



HM King pardons 281 inmates

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa granted a special pardon to 281 inmates, marking Eid Al Fitr.

These inmates had been convicted in various cases and had already served part of their sentences.

A statement released said that the Royal Pardon offers them a chance to begin their lives afresh and contribute to Bahrain's comprehensive development.

Iran says it forced US sub to surface

AFP | Tehran

Iran said yesterday it had "forced" a US submarine to surface as it was crossing the strategic Strait of Hormuz in the Gulf, a claim the Americans promptly denied.

Admiral Shahram Irani, the commander of Iran's navy, told state TV the USS Florida nuclear submarine was "approaching and passing in complete silence" when it partly entered Iranian waters.

In a Twitter statement, the US Navy's Bahrain-based 5th Fleet said the claim was "absolutely false" and "represents more Iranian disinformation".

Thirty mosques revamped during Ramadan

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments yesterday announced the restoration of thirty mosques during Ramadan.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister directed to inaugurate, restore, and revamp 30 mosques belonging to the Sunni and Jaffari Endowments.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Eid Al Fitr begins today in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

Bahrain will celebrate the first day of Eid Al-Fitr today, the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) announced yesterday.

The Ramadan moon-sighting committee met at the SCIA headquarters to receive news and testimonies and confirmed the birth of the Shawwal crescent.

Based on testimonies from Saudi Arabia, the panel, which comprised scholars Shaikh Adnan bin Abdulla Al Qattan, Dr Shaikh Fareed Yacoub Al Meftah, Dr Shaikh Ibrahim Al-Merrikhi, and Shaikh Rashid bin Hassan Al-Buainain, declared Friday as the first day of Eid Al-Fitr in Bahrain.

The SCIA then congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa



HRH CP, PM

Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the Royal Family, the people of Bahrain, and



HM King

the Islamic world.

Following the announcement, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a congratulatory cable from His Royal

Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. In the cable, HRH Prince Salman wished abundant health and happiness to HM King, as well as progress and prosperity for Bahrain, the Arab and Islamic nations, and their people.

In response, HM the King sent a cable of thanks to HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister, congratulating him and wishing him abundant health and happiness.

HM King also exchanged Eid greetings with leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council nations, Arab, Islamic nations, ministers, Royal Family members, top officials, diplomats and prominent citizens.

HM King wished them abundant health and happiness, further progress and prosperity.



Pope Francis congratulates HM King on Eid

TDT | Manama

His Holiness Pope Francis yesterday congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on Eid Al Fitr during a telephonic conversation.

During the call, Pope Francis wished HM the King abundant health and happiness and Bahrain and its people further progress and prosperity.

King Hamad expressed his gratitude for the Pope's kind words and congratulated him on Easter.

Macron, Biden agree to 'engage' China on Ukraine

Paris, France

French President Emmanuel Macron and US President Joe Biden "agreed on the importance of continuing to engage" China in helping to end the war in Ukraine, the French presidency said Thursday after talks by phone between the leaders. Macron's office said Macron had briefed Biden about "the results obtained" during his visit in the first week of April to Beijing where the French leader spent several hours in talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The French statement added: "China had a role to play in contributing, in the medium term, in ending the conflict in accordance with the principles and aims of the United Nations charter.

"The two heads of state agreed on the importance of continuing to engage Chinese authorities on this basis."



Shoes scattered on the steps of a charity distribution centre following an overnight stampede in Sanaa.

bitter civil war.

Three people were detained over the stampede in Sanaa, Yemen's rebel-held capital, after large crowds gathered at a school to receive gifts of 5,000 rial (about \$8) for the end of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month.

Harrowing footage screened by the Huthi Al Masirah TV showed a tightly packed crowd screaming and shoving, unable to move, while others attempted to haul stricken people out of the crush.

Other shots showed dead bodies on the ground as the pan-

ic continued. Afterwards, piles of abandoned sandals, clothing and a crutch littered the scene, while an investigator in white protective gear collected evidence.

"It was a huge crowd. They fell on me, and I got hurt," an injured child told Al Masirah from his hospital bed.

(Continued on page 3)

Hidden history

Hoard of 1,000-year-old Viking coins unearthed in Denmark

AFP | Copenhagen

Nearly 300 silver coins believed to be more than 1,000 years old have been discovered near a Viking fortress site in northwestern Denmark, a museum said yesterday.

The rare trove -- lying in two spots not far apart -- was un-



Representative picture

earthed by a young girl who was metal detecting in a cornfield last autumn.

"A hoard like this is very rare," Lars Christian Norbäck, director of the North Jutland museum where the artefacts will go on display, told AFP.

The silver coins were found about eight kilometres (five

miles) from the Fyrkat Viking ringfort near the town of Hobro.

From their inscriptions, they are believed to date back to the 980s.

The trove includes Danish, Arab and Germanic coins as well as pieces of jewellery originating from Scotland or Ireland, according to archaeologists.

Norbäck said the finds were from the same period as the fort, built by king Harald Bluetooth, and would offer more insight into the history of the Vikings.

The girl who made the discovery is due to receive financial compensation, the amount of which has not been made public.



HRH CP, PM forms committee to study naming of cities, streets

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday established a ministerial committee to examine the naming of cities, neighbourhoods, villages, suburbs, avenues, roads, squares and intersections.

The committee will be chaired by the Minister of Shura and Representatives Council Affairs, with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture serving as Vice-President, and the Ministers of Works, Cabinet Affairs, Housing and Urban Planning, and Information as members.

As per Resolution No. (37) of 2023, the committee's responsibilities include studying, preparing reports, and providing recommendations on issues referred to it by the Council of Ministers, ministerial committees, or ministers on naming and renaming of places.



Industry and Commerce Minister Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro received the Egyptian Ambassador to Bahrain Yasser Mohammed Ahmed Shaban. The meeting reviewed the Bahraini-Egyptian cooperation, especially in economy and investment. The minister praised the deep bilateral relations and stressed the importance of enhancing cooperation.



In a meeting between Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, and Yasser Al Abbasi, CEO of Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC), discussions were held regarding cooperation in the landscaping sector. During the meeting, the Minister emphasized the significance of the current partnership with the private sector to enhance agriculture and promote awareness of environmental conservation. He lauded GPIC's efforts to support afforestation projects and contribute to environmental preservation. Al Mubarak also expressed the Ministry's eagerness to collaborate with GPIC in exchanging knowledge and executing projects aimed at safeguarding the environment.

National Space Science Authority joins Space4Water initiative

TDT | Manama

The Space4Water initiative has gained a new member in the form of the National Space Science Authority (NSSA), which was nominated by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA).

Dr Mohammed Ibrahim Al Asiri, CEO of NSSA, chaired meetings between the initiative's leaders and NSSA's team and discussed the efforts of the Kingdom in utilising space technologies to support water conservation.

UNOOSA acknowledged

NSSA's involvement as a stakeholder in this global initiative, which aims to facilitate the access and exchange of data and knowledge to promote sustainable management and conservation of water resources.

Al Asiri emphasised that water conservation and resource management are critical environmental concerns, and space technologies and applications play a vital role in understanding the water cycle, mapping water flow, and monitoring environmental impacts caused by changes in water levels.



Nawaf bin Mohammed Al-Maawda, the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs, and Endowments, and Dr. Shaikh Rashid bin Futtais Al-Hajeri, the Chairman of the Sunni Endowments Council, yesterday welcomed with Holy Quran memorisers and reciters. During the meeting, the minister congratulated Hamza Muath Al-Abdulrazzaq and Salman Abdulaziz Al-Al Nefaei, who recently participated in the Taraweeh Prayers at mosques and Islamic centres in Germany.



Defence Affairs Minister Lieutenant General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi yesterday received Housing and Urban Planning Minister Amena bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi. They reviewed relations of cooperation and coordination between the BDF and the ministry. The ministers also discussed issues of mutual concern.



The Council of Guardianship on the Money of the Minors and their Equivalents held its routine meeting yesterday, chaired by Nawaf bin Mohammed Al-Maawda, the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs, and Endowments. The minister welcomed the newly-appointed members and emphasised the importance of enhancing the Directorate's effectiveness. He highlighted that the current priority is to improve the minors' funds by identifying suitable investment opportunities that increase profits through partnerships and collaborations with the private sector.



Yesterday, the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) took legal action against several individuals for violating labour and residency laws in the Kingdom during inspection campaigns at shops and work sites in the Capital and the Northern Governorates. The LMRA reported that the inspection campaign in the Capital Governorate was conducted in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) and the Governorate's respective Police Directorate. Meanwhile, the inspection in the Northern Governorate was done in collaboration with the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Evidence of the Ministry of Interior. LMRA officials reiterated their call for reporting any violations through the electronic form on the authority's website or by calling the authority's call center.

Job sector eyes maximum growth: minister

IMF projects that the unemployment rate in the Kingdom of Bahrain will drop to 4.4% this year

TDT | Manama

The job sector in the Kingdom is expected to see maximum growth, said Labour Minister yesterday, highlighting the closely watched IMF report which suggested a drop in Bahrain's unemployment rate to 4.4% this year.

The report, according to Jamil Humaidan, reflects the confidence that the International Monetary Fund and other similar agencies have in the Kingdom's progressive policies.

The minister also attributes this success to the Kingdom's ability to attract job-intense investments, making it an invest-



The International Monetary Fund's forecast of low unemployment in Bahrain reflects global confidence in the Kingdom's public policies to sustain its growth

JAMIL HUMAIDAN

tor-friendly destination.

"Bahrain was also successful in acting as an incubator for businesses by establishing advanced legislations and laws," he said.

In this regard, the ministry highlighted the positive cooperation between the International Fund and Bahrain and the periodic meetings held by the Fund with the authorities in the economic and labour fields.

The minister said the government is continuing efforts to enhance the business environment and implement initiatives and programmes that prioritise citizens in the labour market.

Wage support and training programmes training programs to bridge the skill gap and sustain employment growth are some of the supportive programmes in this direction.

Humaidan also affirmed that the authorities continuing to build on the achievements to sustain the growth of employment rates. "Besides, maintaining the stability of unemployment indicators is a national responsibility."

The minister thanked employers and civil authorities for their cooperation in launching government initiatives to attract job seekers and integrate them into productive sectors.

Hiring of Bahrainis rose 3.4% in Q4: LMRA report

Bahraini employment increased to reach 163,471 workers

Work permits issued by LMRA during the fourth quarter was 40,591

Median monthly wages for Bahrainis reached BD 558 this quarter

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

Employers in the Kingdom hired more Bahraini workers in the fourth quarter of 2022 compared to the same quarter a year ago, according to the latest Labour Market indicators.

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority reported that 163,471 Bahrainis were hired in Q4 2022, a 3.4% increase, when compared to 158,029 Bahraini

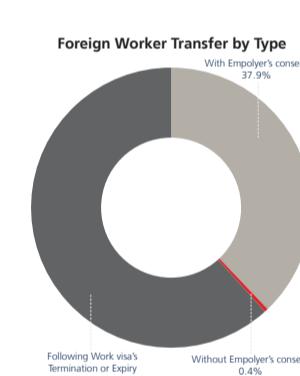
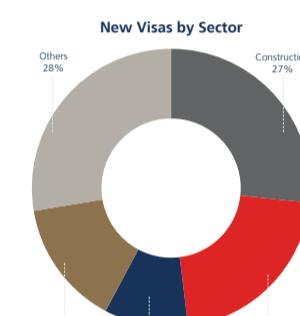
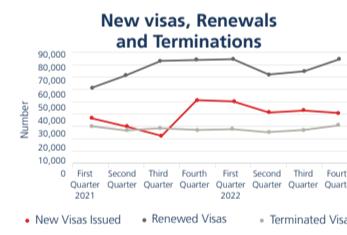
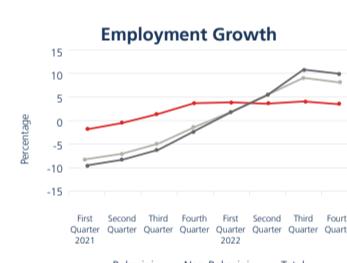
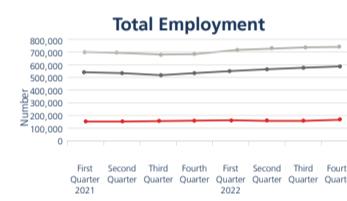
| Employment ¹ | Value | Change |
|---|---------|----------|
| Total Employment | 746,145 | 8.4% |
| - Bahrainis | 163,471 | 3.4% |
| - Non-Bahrainis | 582,674 | 9.9% |
| Work Visas ² | Value | Change |
| New work visas | 40,591 | -20.2% |
| Renewals | 84,582 | -0.2% |
| Terminations | 30,528 | 12.3% |
| Transfer | 18,028 | 38.9% |
| Domestic Visas | Value | Change |
| New Domestic Visas | 7,454 | -6.8% |
| Renewals | 5,597 | -10.3% |
| New Entrance to Labour Market (Private Sector) ³ | Value | Change * |
| New Bahraini Entrance | 2,054 | -3.5% |
| - With less than BHD 250 monthly | 117 | 50.0% |
| Enterprise Development ⁴ | Value | Change * |
| New enterprises (CR branch) | 2,316 | 3.0% |
| Wages | Value | Change |
| Labour cost gap ⁵ (in target sectors) | BHD 355 | BHD 21 |
| Median monthly wages (Bahrainis) | BHD 558 | 1.3% |
| - Public Sector | BHD 733 | 1.9% |
| - Private Sector | BHD 464 | 1.8% |
| Median monthly wages (Bahrainis) | 99.9 | 3.4% |

workers employed in Q1, 2021.

On the other hand, the number of foreign workers hired by organisations in Q4 rose 9.9% to

582,674 from 530,159 workers in the year-ago quarter.

The total employment in Q4 2022 was 746,145.



vestor (2,940) and dependents (6,606). In addition, there were 18,028 transfer transactions of foreign workers from their previous employer to a new employer.

BD 558 monthly wage

The report also indicated that the median monthly wages of Bahraini workers increased by 1.3% in Q4 2022, with Bahraini workers earning a median monthly wage of BD 558 in Q4, 2022, compared to BD 551 in the previous year's Q4.

Furthermore, the median monthly wage of Bahraini workers in the private sector was BD 464, showing a 1.8% increase from the previous year, while the median wage of Bahraini workers in the public sector was BD 733, reflecting a 1.9% increase from the previous year.

The labour cost gap between Bahraini and non-Bahraini workers in construction, trade, hotels and restaurants and small-scale Manufacturing was BD 355, a BD 21 increase from the year-earlier quarter.

Eyewitnesses said gunfire sparked the stampede

People were packed in a narrow street leading to the school's back entrance

Three people had been detained on suspicion

(Continued from page 1)

A Huthi security official speaking on condition of anonymity told AFP that at least 85 people were killed and "more than 322" injured, 50 of them seriously.

"Women and children were among the dead," the official said. A health official confirmed the toll.

The tragedy comes just ahead of Eid al-Fitr, a major Muslim festival, and punctures a buoyant mood over the war in the Arab Peninsula's poorest country,



wounded people in hospital following a stampede at a charity distribution event in Yemen's capital Sanaa

following peace talks and an ex- ers last week. Eyewitnesses said crowds gathered at the school, in change of nearly 1,000 prison-

district, to receive the handouts from a businessman. AFP could not verify the reports of gunfire.

The head of the Huthis' Supreme Revolutionary Committee, Mohamed Ali al-Huthi, blamed "overcrowding", saying people were packed in a narrow street leading to the school's back entrance.

Once the gates opened, the crowd streamed into a tight staircase leading to the courtyard where the distribution was taking place.

"Citizens were informed a week ago that sums of money would be disbursed without ID verification," said one witness.

"People flocked in a huge way, the gate opened, and with the large numbers, the stampede happened."

The Huthis' political chief Mahdi al-Mashat said a committee had been formed to investigate, and a Huthi security official said three people had been detained on suspicion of involvement. After the stampede,

families converged on hospitals but many were not allowed to enter as senior officials were also visiting the dead and wounded.

At the school, heavily deployed security forces were seen blocking relatives from entering the facility to locate family members.

Footage from one hospital showed dazed and bandaged survivors recovering in a ward, some with visible wounds on their limbs and heads.

Yemen is no stranger to tragedy, most stemming from its brutal war.

In 2016, a coalition air strike killed more than 140 people attending a funeral, and dozens of children died in a strike on a bus in 2018.

At least 70 people died in an air strike on a prison in Saada, the Huthis' home city, in January 2022, and in March 2021, 45 people were killed in a blaze at a Sanaa migrant centre caused by Huthi forces firing teargas canisters.



Eid Al Fitr begins celebrating love, faith and tradition

Julia Cassano
TDT | Manama

As Eid-al-Fitr - the Festival of Breaking the Fast - kicks off, signalling the end of Ramadan, the time has also come forth for Bahrainis and over 2 billion Muslims around the world to immerse themselves in the joy of love, faith, brotherhood, and harmony.

This occasion holds a special place in Bahrain as it combines centuries-old traditions with modern festivities here on this Island nation.

Believed to have been established by the Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him),

the three-days of festivities is a time for families and friends to gather to exchange greetings, share meals, and exchange gifts.

According to Islamic traditions, it was during the month of Ramadan that the first revelation was received by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and this month is considered to be the most sacred month in the Islamic calendar.

The first day of Eid is typically the most significant and is marked by special prayers, which are held in mosques or open-air locations, followed by a day of feasting and socialising with family and friends.

It is a time for forgiveness, generosity, and charitable acts.

The second and third days of

Eid are also observed with much fervour and are spent in visiting friends and family, sharing meals, and exchanging gifts.

For Bahrainis, the significance of Eid lies not only in its religious importance but also in its ability to unite community and foster a sense of brotherhood and goodwill amongst all.

Families in Bahrain told The Daily Tribune that they usually kick-start the festivities by gathering at Al Bait Al Oud (family house) after Eid prayer.

Welcoming them will be a specially prepared table filled to the brink with Eid dishes, where some of the popular delicacies include ghoozzi, machboos, and baklava.

When asked around,

several people also told us that will wake up early to go to their family house or their grandparents' house to spend quality time with relatives and friends.

"Eid is an exceptional occasion when families can come together to celebrate our cultures, traditions, and enjoy the food prepared as well," several said.

Some others mentioned that Eid is also synonymous with gift-giving, with grandparents and parents often spoiling their children and grandchildren with presents during the celebrations.

During Eid festivities, families will visit at least up to five family homes and bring everyone together for a sumptuous lunch.

Interestingly, a few



The translation of "Eid al-Fitr" from Arabic sums up the holiday as it means "festival of breaking the fast." Eid al-Fitr is celebrated during the first three days of Shawwal, which is the tenth month in the Muslim (lunar) calendar. This means that the timing of Eid al-Fitr (and Ramadan) is different every year as it is based on the lunar cycle.

als also shared that it is a customary practice for them to take a nap after lunch to energise themselves for the late night festivities.

According to them, Eid is a time filled with festivities and celebrations. "So, it is very common for families to take a nap and relax in the afternoon, before the night festivities."

The younger generation is inclined to enjoy a night out with their peers at cafes and restaurants, while the elders spend time in the family house.

While there are numerous ways to commemorate Eid, being with their loved ones is the most cherished and significant for many.



the Al-Fateh Grand Mosque in the Bahraini capital city of Manama.

GCC countries declare Eid Al-Fitr holidays amid debate over Moon sightings

● The debates were sparked by a tweet from the International Astronomy Centre, stating that it would not be possible to see the crescent on Thursday with the naked eye from anywhere in the Arab and Islamic world

● Astronomers have explained that it is not possible to sight the crescent because of a super-rare hybrid solar eclipse

TDT | Manama

The declaration of Eid Al Fitr holidays in several Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries came yesterday amid ongoing debates over the possible sighting of the crescent moon on Thursday or Friday.



A boy uses a telescope to sight the new moon ahead of Eid al-Fitr which marks the end of the Islamic holy fasting month of Ramadan, on Lhoknga beach in Aceh province

Sparking this debate was a cautionary statement from the International Astronomy Centre, which warned that a rare hybrid solar eclipse could make it difficult to see the crescent with the naked eye on Thursday.

Despite this, countries such as UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and Kuwait have stepped ahead,

said that observing the crescent would require exceptional weather conditions, a professional observer, and an accurate telescope.

Regardless of the situation, the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs here has called on people with testimony or news of sighting the crescent to contact the Sharia Vision Authority, while Saudi Arabia's authority has also appealed to people to report sightings to the nearest court.

Astronomers had also said that it is not possible to sight the crescent because of a super-rare hybrid solar eclipse, which will include both a total eclipse and an annular eclipse, also known as a "ring of fire" effect.

"Since the Moon is close to the Earth, it completely obscures the Sun, and therefore will not be visible in the sky all night," astronomers said. Solar eclipses occur when the Sun, the Moon, and Earth line up, either fully or partially.

Meanwhile, Dr Muhammad Shawkat Odeh, Director of the International Astronomy Center, announced that Friday, April 21,

will be the first day of Eid Al-Fitr 2023 in most Arab countries, except for a few, such as Morocco and Oman, where Eid is expected to be on Saturday.

The Australian Fatwa Council also said that Saturday will be the first day of Eid al-Fitr in the country, as astronomical calculations confirm that it is not possible to see the crescent of the month of Shawwal on Thursday evening, according to the International Astronomy Centre.

Eid holidays

In UAE, private sector employees, effective yesterday, until Sunday, will enjoy a four-day weekend for Eid. Saudi Arabia also announced a four-day weekend. Qatar has declared an 11-day holiday starting from Wednesday with employees returning to work on April 30, 2023. Oman and Kuwait will have a five-day weekend, starting on April 20 and April 21, respectively.

Employees in Oman will resume work on April 25, while those in Kuwait will return to work on April 26.

What happens when Friday prayer and Eid coincide?

According to a statement issued by the Fatwa Council of the UAE, if Eid falls on Friday, then Eid and Friday prayers will be performed separately. "The issue of performing Friday prayer if Eid Al Fitr falls on Friday is a controversial matter among Muslim scholars, however the Council rules that each sermon is to be held separately on its time as per its sunnah," the council said in a statement.

Reports say those who perform Eid prayers on Friday are allowed to not attend Friday prayers and can perform Zuhur (noon) prayers instead. They are, however, encouraged to perform both Eid and Friday prayers. Those who do not perform Eid prayers are not exempt from attending Friday prayers.



Top up Go Card with Batelco for Public Transportation

Batelco in deal with MoT and Bahrain Public Transport Company

Through this agreement, Batelco will provide a new channel for recharging Go cards

TDT | Manama

Batelco, part of the Beyond Group, signed a partnership agreement with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications and Bahrain Public Transport Company, operator of Bahrain public buses, at Batelco's headquarters in Hamala.

The agreement was signed by Hussain Ali Yaqoob, Assistant Undersecretary for Land Transportation, Aseel Matar, General Manager of Consumer at Batelco, and Robert Conway, General Manager of Bahrain Public Transport Company.

Through this agreement, Batelco will provide a new channel for recharging Go cards, enabling its Prepaid



Officials during the deal signing

and Lucky customers to top-up their cards via SMS text message.

By launching this service, new and existing Batelco and Lucky customers will be able to recharge their Go cards by

get a Go card with two free trips. The recharge process is simple, customers only need to send an SMS with the required amount for the Bus fee along with their Go card number to 88188.

Aseel Mattar, General Manager Consumer at Batelco, said: "We are proud to be the first and the only telecom company in Bahrain to offer this new chan-

nel to top up the Go card."

"We always aim to provide our customers with services and solutions that will make their lives easier, and with this exclusive service we are enabling them to use their Prepaid lines not only for communication purposes, but to also conduct other transactions," she added.

Kuwaiti shares up ahead of Eid break; Qatar falls

Reuters

Kuwait's stock market (.BKP) rose yesterday as most Gulf bourses were closed for Eid-al-fitr, while the Qatari index (.QSI) retreated.

In Bahrain, the index (.BAX) concluded 0.1% higher.

Closing bell

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| KUWAIT | ▲ 0.5% to 7,936 |
| QATAR | ▼ 0.2% to 9,930 |
| BAHRAIN | ▲ 0.1% to 1,887 |
| SAUDI ARABIA | closed |
| EGYPT | closed |
| ABU DHABI | closed |
| DUBAI | closed |
| OMAN | closed |

US imposes \$300mn penalty on Seagate over Huawei shipments

Washington, United States

US authorities on Wednesday imposed a \$300 million penalty on Seagate Technology, to resolve alleged violations of export controls related to selling hard disk drives to Huawei Technologies, the Commerce Department said.

The manufacturer was involved in the shipment of hard disk drives valued over \$1.1 billion to Huawei entities despite US controls.

The violations, according to the Commerce Department, took place between August 2020 and September 2021.

In 2019, the US added Huawei and some of its affiliates to

a trade blacklist that imposed licensing requirements on exports, re-exports and transfers of goods.

The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) also introduced controls in 2020 over certain foreign-made items.

"Seagate did so despite the fact that its only two competitors had stopped selling HDDs (hard disk drives) to Huawei, resulting in Seagate becoming Huawei's sole source provider," the department added.

According to the bureau's investigation, Seagate was involved in the shipment of more than 7.4 million hard disk drives without authorization.

EU approves sweeping cryptocurrency rules

EU member states have already backed the legislation covering cryptoassets

Include cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin and ethereum and other tradable tokens

AFP | Strasbourg

The European Parliament approved the world's first comprehensive rules to regulate the "Wild West" world of cryptocurrencies on Thursday, hoping to protect investors against abuse and manipulation.

EU member states have already backed the legislation covering cryptoassets, which include cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin and ethereum and other tradable tokens whose value is secured using blockchain technology, such as NFTs.



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen (R) greets European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell

The rules, now approved by a large majority of European lawmakers, hope to whip into shape an industry that has been beset by scandals and failures.

One of the most recent cryptocurrency exchange failures came in November when the FTX platform and its sister trading house Alameda Research went bankrupt, dissolving a virtual trading

business that at one point had a market value of \$32 billion.

The EU commissioner for financial services, Mairead McGuinness, said during a parliamentary debate on Wednesday that the rules would have regulated FTX's activities and perhaps prevented its collapse at great cost to some investors.

Under the regulation known

as Markets in Crypto Assets (MiCA), cryptoasset service providers (CASPs) must protect customers' digital wallets and will be liable if they lose investors' cryptoassets.

"We believe that had FTX, for example, been captured under EU jurisdiction, many of its practices would not have been permissible under MiCA," McGuinness said during the debate.

"For over a decade, the lack of regulation has resulted in massive losses to many first-time investors and provided a safe haven for fraudsters and international criminal networks," he added.

The regulations "mark the end of the Wild West era for the unregulated world of cryptoassets", Ernest Urtasun, one of the EU lawmakers spearheading the legislation through parliament, said during the debate.

"For over a decade, the lack of regulation has resulted in massive losses to many first-time investors and provided a safe haven for fraudsters and international criminal networks," he added.

Creating 'safer environment'

Some have, however, criticised the draft legislation for not going far enough.

"In line with the principle of proportionality, significant CASPs should be subject to both stricter requirements and enhanced supervision: neither of the two is catered for by MiCA," Elizabeth McCaul, European Central Bank supervisory board member, wrote in a blog post this month.

There have also been claims that the regulation would block innovation but McGuinness dismissed the suggestion.

"What we believe is that having a regulatory framework allows the industry to evolve in a more cohesive and safer environment," she said.

She added that she hoped the rules would become a model for other countries.

The rules will progressively come into force from July 2024 after EU member states formally nod them into law.

The EU is also preparing to introduce proposals for a digital euro later this year.

"Golden Gift" offers from Malabar Gold & Diamonds

Customers get assured gold coins on Gold, Diamond & Precious gem jewellery purchase

TDT | Manama

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, the 6th largest jewellery retailer globally with an extensive retail network of 312 outlets across 10 countries, has just unveiled their 'Golden Gift' offers ahead of the festive season.

With this offer, customers can get assured gold coins with gold & diamond jewellery purchase. Malabar Gold & Diamonds will also be showcasing an exquisite



array of jewellery collections in gold, diamond and precious gems across their numerous sub-brands such as Mine, Era, Pre-

cia, Viraaz, Ethnix & Divine etc., which are assured to be a huge hit amongst their customers. The limited period offer can be availed across all Malabar Gold & Diamonds outlets in the Middle east, Far east and the USA from the 30th March to 23rd April.

For every diamond or precious gem jewellery purchase worth BHD 500 will get free 1gm Gold Coin and for diamond and pre-

worth BHD 300 they will be eligible for 1/2 gm Gold Coin.

The special array of jewellery collection that the brand has unveiled ahead of the festive season presents jewellery lovers with an enthralling array of designs in gold, diamond and precious gem jewellery. The special design has been made available across a wide range of sub-brands such as Mine, Era, Precia, Viraaz, Ethnix and Di-

vine, comprising of 22k gold, Gold Coin offer that we have unveiled

diamonds and precious gem jewellery. Elegant designs crafted in contemporary fashion have also been introduced in the 18K gold category. Furthermore, Malabar Gold & Diamonds is also offering 8g gold coins with zero making charges as part of the offers.

"As Malabar Gold & Diamonds celebrates 30 years of providing an exemplary jewellery shopping experience to its customers all over the world, the Golden

Gift offer is yet another example of our ardent commitment towards adding joy to their celebrations. The immense collection of festive jewellery that we have launched for the season combined with the free gold coin offers on diamond and precious gem jewellery will ensure that festive shopping becomes even more exciting", commented Shamlal Ahamed, Managing Director-International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds.

News in brief

◆ Cambodia PM Hun Sen's son becomes four-star general

Cambodian leader Hun Sen's eldest son was officially promoted to the rank of four-star general yesterday, in another sign of plans for him to succeed his father. Hun Sen has publicly backed Hun Manet to lead the kingdom in the future. Hun Manet, who is commander of the army, received the four-star rank at a ceremony attended by more than 1,000 senior military officials. Defence minister Tea Banh, who presided over the ceremony, said Hun Manet's promotion reflected his efforts "to serve the nation, military and Cambodian people".

◆ One of Brazil's top national security officials resigned on Wednesday after the disclosure of videos of him at the scene of the January 8 attacks on the capital Brasília. General Marco Edson Gonçalves Dias, head of the Institutional Security Bureau (GSI), submitted his resignation after CNN Brasil broadcast images from security cameras showing Gonçalves Dias at the Planalto Palace, one of the federal buildings ransacked by protesters earlier this year. The protesters were seeking to restore deposed former president Jair Bolsonaro to power, just days after he left office.

◆ Thailand air pollution leads millions to seek medical help

About 2.4 million people in Thailand have sought hospital treatment for medical problems linked to air pollution since the start of 2023, health officials said, as toxic smog chokes parts of the country. Bangkok and the northern city of Chiang Mai were among the most polluted cities in the world yesterday morning, according to air quality monitoring company IQAir. There were 184,465 hospital admissions this week alone, Public Health Department Permanent Secretary Opas Karakwipong said on Wednesday. Dr Opas said respiratory problems, dermatitis, eye inflammation and sore throat were among the most common medical issues.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Russia releases first feature film shot in space



Actress Yulia Peresild, member of the International Space Station (ISS) expedition 66, attends the complex examination training (file photo)

AFP | Moscow

The first feature film shot in space premiered in Russian cinemas yesterday, as Moscow exulted in beating a rival Hollywood project amid a confrontation with the West.

"The Challenge" is about a surgeon dispatched to the International Space Station (ISS) to save an injured cosmonaut.

Russia sent an actress and a film director for a 12-day stint on the ISS in October 2021 to film scenes aboard the orbiting laboratory.

The Russian crew beat a Hollywood project announced in 2020 by "Mission Impossible" star Tom Cruise together with NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has lauded the film, saying: "We are the first to have shot a feature film in orbit, aboard a spacecraft. Once again the first".

The Soviet Union pioneered space travel and the film crew's mission added to a long list of firsts for Russia's space

India court rejects
Rahul Gandhi's
plea for stay on
conviction



Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi speaks during a press conference
AFP | New Delhi

An Indian court yesterday rejected a plea by top opposition figure Rahul Gandhi for a stay on a defamation conviction that prompted his expulsion from parliament last month.

Gandhi, 52, who was sentenced to two years imprisonment for remarks he made in 2019 seen as insulting to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and those sharing his surname, had been looking to overturn the conviction before national elections due next year.

The case in the premier's home state of Gujarat is one of several lodged in recent years against Gandhi, who is Modi's chief opponent and the foremost member of the opposition Congress party.

Despite the failure to complete

Zelensky presses NATO on membership, long-range weapons

AFP | Kyiv

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky yesterday pressed NATO to invite Kyiv to join the alliance and send more fighter jets and long-range weapons, as battles with Russia raged on in the east of the country.

Zelensky spoke during a visit to Kyiv by NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg -- his first since the start of Russia's invasion in February 2022.

Ukraine says Russia's invasion justifies its campaign to join the alliance even more, expressing frustration that the West has not given it guarantees or a timeframe for eventual membership.

Moscow says it sees Ukraine's NATO membership bid as an existential threat.

Zelensky said a NATO summit in July "could become historic" if Ukraine received a formal invitation to join.

It is time to take the appropriate decision," Zelensky said, speaking at a press conference with Stoltenberg.

He said the "majority of people in NATO countries and the majority of Ukrainians support the entry of our country into the alliance."

As Zelensky and Stoltenberg met in the capital, the situation for Ukrainian troops defending Bakmut -- the frontline hotspot in eastern Ukraine --



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg (L) and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky shaking hands during their meeting in Kyiv

Ukraine's future is in NATO, all allies agree on that. At the same time, the main focus of the alliance, or allies now, is to ensure that Ukraine prevails. NATO stands with you today, tomorrow, and for as long as it takes

NATO SECRETARY GENERAL JENS STOLTENBERG

industry after several setbacks, including botched launches. In "The Challenge" a surgeon played by 38-year-old Yulia Peresild -- one of Russia's most glamorous actresses -- is sent to the ISS to save a cosmonaut injured during a spacewalk.

Director Klim Shipenko, 39, who was in charge of camera, lighting and sound, brought back 30 hours of footage, 50 minutes of which were used in the final cut.

SpaceX Starship, world's biggest rocket, blows up minutes after launch

◆ SpaceX achieves liftoff in Starship test but explosion ends flight early

AFP | Washington

Starship, the most powerful rocket ever built, exploded during its first flight yesterday, but Elon Musk congratulated his SpaceX team on an "exciting" test of the spacecraft designed to send astronauts to the Moon, Mars and beyond.

The uncrewed rocket disintegrated minutes after successfully blasting off at 8:33 am Central Time (1333 GMT) from Starbase, the SpaceX spaceport in Boca Chica, Texas.

The Starship spacecraft that

will eventually carry crew and cargo had been scheduled to separate from the first-stage rocket booster three minutes into the flight, but separation failed to occur and the rocket blew up in a ball of fire over the Gulf of Mexico.

Despite the failure to complete

the full 90-minute flight test and reach orbit, SpaceX and Musk, the founder and CEO of the private space company, declared it a success.

"Congrats SpaceX team on an exciting test launch of Starship!" Musk tweeted. "Learned a lot for next test launch in a few months."

SpaceX said that "with a test like this, success comes from what we learn, and today's test will help us improve Starship's reliability as SpaceX seeks to make

life multi-planetary."

"We cleared the tower which was our only hope," said Kate Tice, a SpaceX quality systems engineer.

The US space agency NASA has picked the Starship spacecraft to ferry astronauts to the Moon in late 2025 -- a mission known as Artemis III -- for the first time since the Apollo program ended in 1972.

NASA chief Bill Nelson congratulated SpaceX, saying "every

great achievement throughout

history has demanded some level

of calculated risk, because with great risk comes great reward."

Starship consists of a 164-foot

(50-meter) tall spacecraft de-

signed to carry crew and cargo

that sits atop a 230-foot tall first-

stage Super Heavy booster rocket.

SpaceX conducted a success-

ful test-firing of the 33 massive Raptor engines on the first-stage booster in February but the Starship spacecraft and the Super Heavy rocket were being flown together for the first time

together for the first time.

The integrated test flight was

intended to assess their perfor-

mance in combination.

Musk had warned ahead of the

test that technical issues were

likely and sought to play down ex-

pectations for the inaugural flight.

Explosions and gunfire re-
sounded in Sudan's capital
yesterday as fighting between
the forces of two rival generals
showed no signs of abating ahead
of festivities marking the end of
Ramadan.

Over 300 people have been
killed since the fighting erupted
Saturday between forces loyal
to Sudan's army chief Abdel
Fattah al-Burhan and his deputy,
Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, who
commands the paramilitary Rapid
Support Forces (RSF).

Some of the fiercest battles have
taken place in the capital Khartoum,
a city home to five million
people, most of whom have been
cloistered in their homes without
electricity, food and water.

As battles raged for a sixth day,
Burhan dismissed any prospects
for negotiations with Daglo, tell-
ing Al Jazeera yesterday he sees
no option but "decisive military"

action.

"I do not think there is any room
for talks over politics again with
the Rapid Support Forces," he told
the Qatar-based broadcaster, but
said he was open for mediation.

Several kilometres from Rus-
sian positions, they worked
the artillery piece dug into the
ground.

On hauled shells to the UK-
made gun from a nearby cache,
while others set coordinates and
loaded the barrel before the
final order to "Fire!"

The World Food Pro-
gramme (WFP) warned that the
violence could plunge millions more
into hunger in a country where already
15 million people, or one-third of
the population, are fac-
ing food insecurity

"We were awoken... to the roar-

tom. "We locked our doors and
windows, hoping no stray bullets
would hit our building."

The RSF, a powerful force
formed from members of the Jan-
jaweed militia that led years of
extreme violence in Darfur, had
said its forces would "fully com-
mit to a complete ceasefire" from
Wednesday evening for 24 hours,
as did the army.

But witnesses said gunfire did
not stop in Khartoum, as another
ceasefire was breached within
minutes of its supposed start for
the second time in as many days.

"The shelling hasn't stopped in
the areas of conflict in Khartoum,"
said Tagreed Abdin, a Sudanese
architect residing in the capital.

While many sheltered at home,
others were venturing out and
risking it "to protect themselves
and their families", she added.

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"

"



Vivian Dsena attends Bahrain's Ramadan food distribution drive and Iftar

ETimes

Vivian Dsena is back in his favourite country in the Middle East, this time Vivian attends Bahrain's Ramadan food distribution drive and iftar with the government officials.

Vivian Dsena has been religiously following Ramadan and keeping rozas. The actor embraced Islam in 2019. Vivian is currently in Bahrain where he attended the country's Ramadan food distribution drive with government officials.

The actor posed with the team and distributed food boxes for Iftar and packets of groceries to



Vivian Dsena distributes food boxes for Iftar

I started following Islam during the holy month of Ramadan in 2019. I find a lot of peace and solace in praying five times a day. So, here I put all the unsought speculations to rest

VIVIAN DSENA

the Bahraini workers and the needy. This has been a ritual

in Bahrain that every year the government hosts a drive to help the poor.

This isn't the first time Vivian has visited Bahrain. Earlier he had been to the country for a vacation and enjoyed its water sports and hospitality. Vivian has been living in the Middle East. The actor had shared pictures from his Taraweeh from Abu Dhabi as he was praying right behind the Sheikh Zayed Mosque and now he is in Bahrain.

While talking about embracing Islam since 2019, Vivian shared with BT, "Nothing much has changed in my life. I was

born Christian, and I follow Islam now. I started following Islam during the holy month of Ramadan in 2019. I find a lot of peace and solace in praying five times a day. So, here I put all the unsought speculations to rest."

He had also wished all his fans Ramadan Kareem and wrote a message, which read, "Almighty. On this blessed first Friday in #Ramadan make us among those who fast sincerely for your sake. May you accept our fasts and nights in the prayer which we do in full submission. Keep us away from heedlessness and forgive all our sins. Amen."

Millions of Indonesians travel in annual Eid exodus

AFP | Jakarta

On motorcycles, cars, buses, planes or by boat, millions of Indonesians were travelling to their hometowns in the annual Eid holiday exodus that peaked yesterday.

Major seaports and toll roads were packed, while airports and bus terminals are also full of travellers looking forward to reuniting with their families.

This year marks the first "mudik", as the annual exodus is known, since Covid-19 restrictions were removed at the end of 2022 in the world's most populous Muslim-majority country.

Indonesia's transport ministry has predicted up to 123 million people will travel for Eid this year, up from 85 million estimated to have made the trip last year.

Some 18 million people were forecast to leave the Greater Jakarta area alone, enduring hours of traffic or congested airports and seaports to celebrate the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan with families.

Authorities have temporarily made some highways leaving the capital one way to ease congestion.

"I'm happy to meet my parents after quite a while and to be able to perform Eid prayer together," Muhammad Naufal Vadina said.

He was taking a break during a trip that involves driving more than 350 kilometres (220 miles) from Tangerang on Jakarta's western outskirts to his wife's hometown in Central Java.

Some 500 travellers had a rare chance to sail aboard an Indonesian Navy warship, which left



Passengers wait to board a train at Gubeng station in Surabaya

Jakarta on Tuesday on a trip that included stops in Semarang in Central Java and Surabaya in the island's east.

"We found out on Instagram that the Navy has a free 'mudik' programme using a warship. It was our first time having such a

senger Nurul Febryanti.

"It is enjoyable for us because we are provided with a room as we brought our children. The Navy officers are kind and friendly," Febryanti said.

Hours spent in traffic did not deter others from making the annual trip because they were looking forward to reuniting with loved ones after the pandemic.

"Although it is exhausting, I'm still grateful as not all people can have the chance to experience 'mudik'."

RAHAYU AGUSTINI

"For me, 'mudik' and the Eid al-Fitr is why I work to earn money. So it feels less meaningful if I don't celebrate Eid in my hometown. Although it is exhausting, I'm still grateful as not all people can have the chance to experience 'mudik'."

"For me, 'mudik' and the Eid al-Fitr is why I work to earn money. So it feels less meaningful if I don't celebrate Eid in my hometown," said 29-year-old Rahayu Agustini, who was travelling with her relatives to her hometown in West Java.

"Although it is exhausting, I'm still grateful as not all people can have the chance to experience 'mudik'."



Travellers crowd the access out of Indonesia's capital Jakarta, in Bekasi



Some 18 million people were forecast to leave the Greater Jakarta area alone, enduring hours of traffic or congested airports and seaports to celebrate the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan with families

SUDOKU

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

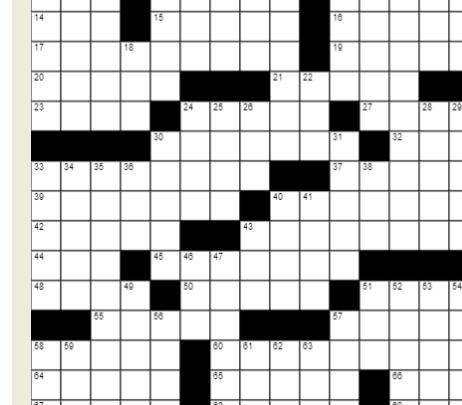
Yesterday's solution

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

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD



Across

1-Hee _-4-Android; 9-Diamond corners; 14-Abbr. on a toothpaste box; 15-Minneapolis suburb; 16-Inclined; 17-Device for triggering explosion; 19-Defense covering; 20-1961 Heston role; 21-Long Island town; 23-Satirist Mort; 24-Transfer; 27-Code word for A; 30-Fanlike posterior of crayfish; 32-Work unit; 33-Receptacle for odds and ends; 37-Fragrant oil; 39-Deep down; 40-Italian innkeeper; 42-"Presumed Innocent" author; 43-Group of spectators; 44-Source of iron; 45-Sensational novel; 48-Dagger of yore; 50-Some Art Deco works; 51-Prescribed amount; 55-Islamic decree; 57-Ventured; 58-High-school freshman; 60-See-sawing; 64-Noted Civil War biography; 65-Lauder of cosmetics; 66-Sweet suffix; 67-Discombobulate; 68-Rascal; 69-Aussie outlaw

Down

1-Where the Styx flows; 2-Journalist _ Rogers St. Johns; 3-Look attentively; 4-Rip apart; 5-Room within a harem; 6-Mouthpiece of a bridle; 7-Lennon's love; 8-Import or export duty; 9-False god; 10-Heart chambers; 11-Ignorant person; 12-"Xanadu" band; 13-Orch. section; 18-Lubricate; 22-RR stop; 24-Coal-rich region; 25-Sword handle; 26-Green around the gills; 28-Piece of French bread; 29-Go along (with); 30-Melts; 31-Rock bottom; 33-The Younger and The Elder; 34-Done to _; 35-Triplet; 36-Boardroom bigwig; 38-It's past due; 40-Vomit; 41-Citrus drinks; 43-Take steps; 46-Fell; 47-Speaks publicly; 49-Art supporter; 51- _ es Salaam, Tanzania; 52-The Flusher; 53-Logic; 54-Barely beat; 56-Of _ Sing; 57-Thought-provoking; 58-Monk's title; 59-Flushed; 61-Corner key; 62-Greek vowel; 63-President pro _;

Yesterday's solution

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O | R | E | S | A | I | R | E | D | S | C | A | T |
| M | E | N | U | S | L | Y | L | O | B | O | L | A |
| A | T | I | P | C | L | E | A | N | O | L | A | L |
| R | E | D | E | Y | E | T | M | P | I | T | E | D |
| C | A | R | N | N | E | S | S | S | S | S | S | S |
| O | V | A | E | T | H | O | T | E | T | E | E | E |
| T | O | R | P | E | D | O | C | A | S | C | A | D |
| T | I | L | E | S | A | E | C | E | L | G | E | E |
| A | D | O | P | T | F | L | A | X | S | E | E | D |
| B | A | N | K | S | E | A | T | D | E | T | O | S |
| O | L | E | A | S | T | E | M | S | L | I | P | S |
| O | L | A | Y | L | I | L | L | I | A | G | R | A |
| N | A | T | O | E | N | O | L | A | T | T | A | N |

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

Master sita point car service has a vacancy for the occupation of VEHICLE SHEETMETAL WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32112929 or info@sharkgaragebh.com

ALDEEBI FISH FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33347666 or hasan.aldeebi@gmail.com

NASSER SAED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INSULATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCGLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

TOUCH OF THAILAND W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39616292 or jbucneer@gmail.com

DURRAT AL MUHARRAQ CLEANING &MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335558 or bucheen5@gmail.com

ASMA STATIONERY AND PHOTO COPYING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33842320 or asmahiid@gmail.com

SAMI JAFFAR JASSIM ALHADDAR) SMSM(7891 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39933881 or SAMI763@HOTMAIL.COM

AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17177111 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH

Jaser Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34349799 or JASERCONT@GMAIL.COM

Abdul Rahman Ali Al Saad Power Projects Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17273330 or BEENA.B@ALSAADPROJECTS.COM

DRAGON HOUSE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34399991 or MISHAL@ALGHALIA.COM

GREEN SKENAR ELECTRIC WORKSHOP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33161222 or SARBJEET2003@YAHOO.COM

GREEN OVERSEAS BUSINESS SUPPORT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33161222 or SARBJEET2003@YAHOO.COM

Movenpick Hotel Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of THERAPIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17460047 or Fatema.Meftah@movenpick.com

Kingdom Landscape W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34436006 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

F.B.L. Fatma's Beauty Lounge has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17555655 or FATIMA.ALHADAD@HOTMAIL.COM

Ghani Decoration W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33975560 or GHANI.B.HPK@GMAIL.COM

Dhruv Jewellery Workshop W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33074288 or DHRUJVJEWELLERYWLL@GMAIL.COM

Pakpatan Repairing House Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35634786 or aliahmad39758489@gmail.com

Fajr Al-Mashreq Trading Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66633531 or AMARFOFO202@GMAIL.COM

Qaisar Iqbal for Repair of Electrical Equipment W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33627914 or IQBALQAI943@GMAIL.COM

TEP Build Mart W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700720 or admin.bah@tepii.com

Ghani Mac Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35301525 or RMINHAS560@GMAIL.COM

Silver Falcon Laundry W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33557572 or GREENTREEBH@GMAIL.COM

Adil Rehman Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37002176 or RAHMANADIL962@GMAIL.COM

Master Elevator Trading Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35081527 or PRASANTHKANANTHODI@GMAIL.COM

Jaser Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34349799 or JASERCONT@GMAIL.COM

Maison SAJ W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PASTRY MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39763535 or RANASALIB@OUTLOOK.COM

Dhoom Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335558 or bucheen5@gmail.com

the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33878746 or SHANDAR.S@GMAIL.COM

44CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION). GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33247176 or ABDULAZIS93@GMAIL.COM

V-TECH ELECTRICAL EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of WIRING ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39665855 or MIRZA1010@HOTMAIL.COM

AL FATEH ELECTRICAL has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICALASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39443343 or ALFATEH@LIVE.COM

ASEEL MARKETS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17741007 or ASEELRAHMAN@GMAIL.COM

DAIRATY MARKAT has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39695569 or aliesaa68@gmail.com

TYLOS PUBLISHING & PRESS has a vacancy for the occupation of PRINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17405333 or tylosprinting@gmail.com

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

ALKABSI ALUMINIUM FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732002 or MD@ALKABSIGROUP.COM

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or ALANSARI@AREENAGROUP.COM

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

MIRAKI BEAUTY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANICURIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34220558 or WHITEBUREAUSPC@GMAIL.COM

KARUNA COOLING TECH has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33373442 or ABDULNABIHASAN83@GMAIL.COM

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM FURNITURE FACTORY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33555358 or hr@amjassim.com

LAYALI ALWADYAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33678831 or SAYEDEBRAHIMALMATOQ@GMAIL.COM

AHMED ALHERZ GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39978696 or aj.herz82@gmail.com

IDEAL GROUP FOR SERVICES AND MAINTAINANCE CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830078 or kanakaraj.pk@horizonitgroup.com

THE RITZ - CARLTON BAHRAIN HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17580000 or rc.bahzr.hr@ritzcarlton.com

SMALCO CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33040002 or smalco.bh@hotmail.com

Al fateh cleaning and Maintenance Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34436006 or info@idealgroup.me

CPIC ABAHSAIN FIBERGLASS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17468522 or wanglinan@cpicfiber.com

ALANDHOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36606655 or ALAMEERO@HOTMAIL.COM

ALEBRAH CONTRACTING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39466600 or MONTANA@ALEBRAH.COM

ALSHEERAWI CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36577776 or ALMUHARRAQ.PICKLE@GMAIL.COM

ADMECCO MECHANICAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33655522 or FTC.BAHRAHIN@AL-FARAS.COM

THE CREPE CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17689666 or BIJUJOSEPH55@GMAIL.COM

Abdul Rahman Ali Al Saad Power Projects Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16060604 or norman_octaviano@almana.com

DURRAT AL MUHARRAQ CLEANING &MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335558 or bucheen5@gmail.com

YATEEM AIRCONDITIONING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253177 or hr@yateemac.net

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

AI Helli Supermarket B.S.C Closed has a

vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or HANAN@ALHELLI.COM

EBRAHIM KHALIL KANOO CO. B.S.C.CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 1762262 or HR.S@EKKANOO.COM.BH

PANORAMA CONTRACTING & ENGINEERING SERVI has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM

NEW SARDAR AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39458379 or SARABJITKAURKAINTH@YAHOO.COM

MAZAD MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36103555 or SHAHADAPUR777@GMAIL.COM

AHMED AL YAQOOB ALHAMRAJAZER 8566 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675135 or HLA-SHABAB@HOTMAIL.COM

Beroa Abu Obaid Industrial Insulation Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700204 or ABUOBAIDGROUB@gmail.com

VIVA PROPERTIES& CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39474168 or 3OBRAHIN@GMAIL.COM

MATRIX TOWER CONTRACTING COMPANY PARTNERSHIP OWNED BY HASAN ABDU has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33100058 or BOB_200420@HOTMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ISHTIAQ SHAKEEL CONSTRUCTIONOFFLOATINGSTRUCTURES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35576417 or ZIDDIGUJART63@GMAIL.COM

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

MAKRAM BLACKSMITH AND WELDINS FABRICATION WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33224643 or SHYFBNH@GMAIL.COM

HAQ NAWAZ CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35609260 or haqnawazcontracting@gmail.com

Almarhoon Clearance Services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33348681 or ALMARHOON.CLEARANCE@GMAIL.COM

NASSER SAED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312202 or AHCGLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

Al Khidaii Trading EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 389846014 or ebrahimalhidii2020@gmail.com

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or profice@almoayedcg.com

Retroban Worldwide W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37131813 or FINANCE@RBWFINTECH.COM

BEST STYLE SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17691759 or JAFFAR.CSDECOR@GMAIL.COM

KIMSHEALTH HOSPITAL B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of HOSPITAL ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33373442 or ALMARIH@HOTMAIL.COM

SHABAZ CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33337783 or ALMIYAS@YAHOO.COM

ALFAZ REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38866200 or SURESH.RAJAN@DEUGRO.COM

ZAWEYAT QAWS AL MATAR SHAWARMA BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37112300 or NAVASNK2238@GMAIL.COM

TEBA EGYPTIAN BAHRAINI ARABIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3650089 or MOHAMEDALHAM@HOTMAIL.COM

SEPCOII BAHRAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66331128 or fatima@sepcocom

RAZA SONS FOR TRADING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38859641 or msajjad.raza1994@gmail.com

OIL B AUTO REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38385157 or ADELMERCURY63@GMAIL.COM

Orange Flower For Landscaping And Flowers has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37378111 or ORANGEFLWER.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALPHA INTERNATIONAL FOR INDUSTRIAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33004894 or EXPSEV4@GMAIL.COM

SABT AUTO SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38003449 or SABTVWSS@GMAIL.COM

KHYBER BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33668524 or SHAZADMALAK2014@GMAIL.COM

DAR MEEM JEWELLERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35009693 or MUKHTAR12192@GMAIL.COM

ALFAZ REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38866200 or DIALYACONSULTANT@GMAIL.COM

Grand Swiss-Bel Hotel W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33337783 or ALMIYAS@YAHOO.COM

DAR TAQI TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17781412 or DARTAQIDAR@GMAIL.COM</

Man City hit their stride for tilt at Man Utd's treasured treble

Manchester City continues to dominate Champions League, Premier League, and FA Cup

● City continues to challenge current league leaders Arsenal for Premier League title

AFP | Manchester

Manchester United remain the only English club to have won the prized treble of Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup, but Manchester City are closing in on the same feat.

City stormed into the Champions League semi-finals for the third consecutive season on Wednesday, completing a 4-1 aggregate triumph over Bayern Munich.

Mighty Real Madrid, who eliminated Pep Guardiola's men in the last four last season, await in the semi-finals.

If City can slay the defending champions, they would be huge favourites to finally end their quest to conquer Europe, with AC Milan or Inter Milan waiting in the final in Istanbul

on June 10. Domestically, City are already the dominant force as they go in search of a fifth Premier League title in six seasons.

Long-time pacesetters Arsenal hold a four-point lead at the top of the table but are showing signs of nerves after costly draws against Liverpool and West Ham.

City have a game in hand and home advantage next week when the Gunners visit the Etihad for a potential title decider.

Before then, Guardiola's men make the trip to Wembley on Saturday for what should be a routine passage to the FA Cup final.

Sheffield United are on the brink of securing a return to the Premier League next season, but it would be a huge surprise if the Championship side end City's 15-game unbeaten run, which stretches back to February.

Despite the arrival of Erling Haaland, who scored the 48th goal of his debut season in a 1-1 draw in Munich on Wednesday, there were plenty of doubts about City just a few months ago.



Despite early season doubts, City has bounced back strongly, with a 15-game unbeaten run that stretches back to February. Guardiola has restored his trusted starting line-up, including the young Erling Haaland, who has already scored 48 goals in his debut season

Hunger

Guardiola uncharacteristically took aim at what he saw as his side's lack of hunger after a 4-2 win over Tottenham in January. Less than a month later, Spurs

"We struggled until February because we couldn't get in that usual run of the past years of winning 10, 15, 20 games in a row. Now the team is very consistent the way we are playing, we feel we have a chance in every competition and we are going for them."

BERNARDO SILVA

beat them -- City's most recent defeat -- with Kevin De Bruyne, Ilkay Gundogan and Ruben Dias among those left on the bench.

All three have since been restored to Guardiola's most trusted starting line-up and City have achieved defensive solidity without blunting the effectiveness of Haaland.

"We're very confident, in a very good moment, the best moment of the season for the team," said midfielder Bernardo Silva.

The odds on City matching Alex Ferguson's greatest achievement of his 26 years in charge of United have been slashed, with the club now the bookmakers' favourites for all three competitions they are in the hunt for.

But Guardiola has warned in recent weeks of the tight-rope City must walk

in chasing down Arsenal at the top of the Premier League, with one slip potentially proving fatal. "We know how tough it is to get to this part of the season where if you drop your performance for one part of the game, you are out of one competition," said Silva. "Next game is Sheffield, then it's Arsenal so it's going to be tough, but it's going to be fun. "When you are a little kid you work to get to these moments and to enjoy as a football player. We're going to work very hard to bring some titles back home."



Kings' Brown unanimous NBA coach of the year



Head coach Mike Brown of the Sacramento Kings looks on during a match (file photo)

AFP | New York

Sacramento's Mike Brown was named the NBA Coach of the Year on Wednesday, becoming the first unanimous winner of the award after guiding the Kings back to the playoffs.

Brown also won the award in 2009 with the Cleveland Cavaliers, guiding a team that won 66 games as LeBron James was named the league's Most Valuable Player.

He was sacked by the Cavs one year later, eventually landing briefly with the Los Angeles Lakers.

In his first year at the helm in Sacramento he turned around a franchise whose 17-year playoff drought was the longest in NBA history and the longest active drought in major US pro sports.

The 53-year-old received 100 out of 100 possible first-placed votes, a first in balloting for the award.

Long known for prioritizing defense, Brown developed the young Kings team into an offensive force. The Kings led the league in scoring with an average of 120.7 points per game in the regular season

Brown arrived in Sacramento after six seasons as an assistant to Steve Kerr with the Golden State Warriors -- just up the road in San Francisco.

"These honors don't come around often, so you're very appreciative of them," Brown said during an interview on broadcaster TNT's programme announcing the award.

"Inside The NBA" after being named the winner of the award.

Long known for prioritizing defense, Brown developed the young Kings team into an offensive force.

Grizzlies, Bucks bounce back as Nuggets see off Wolves

AFP | Los Angeles

The Milwaukee Bucks and Memphis Grizzlies bounced back to level their respective NBA playoff series' with crucial victories Wednesday, as Jamal Murray delivered a 40-point masterpiece to give the Denver Nuggets a commanding 2-0 lead over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Top seeds Milwaukee shrugged off the injury absence of Giannis Antetokounmpo to thrash the Miami Heat 138-122 to tie their best-of-seven Eastern Conference series at 1-1.

In the Western Conference playoffs, Memphis also overcame the loss of a star player -- Ja Morant -- before grinding out an attritional 103-93 win over LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Arguably the performance of the night however came in Denver, as the Nuggets' Murray poured in 40 points in a 122-113 victory over the Timberwolves.



Memphis's Jaren Jackson Jr battles with Los Angeles Lakers Anthony Davis

Denver, the No.1 seeds in the West, now lead the series 2-0.

It was the latest milestone in Murray's long road back from a serious knee injury.

The 26-year-old point guard missed the entirety of the 2021-2022 campaign after undergoing surgery to repair torn knee ligaments in April 2021.

Denver looked to be cruising

to victory after leading 64-49 at half-time before a 40-point Minnesota third quarter turned the game on its head to leave the Timberwolves up by two.

But Murray and Michael Porter Jr. combined for 23 fourth-quarter points to seal Denver's victory.

"It was a passionate, heartfelt

It was a passionate, heartfelt performance. Just the fact that he's missed the last two postseasons, just to have him back, and playing at that level -- Jamal overall was terrific

DENVER COACH MICHAEL MALONE

performance," Denver coach Michael Malone said of Murray's display. "Just the fact that he's missed the last two postseasons, just to have him back, and playing at that level -- Jamal overall was terrific."

Murray was almost outshone by Minnesota's Anthony Edwards, who finished with 41 points in a losing effort.

In other games, Xavier Tillman scored 22 points and pulled down 18 rebounds in the Grizzlies' win over the Lakers.

US score late to draw 1-1 with Mexico in friendly

AFP | Arizona

Jesus Ferreira scored a late equalizer to salvage a 1-1 draw for the United States against Mexico on Wednesday in a friendly international match in Arizona.

Both teams fielded under-strength sides with few Europe-based players released for the fixture because it was outside of FIFA's recognized international calendar.

Ferreira coolly tucked away



Jesus Ferreira #9 of the United States celebrates after scoring a goal on Carlos Acevedo #1 of Mexico

a low finish in the 81st minute to secure a draw for the Americans, who had fallen behind to a 55th-minute effort from Mexico's Uriel Antuna.

Antuna gave Mexico the lead after a defensive blunder by US central defender Aaron Long, who miscued a first-time pass near halfway that sent Antuna racing through on goal.

The Mexico midfielder took his time before finishing past US goalkeeper Sean Johnson.

Nadal pulls out of Madrid in worrying French Open blow

Rafael Nadal admits hip injury may rule him out of French Open

● Muscle injury sustained in Australia has been slow to heal

AFP | Madrid

Rafael Nadal said yesterday he will miss next week's Madrid Masters as he continues to struggle to recover from a hip injury, dealing a significant blow to his French Open preparations.

"For the moment I've missed Monte Carlo and Barcelona. And unfortunately I won't be able to be in Madrid either," Nadal said on Instagram.

"The injury still hasn't healed," he added.

The 36-year-old Spaniard has not played since losing in the second round of the Australian Open in January.

Nadal is hoping for a record-extending 15th French Open title at Roland Garros in May, but his hip flexor problem he suffered in Melbourne has badly disrupted his run up to the



Rafael Nadal reacts during a match (file photo)

tournament.

The 22-time Grand Slam champion -- he shares the men's record with Novak Djokovic -- had originally thought he would be out for up to two months.

He pulled out of hard-court tournaments at Indian Wells and Miami, with his sights set on a return at the start of the clay-court season, but it did not come to fruition.

"In principle it was supposed

to be a recovery period of six to eight weeks and now we're around 14," said Nadal.

"The reality is that the situation is not what we would have hoped for. All medical indications have been followed, but the healing has not gone as they told us initially and we find ourselves in a difficult situation."

Nadal said he and his team have decided to try a different treatment and see if things im-

“
The reality is that the situation is not what we would have hoped for. All medical indications have been followed, but the healing has not gone as they told us initially

RAFAEL NADAL

prove, but that he was not setting a deadline for his comeback.

"I can't work on what I need to compete. I was training but a few days ago we decided to change course a bit, to try another treatment and see if things improve to try to get to what comes next."

"I can't give deadlines because if I knew I would tell you, but I don't know," he added. "This is how things are now."

Nadal's fitness problems have become an increasing issue since he won his 14th French Open crown last year.

At Wimbledon last summer he

“
Nadal said he and his team have decided to try a different treatment and see if things improve, but that he was not setting a deadline for his comeback

was forced to withdraw from his semi-final because of an abdominal injury.

Last month he dropped out of the top 10 for the first time since 2005, and is currently ranked 14th.

The French Open starts on May 28, with Nadal now in a race against time to be fit for the Rome Masters -- the last major tune-up event before Roland Garros.

Inter's Skriniar faces long lay-off after back surgery



Milan Skriniar
AFP | Milan

Milan Skriniar is set for a long period on the sidelines after Inter Milan announced yesterday that the Slovakia centre-back had undergone spinal surgery.

In a statement, Inter said that Skriniar underwent "endoscopic surgery on his lumbar spine" on Wednesday.

"The Inter defender will follow a rehabilitation program in the coming weeks," the statement added.

Skriniar risks missing the rest of Inter's season as the Italian club try to win the Champions League for the first time since 2010.

Inter take on local rivals AC Milan in a mouth-waiting semi-final to decide who will contest June's final in Istanbul.

Skriniar, 28, is out of contract with Inter at the end of the season and is expected to sign for Paris Saint-Germain as a free agent in the summer.

'No difference in class between Bayern and City', says Tuchel

AFP | Munich

Bayern Munich coach Thomas Tuchel insisted on Wednesday there was "no difference in class" between his side and Manchester City despite the English club's comfortable victory in their Champions League quarter-final tie.

Pep Guardiola's City eased into the semi-finals with a 4-1 aggregate success, following up last week's 3-0 first-leg win with a 1-1 draw at the Allianz Arena.

"There's no difference in class. It looks like that from the results, but it's actually a difference in self-confidence and in form," Tuchel said.

"For the little we allowed (City) to do, we were brutally punished."

Tuchel took over from the sacked Julian Nagelsmann as Bayern boss earlier this month, despite the Bavarians boasting a perfect record in this season's Champions League.

"We played against the best team in Europe today, the most in-form team in Europe," the former Borussia Dortmund and



Bayern Munich's German head coach Thomas Tuchel argues with the fourth official before getting a red card

Chelsea coach said.

"We played completely on the same level, (but) in either game we didn't have even a tiny bit of luck."

Bayern had more possession than City in both legs and created a number of chances, but only scored once -- a late consolation through Joshua Kimmich's second-leg penalty.

Despite missing a spot-kick

on Wednesday, striker Erling Haaland scored two and set up another of City's four goals across the two legs.

"To beat the best teams, not just to measure up against them but to beat them, you need to not only use 100 percent of your chances, but you need luck, you need decisions to go your way and maybe even a deflection," added the Bayern coach.

“
We played against the best team in Europe today, the most in-form team in Europe. We played completely on the same level, (but) in either game we didn't have even a tiny bit of luck

THOMAS TUCHEL

Tuchel, who was sent to the stands late in the match when shown a second yellow card, gave referee Clement Turpin "a grade F, from his first to his last decision".

Since Tuchel took over, Bayern have been eliminated from the Champions League and the German Cup, with only a chance at the Bundesliga title remaining.

Bayern sit two points clear of Dortmund in the Bundesliga with six matches to play and face in-form Mainz away on Saturday as they continue to chase a record-extending 11th title.

Arsenal can rediscover title-chasing swagger, says Arteta

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta is confident Arsenal can return to winning ways after damaging draws against Liverpool and West Ham cost them momentum in the Premier League title race.

The Gunners let two-goal leads slip in both games and the leaders are now just four points ahead of defending champions Manchester City, who have a game in hand.

The two title-chasing teams



Arsenal's manager Mikel Arteta (L) speaks with Granit Xhaka

meet at the Etihad Stadium next week in a match that could

prove pivotal. Arteta said his team had reacted well after their setbacks as he prepares them to face bottom side Southampton on Friday.

"I'm very confident," he said yesterday. "Twists and turns are part of anything you do, especially in football."

"Whatever the aim or the target is, it is not going to go in a linear progression. You have to know that and prepare for that and the way the team reacted this week is incredibly positive

and we want to see that tomorrow night."

The Spaniard admitted his team had to be more ruthless as they chase their first English top-flight title for 19 years.

"Maybe we got too comfortable at some stage in the (West Ham) game," he said. "It's different. They know. I don't have to coach them because they said it straight away."

"They know, it's in their system, it's in the gut and tomorrow we have to show it."

Schumacher has not been seen in public since the injury and little information has been given publicly on his condition. Reports suggest Schumacher has memory, movement and speech problems and is being cared for at home near Geneva

family has carefully guarded the 54-year-old's privacy since the accident.

Schumacher has not been seen in public since the injury and little information has been given publicly on his condition.

Schumacher family plans legal action over fake AI quotes: ESPN



German Ferrari driver Michael Schumacher jubilates on the podium of the Bahrain racetrack in 2004 (file photo)

AFP | Berlin

Michael Schumacher's family is planning legal action against German magazine Die Aktuelle for using an artificial intelligence programme to generate fake quotes from the seven-time Formula One champion, sports broadcaster ESPN said yesterday.

The magazine had claimed it had an interview with the motorsport legend -- the first since he suffered a serious brain injury in a 2013 skiing accident in the French Alps.

On Wednesday, the magazine published the "interview", revealing afterwards it had been generated by artificial intelligence.

The article included quotes attributed to Schumacher, discussing his family life since the accident and his medical condition.

A spokesperson for the Schumacher family confirmed plans of legal action. The fam-

Kane can win a trophy at Tottenham, says Levy

AFP | London

Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy says Harry Kane can still fulfil his ambition of winning a trophy with the club but believes being a "legend" is also important.

The England captain has scored 23 Premier League goals this season -- behind only Manchester City's Erling Haaland -- but is approaching the final 12 months of his contract at managerless Spurs.

The 29-year-old forward, who has been linked with a move to Manchester United or Paris Saint-Germain at the end of the season, has spent his whole senior career at Tottenham but is yet to win a trophy.

Spurs' record goalscorer has often made clear his desire to win silverware at his boyhood club but discussions over a new deal are yet to take place.



The fact that he's the top scorer for Tottenham Hotspur, he's making history. I hope one day there is a statue of Harry Kane outside our stadium

DANIEL LEVY

Levy said during a discussion at the Cambridge Union Society: "He (Kane) can absolutely win a trophy at Spurs, but being a legend is also important.

"The fact that he's the top scorer for Tottenham Hotspur, he's making history. I hope one day there is a statue of Harry Kane outside our stadium."

Long-serving chairman Levy is known for his reluctance to take part in media activities and has rarely given interviews during his 22 years at Spurs since ENIC bought the club.

Harry Kane

Manama win playoff opener

Defending champions take one step forward to Golden Square semi-finals of 2022/2023 Zain Bahrain Basketball League

Lamont Jones scores 23 points to spearhead Manama

TDT | Manama

Defending champions Manama took one step forward last night to securing their place in the Golden Square semi-finals of the 2022/2023 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Manama outclassed Bahrain Club 106-79 in game one of their best-of-three playoff series, being played at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hassam.

Manama used a strong second-quarter performance to build a double-digit lead against their opponents, which they did well to hold on to over the game's final two quarters.

Manama will now be looking to secure their final four berth and sweep this match-up in



Manama's Mustafa Hussain looks to make a play off a screen from teammate Ahmed Najaf against Bahrain Club last night

game two, scheduled for Thursday next week. Game three, if needed, will be on May 4.

The winner of Manama's series with Bahrain Club will next face off with Al Ahli in the Golden Square.

Lamont Jones top scored for Manama with 23 points in just 23 minutes of work last night. Hussain brothers Ali and Mustafa added 21 and 17, respectively, while firing in a combined 10 three-pointers between them.

All 11 Manama players that took to the hardwood scored in the game.

For Bahrain Club, Damonte Dodd had 21 points to pace Bahrain Club while also grabbing 17 rebounds. Ali Abbas chipped in with 16 while Said Shukrallah had 11 in the loss.

In Manama's win, they held a slim 22-17 edge at the end of the first but extended their lead to 51-39 at the half. A lopsided third quarter where they outscored Bahrain Club 32-16 saw Manama take a commanding 83-55 lead into the final canto, where they enjoyed their biggest lead of 37 points.

Meanwhile, the other Golden Square semi-final clash between Muharraq and Al Ettihad will get underway with game one on May 8. Game two is scheduled for May 11, and then game three, if needed, will be on May 14.

Muharraq and Ahli gained automatic berths in the semis as the top two seeds from the regular season.

BRAVE CF returns to Latin America

BRAVE CF to make history with Pan American Combat Week and Colombia event

TDT | Manama

Under the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, BRAVE Combat Federation is set to take the flag of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the highest of places in Mixed Martial Arts and uplift the Latin American combat sports scene in the same manner it did the Balkan region when the BRAVE Pan-American Combat Week is rolled out in Bogota, Colombia, between August 8 and August 12.

Governed by the International Mixed Martial Arts Federation (IMMAF) in partnership with BRAVE CF, the Colombian Association of Mixed Martial Arts (OCAMM), and in co-promotion with Latin Fighter Championship (LFC), the Pan-American Championships will kick off on August 8th with amateur athletes from North, Central, and South America, all competing for honors and rankings under the IMMAF banner.

In February, the jewel of Bahraini sports, BRAVE CF, and various stakeholders, including IMMAF, and the Serbian MMA Federation (SMMAF), helped transcend the Balkan region's combat sports scene. The BRAVE Serbia International Week saw more than 550 athletes from 60-plus nations descend upon Belgrade, Serbia, to compete in the IMMAF World Championships before the epic BRAVE CF 69 event blew the roof off of the sold-out Stark Arena as some of



CF aims to connect Colombia and surrounding nations to the world with a truly global show in Bogota.

the world's best international stars stepped into the BRAVE CF cage closing out Europe's largest combat sports festival yet.

The event had such a positive impact on the Serbian industry that the Serbian Minister of Sports officially endorsed mixed martial arts as a sport and announced the inclusion of MMA as part of the sports development initiative of Serbia.

Later this year, BRAVE CF will aim to make the same impact in Latin America by boosting the region's economy, galvanizing the MMA industry, and connecting the region's talent and infrastructure to the world through

BRAVE CF's huge market share. BRAVE Colombia will be the biggest Middle East sports media company's third show in the Republic, following BRAVE CF 15 (Bucaramanga, 2018) and BRAVE CF 26 (Bogota, 2019). The last two events have highlighted the potential in the region as Colombia proved to be a key strategic market for the growth of BRAVE CF.

With the help of the Colombian MMA Association, the Sport Institute of Bogota, and LFC Colombia, the promotion also started a program focused on empowering the local MMA scene giving rise to some of BRAVE CF's most exciting stars, including Road to BRAVE CF winner Eduardo Mora.

Later this year, BRAVE CF aims to unearth new talent and build on its success within Colombia with the much-anticipated BRAVE Pan-American Combat Week.



Anastasia Potapova

Potapova upsets Gauff to reach Stuttgart last eight

AFP | Stuttgart

Coco Gauff's French Open warm-up stalled yesterday with

last year's Roland Garros runner-up falling in the last 16 to Russian Anastasia Potapova in Stuttgart. Potapova harnessed

her receiving game to dominate the American, winning 6-2, 6-3 to reach the quarter-finals of the clay-court tournament.

Potapova is competing in Stuttgart for the first time with the 22-year-old advancing to her fourth quarter-final of the year.



Anastasia Potapova

Du Plessis, Siraj help Bangalore down Punjab in IPL



Faf du Plessis of Royal Challengers Bangalore plays a shot

AFP | Mohali

Scorecard

Royal Challengers Bangalore
174 for 4 (Du Plessis 84, Kohli 59, Brar 2-31) beat **Punjab Kings** 150 (Prabhhsimran 46, Jitesh 41, Siraj 4-21) by 24 runs

but yesterday's knock lacked his usual aggression.

Harpreet Brar broke the marathon stand to have Kohli caught behind and then snared Glenn Maxwell, who attempted to hit out on his first ball but was caught for a duck.

Du Plessis departed in the next over and the Punjab bowlers came back well to keep down Bangalore's score despite a solid foundation that had raised hopes of a 200-plus total.

Punjab lost wickets regularly in their reply and only Prabhhsimran Singh, with a valiant 46 off 30 deliveries, and Jitesh Sharma's late blitz of 41 represented any real fight.

Siraj got two breakthroughs at the start, including the dangerous England import Liam Livingstone for two, and leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga bowled Australia's Matthew Short for eight.

The South African had lived up to the designation with a 56-ball knock laced with five sixes. He tops the tournament's batting chart with 343 runs, including four half-centuries. Kohli has a total of 279 runs