



Kyle Edmund (file pic)

Edmund to join Murray at Queen's

Anisimova stuns Wang in Miami



Amanda Anisimova (file pic)

London

British number one Kyle Edmund will make his home debut as the country's leading player at the Fever-Tree Championships at Queen's Club in June.

Edmund joins Andy Murray and three of the world's top four in Rafael Nadal, Marin Cilic and Grigor Dimitrov in committing to the tournament, while defending

champion Feliciano Lopez will also return.

Edmund overtook Murray earlier this month and, with the former world number one likely to make his return from hip surgery in late May or early June, the 23-year-old is guaranteed to hang on to the position heading into the summer.

Edmund, currently ranked three places above Murray at 26, said: "It'll be a really

good feeling to go to the Fever-Tree Championships at Queen's as British number one.

"It's a combination of me doing well and Andy dropping down the rankings because of injury, but I'm happy to be there.

"The transition to grass is always a challenge, but I think I'm getting better at it. I've got another year of experience on the tour and

this is an opportunity for me to put that on the court."

Grass has so far been Edmund's least successful surface, with only four wins from 17 tour-level matches.

He did reach the quarter-finals at Queen's in 2016 before losing to Murray and won his first match at Wimbledon last year at the fifth attempt against countryman Alex Ward. (*Eurosport*)

Miami

American teenager Amanda Anisimova, fresh off an impressive run at Indian Wells, beat China's Wang Qiang 6-3 1-6 6-2 at the Miami Open on Tuesday to set up a second round clash with Spanish third seed Garbine Muguruza.

The 16-year-old wild card, who had never won a WTA main-draw match until this month's BNP Paribas Open where she reached the fourth round, broke the world number 53 five times during a 98-minute match in which she committed six double faults.

Next up for Anisimova, ranked 130th in the world, is Wimbledon champion Muguruza, who will be eager to get back to competition after falling at the first hurdle in Indian Wells.

Brazilian Beatriz Haddad Maia overcame some early pressure to defeat Briton Heather Watson 7-6(3) 6-2. Watson had a chance to serve for the opening set but squandered it and then allowed the Brazilian to run away with the match.

Haddad Maia will next face No. 31 seed Zhang Shuai. (*Reuters*)

Askar vows to support maritime sports plans

DT News Network
Manama

Supreme Council for Youth and Sports assistant general secretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) general secretary Abdulrahman Askar affirmed the committee's support to all sports federations seeking investment opportunities in an attempt to facilitate its programmes.

This was announced following Askar meeting with Bahrain Maritime Sports Federation general secretary Sameer Shuwaiter, in presence of BOC Sports Affairs executive director Abduljalil Asad, at the committee premises in Seef.

During the meeting, Askar was presented with the investment projects, which the federation intends to launch, in Juffair.

The federation demonstrated the stages of the project and the necessary procedures to complete this plan.

Askar commended the efforts of the federation, headed by Shaikh Khalifa bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, in order to develop maritime sports in the kingdom.

He affirmed the committee's commitment to back all relevant authorities to ensure the completion of this project, which is in line with the directives of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Chairman, and BOC President.

McLaren car is '100 percent' ready



Fernando Alonso (file pic)

Melbourne

Fernando Alonso has played down reliability concerns about the new Renault-powered McLaren, saying problems that arose during pre-season testing have been fixed and the car will be "100 percent" ready for the season-opening Australian Grand Prix.

After switching to the Renault power unit after three gloomy years with Honda, McLaren's MCL33 suffered more glitches and completed fewer laps on the test track than any other team.

However, double world champion Alonso, who considered quitting

Formula One last year as McLaren slumped to ninth in the constructors' championship, said the car's gremlins had been banished in time for Sunday's race at Albert Park.

"Well, I think we should be optimistic," the 36-year-old Spaniard told Reuters at a Melbourne event held by McLaren sponsor Chandon.

"I think we had some reliability issues in testing but all of them are fixed now and the team did an amazing job in the past two or three weeks to have the car 100 percent for Australia. (*Reuters*)

Opening win for PVB in Volleyball

DT News Network
Manama

In the opening games of the Filipino Club Volleyball Group Charity Tournament (FCVG), PVB Men's team battled to win over Forex/Bell Diamond Men's team in a gruelling 3 sets 18-25, 25-18, 29-27, whilst Busy Bee Men's team defeated Victorious Secret Men's team 22-25, 25-19, 25-23.

In the women's division, 7th time Champion FIL-Am Team defeated Dabarkads Team 25-22, 18-25, 25-20 and Al Zayani Spikers won against Gilas Team in two straight sets 25-21, 25-18.

FIL-Am Women's and Busy Bee Men's teams won the best in uniform in their respective category, FIL-Am's Madelle Despi grabbed the best Muse Award and Dabarkads Women's Team as the Most Organized Team.

Over one hundred and fifty Filipino players representing 10 teams have registered for the FCVG Charity Tournament which started last Friday at the Muharraq Club gym.

The opening ceremony, which was attended by the players and their families, the sponsors and spectators was graced by the presence of no other than the Philippine Ambassador to Bahrain Ambassador Alfonso Ver.

The tournament games will be held every Friday from 8:00AM to 12:00PM and is expected to last until the end of June 2018.

This season's slogan "we play the greatest game when we inspire others win their games" encourages players to enjoy volleyball game and at the same time help the community through its small but concerted effort. Beneficiary for this event will be our little brothers and sisters at Alia for Early Intervention Centre.