

Ettihad escape with win against Nuwaidrat

Tightly contested week 19 affair decided in overtime in Zain Basketball League | P11

WORLD 6 Blinken postpones China trip following balloon discovery



Ryan Reynolds pays for Wrexham kids' new football kits

8 CELEBS

BUSINESS

5

'Investcorp was ready to grant Euro 400m for Milan transfers'

Israel, Sudan announce deal to normalise relations



Sudan's sovereign council head General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan meets Israeli foreign minister Eli Cohen in Khartoum, Sudan

TDT | agencies

Israel and Sudan have finalised a deal to normalise relations, with a signing ceremony expected following a transfer of power from the military to a civilian government in Khartoum, the Israeli foreign ministry said on Thursday.

Sudan's foreign ministry earlier said the deal was agreed upon during a visit by Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen to "move forward towards normalising relations between the two countries".

Cohen's visit to Khartoum was the first by an Israeli official acknowledged by Sudanese authorities, though there had been a series of exchanges by officials in recent years. "During the visit, which was made with the consent of the United States, the parties finalised the text of the agreement," an Israeli foreign ministry statement said.

Nobel laureate Ebadi says Iran's 'revolutionary process' is irreversible



Reuters | Dubai

Iranian Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi said the death in custody of a young Iranian Kurdish woman last year has sparked an irreversible "revolutionary process" that would eventually lead to the collapse of the Islamic Republic. "This revolutionary process is like a train that will not stop until it reaches its final destination," said Ebadi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 for her work defending human rights and who has been in exile in London since 2009.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince's Cup



HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday crowned the winners of the 2023 Crown Prince's Cup, held under the patronage of His Royal Highness, at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club (REHC) racetrack. The Crown Prince's Cup is one of the internationally listed races in the Kingdom.

Bahrain 'ready' to host global sporting events

HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister confirms readiness during 2023 Crown Prince's Cup

Equestrian sector part of authentic Bahraini heritage: HRH

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday, endorsed the preparedness of Bahrain to host international sporting events, hailing the top standards set by the Crown Prince's Cup at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club (REHC) racetrack yesterday.

"The competitiveness of the Crown Prince's Cup and its organisation reflects the Kingdom's capability to host international sporting events," said HRH Prince Salman also attributed this success to the unwavering support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to the equestrian sector.



Godolphin strike gold in Bahrain! P12

This has "contributed extensively to the development of Bahraini jockeys, who are now galloping to success locally, regionally and internationally".

Further, terming the equestrian as part of authentic Bahraini heritage, HRH Prince Salman said, the sector played a crucial role in the longstanding success of Bahrain in hosting regional and international horseracing competitions.

HRH commended the role of the REHC's High Committee, chaired by His Highness Shaikh

Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, in developing and preserving the equine heritage, stressing the importance of continuing to develop and implement plans to develop this sector to achieve the desired goals. His Royal Highness then presented trophies to winners at the competition held under the patronage of HRH Prince Salman.

Earlier, upon arrival, HRH was received by the Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of the General Sports Authority, and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee.

tee, His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Chairman of the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club High Committee, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and a number of other senior officials.



Fight for rights

Images of emaciated Iranian prisoner on hunger strike prompt outrage

Reuters

Social media images purported to be of an emaciated jailed Iranian physician who went on hunger strike in support of demonstrations against the compulsory wearing of the hijab have caused outrage and warnings that he risks death.

Farhad Meysami, 53, who has been in jail since 2018 for supporting women activists protest-



Imprisoned Iranian activist Farhad Meysami

ing against the headscarf policy, began his hunger strike on Oct. 7 to protest recent government killings of demonstrators, his lawyer said.

But the Iranian judiciary denied the hunger strike claim and said the photos that have gone viral on social media were from four years ago when Meysami did go on hunger strike.

As evidence, the semi-official student-led news agency Young

Journalists Club posted what it said was Meysami's latest photo, in which he does not look emaciated and is seen sitting on

the floor of his prison cell with a bag of what looks like chips next to him.

(Continued on page 2)



Mahsa Amini was arrested by morality police for flouting the hijab policy, which requires women to dress modestly and wear headscarfs. Women have played a prominent role in the protests, many of them waving or burning their headscarfs.

Education Ministry rejects reports of virtual classes during Ramadan

TDT | Manama

The Education Ministry yesterday rejected claims of shifting to online classes during Ramadan, terming such reports as 'false'.

The ministry said it had not taken any such decision allowing schools here to switch to remote learning during the blessed month, the ministry statement said. The ministry also said that in-person classes are to continue as planned.

Reports have said that the



Council of Representatives of Bahrain has approved a motion led by Mohammad Al Rifae, Vice-Chairman of the Finance and Economic Affairs Committee, for remote learning during Ramadan.

Al Rifae was quoted as saying: "The move to remote education will not only ease traffic congestion but also provide students with a comfortable learning environment, particularly during the period of fasting."

He said: "Bahrain has already proven its ability to deliver a

The Ministry of Education said there is no such decision and called on students and parents to obtain all information regarding the educational process and school through official channels of the education ministry.

strong online education experience, and this move will only enhance the student's learning experience during Ramadan."

However, the Ministry of Edu-

cation said there is no such decision and called on students and parents to obtain all information regarding the educational process and school through official channels of the education ministry.

The Holy Month is expected to start on the 23rd of next month and ends on the 20th of April.

Bahrain returned to in-person schooling in August last year after a long hiatus since the shifting to virtual classes in 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

NHRA confirms: Eye drops in the Kingdom are safe



Representative picture

TDT | Manama

The National Health Regulatory Authority yesterday confirmed having no eye drops in circulation in the Kingdom, flagged as contaminated by the US Centres for Disease Control.

The CDC has warned against using a specific brand of over-the-counter eye drops after a potential link to a string of aggressive infections across the US was discovered.

On Wednesday, the CDC urged the public to "immediately discontinue" the use of EzriCare Artificial Tears following 55 cases of the "extensively drug-resistant" *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteria reported across 12 states—including California, Colorado,

Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin—between May 2022 and Jan. 2023.

NHRA confirmed that all the existing products available in the Kingdom are free of contamination.

In the US, Patients had a variety of presentations, including inflammation, respiratory infection, urinary tract infection, and sepsis. Outcomes also varied from permanent vision loss, hospitalization and at least one death.

Upon reviewing the exposures among patients, it was determined that most of those presenting with the eye infection recently used artificial tear drops, and some noted that they used more than one.

Inspection campaign



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) conducted a joint inspection campaign in the Muharraq Governorate, in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) of the Ministry of Interior and the Muharraq Governorate Police Directorate. The campaign resulted in reporting violations related to the Labour Market and Residency laws. The cases were referred for legal action. LMRA renewed its call to support the efforts of government agencies in addressing illegal labour practices by reporting violations via www.lmra.bh or by calling 17506055.

Bahrain marks Environment Day

TDT | Manama

Bahrain yesterday celebrated National Environment Day marked every year on February 4, and this year under the theme "Let's Make It Sustainable".

Personal Representative of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Environment (SCE), His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, said the occasion gives an opportunity to focus on developing ways of dealing with environmental and climatic challenges and meeting the needs of individuals without prejudice to the right of future generations.

"Bahrain has become one of the countries with clear achievements and imprints in environmental protection by holding top positions at important international and regional organisations.

HH Shaikh Abdulla affirmed that Bahrain's achievements and gains are the fruitful outcomes of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's strategy and insightful visions, as well as the result of the ongoing support, interest and fol-



His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa

low-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

HH Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad called on everyone to join hands and invest in sustainable development and demonstrate the principles of social responsibility towards environmental issues.

The kingdom has issued several laws and legislation, including Law (7) of 2022 on the Environment, and taken many measures to protect the environment and achieve the goals announced by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister to address climate change effects, and reach zero neutrality by 2060.

My client Farhad Meysami's life is in danger, says lawyer

(Continued from page 1)

Iran has been rocked by nationwide unrest following the death of Iranian Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini on Sept. 16 in police custody, posing one of the strongest challenges to the Islamic Republic since the 1979 revolution.

Rights groups say more than 500 protesters have been killed and nearly 20,000 arrested. At least four people have been hanged, according to the Iranian judiciary.

"My client Farhad Meysami's life is in danger," tweeted lawyer Mohammad Moghimi. "He went on hunger strike to protest the recent government killings in the streets." He said Meysami had lost 52 kg (115 lb).

Images of Meysami show him curled up on what looks like a hospital bed, and another stand-



Imprisoned Iranian activist Farhad Meysami

ing, his ribs protruding.

"Shocking images of Dr. Far-

had Meysami, a brave advocate for women's rights who has

been on hunger strike in prison," tweeted Robert Malley, Wash-



In a letter published by BBC's Persian Service, Meysami made three demands: an end to executions, release of political-civil prisoners, and an end to "forced-hijab harassment".

ington's special envoy for Iran. "Iran's regime has unjustly denied him and thousands of other political prisoners their rights and their freedom. Now it unjustly threatens his life," he said.

In a letter published by BBC's Persian Service, Meysami made three demands: an end to executions, release of political-civil prisoners, and an end to "forced-hijab harassment".

"I will continue my impossible mission in the hope that it may

become possible later on with a collective effort," he wrote.

On Thursday, the activist HRANA news agency reported that Iranian film director Jafar Panahi had started a hunger strike in prison to protest against authorities' refusal to release him temporarily on bail pending a retrial.

Panahi was detained in July and told he would serve a six-year prison sentence originally issued by a Tehran court in 2010 amid a stepped-up crackdown on dissent.

Robbery with toy gun: Two get 5 years in jail, court rejects appeal

TDT | Manama

Two men jailed for five years for mugging a Bahraini man after holding him at gunpoint, had their appeal against the prison term rejected by the High Appeals Court.

Cops also later found that the gun used by the men, both African nationals, during the attack was fake.

During the trial, the suspects maintained their innocence, claiming that they were in an inebriated state on that day and had no memory of the attack.

Rejecting their appeal, the Court also confirmed their deportation.

Authority said they would deport the men after serving their jail terms.

Incidents leading to the case



Representative picture

started on the 22nd of June 2022, when the victim – a Bahraini national – was on his way

The suspects, the victim told the Court, came running towards me and made a threatening gesture.

During trial, the suspects maintained their innocence, claiming that they were in an inebriated state on that day and had no memory of the attack.

“One of them trained his gun on me as the other leapt at me ‘brandishing’ a knife.

“Fearing for my life, I stopped resisting, barely moved, and gave whatever they demanded,” the

victim said.

The whole episode happened near an ATM in Sanad.

The suspect also told prosecutors that he failed to see that the gun was fake.

“The gun they pointed at me, I thought was real.

“Frozen with fear, I could barely process such details.

“As they demanded, I pulled out my wallet and gave them BD50 as they dealt a heavy blow to my waist.

“As I wriggled in severe pain, the men took to their heels and disappeared into the darkness,” the 38-year-old victims told prosecutors, recalling the ordeal.

Investigators said they managed to identify the suspects from footage collected from the ATM security cameras.

“As we had a positive ID, we intensified the search and soon

got hold of both men,” the cops said.

“We managed to trap the first suspect, who led us to the second.”

In a raid conducted at their place, police said they also recovered tools used by the suspects for committing the crime.

Police said they also found from their residence the pants and shirts the suspects wore during the attack.

Investigators said they also recovered BD21 from a jacket in their room, believed to be part of the stolen money.

The first suspect confessed that the gun used for committing the crime was fake, and he led police to the hiding place, where he had kept the toy gun.

During interrogation, the second suspect also confessed to the crimes.

Ex-husband spends children's education fund; Court orders to return BD10,600 to ex-wife

TDT | Manama

A Bahrain national has been ordered by the Cassation Court to give back his ex-wife BD10,600, which she had deposited in their joint account for the educational expenses of their children, but allegedly used by the man for himself.

The ex-wife took the man to Court as she found out about the money after they got separated.

The ex-husband had claimed before the Court that he had used the money to pay for the kids' educational expenses.

He, however, failed to produce any documents proving his claims when the Court asked for them.

The Court also found that the kids were taking classes from a public school.

The ex-wife claimed she had requested her ex to return the money she deposited in their joint account after they chose to end their wedlock on the 2nd of September 2020.

“However, the man failed to



Representative picture



The ex-husband had claimed before the Court that he had used the money to pay for the kids' educational expenses.

He, however, failed to produce any documents proving his claims when the Court asked for it.

respond, forcing me to approach the Court seeking justice.”

The Court then assigned an expert to look into the case, who found that the money was in the account but was closed after the defendant withdrew all of it.

The ex-wife's lawyer told the Court that the man was supposed to use the money for their kids' education but failed to do so. Hence, he should return it.

Accepting the arguments, the Court ruled in favour and ordered to man to return the money.

Father attempts to kill son with chainsaw: Court orders mental health evaluation



Representative picture

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has ordered a mental health examination for a man accused of attempting to kill his son with a chainsaw.

The Court wants experts to determine if judges could hold the man responsible for his action.

The Court has adjourned the case to the 16th of this month.

Case files say the suspect attempted to kill his son with a chainsaw claiming that the teenager was always high on drugs and unstable.

The mother had told the Court that the father and son were not on good terms and barely had eye contact.

“One day, the school called us and said they found our son smoking e-Cigarettes!”

The mother said: “At that time, I managed to convince the school to do nothing more

than a few days of suspension.

Recalling the horror, she said: “On that day, I was out to do some household chores, and my son was sleeping.

“However, when I was back, I was terrified to see my husband standing there, drenched in thick blood.

“The sight sent shivers down my spine as I rushed inside to check on my son.

“And, I saw him fighting for his life, in his room, lying in a pool of blood.

“I immediately called for help and rushed him to the hospital.

“Thank God the doctors managed to revive him.”

Later, the father surrendered before the cops and confessed to his crime.

During interrogation, when asked about the motive, the father told prosecutors: “He used to insult me regularly and went out of control on that day.”

New sewerage network in Hamad town to connect 79 properties

TDT | Manama

Construction works of a BHD 389,943,000 sewer connection in Hamad Town that connects 79 properties in Block 1205 have begun.

The tender, which received eight bids ranging between BHD 388,955,179 and BHD 691,000,000, was awarded to Afaaq Alkhalij Excavation & Building Equipment Rental for BHD 389,943,000.

Works comprise building a 953-meter-long main sewage line and 699-meter-long sec-



ondary lines.

The project also calls for building 168 main and subsidiary inspection rooms, paving roads and pedestrian walkways with bricks and laying landlines.

The Assistant Undersecretary for Sanitation said the project aims at developing sanitation services in various parts of the Kingdom and falls in line with the Economic Vision 2030 of Bahrain.

As per tender documents, the contract period is 52 weeks.

LMRA seeks technical support for Wage Protection System on AWS

TDI | Manama

The Labour Market Authority is looking forward to hiring technical support services for its Wage Protection System that runs on the Amazon Cloud Computing Platform (AWS) in a serverless manner.

The Wage Protection System developed by LMRA documents and monitors wage payments by employers to their workers - both expatriate and Bahraini Nationals, in Bahrain.

A tender launched says LMRA wants to enter into a partnership with a company approved by Amazon "to provide high-quality technical support services for the WPS system."

Accordingly, the selected company, LMRA tender said, will be responsible for all support activities and tasks related to the system.

The successful bidder should also "manage all outputs efficiently and effectively to ensure full support for the system in the computing environment and meet necessities of changes in the wage protection system, according to work requirements."

The process allows LMRA to know the extent of the commitment of private sector enterprises to pay wages as agreed time.

Through WPS, LMRA said it aims to protect workers' rights



Representative picture

by ensuring that they receive their agreed salaries on time, as stipulated in their agreements.

The system also provides Know Your Customer (KYC) data for financial institutions authorised by the Central Bank of Bahrain operating in Bahrain.

For this, LMRA has entered into a contract with the Benefit Company to carry out the automatic clearing house. The benefit is thus responsible for providing salary information of workers paid to their bank accounts from accredited banks to the WPS system and providing "know your customer" data to financial institutions.

LMRA launched WPA as per Resolution (68) for the year 2019 Regarding the Wages Protection System and Resolution (1) of 2019 Regarding the Implementation of the Wages Protection Scheme.

Resolution (2) for the year 2019 amended some Articles of Resolution (76) for 2008 Regarding Organizing Work Permits of Foreign Workers Other Than House Servants.

The system came into existence in three stages. Stage 1, kick-started on the 1st of May 2021, included employers with 500 employees or more. The stage included employers with 50 to 499 employees and began on the 1st of September 2021. The third and final stage was



LMRA is a government entity with a corporate identity established by the Labour Law in Bahrain and is responsible for managing expatriate labour permits, whether for commercial or domestic workers, within Bahrain.

initiated on the 1st of January 2022 and includes employers having 1 to 49 employees.

LMRA gave employers a grace period of six-month at each stage.

How to apply?

Those interested and qualified should submit bids before the 8th of February 2023, with a BD2,500 bond having 180 days validity.

Tender documents are available for download from www.tenderboard.gov.bh

AlMalkiya Market land auction attracts two companies

TDI | Manama

The Northern Area Municipality announced receiving two bids from investors for AlMalkiya Market. Aamal Ab-

dulla Ahmed AlSaegh quoted BHD 164,637.243 (suspended) and Hussain Ali Saleh AlSaleem (amount undisclosed) for the project. The tender had invited locally specialised companies

and investors to establish and operate the land of the Al Malkiyah market under a usufruct system. The land for the project is at block No. 1032 road 106 at Malkiya.



LMRA cancels licence of Al Tayyar Manpower

TDI | Manama

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority has announced the cancellation of the licence of Al Tayyar Manpower Co. W.L.L for unspecified reasons.

As per a notice published on the LMRA website, the licence of Al Tayyar Manpower Co. W.L.L with Commercial Registration No: 14998501 at Flat 33, Building 253, Road 808, Block 308, Manama/ Al Qudibiya stands cancelled.

LMRA said it invites all clients of Al Tayyar Manpower who require assistance in claiming financial or contractual obligations based on current contracts and financial receipts to proceed to the Labour Market Regulatory Authority Headquarters.

Complaints can also be filed through email: complaints.section@lmra.gov.bh or by calling on +973 17388754 - +973 17388618 within one month "for recovering their claims and settling financial liabilities."

To view the licensed employment offices, visit List of (Manpower) Employment Offices.

Dawajin opens tender for Barcode Inventory and Asset Tracking System

TDI | Manama

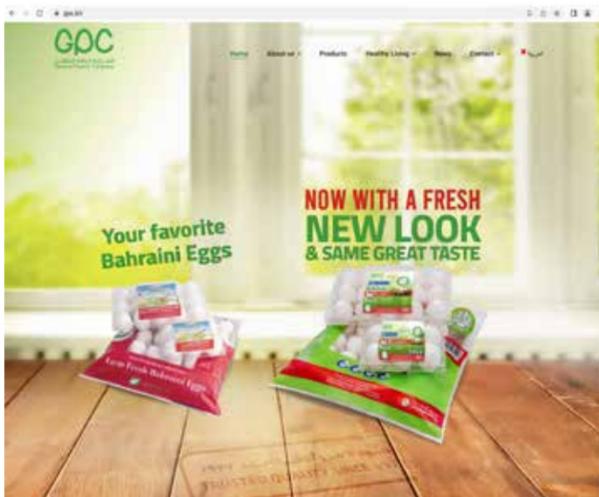
The General Poultry Company (Dawajin) has opened a tender for procuring a "production barcoding and asset tracking system."

Dawajin said it is looking forward to the "most competitive offer" for a system with "tracking and reverse tracking management capabilities."

The system, the tender says, should accurately record, label and tag GPC-produced items.

Dawajin also requires the system, besides fulfilling assets management and order fulfilment, should help its employees digitally track the location of assets and GPC-produced items that have been physically tagged and sold to customers.

The tender board requires bidders to enclose with their bids the Initial Bond for the amount specified or at the rate of 1% of the tender value, whichever amount is lesser,



provided that no initial bond value shall be less than BD 100.

Dawajin's tender calls for a bond worth BD500.

Those interested should enter bids before the 1st of March 2023.

Established in 1977, the General Poultry Company (GPC) markets locally-grown farm-fresh eggs in Bahrain. GPC boasts of an efficient farm operation spread over 600,000 sqm in Hamala.

Urban planning hiring cleaners and drivers

TDI | Manama

The Urban Planning and Development Authority has welcomed bids for hiring cleaners and drivers.

A tender launched says the authority required a supplier to provide 12 cleaners, officer helpers, and drivers.

The authority is offering a 21-month contract.

A successful bidder should also provide cleaning tools and materials according to the specifications provided.

The contractor must cover 100% of the listed items and the quantity.



The contractor must also provide a sample of all the items in the UPDA Office (Sanabis, 9th Floor, Building 517, Road 1010, Manama 410, Capital Governorate - before the Opening Date.

Tender documents are available for download from www.tenderboard.gov.bh.

'Investcorp was ready to grant Euro 400m for Milan transfers'

Football Italia

MFO's Managing Director Carmine Villani, who was involved in Investcorp's talks to acquire Milan in 2022, now reveals the Rossoneri would have had a Euro300m-400m transfer budget if the Bahrain-based fund had closed the deal.

Gerry Cardinale's Rebird Capital Partners acquired a majority stake in the Rossoneri in August from Elliott for Euro1.2b. The previous owners partially financed the acquisition through a 'vendor loan' and kept a minority stake in the club.

Bahrain-based fund Investcorp had previously approached Elliott, trying to acquire the Serie A giants, but eventually abandoned talks after several



I can't discuss the details, but I can confirm that our group was ready to acquire a majority stake in Milan and grant Euro300m-400m for transfers to bring the club back to the top of European football as their history deserves

CARMINE VILLANI

weeks of negotiations that had seen Carmine Villani's MFO involved as Investcorp's partner.

"I can't discuss the details, but I can confirm that our group was ready to acquire a majority stake in Milan and grant Euro300m-400m for transfers to bring the club back to the top of European football as their history deserves," Villani told Repubblica.

"If Elliott wanted, we would have let them keep a minority stake in the club."

Milan's transfer strategies haven't changed with Cardinale at the helm of the club. The Rossoneri still have a low transfer budget and could only spend Euro50m last summer. It is believed that director Paolo Maldini will have to deal with similar figures during the next transfer window.

AUB breaks ground with massive MyHassad prizes and loyalty draws for 2023

\$1,000,000 EVERY 2 MONTHS  

Bank is launching the New MyHassad Scheme this weekend at Bahrain City Centre

TDT | Manama

Ahli United Bank is launching the latest edition of MyHassad with a massive prize pool. This unprecedented prize pool features a US\$1 Million Dream Prize every two months. This is further boosted by monthly draws that include 15 Prizes of US\$25,000, 50 Prizes of US\$1,000 as well as 50 Loyalty Prizes of US\$1,000 in the months with no Dream Prizes.

In addition, this year will witness the newly created category of Loyalty Prizes aiming to reward the trust and loyalty of MyHassad customers who haven't won in the past three years, providing bigger and better chances for them to win.

MyHassad 2023 is being launched at Bahrain City Centre this weekend, from today till 5th February, where visitors will stand the chance to win instant shopping vouchers, iPads and iPhones. Along with the event, the Bank plans to celebrate the fourth and last Millionaire of MyHassad 2022, Mr Raed Hameed Al Marzooq, who'll be joined by family members and members of the Ahli United Bank family.

Available in both account and certificate formats, MyHassad presents customers with a compelling proposition. Both options are accessible 24/7 through the Bank's digital channels and extensive branch network. For each BD 50, MyHassad customers receive one chance in the draws. Customers can increase their chances of winning twofold by maintaining their balances for three months, and threefold for continuing to do so for six months.

US Congress says F-16 sale to Turkey depends on NATO approval



Polish Air Force F-16

Reuters | Washington

The US Congress cannot support the \$20 billion sale of F-16 fighter jets to Turkey until Ankara ratifies the NATO memberships of Sweden and Finland, a bipartisan group of senators said on Thursday.

Sweden and Finland applied last year to join the trans-Atlantic defence pact after Russia invaded Ukraine, but faced unexpected objections from Turkey and have since sought to win its support.

Ankara wants Helsinki and Stockholm in particular to take a tougher line against the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which is considered a terror group by Turkey and the European Union, and another group it blames for a 2016 coup attempt.

HSBC embarks on Saudi Arabia hiring spree amid deals boom

Aims a headcount increase of 10-15%

HSBC made \$65 million in profit in Saudi Arabia

Reuters | London



Representative picture

HSBC (HSBA.L) is hiring dealmakers as "fast as it can" in Saudi Arabia to capitalise on a wave of financing activity in the country, the global head of its investment bank said.

The lender aims to increase headcount in its global banking and markets business in Saudi Arabia by 10-15% this year, Greg Guyett, the division's chief executive, told Reuters.

"There's a huge pipeline of

27
The Public Investment Fund (PIF) is working with Lazard (LAZ.N) on funding options and a potential initial public offering of Masar, a \$27 billion mega project in the holy city of Mecca

transactions, we're taking on all the experienced people we can get," Guyett said, adding that other banks beefing up their presence in the region were also targeting HSBC staff who would then need replacing.

HSBC declined to comment on how many such bankers it already employs in Saudi Arabia.

The Britain-based bank in September appointed Faris AlGhannam as its chief executive officer in Saudi Arabia, in a move it said at the time demonstrated its commitment to expand its business in the Middle East.

HSBC's investment banking business made \$65 million in profit in Saudi Arabia in 2021, according to company filings, the smallest such contribution among named countries aside from loss-making France.

The bank is not alone in targeting the oil-rich kingdom's potential - rival Barclays is exploring a return to Saudi Arabia to get in on the anticipated spate of stock listings, Reuters reported on Dec. 15.

The kingdom has seen a boom in big-ticket dealmaking in recent years as part of a wider strategy by Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman to wean the economy off oil revenues and lure foreign investment.

The Public Investment Fund (PIF) is working with Lazard (LAZ.N) on funding options and a potential initial public offering of Masar, a \$27 billion mega project in the holy city of Mecca, Reuters reported in November.

Saudi Arabia also sold \$5 billion in bonds last October, its first international debt sale in almost a year.

Emirates Telecom Group lifts Abu Dhabi, Dubai extends gains

Reuters

Stock exchanges in the United Arab Emirates closed higher yesterday, with Abu Dhabi's main index boosted by a rise in telecom operator Emirates Telecommunications Group - known as E& - (EAND.AD) after the firm raised its stake in UK-based Vodafone Group.

The Abu Dhabi index (.FTFADGI) jumped 0.8%, rising for a fifth session in a row, bolstered by a 3.4% increase in Emirates Telecommunications Group, while the UAE's largest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB.AD) gained 2%.

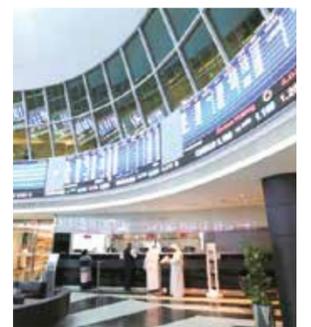
Dubai's benchmark index (.DFMGI) settled 0.5% higher, lifted by a strong performance in financial and industrial sector stocks.

MashreqBank (MASB.DU), which helped Dubai's index to stay in positive territory amid volatile trading, advanced 15%, its highest percentage gain since late September, after the lender with other banks

Closing Bell

ABU DHABI ▲ 0.8% to 9,851

DUBAI ▲ 0.5% to 3,383



Traders talk with the officials at Bahrain Bourse in Manama

was picked to arrange an issuance of US dollar-denominated sustainable sukuk for Dubai Islamic Bank under its \$7.5 billion issuance programme.

However, Islamic Arab Insurance (SALAMA.DU) declined 3.5% after the Sharia-compliant insurer announced the resignation of its CEO Fahim Al Sehhi.

Argentina OKs new 2,000 peso bill as inflation bites, still only worth \$5

Reuters | Buenos Aires

Argentina will roll out a new 2,000-peso bill, the central bank said on Thursday, which would double the face value of the country's top denomination bank note, but would still only be worth \$11 officially and \$5 in commonly used parallel markets.

The South American country is battling one of the world's highest inflation rates, with prices climbing 95% last year, and a steady devaluation of the peso, which means Argentines and tourists often carry huge stacks of bills to make payments.

The largest current bill, the



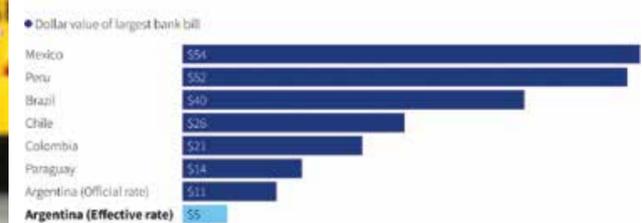
A man shows Argentine pesos outside a bank in Buenos Aires' financial district, Argentina

1,000 peso note, is worth just \$2.70 on the alternative markets most people use to exchange

currency, including through formal money exchange firms. Buying dollars at the official rate

Argentina: Paying the bill

Argentina has approved a new 2,000 peso banknote amid annual inflation running near 100%, which will take over the 1,000 peso as the largest denomination bill. However, it would still be worth just \$11 - or as low as \$5 in common alternative markets used to get around strict currency controls.



is strictly limited.

Given the new 2,000 peso note would still leave Argentina's largest tender as one of the lowest-valued in the region, a

5,000 peso bill is being studied, according to a source from the central bank, though has not yet been given approval.

"The 2,000 peso denomina-

tion will be integrated into the current peso series," the central bank said in a statement. It did not directly refer to the rising pressures of inflation or say when the new note would enter the market.

Bankers have raised concerns about the cost of storing an increasingly large volume of bills in bank vaults, while consumers and tourists often complain about having to fill bags with cash to make even regular payments.

Argentina's tender has lost so much value in recent years that one local artist uses banknotes for painting on because they are cheaper than a canvas.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

NEVER BEND YOUR HEAD. ALWAYS HOLD IT HIGH. LOOK THE WORLD STRAIGHT IN THE EYE
HELEN KELLER

News in brief

Children hit by train in Germany, one killed, authorities say



A child was killed and another was seriously injured after they were hit by a train along a railway line in the western German town of Recklinghausen, local authorities said. Bild newspaper said the victims were dragged by a freight train for several hundred meters (yards). "It's horrible. Children and trains and at such a young age, it's just horrible what happened here and one can only hope the parents will have the strength to overcome this great misfortune," Herbert Reul, the interior minister in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, told journalists at the scene.

US House of Representatives Republicans

Republicans oust Ilhan Omar from high-profile US House committee



ousted Democrat Ilhan Omar from a high-profile committee over remarks widely condemned as antisemitic, two years after Democrats removed two Republicans from committee assignments. The deeply divided House voted 218-211 along party lines to remove Omar from the Foreign Affairs Committee with Republicans citing the 2019 remarks for which she later apologized. One Republican voted "present."

CIA chief warns against underestimating Xi's ambitions toward Taiwan

Central Intelligence Agency

Director William Burns said on Thursday that Chinese President Xi Jinping's ambitions toward Taiwan should not be underestimated, despite him likely being sobered by the performance of Russia's military in Ukraine. Burns said that the United States knew "as a matter of intelligence" that Xi had ordered his military to be ready to conduct an invasion of self-governed Taiwan by 2027.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Marmot death overshadows Canada Groundhog Day



Groundhog Club handler AJ Dereume holds Punxsutawney Phil, the weather prognosticating groundhog in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil predicts six more weeks of winter

Reuters | Ottawa

A Canadian woodchuck cast a different type of shadow over "Groundhog Day" Thursday -- just hours before he was due to predict spring's arrival, Fred la Marmotte was found dead.

The groundhog showed "no vital signs" when the organizer of the annual February 2 tradition in Val-d'Espoir, Quebec tried to wake him from hibernation, local media reported.

If Fred had seen his shadow, then he would have quickly scurried back inside his burrow, a portent of six more weeks of winter.

No shadow would have meant Fred staying above ground, auguring an early spring.

But after some 40 minutes of festivities, including singing and dancing, organizer Roberto Blondin told waiting spectators that Fred had passed away.

He added that he thought the groundhog had died in late fall or early December, aged

According to folklore, if the rodent sees his shadow on Groundhog Day, then frigid and blustery weather will persist for six weeks. If it is cloudy and no shadow appears, the onset of spring is near

nine, CBC reported.

Undeterred, a child wearing a groundhog hat was called up to the stage, handed a stuffed toy groundhog and asked for his prediction. He forecast a lengthy winter.

Further south in Pennsylvania, another famous furry weather forecaster, Punxsutawney Phil, also predicted six more weeks of the cold season.

A number of towns in the United States and Canada celebrate "Groundhog Day," but Punxsutawney Phil, named for his hometown, is the most celebrated of the rodent forecasters.

That is in large part due to the 1993 cult classic movie of the same name, featuring Bill Murray in which he wakes up and experiences the same day again and again.

Phil and his predecessors, also called Phil, have been forecasting since 1887.

EU prepares more Russia sanctions; Kremlin readies offensive

AP | Kyiv

The European Union will unveil its 10th package of sanctions against Russia on Feb. 24 to mark the anniversary of Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, a senior official from the bloc said in Kyiv yesterday, as Ukrainian forces gird for an expected Russian offensive in the coming weeks.

The sanctions will target technology used by Russia's war machine, among other things, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen told a news conference.

The sanctions will take aim in particular at components used in the manufacturing of drones, she said, naming Iran as a key supplier of Russia.

Closing loopholes that the Kremlin uses to circumvent sanctions will also be a priority, according to Von der Leyen, who was on her fourth visit to the Ukrainian capital since the war began.

The exact measures in the next EU sanctions package must be agreed upon by the bloc's 27 member countries -- a process that can take weeks.

Top EU officials met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a show of support for the country as it battles to counter the Kremlin's forces and strives to join the EU as well as NATO.

The last such summit was held in Kyiv in October 2021 -- a few months before the war started. The highly symbolic visit is also the first EU political



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, center, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, center right, and European Council President Charles Michel, center left, arrive for the EU-Ukraine summit in Kyiv

YOU KNOW WHAT

The exact measures in the next EU sanctions package must be agreed upon by the bloc's 27 member countries -- a process that can take weeks

mission of its kind to a country at war.

The high-level meeting came as a 60-year-old man was killed and six others were wounded yesterday after Russian missiles hit central Toretsk, a town in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, the local prosecutor's

office said in a statement on Facebook.

Ukrainian authorities reported yesterday that at least six civilians were killed and 20 others were wounded over the previous 24 hours.

Among the dead were two brothers, ages 49 and 42, killed when Russian shelling destroyed an apartment building in the northeastern Kharkiv region, Ukraine's presidential office said. Their 70-year-old father was hospitalized with unspecified injuries.

Also, six people were wounded and 18 apartment buildings, two hospitals and a school were damaged in a Russian attack in the eastern city of Kramatorsk on Thursday, Gov. Pavlo Kyrlylenko told Ukrainian TV. Three people died when a Russian missile hit an apartment building in that city on Wednesday.

Brazil's Lula accuses Bolsonaro of preparing Jan 8 'coup'

AFP | Brasilia

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Thursday alleged that his predecessor Jair Bolsonaro actively participated in planning for his supporters to storm government buildings on January 8.

"Today I am well aware and will say it loud and clear: that citizen [former president Bolsonaro] prepared the coup," Lula said in an interview with broadcaster RedeTV!

Refusing to accept Bolsonaro's election loss, thousands of his backers broke into the presidential palace, Congress and Supreme Court buildings

"I am certain that Bolsonaro actively participated in that and is still trying to participate"

LUIZ INACIO LULA DA SILVA



Protesters, supporters of Brazil's former President Jair Bolsonaro, storm the National Congress building in Brasilia

in Brasilia a week after Lula's inauguration.

The president was not in the capital at the time.

"I am certain that Bolsonaro actively participated in that and is still trying to participate," Lula added when questioned about his predecessor's role in the assault.

Lula's allegations against Bolsonaro -- who has been in the

US state of Florida since late December -- came the same day that a Brazilian senator accused the former president of attending a meeting on how to prevent the handover of power.

The plan, according to Senator Marcos do Val, was to force Superior Electoral Court president Alexandre de Moraes to say something incriminating while secretly recording him.

17 people killed in bus-truck crash in Northwest Pakistan

AP | Peshawar

A head-on collision between a passenger bus and a speeding truck trailer near a tunnel in northwest Pakistan overnight killed at least 17 passengers, including women and children, a rescue official said

early yesterday.

The crash happened in Kohat district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, according to the local emergency official and state-run media.

"We have transported all the dead and injured to a hospital in

Kohat," rescue official Rehmat Ullah said.

TV footage showed images of the destroyed bus.

Azam Khan, the caretaker chief minister in the province, has expressed his deep sorrow and grief over the tragic accident.

Blinken follow

The US secretary of state

China says balloon is for research, accidentally strayed

AP | Washington

Secretary of State Antony Blinken has postponed a planned high-stakes weekend diplomatic trip to China as the Biden administration weighs a broader response to the discovery of a high-altitude Chinese balloon flying over sensitive sites in the western United States, a US official said yesterday.

The abrupt decision came despite China's claim that the balloon was a weather research satellite that had blown off course. The US has described it as a surveillance satellite.

The decision came just hours before Blinken had been due to depart Washington for Beijing and marked a new blow to already strained US-Chinese relations. The official said Blinken and President Joe Biden determined

Pope in South Sudan leaders as peace



Pope Francis talks to South Sudan's President at the airport in Juba

Pope Francis, on a novel ecumenical peace mission to the world's youngest country, warned South Sudan's political leaders yesterday that history will judge them harshly if they continue to drag their feet implementing a 2018 peace accord.

Accompanying him to the overwhelmingly Christian country were the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Rt. Rev. Iain Greenshields. They hope to cast a spotlight on what Francis has called a "forgotten crisis."

South Sudan gained independence from the majority Muslim Sudan in 2011, but has been beset by civil war and conflict.

Thousands of people ululated and sang in 96-degree Fahrenheit (35.5-degree Celsius) heat as President Salva Kiir greeted the reli-

Roman Emperor Septimius Severus dies in Eboracum (York) in England, leaving the Roman Empire in the hands of his two quarrelsome sons, Caracalla and Geta

1st US electoral college chooses George Washington as President and John Adams as Vice President

The Palestine National Congress appoints Yasser Arafat chairman of the PLO



Mark Zuckerberg launches Facebook from his Harvard dormitory room

Joe Biden postpones China trip following spy balloon discovery

President Biden's trip to China is postponed after a spy balloon is tracked across the US



A balloon flies in the sky over Billings, Montana

It was best not to proceed with the trip at this time.

Blinken's long-anticipated meetings with senior Chinese officials had been seen in both countries as a way to find some areas of common ground amid major disagreements over Taiwan, human rights, China's claims in the South China Sea, North Korea, Russia's war in Ukraine, trade policy and climate change.

Although the trip, which was agreed to in November by President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping at a summit in Indonesia, had not been formally announced, officials in both Beijing and Washington had been talking in recent days about Blinken's imminent arrival.

The meetings were to begin on Sunday and go through Monday. The discovery of the balloon

YOU KNOW WHAT

The official said the spy balloon was trying to fly over the Montana missile fields, but the US has assessed that it has "limited" value in terms of providing intelligence it couldn't obtain by other technologies, such as spy satellites

cluding F-22s, to shoot down the balloon if ordered. The Pentagon ultimately recommended against it, noting that even as the balloon was over a sparsely populated area of Montana, its size would create a debris field large enough that it could have put people at risk.

The official said the spy balloon was trying to fly over the Montana missile fields, but the US has assessed that it has "limited" value in terms of providing intelligence it couldn't obtain by other technologies, such as spy satellites.

Nevertheless, the discovery alarmed many in Washington, leading to several protests lodged with Chinese officials and attracted strong criticism of the administration particularly from Republican members of Congress who have advocating taking a tougher stance with China.

China, which angrily denounces surveillance attempts by the US and others over areas it considers to be its territory and once forced down an American spy plane, offered a generally muted reaction to the Pentagon announcement.

was announced on Thursday by Pentagon officials who said one of the places it was spotted was over the state of Montana, which is home to one of America's three nuclear missile silo fields at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

A senior defence official said the US prepared fighter jets, in-

Taliban detain Afghan educator who spoke out on women's school ban



Ismail Mashal
AFP | Kabul

Afghanistan's Taliban authorities have "beaten and detained" an academic who voiced outrage on live television against their ban on women's university education, his aide said.

Veteran journalism lecturer Ismail Mashal caused a storm by tearing his degree certificates to shreds on TV in December, protesting the edict ending women's higher education.

In recent days, domestic channels showed Mashal carting books around Kabul and offering them to passers-by.

"Mashal was mercilessly beaten and taken away in a very disrespectful manner by members of the Islamic Emirate," Mashal's aide Farid Ahmad Fazli told AFP, referring to the Taliban government.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Together, we are bringing light to Ukraine! Ukrainians can exchange their old bulbs at the post office for energy-efficient LED bulbs. The EU is gladly providing 35 million of them. Every kW of energy saved is precious to counter Russia's energy war.

@vonderleyen

02



The Ukrainian people have made a clear choice for freedom, democracy, and rule of law. And we in the EU have also made a clear decision. Your future is with us. Your destiny is our destiny. That's why we are here today. Standing by your side. @ZelenskyyUa #EUUkraine

@eucopresident

03



Good meeting with His Majesty @KingAbdullahII. We discussed the strategic U.S.-Jordan partnership and regional issues, and I re-affirmed the importance of upholding the historic status quo at Jerusalem's Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount.

@SecBlinken

04



At the current rate, it may take hundreds of years before women & girls have the same rights as men. The world cannot wait this long. We need gender equality, everywhere, now.

@antonioguterres

Sudan warns peace process stalls



President Salva Kiir, center-right, after arriving



For just as the Nile leaves its sources to begin its course, so the course of history will leave behind the enemies of peace and bring renown to those who are true peacemakers

POPE FRANCIS

religious leaders at the airport in the capital, Juba. Francis' motorcade route was lined with Christians, Muslims, and traditional dancers waving Vatican, South Sudanese and British flags.

"The pope is closest to God," said Poni Jadalla, 45, as she waited to welcome Francis on the first-ever papal visit to the country. "Let the pope give us peace so that this country can develop and no more bloodshed."

Brazil to sink warship dubbed '30,000-tonne toxic package'

AFP | Brasilia

Brazil plans to sink a decommissioned aircraft carrier that has been towed around the Atlantic for months with a damaged hull, drawing criticism from environmentalists, who say it is packed with toxic materials.

The navy and defense ministry said in a statement Wednesday that the six-decade-old warship, the Sao Paulo, would be scuttled, after trying in vain to find a port willing to welcome it.

"Given the situation and the growing risk of towing (the ship), in light of the deteriorating buoyancy of the hull and the inevitability of a spontaneous, uncontrolled sinking, there is



The aircraft carrier 'Sao Paulo' is seen in February 1994, when it belonged to France and was known as the 'Foch' (file photo)

no option but to jettison it in a planned, controlled sinking," it said.

Environmentalists attacked the decision, saying the aircraft

carrier contains tonnes of asbestos, heavy metals and other toxic materials that could leach into the water and pollute the marine food chain.

The warship took part in France's first nuclear tests in the Pacific in the 1960s, and deployments in Africa, the Middle East and the former Yugoslavia from the 1970s to 1990s

The director of the Basel Action Network (BAN), Jim Puckett, accused Brazil's navy of "gross negligence."

"If they proceed with dumping the very toxic vessel into the wilderness of the Atlantic Ocean, they will violate the terms of three international environmental treaties," he said in a statement.

Pakistani troops kill 2 militants in raid near Afghan border

AP | Islamabad

Troops raided a militant hideout in a former Pakistani Taliban stronghold near the border with Afghanistan yesterday, triggering a shootout that killed two insurgents, the military said.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif summoned the country's opposition leader to forge a response to the recent surge in violence, including a mosque bombing that killed 101 people.

Troops yesterday recovered a cache of weapons in a militant hideout in North Waziristan, a district of the northwestern



Children light candle as they with other take part in a candle light vigil for the victims of Monday's suicide bombing

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the military said in a statement. The militants killed during the

raid had been involved in past attacks on security forces, it added. The statement provided

no further details, and the identities of the slain militants were not immediately known.

Troops routinely carry out such raids to trace and arrest the Pakistani Taliban, who are also known as the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan. The Pakistani Taliban are a separate group but are allies of the Afghan Taliban, who seized power in Afghanistan a year ago as US and NATO troops were in the final stages of their pull-out. The Taliban takeover in Afghanistan has emboldened the Pakistani Taliban, who have stepped up attacks since November when they ended the ceasefire with the government.

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

CELEBS

celebs

Ryan Reynolds pays for Wrexham kids' new football kits

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Ryan Reynolds has given an under-12s football team in the UK a huge boost by tackling the bill for their new kits.

The Hollywood actor became the co-owner of National League side Wrexham A.F.C. in Wales back in 2020 and he's now stepped in to help the city's under-12s team FC United of Wrexham when one of the boys' mums revealed they were struggling to pay for their new garb.

Kayleigh Barton set up a fundraising page for her son's team and was delighted when Reynolds made a handsome donation, telling BBC Radio Wales: "It was just to help with the costs of the kits for the boys, so I just did it and I didn't expect Ryan Reynolds to donate the money."

"I had an email saying that a Ryan had donated £600, and I just thought 'who's Ryan?' I logged in and it said Ryan Reynolds and I just said 'oh my God', I started shaking I just couldn't believe it."

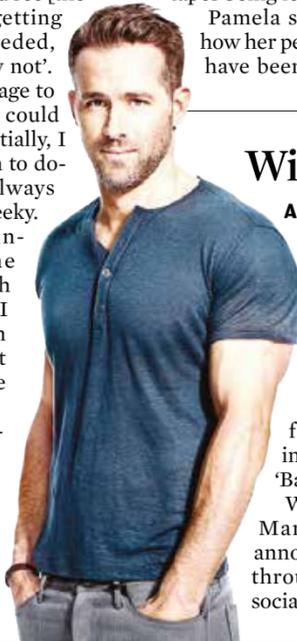
Club chairman Andrew Ruscoe brought the fundraiser to Reynolds' attention on Twitter by asking for a retweet and he was stunned when the movie star stepped in to help.

He said: "I could see [the appeal] wasn't getting the attention needed, so I thought 'why not'. I dropped a message to Ryan to see if he could just retweet it initially, I didn't expect him to donate because I always feel that's a bit cheeky."

"The next minute, just in the midst of Kayleigh ringing me, and I got a notification on my phone that just said 'enjoy the uniforms'."

"I'm in disbelief at this point, and near enough moved to tears, and I just said 'it's true Kayleigh, it's absolutely true'."

Ryan Reynolds



Ed Sheeran says social media absence propelled by 'turbulent things' in personal life

ANI | Washington

The Shape of You singer Ed Sheeran recently revealed in a video message that he took a break from social media as some 'turbulent things' happened in his personal life, reported Page Six.

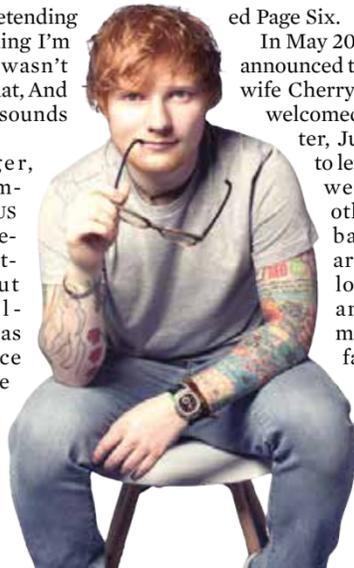
The singer recently returned to Instagram after remaining inactive for two months.

"I realize I haven't been that engaged in my social media or my fan base online over the last couple of years," the 31-year-old told his 42 million followers.

Sheeran told his fans, "The reason I'm making this video is, just being totally honest, I've had some turbulent things going on in my personal life so I just didn't really feel like being

online and pretending to be something I'm not when I wasn't feeling like that, And I know that sounds weird."

The singer, who will embark on his US tour in May, remained tight-lipped about what challenges he was forced to face away from the public eye, but did say that things are finally "looking up", reported Page Six.



Ed Sheeran

In May 2022, the singer announced that he and his wife Cherry Seaborn had welcomed their daughter, Jupiter. "Want to let you all know we've had another beautiful baby girl. We are both so in love with her, and over the moon to be a family of 4x," he wrote on Instagram back then.

Sheeran and Seaborn began dating in 2015, before officially tying the knot in January 2019. The pair's love story goes back to high school.

Ed Sheeran remained tight-lipped about what challenges he was forced to face away from the public eye, but did say that things are finally "looking up"

Rupert Grint needed acting break after feeling 'suffocated' by Harry Potter

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Rupert Grint "wanted a break" from acting after finishing work on 'Harry Potter'.

The 34-year-old star - who played Ron Weasley in all eight movies from 2001 to 2011 - landed the role when he was just 11 years old, and he's now back on the big screen for the first time since 2015's 'Moonwalkers' with 'Knock At The Cabin' after limiting his acting commitments in the wake of the wizarding saga.

He told Bustle: "Potter was so full on - [filming] all year, then we'd promote the rest of the time. It was quite suffocating."

"I wanted a break, to reflect on everything... It was an out-of-body experience for a while, but I think we finished at the right time. If we continued, it could've gone downhill."

Instead of chasing big Hollywood roles, Rupert instead appeared on the stage and in indie films, as well as smaller TV roles, as he was able to "fight against" pre-conceptions about how his life should have panned out after 'Harry Potter'.

He explained: "I've always felt there was this expectation for us to go off the rails, follow the child star stereotype. That's always been something to fight against."

And he referenced an apparent "competitive element" in the public eye when it came to the way people discussed and wrote about him and his former co-stars.

He said: "'Who's doing what?'; people contrasting our careers. We're all completely different and going along different paths."

Rupert Grint



Pamela Anderson: 'I've no no desire to watch Pam and Tommy'

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Pamela Anderson has "no desire" to watch the 'Pam and Tommy' miniseries as the idea of it gave her "nightmares".

The 55-year-old former 'Baywatch' actress' stormy relationship with Mötley Crüe drummer Tommy Lee, 60, was depicted in the raunchy Hulu show, which also featured a portrayal of the couple's sex tapes being leaked.

Pamela spoke out about how her permission should have been sought to cre-

ate the show on her upcoming Netflix documentary 'Pamela, A Love Story'.

She said in an excerpt from the film: "I have no desire to watch it. I never watched the tape, I'm never going to watch this."

Pamela added her nightmares about the show started when her sons Brandon, 26, and Dylan, 25, told her that a series was being made based on her and ex-husband Tommy Lee's sex tape.

She said: "I blocked that out of my life. I had to in order to



Pamela Anderson

survive, really. It was a survival mechanism.

"And now that it's all coming

up again, I feel sick.

"This feels like when the tape was stolen. Basically, you're just a thing owned by the world, like you belong to the world."

Pamela and Tommy's sex tapes were stolen from a safe in their garage during their marriage, and put together to create the infamous "sex tape" that caused a sensation in Hollywood.

The actress added in her documentary: "What they did is they found all the nudity they could from different Hi8 tapes, and they spliced it together."

Will Smith and Martin Lawrence announce 'Bad Boys' 4

ANI | Washington

Will Smith and Martin Lawrence have announced that they will team up once more for the fourth instalment of the 'Bad Boys' movie!

Will Smith and Martin Lawrence announced the film through a video on social media with the



Martin Lawrence and Will Smith

caption, "IT'S ABOUT THAT TIME!"

According to Variety, a US-

based media house, Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah will be back as directors of the untitled sequel. Chris Bremner is working on the script.

25 years after the first 'Bad Boys' movie was released, the directors--who also worked on Warner Bros.' shelved 'Batgirl' film--helmed 2020's 'Bad Boys for Life,' which reunited Smith and Lawrence as Miami-Dade detectives Mike Lowrey and Marcus Burnett.

SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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- Prehistoric sepulchral tomb; 5- Unit of magnetic induction; 10- Remove water from a boat; 14- Routine; 15- Kind of kitchen; 16- Church recess; 17- Draft classification; 18- ...-garde; 19- So long!; 20- Protein subunit of a capsid; 22- Rubber-stamps; 23- Farm females; 24- Fast fliers; 26- Musical gift; 29- Swirl; 31- Type of tea; 35- Spirited horse; 37- Comic Fox; 39- Uh-huh; 40- Blubber; 41- Shades; 42- Feathers; 43- Neighborhood; 44- As far as; 45- Conger catcher; 46- Delicate morsel of food; 48- Hebrew month; 50- Before, poetically; 51- Responsibility; 53- Melville tale; 55- Gussy up; 58- Gleam; 63- "Peter Pan" dog; 64- Gogol's ... Bulba"; 65- Get better; 66- Tartan skirt; 67- Peace goddess; 68- Writer Bombeck; 69- ...sow, so shall...; 70- Bird homes; 71- Chamber;

Down

1- Plastic clog; 2- New Rochelle college; 3- Football; 4- Fluff, as bangs; 5- Joined; 6- Listen secretly; 7- Lead; 8- Queues; 9- Hill builder; 10- Relapse into bad habits; 11- Capital city of Western Samoa; 12- ... old chap; 13- Tolstoy and Gorcey; 21- Due; 22- Siouan speaker; 25- Lays down the lawn; 26- Convocation of witches; 27- Maker of Pong; 28- Marry again; 30- Gossipmonger; 32- ... Mio; 33- More current; 34- Category; 36- Ornate; 38- Toilette accessory; 41- Ballerina's skirt; 45- Love deity; 47- Tavern; 49- Entertains; 52- Frighten; 54- Orange-brown earth pigment; 55- "Puppy Love" singer; 56- Raised platform; 57- One's partner; 59- Minerals; 60- Dynamic beginning; 61- ...-shanter (Scottish cap); 62- Jack of "Rio Lobo"; 64- Like some ears;

Yesterday's solution

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

Classifieds



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NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

FIVE LOOK CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111343 or KAWKAB.914@HOTMAIL.COM

M D R CARGO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38354627 or M.HAIDER.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

HOZTI SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33621007 or HOZTIBH@GMAIL.COM

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WHEEL POWER CAR SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3967747 or HIRA74491@GMAIL.COM

FIVE HANAD BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111343 or ADHIMALGHAL1968@GMAIL.COM

JUFFAIR BOULEVARD HOTEL & SUITES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35475656 or HR@JUFFAIRBOULEVARD.COM

PRO KLEEN SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36845820 or PADAM1739@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

HAMZA GILL CONSULTANCY SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39512118 or GILLSARA106@GMAIL.COM

SEHAR JEWELLERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17280049 or TAHIRHAMEED57@HOTMAIL.COM

MOHAMED JASIM ALSALMAN MEAT SHOP BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33232108 or ELENAECLARINAL@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

TRIPLE S MAINTENANCE SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33602940 or TRIPLES285@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD TAYYEB CONTRACTING SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35016272 or TAYYEBALI595@GMAIL.COM

29 DECORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66970004 or yservices.bh@gmail.com

WADI RAS RUMAN COMPUTER PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35332930 or AQIBREHMAN178@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

HOPE MEDIA SOLUTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39220143 or HOPEMEDIA.BH@GMAIL.COM

SAJEEL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33048775 or SAJEELHUSSAIN730@GMAIL.COM

SHAHID ALI INTERIOR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38354637 or SHAHIDALI.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

JANA FOR MARKETING & CONSULTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33666765 or KAMELSLM@HOTMAIL.COM

MONIR BASAR FOR INTERIOR DECORATION BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36259483 or MMONIRPRODANIA@GMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

AL AFFAN DEVELOPMENT COMBINED SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33584745 or

ABDULREHMAN3443@YAHOO.COM

MIRAS ELECTRICAL REPAIRS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35440319 or LABININMIMI@GMAIL.COM

DURAT SAR CARGO HANDLING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34113333 or BU.CASH.CASH@GMAIL.COM

BAYAN GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36555316 or SIXSTARS-CO@HOTMAIL.COM

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ALSHOMOOS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39606407 or ALWESAM71@HOTMAIL.COM

AL SHOMOOS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39606407 or ALWESAM71@HOTMAIL.COM

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001720 or GOURMETBURGERBAH@GMAIL.COM

AIMS BEAUTY SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38783000 or JAHIDBH@GMAIL.COM

HIGHWAY CARGO HANDLING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35451946 or UNQUELFECONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

MURTADHA ALI ABDULLA A.H(MANBAA ALKHAIR-5197) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36715131 or abozhoor1@gmail.com

KADER MOLLA CONTRACTING AND SUPPLY CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35611928 or ALABER1@HOTMAIL.COM

ALJALAHMA FABRICATION WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17410218 or INFO@ALJALAHMAEST.COM

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or NASSERAB@BATELCO.COM.BH

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of EMPLOYEE(OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCS@MCSWLL.COM

AL-NAWAKHADHA FURITURE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701569 or NAWAKHDHA2058@GMAIL.COM

ABDULLA EBRAHIM SHOWAITER SWEET STORES has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33217604 or aeshowaiter202@gmail.com

AL YASEEN ELECTRIC CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291154 or A.Y.A.Y@HOTMAIL.COM

ABDULLA BADER AIRCONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC (AIR-CONDITIONING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39420674 or abduallahadereid@yahoo.com

NAWAF LADIES TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33885380 or abualiclearance@gmail.com

EAST ARAB CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 1773731 or EASTARABCON@GMAIL.COM

NATIONAL EXCAVATING EST. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39455537 or NEEWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

AHMED QAED CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826260 or info@CIHBAHRAIN.COM

BERGER PAINTS BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17123701 or gurpreet.singh@asianpaints.com

ABDULLA MOHAMMED ALQAED TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39674448 or A.ALQAED111@GMAIL.COM

AL SHAGAEQ CARPENTRY WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39886780 or AIR.ALRAFSAFI@HOTMAIL.COM

ALSHOMOOS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39606407 or ALWESAM71@HOTMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIESEL MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17642922 or intl.transports@gmail.com

com

BUSUFAR FRUIT AND VEGETABLE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33247497 or ALMAJAJHEEM@GMAIL.COM

KADER MOLLA CONTRACTING AND SUPPLY CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35611928 or ALABER1@HOTMAIL.COM

Secure Me W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjinath@urbaser.com

Dailamutaylos Contracting and Cleaning has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593395 or JESJ6500@GMAIL.COM

BEENU WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39622367 or HASSAN.JAB88@HOTMAIL.COM

BUSHRA GENTS SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39457163 or HUSSAINFARDAN64@HOTMAIL.COM

Havelock One Interiors WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of AUDITING MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832030 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

IBN AL-NAFEES HOSPITAL B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17823703 or mahmood@ibnalnafees.com

Ajeeb For Fresh Meat and Chicken has a vacancy for the occupation of BUTCHER (ANIMALS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36802040 or ALSAMMAK999@HOTMAIL.COM

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

NEON STAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39890033 or ABDULHUSAINMANSOOR@GMAIL.COM

SOLAS MARINE SERVICES (FOREIGN BRANCH) has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN/ASST.(MECH.EQUIP.MAINT.), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39580153 or gshetty@solasmarine.com

BITE ME SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39803333 or tiptoes.beauty12@gmail.com

HEAVEN VALLEY BEAUTY SALOON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33355971 or ALI.QUMBER98@GMAIL.COM

SHRIMPUS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33660552 or JAFFER.ALSARI@GMAIL.COM

ORANG ABAYATE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39211511 or ALIHH@HOTMAIL.COM

WESTPOINT HOME (BAHRAIN) W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

Karak Capital Cafeteria has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223159 or HASH2H2@HOTMAIL.COM

DUBAI HORIZON INTERNATIONAL CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39416242 or CMD@DHIWLL.COM

DURRAT RESORT MANAGEMENT COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3359939 or gosi@DRM.BH

CLEAR VIEW SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17660141 or CLEARVIEWBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ERAM FLOORS MIDDLE EAST W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33628081 or accountsbh@floors-me.com

SHAMES ALZAIN VEGETABLES AND FRUITS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39643189 or info@awtadi.com

Leaders international contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39699957 or a.a.qarata.bh@gmail.com

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or YAMAMAHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM

Secure Me W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

SABR AYOB RESTAURANT AND GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33919162 or AYESHEH ALI@YAHOO.COM

SABAR AYOB REASTURANT AND GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33000802 or AYESHEH ALI@YAHOO.COM

SHAMA GLASS AND MIRROR EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39754368 or ShamaglaSS@yahoo.com

DEVES GATE CAR WASH MANUAL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact

39464585 or YKHALFAN@GMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556665 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556665 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

CAPITAL REEF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17686100 or CAPITALREEF.BH@GMAIL.COM

ABEDALI JAFFAR ALI ABEDALI / GHADER 10387 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888014 or FATOOM_929@HOTMAIL.COM

AL HILAL HOSPITAL COMPANY - BSC (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SPECIALISED DOCTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17344700 or HRD@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

SHRIMPUS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33660552 or JAFFER.ALSARI@GMAIL.COM

WHITE ZONE TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77029889 or ALTAWASEL84@GMAIL.COM

FRANKS A LOT RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811970 or rayjaffar@gmail.com

WESTPOINT HOME (BAHRAIN) W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

BIG BEN SCAFFOLDING CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENTS RENTAL has a vacancy for the occupation of EMPLOYEE(OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39416687 or STAR_STAR2009@HOTMAIL.COM

Layali Shark sweets and pasteries has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39809991 or HASSAN55F@HOTMAIL.COM

ERAM FLOORS MIDDLE EAST W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of INSTALLATIONS TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33628081 or accountsbh@floors-me.com

SADAD PIPES TRADING AND SANITARY WARE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39521216 or SADAD.PIPES-SPT@HOTMAIL.COM

EVER FINE TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39151200 or GEEPASBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ROQIIT MARKETING & TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33166230 or CHISHTEE1@HOTMAIL.COM

ANSAR GALLERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17140001 or pr@ag-bh.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

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

DIYAR HIDD GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36639933 or KAREEMA.ISA@GMAIL.COM

MAGIC NEEDLE TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILORING FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38455775 or helpinebh@gmail.com

ACCESS ACCOUNTING CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17879859 or DOMINICFRANCIS73@GMAIL.COM

Fareeq Bin Aqool Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of DISH WASHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666081 or INFO@DIVIDENDGATECAPITAL.COM

ANWAR ALKAMIS CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39290293 or HUSSAINKHAMIS86@GMAIL.COM

Almoayed Air Conditioning W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or profice@almoayedq.com

ABU SAMI SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17672170 or UMAMINA.1969@GMAIL.COM

Palace Integrator Technology W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39450463 or palace.electronics@gmail.com

MAJESTIC ARJAAN BY ROTANA has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38899899 or HEOFFICE@BATELCO.COM.BH

Dream World Construction Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or sharef.works@gmail.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556665 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36566422 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

UMM ALSUBBAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17491190 or usmc@batelco.com.bh

PaPa Kanafa has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39448689 or info@alshahabest.com

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

SAJJAD GENTS BARBER has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36660029 or JAFFAR10622@HOTMAIL.COM

NEW GREEN CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36760055 or MIAN33859525@GMAIL.COM

ALTAYBEAN BARBER has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36784141 or AHMEDYD123@GMAIL.COM

Fehzi beauty salon has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39626298 or FEZBIEM@GMAIL.COM

Cafeteria alu naseeb has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37778494 or AHMEDFASHIH555@GMAIL.COM

SEVEN HILLS BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17403548 or info@7hills-group.com

THE EYE INFIRMARY has a vacancy for the occupation of MEDICAL CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39779111 or info@eyeinfirmary.com

SULTANA STAR LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66950555 or YOUSAFABDULLAH95@GMAIL.COM

ARABIAN CROWN TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32369690 or jayan@hamcoarabia.com

B.M. HAJEN CONTRACTING WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993577 or RAQEED2004@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN GUARDING SOLUTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@mre.co

SSP Bahrain WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17210389 or tomas@sspbahrain.com

Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones (Danat) B.S.C. Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of GEOLOGIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17201333 or hr@danat.bh

SANDUH LINE CONSTRUCTION CO.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17242566 or MH2990M@GMAIL.COM

FAVOURITE HOLDING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38839682 or faiq.qazafi@gmail.com

MINDS UNITED RESOURCE HUB W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECT LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39526589 or tom.shain@minds-united.com

APRIL PET CLINIC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13104489 or apriloets2022@gmail.com

MOHAMMAD PERVAIZ CARGO HANDLING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY TRUCK), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34300652 or PERVEZDEEN1968@GMAIL.COM

Washing SPA Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38087117 or JOSEPHMILTON@GMAIL.COM

TWO CORNERS CLEANING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33939913 or ATTOOLY@HOTMAIL.COM

ALNASHIG GATE FOR HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33918404 or DHAIFAL59@GMAIL.COM

S H B A CONTRACTING CO BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34530786 or sohairian701@yahoo.com

TOP CHICKEN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39655383 or HANIBOHAMAD74@GMAIL.COM

DHA CONSULTANCY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34567895 or ABEERRAJPUT1@GMAIL.COM

SPARTAN AUTO SERVICE CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33705450 or info@spartangroup@gmail.com

NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.) has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

MAGNUM SHIPCARE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact

17832244 or per121@alkhalidiagroup.com

HUSSAIN MOHAMED HASAN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39457163 or HUSSAINFARDAN64@HOTMAIL.COM

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

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

BAHRAIN GUARDING SOLUTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@mre.co

ALAZIQ CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36079570 or KALIMBHINDER7@GMAIL.COM

AL MURABBA SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33621007 or NASEERBH86@GMAIL.COM

HABIB ABBAS ABDULLA SALMAN*ADWAA ALFAUR*8780 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMEN,HUNTERS & RELATED WORKERS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38100400 or Work.bh95@gmail.com

Abu hazar air conditioning and refrigeration W.I.I has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66937703 or ALHAZAR1234@GMAIL.COM

Gold Card Computer Consultants Co - Bahraini Partnership Company has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35301525 or minhas560@gmail.com

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250078 or KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM

LAURELS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTING ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17280049 or ceo@moindeez.com

AL QAISAR AUTO SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39205557 or JIFF4@GMAIL.COM

One O One restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33833297 or HH.HERZ@HOTMAIL.COM

DOWNTOWN ROTANA HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17110196 or JHAD.AMIN@LIVE.COM

BABA JADOON CAR ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3412433 or SAIQAGHAURI@GMAIL.COM

DAHUA COMMUNICATION BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33185759 or BU3EESA90@GMAIL.COM

ADON INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3775847 or SHEKARPLRJ204@GMAIL.COM

AZEEM AL MADEENA TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700000 or PRABHULESH@GMAIL.COM

TOUS VEGETABLES AND FRUITS AND DATES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36362136 or NOORY1983@HOTMAIL.COM

MAA CARE GENTS SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33147002 or MOHANAN8747@GMAIL.COM

ANGEL GARMENTS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39602040 or ALSAMMAK999@HOTMAIL.COM

IBN HAMEDO SEAFOOD W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17221113 or MOHAMED.ALSAGR2020@GMAIL.COM

BRICKS VALLEY FACILITIES SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3772467 or ALAMGCIWLL@GMAIL.COM

IBRAHIM SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36758776 or SHAHIDP824@GMAIL.COM

ARTISTA DECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39322133 or HAMZA.SHEHAB80@GMAIL.COM

ONE STEP SOLUTION FOR PRINTERS & COMPUTERS SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(ELECTRIC & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36506754 or stepsolution22@gmail.com

ALAZIQ CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36079570 or KALIMBHINDER7@GMAIL.COM

MODERN MARBLE CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33079055 or MODERNMARBLECONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

Al Fardan heroics send Riffa into semis

Goalkeeper blanks Muharraq in penalty shootout with three successive saves to help send Riffa through to the final four of this year's His Majesty the King's Cup

● Riffa scrape past Muharraq with 3-0 win on penalties as Abdulkarim Al Fardan makes impressive stops

● Al Ahli edge past Al Najma 4-2 in penalty shootout after both teams still tied at 1-1 after 120 minutes

TDT | Manama

Riffa punched their tickets to the semi-finals of this year's His Majesty the King's Cup football tournament after a heroic performance from goalkeeper Abdulkarim Al Fardan in a 3-0 penalty shootout victory over arch-rivals Muharraq last night.

Despite both teams having numerous chances, the game remained goalless at the end of regular and extra time, sending the contest to the spot kicks.

Al Fardan then shone brightest for Riffa, saving all three of Muharraq's attempts while his teammates did their job by con-



Muharraq's Waleed Al Hayam looks to shoot against Riffa during regular time in their match last night

verting theirs.

Komail Al Aswad, Ali Haram and Lazar Dordevic all hit the target for the victors, while Al Fardan stopped the efforts of Hassan Uqabi, Amine Hasan and Waleed Al Hayam. Al Fardan's save on Al Hayam's penalty cut the shootout short and sent Riffa through to the final four.

Riffa are next set to take on Al Ahli in the semis. Ahli also advanced yesterday with a 4-2 penalty shootout win against Al Najma after 120 minutes could not separate the two sides, who were deadlocked at 1-1.

Najma were first to find the net in regular time when Edimar Ribeiro Da Costa Junior scored



Al Ahli's Abdulla Al Hashash looks to make a play as Al Najma's Mohammed Eid slides in for a tackle

in the 59th minute on a brilliant counter-attack. Junior received a long pass from his own box and raced down the pitch to slot the ball past Ahli's Ebrahim Luthfallah.

Ahli were then able to equalise in the 71st minute when Zakaria Al Ismaili scored from close range off a cross supplied by Vin-

icius Vargas Dos Santos.

That set the stage for the shootout, where Luthfallah had some heroics, making two crucial stops to send his side through. Nawaf Abdulla converted the final penalty for Ahli.

This year's His Majesty the King's Cup's other semi-final fixture will be between Manama

and Al Hala.

Manama edged past Sitra 5-4 in a thrilling penalty shootout on Thursday night, while Hala beat Hidd 4-2, also on penalties. Both contests remained deadlocked at 1-1 at the end of extra time.

The final four has yet to be scheduled by the Bahrain Football Association.

'I don't understand how it is possible' - Klopp baffled by Chelsea spending



Liverpool's German manager Jurgen Klopp (2R) reacts with Chelsea players after a match (file photo)

Reuters | London

Liverpool coach Jurgen Klopp said he cannot understand how Chelsea were able to spend what they did in the January transfer window, insisting it is best left for others explain the rules.

The British record capture of Enzo Fernandez this week, Chelsea's eighth signing of the window, took the Blues' spending close to 300 million pounds (\$367.32 million) in January alone, and over 500 million pounds for the season. They were able to get around Financial Fair Play regulations by spreading the cost of their deals over long contracts offered to the new signings, among other bending of the rules, something Klopp cannot get his head around.

"I say nothing without my lawyer," Klopp said jokingly to a news conference yesterday to look ahead to his side's weekend clash with Wolverhampton Wanderers.

"I don't understand this part of the business but it's a big

"I don't understand this part of the business but it's a big number. They are all really good players so congratulations. I don't understand how it's possible, but it's not for me to explain how it works"

JURGEN KLOPP

number. They are all really good players so congratulations. I don't understand how it's possible, but it's not for me to explain how it works."

January has not been a good month for Liverpool on the pitch, given they have won just one of their six matches in all competitions in the month to sit ninth in the Premier League standings.

Almost the same squad went so close to an unprecedented quadruple of trophies last term, but Klopp insisted players cannot always be at the top of their game every season.

Tennis star Kyrgios admits assaulting girlfriend, avoids conviction

AFP | Canberra

Tennis star Nick Kyrgios yesterday pleaded guilty to assaulting a former girlfriend, but avoided a conviction for what the magistrate called a "single act of stupidity".

The Canberra magistrate dismissed the assault charge against the 27-year-old Australian player.

Appearing in a Canberra court, the Wimbledon finalist admitted assaulting then-girlfriend Chiara Passari on January 10, 2021, by pushing her to the ground after a heated argument.

Passari lodged a complaint

with police 10 months later, after they had broken up, lawyers told the court.

In a statement read to the court, Passari said she had been severely traumatised by the incident, experiencing severe weight loss, staying in bed day and night -- unable to sleep or form new romantic relationships.

Lawyers for Kyrgios had appealed to have the charge, one count of common assault, dismissed on mental health grounds, arguing it was an isolated incident and out of character.

Psychologist Sam Borenstein



Tennis star Nick Kyrgios arrives at the ACT Magistrates Court in Canberra

The judge said Kyrgios acted poorly but the offence was not planned or pre-meditated and was a "single act of stupidity" by a young man attempting to extricate himself from a tense situation

told the court Kyrgios suffered from recurring major depression, which included black periods, thoughts of self harm, insomnia, agitation and feelings of guilt.

Lionel Messi open to playing in 2026 World Cup

AFP | Paris

After hoisting his first World Cup trophy with Argentina in December, Lionel Messi said that tournament would be his last, but now it appears he's open to the possibility of playing



Argentina's Lionel Messi scores a penalty during a World Cup match (file photo)

in the 2026 event.

"Because of age it'll be difficult to make 2026," Messi, 35, told Diario Ole, a sports newspaper in Argentina. "I love playing football and while I feel like I'm in good shape and enjoying this, I'm going to keep at it. It seems like a long time until the next World Cup, but it depends on

how my career is going."

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni would love to see the superstar -- who is one of only six players to compete in five World Cups -- suit up for the next World Cup, which will be held in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

"I think Messi can make it to

"I love playing football and while I feel like I'm in good shape and enjoying this, I'm going to keep at it. It seems like a long time until the next World Cup, but it depends on how my career is going"

LIONEL MESSI

the next World Cup," Scaloni told Spanish radio Calvia FM last month. "It will depend a lot on what he wants and what happens over time, that he feels good. The doors will always be open. He is happy on the pitch, and for us (it) would be good."

After scoring seven goals in the 2022 World Cup, Messi could become the World Cup's all-time leading scorer if he suits up in 2026. He has 13 goals, three behind record-holder Miroslav Klose of Germany.



After scoring seven goals in the 2022 World Cup, Messi could become the World Cup's all-time leading scorer if he suits up in 2026. He has 13 goals, three behind record-holder Miroslav Klose of Germany

'No excuses' for Arsenal in title bid after January spending: Arteta



Mikel Arteta, Head Coach of Arsenal speaks with his players during the Emirates FA Cup Fourth Round match against Manchester City

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta says Arsenal can have no excuses if they do not win the Premier League title for the first time in two decades after strengthening their squad during the January transfer window.

Arteta splashed out more than £50 million (\$61 million) on three new signings as the club look to hold onto their lead at the top of the table, bringing in Italy midfielder Jorginho, Belgium forward Leandro Trossard and Poland defender Jakub Kiwior.

What we have to do is train really well and win, and play well to win. That's the only thing we can do

MIKEL ARTETA

The Gunners are five points clear of second-placed Manchester City with a game in hand on the champions and Arteta knows his side are perfectly placed to win the club's first English title since 2004.

Arteta was asked yesterday about whether there would now be no excuses if Arsenal failed to get over the line.

"If you want to put it that way, that's fine," he said. "What we have to do is train really well and win, and play well to win. That's the only thing we can do."

Arsenal would have spent even more on new signings last month but they missed out on Ukraine winger Mykhailo Mudryk, who instead joined Chelsea, and Brighton's highly rated midfielder Moises Caicedo.

Despite those frustrations, Arteta is pleased with the backing he received from the Arsenal hierarchy.

Ettihad escape with win against Nuwaidrat

Tightly contested week 19 affair decided in overtime in Zain Basketball League

● Skipper Ahmed Ghanim scores 24 points to pace Ettihad

● Canadian Keanau Post has game-high 33 for Nuwaidrat

TDI | Manama

Al Ettihad outlasted Nuwaidrat 93-89 in overtime last night in a tight week 19 clash of the 2022/2023 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

The game was yesterday's lone fixture at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hassam.

Ettihad recovered from a slow start to take control of the contest in the second quarter. Nuwaidrat stayed within striking distance after the break and then roared back in the fourth.

Keanau Post and Murtadha Salman both contributed baskets to bring Nuwaidrat to within 81-83 with under two minutes left.

Neither team would score on their ensuing plays, and then Ettihad missed a chance to put the game away after being unable to inbound the ball with 5.2 seconds remaining. Post was then fouled, and he sank both pressure-packed free-throws to send the game into the extra five-minute period.

In overtime, a crucial three-pointer by Ali Jassim gave Ettihad an 89-85 lead. They



Al Ettihad's Adrian Uter looks to drive in the paint against Nuwaidrat's Keanau Post

would maintain that gap until Post scored on a lay-up with a minute to play to get to within two points. But Uter was later fouled and he made both his charities, and Nuwaidrat could not get any closer from there.

Ettihad skipper Ahmed Ghanim had 24 points as his team's top scorer, while American professional Adrian Uter finished with 19. Jassim chipped in with 18 while Ali Ghadeer had 11.

For Nuwaidrat, Post was their top performer with 33 points. The Canadian also took down 19 rebounds in the loss. Abbas Jameel added 14 and Mohayad

Ameer had 13.

With the result, Ettihad claimed their 12th win in 17 games as they improved to 29 points for fourth place on the league standings. Nuwaidrat suffered their 11th loss to go with six wins as they remained in the bottom half of the table.

Nuwaidrat started things off as the aggressors, taking a 26-21 lead at the end of the first quarter. But Ettihad fought back and wrested away the advantage in a dominant second period, where they outscored their opponents 25-13 to head into the interval up 46-39.

After the break, Nuwaidrat

BETTER YOU KNOW

With last night's result, Ettihad claim their 12th win in 17 games while Nuwaidrat suffer 11th loss to go with six wins

Standings

	P	W	L	Pts
Manama	17	14	3	31
Muharraq	17	13	4	30
Al Ahli	16	13	3	29
Al Ettihad	17	12	5	29
Bahrain Club	18	9	9	27
Al Najma	16	10	6	26
Al Hala	17	9	8	26
Nuwaidrat	16	6	11	23
Sitra	17	4	13	21
Samahjeej	17	2	15	19
Isa Town	17	1	16	18

were determined to cut the deficit and outscored Ettihad by just a single point in the third period, which ended with a pair of Uter free-throws that made it 64-58, setting the stage for the tense finish.

League action continues on Thursday next week with the 20th round of games in the league's preliminary stage.

BCCI secretary Jay Shah in Bahrain for ACC meet, to decide on Pakistan's Asia Cup hosting rights

PTI | New Delhi

Indian cricket board secretary Jay Shah has flown to Bahrain where an emergent meeting of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has been called at PCB chairman Najam Sethi's behest to decide fate of Pakistan's Asia Cup hosting rights.

If sources in the BCCI are to be believed, there is little to no chance of the Asia Cup being held in Pakistan in September. If at all, the tournament will either be shifted to UAE with PCB retaining the hosting rights or Sri Lanka could be the other option.

"Jay is in Bahrain for the ACC meeting. The BCCI's stand will not change. We will not be trav-



Jay Shah

elling to Pakistan as we haven't got any go-ahead from the government," a BCCI source stated.

It is also understood that recent bomb blasts in Peshawar has again raised security concerns about holding cricket tournaments in Pakistan.



If at all, the tournament will either be shifted to UAE with PCB retaining the hosting rights, or Sri Lanka could be the other option

In December last year, ACC chairman Shah had released the itinerary of the continental body and the venue of Asia Cup wasn't mentioned.

This led to Sethi accusing Shah of taking "unilateral decision", an allegation that ACC officially refuted stating that repeated emails to PCB seeking recommendations on the itinerary went unanswered.

In October last year, Shah, who is also the supremo of BCCI, had officially told the media that India will not travel to Pakistan.

The erstwhile PCB chief Ramiz Raja had back then threatened that Pakistan will not travel to India for this year's 50 over World Cup.

'He'll play': Nagelsmann calls out PSG mind games over Mbappe

AFP | Paris

Bayern Munich coach Julian Nagelsmann said yesterday he thinks Kylian Mbappe will play for Paris Saint-Germain in the first leg of their Champions League tie, accusing the French club of "playing poker".

PSG announced on Thursday that the star forward would miss "up to three weeks" with a thigh injury, ruling him out of the February 14 clash in the French capital.



Julian Nagelsmann

"I don't think he'll be out," Nagelsmann said, claiming the Ligue 1 champions had given a speculative diagnosis of the star's condition.

Newcastle must come to terms with new status, says Howe

AFP | London

Eddie Howe admits Newcastle's new-found status as a threat to the Premier League's big guns will make it harder to sign players from their rivals in future.

The League Cup finalists added Everton forward Anthony Gordon and West Ham full-back



Eddie Howe

Harrison Ashby during the January transfer window.

But their long-standing interest in England midfielder Conor Gallagher came to nothing as Chelsea refused to allow him to join a top-six rival.

Howe, whose team host West Ham on Saturday, are third in the Premier League table, with just one defeat all season.

Asked at his pre-match press conference yesterday whether other clubs now see the Magpies as genuine competition, Howe said: "I think it is potentially difficult for us."

"It depends on the player and it depends on the club, but I think we're probably aware we are seen differently this season to how we were last season."

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Godolphin strike gold in Bahrain!

Charlie Appleby and Richard Mullen team up to give Godolphin a big race double, winning both the Listed Crown Prince's Cup and the Anchorman Cup of the Bahrain Turf Series

● **Warren Point** emerges as comprehensive winner of one of Bahrain's most prestigious horseraces

● **King Of Conquest** triumphs in Anchorman Cup, Deep Intrigue wins Hawar Cup in Bahrain Turf Series

TDI | Manama

Charlie Appleby and Richard Mullen teamed up to give Godolphin a big race double on a wind-swept afternoon at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club in Sakhr yesterday.

In the Listed Crown Prince's Cup (sponsored by Howden), a strong field of 15 went to post, but Warren Point spread-eagled the field to run out a comprehensive winner of one of Bahrain's most prestigious races.

Warren Point didn't run at two but made fast progress as a three-year-old, winning a valuable handicap at the 2022 Goodwood Festival before stepping



HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, presents The Crown Prince's Cup (sponsored by Howden)

up to Listed company to win the Floodlit Stakes at Kempton at the end of October.

Carrying a three-lb penalty for that success, Mullen positioned the son of Dubawi just off the pace and after traveling powerfully into the race, he quickened clear of his rivals.

Last year's second Tawaareq filled the same position this time round, with Byline back in third.

Appleby said following the race: "It has been a good day for the team and delighted to come

home with two horses that we hoped would be competitive.

"Warren Point was a horse I had always hoped would turn into a nice horse and he is building up the profile into a nice horse now. They went a good gallop and

that pleased me as that was one thing we've seen is that he is effective over 10 and 12 furlongs so stamina wasn't going to be a concern."

Richard Mullen last rode in Bahrain three years ago and flew in from Dubai for the day to ride both Godolphin-owned horses. Following success on Warren Point he said: "He's a talented horse, he's got low mileage and he is coming off the back of a Listed win in the UK. He had all



HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, at yesterday's races with REHC High Committee chairman His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

the form in the book to come here but they've got to come and do it. The main thing with him is that he just got into a nice rhythm as he can be quite gassy in his races but they went a nice pace and I was able to just track them.

"He'll be an exciting horse going forward for some of these races around the GCC or he could

get some more black type in Europe over the summer."

Double

In the £60,000 Anchorman Cup, King Of Conquest was the first leg of a Godolphin double.

The four-year-old broke the existing track record to give Godolphin and Appleby a first victory in this season's Bahrain Turf Series.

Mullen settled King Of Conquest just off the pace but pulled the son of Lope De Vega out as they turned for home and he found plenty for Mullen's urgings to win by one-length.

Classical Wave, who won this race last year, stayed on to be second with Keith Dalgleish's What's The Story running his best race in Bahrain to date, finishing third under Callum Rodriguez.

After the race, Appleby said:

"I would also like to thank the Bahrain Turf Club for putting on a good event. For us to be able to come over and participate is great and to have a couple of winners is even better"

CHARLIE APPLEBY

"We hoped stepping up King of Conquest to nine-furlongs would suit him and bring about further improvement which it did. The ground was quick enough for him so it was a brave performance.

"They were two great rides by Richard today and I would also like to thank the Bahrain Turf Club for putting on a good event. For us to be able to come over and participate is great and to have a couple of winners is even better!"

Mullen added: "It was a very good performance. He broke very well and I was always in a nice position and always happy. Just as the race started to develop down the hill I was mindful that I didn't want to ask him too many serious questions early on.

"Once I swung into the straight, you have another element which is the headwind. He then quickened away, and I think he's broken the track record so it was an impressive performance."

In the second Bahrain Turf Series race of the day, The Hawar Cup run over six furlongs (1200m), Deep Intrigue bounced back to the form which saw him win Al Wasmiya Cup as part of the 2021/22 Turf Series by seeing off the challenge of Dairerin.

The seven-year-old, formerly trained in England by Mark Johnston, was having his first run for trainer Hesham Al Haddad in 350 days and it was a significant winner for young Omani jockey Anas bin Salim Al Siyabi.



Richard Mullen rides Warren Point to the victory in the Listed Crown Prince's Cup yesterday

Final finishing positions

The Crown Prince's Cup, 1m 2f: 1 Warren Point, 2 Tawaareq, 3 Byline, 4 Lucander, 5 The Covex Kid, 6 Goemon, 7 Encourage, 8 Zagato, 9 Port Lions, 10 Marie's Diamond, 11 Glen Savage, 12 Recovery Run, 13 Prince Elzaam, 14 Taqareer, 15 Forbidden Land

Anchorman Cup, 1m 1f: 1 King Of Conquest, 2 Classical Wave, 3 What's The Story, 4 Mark Of Respect, 5 Dark Lion, 6 Grigadale, 7 Arctic Emperor, 8 Inigo Jones, 9 Merlin's Beard, 10 Knight Of Honour, 11 What A Welcome, 12 Mr Professor, 13 Coolagh Forest, 14 Zymyran, 15 Pensiero D'Amore, 16 Longbourn

Hawar Cup, 6f: 1 Deep Intrigue, 2 Dairerin, 3 Pure Dreamer, 4 Ocean Star, 5 Fighter Pilot, 6 Amaan, 7 Neptunian, 8 Devaste, 9 Kinks, 10 Watchya, 11 Teenar, 12 Wowzers, 13 Inveigle, 14 First Edition, 15 Nomadic Empire, 16 Khunan, 17 Laieth, 18 Soldier's Minute

Bahrain Victorious' Buitrago third overall, best young rider in Saudi Tour

TDI | Manama

Team Bahrain Victorious rider Santiago Buitrago from Colombia was yesterday third overall on the final general rankings of the Saudi Tour while also winning the white jersey for best young rider.

The five-stage event wrapped up yesterday with the 143km concluding leg.

Buitrago finished 24th in the stage but did enough to seal his final classification on the overall podium, where he joined winner Ruben Almeida Guerreiro of Movistar Team and Davide Formolo of UAE Team Emirates.

Teammate Jonathan Milan, who was the leader early in the tour, was fifth overall on the general ranking.

Meanwhile, Buitrago was able to claim first place in the youth category, with Milan finishing right behind him.

Milan narrowly missed out on taking the red jersey for winning the points classification, where he finished second just six points behind Dylan Groenewegen of Team Jayco ALUla.

Bahrain Victorious' seven-rider squad



Santiago Buitrago celebrates with his bronze medal and white jersey at the end of the race

also missed out on a top-three finish in the teams category, going fourth amongst the 16 squads that participated.

The Saudi Tour is part of this year's Un-

"It's been a great start to the season. I'm super happy with how it went; the team has performed very well, and we have been on the podium almost every day"

AHMED MADAN

ion Cycliste Internationale (UCI) Asia circuit. Bahrain Victorious competed with seven riders. Bahraini Ahmed Madan was a part of the squad, as were Filip Maciejuk, Rainer Kepplinger, Andrea Pasqualon and Dusan Rajovic.

Madan commented: "It's a great atmosphere here to be racing in the Gulf, it's like racing at home with all of the fans here. I'm happy to be here, nice roads, nice racing."

"It's been a great start to the season. I'm super happy with how it went; the team has performed very well, and we have been on the podium almost every day."

BBK juniors tennis gets underway today at BTC

● **More than 200 players from around the world set to compete in tournament's various age-categories**

TDI | Manama

The 27th BBK Juniors Open Tennis Championships get underway today at Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) in Juffair.

The tournament is being held under the patronage of Dr Abdulrahman Ali Saif, group chief executive of BBK.

BTC president Khamis Al Muqla will be on hand at the opening ceremony of Bahrain's

longest-running juniors' tennis championships, which has produced top national players from the Kingdom and from Saudi Arabia since 1996.

There are a total of 210 juniors geared up and ready for the event, including players from Bahrain, Saudi, France, the Philippines and from different parts of the world who are ready to showcase their skills in tennis within their respective age categories.

There will be a total of 15 matches on the first day today, including in the under-12 boys' singles and under-18 girls' singles. Action will start at 4pm.

Spectators are welcome to watch the prestigious juniors event, which is scheduled to continue until 16 February.