

Naser takes Tokyo Worlds by storm

Bahrain's sprint sensation wins heat five to reach 400m semi-finals

- Salwa Eid Naser wins heat five in 49.13s
- Naser is aiming for her second world title and fourth global medal
- Shitaye Eshete finishes sixth in women's marathon
- 400m semis set for tomorrow at 3pm

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's star sprinter Salwa Eid Naser began her campaign for a second world title in perfect fashion yesterday afternoon, storming into the semi-finals of the women's 400 metres at the World Athletics Championships 2025 in Tokyo.

Blazing Through Tokyo

Competing in front of 56,819 spectators at the National Stadium, Naser powered to victory



Spectators fill Tokyo National Stadium with 56,819 fans in attendance

in 49.13 seconds, the fastest time across all six heats. Running out

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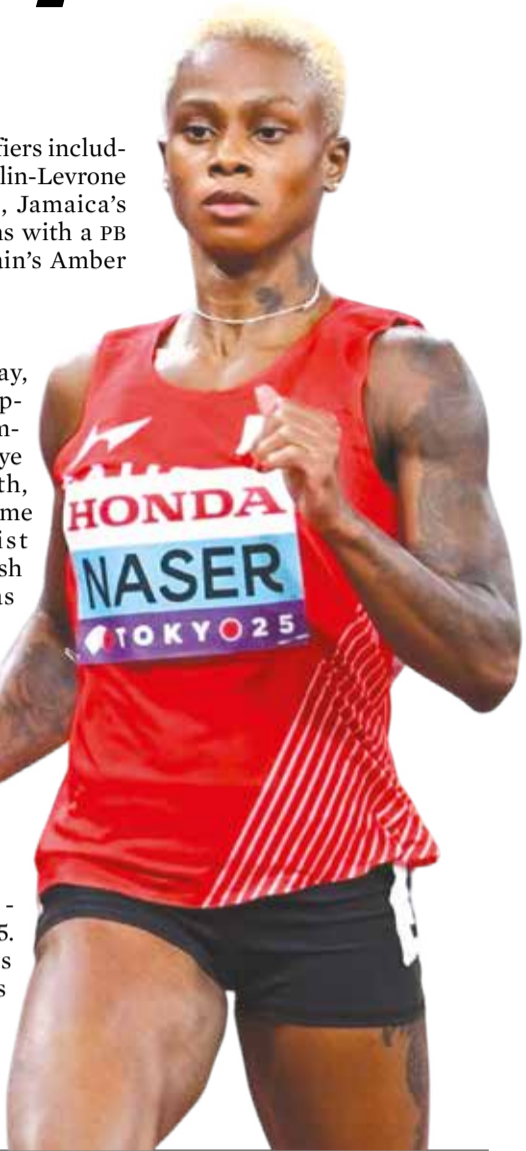
Naser set the fastest time across all heats

of lane five, she set her rhythm better than anyone else. Naser ensured she was in control with 100 metres left, before cruising home to book automatic qualification (Q) for tomorrow's semi-finals at 3:05 PM (BH time). Naser, who claimed her first global title in 2019 in Doha, is seeking a second world title and fourth medal overall. She previously took 400m silver at the 2017 worlds and mixed 4x400m relay bronze in 2019. Her personal best of 48.14s remains the Asian and Bahraini record, and the third-fastest time in history. Her main rival, reigning Olympic and world champion Marileidy Paulino of the Dominican Republic, also advanced after winning heat six in 49.85s.

Other notable qualifiers included Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone of the USA (49.41s), Jamaica's Stacey Ann Williams with a PB of 49.59s, and Britain's Amber Anning (49.96s).

Elsewhere in Japan

Earlier in the day, Bahrain was also represented in the women's marathon. Shitaye Eshete finished 6th, Eunice Chumba came 16th, while Tigist Gashaw did not finish (DNF). Bahrain has enjoyed past success in the marathon, with Rose Chelimo winning gold in 2017 and silver in 2019, while Eunice Kirwa captured bronze in 2015. Although medals proved elusive this time, Bahrain's Eshete did well to finish 6th in a world-class field.



Naser in action at Tokyo National Stadium

Royal Bahraini Cup Continues Success in Ireland



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The Bahrain Royal Horse Racing Cup was held at Leopardstown Racecourse as part of the fourth annual Bahraini-Irish Royal Horse Racing Championship series. The event, which falls under the partnership between the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club and Leopardstown Racecourse, aims to promote the development of Bahrain's equestrian sector on the global stage. This year's race saw intense competition among first-class horses over 2000 meters, with participation from top stables and owners worldwide. The horse "Dola Croix," owned by Derek Smith, Michael Tabor, and John Magnier, clinched first place. REHC CEO Yusuf Buheji and Ian Lindsay, an advisor to the Economic Development Board, presented the trophy to a representative of the winning horse's owners. They also awarded prizes to trainer Aidan O'Brien and jockey Christophe Soumillon, who secured first place.



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Crawford shocks Alvarez to claim historic undisputed super middleweight world title

AFP | Las Vegas

Terence Crawford stunned Mexican superstar Saul "Canelo" Alvarez to claim the undisputed super middleweight world boxing crown on Saturday, becoming the first man to win undisputed titles in three weight divisions. In a fight of razor-thin margins, Crawford poured it on



Terence Crawford lands a right on Canelo Alvarez

in the closing rounds to earn a unanimous decision victory, improving his unblemished record to 42-0 with 31 knockouts. Crawford, 37, had jumped up two weight categories to vie for history, having already counted undisputed titles at super lightweight and welterweight among his titles in four weight divisions.

Last-gasp equalizers headline Bahrain season openers

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The 2025-26 Nasser Bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League continued with Budaiya and Al Shabab, and Al Najma against Riffa, both playing their first matches of the season — and both games being decided in the dying minutes.

Budaiya, Shabab Drama

At the Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Stadium, Budaiya and Al Shabab traded blows in a 1-1 contest.

Budaiya struck first in the 39th minute when Adriano's free-kick delivery sparked a goal-mouth scramble, eventually finished by Hamad Fuad with a sharp first-time finish into the far corner. Just as Budaiya seemed set for three points, drama unfolded deep into stoppage time. Al Shabab's Moroccan forward Mahmood El Kayssoumi was brought down by goalkeeper Mohamed Marhoun, and

and Stephane Samir calmly dispatched the penalty in the 97th minute.

Najma, Riffa Thriller

At Khalifa Sports City Stadium in Isa Town, Al Najma thought they had taken the lead before the break when Riffa's Brahim Tandia latched onto a stunning long ball from Rodrigo Yuri and finished superbly, only to see the strike ruled out for offside. Najma's breakthrough came in the 71st minute when Samy Frioui stooped to head Ali AIDoseri's deflected cross into the near post. Riffa then pressed relentlessly, and captain Hamad Al Shamsan rose highest to nod Yuri's free-kick into the net in the 96th minute, rescuing a point. In the frantic closing stages, tempers flared when Al Najma's Serbian defender Dušan Jokovic was sent off, adding to the frustration of head coach Mohamed Shamlan whose side ultimately had to settle for a point.

Both matches highlighted the drama to come in a campaign played in a double round-robin format. The first round will stretch to matchweek 11, beginning January 8, 2026, before the second phase is scheduled later.



The equalizing moment for Riffa