

Happy Craf lifts Al Jasra Cup

Jockey Edinson Rodriguez saddles five-year-old contender to victory for M and E Racing and AM Smith, to win sixth £50,000 race in prestigious Bahrain Turf Series at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club | P12

WORLD 6 Massive explosion rocks town in Ghana

THE DAILY **tribune**



Rupert Grint compares JK Rowling to 'aunt I don't agree with'

10 CELEB

BUSINESS 5 UAE bourses end higher on financial, telecom boost

HM King condoles with Brazilian President

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday sent a cable of condolences to the Brazilian President, Jair Bolsonaro, over the passing of his mother.

HM the King extended deepest condolences to President Bolsonaro, the family of the deceased and the Brazilian people.

US imposes more sanctions on Hezbollah-linked Lebanese individuals

Reuters | Washington

The United States yesterday imposed sanctions on three Lebanese nationals and 10 companies it said were part of an international Hezbollah network, accusing them of evading sanctions on the armed militia that is designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation by Washington.

The US Treasury designated Adnan Ayad, a Hezbollah member and businessman, as well as other members of an international network of facilitators and companies connected to him and his business partner, Adel Diab.

"Treasury is committed to disrupting Hizballah's illicit activity and attempts to evade sanctions through business networks while the group doubles down on corrupt patronage networks in Lebanon," Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Brian Nelson said.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
8524804

ACTIVE CASES
27106

DEATHS
1398

DISCHARGED
295800

NEW CASES
3616

CRITICAL
12

220 fils (includes VAT)



Rare snow, hailstorms blanket cities of Saudi Arabia

TDT | Manama

Saudi Arabia is experiencing an unprecedented sharp drop in temperatures, with rare snowfalls and hailstorms blanketing six cities on the north side of the country.

Temperatures have hit minus 3 degrees in some places.

The weather is expected to intensify further in the coming weeks, with Saudi Arabia's National Center of Meteorology predicting the mercury to further dip in the capital Riyadh.

Weather reports say Arctic air masses from Siberia is transforming landscapes in and around Saudi Arabia.

Hussain Al-Qahtani, a spokesman for the Meteorolog-



ical Center, said there will be a "sharp drop in temperatures at the end of the week in the northern and central regions." Riyadh is expected to record between one and three degrees below zero.

The city of Turaif at the border with Jordan recorded yesterday minus 3 degrees and Qurayyat two degrees below zero.

Earlier this month, Saudi photographer Osama Al-Habri captured aerial images of Badr Governorate, southwest of Medina, dressed in white as locals gathered to enjoy the unusual sight.

On Wednesday, the city of Turaif recorded six degrees below zero, which is the lowest in 30 years.

'Cowardly' attack

Bahrain strongly condemns IS attack on Iraqi military base

● **Attack claimed the lives of 11 Iraqi soldiers**

● **IS also tried to attack a prison in Hasaka, Syria**

TDT | Agencies

Bahrain yesterday strongly condemned the deadly attacks by the Islamic State militants on the Iraqi military headquarters in Diyala, which claimed the lives of 11 Iraqi soldiers.

The attacks, the foreign ministry said, are "cowardly" and "contravene all international laws."

The international community should come forward to "condemn these heinous terrorist acts," the statement said, also affirming solidarity with the Iraqi government in the measures it takes to maintain security and stability.



The international community should condemn these heinous terrorist acts that contravene all international laws

BAHRAIN FOREIGN MINISTRY

Bahrain expressed deepest condolences and sympathy to the victims' families and brotherly Iraqi people.

Iraqi Defence Minister Jou-

ma Anad, in a tweet, confirmed the attack.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack on its affiliated Telegram channels.

Meanwhile, Kurdish-led forces in Syria killed 23 Islamic State militants, including foreigners, in clashes after the jihadist group attacked a prison in the northeastern city of Hasaka on Thursday, a military source in the Kurdish-led forces said.

The SDF military source said the attack on the prison coincided with Islamic State attacks in Iraq and what he described as movements by the militant group in the eastern Syrian province of Deir al-Zor.

"Islamic State is trying to impose its control on the area and to revive its organisation once again," the source said.

"Seven members of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) and an allied security force called the Asayish were killed in the attack," the SDF military source said yesterday.

As rain retreats, dust storms Bahrian



P2

Coalition investigating reports of airstrike hitting Yemen prison

TDT | agencies

Coalition forces fighting the Iran-aligned Houthi militia in Yemen yesterday said they are investigating reports that airstrikes hit a temporary detention centre in Sadda.

"We take this report very seriously and it will be fully investigated as all reports of this nature are, using an in-

ternationally approved, independent process. Whilst this is ongoing, it would be inappropriate to comment further," said coalition spokesman Brigadier-General Turki al-Malki. Houthi-run Al Masarah television channel said tens of people had been killed and injured in Saada.

(See page 4)

Post-Brexit strategy

Britain's Prince William to visit UAE next month

TDT | agencies

Queen Elizabeth's grandson Prince William will visit the United Arab Emirates next month, his office Kensington Palace announced yesterday, as Britain seeks to step up its relationship with the Gulf state.

William, the Duke of Cambridge, will visit Dubai on Feb. 10, with his trip coming as the UAE marks its 50th year and coinciding with UK National Day being held at Expo 2020 Dubai, his office said.



Britain has been looking to the Gulf countries for trade deals as part of its post-Brexit strategy

"The bond between the UK and the UAE is deep and strong and Prince William's visit will highlight and build upon these links as he has the opportunity to engage with young Emiratis, leaders from government and committed conservationists," Kensington Palace said in a statement.

Britain has been looking to the Gulf countries for trade deals as part of its post-Brexit strategy to build new ties around the world.

In September, UAE pledged to invest 10 billion pounds in British clean energy, infrastructure,

technology and life sciences, expanding its "sovereign investment partnership" with the UK government.

10

William, the Duke of Cambridge, will visit Dubai on Feb. 10, with his trip coming as the UAE marks its 50th year and coinciding with UK National Day being held at Expo 2020 Dubai



As rain retreats, dust storms Bahrain

● Emergency teams, cleaning companies in operation

● Officials are assessing damages

● Strong wind uprooted trees, hoardings

TDI | Manama

While the municipal workers are still labouring to remove the puddles left behind by the showers last week, clouds of dust have started wafting over the Kingdom, amplifying their woes.

However, there were no reports of any casualties or injuries.

Essam Khalaf, the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, said directives are given to municipalities to sweep and clean the streets until the dust storm settles and the weather returns to normality.

Municipal workers were in operation at all affected streets and squares of the Kingdom to clear the trees uprooted, and advertisement hoardings brought down in the gust of heavy wind that also massed tonnes of sand and dust on motorways and other places.

Sand and dust had covered roads in layers, adversely affect-



In pictures, workers in actions at various parts of Bahrain following a heavy dust storm

ing normal life, but thanks to the quick work of authorities, vehicular traffic mostly remained unaffected though visibility was poor.

The Meteorology department at the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications had earlier predicted the possibility of a dust wave by the northwest winds to hit the Kingdom.

Cleaning and sweeping operations are ongoing in the Capital Municipality, Muharraq Municipality, Northern Region Mu-

nicipality and Southern Region Municipality.

Leading these efforts are the emergency teams and cleaning companies. Works Ministry has also deployed inspectors to assess the damages caused and enforce necessary measures.

Works are also ongoing to keep public places, parks, walkways and waterfronts clear of dust.

Municipalities said they have established hotline numbers and circulated them on social media

channels for citizens to contact.

Capital Municipality

Capital Municipality said they are working 24/7 to remove the dust collected on the streets.

Sanad Complex 745, Al-Qudai-biya Complex 308, Al-Hooraa Cemetery, Al-Diya Park Complex 312, Budaiya Street, Complex 353, Sanabis, Complex 406, were all affected by the strong winds and dust.

Muharraq

Muharraq municipality said they had cleared layers of dust and sand accumulated on Sheikh Issa Bridge, Diyar Al Muharraq Street Complex 262, the Diyar Al Muharraq Street and Sheikh Isa bin Salman Bridge.

Workers also cleared the sand accumulated on Street 65 at the intersection of the entrance to Diyar Al Muharraq.

Northern

Northern region municipality said they are sweeping main



streets with automatic and manual sweepers to remove dust and sand.

Sand and dust blanketed Sheikh Khalifa Bin Street, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Street, Sheikh Salman Street and Sheikh Hamad Street. The dust has also layered over several secondary streets, roads, overpasses and tunnels.

Southern

The southern municipality said they cleared several uprooted trees from the roads following the strong gust of winds.

Street Sheikh Salman, Bahrain Bay Street near Al Qudra Village, public squares and sub-streets were swept clean by workers by removing truck-loads of sand and dust accumulated.

Cold weather today

The Meteorology department forecast climate to remain cold today with temperatures between 18 and 10 Degree Celsius.

Monday will be sunny for the Kingdom, with temperatures between 21 and 14 Degree Celsius.

Saudi defence downs ballistic missile fired @ Khamis Mushait

● Coalition investigating reports of strike on a detention centre

● UAE says reserves right to defend itself

● UN condemns attack on UAE, Saudi

TDI | Manama

The coalition forces supporting the legitimacy in Yemen yesterday said the Saudi defences downed a ballistic missile fired towards Khamis Mushait from Saada airport.

Coalition spokesman Brigadier-General Turki al-Malki said the Houthis aimed the ballistic missile at a commercial centre in Khamis Mushait.



The Saudi-led alliance on Thursday reported operations against "Houthi military capabilities"

"The Houthi escalation by targeting civilian infrastructure necessitates an immediate response to protect civilians," he said, adding that the coalition will continue to target Houthi camps and warehouses.

The Saudi-led alliance on Thursday reported operations against "Houthi military capabilities" in Hodeidah, ballistic missile launch platforms in Bayda province in central Yemen and military targets in Yemen's Houthi-held capital Sanaa.

On Thursday, the coalition also published pictures of the bombing of Houthi militia camps and warehouses in Sanaa.

The coalition had announced at dawn on Thursday that it had started a large-scale military operation to paralyze the capabilities of the Houthi militia.

"Legal and moral right"

Separately, Dr Anwar Gargash, the diplomatic adviser to the UAE president, yesterday said the UAE has a "legal and moral right" to defend itself against terrorist acts by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi militia.

"The UAE has a legal and moral right to defend its lands, population and sovereignty, and will exercise this right to defend itself and prevent terrorist acts pursued by the Houthi group," he was quoted as saying.

He said this during a call with Hans Grundberg, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General

of the United Nations to Yemen.

The UAE official also highlighted the lack of engagement of Houthis in a "political solution to the crisis," adding that the piracy of the UAE-flagged 'Rwabee' ship adds another dimension to the issue.

Gargash also called for a "strong and firm position" against the "terrorist acts by the Houthi militia" from the international community.

Airstrike on prison?

Meanwhile, a Save the Children report said three children and more than 60 adults were killed in airstrikes in Yemen yesterday. Responding, coalition spokesman Brigadier-General Turki al-Malki said, "We take this report very seriously and it will be fully investigated as all reports of this nature are, using an internationally approved, independent process. Whilst this is ongoing, it would be inappro-



Dr Anwar Gargash

prate to comment further."

UN condemns attack on UAE

The UN Security Council condemned the Houthi attack on the UAE and other sites in Saudi Arabia in a statement on Friday and "underlined the need to hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice."

The statement came after the council met behind closed doors to discuss the Houthi attack on the UAE, which requested the discussion. The UAE joined the

15-member council this month for a two-year term.

When asked about the airstrikes on Yemen on Friday, UAE UN Ambassador Lana Nusseibeh told reporters: "The coalition undertake to abide by international law and proportionate response in all its military operations."



The coalition has intensified airstrikes on Houthi military targets after the group carried out an unprecedented assault on coalition member the United Arab Emirates on Monday and further missile and drone launches at Saudi cities.

Bahrain TV needs two GMPLS links for Eutelsat 8 channels



TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Information Affairs has launched a tender for purchasing GMPLS links for transmitting Bahrain TV satellite channels on Eutelsat 8.

GMPLS is a networking technology that enables fast and reliable network switching of data flows on any network infrastructure.

MoI is looking forward to purchasing two identical 11 Mbps Generalized Multiprotocol Label Switching Links Circuits from Bahrain to GulfSat Uplink facilities.

The first is for Bahrain to Kuwait and the Second for Bahrain to London for Transmission on Eutelsat 8 Satellite.

Bahrain International and Bahrain TV utilise the GulfSat package through Eutelsat 8 for transmitting two SD and one HD channel.

The EUTELSAT 8 West B satellite was launched to 8° West

in 2015, joining satellites already operated at the adjacent 7° West position by Eutelsat and Egyptian satellite company NileSat. There are more than 660 channels that utilise the service of EUTELSAT 8 in the Middle East.

Make bids before the 2nd of March 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD30 tender fees.



With a fleet of 36 satellites serving broadcasters, video service providers, telecom operators, ISPs and government agencies operating across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, Eutelsat is one of the leading operators in the commercial satellite business.

Dawajin wants Reach Trucks, plastic pallets, poultry vaccines

TDT | Manama

The General Poultry Company (Dawajin) is looking forward to purchasing a Reach Truck.

Reach Trucks are forklifts used in narrow aisle applications, such as warehouses.

A tender by Dawajin says it intends to use the Reach Truck for accessing a Satellite Shuttle Racking System.

The truck should have a capacity of 1600 Kg with Transition lift control, Steering wheel indication, Fork Camera, Automatic parking brake, Side Shift & Overload Warning System.

Make bids before the 9th of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD15 fees.

Plastic pallet for packing stations

Separately, the General Poultry Company had launched a tender for buying plastic pallets for packing stations.



The pallets are for 'Shuttle Racking System Operations' with 1300 x 1000 x 150 mm dimensions.

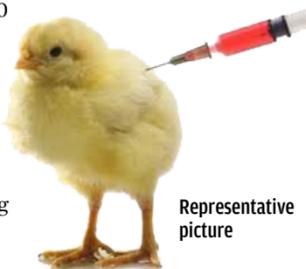
If interested, make bids before the 16th of February 2022, with a BD 500 bond and BD15 tender fees.

Poultry vaccines

Dawajin had also launched a tender for purchasing poultry vaccines.

The vaccines should have competitive pricing and quality.

Make bids before the 6th of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD15 tender fees.



Representative picture

Tender for CMS lands three bids

TDT | Manama

A tender by the National Communication Centre for creating a Centralised Content Management System attracted three bids.

Bahrain Telecommunications (BHD 301,043.072), Atyaf Esolutions (BHD 43,670.000), and Talal Abu Ghazaleh Consulting (BHD 113,850.000) are the bidders.

The tender was for creating a CMS capable of handling

different types of content and their internal customised workflows from creation until its approval and enabling these contents for consumers in a user-friendly format through different channels including mobile app (GCA) and website.

A CMS is a computer software used to manage the creation and modification of digital content. A CMS is typically used for enterprise content management (ECM) and web content management (WCM).

Bookfair preparations in full swing

TDT | Manama

Preparations are ongoing for the 19th Bahrain International Bookfair organised by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities at the exhibition hall of the Bahrain National Museum.

The biennial literary event will have 320 booths for participants and feature many cultural events.

The event will showcase regional and international publishers and booksellers spanning all subject areas under one roof.

The fair will have book sign-



ings, talks, exhibitions, music and film screenings, and children's activities.

Registration for the fair is open until the 15th of this month. To sign in, use this link: <https://bit.ly/3KwtD7x>

The fair in the past had more

than 120,000 visitors who discovered the universal value of the books and publications presented by 400 Arabic and international publishing houses.

The Ministry of Culture also organised parallel cultural events, such as poetry, music,

literary, and art criticism evenings mostly from many countries, which were hailed a major success by attendees and participants.

In preparations for the current edition, BACA has launched a tender for companies to prepare the decors for the fair. If interested, make bids before the 6th of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD30 tender fees.

The fare will begin on the 27th of March this year and continues until the 17th of April. The previous edition of the fair was from March to April 2018.

Eight cos bids for supplying pigs to Tawteer

TDT | Manama

A tender launched by Tatweer Petroleum for purchasing pigs for five years attracted eight companies.

Pigs in the oil field are used to clean large diameter pipelines, and the technique employed is known as pigging.

It is, basically, a device with blades or brushes inserted into pipelines for cleaning purposes. The pressure of the oil stream behind pushes the pig along pipelines to clean out rust, wax, scale and debris.

According to Tatweer, "pipeline pigging is a routine activity for the field maintenance and facility construction department".

Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo,



A pig on display in a section of cutaway pipe, from the Alaska Pipeline

Techno-line Trading & Services, Tylos building material, Al Jazeera Industrial services and Tylos Industrial Services, Enerserv, Global Energy for Oil Services

have made bids.

The bids range between BHD 820,967,500 and BHD 8,008,529,824. Everon Trading is the lowest bidder. However, according to the tender board, the lowest bidder may not receive the contract, as price becomes a principal criterion only after fulfilling technical and other criteria.

Why is it called a pig?

Early pigs were made from materials such as straw, barbed wire and leather and made a squealing sound while travelling through the pipes – for this reason, people called them "pigs". The name eventually became an acronym for "Pipeline Inspection Gauge" or "Pipeline Intervention Gauge".

BACA tender for car hiring gets six bids

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities's tender for hiring cars received six bids.

The bids range between BHD 12,180,000 and BHD 31,319,750.

Plus Rent a Car S.P.C, Kanoo Vehicle leasing, Tasheelat Car leasing Company, YK Almoayed & Sons, Zayani leasing and Arados Car Hiring are the bidders.

BACA is offering the contract for 35 months, starting from the 1st of February 2022 until the 31st of December 2024.

The lowest bidder is Tasheelat Car leasing Company.

Shaikh Hamad Grand Mosque renovation gets two bids

TDT | Manama

Two companies have made bids for renovating the Shaikh Hamad Grand Mosque.

Sarab Contracting (BHD 365,400,000) and Saraya Contractors (BHD 322,350,000) are the bidders. The tender was for demolishing and recreating sections of the minarets and reinforcing its foundation.

Maintenance works include plastering, electrical, flooring, painting and gypsum ceiling.

UoB wants 22 interactive educational screens

TDT | Manama

The University of Bahrain is looking forward to installing education screens for science classrooms at the College of Science.

The screens are for simultaneous blended teaching (remote and in the classroom simultaneously).

A tender launched by UoB calls for supplying and install-



Representative picture

ing 22 smart interactive educational screens.

15 Megacom ads for rent in Southern Municipality

TDT | Manama

an annual benefit fee.

An investor should pay the cost of advertising and releasing them to institutions and companies.

In interested, make bids before the 23rd of February 2022, with a BD1,000 bond and BD50 tender fees.

Southern Area Municipality has launched a tender for renting 15 mega com advertisements.

The advertisement spaces having a size of 4x3 meters is for three years in exchange for

Tatweer looking for a warehouse

TDT | Manama

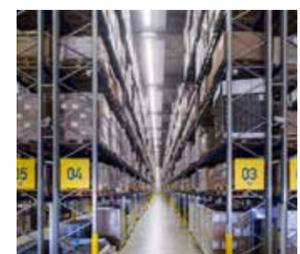
Tatweer Petroleum has launched a tender for hiring Warehouse as their multiple stores are now out of space.

The company Admin department requires a proper facility to store furniture and fixtures.

The facility should have proper storage arrangements to avoid damages.

The warehouse facility should comprise of two rooms; one workshop for testing and the second for storage.

This store should have shelves and lights to be hab-



Representative picture

itable with a conditioned area.

Access to this facility will be on a requirement basis only.

If interested, make bids before the 1st of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD15 tender fees.

BTEA launches tender for Point of Sale Soft & Hardware

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Tourism & Exhibition Authority has launched a tender for supply & installation of Point of Sale Soft and Hardware for the New Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre.

A successful contractor will be responsible for the Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the Point of Sale Soft & Hardware.

Make bids before the 28th of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD15 tender fees.

BIC wants digital signage, flatbed truck



Representative picture

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit has opened separate tenders for installing Instructional Digital Signage platforms (HIRE) and hiring Flatbed Truck for F1 2022. Make bids before the 2nd of February 2022, with a BD500 bond and BD15 tender fees.



Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Supreme Council for the Development of Education and Training, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, chaired the Council's virtual regular meeting. The Council discussed the latest developments on the "Skills Bahrain" project, the first integrated national initiative to set professional standards for practising professions in Bahrain. The meeting reviewed the latest updates on Al Hedaya Al Khalifiya University. The Education Minister presented the latest developments on the university and the updated study programmes it plans to offer, such as artificial intelligence (AI), Nanotechnology and renewable energy.



Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, held a meeting with the Executive Director of the Arab Group at IMF, Dr Mahmoud Mohieldin, in the presence of Finance and National Economy Minister, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa. Shaikh Khalid affirmed that the Kingdom is keen to strengthen its ties with UN institutions and agencies, particularly the International Monetary Fund (IMF), to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. He asserted that Bahrain is always keen to create promising job opportunities for citizens, accelerate growth by facilitating procedures and developing promising sectors and stimulate the economic environment through development projects.

Northern governor thanks swift response to support rain-affected citizens



TDT | Manama

Northern Governor, Ali bin Al-Shaikh Abdulmohsen Al-Asfoor, thanked, on behalf of all the citizens of the Al-Lawzi region, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and

Prime Minister, for swiftly documenting all flood-damages and compensating those affected and directives to develop sustainable drainage solutions in affected areas.

The governor commended the speedy implementation of the orders of HRH by credit-

ing the compensation amounts to the accounts of the affected citizens.

Al-Asfoor thanked Interior Minister, Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister and all others concerned for their swift response.

Bahrain, Greece for greater trade ties



Ministers and officials during the meeting held in Athens

TDT | Manama

Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, yesterday stressed the importance of strengthening bilateral relations between Bahrain and Greece.

The minister highlighted the importance of strengthening partnerships and widening the horizons of financial and economic cooperation.

"This should be in a way that meets the visions and aspira-

tions of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the efforts of the government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister," the minister said.

The minister said this during a meeting held yesterday in the Greek capital, Athens, with Greek Minister of Development and Investments, Adonis Georgiadis, Minister of Tourism, Vasilis Kikilias, and other officials.

Al Zayani participated in the

meeting with Youth and Sports Affairs Minister, Ayman bin Tawfiq Al-Moayyad, Chief Executive Officer of the Economic Development Board (EDB), Khalid Humaidan, and the Undersecretary for Research and Projects at the Prime Minister's Office, Hamad Yacoub Al-Mahmeed.

Members of the official delegation affirmed the importance of visits aimed at enhancing financial cooperation and developing investments between Bahrain and Greece.



Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam bin Abdulla Khalaf received Bangladeshi Ambassador to Bahrain Dr Mohammed Nazrul Islam. The minister hailed deep bilateral relations and joint cooperation across all sectors, particularly infrastructure and exchanging expertise, praising the ambassador's efforts to further joint ties.

Bahrain welcomes UN Security Council's statement condemning Houthi attack on UAE

TDT | Manama

Bahrain yesterday welcomed the United Nations' Security Council statement, which unanimously condemned the attacks by the terrorist Houthi militia on the United Arab Emirates and civilian facilities

in Abu Dhabi.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed that the unanimous UN condemnation reflects the international support for the legal right of the UAE to defend its sovereignty and protect its security, stability, and safety

against the criminal Houthi acts.

The ministry further called on the international community to take a firm and decisive stance against the terrorist Houthi militia and reach a ceasefire and a political solution to the Yemeni crisis.



University of Bahrain (UoB) President Dr Jawaher bint Shaheen Al Mudhahki with Turkish Ambassador to Bahrain Esen "akil. The UoB President praised the close relations between higher education institutions in Bahrain and Turkey and stressed the importance of strengthening academic ties to develop scientific research.

UAE bourses end higher on financial, telecom boost

● Markets in the UAE shifted to a new Monday-to-Friday working week

Reuters

Stock markets in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) closed in the green yesterday, with Dubai's index buoyed by the financial sector and Abu Dhabi's riding on the back of telecom gains.

Dubai's main share index (.DFMGI) added 1.3%, as Emirates NBD Bank (ENBD.DU) registered its best jump since April 2020 of 6.3% ahead of its earnings results next week.



A trader looks at the screens at Bahrain Bourse in Manama, Bahrain

Analysts expect the bank to post a net profit of more than 9 billion dirhams (\$2.45 billion) for 2021, up from 7 billion (\$1.91 billion) dirhams a year earlier, according to Refinitiv data.

Closing bell

ABU DHABI ▲ 0.3% to 8,706 pts
DUBAI ▲ 1.3% to 3,210 pts

Abu Dhabi's index (.FTFADGI) edged up 0.3% as gains in telecom shares helped offset a slip in financial stocks.

Telecoms operator Etisalat Group (ETISALAT.AD) rose 3.2%, while the country's largest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB.AD) was down 1.3%.

The Dubai index gained 0.3% for the week, while Abu Dhabi's added 3.3%.

Markets in the UAE shifted to a new Monday-to-Friday working week from the start of the year to better align with global markets.

US safety firm withdraws certification for two oil tankers over Iran sanctions

Reuters | London

Two tankers have had their environmental and safety classification withdrawn by a US company that provides such certification, after accusations by a US advocacy group that they had shipped cargoes of Iranian oil, documents seen by Reuters show.

Countries targeted by tougher US sanctions, including Iran and Venezuela, have responded to the mounting pressure with elaborate strategies to circumvent restrictions on their oil exports.

Top oil shipping companies say they have in turn responded by tightening guidelines and deploying technology to prevent accidental sanctions breaches, which US officials have said could lead to them being cut out of the dollar financial system and having assets seized.

Several shipping sources involved in legal advisory and insurance services to the industry have told Reuters that inadvertent breaches are also a growing danger for ship certification societies such as American Bureau of Shipping



A gas flare on an oil production platform is seen alongside an Iranian flag

(ABS), which in the past month withdrew cover for the two tankers.

"Classification societies are faced with the challenge of keeping up with Iran's tactics in order to avoid facing sanctions themselves," Claire Jungman, chief of staff at United Against Nuclear Iran (UANI), said.

Classification societies provide services such as checking that ships are seaworthy.

UANI, the US group, which monitors Iran-related tanker traffic through ship and satellite tracking, alerted ABS in December to what it said were transfers of Iranian oil involving several vessels, including the Panama-flagged Karo and the Belize-flagged Elsa, correspondence between the two groups seen by Reuters shows.

World Economic Forum to hold 2022 annual meeting in Davos in May

Reuters | Zurich

The World Economic Forum will hold its 2022 annual meeting in the Swiss mountain resort of Davos from May 22-26, the Geneva-based group said yesterday.

The WEF had in December postponed the event for the business and political elite a month before it was due to take place, citing the difficulties of holding such an in-person conference amid the spread of the Omicron coronavirus variant. "After all the virtual meetings taking place in the last two years, leaders from politics, business and civil society have to convene finally in person again," WEF founder and Chairman Klaus Schwab said in a statement.

"We need to establish the atmosphere of trust that is truly



A general view shows the Alpine resort Davos

needed to accelerate collaborative action and to address the multiple challenges we face."

Topics on the agenda will include the pandemic recovery, tackling climate change, building a better future for work, accelerating stakeholder capitalism, and harnessing the technologies of the fourth industrial revolution, it said.

Biden administration suspending 44 US flights by Chinese carriers

● Chinese authorities suspended a total of 44 United Airlines, American Airlines and Delta Air Lines flights

Reuters | Washington

The US Transportation Department said yesterday it would suspend 44 China-bound flights from the United States by four Chinese carriers in response to the Chinese government's decision to suspend some US carrier flights over COVID-19 concerns.

The Biden administration action came after Chinese authorities suspended a total of 44 United Airlines, American Airlines (AAL.O) and Delta Air

Lines (DAL.N) flights after some passengers tested positive for COVID-19.

The suspensions will begin on Jan. 30 with Xiamen Airlines' scheduled Los Angeles-to-Xiamen flight.

The decision will cut some flights by Xiamen, Air China (601111.SS), China Southern Airlines (600029.SS) and China Eastern Airlines (600115.SS). The Chinese Embassy in Washington did not immediately comment.

The Transportation Department said China's suspension of some flights "are adverse to the public interest and warrant proportionate remedial action." It added that China's "unilateral actions against the named US carriers are inconsistent" with a China-US bilateral agreement.

Twitter says two security team leaders leaving company

Reuters

Twitter Inc (TWTR.N) said yesterday its head of security is no longer at the company and its chief information security officer will depart in the coming weeks.

The shakeup comes after Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey stepped down as chief executive in November, handing the reins to top deputy Parag Agrawal, who has since reorganized the leadership structure of the social media

company.

Peiter Zatkó, a famed hacker more widely known as "Mudge," was appointed head of security in 2020 after Twitter suffered a security breach that allowed hackers to tweet from verified accounts for public figures including billionaire Bill Gates and Tesla CEO Elon Musk.

The New York Times first reported Zatkó's departure and Rinki Sethi's upcoming departure as CISO earlier on Friday.

Airbus revokes Qatar order for 50 A321 jets as rift widens

Reuters | Paris

Airbus (AIR.PA) on Thursday raised the stakes in a dispute with major customer Qatar Airways over grounded and undelivered A350 jets by announcing it had revoked a separate contract for 50 smaller A321neo jets the airline plans to use for new routes.

The move widens a dispute that moved closer towards a rare courtroom clash on Thursday, with a procedural hearing over Qatar's claim for more than \$600 million in compensation over A350 flaws pencilled in for the week of April 26 in London.

Airbus revealed it was walking away from the contract for A321neos in skeletal arguments presented during a scheduling session over the A350 dispute at a division of Britain's High Court on Thursday, people familiar with the matter said.

"We confirm we did terminate the contract for 50 A321s with Qatar Airways in accordance with our rights," an Airbus spokesman said following a filing setting out provisional arguments, reported earlier by Bloomberg News.

Qatar Airways is expected to



An Airbus A321neo flies during a flying display at the first day of the 52nd Paris Air Show at Le Bourget airport near Paris, France

fight the A321neo contract's termination, having said it plans to take delivery of the jets even though it is refusing to take more A350s until a dispute over surface erosion on the larger planes

Qatar releases video, hits back at Airbus in A350 paint row

Reuters | Paris

Qatar Airways hit back yesterday at a decision by Airbus (AIR.PA) to widen a dispute over damaged passenger jets by cancelling a separate \$4.6 billion order for A321neos.

The Gulf airline also released a video appearing to show patches of damage to paint and



a layer of lightning protection on two A350s grounded by its regulator, in the first official

has been resolved.

The airline said in a court filing that it was "working through the practical consequences" of the A321 decision, adding that Airbus was not entitled to declare a "cross-default" on the basis of Qatar's refusal to take more A350s in the main dispute.

Qatar Airways had no immediate comment on the A321neo contract, which has its roots in an order 10 years ago worth \$4.6 billion at list prices, originally for a smaller version.

Qatar Airways has said the A321s will help it launch flights to new markets where there is currently not enough demand for larger aircraft, but which are out of reach of smaller A320s.

images to emerge in a dispute with the European planemaker.

A clip issued by Qatar Airways showed peeling or missing paint and damage to underlying anti-lightning protection, as well as what the airline described as patches of structural carbon-fibre exposed to moisture and ultra-violet light.

Qatar's first A321neo is due to be delivered in February 2023, according to the airline filing. Industry experts say the hot-selling model can easily be resold, in contrast with a drop in demand for big jets like the A350, worsened by the pandemic.

The Gulf carrier is also asking British judges to order France-based Airbus not to attempt to deliver any more of the jets until what it describes as a design defect has been fixed.

Airbus has said it will "deny in total" the complaint and has accused Qatar Airways, once one of its most highly courted customers, of mislabeling the problem as a safety concern.

It has indicated it will argue that state-owned Qatar Airways influenced its regulator to ground the jets to win compensation, while Qatar Airways has questioned the design and accuses Airbus of failing to produce studies, the people said.

Qatar Airways has said its local regulator is independently driving safety decisions and cannot evaluate the airworthiness of the affected jets without a deeper analysis from Airbus.



Qatar Airways says its national regulator has ordered it to stop flying 21 out of its 53 A350 jets as problems appeared, prompting a bitter dispute with Airbus which has said that while it acknowledges technical problems, there is no safety issue.

Qatar Airways is seeking \$618 million in compensation for the 21 grounded jets plus \$4 million a day as the row drags on. The A321 development could increase that claim.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency, which is responsible for the overall design but not the locally regulated airworthiness of individual planes in service, has said it has not so far found safety problems with A350s that it inspected.

News in brief

US Capitol assault probe asks Ivanka Trump to cooperate



Lawmakers investigating the 2021 US Capitol assault asked Donald Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump to cooperate with their inquiry, in a significant escalation of attempts to seek testimony from the inner circle of the former president. The House January 6 select committee told the 40-year-old businesswoman -- then a senior advisor to her father -- it had evidence that she had pleaded with him to call off the violence as his supporters stormed Congress.

US President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida agree to boost security, economic cooperation amid mounting concerns

The online meeting, the first substantial talks since Kishida became Japan's prime minister in October, followed "two-plus-two" discussions this month at which defense and foreign ministers from the longtime allies voiced strong concern about China's growing might and vowed to respond if necessary to destabilizing activity in the Indo-Pacific.



Germany wants to attract 400,000 skilled workers from abroad each year



Germany's new coalition government wants to attract 400,000 qualified workers from abroad each year to tackle both a demographic imbalance and labour shortages in key sectors that risk undermining the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. "The shortage of skilled workers has become so serious by now that it is dramatically slowing down our economy," Christian Duerr, parliamentary leader of the co-governing Free Democrats (FDP), told business magazine WirtschaftsWoche.

Scientists say the plant enset, an Ethiopian staple, could be a new superfood and a lifesaver in the face of climate change.

The banana-like crop has the potential to feed more than 100 million people in a warming world, according to a new study. The plant is almost unknown outside of Ethiopia, where it is used to make porridge and bread. Research suggests the crop can be grown over a much larger range in Africa.



False banana offers hope for warming world

US charges 2nd man in Haitian president's murder

The US Justice Department charged a Haitian-Chilean man Thursday with conspiracy to commit murder for his role in the assassination of Haitian president Jovenel Moise last July. The charges were unveiled in federal court in Miami against Rodolphe Jaar, 49, after he was arrested in the Dominican Republic and transferred Monday to the United States. An FBI affidavit filed in the case said that, in an interview in December, Jaar admitted that he had provided guns and ammunition to the group of Colombians who carried out the murder.

The US Justice Department charged a Haitian-Chilean man Thursday with conspiracy

COVID-19: Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths
1 USA	70,544,862	883,903
2 India	38,566,027	488,422
3 Brazil	23,588,921	622,251
4 UK	15,709,059	153,490
5 France	15,600,647	128,114
6 Russia	10,987,774	324,752
7 Turkey	10,808,770	85,600
8 Italy	9,597,362	142,963
9 Spain	8,834,363	91,599
10 Germany	8,522,046	117,210
11 Argentina	7,576,335	118,809
12 Iran	6,241,843	132,172
13 Colombia	5,655,026	131,627
14 Mexico	4,545,683	302,390

Global tally: 344,502,993
Deaths: 5,597,102
Recovered: 275,677,283
New cases: +1,449,017
New deaths: +4,108

Middle East

Figures as of closing

Country	Total cases	New cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	405,393		22,260		339,259	43,874
Saudi Arabia	643,211	+4,884	8,916	+2	590,140	44,155
UAE	819,866	+2,921	2,207	+3	765,982	51,677
Kuwait	484,150		2,482		436,838	44,830
Oman	318,272		4,125		303,644	10,503
Qatar	317,277	+3,204	632		275,813	40,832

US and Russia try to lower temperature in Ukraine crisis

Blinken, Lavrov describe talks as 'frank', voice hope for lowering temperature

AFP | Geneva

Washington and Moscow's top diplomats agreed yesterday to keep working to ease tensions over Ukraine, with the United States promising a written response to Russian security demands and not ruling out a presidential meeting.

As fears grow that Russia could invade its pro-Western neighbour, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken renewed warnings of severe Western reprisals as he met for 90 minutes with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in Geneva.

But Blinken described the high-stakes talks as "frank" and not "polemical", with Lavrov also voicing hope for a lowering of the temperature between the former Cold War foes.

Russia has massed tens of thousands of troops on the Ukrainian border, denying it plans to invade but demanding security guarantees, including a permanent ban on the country joining NATO.

Blinken said that Washington will share written ideas with Russia next week in which it will also make clear its own positions.

"We didn't expect any major breakthroughs to happen today, but I believe we are now on a clear path in terms of understanding each other's concerns and each other's positions," Blinken told reporters.

"We anticipate that we will be able to share with Russia our concerns and ideas in more detail in writing next week and we agreed to further discussions after that," he added.

Speaking separately to reporters, Lavrov also said he was promised the written responses next week.

"Antony Blinken agreed that we need to have a reasonable dialogue, and I hope emotions will decrease," he said.

"I cannot say whether or not



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, left, shakes hands with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov before their meeting

"We didn't expect any major breakthroughs to happen today, but I believe we are now on a clearer path to understanding each other's positions"

SERGEI LAVROV

we are on the right track. We will know when we get an answer."

He added that another meeting could be held between the two, but that it was "premature" to start talking about another summit between Presidents Joe Biden and Vladimir Putin, who met in Geneva last June.

Blinken, however, did not rule out fresh talks between the presidents after Biden twice warned Putin by telephone of consequences for any Ukraine invasion.

"If we conclude (and) the Russians conclude that the best way to resolve things is through a further conversation between them, we're certainly prepared to do that," Blinken said.

Blinken bluntly assessed on Wednesday that Putin is likely to "move in" on Ukraine and warned of a "disaster for Russia".

Cold War redux?

Russia, which already fuels a deadly insurgency in eastern Ukraine that has killed more than 13,000 people since 2014, has demanded guarantees that NATO never admit the former Soviet republic or expand

otherwise in Moscow's old sphere.

The United States has declared the idea a "non-starter" and accused Russia of undermining Europe's post-Cold War order by bullying another country into submission.

Russia yesterday reiterated demands for the "withdrawal of foreign forces, hardware and arms" from countries that were not NATO members before 1997, this time singling out Bulgaria and Romania, two former Warsaw Pact countries that joined NATO in 2004.

Romania's foreign ministry quickly hit back, saying the demand "is unacceptable and cannot be part of a negotiation". Blinken headed to Geneva after a solidarity trip to Kyiv and talks with Britain, France and Germany in Berlin.

Even while rejecting the core Russian demands, the Biden administration has said it is willing to speak to Moscow about its security concerns.

One proposal by the United States is to revive restrictions on missiles in Europe that had been set by the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, a Cold War deal trashed by former president Donald Trump's administration as it accused Moscow of violations.

The Biden administration has also offered more transparency on military exercises.

Russia has not rejected the proposals but says that its core concern is Ukraine and on Thursday announced massive naval drills in the Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic and Mediterranean as a show of force.

Security beefed up in Pakistan capital after deadly Lahore blast

AFP | Lahore

Security was beefed up across Pakistan's capital yesterday, police said, a day after three people were killed and 22 wounded by a bomb in the eastern megacity of Lahore.

The country has suffered a string of blasts and attacks since December, when a truce between the government and Pakistan's Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) lapsed.

But Thursday's bomb blast -- in a busy shopping district of Lahore -- was claimed by the Baloch Nationalist Army (BNA), the newest of several separatist groups to emerge from Paki-



Police officers stand guard as ambulances prepare to transport any injured people from the site of a bomb explosion, in Lahore

stan's biggest but poorest province, Balochistan.

Police spokesman Naem Iqbal said that security would be tightened in Islamabad, the seat of the government and home to dozens of embassies and other international institutions.

He said uniformed and plain-clothes officers would fan across the city, particularly in crowded areas such as markets. Earlier this week a policeman was killed and two others wounded in a drive-by motorcycle shooting in the capital by two TTP militants who died in return fire.

Massive

Road accident in west

Investigators say explosive-laden truck collided with motorcycle

AFP | Accra

At least 1 people were killed and 59 injured Thursday in a devastating explosion in a western Ghana town after a truck carrying explosives intended for a mine collided with a motorcycle, the government said.

The blast left a huge crater and reduced dozens of buildings to dust-covered piles of wood and metal in Apiate, near the city of Bogoso some 300 kilometres (180 miles) west of the mineral-rich West African country's capital Accra.

Footage verified by AFP showed locals rushing towards a raging fire and rising plumes of black smoke to inspect the damage, while rescue workers waded through the rubble to find survivors caught in the devastation and retrieve lifeless bodies.

"A total of 13 people have unfortunately been confirmed dead, and 59 injured people have been rescued," Information Minister Kojo Opong Nkrumah said in a statement released overnight.

The minister said initial signs point to "an accident involving

New Zealand in Tonga as

Reuters | Wellington

Life-saving water supplies from a New Zealand navy ship were distributed across Tonga's main island yesterday, as other countries battled the logistics of delivering aid to one of the world's remotest communities.

Six days after the South Pacific archipelago was devastated by a volcanic eruption and tsunami that deposited a blanket of ash and polluted its water sources, the HMNZS Aotearoa docked in the capital, Nuku'alofa.

The ship carried 250,000 litres of water and desalination equipment able to produce 70,000 litres more per day, New Zealand's High Commission said.

"Trucks ... have begun collecting and delivering water supplies from Aotearoa," the Commission said on its Facebook page.

The first flights from Australia and New Zealand landed on Thursday with some water as well as shelter, communication equipment and generators.

On Thursday, an Australian flight was forced to return to base because of a positive COVID-19 case onboard, while yesterday technical problems delayed one of two Japanese C-130 transporters carrying 5,000 litres of drinking water, Japan's Self-Defence Forces said.

Underlining the complexity of mounting a contactless international aid operation to one of the few countries free of COVID-19, the Australian plane was turned

1689

Prince William of Orange (future King William III of Britain), summons Convention Parliament to discuss ruling jointly with his wife Mary (daughter of exiled King James II)



1879

Battle of Rorke's Drift: British garrison of 150 holds off 3,000-4,000 Zulu warriors. Eleven Victoria Crosses and a number of other decorations were awarded to the defenders

1905

In St Petersburg, Russia, a large demonstration of workers led by Father Gapon, march to the Winter Palace with a petition to the Tsar; troops fire on protesters in what becomes known as 'Bloody Sunday'

1973

Roe vs Wade: US Supreme Court legalizes most abortions

Explosion rocks town in Ghana

Northern Ghana causes huge explosion, kills 13 and destroys hundreds of buildings



Debris of houses and other buildings that were destroyed when a vehicle carrying mining explosives detonated along a road in Apiate, Ghana

A truck transporting explosive materials for a mining company, a motorcycle and a third vehicle which took place near an electrical transformer.

Out of 59 people injured, 42 are receiving treatment in hospitals or health centres and "some are in critical condition", Nkrumah added.

Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo called it a "truly sad, unfortunate and tragic incident" and expressed "deep condolences to

the families of the deceased".

'Ghost town'

Officials and eyewitnesses described a scene of desolation against the sea of buildings collapsed or impaired in the carnage.

"It's a black Thursday. So far 500 houses have been affected. Some have been razed down completely by the explosion while others have developed cracks," Sedzi Sadzi Amedonu, Deputy Coordinator of the National Dis-

aster Management Organization, told AFP.

"It's almost like a ghost town now."

Abena Mintah, who witnessed the driver of the truck dropped down from his hatch, shouting at those nearby to warn them away from the flaming vehicle.

"Within a few minutes we heard a loud bang. I felt dizzy and fell in the bush. I managed to get up and saw a few dismembered

All of the roofs have been ripped off, some of the buildings have collapsed. Some were in their rooms, and were trapped. Some of them unfortunately, before we were able to rescue them, were already gone

DR ISAAC DASMANI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE MUNICIPALITY

bodies on the street," Mintah said.

The government said those in critical condition would be moved to hospitals in Accra and police asked surrounding villages to open their schools and churches to accommodate any additional casualties.

A team of police and army explosion experts were deployed to "avoid a second explosion" and put in place security measures after the blast, the government said in a press release.

Emergency services were to give a casualty update yesterday at 11:00 am (1100 GMT).

Dr Isaac Dasmani, chief executive of the Prestea Huni-Valley municipality where the explosion occurred, told local media "the whole community is gone" after the blast.

"All of the roofs have been ripped off, some of the buildings have collapsed. Some were in their rooms, and were trapped. Some of them unfortunately, before we were able to rescue them, were already gone," he told Ghana's TV3 broadcaster.

Authorities have created an access route to the scene and were working to open roads yesterday to ease traffic around the blast site, he said.

Ghana has been rocked by several deadly explosions caused by fuel accidents in recent years.

In 2017, at least three people were killed and dozens injured after a tanker truck carrying natural gas caught fire in Accra, triggering explosions at two fuel stations and killing three people.

Ghana's capital was the scene of a similar fire and explosion in June 2015, when more than 150 people died as they sought shelter from seasonal rains and flooding at a petrol station. The blaze was believed to have spread by fuel on the floodwater.

Deadly accidents linked to the mining sector are also frequent in Ghana, Africa's second largest gold producer after South Africa, but they are mostly caused by the collapse of mines, often illegal ones.

In June, at least nine people died in the collapse of an illegal mine in northern Ghana.

Water ship unloads other aid trickles in



Royal New Zealand Navy's HMNZS Aotearoa sails in the sea off the coast of Tonga another flight that took off yesterday.

The Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano eruption last Saturday triggered a tsunami that destroyed villages and resorts and knocked out communications for the nation of about 105,000 people. Three people have been reported killed, authorities said.

The salt water from the tsunami spoiled most sources of water and Tongans have been struggling to find clean water as they clear away the ash.

"We are cleaning the ash and have been since Monday," said Branko Sugar, 61, who runs a bottle shop and fishing charter business from Nuku'alofa.

"Everything is so dusty, and we are running out of water," he said over a patchy telephone line. "We only have the tap water, and it's been contaminated. We... can hardly breathe for all the dust."

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Four people including baby freeze to death near US-Canada border

AFP | Winnipeg

Canadian authorities found the bodies of four people including a baby who apparently froze to death in a blizzard a few meters from the US border along a route used by migrants, officials said Thursday.

The temperature Wednesday when the bodies were found amid vast snowdrifts, taking into account the wind, was minus 35 degrees Celsius (minus 31 degrees Fahrenheit).

"At this very early stage of the investigation, it appears that they all died due to exposure to the cold weather," the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said in a statement.

The bodies of two adults and a baby were found about 12 meters (yards) from the US border about 10 kilometers (six miles) from the town of Emerson in central Manitoba province.

The body of a fourth person who appeared to be a teenage boy was found later, police said.

Earlier in the day, border agents on the US side detained a group of people who had just crossed over and had baby items with them but no baby. This triggered a search on both sides of the border.

The first bodies were found after four hours of searching.

The US Department of Justice said Thursday they had arrested a man along the same route, charging him with human smuggling.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officers on the scene where four people were found dead near the Canada/US border

YOU KNOW WHAT
Emerson is along a route which migrants use to travel between the United States and Canada

The 47-year-old Florida native was found driving a van with two undocumented Indian nationals inside less than one mile south of the Canadian border, the Department said, near where the group of migrants was arrested.

The nationalities of the de-

ceased were not given, though the US Department of Justice said they were "tentatively identified" to be separated members of the same group that was arrested.

Manitoba Assistant Commissioner Jane MacLachy told an earlier press conference she considered these people "victims."

"We're very concerned that this attempted crossing may have been facilitated in some way and that these individuals including an infant were left on their own in the middle of a blizzard when the weather had hovered around minus 35 degrees Celsius, factoring the wind," she said.

"These victims face not only the cold weather, but also endless fields, large snowdrifts, and complete darkness," she added.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



We were the first nation in the world to administer a vaccine, and one of the fastest in Europe to roll it out. We kept open this winter while others locked down. And we're the first to emerge from Omicron because we delivered the fastest booster campaign in Europe.

@BorisJohnson

02



My thoughts are with the people affected by the explosion in Apiate, #Ghana. My deepest condolences go to those who have lost loved ones. My brother, Ghana President @NAkufoAddo, @WHO will provide support so that people in need receive health assistance.

@DrTedros

03



Young people are innovating in the creation of solutions to prevent conflicts & build peace. The international community also needs to do its part. Increased & more accessible resources are needed to continue supporting these essential youth-led efforts.

@antonioguterres

04



It was an honor to meet with Prime Minister Kishida to further strengthen the U.S.-Japan Alliance — the cornerstone of peace and security in the Indo-Pacific and around the world.

@POTUS

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

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TAMCON CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or AALABBASI@TAMCON.BH

SHINE TOWER CLEANING CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36617007 or STCCONTRACTINGBH@GMAIL.COM

GOLD MAJESTIC Cafeteria has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39043725 or AKRAMMADAN@HOTMAIL.COM

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Sayed Kadhem aldurazi & sons B.S.c. close has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17624116 or sayedshubbar@skaldurazi.com

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UNIVERSAL FOUNDATIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620673 or SKDGRPCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

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39452717 or FAHAD.BUFAISAL@GMAIL.COM

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BATSCO CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822202 or info@batSCO.net

AL JAZEERA SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32242444 or info@jssbahrain.com

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Clean and green services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39922434 or cleangreenbh@gmail.com

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KINDOM OF FLOWERS NURSERY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33755623 or ABRAHIM4321@gmail.com

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Khalil ebrahim ahmed thai resturant has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR(INTERNAL WORKS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34045666 or KHALILFTMP@GMAIL.COM

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GENTS GALLERY READY MADE CLOTHES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33835614 or Hanano.herz71@Gmail.com

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CELEBS

celebs

Andrew Garfield reveals Emma Stone's reaction after he lied about 'Spider-Man' return

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actor Andrew Garfield, who dated Emma Stone after they met on the sets of 'The Amazing Spider-Man', has shared the reaction the actress had after he lied about his return as the superhero in 'Spider-Man: No Way Home'.

The British actor revealed that Stone kept on texting him about whether the rumours of his involvement in the new film were true, reports aceshowbiz.com.

"Emma kept on texting me. She was like, 'Are you in this new Spider-Man film?'" he recalled.

"And I was like, 'I don't know what you're talking about,'" the Golden Globe winner admitted.

He continued: "She was like, 'Shut up. Just tell me'. I'm like, 'I honestly don't know' - I kept it going, even with her."

After Stone watched 'No Way Home' and found out the truth, she was understandably upset with her former boyfriend.

Garfield shared: "And then she saw it. She was like, 'You're a jerk!'"

He had numerous times denied that he would reprise his role as Spider-Man in 'No Way Home' before it hit theatres.

"I heard about it. And I did see it. And it's a Photoshop," he said on 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon' in September 2021 after a leaked photo showed him wearing the suit again.

He further explained his position with the project: "I think that Tom Holland is just the perfect Peter Parker and Spider-Man, so I am super stoked. I get to just be a fan again, which is my preferred position."



Garfield had numerous times denied that he would reprise his role as Spider-Man in 'No Way Home' before it hit theatres



Emma Stone

John Cena talks about why he isn't considering fatherhood

ANI | Washington

Hollywood star John Cena during his recent appearance on 'The Drew Barrymore Show', shared why he believes fatherhood is not the right move for him at the moment.

According to People magazine, the topic was brought up on the show after host and actor Drew Barrymore pointed out that Cena has granted more than 600 wishes for children through the organization, Make-A-Wish, and suggested that he would be "kind of the world's greatest father."

Before discussing the possibility, Cena talked about how he currently has a lot on his plate including being the "best" husband to wife Shay Shariatzadeh.

He said, "I really enjoy my life ... it is hard work. It is hard work to balance the time I need to run myself correctly. It's hard



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I really enjoy my life ... it is hard work. It is hard work to balance the time I need to run myself correctly

JOHN CENA

work to be the best husband I can be to my loving wife. It is hard to keep connections with those in my life I love and it is also hard to put in an honest day's work."

The star then shared his "perspective" on why men should consider becoming fathers. He explained, "I think just because you might be good at something, for me, it is not a strong enough reason to do that. You have to have passion for it. You have to have a fuel for it. It's like saying to someone 'you are pretty good with your hands, you would be a good carpenter.' But if I want to be an actor, I'll be an actor."

John Cena

Gemma Arterton on her 'The King's Man' character: 'She's very tough, cleverest person in the room'

IAN S | Los Angeles

British actress-producer Gemma Arterton, who essays the character of Polly, the nanny of Harris Dickinson's Conrad in the recently released spy action comedy 'The King's Man', describes her character as an alpha that heads the household.

Talking about her character, the actress says, "She is Conrad's nanny, so she's taken care of him. But she's sort of the boss of everyone, including Oxford. She's very tough. She doesn't take any crap. She's the cleverest person in the room. She's very, very smart. But also very funny. A wise-cracker."

Rupert Grint compares JK Rowling to 'aunt I don't agree with'

IAN S | London

'Harry Potter' star Rupert Grint has spoken about the relationship he shares with author JK Rowling, who wrote the stories that helped propel him to fame.

Chatting with The Sunday Times, the 33-year-old actor said: "I liken JK Rowling to an auntie. I don't necessarily agree with everything my auntie says, but she's still my auntie. It's a tricky one."

Grint is likely referring to some of the tweets that Rowling has put out, as well as others she has retweeted and

liked, that trans rights activists say hurt their cause and in turn, the lives of those who are trans, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The author had previously tweeted: "If sex isn't real, the lived reality of women globally is erased. I know and love trans people, but erasing the concept of sex removes the ability of many to meaningfully discuss their lives."

Grint had spoken out in support of the trans community back in 2020, issuing a statement to Us Weekly that said: "I firmly

stand with the trans community. Trans women are women. Trans men are men. We should all be entitled to live with love and without judgment."

He added, during a 2021 interview with Esquire: "I felt like I had to (speak) because I think it was important to," nothing that the trans community are "a valuable group that I think needs standing up for".

Rowling has been in the news for what some would describe as all the wrong reasons, as of late. She didn't take part in any new filming for the 'Return to Hogwarts' anniversary special, leading to many jumping to the conclusion that it was her stance on trans rights that led to that decision.



Rupert Grint

Katy Perry reveals beau Orlando Bloom's grossest habit

IAN S | Los Angeles

Pop star Katy Perry has revealed what her fiance and actor Orlando Bloom's "worst habit" is. She said it is leaving used dental floss all over their bathroom.

After being asked what bad habits her fiance has, the 37-year-old singer told hosts Amanda Holden and Jamie Theakston: "Oh my God, he loves to floss, which thank



Katy Perry

God because some partners don't and it's disgusting and he has brilliant teeth.

"But he leaves the floss, everywhere! On the side of my bed, and in the car, and on the kitchen table, I'm like, 'There are bins everywhere!'"

The 'American Idol' judge also gave some insight into her family's delayed but "amazing" Christmas celebrations, which took place on January 2 - and how it was the "favourite" Christmas she had ever had in her life, partly because of her daughter reaching an age where she understood what was happening.

Perry, who shares 16-month-old daughter Daisy with the 'Pirates of the Caribbean' star, said: "I celebrated Christmas with my family, which was amazing."

SUDOKU

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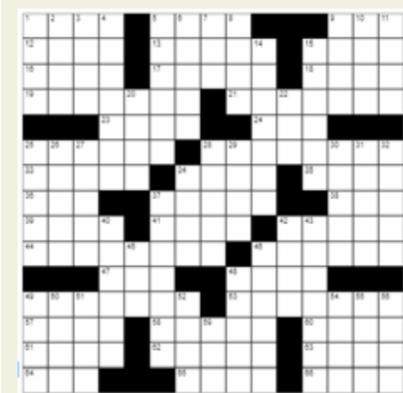
Yesterday's solution

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

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- Drab; 5- Willingly; 9- Relaxing resort; 12- Rampant; 13- Inactive; 15- Singer Young; 16- Shrinking sea; 17- Permit; 18- never work; 19- Ring locale; 21- Periodic publication; 23- Sect; 24- Haul; 25- Rectangle having equal sides; 28- Extravagant; 33- Ejects; 34- Algerian seaport; 35- Mal de ...; 36- Meadow; 37- Remove hair; 38- PBS benefactor; 39- Lyrical brightest star; 41- Fuzzy fruit; 42- Aired again; 44- Building; 46- Principles; 47- Proverb ending?; 48- Mail out; 49- Wrap with bandages; 53- Citadel of Moscow; 57- Timbuktu's land; 58- Beast of Borden; 60- The last Mrs. Chaplin; 61- Util. bill; 62- Small change; 63- Meager; 64- Scratch (out); 65- Atmosphere; 66- London gallery;

Down

1- Highland hillside; 2- Old Italian money; 3- Whence one may worship; 4- Shrew; 5- Legally responsible; 6- Bay; 7- Long fish; 8- Whence; 9- Third son of Adam; 10- Tablet; 11- Associate; 14- Black and white; 15- Stupid person; 20- Yours and mine; 22- Tacit assent; 25- Find the answer; 26- Eccentric; 27- Grammarian's concern; 28- Shrimp; 29- Sitarist Shankar; 30- Category; 31- Bothered; 32- Inclines; 34- Presidential battleground state; 37- Able; 40- Like stomach secretions; 42- Actor Auberjonois; 43- Last; 45- Tiny amount; 46- Mother of Calcutta; 48- One on slopes; 49- "Peter Pan" pirate; 50- Travel on foot; 51- Away from the wind; 52- Charles Lamb's nom de plume; 54- "Damn Yankees" role; 55- Monogram ltr.; 56- Title; 59- Dallas sch.;

Yesterday's solution

A	L	A	R	N	O	R	I	E
R	I	G	A	S	I	D	E	S
A	L	O	T	C	L	E	A	T
L	I	G	H	T	H	E	A	D
E	G	O		L	I	A	R	
T	H	R	I	L	L	L	E	A
O	R	E	F	A	U	N	A	L
B	E	A	M		R	L	E	S
S	E	R	T	I	F	U	T	E
S	T	R	E	S		S	I	E
T	O	T	E		Z	E	N	
E	T	H		A	R	T	I	C
M	O	R	E		V	A	P	O
I	R	O	N		E	M	O	T
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Abdullah, Nasser win mini tennis titles

TDT | Manama

Abdullah Khalfan and Nasser Mohammed both triumphed yesterday in their respective categories in a mini tennis festival, held as part of the ninth EK Kanoo Juniors Open Tennis Championship at Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) in Juffair.

Abdullah won the open under 6 and 8 age category, while Nasser claimed the open under 9 and 10.

Abdullah won his title after narrowly defeating Isa Abbas in the final 4-3. Nasser followed suit with a 6-2 win over Ali Al Khayyat in his final.

A total of 56 young players participated in the festival, which was held at the BTC's mini courts with red and green tennis balls used during play.

The matches were attend-



Abdullah Khalfan in action during yesterday's play

ed by BTC president Khalis Al Muqta, who will also be on hand at the tournament's closing ceremony on Wednesday, where he will distribute the trophies and medals to the winners and all those who participated.

The championship is being held under the patronage of Ebrahim K Kanoo vice-chairman Fuad Ebrahim Kanoo.

Champion Osaka crashes out to big-hitting American Anisimova

AFP | Melbourne

American Amanda Anisimova, ranked 60th in the world, saved two matchpoints and smashed winners at will to beat reigning champion Naomi Osaka 4-6 6-3 7-6 (10-5) in the third round of the Australian Open yesterday.

Anisimova produced a superb display to knock out the Japanese and disappoint those who had been salivating at the prospect of a fourth-round showdown between the four-times major winner and Australian world number one Ashleigh Barty.

"I just want to soak in this moment," Anisimova told reporters. "I'm just extremely happy. It was an amazing



Naomi Osaka walks from the court following her third round loss

match. It was very close.

"It sucks we couldn't both win today, because these matches are hard. Honestly, I think she's a very nice girl. These days are kind of tough."

Osaka, who has won all her major titles on hardcourts, had two opportunities to close out the match in the 10th game of the deciding set.

Riffa, East Riffa victorious in football league

● Mohammed Jassim Marhoon fires in first-half winner for Riffa against Budaiya

● Obus Prince Aggreh, Sami Al Hossaini both on target for East Riffa against Hidd

TDT | Manama

Riffa and East Riffa were both victorious last night in their week 10 matches of the 2021/2022 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League.

Riffa, the defending back-to-back champions, defeated last-placed Budaiya 1-0, while East Riffa enjoyed a 2-0 win against Hidd.

Mohammed Jassim Marhoon scored the winning goal for Riffa in their match against Budaiya.

The influential national team midfielder headed home from close range in the 43rd minute off a cross from the right corner supplied by fellow-international Komail Alaswad.

With the result, Riffa continued their unbeaten run with



East Riffa's Obus Prince Aggreh, right battles for possession with Hidd's Abdulla Ali Hassan

Standings

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Riffa	10	8	2	0	15	26
Al Khaldiya	10	5	3	2	7	18
Manama	9	5	3	1	6	18
East Riffa	10	5	3	2	5	18
Muharraq	10	4	2	4	3	14
Al Hala	9	2	3	4	-5	9
Al Ahli	10	1	6	3	-6	9
Hidd	10	1	5	4	-5	8
Al Najma	10	1	3	6	-10	6
Budaiya	10	1	2	7	-10	5

their eighth win in 10 matches. They improved to 26 points as they stretched their lead atop

the league standings. Budaiya remained in last place on five points following their seventh

Sousa names 23-player squad for local training

Bahrain's senior men's national team to kick off latest training gathering tonight in preparation for upcoming competitions, including qualifying for the AFC Asian Cup 2023

● Ali Madan, Abdulla Hazza called up from overseas clubs

● Players from Riffa, Muharraq, Al Khaldiya, Manama, East Riffa and Hidd make up rest of team

TDT | Manama

Bahrain head coach Helio Sousa has called up a 23-member squad for their latest training gathering, which kicks off this evening.

The nationals are set to play two international friendlies during this period of practices, which is scheduled to conclude on February 1. The Kingdom's senior men's squad are set to face off with top opposition from Africa, first against Uganda on Thursday before facing DR Congo on the last day of their camp.

The Bahrainis are using the friendlies as part of their preparations for their upcoming competitions, which include the third round of qualification for the AFC Asian Cup 2023, which will be held in June.

Sousa has named two of Bahrain's overseas professional players onto the squad, namely Ali Madan who plays for Al Urooba in the UAE and Abdulla



Bahrain head coach Helio Sousa

Hazaa who plies his trade with Al Tadhamon in Kuwait.

There are also seven players from back-to-back national champions Riffa, five from AFC Cup champs Muharraq, four from Al Khaldiya, three from Manama, and one apiece from East Riffa and Hidd.

A number of Bahrain's top international stars are on the team, including Komail Alaswad, Mohammed Jassim Marhoon, Jassim Al Shaikh, Hashem Sayed Isa, Sayed Redha Isa, Abdulwahab Al Malood, Waleed Al Hayam, Mahdi Humaidan, Mohammed Hardan and Sayed Mohammed Jaafar.

The rest of the team includes Hamad Shamsan, Hazza Ali, Amine Hasan, Hasan Karrani, Ammar Abbas, Mahdi Abduljabbar, Ebrahim Khattal, Jassim Khulaifi, Abdulrahman Salem, Sayed Shubbar Alawi and Mohamed Adel.

Both of Bahrain's friendly



Nationals set to play two international friendlies during this training period, first against Uganda on Thursday before facing DR Congo on February 1

matches over the next fortnight will be played at home. Their opponents are both classified higher on the FIFA World Rankings, with Uganda currently 82nd and DR Congo 64th. Bahrain are currently 91st.

The nationals have yet to learn of their groupings for this stage of qualification. The draw

Bahrain squad

Riffa: Hamad Shamsan, Hashem Sayed Isa, Hazza Ali, Jassim Al Shaikh, Komail Alaswad, Mohammed Jassim Marhoon, Sayed Redha Isa

Muharraq: Abdulwahab Al Malood, Amine Hasan, Hasan Karrani, Waleed Al Hayam, Sayed Mohammed Jaafar

Al Khaldiya: Sayed Shubbar Alawi, Mahdi Humaidan, Mohamed Adel, Mohammed Hardan

Manama: Ammar Abbas, Mahdi Abduljabbar, Ebrahim Khattal

East Riffa: Jassim Khulaifi

Hidd: Abdulrahman Salem

Al Urooba (UAE): Ali Madan

Al Tadhamon (Kuwait): Abdulla Hazaa

Nadal repels Khachanov to reach last-16 in Melbourne

Reuters | Melbourne

Sixth seed Rafa Nadal dropped his first set at this year's Australian Open but still powered through to the fourth round with a 6-3 6-2 3-6 6-1 defeat of Karen Khachanov yesterday.

The Spaniard, seeking to claim a record 21st Grand Slam title in the absence of great rivals Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic, was sen-

sational as he took a two-set lead.

But Khachanov, seeded 28th, threw caution to the wind in the third set, stalling Nadal's charge with some ferocious hitting.

Olympic runner-up Khachanov had lost all seven previous meetings with 2009 Australian Open champion Nadal but briefly looked capable of mounting a comeback.

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Happy Craf lifts Al Jasra Cup

Jockey Edinson Rodriguez saddles five-year-old contender to victory for M and E Racing and AM Smith, to win sixth £50,000 race in prestigious Bahrain Turf Series at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club

● Rashed Racing takes double with Lahoug and Overseas, both for a Lexus Cup

● Jockey Marvin Grandin wins two of the day's races riding Lahoug and Tall Order

● Trainers AM Smith and Yousif Alboainain claim two wins apiece with their horses

TD | Manama

Happy Craf lifted the Al Jasra Cup yesterday for a second victory in the prestigious Bahrain Turf Series at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) in Sakhr.

After clinching the Al Manama Cup last December in the series' first event, the M and E Racing-owned, AM Smith-trained five-year-old took the honours in the sixth of the 10 £50,000 races, saddled by Edinson Rodriguez.

Happy Craf finished first after seven furlongs and was followed by Byline, who was competing for Al Adiyat Racing, AM Smith and Charles Bishop, while Koolasice came third for Mark T Griffins, Ross O'Sullivan and Gary Halpin.

In attendance at yesterday's races was REHC High Commit-



The Al Jasra Cup awarding ceremony taking place

tee chairman His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

There were eight events in all on the day, with five Lexus Cups to be won in the eighth, sixth, fourth, third and second events.

In race eight, Tall Order captured a smooth victory for Al Mallah Syndicate, Abduljaleel Al Mallah and Marvin Grandin over a 12-furlong distance to claim the lion's share of the BD4,000 prize. Wild Hero was second for HBR Racing, Hareb Almalki and Husain Makki, while Law of One finished third for Al Afoor Racing, Mohammed Saeed and Hasan Al Saffar.

In the sixth race of the day held over seven furlongs with a BD2,000 prize purse, Lahoug came first for Rashed Racing, Yousif Alboainain and Marvin Grandin. Wewonitsixtimes took second for M and E Racing,

AM Smith and Charles Bishop, while Wahaaj was third for Al Nuwayef Racing, AM Smith and Abdulrahim Jasim.

Chimgan was the winner in the fourth race's Lexus Cup, carrying a BD2,000 prize, for Al Mohamediya Racing and Osama Hashim, saddled by Paddy Mathers. Second over the six-furlong straight was Instinctive Move, representing Al Adiyat Racing, AM Smith and Charles Bishop, while Altai came third for Al Mohamediya Racing, Osama Hashim and Jimmy Quinn.

In race three, held over five furlongs with a BD2,000 prize, Overseas emerged victorious for Rashed Racing, trained by Yousif Alboainain and ridden by Marcialis Jaures. Wafiah was the runner-up for Al Nayefaat, Abdullah Kuwaiti and Abbas Ebrahim, whereas Remiah was third for Al Afoor Racing, Mohammed Saeed and Hasan Al Saffar.



Happy Craf became the second horse to have won two of the six races held so far in the all-new Bahrain Turf Series so far, having claimed both the Al Manama Cup and Al Jasra Cup. The other horse is Mars Landing, who won the Al Muharraq Cup and Al Dana Cup

The day's second race saw Batmobile take the Lexus Cup over six furlongs for a share of the BD2,000 prize. The Victorious-owned horse is trained by AM Smith and was ridden by Hasan Asghar. Magdsood came second for Zahra Ebrahim Abdullah, Samir Dawood and Husain Makki, while Safwa was third for HH Shaikh Isa bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, Haider Ebrahim and Ebrahim Nader.

Elsewhere yesterday, the seventh race for the REHC Cup was lifted by Ecosystem for MKAR Racing and Haider Ebrahim, while saddled by Ebrahim Nader. Jamais Assez was the runner-up for Al Mallah Syndicate, Abduljaleel Al Mallah and Mar-



HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, right, at yesterday's races

vin Grandin, while Apres Dark was third for HBR Racing, Hareb Almalki and George Wood.

The first race was held over six furlongs for the Hasan bin Saleh Al Rowai Cup, carrying a BD1,500 prize. KHK Racing's Kuheilani Umm Zorayr 1797

clinched the win for trainer Hesham Al Haddad while ridden by Husain Makki. Al Jellaby 1791 came second for Al Riffa, Yousif Alboainain and Charles Bishop, while Kuheila't Al Adiyat 1782 was third for Victorious, Yousif Taher and Anas Al Siyabi.



Action from yesterday's events

Bahrain kick start main round bid in Asian handball

● Kingdom's senior men's national team set to take on Kuwait in Group II, which also includes Iraq and Iran

TD | Manama

Bahrain's senior men's national handball team take on Kuwait today to kick start their main round campaign in the 2022 Asian Men's Handball Championship, being held in Saudi Arabia.

The Bahrainis are in Group II in this stage of the competition alongside Kuwait, Iran and Iraq.

Their first game today against the Kuwaitis is scheduled for a 6pm start at the Ministry Sports Hall in Dammam.

The nationals play their second game against Iraq on Monday, and then go head-to-head with Iran on Wednesday.

The Bahrainis must finish amongst the top two in their group to advance to the semi-finals. Should they finish third, they will play for fifth place overall, and if they finish last in the group, they will contend for seventh place overall.



Bahrain's Mohammed Mirza in action during the preliminaries (File photo)

The teams in Group I are South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Uzbekistan.

The tournament also acts as the continental qualifying event for the 2023 IHF World Men's Handball Championship. The top five-ranked teams earn an automatic berth to the worlds.

The nationals qualified for this main round after sweeping their three preliminary round games and taking first place in Group D.

Coached by Icelandic tactician Aron Kristjansson, the Bahrainis are in the competition gunning for their first Asian title with an 18-player squad that

includes skipper Hussain Al Sayyad, Mohammed Abdullhussain, Mohammed Mirza, Bilal Basham, Ali Eid, Mahdi Saad, Mohammed Habib Nasser, Hassan Al Samahiji, Mohammed Ali Abdulredha, Abdulla Ali, Hussain Mahfouz, Mohammed Habib, Ahmed Al Maqabi, Ali Mirza, Ali Abdulqader, Ahmed Jalal, Qasim Qambar and Hisham Ahmed Issa.

In the previous Asian championship held in January of 2020, the Bahrainis finished fourth overall. Bahrain have been runners-up four times in the last six editions and bronze-medallists once.

Al Rumaihi, Yahya triumph in youth showjumping

TD | Manama

Abdulaziz Al Rumaihi continued his impressive displays in the current showjumping season as he won the first competition for young jumpers, while Faris Yahya broke Al Rumaihi-Charlotte Tecquin.

Abdulaziz Al Rumaihi continued his impressive displays in the current showjumping season as he won the first competition for young jumpers, while Faris Yahya broke Al Rumaihi-Charlotte Tecquin dominance in their respective categories, topping the podium of the second competition, held in Al Raffa, Sakhr.

Al Rumaihi and Tecquin had ruled the youth contests this season which had never seen a



Action from yesterday's events

first place winner in the youth competitions since it's beginning other than them. However, Yahya stepped up and won the second competition in 31.55

seconds after collecting the full points of 44 points. Hassan Hani Al Yabes came second in 36.30 seconds (39 points), while Al Rumaihi was third in 31.17 seconds (39 points). This event featured 110cm hurdles.

Al Rumaihi was unstoppable in the first contest for youth as he occupied the first and third places after deciding to participate on two different horses. His first attempt saw him clocking 33.31 seconds, while he reached the finish line in 36.14 seconds in the second one. Tecquin settled for second place after posting a time of 35.33 seconds.

The showjumping season is being organised by the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF).

Magnificent Malan leads South Africa to ODI series win over India

Reuters | Johannesburg

Opener Janneman Malan scored 91 as South Africa chased down a victory target of 288 for a comfortable seven-wicket win over India and an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series after the second One-Day International

at Boland Park yesterday.

India chose to bat in sweltering conditions, with the mercury rising above 40 degrees Celsius for much of the day. The visitors posted 287 for six in their 50 overs, which looked a good total on a slow wicket that should have favoured them.

But South Africa paced their

reply superbly, with Malan and fellow opener Quinton de Kock (78 from 66 balls) putting on 132 for the first wicket.

Malan, who now has three hundreds and three fifties in his 12 ODI innings, put on another 80 with captain Temba Bavuma (35) before he was bowled by Jasprit Bumrah.