

SPORTS
sports**BOC to celebrate
2018 Olympic Day**

TDT | Manama

The 2018 Olympic Day, which is celebrated all over the world, will be staged in Bahrain today, the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) announced yesterday.

This year's event, scheduled to tip off at 5.30pm near the Bahrain Football Association premises in Riffa, is organized by the BOC in cooperation with the Bahrain Road Runners (BRR), which is under the Bahrain Athletics Association.

BRR will be conducting 3km walk-run races around the BFA football pitches' dedicated track to celebrate the occasion.

It is open to everyone and registration will take place from 4pm onwards at the venue today.

**Anti-doping
committee organise
symposium**

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Olympic Committee's (BOC) anti-doping committee organized a symposium on anti-doping for national sports federations that will take part at the Asian Games, to be held in Jakarta, from August 18 to September 2. The symposium, presented by Dr Hussain Al Haddad, aimed to spread awareness among sports federations representatives before sending their teams for the games.

Bahrain will be introducing 13 teams to the games, in addition to three sports that will take place in Jakarta.

**Brave CF secures
broadcast deal
with FloCombat for
Northern America**

TDT | Manama

Brave Combat Federation found by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa announced the latest broadcast deal with FloCombat to stream the events live across North America.

FloCombat is based in the United States of America and the partnership marks the next stage of expansion by the promotion found under the leadership of HH Shaikh Khalid.

Brave 14 hosted in the Omnisports indoor club of Tangier, Morocco on 18th August 2018 will be the first event that will be streamed live through FloCombat. FloCombat is an innovator in live streaming of combat sports and original content.

FloCombat is part of the verticals under the FloSports.

Kisner leads British Open

Jordan Spieth starts British Open title defence with a splutter at Carnoustie

AFP | Carnoustie

Kevin Kisner of the United States surged to the top of the early British Open leaderboard yesterday as Jordan Spieth's defence of the Claret Jug got off to an inauspicious start at Carnoustie. Kisner went out in one of the first groups just before 8am (0700 GMT) and had an eagle and four birdies in his five-under-par round of 66 on a perfect summer's morning on Scotland's east coast.

"The golf course is great for me. The conditions have been fine," said the 34-year-old, who led going into the final round of last year's US PGA Championship before dropping away to finish tied for seventh.

"Going forward, you never know what you're going to have in Scotland. I know the rain is coming in tomorrow. I don't think the rain is going to affect how the golf course is playing in one day, but I have to just keep doing what I'm doing."

Americans have won the last five majors and will take some beating this week, with Spieth,



US golfer Kevin Kisner watches his iron shot from the 17th tee during his first round -AFP

world number one Dustin Johnson and Tiger Woods all hoping to be in contention.

However, a poor end to his first round saw Spieth finish the

day one over par after a 72. He went to the 15th tee three-under, only to drop three shots on the next two holes. He then drove into the Barry Burn on the 18th,

and ended with another bogey. "It felt like a missed opportunity. I felt like I was really going well," said the Texan, who hopes that a turn for the worse in the

weather forecast for Friday will spark an upturn in his fortunes.

"I think I'm certainly in a recoverable situation. I mean, I imagine this is as easy as the course could play. So I don't see the winning score being any better than it was in 2007 with tomorrow's forecasted tough conditions and Sunday's forecasted heavy winds."

South Africans start strongly Trailing Kisner by one shot in the clubhouse were his compatriot Tony Finau and South African duo Zander Lombard and Erik van Rooyen, with the latter taking advantage of the ideal summer weather on his Open debut.

Van Rooyen went out in the second group of the day at 6:46am and shot 67, the only flaw on his scorecard coming with a bogey at the last, the hole that was the scene of Frenchman Jean Van de Velde's infamous final-day meltdown in 1999.

However, it was still a fine start for the 28-year-old, who qualified for his first British Open by coming second at the Joburg Open.

**Kazakh Olympic figure
skater stabbed to death**

Denis Ten

AFP | Astana

Kazakh figure skater Denis Ten, who won bronze at the Sochi Olympics in 2014, died yesterday aged 25 after being stabbed, Kazakhstan's culture and sports ministry said.

Ten died in hospital after medics fought to save his life following the attack in which he lost three litres of blood, the ministry's press service said.

Kazakhstan's Vesti.kz news website reported that Ten died of stab wounds after being attacked by would-be car thieves.

He was reportedly stabbed in the right thigh, causing severe blood loss.

City police said that he was stabbed by two unidentified attackers who were trying to steal mirrors from his car, RIA Novosti news agency reported.

The International Skating Union said in a tweet it was "deeply saddened" by the

news.

"Our heartfelt condolences go out to Denis' family, friends and fans across the world," it said.

Social media erupted in sorrow and anger at the news of his death amid demands for an investigation.

Ten was of Korean origin and his great-great-grandfather was a Korean-born independence fighter, General Min Keung Ho.

He was trained by American coach Frank Carroll following a spell with Russia's most renowned coach, Tatiana Tarasova. Tarasova told RIA Novosti news agency in Russia that she had spoken to his mother while he was still alive in hospital.

"What a nightmare! What a tragedy!" she said.

Ten won silver at the World Figure Skating Championships in 2013 and bronze in 2015. He won the 2015 Four Continents title in Seoul.

**Vettel fears for future
of Hockenheim race**

BBC | London

Sebastian Vettel is "afraid" the 2018 German Grand Prix will be the country's last for the foreseeable future.

The Hockenheim track is out of contract after this season and it is asking for a new deal that would see it pay a smaller fee. No agreement with Formula 1 is in sight. The German said: "It would be a shame to lose one of the classic races."

Ferrari's Vettel said the problem was the cost of hosting a race and the lack of financial support from the state.

It is the same issue threatening the future of the British Grand Prix, which was staged at Silverstone earlier this month.

Only France, Italy and Belgium have longer histories of hosting grands prix than Germany, which held its first in 1926, the same year as Britain.

F1's owner, the US group Lib-



Sebastian Vettel

erty Media, has said it wants to protect the historic European races, saying they play an irreplaceable role in the sport's appeal. But F1 has not been able to agree a fee with Germany and Britain that the events' organisers believe is sustainable.

Silverstone's contract to host its race runs out after 2019.

Races such as Britain and Germany are competing with other venues backed by governments prepared to pay vast sums to use an F1 as a global promotional event.

**Alonso just like Neymar - but
not in good way: Magnussen**

AFP | Hockenheim

Fernando Alonso has been compared to Brazilian soccer star Neymar because of his habit of exaggerating his complaints about his rivals on McLaren's team radio.

The Haas team's Kevin Magnussen yesterday told reporters that the two-time world champion had a tendency to exaggerate and claimed he had made a particular effort to undermine him during the British Grand Prix earlier this month. "He

does complain a lot on the radio," he said. "But, I mean, we see it in other sports as well. Even great athletes like Neymar and stuff, they exaggerate a bit."

During the British Grand Prix, Alonso called for the stewards to penalise Magnussen.