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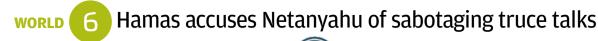
**SATURDAY** 

MAY, 2024

**220 FILS ISSUE NO.9916** 

Starc shows class as Kolkata triumph

Starc's four-wicket haul helps Kolkata Knight Riders secure victory over Mumbai Indians | P12





I've never been a happy person, says Billie Eilish

**BUSINESS** 

Airbnb promises to combat sex work in rentals during Paris Games

# HRH CP, PM affirms commitment to multisector collaboration with UK

Meets King Charles III at the Royal Windsor Horse Show Bahrain pavilion

- HRH hails Bahraini jockeys' participation in international championships
- Highlights Royal **Windsor Horse Show** as a prestigious international equestrian competition
- Commends HH Shaikh Nasser's participation with his children

TDT | Manama

Hamad Al Khalifa, the in Windsor Great Park. Crown Prince and Prime Minis-



Tthe Crown Prince and Prime Minister during talks with King Charles III, the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, President of the Commonwealth, during the Royal Windsor International Endurance Championship held in Britain.

during talks held at the Royal equestrian sport, on behalf of to showcase the Kingdom's talis Royal Highness Windsor Horse Show's Endur- His Majesty King Hamad bin ents and expertise in this sport. Prince Salman bin ance race at Bahrain's pavilion Isa Al Khalifa. Also present at He also underscored ongoing

ter, yesterday affirmed Bahrain's the Royal Windsor Horse Show, Khalifa, the Representative of integral to Bahrain's cultural commitment to multisectoral one of the oldest and most im- His Majesty the King for Hu- heritage.

collaboration with Great Britain portant races in the world of teremphasised the opportunity the meeting was His Highness efforts in developing the horse His Royal Highness attended Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al racing and equestrian sector,

manitarian Works and Youth Affairs, and Captain of the Royal Endurance Team.

His Royal Highness reaffirmed the Kingdom's dedication to enhancing collaboration across various sectors between the two nations, particularly within horseracing and equestrianism. HRH further commended His Highness Shaikh Nasser and his children for their participation, extending best wishes for success in promoting Bahrain on the global stage of endurance races.

Highlighting Bahraini jockeys' participation in international championships alongside top racehorse jockeys, The Crown Prince and Prime Minis-

#### **HM King condoles** with UAE President

**TDT** | Abu Dhabi

 $\mathbf{H}$ is Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa met with His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, at Al Mushrif Palace in Abu Dhabi, to offer his condolences following the passing of Sheikh Tahnoun bin Mohammed Al Nahyan, Abu Dhabi Ruler's Representative in Al Ain Region.

HM the King recounted the achievements and efforts of Sheikh Tahnoun, and his contributions to the UAE and its people.

HH the President of the UAE and HH the Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, as well as the sons of the late Sheikh Tahnoun, expressed their gratitude to HM King Hamad for his condolences.

On his arrival in the UAE, HM King Hamad had been received by His Highness Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the UAE, as well as the ambassadors of the two countries.

HM the King was bid farewell by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the UAE.

220 fils (includes VAT)



# Fighting layoffs

Labour Ministry committee to address layoffs due to partial or complete closures

TDT | Manama

osing jobs can indeed be a daunting experience for anyone, amidst economic

However, it's during these challenging times that new opportunities often emerge, waiting to be discovered.

This sentiment is echoed in the Kingdom, where Minister of Labour, Jameel Humaidan, is spearheading efforts to tackle this issue.

The ministry has disclosed the formation of a committee tasked with studying layoffs, aiming to avoid job losses by exploring all possible alternatives.

The committee, as explained by the minister, will delve into the reasons behind workforce reductions, including partial or complete closures.

Their approach involves engaging with company owners to identify and implement alternatives to job cuts or closures.

These solutions may range from offering voluntary retirement to providing wage subsidies aimed at retaining Bahraini employees.

The minister's responses came during a parliamentary inquiry by Shura Council member Khalid Al Maskati, highlighting the ministry's commitment to Khalid Hussain Almaskati



**Unemployment** benefits will be provided at a rate of 60% of the insured worker's salary for a duration of nine months, capped at a maximum of 1,000 Bahraini dinars

JAMEEL BIN MOHAMMED ALI HUMAIDAN. MINISTER OF LABOUR



finding solutions beneficial to the businesses involved," the both employees and employers minister explained. alike.

may arise due to reasons includ-

Next, they will convene meetings with company owners to explore all possible alternatives to avoid job cuts or closures.

stage, taking into account the nature of the company.

These solutions may entail offering laid-off employees positions in other departments transfer to similar businesses.

#### The solutions

Offering early retirement to eligible Bahraini employees as an alternative to layoffs, along to companies to retain national workers, are some of the suggestions that will be put forward.

in preventing or reducing layoffs through these measures.

#### What if unavoidable?

However, if layoffs become First, the committee will unavoidable, Humaidan assured study the requests received for that Bahraini workers will be workforce reductions, which ensured all rights and necessary compensation as per Articles ing partial or complete closures. 110 and 111 of the Labour Law

in the Private Sector. Furthermore, the ministry will guarantee the payment of unemployment benefits at a rate Potential solutions will be of 60% of the insured workthoroughly explored at this er's salary for a period of nine months, with a maximum of 1.000 Bahraini dinars.

#### **Priority for reintegration**

The minister revealed the or branches within the same existence of a specialised company, or facilitating their employment team dedicated to monitoring the reemployment of laid-off Bahraini workers.

Humaidan emphasised that this team would play a pivotal role in facilitating the reintewith providing wage subsidies gration of these workers into the labour market. Their duties will include recommending suitable job opportunities based It's worth noting that the min- on the workers' experience, as istry has previously succeeded well as referring them to training courses aimed at enhancing their skill sets and improving "It was accomplished without their chances of securing new compromising the interests of employment opportunities.

#### Hamas says Israeli PM trying to derail Gaza truce deal

**AFP** | Palestinian Territories

Atop Hamas official ac-cused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday of trying to derail a proposed Gaza truce and hostage release deal with his threats to keep fighting the Palestinian group.

"Netanyahu was the obstructionist of all previous rounds of dialogue... and it is clear that he still is," senior Hamas official Hossam Badran told AFP by telephone.

#### 'Slightly' more food available in Gaza but famine still looms: WHO

AFP | Geneva, CHE

The availability of food in the Gaza Strip has very slightly improved, though the risk of famine in the besieged Palestinian territory remains, the World Health Organization said yesterday.

"There's a bit more food," Rik Peeperkorn, the WHO representative in the Palestinian territories, told a press briefing in Geneva via video- link from Jerusalem. Compared to a few months ago, "definitely there is more basic food, more wheat, but also a little bit more diversified food on the market", he said.

# news of bahrain

# From campus to career

Labour Minister charts path to workforce readiness in Bahrain

Extensive partnerships with educational institutions to equip graduates with skills needed for the evolving job market

Prioritizes securing jobs aligned with graduates' expertise and market demand

TDT | Manama

Jameel Humaidan, the Labour Authority (LMRA), offering in-

would meet their expertise and tions. They're not just identify-

are partnering closely with edu-under-utilised. cational institutions.

force fully equipped to tackle its market demands. demands head-on.



Jameel Humaidan, the Labour Minister Hani Ali Alsaati

nsuring jobs for graduates ry. Regular updates flow from Ministry of Education, Univeris a priority for Labour the ministry's databases and Ministry, according to the Labour Market Regulatory sights into the most sought-af-Not just any jobs. But that ter specialisations and occupaing needs; they're pinpointing tively bridging the gap between For this, the minister said they areas where Bahraini talent is

Their goal? To ensure that Al Saati queried the ministry on of Education, they're integrat-needs. graduates step into the work- their strategies for meeting job

In response, Humaidan shed This proactive approach was light on their extensive collaboutlined by the minister as he orations with key players like tions, equipping them with es- into the workforce. It's a chal- behind in the journey toward addressed a parliamentary que- the Higher Education Council, sential skills, and opening doors lenge they're tackling head-on, workforce integration.

vtechnic. It's a comprehensive are tailor-made for the workforce's evolving needs.

The ministry said they are acing these graduates seamlessly

to lucrative career paths.

Steering students toward success doesn't end there. The ministry orchestrates career days at universities, guiding students toward the skills and occupations in high demand.

The Labour Ministry is collaborating closely with educational institutions in the Kingdom to ensure that graduates are well-prepared to meet the demands of the job market, said Jameel Humaidan, the Labour Minister.

The ministry, in collaboration with its partners, is also putting the finishing touches on the Professional Levels and Standards sity of Bahrain, and Bahrain Pol- Project. This ambitious endeavour aims to streamline profesnetwork ensuring that graduates sional licensing and regulate occupational practices, setting industry benchmarks and safeguarding standards.

Yet, amidst these strides, Hueducation and employment maidan said he is acutely aware for new school graduates. By of the disconnect between ac-Shura Council member Hani teaming up with the Ministry ademic expertise and industry

> He highlighted that the minisinto vocational education and try is actively seeking solutions training programmes. It's about for specialisations encountering actively seeking solutions to en-



Efforts include integrating new school graduates into vocational education and training programs, organizing career days, and implementing the **Professional Levels** and Standards Project

for streamlining licensing and regulating occupational practic-



presenting them with viable op- challenges in their integration sure that no specialisation is left

#### Prime minister's journalism award: Applications closed, jury set to begin evaluations



Dr. Ramzan bin Abdullah Al

TDT | Manama

Dr. Ramzan bin Abdullah Al Noaimi, the Minister of Information, announced the closure of applications for the eighth edition of the Prime Minister's Award for Journalism. The jury will soon commence the evaluation process to select the winners.

Dr. Al Noaimi expressed gratitude to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Roval Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for their unwavering support towards Bahraini journalists. He highlighted their role in empowering journalists to contribute significantly to the nation's development through responsible speech and opinion.

Dr. Al Noaimi further highlighted the increased demand for participation in this year's award, especially from young media talent from colleges of journalism and media. He also mentioned the addition of new categories to the award, enhancing its scope and inclusivity.

#### Bahraini **Ambassador to KSA** participates in Islamic Summit Conference ministerial meeting

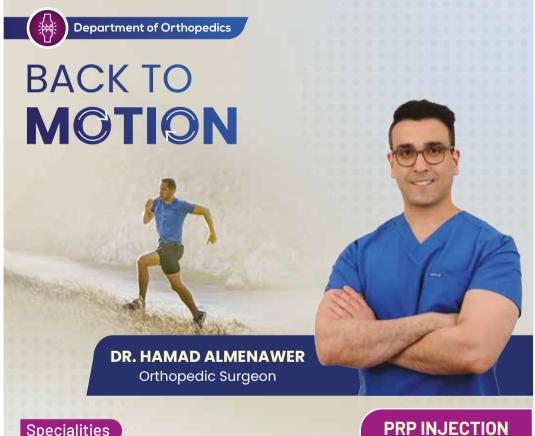
**AFP** | Banjul

🖰 haikh Ali bin Abdulrah-Oman Al Khalifa, Ambassador of Bahrain to Saudi Arabia and the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), participated in the ministerial meeting at the 15th session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Gambia on May 2-3.

The meeting discussed various topics on the agenda, including the Palestinian cause and Al Quds Al Sharif, as well as the summit's final draft statement and the Banjul Draft Declaration.

The meeting also reviewed topics related to rejecting hate speech and Islamophobia, promoting dialogue, and issues of climate change and food security, which will be presented at the summit at the leadership level on May 4-5.

The summit is held under the theme "Enhancing unity and solidarity through dialogue for sustainable development".



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# Preserving Prestige: Shura members mull stripping National honours for serious offences

Many Gulf and Arab laws have already regulated the awarding and revocation of medals

TDT | Manama

stripped of national honour, for their revocation. aligning with practices observed in other Gulf and Arab current Decree on Medals, the

law will come up for discus- revoking medals. It undersion this Sunday before the scores the importance of main-Shura Council members.

the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence, and National of a medal: a guilty verdict for Security, chaired by Dr. Ali crimes impugning honour or

The draft law, put forth by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence, and National Security, chaired by Dr. Ali Mohamed Alromaihi, seeks to safeguard the prestige of medals awarded by the Kingdom by establishing clear conditions for medal revocation.



Dr. Ali Mohamed Alromaihi

person found guilty of fel-safeguard the prestige of medonies, misdemeanours, or als awarded by the Kingdom by equivalent crimes would be establishing clear conditions

Highlighting a gap in the proposed law aims to address A proposal to create such a the absence of provisions for taining the value of these hon-The draft law, put forth by ours by outlining four distinct cases warranting the stripping Mohamed Alromaihi, seeks to trust, conduct contrary to loyalty to the Kingdom, breach of public office obligations, or actions diminishing the med-

al's dignity. The committee emphasised that many Gulf and Arab laws have already regulated the awarding and revocation of medals, serving as a precedent for Bahrain to follow suit. By enacting this legislation, Bahrain aims to uphold the integrity of its honours, ensuring they are bestowed upon and retained by deserving individ-

# news of bahrain

# Man admits to impersonating sibling to dodge penalty; Court awards 6 months

TDT | Manama

**7**hen confronted by military officers for breaching a restricted area, this man coyly handed over the ID card of this brother to whom he had close resemblance.

However, during interrogation, he experienced remorse and confessed to impersonating his brother in a desperate attempt to evade punishment.

The High Criminal Court has sentenced the 36-year-old man to six months in prison for assuming his brother's identity.

The incident unfolded when the defendant, wanted by law enforcement, ventured into a Representative picture restricted area. Alert military Sensing trouble, the defendant his own.



officers promptly approached cunningly proffered his broth- Swayed by the seemingly le- police station for further prohim, demanding identification. er's driver's licence instead of gitimate document, the officers cessing. However, it was during port unveiled the extent of the his actions.

escorted the defendant to the

wanted by law enforcement, ventured into a restricted area. Alert military officers promptly approached him, demanding identification. Sensing trouble, the defendant cunningly proffered his brother's driver's license instead

unravel. Before being formal- ing tampering with his brothly apprehended, the defendant er's ID card. Certain numbers confessed to law enforcement and letters had been scraped that he had resorted to imper- off, while the photograph had sonating his brother in a des- been distorted to conceal its true perate attempt to evade pun- features. ishment.

the scrutiny of the Public Pros- and the use of a forged docuecution, the defendant openly ment. admitted to the charges levied against him. Further exacerbat-

this time that the truth began to defendant's deception, reveal-

Consequently, the court ruled As the case unfolded under the defendant guilty of forgery

In addition to the six-month prison term, he was also ordered ing the situation, an expert re- to pay a fine as retribution for

# Pharmacist turns unauthorised vet

Court fines BD1,000 for treating animals' sans licence

TDT | Manama

fter selling veterinary med-Aicines for a while, this man pondered why he shouldn't begin treating animals as well.

Enough was enough in the store and he decided it was time to help save animals' lives.

Consequently, he left from his job unnoticed and began practising as a veterinary doctor, albeit without the necessary license. This continued unchecked until a judicial officer from the Animal Health Department arrived at the man's pharmacy for an inspection.

When the official, during the pharmacist, who was absent Health Department, presuma- scribing medications," the staff affirming the initial ruling.



Representative picture

from the shop, a staff told: "He bly to evade legal repercussions. is no longer working with us."

The staff disclosed that the staff also told him that he is now

Court records indicate that the suspect, a 43-year-old individual, lacked the qualifications to provide consultations and treatments, whether within or outside the confines of the pharmacy. His authorisation extended solely to the dispensing and sale of medications within the pharmacy premises.

Following an investigation, the suspect was apprehended and brought to trial. The Court imposed a fine of BD1,000 and To the official's surprise, the no jail term.

However, the suspect chalsuspect left them in 2021 but working as a veterinary doctor. lenged this fine at the appellate inspection, inquired about the had never informed the Animal "He is treating animals and pre-court, which upheld the fine,

## Civil Defence and Coast Guard save three from boat fire near Shaikh Issa Bridge



Representative picture

TDT | Manama

n a dramatic rescue yesterday, Civil Defence, in collaboration with the Coast Guard, swooped in to save three individuals from a boat engulfed safety on the nearby coast. in flames near the Shaikh Issa Bridge in the marine area.

ordinated action, the officers medical assistance upon the battled the raging fire aboard survivors' arrival. Miraculousthe vessel. Despite the dire ly, despite the harrowing orcircumstances with flames deal, all individuals emerged threatening to consume the unscathed, with their health boat and smoke obscuring the conditions reported as stable.

sky, the responders wasted no time in confronting the inferno head-on.

Amidst the chaos, the Coast Guard's vessels navigated skillfully through the waves, swiftly evacuating the occupants to

On land, the National Ambulance team was on standby, In a display of swift and co-ready to provide immediate

# Car mechanic escapes knife-wielding client, jumps from balcony; Court awards 3 years

TDT | Manama

Tever even in his wildest dream, this car mechanic thought that his deal with the next client would escalate to such a terrifying extent, culminating in him having to leap from his balcony to save his

This chilling incident made headlines in the Kingdom, with the High Criminal Court sentencing the 34-year-old perpetrator—the car owner—to three years in jail.

Incidents leading to the crime Representative picture



began when the suspect sched-mechanic to have his car re-After the repairs were complet-coerced him into the apartment, my head bleeding profusely.

Subsequently, the client requested that the vehicle be delivered to his apartment, to which the mechanic consented. However, upon arrival, the situation took a dark turn.

According to the mechanic's account to the police, the incident. suspect refused to settle him and instead drove him first to purchase items and then to his apartment.

counted to the authorities, the and jumped off. suspect brandished a knife and uling an appointment with the paired at the mechanic's garage. ed as agreed upon, the mechanic falsely accusing him of theft

ened to harm him unless the cries and allowed me to seek mechanic surrendered his mobile phone.

"Fearing for my life, I did what he asked for," the mechanic told police, recalling the harrowing to a hospital and initiated an in-

him leaving, apparently to meet his friend.

Once there, the mechanic resqueeze myself into the balcony

"Fortunately, a husband and taken from the victim.

wife staying in the nearby apart-The suspect further threat- ment came to me hearing my refuge in their apartment until the police arrived."

Upon their arrival, the police promptly transported the victim vestigation, leading to the appre-"After some time, I could hear hension of the suspect. The case was subsequently referred to the public prosecution, culminating "It was then I managed to in the court's verdict.

The court found the man guilty of assault, theft, and illegal "I was severely injured with confinement, and ordered him to return the mobile phone forcibly

# **Royal Windsor Horse Show**







His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, with King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Head of the Commonwealth, during the Royal Windsor Horse Show's Endurance race held at the Windsor Great Park. Acknowledging the Royal Windsor Horse Show's significance as a prestigious international equestrian competition, His Royal Highness expressed gratitude to the organisers and wished them continued success. His Royal Highness Prince Salman also viewed various competitions and displays at the Royal Windsor Horse Show and the crowning of winners from different races and competitions, extending best wishes to all competitors.



# **EWA seeks** legal firms to recover unpaid electricity bills



TDT | Manama

eware! If you have outstanding electricity bills, as legal action may be on

Authority (EWA) is moving recovery of outstanding dues. forward with plans to en- Interested law firms are engage legal firms to assist in couraged to participate in the the collection of arrears from bidding process to secure the subscribers. This initiative contract for providing legal aims to recover unpaid elec- services. tricity and water bills, as well as municipal fees owed by a four-year contract. Those inconsumers.

a tender, inviting interested date of the 22nd of this month. bidders to participate. This Bids should be accompanied move comes amidst efforts to by a BD2500 bond with 180 streamline revenue collection days' validity. Alternate bids processes and ensure the fi- are not allowed. The initial nancial stability of the author- bond should be in the form

cludes the collection of arrears or Cash (or as specified in the related to electricity and wa- Tender Documents) valid for ter bills, along with municipal the specified duration.

fees. Legal experts are free to employ various methods, including litigation if necessary, to recover the owed amounts.

By leveraging the expertise of legal professionals, the EWA aims to optimize the collec-The Electricity and Water tion process and expedite the

Successful firms will receive terested are advised to submit The board has launched their bids before the closing of a Certified Cheque, Bank The scope of services in- Guarantee, Insurance Policy,

# Hazard Alert!

# Broken steel plate over manhole concerns

TDT | Manama

day revealed a concerning sight the area. With its compromised on a main road near Bahrain state, the plate poses a threat Pharmacy in Manama. The im- not only to vehicles but also to ages, captured around 7:30 pm individuals traversing the vicinvesterday, depict a broken steel ity on foot. plate, posing a potential hazans alike. The steel plate, which progress.

appears to be a part of the road infrastructure, is visibly damriewer-submitted photos to aged, raising alarms about safety The Daily Tribune yester- risks for commuters navigating

Stay tuned for further updates ard to motorists and pedestri- as efforts to rectify the situation



Steel plate over manhole on road! Residents call for urgent action

## Mangrove reforestation project on way to bolster coastal ecosystem

TDT | Manama

new life into coastal areas across cient transfer of the trees. the kingdom by planting manministry's Tubli nursery.

project's key components:

this initiative seeks to breathe er to facilitate the safe and effi- mangrove growth.

grove trees sourced from the planting locations, each man- lings will undergo a crucial ac- for 180 days. The successful bid-

Here's a breakdown of the ful planting by skilled person- least two months. During this nel. Every tree will be meticuperiod, the trees will be irrigat-Bahrain is gearing up to forti- Transporting mangrove sap- lously tagged for identification, ed exclusively with seawater, lings from the nursery to various enabling effective monitoring allowing them to adapt to their champion environmental sus- coastal sites, ensuring metic- and maintenance in the future. marine habitat before being intainability through an ambitious ulous planning and execution. Additionally, the planting sites troduced into the sea. mangrove reforestation endeav- This comprehensive process will undergo rigorous clearing our. Spearheaded by the Min- will entail providing essential to eliminate debris, invasive en to removing LD black bags istry of Environment, Climate tools, boats for seamless trans- species, and pollutants, foster- from the trees to safeguard their Affairs, and Urban Planning, portation, and skilled manpow- ing an optimal environment for roots. Interested parties are in-

Upon reaching designated into the sea, the mangrove sap- panied by a BD2,500 bond valid grove sapling will undergo care- climatisation phase lasting at der will secure a 3-year contract.

Special attention will be givvited to submit their bids before Before being transplanted the 26th of this month, accom-

# EWA unveils plan for new desalination plant in Hawar



Representative picture TDT | Manama

The Electricity and Water capacity of 1 MIG, as well as Authority (EWA) is gearing the installation of associated up for a major infrastructure forwarding pumps. This comupgrade with the construction prehensive approach underof a new seawater reverse os-

SWRO Desalination Plant," this dents and businesses. project aims to bolster water production on Hawar Island, national tender marks a sigas detailed in a recently re- nificant milestone in Bahrain's leased tender.

mosis desalination plant.

under an EPC Contract, this en its resilience against water ambitious initiative seeks to scarcity. The EWA invites qualenhance the water supply in- ified contractors and firms to frastructure along Bahrain's participate in this transformsoutheastern coast.

capacity (GNCWC) ranging promote sustainable developfrom one to two million impe- ment in the Kingdom. rial gallons per day (MIGD) of Interested parties are en-

the project includes the con- to execute the project.

struction of two ground storage tanks (GSTs), each with a scores the EWA's commitment to meeting the escalating wa-Dubbed the "New Hawar ter demands of Bahrain's resi-

The upcoming public interefforts to modernise its water Scheduled to be developed infrastructure and strengthative project, which is poised With a projected net water to enhance water security and

potable water, the desalination couraged to submit bids before plant promises to provide a the 24th of June 2024, accomreliable water source for the panied by a BD5,000 bond with a validity period of 180 days. In addition to the state-of- The successful bidder will be the-art desalination facility, awarded a 12-month contract

# US Fed official sees inflation cooling but possible risks

AFP | Washington, United States

Us inflation is likely to cool further while interest rates remain at current levels, a senior central bank official said Friday, though adding that there are potential risks to this expectation.

"My baseline outlook continues to be that inflation will decline further with the policy rate held steady, but I still see a number of upside inflation risks," said Federal Reserve Governor Michelle Bowman in prepared remarks.

These factors include spillovers from regional conflicts which could snarl global supply chains and cause prices to rise.

Added fiscal stimulus could also fuel demand, she noted.

The Fed has held interest



**US Federal Reserve Governor Michelle Bowman** 

months, citing a lack of further ing the economic outlook, I progress in lowering inflation to will continue to watch the data their target. its two percent target.

"In light of these risks, and ate path of monetary policy," rates at a 23-year high in recent the general uncertainty regard- Bowman said in remarks to a will be a hike."

convention in Florida.

For now, she said, the central bank's monetary policy stance "appears to be restrictive."

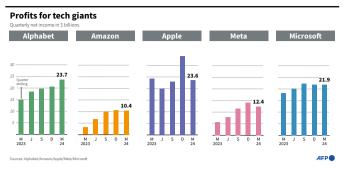
But she added that she is "willing to raise the federal funds rate at a future meeting should the incoming data indicate that progress on inflation has stalled or reversed."

On Wednesday, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said the bank is prepared to hold rates steady for as long as appropriate.

He noted that it is likely to take longer than previously expected for policymakers to gain more confidence that inflation is moving sustainably towards

But he added that it is "unlikely that the next policy rate move

## Apple profit ebbs as iPhone sales under pressure



The iPhone maker reported a profit of \$23.6 billion on \$90.8 billion in revenue

AFP | San Francisco, US

topped market forecasts as it earnings release. announced an unprecedented \$110 billion share buyback.

ed a profit of \$23.6 billion on competition from Huawei. \$90.8 billion in revenue in the

\$110 billion for share repurdirep.

chases," chief financial officer Luca Maestri said in the earnings release. Shares were up nearly 6 percent to \$183.20 in after-market trading, buoyed by the epic buyback programme.

Apple took in a record high amount from digital goods and services sold to fans of the iP-Apple on Thursday said its hone-maker's gadgets, chief quarterly profit ebbed but executive Tim Cook said in an

As expected, iPhone sales dropped with pressure grow-The iPhone maker report- ing from China and increased

The Silicon Valley giant refirst three months of this year. ported \$45.7 billion in revenue "Given our confidence in from iPhone sales, its main Apple's future and the value money maker, versus \$51.3 we see in our stock, our Board billion in the same period has authorized an additional a year earlier, a ten percent

# Airbnb promises to combat sex work in rentals during Paris Games

AFP | Paris, France

irbnb yesterday agreed with French authori-**▲**ties to step up the fight against rentals on its platform being used for sex work during the Paris Olympics this summer and beyond.

The home rental platform signed a convention with MI-PROF, a government organisation tasked with protecting women from violence, and fighting human trafficking, the French body said.

"Although such incidents are rare compared to the number of reservations, Airbnb commits, through this long-term collaboration, to supporting efforts made by the industry and the authorities to put an end to ficking," the platform said in a would pay close attention to the the end of last year that there illegal for decades.



a view of the main entrance of the Georges Vallerey swimming pool, which is under renovation to serve as a training pool for Olympic and Paralympic athletes selected for the Paris 2024 Games, in Paris

closely as I assess the appropri-

a "guide for the responsible traveller" to help them recognise trafficking going on in the building or neighbourhood where they are staying.

MIPROF said it would dispatch teams to assist Airbnb, which in cooperation with police and the

"This convention with Airbnb is major, given its central position in the tourism indus-Roxana Maracineanu, was quoted as saying in the statement.

Maracineanu, a former sports exploitation and human traf- statement sent to AFP, saying it minister, had already warned at Pimping and brothels have been

possible use of rented homes for was a "heightened risk" of human trafficking during the Among efforts to raise aware- Olympics, and that the governness among renters, Airbnb and ment needed to send a "clear MIPROF said they had compiled and strong message" to traf-

Hotels were already vigilant signs of exploitation or human concerning prostitution on their premises, she told AFP in December. She said the worry was 'prostitution in homes, inside apartments".

Police in several countries turn promised to strengthen its have identified a preference by sex workers and pimps for short-term rentals, including on Airbnb, because they offer more discretion than hotels.

Although prostitution retry," MIPROF's secretary-general, mains legal in France, the purchase of sexual services was criminalised in 2016, allowing for the prosecution of clients.

equates to about 30 grams.

they go shopping.

Price knowledge

For jewellers, the worst as-

pect is price volatility because

customers track the market and

wait for prices to drop before

Khan added that most Green

morning gold-price fix pub-

don Bullion Market Association.

This pricing system is essen-

## Turkey says suspending all trade with Israel

**AFP** | Istanbul, Turkey

Israel until it allows aid to en- President Recep Tayyip Erter Gaza unhindered during its dogan of breaking agreements offensive against Hamas in the between the two countries by

"Exports and imports to imports. and from Israel have been susinterrupted flow of humanitar- April.

ian aid to Gaza."

Israeli Foreign Minister Turkey said Thursday it was Israel Katz had earlier on suspending all trade with Thursday accused Turkish blocking Israeli exports and

The move is the latest inpended," the trade ministry cident degrading relations said in a statement, adding: after Turkey, one of the few "Turkey will apply these new Muslim-majority nations to measures... until the Israeli recognise Israel, restrictgovernment authorises an un- ed exports to the country in

# Record gold prices take shine off London jewellers

AFP | London, United Kingdom

urrounded by glass-fronted Odisplay cabinets filled with shimmering gold bracelets and necklaces at London's Pakeeza Jewellers store, manager Zahid Khan laments the impact of record-high prices of the precious

"People are obviously buying not as much as before," Khan told AFP as his sales staff weighed gold necklaces and tapped into calculators, adding there had been a "big increase" in prices. Pakeeza is located in east Lon-

don's Green Street jewellery quarter, a popular destination among the Asian community, while nearby shops also sell traditional clothing like abayas and

Gold products, also including rings and other trinkets. metal is regarded as an infla- Jeram Jewellers. tion-proof investment that will stand the test of time.

Yet the recent spike in gold up," he told AFP. prices -- driven by haven de-



Gold bracelets displayed in a shop window on Green Street, east London

jewellery market.

#### Shock to system

weddings and other family cel- there's a shock to the system,"

"So the quantity has gone

A few years ago, customers each." mand amid geopolitical ten- could buy 200 grams (sevsions, and the prospect of US en ounces) of gold for £2,000 percent since the start of 2024

on the dollar -- has impacted the only 100 grams and it will cost between £6,000 and £8,000.

"When you see rapid jumps have been saving quite a while," are a traditional gift for births, in gold and things like that, yes, said customer Mariam Lunat, 57, who had just purchased gold ebrations, because the precious said Vikram Santilal, owner of bangles that she will give to her daughters as wedding gifts.

> "I bought less quantity. Yes, I down but budgets have gone would have liked to buy... two average Asian family actually tively high design and manufac-

"The high prices kind of deage Asian family to know what terred me from buying, and I the gold price is today... It's like comprise people whose families petrol," explained Santilal at Jeram Jewellers. "Everybody knows that, be-

each, but I've only bought one knows what the gold price is. turing costs. So they'll discuss these things in The gold price has jumped 13 social circles."

interest rate cuts which weighs (\$2,500) -- but now they buy and in mid-April it set a record five percent in the first quarter posed to the gold market.

of \$2,431.52 per ounce, which year-on-year as it became too expensive for some, according ried in April when the price did to data from the World Gold hit that peak... but overall cus-Council. Demand for jewellery tomers were appreciative of the declined two percent.

> Green Street stores specialise a brand. in 22-carat gold products, giving each product a shiny distinctive golden hue.

Street jewellers are "working jewellers exposed to daily fluc- tomers who are wanting to do daily" to calculate their own tuations in the market of the their wedding shopping of South product prices based upon the lished by industry body the Lonretail price.

That is in marked contrast to classic luxury brands like tial to the global trade of jewel- Boucheron, Cartier and Van lery, particularly in the world's Cleef, where prestige has much two biggest markets: China and more of an influence.

#### Hidden gem

"It's quite normal for an aver-Green Street's clientele mostly finding out how much is a litre of come from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, as well as nations in the Middle East.

PureJewels, another shop on cause if you've got a car, you Green Street, specialises in more know what a litre goes for. An top-end products that have rela-

Boss Jayant Raniga tweaks his prices each month because his Total gold demand dropped brand of products are less ex-

stability we were providing as

"And it didn't really affect our

overall volume." "Green Street has become the This high concentration leaves destination shopping for cusprecious commodity, which Asian style," he told AFP, adding accounts for 75 percent of the it was a "hidden gem" of the British capital.



jumped 13 percent since the start of 2024 and in mid-April it set a record of \$2,431.52 per ounce, which equates to about 30 grams.

Germany yesterday blamed

Irag rainstorm flooding

Alexander VI divides America between Spain and Portugal

Construction begins by the United States on the Panama Canal becomes the first woman to be elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom



**Q**UN are gathering this

week here in Chile. It is

the first time this meet-

ing is taking place in Latin

America. I am proud of

our leadership's diversity,

which makes us stronger

and closer to the people

xpanding our public

Clands protections in-

creases our access to na-

ture, boosts our outdoor

economy, and honors areas of significance to Tribal

Nations and Indigenous

peoples. @POTUS and I are

committed to safeguard-

ing America's public lands for generations to come.

@antonioguterres

### **News in brief**

Germany blames Russia for 'intolerable' cyber attack

**Russian state-sponsored hackers** for an "intolerable" cyber attack on members of the Social Democratic Party and warned there would be consequences. Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said a German federal government investigation into who was behind the 2023

we can say unambiguously (that) we can attribute this cyber attack to a group called APT28, which is steered by the military intelligence service of Russia," she told a news conference during a visit to Australia.

rainstorms killed four hikers in the Sulaimanivah region of northern Iraq vesterday, local officials

**said.** "Four members of a hiking team drowned because of heavy rains and flooding in Awaspi village" in Qaradah district, local official Rouf Kamal said. Civil defence spokesperson Aram Ali confirmed the toll, and said eight other hikers survived the incident south of Sulaimanivah, the

autonomous Kurdistan region's second city. He said a weather warning had been issued on Thursday, with hikers in particular urged to avoid mountainous areas.

Police clear pro-Gaza sitin at top Paris university

Sciences Po university in Paris to remove dozens of students staging a pro-Gaza sit-in in the entrance hall, AFP journalists saw, as protests fired

Police yesterday entered the

have led to clashes in US universities. One protester at elite school Sciences Po, who identified himself as a representative of the students' Palestine Committee named Hicham, said university authorities had given the group 20 minutes to leave before the forcible evacuation because of "exams to be held from Monday".

#### CURIOSER & CURIOSER

## Heatwave swells Asia's appetite for air-conditioning



A view shows air conditioning units installed on a building in New Delhi

Forecasts suggest that high-

That would stretch local

ric tons of carbon dioxide per

er temperatures and better

wages could see the number record-breaking heatwave of air-conditioning units in Ais broiling parts of Asia, Southeast Asia jump from 40 helping drive surging demand million in 2017 to 300 million for cooling options, including by 2040. air-conditioning.

AC exhaust units are a comelectricity capacity, which is mon feature of urban land- already struggling under curscapes in many parts of Asia, rent conditions. clinging like limpets to tower- Myanmar is producing only ing apartment blocks in Hong about half the electricity it Kong or tucked in a cross for- needs each day, with the junta mation between the windows blaming weak hydropower beof a building in Cambodia. cause of scant rains, low natu-

They offer relief from tem-ral gas yields and attacks by its peratures that have toppled opponents on infrastructure. records in recent weeks, with Thailand has seen record many countries in the region power demand in recent hitting 40 degrees Celsius (104 weeks, as people retreat in-Fahrenheit) or higher. doors to cooled homes or busi-

Scientists have long warned nesses. change will produce more responsible for the emission of frequent, longer and more in- approximately one billion mettense heatwaves.

Only 15 percent of homes in year, according to the IEA, out Southeast Asia have air-con- of a total of 37 billion emitted ditioning, according to a 2019 worldwide. report by the International En- Still, cooling options like ergy Agency (IEA).

air-conditioning are a key But that figure obscures way to protect human health, vast variations: ranging from especially for those who are around 80 percent installation most vulnerable to the effects in Singapore and Malaysia, to of extreme heat: children, the less than 10 percent in Indone- elderly and those with certain sia and Vietnam, the IEA said. disabilities.

## US campus protests wane after crackdowns, Biden rebuke



Workers clean up the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) campus after police evicted pro-Palestinian students

of clashes with police, mass ar- -- and some clashes with counrests and a stern White House ter-protesters. directive to restore order.

testers exiting their tents and over-use of force. loudspeaker.

atively calm compared to mas war, gave his first expancrackdowns at other campus- sive remarks on the protests es around the country -- and Thursday, saying that "order some worldwide -- where must prevail.' protests over Israel's war in "We are not an authoritarian

who have tried to balance the from the White House

At least 20 people were killed yesterday when a bus

plunged into a deep valley in

Pakistan's mountainous northern region, police said.

The driver lost control of the

of Chilas, in the Gilgit-Baltistan

region, around dawn, falling

"The local Ulema (Muslim

leader) announced the news

of the accident from the loud-

blood for the injured," Azmat very critical."

into a rocky ravine where the

River Indus flows.

AFP | Brasilia

vehicle on a bend near the city



right to protest and complaints of violence and hate speech, Dro-Palestinian protests have increasingly called on po-I that have rocked US cam- lice to clear out the protestpuses for weeks were more ers ahead of year-end exams muted yesterday after a series and graduation ceremonies More than 2,000 arrests

Police in Manhattan cleared have been made in the past an encampment at New York two weeks across the United University after sunrise, with States, some during violent video posted to social media confrontations with police, by an official showing pro- giving rise to accusations of dispersing when ordered by President Joe Biden, who

Police say 20 killed in mountain bus accident in Pakistan

has faced pressure from all po-The scene appeared rel- litical sides over the Israel-Ha-

Gaza have multiplied in recent nation where we silence people or squash dissent," Biden University administrators, said in a televised statement

# Hamas accuses Netanyahu of sabotaging truce talks

Hamas official alleges Israeli PM's statements aimed at derailing negotiations for ceasefire

Hamas conducting internal dialogues before returning to Cairo talks

AFP | Gaza

senior Hamas official ac-Acused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday of issuing statements intended to torpedo prospects for a truce in the nearly seven-month

Hossam Badran said that Hamas was in the process of con- Palestinian children ride their bicycles along a street devastated by Israeli ducting internal dialogues with- bombardment in Gaza City in its leadership and with allied he said in a telephone interview. uncertain, with back and forth groups before negotiators return "He is not interested in reach- over the number of hostages that tages remain in Gaza. The Israeli to Cairo to continue negotiations ing an agreement, and therefore could be released, and profound military says 35 of them are dead.

But he warned that Netanya- thwart these current efforts." Rafah were calculated to "thwart fighting for 40 days and exchange sive withdrawal of the occupation figures. any possibility of concluding an Israeli hostages for potentially forces from the Gaza Strip".

tionist in all previous rounds of earlier by Britain. tions, and it is clear that he still is," negotiations has remained highly fah, where some 1.5 million ci- health ministry.

mail Haniyeh, said Thursday that the group would "soon" send a delegation back to Egypt aiming for a deal that "realises the de-

> Haniyeh further said that Hamas was studying the latest proposal from Israel in a "positive Any deal reached would be the

mands of our people".

But after months of stop-start

negotiations, the head of Hamas's

Qatar-based political bureau, Is-

first since a one-week truce in November that saw 80 Israeli hostages exchanged for 240 Palestinian

Israel estimates that 129 hos-

he says words in the media to differences over the scope of any The Hamas attack on southern Israel that started the war hu's repeated statements insist- Mediators from Egypt, Qa- Badran reiterated that Hamas's resulted in the deaths of 1,170 ing he will send troops into the tar and the United States have goal remains a lasting ceasefire people, mostly civilians, accordterritory's far southern city of proposed a deal that would halt and "a complete and comprehening to an AFP tally of Israeli official

Israel's retaliatory campaign thousands of Palestinian prison- That aim is at odds with the against Hamas has killed more "Netanyahu was the obstruc- ers, according to details released stated position of Netanyahu, who than 34,600 people in Gaza, mosthas vowed the army will keep ly women and children, accorddialogue and previous negotia- The outcome of the indirect fighting Hamas, including in Ra- ing to the Hamas-run territory's

# China to launch first probe to return samples from Moon's far side

Thina is set yesterday to launch a probe to collect samples from the far side of the Moon, a world first as Beijing pushes ahead with an ambitious programme that aims to send a crewed lunar mission by 2030.

A rocket carrying the Chang'e-6 lunar probe is scheduled to blast off from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in southern China's Hainan province just before have said

It is the latest leap for China's ambitious space programme, which Washington has warned is being used to mask military objectives and an effort to establish extraterrestrial domi-

The Chang'e-6 aims to collect around two kilograms of lunar samples from the far side of the Moon and bring them back to Earth for analysis.

It is a technically complex 53-day mission that will also see it attempt an unprecedented launch from the side of the Moon that always faces away from Earth

ples from the far side of the ken Basin, one of the largest fresh crew of three astronauts Moon for the first time," Ge known impact craters in the last month Ping, vice director of China's solar system. Lunar Exploration and Space Once there, it will scoop up rovers on Mars and the Moon, Engineering Center, told jour- lunar soil and rocks, and carry and made China only the third

The probe is set to land in landing zone.



 $5:30\ pm\ (0930\ GMT),\ officials\$  A guard stands watch near the launch platform for the Chang'e-6 lunar mission

The probe is set to land in the immense South Pole-Aitken Basin, one of the largest known impact craters in the solar system

"Chang'e-6 will collect sam- the immense South Pole-Ait-

out other experiments in the country to independently put

gin from the Tories to Labour

at a by-election since World

The win came as early results

It must then lift off from the Moon's surface and retrace its steps back home.

Plans for China's "space dream" have been put into overdrive under President Xi

Beijing has ploughed huge resources into its space programme over the last decade, targeting a string of ambitious undertakings in an effort to close the gap with the two traditional space powers -- the United States and Russia. The country has notched

several notable achievements, including building a space station called Tiangong, or "heavenly palace", to which it sent a

Beijing has landed robotic humans in orbit

**Pro-Palestinian** 

university

students camp out

at Mexico's largest



🖰 afe, clean drinking wa Iter is fundamental to economy, and to our basic human rights. Today, I'm releasing another \$3 billion from the historic \$15 billion in my Infrastructure Law to remove lead pipes across America.

# Activists gather in front of the rectory building of the Autonomous University of

Dozens of pro-Palestinian students from Mexico's largest

"We are here to support Pales-

tine, the people who are in Palestine, and the student camps in the United States," said Valentino Pino, a 19-year-old philosophy student. Jimena Rosas, 21, said she hoped

the protest would have a domino effect and spread to other universities in the country.

#### Johnson's Tories at the last general election in 2019, won the **n** ritain's Labour vesterday swing -- the third-largest mar-

Labour urges UK election after Tory losses

AFP | London

Durged Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to call a general election after the opposition party made significant gains in English polls that included a seat in parlia-

Labour leader Keir Starmer said the party's parliament seat win in Blackpool South in northwest England sent a clear



message to Sunak, who has until Poll workers work through the night counting ballots

late January next year to call have had enough now, after 14 he said on a visit to congratulate "disappointing" to have lost and then hold a nationwide vote. years of failure, 14 years of de- the new MP there, Chris Webb. dozens of councillors so far but "Blackpool speaks for the cline, we want to turn the page Labour, out of power since said many results were still to be whole country in saying, 'We and start afresh with Labour'," 2010 and trounced by Boris announced.

heavy losses on the Conservatives in local contests that took lace across England on Thurs-

**AFP** | Mexico City

university camped out Thursday in solidarity with similar protests that have swept colleges in the United States.

Mounting flags and chanting "Long live free Palestine," the protesters set up tents in front of the National Autonomous University of Mexico's (UNAM) head office in Mexico City.

The students called on the Mexican government to break diplomatic and commercial ties with Israel.

"Once people see that UNAM is beginning to mobilize, other universities should start as well," she

met today with my Lcounterparts from Australia, Japan, and the Philippines to strengthen the historic momentum among our four countries. We share a vision — and we've charted an ambitious course to advance that vision together. @SecDef

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

## Shah, a police official in the city The bus was travelling from transport infrastructure often the capital Islamabad to Gilgit. decrepit.

Rains, mudslides kill 29 in southern Brazil's 'worst disaster'

Rescuers respond after the bus accident

speaker of the mosque and completed. Among the 21 in- fatalities are common in Paki-

urged the people to donate jured, the condition of five is stan, where safety measures are

"Rescue operations have been Road accidents with high

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Thursday visited the country's south where floods and mudslides caused by torrential rains have killed 29 people, with the toll

expected to rise. Authorities in Rio Grande do Sul have declared a state of emergency as rescuers continue to search for dozens of people reported missing among the ruins of collapsed homes, bridges Aerial view shows a flooded area of Capela de Santana, Rio Grande do Sul and roads.

nearly 150 municipalities in history." Governor Eduardo Leite said death toll.

Storm damage has affected with "the worst disaster in (its) rent on climate change, arrived the state, also injuring 36 peo- "With the deepest pain in my the morning with a delegation

in the town of Santa Maria in ple and displacing more than heart, I know it will be even of ministers and held a working more," the governor said of the meeting with Leite and other officials to coordinate rescue Rio Grande do Sul was dealing Lula, who has blamed the torefforts, the government said.

lax, driver training is poor and

applying to work abroad

Myanmar junta bans men from



a street restaurant during a heatwave in Yangon **AFP** | Yangon

Myanmar's junta has suspended the issuing of permits for men to work abroad, it said, weeks after introducing a military conscription law that led to thousands trying to leave

> the country. The junta, which is struggling to crush widespread armed opposition to its rule, in February said it would enforce a law allowing it to call up all men to serve in the military for at least two years.

The move sent thousands queuing for visas outside foreign embassies in Yangon and others crossing into neighbouring Thailand to escape the law, according to media reports. The labour ministry has

"temporarily suspended" accepting applications from men who wish to work abroad, the ministry said in a statement posted by the junta's information team late Thursday.

# Seoul spy agency warns North Korea plotting attacks on embassies

C outh Korea's spy agency said Syesterday that Pyongyang was plotting "terrorist" attacks targeting Seoul's officials and citizens overseas, with the foreign ministry raising the alert level for diplomatic missions in

The National Intelligence Service said it had recently "detected numerous signs that North Korea is preparing for terrorist attacks against our embassy staff or citizens in various countries, (such as) China, Southeast Asia, and the Middle

five countries.

as searching for South Korean during the pandemic and are ments to transgressors, their all five locations.

North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un (C) paying a visit to Kim Il Sung Military citizens as potential terrorist now seeking to avoid returning its consulates in Russian port

agents to these countries to ex- The spy agency said it ap- strict border controls. pand surveillance of the South peared linked to a wave of de-Korean embassies and is also en- fections by elite North Kore- as a serious crime and is be- Both Seoul and Pyongyang gaging in specific activities such ans who were trapped overseas lieved to hand harsh punish- have embassies or consulates in

"North Korea has dispatched targets," it said in a statement. home after Pyongyang eased city

tors" for voluntary defections by their colleagues, in a bid to evade punishment, the NIS said. As a result, the North may be plotting retaliation" against South Korean embassy staff on such pretenses, NIS added. On Thursday, South Korea's

families, and even people tan-

gentially linked to the incident.

North Korean embassy offi-

cials may be submitting false

reports blaming "external fac-

foreign ministry said it had raised its anti-terrorism alert status for five of its diplomatic missions -- embassies in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam as well as

Vladivostok and the Chinese

# Kaley Cuoco jokes she is 'mom of the year' after planning birthday party

**Celebretainment** | Los Angeles

aley Cuoco managed to plan Kaley Cuoco managea.

Ther daughter's first birthday party all by herself.

The 38-year-old actress welcomed baby Matilda into the world star also joked that she is "very in March 2023 with Tom Pelphrey proud" to have made it to a year and admitted that when it came and joked that that everything to marking the little one's first should now be plain sailing until birthday, she took it upon herself her little girl reaches adulthood. to become "mom of the year" by

themed birthday party. I did it all 17 years are going to be nothing!"

by myself, I was mom of the year. All by myself, swear to God, on my own! It is shocking because I'm not great at stuff like that but, no,

The former 'Big Bang Theory'

She said: "I'm very proud of throwing a Disney-themed party. making it to a year, I feel like it's "I planned a Minnie Mouse- going to be so easy now. The next



I planned a Minnie Mousethemed birthday party. I did it all by myself, I was mom of the year. All by myself, swear to God, on my own! It is shocking because I'm not great at stuff like that but, no, I did it!

KALEY CUOCO

The 'Role Play' actress previously shared that she and Tom end up Opal, King, and Blue and joked that getting emotional at every small little Matilda had been "thrown to milestone with their daughter.

and she was literally staring at us, with her canine companions. and she touched both of our faces, and just gave us this innocent, just thrown to the wolves literally. Afreally joyful, 'Hi' smile.

We both looked at each other and have to send her back. There's we started tearing up. He goes, 'Is no choice. This is your life. this our life now, where we just cry This is it. They have jumped at everything she does?"

Kaley has four dogs named Ruby, the wolves" upon her birth and She told People: "Tom and I were thought she might have to "send sitting with Matilda the other day, her back" had the tot not gelled

She said: "Oh my God, she got ter she was born, I'm like, 'If this "I mean, I could cry right now. child doesn't like dogs, I might

**Kaley Cuoco** 



# I've never been a happy person, says Billie Eilish

**Celebretainment | Los Angeles** 

Billie Eilish has "never been a happy person". The 22-year-old pop star has enjoyed huge success since releasing her debut album, 'When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?', back in 2019 - but Billie admits that she's still "not a happy person".

Speaking to Rolling Stone magazine about her mental health, Billie shared: "It was just realer than it's ever been before.

never been a happy person, really. I've been I experience joy and find fun in things,

pressed per-Billie has

years, and the pop star has recalled losing faith entirely at one point in time.

The 'Bad Guy' **Billie Eilish** 

"My whole life, I've with a lot of depression my whole life.

a joyous person, but soul, or whatever, the thing I've go outside for five years. How not a happy person. always held on to is. Well, it'll was I supposed to have any pass. It'll come in waves and it'll experiences?" laughter and I can get worse and it'll get better.' And that's always brought me been "biting the bullet" by but I'm a de- comfort. And this time, I literal- attending parties and concerts ly was like, 'I don't care. I don't with her friends. even want it to get better."

> battled de- she's recently benefited from a just scary for somebody like pression for more relaxed approach to her me, and even if it's not scary, it fame and success.

She shared: "I hit a turning nerable and being seen and

"I had this moment of like, 'Oh, my God, I haven't had fun I have been choosing to do in seven years.' Truly.

hitmaker said: because who experiences going and existing in the world for "I've suffered to the Grammys at basically 17 once."

and winning five? But in life, I realized I had really not ex-"When things happen in my perienced that much. I didn't

Billie feels she's recently

She said: "I'm afraid of peo-Despite this, Billie believes ple, I'm afraid of the world. It's means being on and being vulbeing filmed and whatever.

"But with that all in mind, the thing that scares me "I had this illusion that I had, more. I am biting the bullet

## **Courteney Cox shares her regrets as** a parent: 'I should have stepped in...'

**Celebretainment** | Los Angeles

ourteney Cox wish-**∠**es she had been a "firmer parent". Coco, 19, with ex-husband

> ing up she person. didn't "step in" on certain situations even though she should have "trusted" her

the 'Minnie's parent." **Courteney Cox** 

Questions' podcast, she explained: "I didn't want to step in even though I knew something wasn't right because she would get so mad at me. I did The 59-year-old ac- understand and I should've tress has daughter trusted myself and I should've stepped in.

David Arquette who she is, but you do see and reflected things in other people, wheththat when she er it's just always taking care was grow- of people and being the nicest

"I'm not saying I made her

"And I mean, that's one of the things with age, I've learned to say no, I've learned to have boundaries.

"But I mean, earlier on instincts at the when she was a kid or not even that many years ago, Speaking on I wish I'd been a firmer

## Rare Beauty is my pride and joy, says Selena Gomez

**Celebretainment** | Los Angeles

Selena Gomez has been on Selena sees Rare Bea a "mission" with her Rare as her "pride and joy". Beauty brand.

the cosmetics company back very committed to the in 2020, and she feels proud of venture. her brand for helping to raise mental health awareness.

Selena said at the TIME100 going anywhere. Summit: "I didn't want to re- I am enjoying ally enter the cosmetics world this a little too without a mission."

The brunette beauty launched Rare Beauty with the Selena previambition of creating a commu- ously claimed nity to freely discuss mental that her brand health issues.

And Selena - who has been to challenge open about her own mental "norms" in the health struggles in recent years beauty industry. - has been thrilled by what she's managed to achieve so far.

She said: "It was actually a I'm most proud dream that kind of happened of is the converwithin this brand, and on top of sation that we've

it we were able to make hopefully decent products." Selena sees Rare Beauty

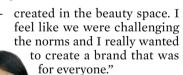
The actress also re-The 31-year-old star founded vealed that she's still

> She explained: "I don't think I'm

Meanwhile, has helped

The singer told PEOPLE: "What

Selena Gomez



Rare Beauty has proven to be a huge success from a business standpoint.

However, Selena insisted that hasn't been her real motivation.

The pop star - who revealed in 2020 that she's been diagnosed with bipolar dis-

order - explained: "I'm noticing other brands getting on board with mental health, too, and I'm really, really excited about that. If anything, that's the most important part of my brand."

## Kate Hudson remembers Glee's 'dramatic' set

**Celebretainment** | Los Angeles

ate Hudson found the K'Glee' set to be a "very dramatic" environment.

The 45-year-old actress ily and it was easier to played dance teacher Cassan- get along than it wasn't. dra July in the hit TV series in And as dramatic as it was, 2012 and 2013, and Kate has there's so many moving now admitted to being sur- parts of our show and so prised by the on-set dynamics. many cast mem-

The blonde beauty - who bers and so many starred alongside the likes of personalities." Matthew Morrison, Dianna Agron and Lea Michele - said Amber Riley reon the 'Sibling Revelry' podcast: cently revealed "It was a very dramatic set.

"Well, you know, when you've got all of those personalities and all that talent and all that youth, and a lot of hormones ... it's youthful, and young."

Jenna Ushkowitz, who played on the hit TV series Tina Cohen-Chang on 'Glee', between 2009 and also appeared on the podcast, 2015, and she reand she offered a possible ex- mains incredibly planation for the "dramatic" set. proud of the show,

"We were all very close. And

yes, we had our squabbles, but we really were a fam-

Meanwhile, that she feels "grateful" for her 'Glee' experience.

The 38-yearold actress starred as Mercedes Jones

The 37-year-old actress said: describing it as a "groundbreaking" production.

She told 'Entertainment Tonight': "It's incredible, like, that's my family. We did something that was groundbreaking.

"I'm always grateful to 'Glee' for being the catapult for my whole entire career, and for giving me uch a vast knowledge and vocabulary of mu-

> Amber has starred in a host of films and TV shows in recent years, and she admitted that 'Glee' has been a huge influence on her career.

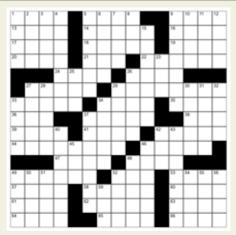
She shared: "This is why I love so many different genres now, because of 'Glee'. I'm so grateful for it."

#### SUDOKU



Yesterday's solution									
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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



#### CROSSWORD

#### Across

I- Snack in a shell; 5- Slugger Sammy; 9- "James and the Giant Peach" author; 13- Diamond family name; 14- Author Jong; 16- Needle case; 17- Slant; 18- Hired parker; 19- Doll's word; 20- I could \_\_horse!; 21- Building wing; 22- Wobble; 24- Attire; 26- Slippery swimmers; 27- Fortune tellers; 29- Ponder; 33- Muscle contraction; 34- Dinner faux-pas; 35- Thames town; 36- Paving material; 37- Bus station; 38- Elton's john; 39- \_\_never work!; 41- French summers; 42- October birthstones; 44- Resound; 46- Talons; 47- Drill a hole; 48- After that...; 49- Mr. and Mr.; 52- Neptune's realm; 53- Field yield; 57- Tons; 58- Perfect, something to aspire to; 60-Charisma, atmosphere; 61- Italian bread?; 62- Pee Wee of the Dodgers; 63-Ship's backbone; 64- Lustful look; 65- I'd hate to break up \_\_; 66- Switch ending;

I- London art gallery; 2- Inter \_\_; 3- Young male horse; 4- Power problems; 5- Cuts off; 6- Toothbrush brand; 7- Window ledge; 8- Whiz; 9- Lord's estate; 10- Rat-\_; 11- Actor Cronyn; 12- Tale teller; 15- Try; 23- Biblical high priest; 25- Human limb; 26- Continental cash: 27- Sudden outpouring: 28- Some nobles: 29- Monetary unit of India: 30- Attorney-31- Implements; 32- Baseballer Slaughter; 33- Recipe direction; 34- Davis or Midler; 37- Letter opener; 40- Marine crustacean; 42- Flamenco cry; 43- Flapjack; 45- 'easter; 46- Ski lodge; 48- Tantalize; 49- Teen hangout; 50- Writer Wiesel; 51- Achy; 52- Dates; 54- Repentant 55- Black-and-white treat; 56- Alto; 59- Narc's org.;

Yesterday's solution

THE tribune SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024

# Classifieds

# Call us on +973 36458394 email : advt@newsofbahrain.com

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THE **tribune** SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024

# Classifieds

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## Arteta urges Arsenal to seize the moment in Premier League title race



Arsenal's Brazilian defender #06 Gabriel Magalhaes (C) celebrates with teammates at the end of the match against Tottenham Hotspur

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta has urged his Arsenal team to seize the moment with just three matches remaining as they battle to win their first Premier League title for 20

The Gunners, hosting Bournemouth on Saturday, have 80 points -- one clear of defending champions Manchester City, who have the advantage of a game in hand.

Arsenal's match is the early kick-off, giving them the potential to put pressure on closest rivals City, who are all these factors I think conat home to Wolves later in tribute to being in a better the dav.

Arteta, speaking at his prematch press conference yes- embrace what is likely to be terday, said the energy in his an electric atmosphere at the squad was "really good" after Emirates in the clash against three straight wins, hailing mid-table Bournemouth. their greater maturity after title run-in.

the 2022/23 campaign before to win games," he said. stumbling badly as City won a third straight title.

mature," said Arteta. "Obvi- atmosphere again towards ously the health and condithe game. Be present and be tion of the squad is in a much in the moment and let's see better place right now and what happens."

I think the team is more mature. **Obviously the health** and condition of the squad is in a much better place right now and all these factors I think contribute to being

in a better position MIKEL ARTETA

position."

Arteta urged his players to

"Just focus and put all your last season's collapse in the energy in finding that determination and willingness to Arsenal led for the bulk of do our best to earn the right

"The first one is Bournemouth, it's at home, it's go-"I think the team is more ing to be an unbelievable

## **Debutant Tanzid powers** Bangladesh win over Zimbabwe



Bangladesh's Tanzid Hasan plays a shot AFP | Chittagong

Debutant opening batsman Tanzid Hasan rode his luck yesterday to hit an unbeaten 67 and guide Bangladesh to an eight-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in the first T20 international in that Tanzid continues his Chittagong.

The hosts raced to 126-2 in under 16 overs after bowling Madande and Wellington out Zimbabwe for 124, with Masakadza earlier helped Towhid Hridoy finishing un- Zimbabwe recover from an beaten on 33.

Tanzid smashed eight tourists languishing on 41-7. fours and two sixes in his 47-ball maiden T20I, lofting together for Zimbabwe's Luke Jongwe over mid-off highest eighth-wicket partfor a boundary to complete nership. the match.

said Bangladesh captain Na- on the last ball of the innings. imul Hossain Shanto.

trained very hard, and I hope duck in the second over.

Scorecard

Bangladesh 126 for 2 (Tanzid 67\*, Towhid 33\*) beat Zimbabwe 124 (Madande 43, Taskin 3-14, Saifuddin 3-15) by eight wickets

form." A record stand by Clive early collapse that left the

The pair put on 75 runs

Taskin Ahmed bowled "Everyone played well to- Madande for 43 off 39 balls day... but we can still learn to break the stand, but from this game and come Masakadza (34) stayed at the back well in the next match," crease until he was run out

Put into bat first, Zimba-"Last couple of days, we bwe lost Craig Ervine for a

# Hamilton backs Newey for Ferrari

Lewis Hamilton says departing Red Bull designer Adrian Newey would be an 'amazing addition' for Ferrari

Newey to leave Red Bull in 2025 after 19 years

Hamilton praises Newey's expertise and track record, sees him as valuable addition

Newey's departure raises questions but Red Bull team remains confident

AFP | Miami

ewis Hamilton added fuel to the rumours over the future of departing Red Bull designer Adrian Newey saybe an "amazing addition" for his future team Ferrari.

65-year-old Newey's impending that he has," he said. exit in early 2025, after 19 years with the team.

Media reports have suggested who is regarded as the greatest contract negotiations. designer in the sport's history.

Hamilton, who will join Ferrari from Mercedes at the end of Newey. this season, told reporters at the



Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton (C) rides a scooter ahead of the Formula One Chinese Grand Prix race

Miami Grand Prix that he would that I'd love to work with, he like to see Newey join Ferrari.

'Very much...Adrian's got such there," he said. ing on Thursday that he would a great history, track record, Red Bull confirmed the with teams and the knowledge decline for Red Bull.

ing addition," he added.

that Ferrari would be among the if the prospect of Newey joining to remember that there are a lot bastian Vettel and Max Verstapfavourites to snap up Newey, the Scuderia had been part of his

> But he said he would be team who do the job, thrilled to work personally with

would absolutely be at the top

he's just done an amazing job little against the idea that New- the opportunity to work with through his career in engaging ey's exit would lead to a sudden him," he added.

"Racing against the team that "I think he would be an amaz- he has been so heavily a part Hamilton declined to discuss challenge but I think we need drivers' titles, split between Seit is not one person, it's a whole to date.

not continuing to build great Dutch driver Verstappen the "If I was to do a list of people cars moving forwards but any dominant force in the sport.

**Racing against the** team that he has been so heavily a part of for years has been a massive challenge but I think we need to remember that there are a lot of people in the background and it is not one person, it's a whole team who do the job. I don't anticipate Red **Bull not continuing to** build great cars moving forwards but any team would be fortunate to have the opportunity to work with him

**LEWIS HAMILTON** 

But Hamilton pushed back a team would be fortunate to have

#### 'More than a designer'

Red Bull team have won six of for years has been a massive constructors' titles and seven of people in the background and pen, with Newey-designed cars

"I don't anticipate Red Bull the double again in 2024, with with Adrian, he is much more for the next generation of what

Adrian Newey is widely regarded as the greatest designer in Formula 1 history, with six constructors' titles and seven drivers' titles to his name

Newey, expected to be in Miami for this weekend's race, has also worked with championship-winning teams at Williams and McLaren in his long career.

Verstappen's Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez said he was sure that Newey would have a think he probably wants to do significant impact wherever he ends up in the sport.

he has, he has contributed a lot organisation," he said. to the Red Bull philosophy so I assume he will cause an imgoes or whatever he does," the Mexican said.

"He is a very clever guy and They are on course to do a very hard worker. Working than a designer, he can influence is going to happen at Red Bull," even strategies, set-up, he could he added.

have that influence on a race weekend.

"To have him around on race weekends was great. He is a very strong individual and wherever he goes he will cause an immediate impact. But it is a whole group of people that he will require to have around him as well," he added.

Perez, whose long-term future at Red Bull remains uncertain, said that he was sure the team would be able to cope with the departure of the influential de-

"It is obviously not ideal, he has been tremendous to our team, to our organisation, and he is also a very good friend of mine from all the time we've spent together.

"But, at the end of the day, there are times in life when you spend 20 years at Red Bull I something else and that is fair.

"I think Red Bull is in a great "Adrian, with the experience place and it has a very strong

"You've seen in the past at these big teams, big names when mediate impact wherever he they leave they will always exist, it isn't down to one single individual. It is a whole organisation and I think Christian [Horner] has done a great job in preparing

## Knicks edge 76ers, book NBA 2nd round clash with Pacers

**AFP** | Los Angeles

Jalen Brunson scored 41 points and the New York Knicks held on for a 118-115 victory over Philadelphia on Thursday, clinching a 4-2 series win to book an NBA playoffs second-round clash with the Indiana Pacers.

The Pacers powered into the Eastern Conference semi-finals with a convincing 120-98 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks that sealed their 4-2 se- from Donte DiVincenzo and ries win.

It came down to the wire in er to put New York up 114-111 in this one. with 25.6 seconds remaining.

polished it off with free throws 10 in the third quarter.



Tyrese Haliburton of the Indiana Pacers reacts after a dunk while Milwaukee's Malik Beasley looks on

Brunson said that after fail-Philadelphia, where Knicks ing to close out the 76ers at forward Josh Hart, fed by home in game five, the Knicks Brunson, drilled a three-point- knew they needed a faster start

They led by 22 points in Sixers star Joel Embiid cut the first quarter, only to see the deficit to one with a driv- the 76ers claw back to lead ing layup seconds later but by three at halftime and push then fouled out and the Knicks their advantage to as many as

## Verstappen says Newey exit won't impact his future with Red Bull

**AFP** | Miami

¶ormula One world champion Max Verstappen has insisted that the exit of Red Bull's chief technical officer Adrian Newey won't cause him to reconsider his future with the world champions.

But while Dutchman Verstappen said he would have liked to see Newey stay, the threetime world champion cautioned against predictions of an automatic decline in fortunes for the team.

"From the outside it looks very dramatic, but I think if you actually know what is happening inside the team it's not as dramatic as it seems," he told reporters on Thursday at the Miami Grand Prix.

he was actually doing.



Adrian Newey, the Chief Technical Officer of Red Bull Racing and First placed Max Verstappen of the Netherlands and Oracle Red Bull Racing celebrate on the podium during the 2023 F1 Grand Prix of Canada (file photo)

doing anything but his role has cause you can always rely on his driving," said Verstappen.

evolved. A lot of good people experience. He's a good person, "I think over time, his role has came into the team that has a great guy to chat to and relate season. changed a bit and I think a lot of strengthened that whole de- to. He's very bright, very smart people don't understand what partment," Verstappen added. and he would talk to the driver "Of course, I would have pre- and interpret that into the car, money is not going to be the "I'm not saying that he wasn't ferred him to stay for sure be- he would try to imagine himself

actually know what is happening inside the team it's not as dramatic as it seems MAX VERSTAPPEN

From the outside it

looks very dramatic,

but I think if you

"But I also really trust the technical team that we have. outside of Adrian, is very, very strong. They have basically shown that over the last few years with how competitive the car is," he added.

Verstappen brushed off rumors of a big money offer to him to leave for rivals Mercedes next

"At the end of the day, even if let's say that was the case, differentiator for me to go somewhere," he said.

## Leverkusen beat Roma to put one foot in Europa League final

AFP | Rome

 ${f B}$ ayer Leverkusen have one foot in the Europa League final after winning 2-0 at Roma on Thursday to extend their remarkable unbeaten run to 47 matches.

Goals in each half from Florian Wirtz and Robert Andrich ensured victory for Xabi Alonso's men in the Italian capital and gave the Bundesliga champions a great chance of reaching the final in Dublin later this

should they hold out in Germa- trophy since the old UEFA Cup still have a lot to do."



Florian Wirtz (R) celebrates his opener

ny next week, and on the evidence of their performance in Leverkusen will meet either Rome they will be firm favour- well and were very disciplined. in games before and get things Atalanta or Marseille in Ireland ites to win their first European For us that means a lot but we

need for any frantic finishes in woodwork early on. the Italian capital as Leverkdisplay.

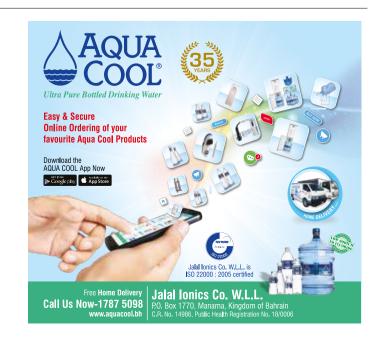
score a third but they also had goal deep in stoppage time. a good chance to cut the deficit right at the end. We're happy team and if you go behind with the result," Alonso told against them it becomes very reporters.

"We fought hard, played very

Roma face a huge task if they Alonso's team have needed a are to reach a third European string of last gasp goals to keep final in as many years after baretheir unbeaten run going in re- ly troubling Matej Kovar's goal cent weeks but there was no after Romelu Lukaku struck the

But Daniele De Rossi's team usen's superiority was fully on would have had a lifeline had substitute Tammy Abraham not "We had a lot of chances to headed over in front of an open

> "We played against a good difficult," De Rossi told Sky. "We've managed to score early going our way. Let's say it was a bit different tonight."



# Starc shows class as Kolkata triumph

Starc's four-wicket haul helps Kolkata Knight Riders secure victory over Mumbai Indians

Suryakumar Yadav's valiant 56 in vain as Mumbai suffers eighth loss

Kolkata's seventh win this season places them second in the standings

AFP | Mumbai

itchell Starc picked up four wickets as a disciplined bowling performance helped Kolkata Knight Premier League yesterday.

Chasing a below-par 170, off 18.5 overs at the Wankhede this season.



Kolkata Knight Riders' Mitchell Starc (L) celebrates after his team's win against

Mumbai Indians in the Indian dismissal in the 16th over tilted the scales in favour of Kolkata.

This was Kolkata's first win Mumbai lost wickets at regular at the Wankhede ground in 12 the play-offs. intervals to be bowled out for 145 years and seventh from 10 games

Mumbai slumped to ninth Suryakumar Yadav raised position in the 10-team compe- Hardik Pandya.

Riders seal a 24-run victory over hopes with a 35-ball 56 but his tition after their eighth loss in

Kolkata are placed second and well poised to make it to

partnerships and kept losing Sunil Narine for 11. wickets," said Mumbai skipper



This is Kolkata's first win at Wankhede Stadium in 12 years

"There are a lot of questions champions. that will take time to answer. But for now, not much to say."

Mumbai were off to a shaky start, with Starc flattening the per Shreyas Iyer (six) after being leg-stump of Ishan Kishan (13) and Varun Chakravarthy sending back Naman Dhir (11).

"Obviously we couldn't form miscued a shot to be caught off board.

tinued as he was out for one, three sixes and six fours in his length on a lively wicket.

#### **Scorecard**

Kolkata Knight Riders 169 (Venkatesh 70. Pandev 42. Bumrah 3-18) beat Mumbai Indians 145 (Suryakumar 56, Starc 4-33) by 24 runs

much to the disappointment of the strong home crowd.

Yadav hit his third half-century of the season and Tim David chipped in with 24 but Kolkata did well to rein in the five-time

wickets including that of the prolific Phil Salt (five) and skipput in to bat.

Tottering at 57-5, Venkatesh Iver (70) and impact sub Manish The home team got anoth- Pandey (42) steadied Kolkata er big jolt when Rohit Sharma, with an 83-run stand and enwho came in as an impact sub, sured a respectable total on the

Pandya's poor run of form con- same ground last season, hit batsmen with their line and

Obviously we couldn't form partnerships and kept losing wickets. There are a lot of questions that will take time to answer. But for now, not much to say

#### MUMBAI SKIPPER HARDIK PANDYA

fighting 52-ball knock.

"It's an extremely good feel-Earlier, Kolkata lost five quick ing, because we haven't won at Wankhede for 12 years," said Kolkata's Varun Chakravarthy.

"This is a very special win because we were down and out in the first innings. The way Venkatesh and Manish pulled it back was great."

Jasprit Bumrah and Sri Lanka's Nuwan Thushara were the pick of the bowlers, taking three Iyer, who hit a century at the wickets each and troubling the

## Ritz-Carlton Bahrain dominate super six stage of inter-hotel tournament



Mohamed Igbal (The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain) receive "Man of the Match" certificate from Nadeem Ikram (Director of Finance & President Organizing Committee, The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain)

TDT | Manama

A team emerging as the domi- Man of the Match award. nant force.

Blu B by 16 runs, with Mohamed by 29 runs, with Farrukh Farooq Match 4, with Mohammed You-tournament.

Igbal named Man of the Match

for his impressive performance. Day 16 of the Ritz-Carlton
Bahrain Inter-Hotel Char21-run victory over Trader Vic's ity Cricket Tournament saw the Bahrain A in Match 2, thanks to Super Six stage get underway, Umar Aziz's outstanding conwith The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain tribution, which earned him the named Man of the Match for his team.

The Ritz-Carlton A team con-



Farrukh Farooq (The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain) receive "Man of the Match" certificate from Haili Carrasco (Club Level Manager, The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain)

#### **Teams qualified for play-offs**

The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain Diplomat Radisson Blu Lagoona Beach Resort **Downtown Rotana** 

exceptional skills.

Lagoona Resort A team se-In Match 1, The Ritz-Carlton tinued their winning streak in cured a thrilling 4-wicket win on Day 16 has set the stage for A team beat Diplomat Radisson Match 3, defeating The K Hotel over Downtown Rotana in an exciting conclusion to the

nis named Man of the Match for his match-winning perfor-

In Match 5, The K Hotel team won by walkover against Trader Vic's Bahrain, as their opponents were unable to field a

The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain A team's impressive performance

# Rublev ousts Fritz to reach Madrid Open final



Russia's Andrey Rublev inaction against American Taylor Fritz

AFP | Madrid

Afifth Masters 1000 final of helped me to be in the final," his career with a 6-4, 6-3 win said Rublev. over American Taylor Fritz at

arrived at the tournament last seven points to wrap up carrying a four-match losing the first set in 39 minutes. streak but rebounded in the Spanish capital, claiming five game of the second set was impressive wins, including enough for the Russian to one over world number three complete a 72-minute victory Carlos Alcaraz in the quar- and book a final clash with

feeling much better (this Lehecka.

week) and I was able to perform, putting emotions in the ndrey Rubley reached the right direction, for sure that

After being broken in the the Madrid Open yesterday. opening game, Rublev recov-The seventh-seeded Rublev ered immediately and won the

A break of serve in the sixth either Canada's Felix Au-"For sure mentally I was ger-Aliassime or Czech Jiri

## Postecoglou admits Spurs have 'lost belief' as top four bid fades

nge Postecoglou admitted Ahis Tottenham flops have "lost belief" after a dismal 2-0 defeat against Chelsea left their hopes of Champions League qualification in tatters.

Postecoglou's side needed a win at Stamford Bridge to close the gap on fourth-placed Aston Villa in the race to finish in the Premier League's top four. But instead they slumped to a

third successive loss after goals from Trevoh Chalobah and Nicolas Jackson fired Chelsea to victory over their London rivals.

Fifth-placed Tottenham are ery's men have three to play.



Chelsea's English defender #14 Trevoh Chalobah (R) scores with this header for Chelsea's first goal

With their Champions League infused their performances earseven points behind Villa with hopes fading, Postecoglou conlier this season. four games left, while Unai Em- ceded his players are no longer playing with the confidence that tenham's untimely slump, the change that," he said.

Taking the blame for Tot-

Australian said: "It wasn't good enough and I have to take responsibility for that, it is on me.

"I am the manager and I am the one putting them out there and it was not good "When we put in a perfor-

mance like we did in the first half it meant my message wasn't getting through." Tottenham's issues with de-

fending set-pieces were decisive again, leaving former Celtic boss Postecoglou to bemoan his side's collapse in the final weeks of his first season in charge.

"I feel like we've lost a bit of belief and conviction in our football and that is on me to

## Alcaraz out of Italian Open with continuing forearm pain

AFP | Madrid

**7**orld number three Car-**V** los Alcaraz vesterdav withdrew from next week's ATP Italian Open due to ongoing pain in his right forearm, an injury that sidelined him in Monte Carlo and Barcelona.

The blow comes weeks away from the second Grand Slam of the season, the French Open. on X, formerly Twitter.

"I felt some pain after playin my arm," the Spaniard wrote 100 percent pain free."



Carlos Alcaraz

"Unfortunately, I will not be ing in Madrid (he lost on able to play in Rome. I need to Wednesday), some discomfort rest so I can recover and play