an Israeli soldier in a "deliberate murder".

Quakes rattle Iran, tremors felt in GCC

TDI | agencies

Several quakes having magnitudes above 6 hit Iran in quick successions earlier yesterday, killing at least five and injuring 49 people.

Rescue efforts started immediately, but aftershocks continued to push local residents onto the streets.

Reports said people in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia also felt the tremors.

The National Centre of Meteorology said residents in the UAE reported experiencing tremors.



People sit next to a destroyed home after an earthquake in Sayeh Khosh village in Hormozgan, Iran

Some 24 tremors, two with a magnitude of 6.3 and 6.1, followed the 2 am local time quake that flattened the village of Sayeh Khosh near Iran's Gulf coast in Hormozgan province.

The most recent tremor occurred around 8 am, officials told state TV.

The first earthquake occurred around 02:00 (21:30 GMT) with a magnitude of 6 at a depth of 16 km, according to the American Seismological Institute (USGS). It was followed by two other aftershocks, two hours later, with a magnitude of 5.7 and 6, at a depth of 10 km, according to the same source.

The tremor occurred in an area 100 kilometers southwest of the port of Bandar Abbas, according to the United States Seismological Institute.

YOU KNOW WHAT

Major geological fault lines crisscross Iran, which has suffered several devastating earthquakes in recent years. In 2003, a magnitude 6.6 quake in Kerman province killed 31,000 people and flattened the ancient city of Bam

United against terror

Bahrain, US join hands to boost terrorism fight, sign three MoUs

The United States is keen to provide the necessary support and enhance the exchange of expertise between the two countries on counter-terrorism, and cybersecurity

US SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS



General Shaikh Rashid and Mayorkas sign the MoUs

Bahrain, like the United States, has always been aware of the need for a comprehensive approach to combating terrorism, including effective measures to cut off sources of funding and support

GENERAL SHAIKH RASHID BIN ABDULLAH AL KHALIFA, MINISTER OF INTERIOR

Deals are for combating terrorism financing, cybersecurity and drone systems

US hails Bahrain as a key partner and ally in facing regional and international security threats

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's fight against terrorism and terrorist financing got stronger yesterday, with the Kingdom signing three deals in this direction with the United States of America.

The Memorandum of Understandings with the US focuses on boosting cooperation in combating terrorist financing, cybersecurity and unmanned aircraft systems.

General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior and Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, the United States Secretary of Homeland Security, signed the deals.

Alejandro Mayorkas termed Bahrain a key partner and ally of the United States in fighting security threats and risks in the regional and international arenas. Mayorkas also expressed the readiness to provide necessary support and exchange experience with the Kingdom.

"It is important to enhance cooperation with friends and

partners around the world against human trafficking," Shaikh Rashid told Mayorkas, praising the efforts of the US in training and information exchange.

"Bahrain, like the United States, has always been aware of the need for a comprehensive approach to combating terrorism, including measures to cut off sources of terrorist funding and support," the minister stressed.

"HM the King's approach focuses on promoting the values of democracy, tolerance, co-existence and openness to the other had a great impact consolidating justice, reform security and stability," said Interior Minister.

The minister further remind-

ed the meeting that continued international cooperation is vital to combat cyber-attacks and building cybersecurity capabilities, citing the rising threat posed by 'unmanned' aircraft systems in recent years.

The Interior Minister also praised the role of the United States in developing the capabilities of the police in the field of combating terrorism.

Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid Al-Khalifa, the Ambassador of Bahrain to the United States, Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, the Interior Ministry's Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs and the accompanying delegation of the minister were present at the meeting held yesterday.

Iranian-flagged tanker in Greece tugged to Piraeus port

Reuters | Athens

An Iranian-flagged tanker seized by Greece in April, part of whose cargo was confiscated by the United States, was being towed to the port of Piraeus yesterday, Greek coast guard officials said, after Greek authorities approved its release.

For over two months the Iranian-flagged Lana has been anchored off the Greek island of Evia in a diplomatic impasse which strained Athens' relations with Tehran amid growing tensions between Iran and the United States.

"It left Karystos at 06:30 am (0330 GMT) and is expected to reach Piraeus around 10:00 pm," one official said.

Greek authorities in April impounded the Lana and its oil cargo with 19 Russian crew members on board near the coast of Evia, due to sanctions following legal action by the United States.



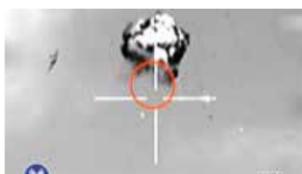
The Liberian-flagged oil tanker Ice Energy transfers crude oil from the Iranian-flagged oil tanker Lana (former Pegas), off the shore of Karystos, on the Island of Evia, Greece

Attack foiled

Israel says it shot down Hezbollah drones headed for gas rig

Reuters | Jerusalem

Israel said it had shot down three drones headed from Lebanon toward one of its Mediterranean gas rigs yesterday and accused the Iranian-backed



Hezbollah group of launching them.

Screen grab of a video released by the Israeli Defence Forces shows the downing of a drone that entered Israeli airspace (file)

The Israeli military said its forces had intercepted "three hostile UAVs which approached the airspace over Israel's economic waters".

An Israeli security source said the drones had been unarmed,

although this was not immediately confirmed by the military.

Saturday's interceptions were the first time an air defence system mounted on an Israeli naval ship had downed an incoming target, the military said.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
10033904

ACTIVE CASES
13817

DEATHS
1494

DISCHARGED
613432

NEW CASES
1416

CRITICAL
12



East Sitra City phase 1 completed 28%

Works, Housing minister jointly inspect work progress

TDT | Manama

The first phase of construction of East Sitra City, a public housing mega-project in the Kingdom, which was started in 2020 for 1077 housing units, has achieved a 28% completion.

“We expect the current phase to complete during the second half of 2023,” said Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj, the Minister of Works, and Amna bint Ahmed Al Romaihi, the Housing and Urban Planning Minister.

They were paying a visit to the city of East Sitra to inspect the work progress.

Reviewing the work progress, the ministers also stressed the need for closer cooperation and coordination in implementing development projects in the Kingdom, especially in the housing sector.

Works Minister said they completed detailed designs for the project awarded earlier this year by the tender board for BD424,000.

The project will have two phases, the first of which aims to link the city to the surrounding road network through two sea bridges, one in the northwest and the other in the southwest. A four-lane road will connect the project to its street.

The first phase includes Sheikh Salman bin Ahmed Al-Fateh Street rehabilitation over



Ministers during the inspection visit

two kilometres.

The second phase includes linking the housing project with the road network by creating a street with three lanes in each direction.

Works Minister said they are currently studying a project to build a sewage water transmission line from the city of East Sitra to Sitra North Sewage Treatment Plant.

The ministry is also working on a project to build a conveyor line for treated sewage water

from Sitra North Sewage Treatment Plant to East Sitra City.

On the work progress, the ministers said they had completed more than 14 kilometres of sewage lines, 4 kilometres of rainwater drainage network lines, more than 2 kilometres of water lines, and the installation of more than 1 kilometre of sidewalks so far.

The general plan of East Sitra includes all educational, health, commercial and social services and facilities, said the Housing

minister.

“Schools, kindergartens, nurseries, 36 bus stops, a gas station, a centre for police and firefighters, main power stations, a water station, 24 parks and play areas are part of the project,” said Amna bint Ahmed Al-Rumaihi.

The city will also have 13 Houses of worship, a health centre, a social and development centre for children, a ballroom, 16 commercial centres, a post office, and 11 communication towers.



The project is part of a concurrent series of 245 million BHD (\$649 million) public housing projects launched in the country in the 2010s, such as the Northern City and East Hidd City.



Proposed in 2014 by the Bahraini Ministry of Housing, the project involves land reclamation of 253 to 540 hectares (5.8 million square metres) off the eastern coast of Sitra island. Once completed, the reclaimed islands are estimated to consist of 3,157 housing units, serving more than 20,000 citizens.

ANF foils attempt to smuggle heroin to Bahrain: report

TDT | agencies

Pakistani Anti-Narcotics Force has foiled an attempt to smuggle heroin to Bahrain at Faisalabad airport, said re-

ports.

The report quoting ANF said officials held a man who had concealed 103 capsules of drugs in his abdomen. No further details are released.

Bahrain, Montenegro to boost ties

TDT | Manama

Bahrain and Montenegro have agreed to develop and frame their cooperation on the youth and exchange experiences. Bahrain's Youth and Sports Minister Aymen bin

Tawfeeq Al Moayed and Montenegro's Secretary of State in the Ministry of Sports and Youth Amina Cikotic stressed in a virtual meeting the importance of bilateral relations that has opened up new vistas for wider cooperation.

Focus on Forensic Audit

TDT | Manama

The Financial and Administrative Oversight Bureau is expanding the tasks of the Forensic Audit as one of the control tools for protecting public money, said a top official.

The move aims at helping entities in the Kingdom identify and bridge gaps to prevent and avoid violations and abuses, said Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, the President of the Financial and Administrative Oversight Bureau.

A forensic audit allows the examination and evaluation of financial information of a firm or an individual for use as evidence in a court of law. It can gather evidence to prosecute a party for fraud, embezzlement or other financial claims.

The bureau in Bahrain has completed 11 such investigations and is currently working on two missions, said Shaikh Ahmed, adding that they are also simultaneously carrying out other regular tasks.

Shaikh Ahmed said the bureau is preparing a plan to follow up on previous reports and communications.

The process is for developing control mechanisms with a deep technical dimension to act as an “alarm” bell. Shaikh Ahmed said they have also formed an internal team to carry out such tasks in 2021.

On the new strategic plan of the Bureau (July 2021 - June 2025), Shaikh Ahmed said it focuses on modernising and developing tools and expanding its coverage of new areas.

The head of the investigative audit team, the Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Control, Dr Issa Al-Nuaimi, said they conducted a training programme for “Capacity Building and Enhancement of Skills and Experience in the Field of Investigative Auditing” in cooperation with the international company Kroll.

“About 25 of our employees and relevant authorities benefited from the first phase,” he said. Employees, Dr Al-Nuaimi said, had also obtained professional qualifications in this field, such as CFF and CAMS for tracking the tiresome practices of the perpetrators of financial crimes to hide and disguise funds.

Police arrest driver for jumping Red lights in Riffa

TDT | Manama

Jumping red lights multiple times in the Riffa area had landed a driver in the dock.

Police said the man drove through several red lights, endangering people's lives and money.

Video clips of his adventure also went viral on social media platforms.

The head of the Traffic Prosecution said Public Prosecution is pursuing legal actions against the suspect.

The man, police said, confessed to his crime when prosecutors confronted him with clips of his on-road reckless-



ness. The man is in provisional detention pending further action.



Interior Ministry Undersecretary Shaikh Nasser bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa met United Nations Special Envoy for Road Safety Jean Todt. The meeting was on the sideline of a road safety meeting at the UN headquarters. The undersecretary expressed his appreciation to the UN envoy for the awareness initiatives and ongoing support to UN road safety meetings to improve global road safety. He stressed the importance of expanding the circle of the exchange of expertise and using modern methods to enhance traffic safety.



Interior Ministry's Health and Social Affairs Directorate has participated in the First World Conference on Health in Detention. The delegation was headed by Lt-Col Fatima Omar Abdulghfar. The conference aimed to provide health care professionals, managers working in detention settings, and academics to share their experiences, challenges, lessons learnt and research, and to mutually promote a whole government stewardship approach to health in detention.

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Mosquitoes' humming fills air across Bahrain

Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

Mosquito infestation is becoming a huge matter of concern across the Kingdom with citizens and residents urging the authorities to take immediate action.

People are in great dismay as it is a great health concern. They say, for the first time, it has become a national worry with the humming of mosquitoes heard from Gudaibiya to Riffa and Galali to Hamad Town.

It is learnt that many residents and citizens have alerted their local municipality authorities to take immediate action. "We have a huge mosquito problem here, and we really don't know where it is breeding," a resident of Umm Al Hassan told The Daily Tribune.

"We are worried about our children. They are badly affected by stings and twice we took them to skin doctors after being worried about their health," he added.

An expatriate in Gudaibiya said he has never seen "this

many mosquitoes in his 30-plus years of stay in the Kingdom".

"I came here thirty years before from the Indian city of Mumbai, which is notorious for mosquitoes. One of the greatest reliefs I felt here was the absence of mosquitoes' humming, which was never harmonious with my ears.

"Now, I am seeing quite many mosquitoes here. Though it can't be compared to a Mumbai-like situation, I urge the authorities to nip the issue in the bud itself as many mosquito-borne diseases could pose a large threat to society."

Studies reveal that many varieties of mosquitoes exist in the Kingdom and a prominent of them are Aedes Aegypti, a kind of mosquito that is adept at breeding indoors because it prefers to lay its eggs on the walls of containers, rather than in pools or other natural water sources.

Lawmakers have many a time earlier called for action after receiving complaints of mosquito infestation outbreaks in many neighbourhoods across the Kingdom.

They have been asking the authorities to deploy pest control teams to address the menace in association with the Health Ministry.

Residents, citizens in plea to tackle mosquito menace across the Kingdom

"I came here thirty years before from the Indian city of Mumbai, which is notorious for mosquitoes. One of the greatest relief I felt here was the absence of mosquitoes' humming, which was never harmonious with my ears
AN EXPATRIATE, WHO RESIDES IN GUDAIBIYA

"We have a huge mosquito problem here, and we really don't know where it is breeding. We are worried about our children. They are badly affected by stings and twice we took them to skin doctors after being worried about their health
A RESIDENT OF UMM AL HASSAN

During the previous years, the Health Ministry dispatched pest control teams to control mosquito infestation in many areas including Galali, Tubli, Malkiya and Buhair Valley.

Globally, mosquito-borne diseases affect nearly 700 million people and kill close to one million yearly, according to the World Health Organisation.

Mosquitoes swallow viruses or parasites living in the blood, which can be transferred to another individual through their bites.

While the mosquito may not be affected, these mosquito-borne diseases can cause immense suffering for humans. Common types of mosquito-borne diseases include Malaria, Dengue, West Nile virus, Chikungunya,

Yellow Fever and Zika.

These diseases are not a present cause to worry as they have not been reported in the Kingdom in any recent times.

Bahrain was declared "Malaria-free" following the successful elimination of all indigenous transmission, over four decades ago, in 1979.

This success was attributed to vigorous control measures which included residual spraying, control of mosquito breeding sites and active case detection.

According to various studies, imported Malaria cases have been reported once in a while since then, owing to a large im-

grant population.



The average lifespan of an Aedes mosquito in nature is two weeks. The mosquito can lay eggs about three times in its lifetime, and about 100 eggs are produced each time.

Aedes aegypti, the yellow fever mosquito, is a mosquito that can spread dengue fever, chikungunya, Zika fever, Mayaro and yellow fever viruses, and other disease agents. The mosquito can be recognized by black and white markings on its legs and a marking in the form of a lyre on the upper surface of its thorax.

Why is it called Aedes aegypti?

Aedes (Greek for "unpleasant") aegypti is the principal vector of several human diseases, including chikungunya, dengue, yellow fever, and Zika.

How far can Aedes mosquito fly?

The mosquito can fly up to 400 meters looking for water-filled containers to lay their eggs but usually remains close to the human habitation. Aedes aegypti is a daytime feeder: The peak biting periods are early in the morning and in the evening before dusk

Feather, feather, everywhere, not a space to live in Demistan

TDT | Manama

Residents of the Al-Ridha neighbourhood in Demistan say they are in a protracted and bitter fight to stay clear of an annoying waste, poultry feathers.

Not just one or two feathers, but several hundred, people there say.

Residents say it is everywhere, inside their houses, on the corridors, streets and even inside their mosque, reports *AlAyam*.

The report says the complaints are from residents in complexes 1026 and 1019.

The features, people claim, are from a poultry company



near Demistan.

The area, reportedly, has been bearing the brunt of the

foul smell of chicken for years.

Residents there hope authorities will find a solution soon.

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CAPTAINS CORNER

Better health is on the 'cards'



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

The launch of the Sehati Health Card is a step in the right direction for Bahrain. Health is the cornerstone of any nation's progress – a healthy population translates into more productivity and less time and money lost to illness. It also makes for a happier and more fulfilled people.

Bahrain has always put health services first and we have a truly well-designed public and private healthcare system to take care of us. Now, the Sehati cards with help to digitize the management of healthcare and make free/subsidized healthcare a right that can be enjoyed by Bahraini and foreign resident alike. And it also takes into account the many advances in the healthcare scenario: for instance, Bahrain now has many private hospitals and specialized clinics and centres to augment public healthcare services. The Sehati card allows patients to toggle between public and private medical care seamlessly.

Above all, this move will help to rationalize the cost of medical care by making health insurance mandatory for one and all. Once again, Bahrain has tapped the advances in digital technology to strengthen services to the citizens and residents. We are seeing the foundation being laid for a future healthcare delivery system that is prepared and which will ensure effective care across the board.

Finally, a word about the compassion that underscores Bahrain's healthcare delivery system: while the government is rightfully asking for insurance cover from tourists, visitors and residents, unlike the more "advanced" and "developed" countries, nobody is denied medical attention in an emergency simply for lack of insurance cover. Bahrain's public healthcare system is invested in saving lives and it is always treatment first, questions about coverage later. In this matter also, as in many other things, Bahrain has much to teach the world.

(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)

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Police arrest three men for peddling drugs

TDT | Manama

Police arrested three people for promoting narcotics in three separate cases registered yesterday. The General Department of Investigation and Criminal Evidence said the suspects are between 35 and 41 years of age.

Police made the arrests after investigating tip-offs received. The information



said certain people are peddling drugs in the Kingdom.

The ensuing investigation resulted in the iden-

tification and arrest of the suspects. Officers said they took necessary legal measures to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.



LMRA inspection campaign



Several workers were arrested yesterday during a campaign held jointly by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority and the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs in the Northern Governorate. The arrests were for violations related to LMRA-Law and Immigration authority in the Kingdom. LMRA stressed the pivotal role of society in supporting the government's efforts in preserving the economic, social, security and health stability. Additionally, the public has been urged to report any labour market violations and irregular migrant workers.



NMS bags 25 gold, 40 silver in WSC Dubai

TDT | Manama

New Millennium School bagged 25 gold and 40 silver medals in the Global Round of the World Scholar's Cup held in Dubai from 24th to 28th June 2022.

The event witnessed the participation of 1,500 stu-

dents from 30 countries and 145 different (American, British and Indian) schools around the globe. From NMS, 18 scholars in six senior teams took part. All teams qualified for the Tournament of Champions 'Yale Round' to be held in the USA in November 2022.

NMS students qualified for

the Dubai event after winning the Champion Scholar in Senior Division in the regional round held in Bahrain

NMS school team members are Rohan Atul Singhvi, Anirudh Sachin Nair, Siddharth Ramesh, Kritika Gupta, Nikhil Nandi, Darsh Thareja, Niranjana Menon, Fayiz Rahman,

Shiven Thareja, Lakshmi Bijay, Tanishka Vishal Bhatia, Sanya Singh, Nayonika Nair, Vaidehi Pramod, Anne Margaret Devassy, Aadya Mahipal, Gautami Shetty, and Dhiyashree Dhinesh.

Students showcased their talent at the scholar's fair by setting up a stall represent-

ing Bahrain. They distributed souvenirs and dates and set up a henna station.

Principal Arun Kumar Sharma, Chairman Dr Ravi Pillai, Managing Director Geetha Pillai and Principal Arun Kumar congratulated students, teachers and parents on their success.



NHS students 'Beat the Heat'

The New Horizon School held its annual 'Beat the Heat' activity, where students prepared salads, punches, and juices using seasonal fruits and lemonades. Students highlighted the importance of eating fruits and drinking juice to overcome the extreme summer heat. Students' council members of the Health & Safety Department presented a drive on Beat the Heat. Students also shared ways to protect themselves by wearing caps, using umbrellas whenever stepping out during the day, and drinking enough water.

BTEA meeting mulls Manama Souq revival

TDT | Manama

The revival of Manama Souq was the focus of a discussion held yesterday in a meeting held by the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority.

Dr Nasser Qaedi, the CEO of BTEA, stressed that the Authority plans the overall development of the Souq by collaborating with the members of the Market Development Committee, and other relevant public or private organisations.

"BTEA is keen to continue conducting several events in the Manama market, building on the success of the author-



Officials during the meeting

ity's recent market events, including Bab Al Bahrain fashion show, and the Manama Gold Festival, which featured more than 150 stores and generated sales of more than 1 million dinars among

other events," Dr Qaedi said.

Dr Qaedi addressed several initiatives that BTEA is putting into action, including Bahrain Design Week and tenders for the renovation of historic ca-

fes and public spaces.

Fouad Al-Shukr discussed the potential for expanding the successful events held by BTEA in the market to include additional locations within it, such as the old municipi-

pal square and Tawawesh Square.

Ibrahim Daoud Nuno said as work progresses, more tourists and visitors will come to the market, which will benefit not only traders but also Bahrain as a whole.

The MSC comprises representatives from the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, Urban Planning and Development Authority, Bahrain's Economic Development Board, the Capital Governorate, and the Capital Municipal Council as well as several Manama Souq traders.

Ryanair cabin crew in Spain announce 12 more days of strikes

Reuters | Madrid

Spain-based cabin crew at Ryanair (RYA.I) plan to strike for 12 days this month to demand better working conditions, the USO and SICTPLA unions said yesterday, raising the prospect of travel chaos as the summer tourist season gets under way.

The announcement came on the final day of the crews' current strike, which began on Thursday and forced Ryanair to cancel 10 flights in Spain yesterday.

Cabin crew will strike on July 12-15, 18-21 and 25-28 across the 10 Spanish airports where Ryanair operates, the unions said in a statement. "The unions and crew of Ryanair ... demand a change of attitude from the airline," they said in a statement, calling for Ryanair to resume negotiations over issues including payment of the minimum wage.

The unions also urged the government "not to allow Ryanair to violate labour legislation and constitutional rights such as the right to strike".

Ryanair cabin crew unions in Belgium, Spain, Portugal, France and Italy had taken strike action in recent days.

Tamkeen continues to meet supported enterprises

● Tamkeen stressed the importance of constant communication with the private sector

● Attendees praised Tamkeen's proactive initiative

TDI | Manama

The Labour Fund "Tamkeen" continues to hold meetings with enterprises that had received support through recently launched programmes to deliver a greater impact on the national economy and respond to the changing market needs.

This initiative is a part of Tamkeen's efforts to communicate with micro, small, medium and large enterprises to understand their future aspirations while also exploring how they can utilize Tamkeen's support in a number of areas, including training, investment, and expansion.

Tamkeen stressed the importance of constant communication with the private sector to understand their challenges and



Meeting with Tamkeen backed enterprises

explore solutions.

The attendees praised this proactive initiative, stressing the importance of enhancing collaboration opportunities.

Haleema Ammar, the Founder of Kashta for Paper and Paper Products, thanked Tamkeen stating: "This was a very fruitful meeting where we were able to meet with Tamkeen's leadership to explore solutions in line

with the needs of the market. We were able to learn and hear from various enterprises and projects within the Kingdom, which confirmed the willingness of Tamkeen's management to explore and address the inquiries and challenges raised."

Hussain Sharaf, the Chief Executive of Nawat Trading W.L.L. praised Tamkeen's transformation initiative. He said, "The

meeting with Tamkeen's team came at the right time, as we are now seeing even greater collaboration and cooperation with the private sector. From our end, we are working with various parties to further embrace digital transformation and eCommerce so that we can achieve strong and sustainable growth and have a positive impact on the national economy."

Boeing disappointed after China's top three airlines buy 300 Airbus planes

Reuters

Boeing Co (BA.N) said yesterday "it is disappointing that geopolitical differences continue to constrain US aircraft exports" while responding to China's three biggest state-owned airlines buying 300 jets from European planemaker Airbus SE (AIR.PA).

The US planemaker added that it continued to urge a productive dialogue between the US and China governments.

Tesla's deliveries fall, hurt by China's COVID shutdown

Reuters

Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) delivered 17.9% fewer electric vehicles in the second quarter from the previous quarter, as China's COVID 19-related shutdown disrupted its production and supply chain.

The world's biggest electric car maker said yesterday that it delivered 254,695 vehicles in the April to June period, compared with 310,048 vehicles in the preceding quarter, ending a nearly two-year-long run of record quarterly deliveries.

A resurgence in COVID-19 cases in China had forced Tesla to temporarily suspend production at its Shanghai factory and also affected suppliers' facilities in the country.

Tesla is ramping up production at the Shanghai factory with the easing of the COVID-19 lockdown, which will help boost deliveries in the second half.

Early in June, Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk told executives that he had a "super bad feeling" about the economy and needed to cut about 10% of staff at the electric car maker.

GM outsells Toyota in second quarter

Reuters

General Motors Co surpassed Toyota Motor Corp in second-quarter US car sales, data on Friday showed. GM, which lost its crown as the US sales leader last year for the first time since 1931 to Toyota, said it sold 582,401 vehicles in the quarter through June, 15% lower than a year earlier.

Toyota sold 531,105 vehicles, down 22%. GM said it had nearly 100,000 vehicles waiting for more parts, which forced it to offer a weak second-quarter profit forecast.

Philippines President Marcos vetoes economic zone bill championed by sister

Reuters | Manila

In one of his first legislative acts, newly-inaugurated Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Jr has vetoed a bill sponsored by his lawmaker sister that would have created a special economic zone north of the capital, the presidential office said yesterday.

Marcos, 64, who took office on June 30 after winning the May election by a landslide, has inherited over \$200 billion in government debt driven by his predecessor's pandemic re-



Newly-elected Philippines President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr

sponse and the impact on the economy.

"Fiscal prudence must be exercised particularly at times when resources are scarce and

the needs are abundant," Marcos said in a letter on Friday addressed to Congress.

Creating a new special economic zone, which offers lengthy and wide ranging tax perks to investors, would pose a "substantial financial risks to the country", Marcos said.

In May, the upper chamber of congress passed a bill creating a special economic zone in Bulacan province. It was authored by Senator Imee Marcos, one of the president's many political allies in Congress.

The special economic zone

would have included a \$15 billion international airport project of conglomerate San Miguel Corp (SMC.PS). The international airport will be designed to handle 100 million passengers annually, compared with the 31-million capacity of the existing main gateway in Manila.

Marcos, the son of the Philippine ruler overthrown in a popular uprising 36 years ago, was sworn in as the country's president on Thursday, promising to strive for unity and a better future while praising his late father's legacy.

iGA, Microsoft hold workshop on best government practices in Cloud

TDI | Manama

The Information and eGovernment Authority, and Microsoft, a leading technology company, organised a workshop on the latest innovations with the participations of Chiefs Information Officers and managers representing various government agencies in Bahrain.

The workshop is inline with the recent renewal of the strategic partnership between the government of Bahrain - represented by the Information and eGovernment Authority - and Microsoft to support national efforts and accelerate the pace of digital transformation in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Mohammed Ali Al Qaed, CE of the Information and eGovernment Authority, said the existing cooperation between Bahrain and leading organizations in the information and communica-



Participants of the workshop during a photocall

tion technology field, including Microsoft, played a pivotal role in achieving national goals and supporting the digital transformation process in the Kingdom.

"This event is an important

opportunity to showcase the new capabilities that will be achieved through this partnership," the CE said.

"Workshops for employees of government agencies will also

help to refine and develop national competencies working in the technology sector in the government." Sheikh Saif bin Hilal Al Hosani, General Manager of Microsoft Bahrain and Oman,

said: "We look forward to fulfilling our duty in this partnership to support the government to take advantage of these opportunities."

During the workshop, the

Information and eGovernment Authority reviewed its experience in the End Point Manager (Intune) cloud computing service, which is the best leading practices in managing users' devices from computers and smartphones to work the necessary updates and improvements to operating systems and applications.

Microsoft reviewed its leading cloud services such as Azure, Azure Marketplace and Power Platform, which would support the government Bahrain in providing its citizens with services, modernizing infrastructure, and enhancing cloud computing security and compliance standards.

The company also made recommendations on best measures and practices to improve the digital experience and reinvent the way services are delivered to citizens and residents.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

IF IT WERE NOT FOR HOPES, THE HEART WOULD BREAK
THOMAS FULLER

News in brief

Over two dozen crew missing as storm Chaba hits Hong Kong



More than two dozen crew on an engineering vessel with 30 people on board were missing after it snapped in two in waters off Hong Kong as tropical storm Chaba passed through, authorities said. Three crew members were rescued, and search and rescue operations were continuing for others about 300 km (200 miles) southwest

of the city, the Hong Kong Government Flying Service said. Some of the crew had abandoned the vessel and harsh weather conditions were hampering rescue efforts, they said. Chaba skirted the global financial hub, bringing heavy rain and wind, restricting public transport and forcing many businesses to close.

Visiting the Malaysian city where she was born, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong said her story showed that Australia was part of Asia, as new data showed more than half of Australians were born overseas or had an immigrant parent.

Wong visited Kota Kinabalu, the capital of Sabah state, where she lived for eight years as a child before migrating to Australia, as part of an official visit to Malaysia. "One in two Australians are either born overseas or have parents who were born overseas so this is a very Australian experience," she told media on her first visit to Malaysia since a Labor government won office last month.

Australia part of Asia, minister says on visit to Malaysian birthplace



Two injured in Israeli 'aggression' targeting Syria's Tartus, Syria says



Syria yesterday accused Israel of launching an "air aggression" from the Mediterranean west of Lebanon's second city Tripoli, with several missiles targeting an area to the south of Tartus. This led to the injury of two civilians and some material damage, the Syrian ministry of defence said. The Israeli military declined to comment on the strike, which would be the first since Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid took office as the head of Israel's interim government ahead of a Nov. 1 election.

The German city of Hamburg will ration hot water for private households and limit the maximum heating temperature in the event of an acute gas shortage, its environment senator said as Germany braces for possible outages of Russian gas imports.

Germany moved last month to stage two of its three-tier emergency gas plan after Russia reduced deliveries via the Nord Stream 1 pipeline -- a step before the government rations fuel consumption. The government is appealing to citizens and companies to cut energy consumption and help the country fill its gas storage capacity by winter but cities are also considering measures if gas runs out.

Hamburg senator warns of hot water rationing if gas shortage becomes acute



COVID-19: Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths	Global tally
1 USA	89,507,083	1,043,281	553,889,978
2 India	43,488,519	525,168	
3 Brazil	32,434,200	671,764	
4 France	31,208,925	149,585	6,360,472
5 Germany	28,392,629	141,292	
6 UK	22,741,065	180,417	Recovered: 528,547,414
7 Italy	18,695,954	168,484	
8 Russia	18,436,679	381,216	New cases +288,920
9 S. Korea	18,379,552	24,562	
10 Turkey	15,123,331	99,032	New deaths +475
11 Spain	12,818,184	108,111	
12 Vietnam	10,748,127	43,087	
13 Argentina	9,367,172	129,070	
14 Japan	9,352,645	31,297	

Middle East

Figures as of closing

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	796,268	+457	9,211	+2	778,679	8,378
UAE	949,384	+1,796	2,317		929,516	17,551
Kuwait	644,451		2,555		637,295	4,601
Oman	390,244		4,260		384,669	1,315
Qatar	383,807	+515	679		378,092	5,036

Ohio police officers shot fleeing Black man dozens of times, lawyer says

Reuters

Police killed Jayland Walker, a Black man in Ohio, by shooting him dozens of times as he ran from officers, a lawyer for his family said, citing a review of police video footage due to be made public today.

In comments published yesterday by the Akron Beacon Journal, attorney Bobby DiCello described the video as "brutal," and said Walker's relatives worried protests this weekend could turn violent.

The shooting was the latest in a string of killings of Black men by police in the United States that critics say are unjustified, including the 2020 murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis which ignited global protests against police brutality.

"We're all bracing for the community's response and the one message that we have is the family does not need any more violence," DiCello said.



Philippines President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr

Akron police have said Walker fired a gun at officers who were pursuing him. They plan to release their body camera footage following a news conference on Sunday, hours before a protest march is scheduled.

Officials have said the incident began when officers tried to stop Walker for a traffic violation while he was driving early Monday morning. Walker

fled, according to the Akron Police Department, which said officers reported a gun being fired from the suspect vehicle.

After several minutes Walker exited his vehicle and ran, while officers chased him on foot and fired at him, saying he presented a "deadly threat," the police department said in a statement on Tuesday.

Walker, 25, was pronounced dead in the parking lot where he fell.

DiCello said his team has not seen any evidence Walker fired a gun and that police body camera footage showed him running with his back to officers when they fired.

"He is just in a down sprint when he is dropped by I think the count is more than 90 shots," DiCello told the Akron Beacon Journal. "Now how many of those land, according to our investigation right now, we're getting details that suggest 60 to 80 wounds."

Striking Paris airport workers call new walkout on July 8-10

Reuters | Paris

Striking Paris airport workers said yesterday they would stage another walkout at the French capital's main international hub from July 8-10 to press their pay demands, signalling further disruption for early summer travellers.

Ground staff at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport have staged a series of strikes to demand a wage hike to cushion the pain of inflation, emboldened by booming demand for air travel and staff shortages caused in part by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The current walkout, which began on Thursday, is due to continue until Sunday, though France's civil aviation authority said less disruption was expected.



Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport employees gather outside the Terminal 2E as they take part in a protest

Airport operator ADP had offered staff a 4% pay rise if they agreed to end the strike on Friday, but workers rejected the offer, a union representative told Reuters.

"A majority of workers think the offer is not good enough,"

said Daniel Bertone, who represents the CGT union. "They don't trust management and they don't accept the 'it's this or nothing' blackmail."

"We notified the management of a new strike plan from the 8th until the 10th of July," Bertone added.

Indian landslide searches enters third day with 25 dead

Reuters | Guwahati

The search for survivors buried under a landslide in India's northeast entered its third day yesterday with 25 bodies pulled from the rubble and nearly 40 people still missing.

Security forces and disaster relief teams raced against the clock to find any more survivors trapped under the debris at a railway construction camp in Manipur state.

Most of the victims were reserve soldiers from the Territorial Army who had been working on the railway project.

Eighteen people have so far been pulled alive from the earth with no more rescued overnight, an army statement said, while 12 reservists and 26 civilians remain missing.

The situation at the scene of the landslide was "still serious" with rainfall and bad weather hampering rescue efforts, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said.

India's remote northeast has been pummeled by heavy rainfall in recent weeks, triggering landslides and floods.

Dozens were killed in the re-



Soldiers wrap bodies of victims of a mudslide in Noney, northeastern Manipur state, India

18 people have so far been pulled alive from the earth with no more rescued overnight, an army statement said, while 12 reservists and 26 civilians remain missing

gion after flooding last month, with relentless rains causing

landslides and inundating homes.

Earlier this year, at least 10 people, including a four-year-old child, were killed in floods and landslides after unusually heavy rains hit several parts of India.

Experts say climate change is increasing the number of extreme weather events around the world, with damming, deforestation and development projects in India exacerbating the human toll.

Blasts

The mayor of Ukrainian

Russia grinds out gains in the east

Reuters | Washington

Blasts shook Ukraine's southern city of Mykolaiv yesterday as Russia's artillery helped grind out gains in the east, after a week when the civilian death toll from Russian missile strikes climbed in urban centres well behind the frontline.

"There are powerful explosions in the city! Stay in shelters!" Oleksandr Senkevych, mayor of the Mykolaiv region which borders the vital Black Sea port of Odesa, wrote on the Telegram messaging app as air raid sirens sounded.

The cause of the blasts was not immediately clear, although Russia later said it had hit army command posts in the area. Reuters could not independently verify the reports.

Kyiv says Moscow has intensified missile attacks on cities far from the main battlefields in the country's east and that it deliberately hit civilian sites. Ukrainian troops on the eastern frontlines meanwhile describe intense artillery barrages that have pummeled residential areas.

Russia says it has targeted military sites and denies aiming at civilians. Kremlin spokesperson

US, Taliban talk ear

AFP | Doha

Talks between the United States and the Taliban continued in Doha earlier this week to discuss earthquake aid, the State Department said Friday, months after the two parties last meet in the Qatari capital in March.

The Taliban is seeking a way to unlock some of the country's foreign reserves -- currently frozen by the United States -- following a devastating earthquake last month, with the United States looking for assurances the money would go to help the population.

During the meetings Wednesday and Thursday, the United States reiterated an earlier pledge of \$55 million in new assistance for earthquake relief, the State Department said in a statement Friday.

And "the two sides discussed in detail US actions to preserve \$3.5 billion in Afghan central bank reserves for the benefit of the Afghan people," the statement said, money which the White House said last week the US was "urgently" working to sort out.

Last week's 5.9-magnitude earthquake in eastern Afghanistan, which killed more than 1,000 people and left tens of thousands homeless, adds urgency to the funding debate.

"The United States expressed condolences for the loss of life and suffering in Afghanistan caused by recent earthquakes," the State Department said of the meeting, which was led by Special Representative for Afghanistan Thomas West.

The United States raised "con-

Battle of Adrianople: Roman Emperor Constantine I defeats his co-emperor Licinius, who flees to Byzantium

Battle of Horns of Hattin: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt and Syria, destroys Jerusalem's crusader army



Battle of Gettysburg, largest battle ever fought on the American continent, ends in a major victory for the Union during the US Civil War

Dow Jones publishes its 1st stock index, the Dow Jones Transportation Average

Explosions rock Ukraine southern city

A city Mykolaiv warns residents to stay in shelters as powerful explosions rock the city



Aftermath of a missile strike, amid Russia's invasion on Ukraine, in Mykolaiv,

Dmitry Peskov said "Russian Armed Forces do not work with civilian targets".

The Chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces, Valery Gerasimov, inspected Russian troops involved in what Moscow calls its "special military operation", although it was not clear if he was in Ukraine.

The inspection follows slow but steady gains by Russian forces with the help of relentless artillery in east Ukraine, a focus for Moscow after it narrowed its broader war goals of toppling the government following fierce Ukrainian resistance.

"Definitely they are trying to

demoralise us. Maybe some people are affected by that, but for us it only brings more hatred and determination," said a Ukrainian soldier returning from Lysychansk, Ukraine's last bastion in Luhansk province.

Russia is seeking to drive Ukrainian forces out of Luhansk and Donetsk provinces in the industrialised eastern Donbas region where Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Kyiv since Russia's first military intervention in Ukraine in 2014.

Russia's TASS news agency quoted a source close to Russia-backed forces in Luhansk saying Ukraine's last forces in Lysychansk were under intense

BETTER YOU KNOW

Russia is seeking to drive Ukrainian forces out of Luhansk and Donetsk provinces in the industrialised eastern Donbas region where Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Kyiv since Russia's first military intervention in Ukraine in 2014

attack. "They will be defeated in the near future if they do not surrender," the source said.

It was not possible to independently verify the report. Ukrainian officials did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment.

Houses 'burning down'

Russian forces seized Sievierodonetsk, a major city in Luhansk this month, after some of the heaviest fighting of the four-month-old war that pounded

whole districts into rubble. Other settlements now face similar bombardment.

"Private houses in attacked villages are burning down one by one," Luhansk Governor Serhiy Gaidai said on Telegram, adding that shelling stopped Lysychansk residents from dousing fires.

Ukraine has appealed for more weapons from the West, saying its forces are heavily outgunned by the Russian military.

Troops on a break from the fighting and speaking in Konstantynivka, a market town about 115 km (72 miles) west of Lysychansk, said they had managed to keep the supply road to the embattled city open, for now, despite Russian bombardment.

"We still use the road because we have to, but it's within artillery range of the Russians," said one soldier, who usually lives in Kyiv but asked not to be named, as comrades relaxed nearby, munching on sandwiches or eating ice cream.

"The Russian tactic right now is to just shell any building we could locate ourselves at. When they've destroyed it, they move on to the next one," the soldier said.

Russia has also struck cities well behind the frontline. A missile slammed into an apartment block near the southern port city of Odesa on Friday, which the authorities said killed at least 21

people. A shopping mall was hit on Monday in the central city of Kremenchuk, leaving at least 19 dead.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy denounced the strikes in an address on Friday as "conscious, deliberately targeted Russian terror and not some sort of error or a coincidental missile strike". Moscow has denied such charges.

Thousands of civilians have been killed and cities levelled since Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24 in what Moscow calls a "special military operation" to root out nationalists. Ukraine and its Western allies say it is an unprovoked war of aggression.

Despite being battered in the east, Ukrainian forces have made some advances elsewhere, including forcing Russia to withdraw from Snake Island, a Black Sea outcrop about 140 km (85 miles) southeast of Odesa that Moscow captured at the start of the war.

Russia had used Snake Island to impose a blockade on Ukraine, one of the world's biggest grain exporters and a major producer of seed for vegetable oils. The disruptions have helped fuel a surge in global grain and food prices.

Russia, also a big grain producer, denies it has caused the food crisis, blaming Western sanctions for hurting its exports.

Earthquake aid, foreign reserves in Doha



A Taliban fighter guards aid at the camp site for the survivors of an earthquake in Paktika province, Afghanistan

YOU KNOW WHAT

Last week's 5.9-magnitude earthquake in eastern Afghanistan, which killed more than 1,000 people and left tens of thousands homeless, adds urgency to the funding debate

cerns regarding increased interference by the Taliban in the delivery of humanitarian assistance" and "concerns regarding transparency in delivery of services," the statement said of the aid.

According to the State Department, US representatives also

pushed the Taliban authorities on women's rights -- a sticking point which led Washington to cancel talks in Doha in March, when the group closed girls' secondary schools in Afghanistan.

"The United States supports the Afghan people's demands that girls be allowed to return to school and that women be allowed to work, contribute to the country's economic growth, and move and express themselves freely," the statement said.

The hardline Islamist Taliban took over in August 2021 after the United States gave up a 20-year military effort.

Washington at the time froze \$7 billion in reserves and the international community halted billions in direct aid that Afghanistan and its population of roughly 40 million people had relied on.

The currency has collapsed and the country descended into a serious economic crisis, although some assistance has been restored.

Biden predicts states will try to arrest women who travel for abortions

Reuters | Washington

President Joe Biden predicted on Friday that some U.S. states will try to arrest women for crossing state lines to get abortions after the Supreme Court overturned the constitutional right to the procedures nationwide.

Thirteen Republican-led states banned or severely restricted the procedure under so-called "trigger laws" after the court struck down the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling last week. Women in those states seeking an abortion may have to travel to states where it remains legal.

Convening a virtual meeting on abortion rights with Democratic state governors on Friday, Biden said he thinks "people are gonna be shocked when the first state ... tries to arrest a woman for crossing a state line to get health services."

He added: "And I don't think people believe that's gonna happen. But it's gonna happen, and it's gonna telegraph to the whole country that this is a gigantic deal that goes beyond; I mean, it affects all your basic rights".

Biden said the federal government will act to protect women who need to cross state lines to get an abortion and ensure their access to medication in states where it's banned.

New Mexico's governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham, told the



US President Joe Biden participates in a virtual meeting with governors while discussing reproductive health care

People are gonna be shocked when the first state ... tries to arrest a woman for crossing a state line to get health services. And I don't think people believe that's gonna happen. But it's gonna happen, and it's gonna telegraph to the whole country that this is a gigantic deal that goes beyond; I mean, it affects all your basic rights

JOE BIDEN

meeting her state "will not cooperate" on any attempts to track down women who have

had abortions to punish them. "We will not extradite," she said.

Abortion rights groups have filed legislation in multiple states seeking to preserve the ability of women to terminate pregnancies.

Judges in Florida, Louisiana, Texas and Utah have since issued decisions preventing those states from enforcing new restrictive abortion laws, while Ohio's top court on Friday declined to block the Republican-led state from enforcing an abortion ban.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul told the group that "just a handful of states" are going to have to take care of health of women across the country.

"There is such stress out there," Hochul said. "It is a matter of life and death for American women," she added.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



My thanks and appreciation to #SaudiArabia Ambassador Abdulaziz Alwasil for your strong partnership and support to @WHO during your tenure in Geneva. I wish you all the best in your next role. Together, for a healthier, safer, fairer world!

@DrTedros

02



The Supreme Court's reversal of Roe v. Wade will upend the lives and impact the health of millions of women. As I've said, this isn't over. In addition to my actions to protect women's right to travel for care and access FDA-approved medication, these Governors are stepping up:

@POTUS

03



For some in the "pro-life" movement, women who have an abortion should be prosecuted for murder and subjected to the death penalty. That awful development may not be so far-fetched: today's US Supreme Court would probably allow it.

@kenroth

04



We have to show strength and unity to deter aggressors. Together, we can achieve a huge amount for the betterment of Europe and for the world.

@trusslitz

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

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Rock-solid De Minaur beats British wildcard Broady to reach last 16



Australia's Alex de Minaur in action

Reuters | London

Alex De Minaur proved rock solid as he ended British wildcard Liam Broady's Wimbledon run in the third round yesterday, winning 6-3 6-4 7-5 to reach the last 16 for the first time.

For the second match in succession, the 23-year-old was up against a British left-hander, and as against Jack Draper the 19th seed gave a masterclass of precision hitting.

Broady, playing in the third round of a Grand Slam for the first time after knocking out seeded Argentine Diego Schwartzman in five sets, threw everything in his arsenal at De Minaur.

But finding a way past one of the quickest players in men's tennis was exhausting with De Minaur picking up balls that

he had no right to get back.

De Minaur, whose British girlfriend Katie Boulter had earlier lost her third-round match, dominated the first set, striking 12 winners to Broady's one as he subdued the Court One crowd, most of whom were cheering the home favourite.

World number 132 Broady played more aggressively after that but dropped serve at 2-2 and De Minaur grabbed a two-set lead.

To his credit, Broady refused to go quietly and cupped his ear to the crowd after winning one point, and they responded to try to roar him back into contention.

De Minaur served for the match at 5-4 in the third but Broady broke for the first time as the Australian wavered for the first time in an increasingly nerve-jangling contest.

Gauff suffers earliest Wimbledon exit after defeat by Anisimova

Reuters | London

Coco Gauff's Wimbledon challenge came unstuck in the third round yesterday when she was beaten by familiar foe Amanda Anisimova 6-7(4) 6-2 6-1 in an all-American showdown.

The two Florida-based players had made their way through the junior ranks at the same time, with Anisimova thrashing Gauff to win the U.S. Open junior title in 2017.

Hence when the duo walked on to Centre Court on the sixth day of these championships, they were already all too familiar with each other's strengths and weaknesses.

Yet during the opening exchanges, 11th seed Gauff threatened to wallop Anisimova as she had two break points to go 4-0 up. An error from the 18-year-old Gauff and a smash from her opponent



Coco Gauff

kept 20th seed Anisimova alive in that game.

From then on, Anisimova began to work her way back into the contest, winning the next four games to nudge 4-3 ahead in what turned out to be a tight, yet topsy-turvy, first set.

When Anisimova smacked a forehand into the net to surrender the opening set, Gauff shook Centre Court with a roar of "Come on".

At that stage, only one point separated the two players with Gauff having bagged 51 of the 101 points contested.

Swiatek's 37-match winning streak ends at Wimbledon

AFP | London

Iga Swiatek was dumped out of Wimbledon in straight sets yesterday by French veteran Alize Cornet, ending the world number one's 37-match winning streak.

Cornet, ranked 37, took advantage of an error-strewn performance from her Polish opponent to win 6-4, 6-2 on Court 1 in their third-round tie.

The top seed was on the back foot right from the start of the match, broken in her first two service games, and could not get back on level terms.

The 20-year-old broke at her first opportunity in the second set but Cornet broke back immediately, repeating the feat twice more as Swiatek's game



Iga Swiatek returns the ball to Alize Cornet

fell apart.

Swiatek made a total of 33 unforced errors in an uncharacteristically sloppy display.

She had not lost a match since her defeat to Jelena Ostapenko

in February at Dubai, winning her past six tournaments, including the French Open.

Cornet is contesting her 62nd consecutive Slam, matching Ai Sugiyama's record.

Sainz takes first pole at soggy Silverstone

Carlos Sainz takes maiden pole for 150th start at British Grand Prix

● Verstappen alongside on front row

● Leclerc third for Ferrari

● Hamilton fifth on the grid

AFP | London

Carlos Sainz grabbed his maiden pole position yesterday when he outpaced world champion Max Verstappen, who survived a spin in an exciting rain-hit qualifying for the British Grand Prix.

The 27-year-old Spaniard clocked a best lap of one minute and 40.983 seconds to beat the Red Bull driver by 0.072 seconds in the closing minute of a tense session run in treacherous wet conditions.

His first pole came ahead of what will be his 150th Grand Prix start in Sunday's race, just two weeks after he was a very close second to the Dutchman in a thrilling finish at the Canadian Grand Prix.

In a topsy-turvy session that saw positions shuffled rapidly in the changing conditions, Charles Leclerc was third in the second Ferrari ahead of Sergio Perez of Red Bull and home hero seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes.

After promising to fight for the front row, it was a disappointment for the local fans as Hamilton failed to extend his run of eight British front row starts.

Lando Norris was sixth for McLaren ahead of two-time champion Fernando Alonso of Alpine, George Russell in the second Mercedes, Zhou Guanyu of Alfa Romeo and Williams' Nicholas Latifi.

"I put together a lap that I thought was nothing special, but it was on the board to see how it was -- and it was pole position which came as a bit of a surprise!" said Sainz.

"I was struggling a lot with



Ferrari driver Carlos Sainz of Spain steers his car during the qualifying session

151

attempts were needed for Carlos Sainz to earn his first Formula One pole

the standing water. There was a lot more standing water on the racing line and it was very easy to have snaps and lose the lap."

He added, as a joke, that as a Spaniard he was unaccustomed to racing in the wet British conditions.

Verstappen, who was briefly booed by a section of the crowd, said: "It was tricky -- raining and drying, so you had to be on the track at the right time. The car was working well, but it was a bit of a lottery."

Leclerc, winner of six poles this year, said: "I'm happy for Carlos. He did a great job. I spun on the last lap, the lap when you need to put everything together -- and I didn't. So I didn't deserve to be on pole."

Wet and windy

The session began in wet and windy conditions with sufficient rain to persuade the teams to run on intermediate wet tyres, Leclerc swiftly setting

the pace for Ferrari.

An early spin by Valtteri Bottas briefly brought out the yellow flags before the steady rain began to ease off and the circuit began to dry rapidly.

To the delight of the massed ranks of British fans, Russell was on top, before Verstappen emerged to demonstrate his current supremacy in all conditions.

The opening session ended with another nightmare for the Silverstone-based Aston Martin team, whose headquarters are within a short walk of the circuit.

Both four-time champion Sebastian Vettel, in 18th, and Lance Stroll, 20th, were eliminated along with the two Haas drivers Kevin Magnussen, 17th, and Mick Schumacher, 19th, and 16th-placed Alex Albon in his heavily-revised Williams.

At the top, Verstappen led the way ahead of Leclerc and Russell.

The rain continued in Q2 with high plumes of spray making vision difficult as Hamilton struggled.

Briefly, Chinese driver Zhou went top for Alfa Romeo for a few early seconds before Alonso, Perez and the Red Bulls established the normal order and Hamilton slotted into second.

This left Nicholas Latifi clinging on in 10th place and a possible appearance in the top-ten

“
First pole position, it's always special, and especially to do it in Silverstone in the wet. Kept it cool through the session and toward the end I decided to push

CARLOS SAINZ

shootout for Williams, equalling his previous best at last year's wet Belgian Grand Prix where he was classified ninth.

It was then Verstappen again ahead of Leclerc, Russell, Sainz and Hamilton, who was seeking to add to his haul of seven Silverstone poles and five in the last eight years.

As Q3 began, the rain eased with a warning that it would return, but the track remained slippery -- proved when Verstappen spun and recovered on Hangar Straight, to gasps from the crowd.

With six minutes remaining, Alonso went top to be usurped swiftly by Leclerc and then Verstappen while Hamilton rose to second as the track began to dry with three minutes remaining.

It set up a thrilling finale as the drivers delayed to exploit the conditions with an 'as late-as-possible' lap -- a scenario in which Sainz revelled with a pole-grabbing finale.

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Children of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs; HH Shaikh Hamad bin Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa and HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa have begun training at Real Madrid Academy which is being overseen by the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF). HH Shaikh Hamad and HH Shaikh Mohammed participated in the drills which witnessed wide participation

Jakobsen wins Tour de France stage two as Van Aert takes yellow



Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl Team's Fabio Jakobsen celebrates after winning stage 2 of the Tour de France. Reuters | Nyborg

Bahrain victory against Syria 'a big game'

● **Bahrain take on Kazakhstan tomorrow in Astana in must-win final Group D contest in qualification competition for FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's win over Syria on Friday was "a big game" for the senior men's national team, who were fielding a number of new players on their roster who contributed to a result that kept their hopes alive in Asian qualification for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023.

"It was a tough game for us; we changed [several] players and we just played together for the first time, but we were prepared—it was a big game," said star guard Maitham Jameel



Bahrain coach Mindaugas Lukosius reacts during their game against Syria in Aleppo on Friday night

during the post-match Press conference in Aleppo.

Head coach Mindaugas Lukosius added: "We are not a long time together. After the GCC Games, we made some changes and now we had new players before this game. We didn't know what to expect as we did not even play any friendly games.

“It was a tough game for us; we changed seven or eight players and we just played together for the first time but we were prepared—it was a big game

MAITHAM JAMEEL

I think it was a very good win for us.”

The Bahrainis upset their Syrian counterparts 76-67 on their opponents' home court for their first win after five tries in Group D of World Cup qualification.

It was their penultimate fixture in these continental qualifiers, which they wrap up tomorrow against group leaders Kazakhstan in Astana.

Bahrain must win that contest and hope Syria lose against Iran the same evening to have any chance of advancing to qualifying's next round. Only the top three teams in each of the four

groups in Asia march through.

"Yes, we want to win, sure we want to win, but most important is we need to show a good game—a good team performance and fight and do everything we need on the court," Lukosius said of their game tomorrow against the undefeated Kazakhs.

"We are satisfied about the result against Syria, but we are more satisfied with what we did on the court.

"Our main goal in Kazakhstan is to continue our work, to continue our performance like we did here [in Syria]. We will be focused on our game."

Bahrain's roster for their last two qualification games features naturalised big man Wayne Chism; mainstays Maitham Jameel, Ahmed Hassan Al-Durazi, Mohammed Ameer, Ali Shukrallah, Ali Jaber, Mustafa Hussain, and Subah Hussain; and newcomers Ali Hussain, Ahmed Bin Danea, Nader Shakher and Nader Ali.

“Today is 'incroyable' as we would say in French. For me it was a long process, step by step. A lot of people helped me along the way. This is to pay them back so they can see it was not for nothing

FABIO JAKOBSEN

classification.

Dutchman Fabio Jakobsen claimed the second stage of the Tour de France, a 202.2-km flat ride from Roskilde to Nyborg, in a stunning sprint finish after pulling ahead of Wout van Aert and Mads Pedersen yesterday.

The win capped a remarkable comeback for the 25-year-old Jakobsen after he spent two years in an induced coma two years ago following a bad crash during the Tour of Poland.

Jakobsen's victory was the second in a row for Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl, who also enjoyed Yves Lampaert's surprise win in Friday's time trial. It was also the team's 50th stage win since their Tour debut in 2002.

Van Aert's push at the end meant that the Team Jumbo-Visma rider took the yellow jersey from fellow Belgian Lampaert, who was involved in a late crash but recovered to remain second in the general

Two-times defending champion Tadej Pogacar crossed the line three minutes behind after suffering a puncture but managed to retain third place in the overall standings.

"Today is 'incroyable' as we would say in French," said Jakobsen. "For me it was a long process, step by step. A lot of people helped me along the way. This is to pay them back so they can see it was not for nothing.

Road to handball world title set

Bahrain drawn in tough Group H for preliminary round of 28th IHF Men's Handball World Championship, taking place January 2023, co-hosted by Poland and Sweden

● **Bahrainis set to make fifth appearance—including fourth straight—at world handball's premier event**

● **Nine cities across Poland and Sweden to host matches, scheduled to take place from January 11 to 29**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain were yesterday drawn in a tough Group H for the preliminary round of the 28th International Handball Federation (IHF) Men's Handball World Championship, taking place next year co-hosted by Poland and Sweden.

The draw was held in a ceremony yesterday at the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice, Poland, supervised by the IHF and broadcast live globally.

The Bahrainis are with Denmark, Belgium and the yet-to-be-determined fourth-ranked

28th IHF MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP			
GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D
SPAIN	FRANCE	SWEDEN	ICELAND
MONTENEGRO	POLAND	BRAZIL	PORTUGAL
CHILE	SAUDI ARABIA	AFRICA 2	HUNGARY
IRAN	SLOVENIA	URUGUAY	REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GROUP E	GROUP F	GROUP G	GROUP H
GERMANY	NORWAY	AFRICA 1	DENMARK
QATAR	NORTH MACEDONIA	CROATIA	BELGIUM
SERBIA	ARGENTINA	AFRICA 3	BAHRAIN
AFRICA 5	NETHERLANDS	USA	AFRICA 4



Bahrain have been drawn alongside defending world champions Denmark, first-time participants Belgium and the yet-to-be-determined fourth-ranked nation from the upcoming African championship



Bahrain being drawn during yesterday ceremony

the defending world champions, while Belgium are making their first-ever appearance at the worlds.

Main round

Next year's world championship will see the top three teams from each of the eight groups move on to the main round, where they will be divided into four further groups of six teams apiece.

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

The upcoming worlds will mark Bahrain's fifth appearance—and fourth straight—at

the IHF's premier event. The nationals had previously also played in the 2011, 2017, 2019 and 2021 editions.

Their highest overall classification was 20th in the 2019 worlds co-hosted by Denmark and Germany, but in the previous edition in 2021 in Egypt, the Bahrainis qualified for the competition's main round for the first time. That year, the world championship was expanded to a field of 32 teams from the previous number of 24.

Bahrain finished 21st on the tournament's final ranking then.