

Cordoba defeat Khaldiya in friendly

● Antonio Manuel Casas scores brace, Miguel Angel de las Cuevas supplies other goal for Spaniards

● Ismael Abdullatif fires in Khaldiya's lone goal in first half

TDT | Manama

Spanish club Cordoba CF posted a fine 3-1 win over Bahraini outfit Al Khaldiya FC last night in a friendly match played at the National Stadium in Riffa.

Antonio Manuel Casas scored on either side of half-time and provided the assist for his team's other goal, scored by strike partner Miguel Angel de las Cuevas.

For Khaldiya, Bahrain international striker Ismael Abdullatif was on target for their lone consolation.

The game was the first of two exhibitions for Cordoba in Bahrain, who are holding a week-long training camp here. They next take on back-to-back league champions Riffa in their next friendly scheduled for Monday at the same venue. That match will also be free for fans to attend, and it is scheduled for a 6pm kick-off.

Cordoba opened the scoring last night in the eighth min-



Cordoba's Moroccan midfielder Mohamed Bouzaidi Diouri is challenged by Khaldiya's Mohammed Al Hardan during their friendly match last night at the National Stadium in Riffa

ute with a brilliant shot from several metres outside the box from Casas. After receiving a short pass from de las Cuevas, Casas hit a fine effort that flew past Khaldiya's Bahrain national team goalkeeper Ebrahim Lutfallah into the top-left of the net.

Khaldiya were able to equalise in the 26th minute through Abdullatif. After some pressure from Mahdi Humaidan, he received the ball en route to goal. Humaidan was then stopped by Cordoba goalkeeper Felipe Ramos Sanchez, but the loose ball rebounded towards Abdullatif on the edge of the box, and he made no mistake with his low effort into an open

net. His strike was enough to send the game into the break deadlocked.

But it didn't stay that way long as Cordoba went back in front in the very first minute of the second half with a volley from de las Cuevas. The striker sent the ball into the bottom-right corner of the net off a lob pass from Casas.

The Spaniards then converted their third goal in the 72nd minute with a free-kick from about a metre outside the penalty area. Casas scored with a low shot that penetrated the Khaldiya wall and went straight to the bottom-left corner of goal, past Khaldiya's substitute goalkeeper Redah Bahram.

Victorious-owned RB Rich Lyke Me wins Dubai race

● HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa hails fine victory in U.S.\$50,000 Al Maktoum Challenge at Meydan Racecourse

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RB Rich Lyke Me triumphed for Victorious and Fawzi Nass last night in the U.S.\$50,000 Al Maktoum Challenge race, held at Meydan Racecourse in Dubai.

His Majesty the King's humanitarian works and youth affairs representative His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa expressed his delight in the victory.

RB Rich Lyke Me is trained by Fawzi Nass and was ridden yesterday by Adrie de Vries.

BRRAQ came second for Yas Racing, saddled by Patrick Dobbs, while MH Rahal came third for Mansoor Khalifa Sultan bin Habtoor and ridden by Dane O'Neill.

The Group I race was held over eight furlongs on dirt.



Jockey Adrie de Vries rides RB Rich Lyke Me during yesterday's race in Dubai

HH Shaikh Nasser stressed that the victory is the result of the support and interest of His Majesty the King for equestrian sports in Bahrain. HH Shaikh Nasser added that it is an incentive to continue achieving positive results in international races.

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the prominent role of trainer Nass in creating the ideal atmosphere for Bahrain-trained contenders to compete at the highest level on the global stage, and also praised the efforts of jockey de Vries.

On his part, Nass expressed his thanks and appreciation to HH Shaikh Nasser for the continuous backing, and said that the win confirms the prominent Bahraini presence in top horseracing events.

Djokovic appeal to be heard today after Australia cancels visa again

AFP | Melbourne

Unvaccinated tennis star Novak Djokovic won the right to take his fight against deportation from Austral-

ia to a Federal Court on Saturday after the government cancelled his visa for the second time over COVID-19 entry regulations.

The government undertook

not to deport him until the case was over, although the world's number one player was nevertheless ordered to return to pre-deportation detention at 8 am (2100 GMT Friday).

Tawaareq triumphs in Bahrain Turf Series

Irish jockey David Egan, last year's Bahrain International Trophy winner, clinches back-to-back wins in the Bahrain Turf Series after taking yesterday's £50,000 Al Riffa Cup saddled on Victorious-owned Tawaareq at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club in Sakhir

● Owners Victorious enjoy double win with Tawaareq and Sabreena

● Jockey Husain Makki claims impressive hat-trick

● Bahraini trainer Hesham Al Haddad has three horses finish in first place

TDT | Manama

Tawaareq lifted the Al Riffa Cup yesterday in the fifth race of the 10 £50,000 handicaps that make up the prestigious Bahrain Turf Series at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) in Sakhir.

REHC High Committee chairman His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa was on hand to watch the events.

Victorious-owned Tawaareq, trained by Hesham Al Haddad, was ridden by last year's Bahrain International Trophy champion David Egan, who claimed his second triumph in the all-new turf series and the first for Victorious. Egan had previously saddled Deep Intrigue to lift the



The prize presentation ceremony for the Al Riffa Cup

Al Wasmia Cup in the series' previous race last week.

Finishing behind Tawaareq over 10 furlongs was Medal Winner for Al Mohamediya Racing and Hussain Aldailami while saddled by Paddy Mathers. Arqoob came third for Little Staughton Farms Ltd, William Jarvis and Kieran Shoemark.

Two-time Bahrain Turf Series winner Mars Landing, ridden by Neil Callan, could not complete a hat-trick, as the Al Mohamediya Racing contender came fourth.

Meanwhile, the eighth and final race of the day was for one of two Bahrain Jewellery Centre Cups. It was held over a six-furlong straight with a BD3,000 prize purse. Fighter Pilot was the winner competing for owners Esnaad Racing and trainer Hesham Al Haddad, while saddled by Husain Makki, who had a hat-trick yesterday. Al Barg was the runner-up for



David Egan won the fourth race of the Bahrain Turf Series on Deep Intrigue to lift the Al Wasmia Cup, and then rode his momentum into yesterday's races to take the series' fifth event for the Al Riffa Cup on Tawaareq

Hasan Mefareh Alajmi, Hesham Al Haddad and Rosie Jessop, while Arriba Arriba was third for Hasan Mefareh Alajmi, Yousif Taher and David Egan.



HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa attends yesterday's races at REHC

Race four offered the other Bahrain Jewellery Centre Cup, and it was won by Sabreena for Victorious, Fawzi Nass and Husain Makki over nine furlongs. Ramani was the runner-up representing Al Afoo Racing, Mohammed Saeed and Hasan Al Saffar, while Campolina came third for Abdulla Fawzi Nass, Hesham Al Haddad and Rosie Jessop.

Porsche Cups

Three Porsche Cups were up for the taking yesterday in races seven, six and two.

The seventh race, held over a six-furlong straight with a BD2,000 prize, was taken by Fares Kodiak for Marjan Syndicate, Abdulredha Abbas and



Action from yesterday's races

Ali Samir. Sahara Spear came second for Al Remah Stable, Abdulla Kuwaiti and Martin Seidl, while Koditime was third for Ali Jaafar Darwish, Abdulla Haji and Ahmed Maki.

In race six, Gateway won over nine-furlongs and a BD2,000 prize for Mustafa Jaffar Ali Omran, Osama Hashim and Cameron Noble. Prince Elzaam was second for Al Mohamediya Racing, Taleb Ali and Neil Callan, while Ecosystem was third for MKAR Racing, Haider Ebrahim and Ebrahim Nader.

Gharbiya won race two to clinch the third Porsche Cup for Haider Ebrahim and Abdulla Faisal. Tareekh followed in second over seven furlongs for

Rashed Racing, Yousif Alboainain and Ebrahim Nader, while Sabha was third for HH Shaikh Isa bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, Haider Ebrahim and Eoin Walsh.

In the first race of the day, held over seven furlongs with a BD1,500 prize purse, Al Ma'anagieh 1789 lifted the Fatees Al Hajeri Cup for KHK Racing, Hesham Al Haddad and Husain Makki, Al Krush 1823 was the runner-up and Al Krush 1786 came third.

Aslaan won the 10-furlong third race of the day for Al Malah Syndicate, Abduljaleel Al Mallah and Marvin Grandin. Retort was second while Al Mukhtar came third.