

Ali's condition improving

AFP, Louisville

Boxing legend Muhammad Ali's condition is improving and he is expected to be released from hospital soon, his spokesman said on Monday.

Bob Gunnell said two days ago when Ali was admitted to hospital, that the 72-year-old's pneumonia condition was caught early and his stay would be a short one.

"Muhammad Ali has vastly improved since being admitted to the hospital over the weekend with a mild case of pneumonia. Ali's team of doctors hopes to discharge him soon," Gunnell said Monday.

Afridi & Co show-caused

INTERNET, Karachi

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has issued showcause notice to five of its international players, including Shahid Afridi, for featuring in a commercial without taking permission from the board.

Afridi, Muhammad Irfan, Fawad Alam, Anwar Ali and Wahab Riaz appeared in an advertisement for Haier, the main sponsors for the home series against Australia and New Zealand, which were played in the UAE.

"The board has issued show-cause notices to the five players who appeared in the ad without permission," a PCB official told The Express Tribune.

Waller banned from bowling

REUTERS, Cape Town

Zimbabwe all-rounder Malcolm Waller has been suspended from bowling just seven weeks out from the World Cup, the International Cricket Council said on Tuesday.

The off-spinner was reported after the second test against Bangladesh in Khulna last month and analysis performed by the ICC's accredited team of Human Movement Specialists at the High Performance Centre in Pretoria.

"The analysis revealed that all of his off-spin deliveries exceeded the 15 degrees level of tolerance permitted under the regulations," the ICC said in a statement.



UEFA punishes four clubs

AFP, Geneva



were one of four European clubs fined Monday and barred from playing in the next UEFA club competition they qualify for over unpaid bills. UEFA said in a statement that its Club

Turkey's 2010 league champions Bursaspor

Financial Control Body (CFCB) had decided to sanction Bursaspor, Ekranas of Lithuania, and Romanian clubs CFR Cluj and Astra Giurgiu "for overdue payables." The clubs had been accused of having "important over-

due payables towards other clubs, employees and social and tax authorities". In 2012, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) over-

turned a previous UEFA ban against Bursaspor over unpaid transfer fees amounting to 300,000 euros. But UEFA said Monday that exclusion would now come into effect, meaning the Turkish club would be blocked

from taking part in "the next UEFA competition for which it would otherwise qualify" through 2019. The club was also fined 100,000 euros, but half of that would be lifted if the club could prove it had paid its over-

due bills, it said. CRF 1907 Cluj and FC Astra Giurgiu were also excluded from the next UEFA club competitions they qualify for through 2018, unless they can show by the end of January

CRF 1907 Cluj was also fined 150,000 euros, while its compatriot was fined 100,000.

that their overdue bills had been paid.

Chelsea at the summit Wenger stays upbeat

AFP, Stoke-on-Trent



Chelsea ensured they will spend Christmas Day on top of the Premier League as goals from John Terry

and Cesc Fabregas gave the leaders a gritty 2-0 victory at Stoke on Monday.

It was not the most fluent performance from Jose Mourinho's side but, at a venue where Arsenal recently lost 3-2, it was the result and not the performance which mattered most and the Blues now sit three points clear of second placed Manchester City heading into the hectic festive programme.

City's win over Crystal Palace on Saturday had drawn them level on points with Chelsea, but this was an emphatic response from the west Londoners as they bid to wrestle the title from the Eastlands outfit.

The only concern for Chelsea was a late injury to Belgium playmaker Eden, Hazard, who was replaced after getting Courtois. a kick to his foot following a challenge by Jon Walters. "These victories mean more than

three points, to win and get three points the players need the right spirit and mentality," Mourinho said.

"To win here they must be a really very good team with the capacity to adapt to Stoke's style of play.

"The three point lead we have is a little advantage, it is a little pillow we have to protect us.

"We go home happy and pleased trouble Begovic. with what we did."

Chelsea could not have got off to a better start as they took the lead inside the opening 90 seconds when Terry rose highest above Geoff Cameron to head a Fabregas corner past Asmir Begovic.

It was the former England captain's first league goal of the season and a 12th assist of the season for Spain midfielder Fabregas.

Mourinho's men coped better with the blustery conditions at the Britannia Stadium and came close to a second as Diego Costa dragged a shot wide of the post. Stoke defender Phil Bardsley was

only booked for a late challenge on Hazard on the touchline, a decision that prompted Mourinho to protest from outside the technical area. And that incident seemed to spur

on Stoke, who went close within seconds as Steven N'Zonzi's deflected shot was pushed behind by Thibaut But it should have been 2-0 on the half hour as a Fabregas pass breached

the Stoke offside trap and Costa ran through before dragging his tame shot Stoke created brief moments of optimism at the start of the second half

with Peter Crouch heading over from Bardsley's cross from the right. The Blues carved out another opening as Hazard crossed for Fabregas

whose near-post flick failed to overly

Chelsea were not at their freeflowing best, but the steely visitors were still the most likely to get a second goal and Brazilian winger Willian saw a free kick deflect wide for a corner.

Crouch had endured a frustrating evening and he was replaced by Mame Diouf as Stoke boss Mark Hughes looked for a way back into the contest.

Marco Arnautovic then saw an effort deflected wide for a corner but Stoke's set pieces were proving to be unthreatening.

Charlie Adam was brought on to improve Stoke's quality in possession.

And immediately Walters came close to getting on the end of an Adam delivery, while the Scottish midfielder also drilled a left-footed shot wide from the edge of the area from N'Zonzi's lay-off.

But Fabregas settled the contest 12 minutes from time, taking Hazard's pass before scuffing his shot past Begovic from close-range.

It may have been a fortunate strike but the Spaniard joyously celebrated his fourth goal for the club he joined from Barcelona in the close-season.

Chelsea could have added a third late on, with substitute Andre Schuerrle setting up Costa who was denied by Begovic.

Stoke refused to give up and Oussama Assaidi was foiled by Courtois after finding space down the left and Adam fired just over in stoppage-time.

VACANCY

AFP, London



Arsene Wenger is upbeat about a strong second half of the season showing from an Arsenal side set to capitalise on the return of injured

players like Mesut Ozil and Mikel Arteta. Wenger expects Ozil and Arteta to return

to action in January, while Theo Walcott, Aaron Ramsey and Laurent Koscielny are due back imminently to help reignite the Gunners' quest for a top-four finish in the Premier League. The Christmas schedule features fixtures

against QPR, West Ham and Southampton and Wenger believes Arsenal, who occupy sixth place in the table, will soon be in a position to realise their potential.

"To give absolutely everything in every single game until the end of the season," replied Wenger when asked to outline his aspirations for his team heading into the festive period on Tuesday.

"I believe that with the injuries coming back we will have a much stronger squad than we had for the past two months.

"I believe 2015 can be very exciting if we have a good run.

"Finishing in the top four is always the World Cup winner for blame. minimum required here. We have the Champions League and we have the FA Cup and we want to come back in a much stronger position in the Premier League, and I think we will.

"Our Christmas is not an easy schedule it's a tough schedule. There are three games in a very short period of time and we can make up points.

Delta Life Insurance Company Limited, one of the leading and largest life insurance companies in Bangladesh

"It's a period where you have an opportunity to make points. Our opponents will think that as well, but let's just put the performances in and capitalise on it."

Ozil and Arteta are on target for January comebacks from knee and calf injuries and although Ramsey and Koscielny may miss the Boxing Day showdown with hamstring and calf problems, they could both be in action against Southampton on New Year's Day.

"Ozil will be back at the beginning of January. His rehab has gone well but it took time. He works very hard. He is very focused. Fitness-wise, he is there," Wenger said. "Arteta is progressing well. He had a little

setback with an ankle problem but it should be very quick now. He will not play before January. "Ramsey has a chance to be fit for

Southampton. The closest at the moment is Koscielny. I believe he's a bit short for QPR, maybe has a chance for West Ham on Sunday." Arsenal are four points adrift of fourth

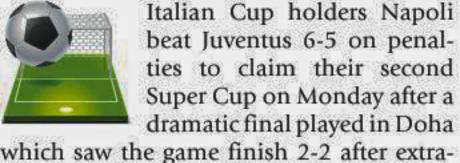
place West Ham and lost further ground on Champions League qualification after conceding an equaliser deep into stoppage time of Sunday's 2-2 draw with Liverpool.

Per Mertesacker's defending for Martin manage to get our injured players back and Skrtel's header has been criticised, but Wenger refuses to single out his Germany

> "I don't want to go into any individual assessment. I believe Mertesacker gives his best and that on the corner we conceded it was a more organisational and collective problem because no one talks," Wenger said.

> "It is difficult for the players who played at the World Cup. I said many times you don't see them really before November and that is the case."

AFP, Doha



Italian Cup holders Napoli beat Juventus 6-5 on penalties to claim their second Super Cup on Monday after a dramatic final played in Doha

The match, moved to December to accommodate Napoli's Champions League play-off commitments last August, was pushed into extra time after Gonzalo Higuain hit a 68thminute leveller to cancel out Carlos Tevez's

early opener for the Serie A champions. The Argentinian duo went on to complete a brace apiece in extra time, forcing the match to be decided by a dramatic series of

spot-kicks. Juventus spurned three chances during the penalties to take the advantage before losing out at the end when Simone Padoin

saw his effort saved by Rafael. "We played a great match and it was even

greater because we beat a team like Juventus," said Napoli coach Rafael Benitez after claiming his 12th career title. Juventus goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon got

the Serie A champions off to a great start in the shootout when he palmed Jorginho's shot on to the upright, only for Tevez to hit the post despite sending Rafael the wrong way.

At 4-4, the match went to sudden death, and after Walter Gargano and Leonardo Bonucci scored, Juve scented victory when Buffon beat away Dries Mertens' effort.

However Giorgio Chiellini then sent his weak penalty straight at Rafael, and both Jose Callejon and Roberto Pereyra then missed too.

Kalidou Koulibaly put Napoli within sight of their first Super Cup since 1990 when a Diego Maradona-inspired Napoli thrashed Juventus 5-1 - as his penalty went in off the inside of the post.

And the Cup finally went to Benitez's men when Rafael pulled off a great save to deny Padoin.

Dortmund snap up Kampl

AFP, Berlin

Struggling German giants Borussia Dortmund on Monday announced that they have agreed a deal to sign Slovenian international midfielder Kevin Kampl from Austrian champions Salzburg.

Dortmund said that Kampl, 24, will sign a longterm contract to keep him at the club until 2019.

"Kevin Kampl is a versatile attacking midfielder, who we have been observing for some time. His style of play fits in perfectly with our own," Dortmund sporting director Michael Zorc told the club website.

Borussia said that "both clubs agreed details of the transfer fee shall remain undisclosed", although the website of German magazine Kicker reported the fee would be in the region of 10 to 12 million euros. Kampl, who will join his

new club in January, was born in Germany but represents Slovenia at international level. He started his career at

Bayer Leverkusen and played

for several lower-league clubs

in Germany before moving

to Salzburg in 2012.

ANNOUNCEMENT providing quality life insurance services by a team of highly-motivated skilled professionals, is looking for dynamic, result oriented, committed and self-driven professionals with the following qualifications, experience and attributes: Name of **Experience & Skills** Position **Duties and Responsibities** A successful track record in marketing is a must but not | To review the products of the Company, its market share, strengths Head of MBA in Marketing. and weaknesses of its features and prepare strategic plans and Research & necessarily in insurance industry. The incumbent needs to Marketing have strong skills in setting up strategic plans for solutions to improve the marketability of the products in order to marketing products, branding and advertising. enhance the Company's market share. In addition s/he also supervises the functions of the PR department. Senior Minimum 7 years work experience in a mid/ senior level Sound Knowledge of Money market, Capital market and Bond MBA in Finance and/ market. Ability to do technical analysis and strategic decision in Investmen position in either the Investment department of a reputed or Accounting. portfolio management is a must. Ability to prepare stock evaluation reports is of prime importance. Ability to give multimedia Financial Institution or an Asset Management Company or Manager/ a Merchant Bank Analyst Minimum 5 years practical experience in relevant field in To ensure the compliance of various internal control procedures of Chartered Accountant from the company including risk assessment. a reputed audit firm. Able to travel for audits across the country and Prepare standard audit/investigation reports for the management communicate effectively with all levels of employees in the and the Audit Committee of the company Company and its clients. Should have reporting skills both Should be well acquainted with various accounting and auditing in Bengali & English. Computer proficiency in MS Word, standards and relevant legislations. Excel and Power Point is a must. Company Secretary Minimum 10 years experience in a reputed organization(s) Discharge duties and responsibilities of a Company Secretary in Master degree holder as a Company Secretary. Well conversant with Companies and Insurance Acts, BOI, Stock Exchange(s) and RJSC accordance with the Company Act, Insurance and relevant laws of preferably in a Business subject or a Graduate or Work and communicate with the relevant regulatory bodies like Masters in Law and must either be a professional Strong Communication and analytical abilities. Being very IDRA, BSEC, the Stock Exchanges and other regulatory bodies in strong in English and thereby having the ability to draft the order to make necessary and regulatory filings. qualified from the Institute Organize different meetings; prepare agendas and writing minutes Minutes of the Board and Committee Meetings is a must. Chartered Secretaries of of Board meetings, annual general meetings. Deal with Bangladesh or partly qualified correspondence and writing reports based on decisions taken that are to be communicated to the relevant stakeholders of the Maintain statutory books, including registers of members, directors and shareholders and dealing with company matters relating to Ability to recruit, select and place personnel as per the needs of the MBA Preferably with major in HRM. Minimum 10 years experience in employee relations and personnel administration in reputed organization(s). various departments of the Company. Ensure appraisal of employees' performance as per existing practice. Ensure training as per TNA. Lead, direct, monitor, appraise & train-up subordinates. Knowledge on Provident Fund and Core HR and Self Service HR by Oracle Solutions is preferable. Ability to Ensure maintenance of HRIS. give multimedia presentations is a must. Perform daily HR administration responsibilities and manage Assist other HR related activities as assigned by the Management. Minimum 7 years experience in MIS or Information To lead the execution of technology strategies for technology Insurance M. Sc in CSE or MIS from a Information Technology Division. platforms, partnerships and external relationships. reputed University. Manager Experience in Life Insurance would be considered as To collaborate with all project stakeholders to determine root cause for business problems, capture business and functional requirements and coordinate with solution providers to ensure the Strong leadership and Communication skills. Efficient language competency in English (Both speaking To coordinate information creation, storage, retrieval and Ability to adapt to changing demands and priorities. dispositions. Ability to work under pressure and emergency. To analyze and ensure security of data. Knowledge on Oracle Solution is preferable. To prepare periodical and ad-hoc reports as desired by To provide visible leadership for the Company within technology To anticipate and react to major technology changes to ensure the maintenance of the Company leadership in the competitive

Attractive remuneration package including fringe benefits like contributory provident fund, gratuity, group and health insurance, festival and incentive bonuses and other fringe benefits are available to the deserving candidates. For all positions age not over 40 years and no third class/division or GPA below 3 (Out of 4) in any public exam. Interested candidates may apply in confidence giving their full resume with 2 (two) copies of recent passport size photographs to the Head of Human Resources, Delta Life Insurance Company Limited, Delta Life Tower, Plot # 37, Road # 90, Gulshan Circle-2, Dhaka-1212 within January 8, 2015 mentioning the position applied for on the top of the envelop. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview