

Manama close in on league crown

Defending champions go on 12-1 run to end regulation, force overtime and secure 2-0 lead in best-of-five championship series | P12

Russia says repelled 'large-scale' Ukraine offensive in Donetsk



Tom Holland hints at shooting another Spider-Man movie

Air travel to soar near record in 2023

HM King endorses 2023-2024 general state budget



HM the King

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday ratified and issued Law (5) of 2023 on endorsing the general state budget for the fiscal years 2023-2024, following its approval by the bicameral National Assembly.

Door opens for Bahraini women to volunteer in BDF reserve force

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) General Command opened the door for Bahraini women to volunteer in the reserve force.

Applicants wishing to volunteer are required to register on the BDF website using the link <https://www.bdf.bh>, using the e-application format.

Eligible applicants are required to be Bahrain nationals, aged (18) to (55) years old, with exceptions from the upper age limit for technicians and specialists, or according to duty requirements.

Palestinian boy dies

AFP | Jerusalem

A three-year-old Palestinian boy who was shot by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank last week died of his wounds, Israeli hospital officials said yesterday.

Mohammed Al Tamimi was shot in the head last Thursday near his village of Nebi Saleh while riding in a car with his father. He was airlifted to Israel's Sheba Hospital, which announced the boy's death.

'Serve Kingdom and our people'

HM King Hamad praises ongoing fruitful executive and legislative cooperation

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa commended the ongoing fruitful coordination between the legislative and executive branches, welcoming the recent agreements reached by them regarding the general state budget.

HM the King affirmed that the ultimate goal is to achieve the interests of the homeland and its citizens, as well as to provide them with all means of a decent life.

He stressed that the Bahraini citizens will always remain the core of the nation-building process and all the government's projects and programmes.

His Majesty was speaking as he received yesterday at the Saffriya Palace the Council of Representatives Speaker, Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, and the Shura Council Chairman, Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, following the issuance of the Royal Order (29) of 2023 on adjourning the first session of the sixth Legislative Term of the bicameral National Assembly.

HM King Hamad expressed his appreciation to the Speaker, Shura Chairman and members of the National Assembly for their dedicated efforts to serving the Kingdom and the people. He praised their valuable contributions to promoting development paths and strengthening the pillars of national action throughout the first session of the sixth Legislative Term, citing their efforts to highlight the kingdom's bright image and civilisational accomplishments.



HM the King receives Speaker Al Musallam and Shura Chairman Al Saleh



His Majesty also commended the fruitful efforts exerted by the legislative branch to carry out its supervisory role and develop the system of laws and legislation that serve the country and meet its citizens' needs.

HM the King praised the two branches' endeavours to improve the living standards of low and medium-income citizens, whose interests were taken into account in the agreed upon general state budget, stressing the importance of continuing to achieve the goals of financial sustainability and economic

growth.

Sound visions and leadership

Speaker Al Musallam and Chairman Al Saleh affirmed that the kingdom's development achievements were the fruitful outcomes of HM the King's sound visions and the leadership, as well as HM's unwavering support for enhancing the kingdoms' progress and more prosperity.

They expressed their pride in the lofty directives of HM the King to consolidate efforts to build on the previous achieve-

ments, extending their thanks to HM King Hamad for his continuous support.

The two legislative leaders affirmed that the fruitful legislature-executive cooperation is based on the directives of His Majesty the King and the follow up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Progress and development

They stressed that HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's keenness to deepen the

“The ultimate goal is to achieve the interests of the homeland and its citizens, as well as to provide them with all means of a decent life.”

- HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

mechanisms of cooperation between the two branches has paved the way for exchanging views on the best means to continue achieving sustainable development and updating national legislation and laws to cope with the continuous progress and development in the Kingdom.

Weekly Cabinet meeting



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, directed the concerned government authorities to retroactively disburse the monthly living allowance for retirees from January 2023 to June 2023. HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister also directed the concerned authorities to pay disbursements on living allowance for government employees and people with disabilities starting from June 2023, in accordance with the new agreements between the Legislative and Executive Authorities. HRH Prince Salman chaired yesterday the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace. (Full report on Page 2)

HM King, HRH Prince Salman thanked by Jordan

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received cables of thanks from His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein of Jordan, in reply to their congratulations on Jordan's Independence Day.

The Jordanian monarch expressed his deep appreciation to HM King Hamad and HRH



HM the King



HRH Prince Salman



HM King Abdullah



HM King Abdullah II wished the people of Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

Prince Salman for their noble feelings that reflect solid bilateral relations.

His Royal Highness also received a similar cable from the Crown Prince, His Royal Highness Prince Hussein bin Abdullah II.

HM King Abdullah II wished HM King Hamad and HRH Prince Salman abundant health and happiness and the people of Bahrain further progress and prosperity under HM's leadership.

Bahrain greets Sweden

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of congratulations to HM King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden on his country's National Day.

HM King Hamad and HRH Prince Salman wished King Gustaf abundant health and happiness and the people of Sweden further progress and prosperity.

His Royal Highness sent a similar cable to the Prime Minister, HE Ulf Kristersson.

Works Ministry steps up infrastructure project

TDT | Manama

Work on the sanitary drainage project in bloc 733 in the Capital Governorate is on track as planned.

Works Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for sewage projects Fathi Abdulla Al Farea inspected the project, as part of a strategy to expand drainage networks across the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Tender Board had awarded the urban infrastructure project to Al Naseef Construction Company under a contract for BD260,000.

Al Farea stressed the importance of optimising the use of treated water by expanding pumping, transporting and distributing services.

He stressed the ministry's continuous efforts to benefit from triple-treated sewage water to irrigate crops in streets and parks, in addition to supplying farms with treated water.



Al Farea inspects the sanitary drainage project

Royal caring gesture

HRH Prince Salman directs concerned authorities to disburse living allowances for retirees, government employees and people with disabilities



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, directed the concerned government authorities to retroactively disburse the monthly living allowance for retirees from January 2023 to June 2023.

The move follows agreements between the Legislative and Executive Authorities during a discussion on the draft law on the national budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister also directed the concerned authorities to pay disbursements on living allowance for government employees and people with disabilities starting from June 2023, in accordance with the new agreements between the Legislative and Executive Authorities.

This came as HRH Prince Salman chaired yesterday the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

On the occasion of the Royal Order issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to adjourn the first session of the sixth legislative term of the



National Assembly, the Cabinet commended the strength of cooperation and coordination held between the Legislative and Executive Authorities, and their role in advancing the Kingdom's national development.

His Royal Highness commended the two authorities' coordination in serving the Kingdom and its citizens, as well as the efforts of the public sector, the specialised committees of the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives, throughout the draft law budget discussions.

Commitment

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Cabinet emphasised the Kingdom's commitment to adopt more innovative initiatives, programmes, and solutions that enhance environmental security

His Royal Highness announced an increase of mangroves plantations for 2023 from 230,000 to 460,000 trees.

This reflects the Kingdom's commitment to the 26th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change goals

(COP26), which includes a target to quadruple mangrove coverage by 2035.

Educational successes

The Cabinet congratulated the Bahraini graduates who completed the school year, thanking parents, teachers, and administrators of the Ministry of Education for their contributions to these educational successes.

The Cabinet then expressed its condolences to the government and people of the Republic of India, following the collision of three trains in the Balasore district of Odisha state in eastern India, and wished the wounded a speedy recovery.

The Cabinet discussed several memorandums during the meeting, among them the approval of a memorandum submitted by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs on a draft decision to amend Article Two of the decision to establish and form the Higher Committee for the Bahrain International Airshow; and a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Sustainable Development on the second Voluntary National Review.

Backdated pensions disbursed to 195 Khatwa beneficiaries

TDT | Manama

Backdated pensions have been disbursed immediately retroactively to 195 beneficiaries who have been admitted in the "Khatwa" after fulfilling the eligibility requirements, said the Social Insurance Organisation (SIO).

In a statement yesterday, it announced that SIO has taken the necessary measures to complete the applications of Khatwa program members who are eligible for retirement pensions

The move is in line with the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to include 236 eligible retirement pension applications.

It pointed out that work is underway to process the remaining 41 applications. Short text messages have been set to the applicants to complete the pending payment procedures for the pensions to be disbursed as soon as possible.

SCIA denounces turning some mosques into political arenas

TDT | Manama

The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) has affirmed that politics is alien to the roles of religious platforms and houses of worship, denouncing the keenness to turn some mosques into arenas for political chants and slogans during prayers.

The SCIA stressed the need to preserve the sanctity of mosques and religious pulpits, by devoting them to worshipping Allah the Almighty, and not deviating them from their established legitimate purposes, or exploiting them to perform other roles that they have nothing to do with, which would lead to encroachment upon their sanctity and the role they are meant to play.

The SCIA affirmed the importance of religious platforms and mosques.

Praise for Bahraini youth humanitarian and voluntary work

● Citizens' authentic values

TDT | Manama

Humanitarian and voluntary work is one of the values that characterise Bahrainis, said His Majesty's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Chairman, His Highness Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

HH Shaikh Nasser tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, hailing unwavering royal care for charitable and



HH Shaikh Nasser

humanitarian work.

He made the statement as he received at Al Wadi Palace the students of the Nasser Al Bina'a

project, which was launched by the Ibn Khuldoon National School, in an initiative aimed to revamp and furnish the homes of needy families.

He commended the project that embodies the mettle of Bahraini youth and epitomises their love for voluntary, charitable and humanitarian work, which are authentic values that Bahrainis inherit from father to grandfather.

"The initiative reflects the status of Bahraini youth and their active role in community service and their keenness to provide a helping hand to needy families," he said.

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the

students themselves who are carrying out the restoration of homes by themselves, hailing the national and humanitarian dedication.

He commended the commitment of Ibn Khuldoon National School, hailing its role since its inception, in supporting student and youth initiatives to achieve the noble goals for the advancement of society.

HH Shaikh Nasser commended the school's string of social, humanitarian and national initiatives, projects and activities to create a promising generation armed with science, knowledge and good human and moral values.

Cassation Court acquits Bahraini man of a money laundering charge

TDT | Manama

The Court of Cassation acquitted a Bahraini man and his company of laundering money estimated at BD65,000.

The court also dropped his five-year prison sentence, a fine of BD5,000, and the confiscation of the funds subject to the crime, or any funds owned by him equivalent to that amount.

The defendant's legal representative said that her client was referred to the Court of First Instance following a report by two individuals stating that he embezzled BD250,000 by lying about establishing a real estate company.

They reportedly discovered that the company's account had no balance, and after stalling, the defendant presented them with bounced cheques. The defendant was convicted of breach of trust and imprisoned for a year; however, he

was referred to court again for the crime of laundering the money he had embezzled.

The Court of First Instance sentenced him to five years in prison. The Court of Appeals upheld the ruling,

on the grounds that her client withdrew and transferred the victims' money to a GCC country with the intent of concealing its illegal source.

The lawyer argued that the elements of the crime were not met, as the investigations failed to reveal the fate of that money, or the means employed to disguise its source, adding that the crime of money laundering requires proof of criminal intent to conceal the illegitimate source of money, which is missing in this case, since money transfers alone are not sufficient evidence of a laundering operation, especially since the defendant tried to return the amount to the victim's country.



'Broken traffic signal' a problem for commuters



A broken traffic signal in Um Al Hassam

● People come close to meeting accident

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

A broken traffic signal has proven to be a barrier for pedestrians, causing the problem rather than resolving it.

The traffic signal in Um Al Hassam, across from DHL, is broken for an apparent cause. Many commuters informed

The Daily Tribune that they were uncertain whether to halt or cross the street as a result of the faulty signal.

Due to the same, several people came dangerously close to having an accident. Contrarily, it results in backups in traffic.

Locals nearby are reportedly presuming that the traffic signal is damaged because a commuter crashed his or her car into it, while others are suspicious that someone may have broken it.

Executive-legislative cooperation praised

HRH Prince Salman affirms importance of continuing to bolster two branches' ongoing efforts that benefit all in Kingdom

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, commended the Executive and Legislative Authorities for supporting the Kingdom of Bahrain's wide-ranging development, noting the importance of continuing to bolster efforts that benefit all.

HRH Prince Salman highlighted the strong partnership between the executive and legislative bodies, adding that their achievements are the product of the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

His Royal Highness was speaking as he met yesterday with Council of Representatives Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam and Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh at Gudaibiya Palace.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister highlighted that the efforts made by members of the Executive and Legislative Authorities during the first session of the sixth legislative term have led to the approval of important legislation, including a draft law approving the King-



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister meets with Speaker Al Musallam and Chairman Al Saleh

dom's national budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal years.

HRH Prince Salman also emphasised the importance of further strengthening efforts between the two authorities across multiple levels to create quality opportunities and build a brighter future for the Kingdom and its citizens.

Appreciation

Al Musallam and Al Saleh expressed their appreciation for His Royal Highness's commitment to supporting the Kingdom's development under the leadership of His Majesty the King.

They affirmed their commitment to continue strengthening efforts between the two authorities to advance progress for the Kingdom and its citizens.

A number of senior officials

and members of the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives also attended the meeting.

Team Bahrain role

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister noted Team Bahrain's role in helping advance national development in line with the Kingdom's

far-reaching goals.

His Royal Highness noted that ensuring the interests of the Kingdom and its citizens remain at the forefront of development goals is a collective duty.

He emphasised that Bahrainis' determination and collective efforts will help the Kingdom achieve its development goals.



"It is important to further strengthen efforts between the two authorities across multiple levels to create quality opportunities and build a brighter future for the Kingdom and its citizens."

- HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SALMAN BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA, THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRIME MINISTER

Hefty fine for feeding animals in public

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Officials from Muharraq Municipality launched a campaign to punish people who feed animals in the streets and public spaces with fines of BD300.

After receiving several complaints from locals that feeding birds and animals attracts pests and vermin, the municipality posted signs forbidding it.

According to officials, a number of banners have already been put up in the first constituency and more will be in place over the next several days.

Musab Al Sheikh, a media



Birds are being fed at vacant land

specialist at Muharraq Municipal Council, claimed that using dry foods and avoiding wet leftovers are two environmentally beneficial choices that do not attract insects and rodents.

He pointed out that throwing

leftover food and waste of birds and animals on the sidewalks of roads, streets and vacant lands can pollute the environment, emit unpleasant odours and distort the general view.

"In addition, it fosters con-

ditions that draw stray dogs to neighbourhoods and can sometimes endanger the animals and birds themselves.

"It is also an active environment for the breeding of insects and rodents, which carry a variety of diseases."

He pointed out that some of the residents of the district provide food and drink for these birds in the middle of the residential areas and throw waste to feed the animals.

It should be emphasised that this behaviour is listed as an explicit violation of the law with a BD300 fine for anyone found guilty under the Hygiene Law.

Green Youth Hackathon first edition project concludes, hailed as a big success

TDT | Manama

The French Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Youth Pioneer Society concluded the first edition of the Green Youth Hackathon entitled "Sustainability and Climate Change" on Sunday.

This project is organised by the Youth Pioneer Society in strategic cooperation with the French Embassy, and with the Bahrain Scientific Center for Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Development Program in Bahrain, the Collective Hub, Upgradelle and Fives Gulf Services as the spon-



The Youth Pioneer Society at the hackathon's first edition

sor of the event.

Ameera Mahmood stated that the first edition of the "Green Youth Hackathon" aimed to support and develop econom-

ically sustainable projects that enhance Goals 12 and 13 of the Sustainable Development Goals, by engaging participants in workshops that help them

design a community entrepreneurship project. Then, it was presented to a professional jury to choose the best innovative and sustainable project.

Ameera explained that the organisation of this hackathon comes within the framework of achieving the objectives of the Society aimed at refining the skills and capabilities of youth in Bahrain, promoting a culture of social innovation and providing training and educational opportunities to contribute to making young people able to face local and global challenges and achieve their goals and the goals of sustainable development.

She indicated that the Society hopes that the projects of the participating groups will be developed by the concerned au-

thorities and transformed into a tangible reality that serves the community and helps achieve sustainable development.

For his part, the Ambassador of the Republic of France to the Kingdom of Bahrain, HE Mr. Jerome Cauchard, said: "The youth has always been at the heart of the French Embassy's initiatives in Bahrain. We believe that entrepreneurship has a powerful tool to empower young people and enhance their creativity. Furthermore, by focusing on environment and sustainability, the projects will go beyond the economy and will have a positive environmental and social impact."

Empowering Bahraini women and students through boxing

Kingdom promotes sport activities for women to improve physical and mental health

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Learning boxing can be a great way for Bahraini women to improve their physical fitness, build strength and endurance, and develop self-defense skills, says a chief fitness coach.

Boxing can help promote mental wellness by reducing stress and anxiety, increasing self-confidence and self-esteem, and providing a sense of empowerment and control.

The Daily Tribune contacted female fitness instructors and inquired about the Kingdom's participation in promoting such sports activities for women.

They responded, "Bahrain is taking steps to encourage women's participation in sports, including boxing by promoting opportunities for women to participate in traditionally male-dominated sports.

"By providing access to sports like boxing and encouraging students to participate, the King-



Manal with Bahraini women at The BurnBox

dom is helping to create a more inclusive and diverse society.

"Overall, it's important for women to have the opportunity to learn boxing and other forms of martial arts if they choose to do so."

The Daily Tribune has learnt that, as part of Bahrain's commitment in supporting women in sports, the College of Administrative and Financial Sciences at Al-Ahlia University also or-

ganised an introduction session on boxing for women.

In an exclusive interview with Manal Al Zayani, Chief Fitness Coach at The BurnBox, said: "Women can learn boxing for a variety of reasons beyond just self-defense.

"While self-defense is certainly one potential benefit of learning boxing, there are many other reasons why women might

choose to take up the sport.

"For instance, boxing can be a great form of exercise that helps improve cardiovascular health, build strength and endurance, and improve overall fitness. It can also be a fun and engaging way to relieve stress and blow off steam."

She highlighted that encouraging students, especially girls, to take initiative and explore sports like boxing can have nu-



"Boxing can be a great form of exercise that helps improve cardiovascular health, build strength and endurance, and improve overall fitness. It can also be a fun and engaging way to relieve stress and blow off steam."

- MANAL AL ZAYANI, CHIEF FITNESS COACH AT THE BURNBOX

merous benefits.

"By participating in sports, students can improve their physical fitness, develop teamwork and leadership skills, and build self-confidence and self-esteem.

"Additionally, learning boxing can help develop self-defense skills, which can be especially important for girls and women in this era," she said.

Manal said, physically, boxing

can be a vigorous form of exercise that can help improve cardiovascular health, build strength and endurance, and promote weight loss. Boxing can also improve hand-eye coordination, balance, and agility.

Meanwhile, she also pointed out that mentally, boxing can be a great way to relieve stress and anxiety, and improve overall mood and wellbeing.

SMC operations, reanimation rooms expansion projects inaugurated

TDT | Manama

Supreme Council of Health (SCH) President, Lieutenant General Dr. Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, inaugurated yesterday the expansion project of the operations and reanimation rooms at Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC).

The opening took place in the presence of Minister of Health Dr. Jalila bint Al Sayed Jawad Hassan, Government Hospitals Chairman Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, Government Hospitals Chief Executive Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al Ansari and senior officials.

Lt. General Dr. Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah commended the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

He also praised all the officials in charge of the project, which reflects keenness of the kingdom and government to develop health services and achieve the goals of the comprehensive development march.

The SCH President took pride in inaugurating the pioneering project which aims to further optimise the health services at SMC.

'It's about helping people'

Bahraini orphans find safe haven in Batelco Orphan House

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

Selflessness, trust, and determination are only some of the qualities that it takes to grasp the responsibility of caring for Bahraini orphans.

Our responsibility, a group of volunteers inspiring change for Bahraini orphans, reveals the reality of the difficult yet rewarding job of taking children in as if they were their own.

"It's about helping people," Rayana Sayyar told The Daily Tribune.

Rayana is on the Board of Directors of the Batelco Orphan House and a loving volunteer, giving her time and expertise as an architect to inspire real change and most importantly take action in the community.

Explaining the true reality of the Batelco Orphan House, she said it has the most severe case of orphans on the island, and more help is needed.

"It's heartbreaking," Rayana shared.

"Children are usually abandoned on the streets, dropped off at hospitals, or given in boxes as parents cannot properly raise the children, for a multitude of reasons," she said.

She, however, highlighted the tremendous community, services, and work that is performed by the volunteers to give the children a safe space, a community, and most importantly, love.

"Some days can be challenging. It is impossible to clear your mind of the situations these children came from. And although they are safe now, it



Children with a volunteer

is harrowing as many of the children are not aware of who their parents are.

"But our goal is to provide as much care and love as possible and seeing the smiles on the children's faces when you give them love and care, makes the challenges and hard work worth it," she said.

Challenges

When raising children, there will always be challenges. But some challenges pose more complications than others in the long run.

Rayana revealed that 50 percent of the children don't possess documentation.

"It's extremely difficult," she relayed.

"Building towards the future gives everyone involved hope. But when the children are given to us without documentation it is difficult to give them the independence to work, once they are ready, or to attend university."

In addition, the orphanage

is at full capacity with a lack of staff, and this has been extremely challenging trying to stabilise their home.

Although there may be challenges, the selfless volunteers and heartwarming children unite to build a better space and environment each day.

Rayana said that although the children's situation is not ideal, they are just happy to create bonds and live in a stable environment.

"As we lack decent space for the children, they are often forced to share rooms, and each teenager is assigned to take care of a newborn taking on this type of responsibility at a very young age, but luckily, we continue to make the best out of what we are given."

Nevertheless, volunteers don't let the challenges dictate the outcomes.

"Our responsibility here is to help people, help others," Rayana said. "This all started with the intention of giving back in the way that I knew best.

New initiatives aim to combat soaring prices

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

Anyone buying weekly groceries, or their usual coffee order, has noticed that prices are going up.

According to World Data Info, an inflation rate of 3.6 per cent was calculated for 2022 in Bahrain.

More recently, the cost of food in Bahrain increased 6.70 per cent in April 2023 over the same month in the previous year. Luckily, inflation in the GCC has been significantly lower compared to the most advanced and emerging market countries. But the rising prices still impact people living on a humble salary.

The average salary of Bahraini nationals who hold diploma degrees are entitled to a minimum wage of BD380

monthly, and Bahraini nationals who hold university degrees are entitled to a minimum wage of BD450.

Expats also suffer as there is no minimum wage set for them, and they are usually paid lower monthly salaries.

Fortunately, the Industry and Commerce Ministry announced the launch of the consumer protection initiative for commercial establishments that sell and trade commodities and food products in the Bahrain market. It is aiming to reduce the cost of 10 food commodities by 10 per cent.

As people fall victim to the soaring prices of basic living needs, the new initiative will support residents and citizens in the Kingdom by offering the lowest price for food items, assuring affordability in the country.

e-Waste School Competition



Zain Bahrain Company has organised the concluding ceremony of the 3rd national e-Waste School Competition under the patronage of Minister of Oil and Environment, Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak bin Daina. The event was attended by Capital Governor Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, officials and experts in the environmental fields and principals of the participating schools. The celebration was held in conjunction with Bahrain's commemoration of the World Environment Day, which is observed on June 5 every year.

Air travel to soar near record in 2023

● Airlines are expected to be back in the green this year, with net profits totalling \$9.8 billion

AFP | Istanbul

Airlines will return to profit and fly a near-record 4.35 billion passengers this year, but the sector's post-pandemic recovery remains fragile, an industry group said yesterday.

The industry is forecast to post net profits totalling \$9.8 billion in 2023, or double previous estimates, boosted by the end of China's Covid restrictions, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The association added that its 2022 losses were half as bad as previously estimated at \$3.6 billion.

"Airline financial performance in 2023 is beating expectations," IATA director general Willie Walsh said in a statement during the association's annual general meeting in Istanbul.

"Stronger profitability is supported by several positive developments. China lifted Covid-19



A United Airlines plane taxis at Newark International Airport, in Newark, New Jersey

restrictions earlier in the year than anticipated," Walsh said.

While jet fuel prices remain high, they have moderated over the first half of the year, he added.

Inflation surged worldwide as Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 sent energy costs soaring, but oil and natural gas prices have fallen since then. "On the cost side, there is some relief," Walsh said.

"Economic uncertainties have not dampened the desire to travel, even as ticket prices absorbed

elevated fuel costs," he added.

Profits equal to \$2.25 per passenger

Airlines transported a record 4.54 billion people in 2019 before Covid brought travel to a standstill.

The industry lost \$137 billion when countries imposed lockdowns and closed borders in 2020.

The sector lost another \$42 billion in 2021 and was still in the red last year as China, a major market, continued to enforce



Airline financial performance in 2023 is beating expectations. Stronger profitability is supported by several positive developments. China lifted Covid-19 restrictions earlier in the year than anticipated

IATA DIRECTOR GENERAL WILLIE WALSH

Covid restrictions that were finally lifted in December.

The IATA said total revenues are expected to grow to \$803 billion this year, up almost 10 percent from 2022.

While the industry as a whole will turn a profit, Walsh noted that it would amount to just \$2.25 per passenger -- a net-profit margin of 1.2 percent.

The IATA, which represents around 300 airlines accounting for 83 percent of global air passenger traffic, said net profit will rise to \$11.5 billion for North American air carriers, \$5.1 billion for Europeans and \$2 billion for those from the Middle East. But Asian, Latin American and



African airlines will remain in the red.

Airlines will face a total fuel bill of \$215 billion this year, or \$98.5 per barrel, according to the IATA. This is down from the average cost of \$135.6 in 2022.

Fuel will account for 28 percent of the costs that airlines face this year, compared to 24 percent in 2019.

"After deep Covid-19 losses, even a net profit margin of 1.2 percent is something to celebrate," Walsh said.

"But with airlines just making \$2.25 per passenger on average, repairing damaged balance sheets and providing investors with sustainable returns on

their capital will continue to be a challenge for many airlines," he added.

War risks

The IATA said industry profitability is "fragile" and could be affected by several factors, including interest rate hike by central bank fighting inflation.

"The risk of recession remains. Should recession lead to job losses, the industry's outlook could shift negatively," it said.

While the war in Ukraine is not having a "major impact" on profitability of most airlines, an escalation would likely hurt global aviation, it said.

"Already broader geopolitical tensions are weighing upon international trade and any escalation of such tensions represents a downside risk to the industry outlook," the IATA said.

Supply chain issues, which have plagued global trade since the pandemic, are still being felt.

"Airlines have been directly impacted by aircraft parts supply chain ruptures which aircraft and engine manufacturers have failed to sort out," the IATA said.

"This is negatively impacting the delivery of new aircraft and the ability of airlines to maintain and deploy existing fleets."

Alba's safety culture recognised with British Safety Council's award



Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali and Director Safety & Health Mohamed Khalil Saeed receive the award

TDT | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. (Alba), the largest aluminium smelter in the world ex-China, received the 2023 International Safety Award with Merit from the British Safety Council (BSC), which came in recognition of its efforts to maintain a safe and healthy work environment during 2022.

The Award was received by Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali during BSC's International Safety Awards Gala Dinner held on 19 May at the Landmark Hotel, London, United Kingdom in the presence of Alba's Director Safety and Health Mohamed Khalil Saeed.

Commenting on this recognition, Alba's Chief Executive Officer, Ali Al Baqali, said, "We are honored to have been recognised once again with the British Safety Council's Merit Award as it underlines the Safety culture we have built in

all our work -- from our admin offices to every function and shop-floor in Alba. This award is dedicated to every employee and contractor's personnel for their commitment to personal safety and operational safety."

Alba also welcomed yesterday a delegation from BSC comprising Strategic Account Manager (International & UK), Nusrat Khan, and Acting Head of Audit and Consultancy, Phil Pinnington, who joined the Company's Management in its Monthly Safety Review Meeting that provides insights on the year-to-date performance of Safety, Health, Fire and Security as well as Environment indicators.

The British Safety Council, which was founded in 1957, introduced its annual International Safety Awards to recognise organisations from around the world which have demonstrated their commitment to preventing workplace injuries and work-related illnesses

ila Bank's Al Kanz March winner gets a US\$250,000 cash prize

TDT | Manama

ila Bank, Bahrain's leading digital mobile-only bank, powered by Bank ABC, announced the Al Kanz March prize winner of US\$250,000.

The lucky winner, Fatema Arroyo, was selected following an automated draw held at ila Bank's offices in the presence of a representative of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, an external auditor and ila Bank employees on May 10.

This is the first of a large number of Al Kanz prizes scheduled for 2023, which have been created to fulfil customers' ask for



Fatema Arroyo with bank officials at the prize handover ceremony

bigger cash prizes this year. million.

Al Kanz prizes have been increased to a total of US\$ 2.250

The monthly additional prizes of US\$50,000 have

been added for the months of May, July, August, October and November.

The next mega prize is a US\$500,000 cash prize for June followed by another big prize of US\$250,000 for September and a grand year-end prize of US\$1,000,000 for December 2023.

The draws will be held within 45 days of the last-day-to-deposit for each prize, as detailed on the ila Bank website: www.ilabank.com/AlKanz. For every BHD 50 saved in Al Kanz, ila customers stand a chance to fulfill their life goals and dreams faster than ever imagined.

France announces massive state aid to chips factory

AFP | Paris

France is ploughing 2.9 billion euros (\$3.1 billion) of public money into a factory to make microchips, officials said yesterday, heating up a global race for the lucrative market.

Europe and the United States have both passed so-called Chips Acts to boost investment in the sector as fears grow that China could gain a stranglehold on global supply.

Chips, also known as semiconductors, are vital for every electronic device, from smartphones to electric cars, and control of supply chains has become a major priority for the world's



Semiconductor chips are displayed on a new type of 300-millimeter wafer produced by Bosch biggest trading blocs.

France's economy ministry said the state aid was the biggest subsidy it had offered since 2017.

The funding would go towards a 7.5-billion-euro project announced last year to be run by European multinational STMI-



The funding would go towards a 7.5-billion-euro project announced last year to be run by European multinational STMicroelectronics and US company GlobalFoundries

croelectronics and US company GlobalFoundries.

The European Chips Act has loosened the rules on state aid that usually forbid such generous outlays, as it aims to unlock 43 billion euros of investment and for the bloc to produce 20 percent of the world's chips by 2030.

Europe currently accounts for less than 10 percent of the global total, with most of the world's chips being made in Taiwan.

The French ministry said the project, in the Alpine town of Crolles near Grenoble in south-eastern France, would boost European production capacity by almost six percent by 2028.

German car sales rise strongly in May

AFP | Berlin

New car sales in Germany rose strongly again in May as supply chain problems eased, official figures showed yesterday, but analysts warned the weakening economy may weigh

on the sector.

A total of 246,966 new cars were registered in Europe's top economy last month, up 19.2 percent on a year earlier, according to the KBA federal transport authority.

This followed a rise of 12.6

percent in April and a 16.6 percent improvement in March.

"The new car market continues to improve, the upswing is robust," said EY analyst Peter Fuss.

Sales of all-electric vehicles rose by 46.6 percent.



Mercedes-Benz S-Class passenger car are lined up at the "Factory 56"

QUOTE OF THE DAY

PRINCIPLES HAVE NO REAL FORCE EXCEPT WHEN ONE IS WELL-FED
MARK TWAIN

News in brief

New Zealand gives former PM Ardern title of dame



with the title of dame yesterday, citing her leadership after the 2019 Christchurch mosque massacre and during the Covid-19 pandemic. Ardern, 42, shocked New Zealand in January when she announced she was stepping down as prime minister and retiring from politics, saying she no longer had "enough in the tank". Her successor, Prime Minister Chris Hipkins, said Ardern had been named a dame in the King's Birthday and Coronation Honours List. King Charles III, who was ceremonially crowned on May 6, is also head of state in New Zealand.

◆ New Zealand honoured former prime minister Jacinda Ardern

◆ Republican former vice president Mike Pence launched Monday his hotly-anticipated challenge to one-time boss Donald Trump for the party's 2024 White House nomination, setting up the unusual scenario of two running mates becoming rivals.

Pence, a 63-year-old evangelical Christian, filed his nomination papers with the Federal Election Commission ahead of an official declaration to be made by video Wednesday in the early voting state of Iowa -- joining an already crowded primary field. He spent his 2017-21 tenure as vice president honing his reputation as a loyal deputy who brought the religious right into the tent and who was willing to defend the president against any accusation.



Ex-VP Pence jumps into 2024 White House race

Russian radio stations hacked, played fake Putin message



Vladimir Putin speech announcing an invasion from Kyiv's troops and emergency measures in three regions bordering Ukraine, the Kremlin said yesterday. The hacking comes amid several reported incursion attempts and intense shelling in south-western Belgorod, and as Kyiv says it is preparing a long-expected counteroffensive. The fake message, still circulating on social media, said "Ukrainian troops armed to the teeth by Nato and with Washington's consent and support have invaded the Kursk, Belgorod and Bryansk" territories. The voice, very similar to Putin's, also announced martial law, general mobilisation and the evacuation of civilians in those three regions.

◆ Several Russian radio stations were hacked and played a fake President

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Spell it out: Paris' Champs-Elysees hosts mass 'dictation'



This photograph shows the prestigious Champs-Elysees Avenue, transformed into a giant classroom hosting participants, as they attempt to beat the record of the "World's Biggest Dictation" in Paris

AFP | Paris

Not to be outdone by US-style spelling bee extravaganzas, Paris's most famous street the Champs-Elysees was transformed into an open-air mass "dictation" spellathon Sunday, pitting thousands of France's brainiest bookworms against one another.

Revealing a very French love affair with words, over 50,000 applied to participate in the event, a world first, in which hopefuls attempt to faithfully

and without error transcribe a text read to them.

Over 5,000 applicants aged 10-90 were chosen to participate in three sessions led by novelist Rachid Santaki.

With 1,779 desks laid out on Paris' most famous boulevard in each session, organisers had sought to break the world record for a dictation spelling competition.

In the first round, an excerpt of La Mule du Pape by renowned French writer Alphonse Daudet was read by journalist Augustin Trapenard, of Libraries Without Borders.

Silence fell when the first session started, but for 10-year-old Samson, the dictation was "too fast". He gave up.

In his final year of primary school, top student Antoine attended with his father and, despite being a star pupil, he had struggled to fill his page.

"It was impossible! The dictation was for adults," he said.

His father Adrien Blind, 42, was equally relieved when the session wrapped, saying he "was in a state of stress and worry".

YOU KNOW WHAT

With 1,779 desks laid out on Paris' most famous boulevard in each session, organisers had sought to break the world record for a dictation spelling competition

Russia says repelled 'Ukraine offensive in

Russian army claims to have repelled Ukraine attack and said that enemy forces

● Ukrainian forces launch large-scale offensive in five sectors of the front in the south of Donetsk region

AFP | Washington

Russia said yesterday it had repelled "a large-scale offensive" by Ukrainian forces in the Moscow occupied Donetsk region as Kyiv was silent about plans to claw back lost territory.

Ukrainian officials meanwhile were expected to hold talks with Pope Francis' peace envoy, Italian Cardinal Matteo Zuppi, who headed to Kiev yesterday for two days of negotiations.

Ukraine says it has been preparing a major offensive after months of stalemate to recapture territory lost since Russian President Vladimir Putin sent troops in February last year.

But officials have been tight-lipped about the details, saying



A photograph shows a damaged building after a missile strike in the town of Kramatorsk, Donetsk region (file photo)

there would be no formal announcement about the start of the operation.

On Sunday, Ukrainian Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov posted a cryptic tweet, citing lyrics from Depeche Mode's song, "Enjoy the Silence."

"Words are very unnecessary," he tweeted. "They can only do harm."

Military experts expect Ukrainian forces to test Russian defences for weaknesses before starting a full-blown offensive.

Early yesterday, Russia's defence ministry said that on Sunday "the enemy launched a large-scale offensive in five sectors of the front" in the south of the Donetsk region.

"A total of six mechanised and

YOU KNOW WHAT

Large parts of Donetsk have been held by pro-Moscow separatists since 2014. It is one of four eastern Ukrainian territories that Russia formally annexed in September last year, along with Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson

two tank battalions of the enemy were involved," it said in a Telegram post, adding that Ukrainian troops had hit "the most vulnerable, in their opinion, sector of the front".

"The enemy did not achieve their tasks, they had no success." The ministry posted what it

Trains resume service 51 hours after deadly India crash

AFP | Balasore

Passenger and freight trains were running again yesterday at the site of India's deadliest train disaster in decades, which officials said was caused by failures linked to signal systems.

Trains rumbled past the debris of smashed carriages from Friday night's crash near Balasore in the eastern state of Odisha, where nearly 300 people were killed and hundreds injured.

Officials had initially reported the death toll stood at 288, but the Odisha state government has since revised the toll down to 275 after some bodies were mistakenly counted twice.

Of the 1,175 injured, 382 were still being treated in hospital, authorities said on Sunday.

However, many fear the death



Railway workers help to restore services at the accident site of a three-train collision near Balasore

toll could still rise with medical centres overwhelmed by the number of casualties, many in serious condition.

Green netting was erected on either side of the tracks, shielding the crumpled carriages, which had been pushed down

the embankment, from the view of travelling passengers.

Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw was seen folding his hands in prayer as he saw the first train cross the site of the disaster late Sunday.

The railways ministry said the

YOU KNOW WHAT

Green netting was erected on either side of the tracks, shielding the crumpled carriages, which had been pushed down the embankment, from the view of travelling passengers

first train, a goods train loaded with coal, started 51 hours after the crash.

It was not immediately clear if all the tracks had been fully repaired, with trains yesterday using only lines on one side.

Bizarre! 3-year-old boy chews snake to death in India

Times Now | Farrukhabad

In a bizarre incident, a three-year-old boy chewed a snakelet to its death in Farrukhabad district of Uttar Pradesh state in India.

Akshay, the child was playing outside his home when a snake appeared in front of him.

He started playing with the snake by putting it in his mouth.

Few moments later, he started screaming, following which his grandmother rushed and was shocked to find the dead snakelet



The remains of the chewed up snake clamped in his mouth.

"I pulled it out and cleaned his mouth and alerted the child's parents," the boy's grandmother Sunita said.

His horrified parents took the child to a hospital. They also put the dead snakelet in a polybag to explain the entire incident to the doctors. After keeping the boy under observation for 24 hours, the doctors declared him out of danger, Times of India reported.

Speaking to Times of India, Dr Mohammad Salim Ansari, who observed the child, said necessary medicines had been administered to the boy and that he was doing fine and had been discharged. "It appears the snakelet was of a non-venomous species," he added.

1523

Gustav Vasa is elected King of Sweden, marking the end of the Kalmar Union



1916

The death of Yuan Shikai, ruler of much of China since 1912, causes central government to virtually collapse in the face of pressure from warlords, and from political reformers including Sun Yat-sen

1944

Operation Overlord: D-Day begins as the 156,000-strong Allied Expeditionary Force lands in Normandy, France, during World War II

1982

30,000 Israeli troops invade Lebanon to drive out the PLO

Large-scale' Donetsk

Forces did not achieve their objectives

said was a video of the battle, showing Ukrainian armoured vehicles coming under heavy fire.

Putin's top commander in Ukraine, Valery Gerasimov, "was at one of the advanced command posts," the ministry said.

A high-profile Russian war correspondent, Alexander Kots, said that "battles have been going on" in the area of Ugledar, in the south of the Donetsk region, and also further north in Soledar and Bakhmut, which were occupied by Moscow's forces after months of fighting.

Kots said Ukrainian forces were "conducting offensive operations" in and around the frontline hot-spot of Bakhmut which Russian mercenary group Wagner claimed last month had fallen to Moscow. He suggested that Kyiv had not yet "introduced the main forces into battle."

'The fight will be serious'

A Moscow-installed official also said that Ukrainian troops were on the offensive in the southern region of Zaporizhzhia, home to Europe's largest nuclear plant,

which has been under control of Russia's forces since the start of Moscow's offensive.

"It looks like the die has been cast and the next couple of months will clear up a lot. The fight will be serious, because there is a lot at stake," Rogov added.

Large parts of Donetsk have been held by pro-Moscow separatists since 2014. It is one of four eastern Ukrainian territories that Russia formally annexed in September last year, along with Lugansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson.

Speaking to reporters in New Delhi, US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said that Ukrainian authorities would make an announcement "at the right time".

"We can talk about what we're seeing and we're seeing continued operations in and around the Bakhmut area," he added.

"We're seeing an uptick in activity south of there."

The Vatican said that Italian Cardinal Matteo Zuppi headed to Kiev yesterday as Pope Francis' peace envoy for talks with Ukrainian authorities on the war.

Prince Harry to make history with UK court testimony



Britain's Prince Harry looks during King Charles III's coronation ceremony (file photo)

AFP | London

Prince Harry will become the first senior British royal to give evidence in court for more than a century when he testifies this week against a tabloid newspaper publisher.

Harry, 38, is expected to take the witness stand at London's High Court in a trial considering unlawful information-gathering claims against Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN).

King Charles III's younger son and other high-profile figures allege that the publisher engaged in illegal activities, including phone hacking, at its titles and are seeking damages.

The case is one of several that Harry has brought against British newspaper groups since stepping down from royal duties in early 2020 and relocating to the United States.

The MGN trial, which is expected to last up to seven weeks,

kicked off last month, days after Charles's May 6 coronation which Harry attended.

The California-based prince also made a surprise appearance at the High Court in March for a privacy claim he and others have launched against Associated Newspapers (ANL).



The case is one of several that Harry has brought against British newspaper groups since stepping down from royal duties in early 2020 and relocating to the United States

Four dead in plane crash that sparked Washington alert

AFP | Washington

US officials said yesterday there were no survivors from the Virginia crash of a small plane carrying four people, a day after the unresponsive aircraft prompted the scrambling of fighter jets from Washington.

The Cessna Citation slammed into mountainous terrain Sunday afternoon some 170 miles (275 kilometers) southwest of the capital, according to the Federal Aviation Administration which was investigating the incident.

F-16s earlier chased the aircraft at high speed -- triggering a sonic boom across Washington and its suburbs, startling residents and rattling windows and walls for miles.

Virginia State Police said in a statement sent to AFP that first responders reached the site near the town of Staunton by foot some four hours after the crash.

"No survivors were located" and the search efforts were suspended, state police said.

President Joe Biden, who was at the White House and also played golf Sunday, was briefed on the incident, an official said without specifying whether any emergency precautions were



Smoke rises from the wreckage of the plane after the crash

The civilian plane had taken off from Elizabethton, Tennessee bound for Long Island MacArthur Airport in New York, the FAA said. But flight tracking website Flightradar24 indicated it turned around after flying over Long Island and headed back south over Washington and into Virginia

implemented.

The civilian plane had taken off from Elizabethton, Ten-

nessee bound for Long Island MacArthur Airport in New York, the FAA said. But flight tracking website Flightradar24 indicated it turned around after flying over Long Island and headed back south over Washington and into Virginia.

"There were four people on board," the FAA said in a statement. "The FAA and NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) will investigate," and a preliminary accident report was expected later yesterday, it added.

US authorities had yet to officially identify those on board, but comments by two relatives of people believed to have been on the plane provided some initial insight.

US, China join naval drills in Indonesia despite rifts

AFP | Jakarta

The United States and China have sent warships to the multinational naval drills that began in Indonesia yesterday, despite the rifts between the two powers.

Washington and Beijing are engaged in fierce competition on diplomatic, military, technological and economic fronts.

The US military has stepped up its Asia-Pacific operations to counter an increasingly assertive China, which has recently



US Navy destroyer USS Chung-Hoon observes the Chinese PLA Navy vessel Luyang III (top) while on a transit through the Taiwan Strait

staged several rounds of war drills around Taiwan.

But both dispatched warships to the 2023 Multilateral Naval Exercise (MNEK) hosted by Indonesia in its eastern waters off Sulawesi island from yesterday to Thursday.

The US Navy has sent a littoral combat ship to the exercise, a US embassy spokesperson in Jakarta said on Sunday.

The drills will allow the United States to "join together with like-minded nations, our allies and our partners to work on solving common challenges" such as humanitarian and disaster response, the spokesperson said. The Chinese defence ministry said last week that it would send a destroyer and a frigate at the invitation of the Indonesian navy.

YOU KNOW WHAT

MNEK is a non-war training which prioritises maritime cooperation in the region

INDONESIAN NAVY SPOKESPERSON | MADE WIRA HADY

Pill halves risk of death in type of lung cancer

AFP | Paris

A pill has been shown to halve the risk of death from a certain type of lung cancer when taken daily after surgery to remove the tumour according to clinical trial results presented on Sunday.

The results were unveiled in Chicago at the largest annual conference of cancer specialists, hosted by the American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

Lung cancer is the form of the disease that causes the most deaths, with approximately 1.8 million fatalities every year worldwide.



A man looks at an image of a lung x-ray (file photo)

The treatment developed by the pharmaceutical group AstraZeneca is called osimertinib and is marketed under the name Tagrisso. It targets a particular type of lung cancer in patients suffering from so-

called non-small cell cancer, the most common type, and showing a particular type of mutation.

These mutations, on what is called the epidermal growth factor receptor, or EGFR, affect 10 percent to 25 percent of lung cancer patients in the United States and Europe, and 30 to 40 percent in Asia.

The clinical trial included some 680 participants at an early stage of the disease (stages 1b to 3a), in more than 20 countries. They had to have been operated on first to remove the tumor, then half of the patients took the treatment daily, and the other a placebo.



TOP 4 TWEETS 01



Every day, the equivalent of over 2,000 garbage trucks full of plastic is dumped into our oceans, rivers & lakes. This #WorldEnvironmentDay is a call to #BeatPlasticPollution. We must work as one to break our addiction to plastic, champion zero waste & build a circular economy.

@antonioguterres

02



This Pride Month, we celebrate the tremendous progress we have made in the fight for equality - and we rededicate ourselves to the work ahead.

@VP

03



We're taking our cooperation to the next level. Proud of the deeper relationship between @EuroparLEN and @ecb through increased transparency and accountability. Thank you President @Lagarde for your leadership and commitment to a reinforced currency and stronger eurozone.

@EP_President

04

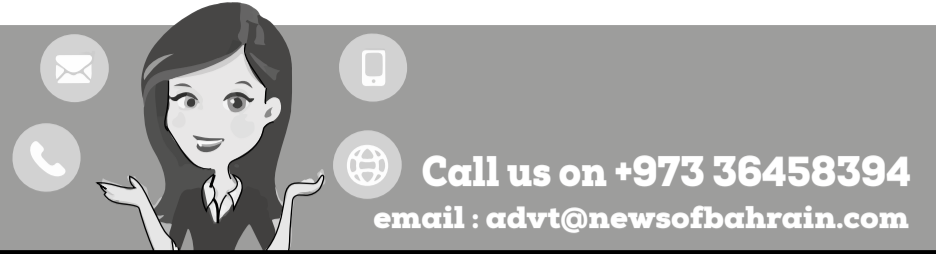


The Earth is what we have in common, and plastic pollution is a global threat and impacts all of us across the world. We must act, commit, and set new norms now to #BeatPlasticPollution! #WorldEnvironmentDay

@KGeorgieva

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

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

MOHAMMED YOUSIF JASSIM NIMAH / ALI BABA (10490) has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33356768 or ALI.BABA10490@GMAIL.COM

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784584 or HR@AMJASSIM.COM

YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38000669 or ashraf.nour@yokogawa.com

DAREIK TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39606062 or ALJUNAID.FISHING.EQ@HOTMAIL.COM

MARBLE RESTORATION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

ALSHABAKAH PARTIES SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17840408 or ALSHABAKATNT@HOTMAIL.COM

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. I. I has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM

KHORSHIDEH MEDIA PALACE FOR ADVERTISING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39551202 or CCS.BAH@GMAIL.COM

Al Rayah For Safety Items WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or RASHEED@SECURICORE.BH

VYU STUDIO ONE has a vacancy for the occupation of PHOTOGRAPHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36363333 or INFO@VYUSTUDIOS.COM

JANAT DELMON CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39842912 or ALII.4000@HOTMAIL.COM

NARJIS AHMED HASAN HUBAIL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335950 or UMALI7UBAIL@GMAIL.COM

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JEHLUM SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38398065 or

shabangujjar3002@gmail.com

BRICKS VALLEY FACILITIES SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37772467 or ALAMGCIWLL@GMAIL.COM

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

CARBON GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILES MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33385868 or IXFHDS2@GMAIL.COM

FREE MAN SALOON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39727083 or THIMICHAEL533@GMAIL.COM

KEY MARINE SHIP REPAIR SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 336412385

DOUBLE OBSERVE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33640042 or SULTANTEPU.BH@GMAIL.COM

TYRE LEADER BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33143243 or SHIBIN@MOTORSPOT.ME

LOUD ELECTROMECHANICAL COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of

ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17125256 or INFOCLOUDEM@GMAIL.COM

BAB AL URMI UPHOLSTERY- Bahraini partnership company has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34659511 or UBAYDUL7871@GMAIL.COM

TYLOS BAHRAIN PLASTIC FACTORY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33459333 or ABURIYDH144@GMAIL.COM

SAAJ ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT REPAIR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36186569 or SSKUMAR591@GMAIL.COM

SALEEM ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT REPAIR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33084061 or MHRSALEEM1122@GMAIL.COM

AL QAMBAR CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33252888 or shabanbh@gmail.com

PUNJAB CITY CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or SHAREF.WORKS@GMAIL.COM

Voltech Services Co. WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33882097 or

MEZMEZLINE@GMAIL.COM

CHINESE SUPERMARKET CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39194790 or 391630873@QQ.COM

JAYYES CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36415755 or IBRAHIMKHAN79130@GMAIL.COM

LATEST STYLE MEN SALOON WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36292745 or MARYAMFADHUL786@GMAIL.COM

ANGIE INTERIOR DECORATION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35103599 or angalgadal119@gmail.com

WHITE DIAMOND PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING Bahraini Partnership Com has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33706716 or SHAMSUOKEY2@GMAIL.COM

ZEEESHAN ARSHAD ELECTRONICS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35909296 or ZEE.SHANI4422@GMAIL.COM

TOP CHICKEN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17422800 or HANIBOHAMAD74@GMAIL.COM

SHERRY HEALTH, WELLNESS & ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE CENTER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17824070 or SHEREENABUL@GMAIL.COM

DIGIFIX MACHINERY INSTALLATION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37228185 or AMIR133HUSSAIN@GMAIL.COM

TECHNO PAK CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39245981 or ZAHEERABBAS1283@GMAIL.COM

ADVANCED CAR CARE CENTER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or NAMALCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

SOFRAT HOOR RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39961642 or sadiqmansoor1@hotmail.com

MEHRAN CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36182987 or MEHRANKHAN213@YAHOO.COM

REGAL MAINTENANCE & SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770065 or REGALMSERVICES@OUTLOOK.COM

Attacking icon Ibrahimovic says goodbye to football



AC Milan's Zlatan Ibrahimovic (L) acknowledges the public during a farewell ceremony

AFP | Milan

Zlatan Ibrahimovic brought the curtain down on a long, trophy-packed career on Sunday when he unexpectedly announced his retirement from football.

Veteran striker Ibrahimovic revealed his decision to quit the game during an on-pitch ceremony following AC Milan's 3-1 win over Verona which ended their Serie A campaign.

"It's the moment to say goodbye to football, not just to you," said Ibrahimovic on the San Siro pitch.

"There are too many emotions for me right now. Forza Milan and goodbye."

"The first time I came here you gave me happiness, the second time you gave me love. You welcomed me with open arms, you made me feel at home, I will be a Milanista for the rest of my life"

ZLATAN IBRAHIMOVIC

The 41-year-old had been expected to simply bid farewell to Milan fans after his departure from the seven-time European champions was announced on Saturday.

He returned to Milan in late 2019 for a second spell after a previous two-year period in which he won the Serie A title in 2011.

"The first time I came here you gave me happiness, the second time you gave me love," said Ibrahimovic.

"You welcomed me with open arms, you made me feel at home, I will be a Milanista for the rest of my life."

Ibrahimovic was a key figure in Milan's resurgence to the top of Italian football after his return to the club, helping to bring them back from the doldrums and eventually win the Scudetto last season.



Over the course of his career Ibrahimovic won league titles in the Netherlands, Italy, Spain and France, although his only major European trophy was the 2017 Europa League with Manchester United

Heat surge past Nuggets 111-108, level NBA Finals at 1-1

● Furious Malone blasts Nuggets, questions effort and discipline

AFP | Denver

The Miami Heat handed the Denver Nuggets their first home defeat of the playoffs Sunday, surging in the fourth quarter for a 111-108 victory that leveled the NBA Finals at one game apiece.

Gabe Vincent scored 23 points and Jimmy Butler and Bam Adebayo scored 21 points apiece for Miami, who withstood a 41-point performance from Nuggets star Nikola Jokic to get the split in Denver and breathe the new life into the championship campaign.

In a game of swinging shifts of momentum, the Heat had the last word, rallying from a 15-point first-half deficit and out-scoring the Nuggets 36-25 in the final period as they silenced the crowd of 19,537 at Ball Arena.

Adebayo sealed it with a pair of free-throws with 48.3 seconds remaining.

"We know we've got to do it on the defensive end," Adebayo said of Miami's fourth-quarter focus. "That's the biggest thing



Bam Adebayo of the Miami Heat drives to the basket against Aaron Gordon of the Denver Nuggets

"Let's talk about effort. This is NBA Finals, we are talking about effort; that's a huge concern of mine. You guys probably thought I was just making up some storyline after game one when I said we didn't play well. We didn't play well"

MICHAEL MALONE

for us. We got to do it on that end because we know we can score, all five guys we believe in. So the biggest thing for us was getting stops."

Denver had a last chance to tie it, but Jamal Murray missed a three-pointer.

"It was a good look, just didn't go down," said Murray, who

YOU KNOW WHAT

Miami Heat rallied from a 15-point deficit in the second half to defeat the Denver Nuggets 111-108, leveling the NBA Finals at 1-1

scored 18 points and handed out 10 assists.

Miami, who came through two play-in games and are trying to become the first eighth-seeded team to win the title, host game three of the best-of-seven series on Wednesday.

"We gutted out one on their home court, so time to go back to the 305," Adebayo said referencing the Miami area code.

Miami, who were dominated in a game one defeat, vowed to step it up and they started strong, leading by 11 with less than five minutes to play in the first quarter.

The Nuggets battled back and were up by 15 in the second quarter on the way to a 57-51 halftime lead.

Klinsmann names player held in China in South Korea squad

AFP | Seoul

South Korea coach Jurgen Klinsmann included Son Jun-ho in his squad yesterday for two friendlies this month, despite the player still being held in China in connection with a bribery case.

World Cup midfielder Son, who plays in China for Shandong Taishan, was detained last month in the northeastern province of Liaoning.

Klinsmann nevertheless included the 31-year-old in his squad for matches home to Peru on June 16 and El Salvador four days later, even though he is unlikely to be available.

"Obviously we are all shocked of the situation of Jun-ho and



Jurgen Klinsmann

he has our total support," Klinsmann told reporters as he named a 23-man squad.

"We hope every day something happens, but it's not in our hands."

The Korea Football Association told AFP that it had sent officials to China to seek Son's release, but the player's lawyer was "reluctant" to speak

"Obviously we are all shocked of the situation of Jun-ho and he has our total support. We hope every day something happens, but it's not in our hands"

JURGEN KLINSMANN

to them. The KFA officials returned to South Korea yesterday "without success", Yonhap news agency reported.

China has released few details about the allegations against Son, saying only that he was detained "on suspicion of ac-

BETTER YOU KNOW

China has released few details about the allegations against Son, saying only that he was detained "on suspicion of accepting bribes by non-state employees"

ing bribes by non-state employees".

Al Najma keep semis hopes alive

Bahrain champions claim third successive victory in Asian clubs handball in Isfahan

● Cuban professional Yoel Cuni Morales finishes as Najma's top scorer with five goals

● Najma take on RKOR Tashkent of Uzbekistan today in final preliminary round match

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's Al Najma kept their semi-final hopes alive yesterday in the 25th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship, currently being held in Isfahan, Iran.

The Bahrainis claimed their third successive victory in Group B of the competition's preliminary round following a 36-33 triumph against home side Shahid Shameli Kazeroon.

Najma held a commanding 23-15 lead at the interval and extended their advantage to 10 goals, 32-22, with an Adel Mohammed effort 11 minutes into the second half.

But the Iranians valiantly fought back, getting to within four, 28-32, with less than 10 minutes to go. Najma, however, replied with three unanswered conversions from Bilal Basham, Montenegrin professional Vuk Lazovic and Hasan Mirza.



Najma's Mohammed Abdulhussain, third from left, celebrates with teammates as he receives his Match MVP award

GROUP B STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Al Duhail (QAT)	4	3	0	1	28	6
Kuwait SC (KUW)	4	3	0	1	16	6
Al Najma (BRN)	4	3	0	1	14	6
Shahid Shameli Kazeroon (IRI)	4	2	0	2	-1	4
RKOR Tashkent (UZB)	4	0	1	3	-25	1
Junior Club (CHN)	4	0	1	3	-32	1

A Mohammed Ahmed goal then made it 36-30 with just over two minutes left to virtually ice the game for the Bahrainis, although Shahid Shameli scored the last three to reduce Najma's winning margin.

Najma goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulhussain was named the Match Most Valuable Player. He played a key role for the

victors and made a number of saves to help ward off their opponents.

Cuban import Yoel Cuni Morales finished as Najma's top scorer with five goals, while Mohammed Ahmed, Mohammed Habib and Qassim Qambar each had four. Mohammed Abdulredha, Adel Mohammed, Basham, Mirza and Mahdi Ha-



Najma players defend their Shahid Shameli counterpart during yesterday's game

bib all chipped in with three goals, while Tunisian Skander Zaied contributed two goals and Mohammed Mirza and Lazovic each had one.

Najma's win was their third in four tries, after losing to defending champions Kuwait SC in their opening game but then defeating Al Duhail of Qatar and Junior Club of China in their next two fixtures.

In other Group B games yesterday, Kuwait beat RKOR Tashkent of Uzbekistan 37-30 and Duhail routed Junior Club 40-26.

Those results put Duhail and

Kuwait in first and second place on their group table with one preliminary round matchday to go today. Najma are third, although all three clubs are on six points apiece, with goal difference determining their classification.

Shahid Shameli, Tashkent and Junior Club are fourth through sixth, respectively.

In today's contests, Kuwait face Junior Club, Duhail play Shahid Shameli and Najma take on Tashkent. These scores will determine the semi-finalists from Group B.

The tournament, organised by

BETTER
YOU
KNOW

Al Duhail of Qatar and Kuwait SC are in first and second place in Group B while Al Najma are third, with all three teams on six points apiece and goal difference determining their classification

the Asian Handball Federation (AHF), continues until Saturday.

The top two teams from each group following this single round-robin move on to the knockout semi-finals on Thursday, while the others will play in the classification fixtures. The gold and bronze medal games will then take place on the final day of the championship.

The winners of the Asian championship will qualify for the 17th IHF Men's Super Globe, to be held from October 17 to 23 in Saudi Arabia.

Najma are hoping to replicate or improve on their finish in last year's Asian clubs competition held in Hyderabad, India, where they won the silver medals.

Modric, Lloris among 'more than 10' Saudi targets: source

AFP | London

Saudi Arabia is hoping to lure a swathe of world-famous footballers including Luka Modric and Hugo Lloris, a source close to the negotiations has said, after snagging Cristiano Ronaldo and launching bids for Lionel Messi and Karim Benzema.

"More than 10" seasoned players including N'Golo Kante and Roberto Firmino have been approached, the source said, by the oil-rich kingdom which has ambitions of hosting the World Cup and is betting on sport to help revamp its austere image.

According to Saudi sources and state media this weekend, delegations flew to Paris and Madrid to secure the signatures of Messi and Benzema after their final games for Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid.

But the Saudis are also "in contact with more than 10 players, many of them won the World Cup or the Champions League, to join the Saudi league next season", said the source close to the talks, on condition of anonymity.

In addition to Messi, "the list includes Benzema, (Sergio) Ramos, (Angel) Di Maria, Modric, Hugo Lloris, Kante, Firmino, (Jordi) Alba and (Sergio) Busquets".

"Beside receiving quite lucrative offers they will play in a very competitive league," the source said, adding that the Saudis aimed to "seal most of the deals" before the new season starts on August 11.

Such a wishlist would have seemed unthinkable before the



Real Madrid's Luka Modric (L) and Sergio Ramos warms up ahead of a match (file photo)

Saudis pulled off the signing of Ronaldo, 37, in January on a two-and-a-half-year deal said to be worth more than 400 million euros.

Last month, a source close to the Messi negotiations said that his signature was a "done deal", describing the terms of the agreement as "huge".

Sovereign wealth fund

All the players listed are major stars at the tail-end of their careers, Firmino being the youngest at 31. Apart from French goalkeeper Lloris, who has a year left at Spurs, all are out of contract this month.

According to the sources, the contracts are being bankrolled by the Saudis' Public Investment Fund, one of the world's biggest sovereign wealth vehicles with more than \$620 billion in assets.

If the players sign, they will be divided between five Saudi clubs: Al Hilal, Al Nassr, Al Shabab, Al Ittihad and Al Ahly,

the sources added.

Modric, Ramos, Kante, Alba and Busquets appear the closest to signing, they said.

Modric, Real Madrid's influential midfielder, and Ramos, who is leaving Paris Saint-Germain, would join Ronaldo at Al Nassr, while Kante would play at Saudi champions Al Ittihad, the sources added.

The Saudi Pro League, which next season is expanding to 18 teams allowed to field eight foreign players each, is also set for a structural revamp with plans to privatise the clubs from September.

The clubs, currently public property under the supervision of the sports ministry, will be sold to private companies or businesspeople as part of plans to more than double the league's value to eight billion riyals (\$2.13 billion) by 2030.

"The Saudi Pro League... will be supported in its ambition to be amongst the top 10 leagues in the world," the official Saudi

YOU
KNOW WHAT

All the players listed are major stars at the tail-end of their careers. Apart from France goalkeeper Lloris, who has a year left at Spurs, all are out of contract this month

Press Agency said yesterday.

'Elevate the Saudi clubs'

A Saudi government official also confirmed to AFP that the authorities are holding negotiations with "world-class players".

"The objective is to establish a very strong and competitive league and elevate the Saudi clubs' levels," the official said.

The world's biggest oil exporter has already thrown hundreds of millions at sports deals including Ronaldo's signing, Formula One and the divisive LIV Golf tour.

Saudi Arabia, whose neighbour Qatar hosted the World Cup last year, has explored bidding for the competition including a possible tri-continental hosting with Egypt and Greece.

Under the "Vision 2030" project of its 37-year-old de facto ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Arabia is trying to diversify its oil-dependent economy by attracting tourists and investment.

Spurs set to hire Celtic boss Postecoglou: reports

AFP | London

Tottenham are set to hire Celtic's Ange Postecoglou as their new manager according to reports yesterday.

Postecoglou has reportedly agreed a two-year contract with Tottenham after leading Celtic to the treble in Scotland this season.

The 57-year-old had dodged questions on his future before and after Celtic's Scottish Cup final win over Inverness on Saturday.

Tottenham are desperate to find a new boss after a dismal season in the Premier League climaxed with failed attempts to hire Feyenoord manager Arne Slot and former Bayern Munich coach Julian Nagelsmann.



Ange Postecoglou

Neither club are commenting publicly but reports claim Postecoglou told Celtic principal shareholder Dermot Desmond on Saturday that he plans to join the north London club.

Postecoglou has won five domestic trophies, including successive league titles, since arriving at Celtic from Japan's Yokohama F Marinos in 2021.

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Manama close in on league crown

Defending champions go on 12-1 run to end regulation, force overtime and secure 2-0 lead in best-of-five championship series

● **Travin Thibodeaux leads Manama with 26 points, 10 rebounds before fouling out**

● **Sir'Dominic Pointer has 17 points, 13 boards, seven assists, four steals and four blocks**

TDT | Manama

Manama pulled off a stunning, come-from-behind 104-100 overtime victory over Muharraq last night to move one win away from securing back-to-back titles in the Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Facing a double-digit deficit with less than two minutes to go in regulation, Manama went on a 12-1 run, capped by a driving Ali Hussain lay-up with 0.5 seconds remaining, to tie the game at 93-all and send it into the five-minute extra session.

There, they took care of businesses, converting five pressure-packed free-throws in the closing moments to help secure the 2-0 advantage in this thrilling best-of-five championship series.

The finals are now headed for a break to make way for Manama's participation in the FIBA West Asia Super League (WASL) Final Eight in Dubai, taking place from Friday to June 17.

Manama and Muharraq will resume their battles after that event.

It was an exciting clash between the two sides at a packed Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town last night from the opening tip.

Muharraq came out of the gate with all guns firing and quickly took a 12-2 lead following a DeWayne Jackson three-pointer, but Manama gradually got into their groove and the score was deadlocked at 24-all at the end of the first.

In the second, Muharraq began to pull away and a Hussain Salman triple gave them a 52-41



Muharraq's Baqer Isa goes for a lay-up as Manama's Mohammed Ameer tries to block his shot

advantage, but Travin Thibodeaux had a three-point play for Manama with four seconds to bring them to within 44-52 at the half.

In the third, Muharraq started strong and a Shabbaz Muhammad basket made it 58-44. But then Manama went on a scintillating 18-0 rally, sparked mostly by Thibodeaux, to give his team a 62-58 lead, and they eventually headed into the final canto up 68-64.

Salman then came alive for Muharraq in the final canto, helping them take a 92-81 advantage with two free-throws. At this point, Thibodeaux had fouled out but Manama did not give up, and a furious late surge sparked by Hussain brothers Ali and Mustafa, culminating with Ali's driving lay-up, levelled the proceedings at 93-apiece and sent the game into overtime.

There, a Muhammad floating jumper gave Muharraq a 100-99 lead with just over two minutes to go, but they would not score from there and Manama were able to convert their shots from

the charity stripe to seal the hard-earned win.

Thibodeaux led Manama's scorers with 26 points while grabbing 10 rebounds, while Mustafa Hussain added 18 off the bench. Sir'Dominic Pointer had a fine all-around performance with 17 points, 13 rebounds, seven assists, four steals and four blocks, while Ali Hussain chipped in with 16 and Mohammed Ameer had 13.

Muhammad paced Muharraq with 34 points while Hussain Salman had 25 off the bench. Jackson finished with 24 as their only other player in double figures.

The remaining games in the championship series have yet to be scheduled by the Bahrain Basketball Association. In the WASL Final Eight, Manama are in Group A of the competition along with Al Riyadi and Beirut First Club from Lebanon and Chennai Heats from India. Group B features Kuwait SC of Kuwait, Shabab Al Ahli of the UAE, Shahrday Gorgan from Iran and BC Astana from Kazakhstan.

India coach Dravid says Broad plan alone not enough against Warner

AFP | New Delhi

India coach Rahul Dravid said yesterday there was more to dismissing Australia's David Warner in this week's World Test Championship (WTC) final than employing the tactics England's Stuart Broad used so successfully during the 2019 Ashes.

Warner has been one of the outstanding opening batsmen of his generation, with the 36-year-old having scored 8,158 runs at an average of 45.57, including 25 hundreds, in 103 Tests.

But he heads into the WTC final and ensuing five-match Ashes series with one century in his past 32 innings and a mediocre record in England.

During the 2-2 drawn Ashes series in England four years ago, he averaged under 10 and seven times fell victim to Broad, mainly bowling from around the wicket to the left-hander.

"He (Warner) is a class player. It's not as simple as just turning up and bowling round the wick-



Australian batsmen David Warner (R) and Marnus Labuschagne runs between the wickets as Stuart Broad (C) looks on (file photo)

During the 2-2 drawn Ashes series in England four years ago, Warner averaged under 10 and seven times fell victim to Broad, mainly bowling from around the wicket to the left-hander

et and getting him out," Dravid told reporters at the Oval ahead of the showdown, which begins on Wednesday.

"He wouldn't have played a hundred times if it was that simple."

The former India batsman added: "There's nowhere to hide any more, everyone has very similar information about each other. It's just how you

“He (Warner) is a class player. It's not as simple as just turning up and bowling round the wicket and getting him out. He wouldn't have played a hundred times if it was that simple

RAHUL DRAVID

counter that.

"Every batsman will have areas they're strong at and areas that are not probably their strengths, and David has been very successful.

"We know it's a very important wicket to get early on."

This is just the second WTC final with India having been beaten by New Zealand in the inaugural 2021 showpiece in Southampton.

Australia and India qualified by coming first and second in the standings at the end of a two-year Test cycle.

'No fear' of City in Champions League final, says Inter's Inzaghi



Inter Milan's players acknowledge the public at the end of a match

AFP | Milan

Simone Inzaghi said Monday that Inter Milan are not scared of Manchester City as he prepares his team for the Champions League final against the mega-rich, treble-hunting outfit.

Inter will contest in Istanbul their first Champions League final since last winning the competition 13 years ago, but City are heavy favourites to be crowned kings of Europe for

We're talking about a football match, there's no fear. We have a lot of respect but we're proud to play this final because we wanted it with every fibre of our being

SIMONE INZAGHI

the first time.

Pep Guardiola's City are in their second Champions League final in three years and come into Saturday's clash after destroying Real Madrid in the last four, and winning both the Premier League and FA Cup.

"We're talking about a football match, there's no fear," said Inzaghi.

"We have a lot of respect but we're proud to play this final because we wanted it with every fibre of our being."

Inter will have to stop a potent City attack led by striker Erling Haaland who has netted 12 times in Europe this season and will top the competition's scoring charts whatever happens in Turkey.

Hassan, Andrei triumph as BTC juniors tennis begins

TDT | Manama

Hassan Mirza and Andrei Cifra were both victorious yesterday in their respective under-18 open matches in the Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) Juniors Tournament 2023, which got underway at the BTC courts in Juffair.

Hassan defeated Neveta Vinod 6-0, while Andrei beat Aarav Fernandez with a similar 6-0 score line.

In the under-14 open category, Marwan Safi beat Rion Jay 6-1, Atif Saquib defeated Ziyad Hasan 6-1, Clark Sayago beat Aryan Sathyan Das 6-1, and Marvel



Some of the players with BTC coaches at the tournament's opening yesterday

Chris won over William Zhou via walkover.

In the under-12 open class, Maria Al Soofi beat Zayaan Irfan Siddiqui 6-2, Avantika Rout defeated Bitu Aryan 6-3, and both Aarna Poonam and Tarush Kali-

hari were winners via walkover.

Charu Chavan was a 4-1 victor in the under-10 open category, beating Laksh Parmar. In the same age group, Zayan Hasan defeated Fairouz Elsum 4-0, Brando Estripeau beat Nour

Lamine 4-0, Hussain Ali Mohammed Abbas defeated Zainab Siddiqui 4-0, and Zara Hassan won against Aditya Chavan 4-0.

Tournament action continues today at the BTC courts from 5pm onwards.



Inter will have to stop a potent City attack led by striker Erling Haaland who has netted 12 times in Europe this season and will top the competition's scoring charts whatever happens in Turkey