

‘Our fighters belong on this stage,’ says Tony Davis

Bahrain’s boxers primed for Royal Rumble IV

- Royal Guard faces elite opposition
- Charity event supports humanitarian causes
- Five world champions to attend

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

With Bahrain’s biggest charity fight night just weeks away, excitement is building for Royal Rumble IV, set for November 27 at the Crowne Plaza Bahrain. The black-tie spectacle will see Bahrain’s Royal Guard square off against the UK Armed Forces, with proceeds once again going to the Royal Humanitarian Foundation.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Bahrain national boxing



Bahrain’s Royal Guard and British Army boxers unite

coach Tony Davis reflected on the team’s preparations following their recent appearance in England’s International Boxing Night. Although Bahrain’s fighters won two of six bouts, Davis

viewed the event as another step in the kingdom’s growing boxing journey. “It’s always a tough gig,” Davis admitted. “Three years ago, we were soundly beaten. But to see

how far we’ve come, to the point where we’re pushing them close in almost every fight, shows just how much Bahrain has developed. For a small island, we’re producing genuinely competi-

tive, high-quality boxers.”

The Geordie coach, who once managed the British Army team, said Bahrain’s progress was all the more impressive given the professional setup their opponents enjoy. “They’ve got full-time programmes, strength and conditioning coaches, nutritionists—the works,” he said. “To be able to go toe-to-toe with that kind of infrastructure speaks volumes about our lads.”

Davis, who also served as competition manager at the Asian Youth Games this year, admitted that balancing commitments had made preparation more challenging. “Maybe we weren’t able to train as intensively as in previous years, but I’m proud of every one of them,” he said.

Looking ahead to Royal Rumble IV, Davis expects another fiercely contested night. “We’re in the deep end again against the UK Armed Forces,” he said. “But it’ll be a fantastic event, no doubt about that.”

Pistons win streak hits seven on night of NBA thrillers



Daniss Jenkins #24 of the Detroit Pistons takes a shot in overtime
AFP | Washington

Cade Cunningham’s triple double, Daniss Jenkins’s three-pointer at the buzzer and Javonte Green’s overtime dunk lifted Detroit past Washington 137-135 on Monday, stretching the Pistons’ win streak to seven games.

In an unexpected thriller, the NBA’s second-best team barely outlasted a Wizards club that fell to an NBA-worst 1-10 with their ninth consecutive loss.

“We knew how big this game was for us,” Jenkins said. “We wasn’t going to let nothing stop us from getting this W.”

Cunningham made 14-of-45 shots and 16-of-18 free throws for a career-high 46 points and added 12 rebounds, 11 assists, five steals and two blocked shots as Detroit improved to 9-2.

Bahrain bounce back with dominant win over Chad

Kingdom aim for strong finish at Islamic Solidarity Games



Bahrain celebrate after taking control of the set
TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s men’s volleyball team bounced back in style yesterday, cruising to a 3-0 win over Chad at the sixth Islamic Solidarity Games in Riyadh. The kingdom had begun the tournament with a 3-2 loss to Iran, followed by a 3-1 victory over hosts Saudi Arabia, before Monday’s 3-0 defeat to Turkey, making the win over Chad a crucial response.

The Bahrainis set the tone early, taking the first set 25-20. Ali powered eight spikes and added a block point to give Bahrain the upper hand, while Mohamed contributed eight spikes and two blocks. Sayed Hashem added seven spikes and a block, turning tight rallies into points. Setter Husain orchestrated the

attack with fast, precise sets that kept Chad off balance.

In the second set, Bahrain steadily built their lead. Hasan added two blocks and three points at the net, while Mahmood chipped in with five spikes and two blocks, shutting down Chad’s attacks. Naser Anan made an impact on both ends of the court, scoring three block points and three additional net points, keeping Bahrain in control. Despite a few points from Chad’s Paulin and Mountangue, Bahrain closed the set 25-17.

The third set proved the most competitive, with Chad pushing Bahrain to 25-25 through a series of long rallies. Anan scored a key block point, Ali added a crucial spike, and Mohamed finished the set with a

decisive kill, before Mahmood sealed the match with a service ace to take the set 27-25.

Top performers for Bahrain included Naser Anan (3 block points, 13 points total), Ali (8 spikes, 6 points from serve), Mohamed (8 spikes, 10 points total), Sayed Hashem (7 spikes, 8 points), and Mahmood (5 spikes, 4 points from serve). Hasan and Mahmood’s blocking proved decisive in key moments throughout the match.

The win lifts Bahrain to two wins and two losses in the round-robin stage. Their final group match comes today against Qatar at 4pm, with a top-two finish securing a spot in the gold medal match tomorrow, while the third and fourth-placed teams will compete for bronze.

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