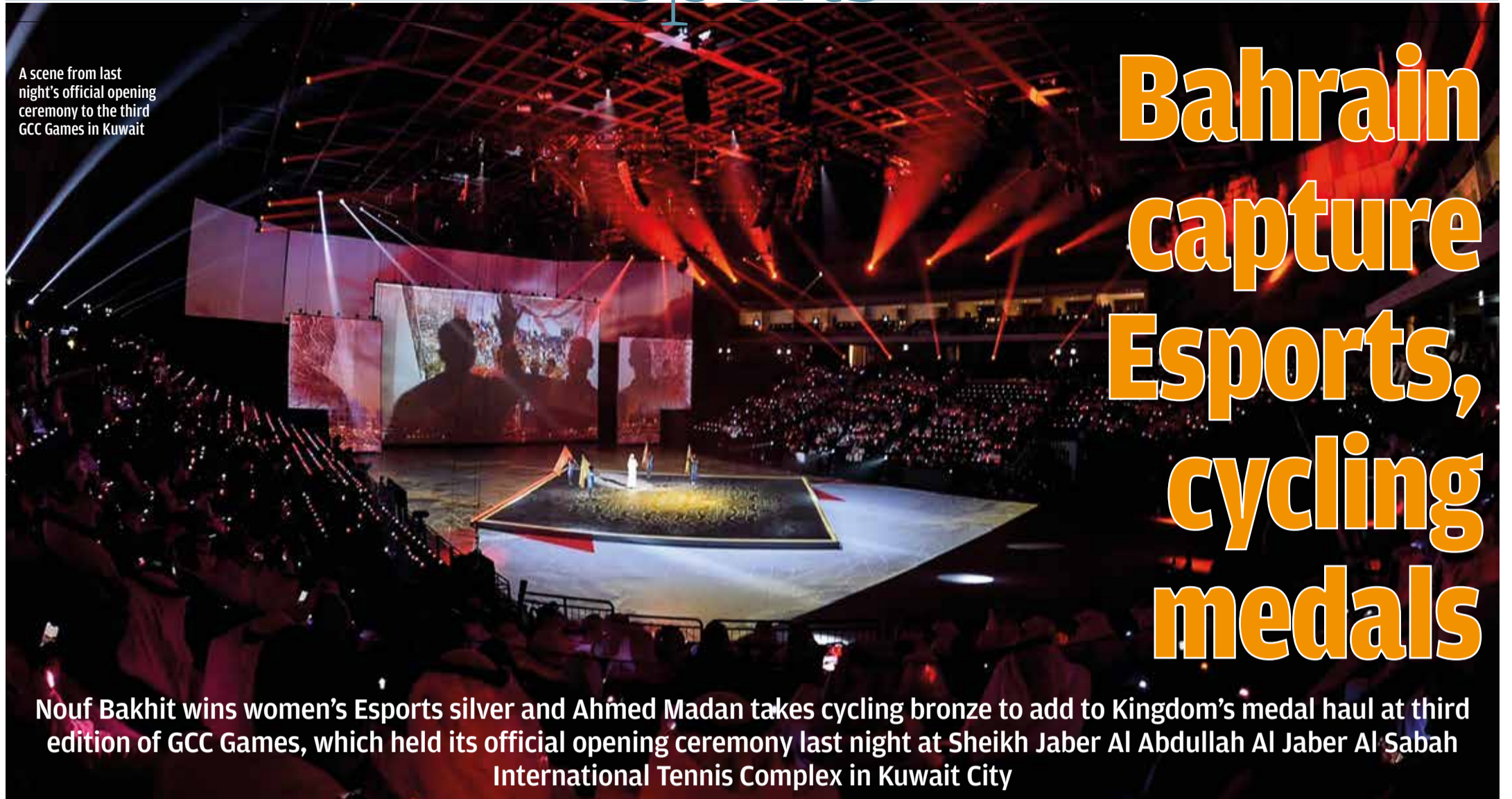


A scene from last night's official opening ceremony to the third GCC Games in Kuwait



# Bahrain capture Esports, cycling medals

Nouf Bakhit wins women's Esports silver and Ahmed Madan takes cycling bronze to add to Kingdom's medal haul at third edition of GCC Games, which held its official opening ceremony last night at Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah International Tennis Complex in Kuwait City

● **Nouf Bakhit claims silver medal after losing to counterpart from Saudi Arabia in FIFA HD gold medal match**

● **Ahmed Madan wins second medal of competition after previously taking the team time trial bronze as part of Kingdom's quartet**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's women's Esports player Nouf Bakhit and men's cyclist Ahmed Madan won silver and bronze medals, respectively, yesterday to further add to the Kingdom's medal tally at the third GCC Games in Kuwait.

Nouf clinched her silver in the

Esports FIFA HD event, while Madan secured his bronze in the men's individual time trial.

The GCC Games' official opening ceremony was held last night at Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah International Tennis Complex. In attendance was Bahrain Olympic Committee vice-president and the Kingdom's delegation head at the multi-sport event, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, along with other high-ranking officials.

In Esports, Nouf made it all the way to the final of the FIFA HD competition, but

### Medal Tally

	G	S	B	Tot
Kuwait	22	19	18	59
Bahrain	17	17	12	46
Qatar	12	15	12	39
Oman	11	5	10	26
Saudi Arabia	8	9	18	35
UAE	7	9	7	23



that is where she lost to her Saudi Arabian counterpart 0-1 in a tight contest.

Earlier, she won her quarter-final match-up against her Kuwait rival 2-0, but then lost to her Saudi opponent in the semi-finals 0-2.

She then faced off with an Omani opponent for the right to earn a place in the gold medal

Bahraini cyclist Ahmed Madan competes yesterday morning in the individual time trial



Bahrain's Nouf Bakhit, left, celebrates after winning her Esports silver medal last night

match, and she won 2-0 to set up her chance for the title.

Meanwhile, Madan's medal yesterday was the second accolade won at the Games by the up-

and-coming professional, who is a member of Team Bahrain Victorious, which competes in global Union Cycliste Internationale events.

He was also previously part of the men's team that won bronze

in their time trial contest.

Madan was one of 10 competitors going for the podium yesterday. He completed his ride in a time of 31 minutes 46.43 seconds, and was just over a minute behind gold-medallist Saied Alali of Kuwait, who won in 30:39.79. Yousif Mohamed Mirza of the UAE took the silver in 31:27.71.

Madan's countryman Ahmed Naser also had a chance to make it onto the podium, but he narrowly missed out. He finished fourth in 31:57.64.

Nouf's silver and Madan's bronze brought Bahrain's tally so far at the Games to 46—a mark adjusted by organisers on the official medal table after previously not counting the men's team trial bronze in cycling.

The nationals thus have 17 gold medals, 17 silver and 12 bronze medals in second overall on the six-nation standings.

Kuwait continue to lead while third through sixth, respectively, are Qatar, Oman, Saudi and the UAE.

## Men's futsal team lose to Kuwait, women to go for gold today

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Bahrain's national futsal team suffered a disheartening 1-2 loss to Kuwait last night in the men's tournament at the third GCC Games in Kuwait.

The nationals' lone goal in the contest was scored by Ahmed Hamad, while the Kuwaitis had Abdulrahman Alta-wail and Hamad Alawadhi on target.

The men will be back in action in their last game tomorrow and they will be looking to bounce back against the UAE, which is scheduled for a 5pm kick-off.

It will be part of the final day of action in men's futsal and it



Bahrain's Falah Yusuf battles with his Kuwaiti marker during their match last night

will determine the final medal-lists of the competition.

Meanwhile, Bahrain's wom-

en's futsal team will be looking to wrap up their dream run in the GCC Games tonight when they take on hosts Kuwait in their tournament's final, scheduled for a 7.30pm kick-off.

The nationals have won all their matches so far leading up to the gold medal match, and they will be looking to end their competition campaign on a positive note.

Also taking place today will be the bronze medal game between the UAE

and Saudi Arabia.

There are no men's futsal games this evening.

## Qaed marches through in men's singles tennis

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Bahrain's Yusuf Qaed advanced to the men's singles Round of 16 yesterday following a straight sets victory over Yaqoub Mohammed of Kuwait on the opening day of the tennis competition at the third GCC Games.

Qaed is next set to take on Saud Alhogbani of Saudi Arabia today at 4pm.

Hasan Abdulreda is also in the same stage. He will be taking on Bader Antar of Kuwait in another match at the same time.

Also competing in yesterday's schedule, Bahrainis Youssef Ashraf and Jaber Abdula'al could not advance. They lost their respective Round of 32 matches, with Ashraf succumbing to Qatari Mousa Shannan 1-6, 6-3, 2-6 and Abdula'al lost-

ing to Isa Shannan, also of Qatar, 3-6, 0-6.

All four Bahraini players will also be in action in the men's doubles.

Qaed and Abdulreda will be teaming up to take on Mousa Shannan and Issa Shannan of Qatar, while the pair of Ashraf and Abdula'al will take on the Saudi tandem of Omar Ahmad and Abdullah Alfaraj.

Also yesterday, the men's table tennis tournament got underway and the Bahrainis had mixed results.

They first beat Kuwait 3-2, with

Mohamed Saleh, Alyas Alyassi, and Rashed Rashed each winning a match.

Saleh first beat Marzooq Al Rashidi 3-0 (12-10, 14-12, 12-10). Alyassi then outplayed Jaber Albalhan 3-0 (11-5, 12-10, 11-9), before Rashed defeated Al Rashidi in the last match 3-1 (12-14, 11-5, 12-10, 11-6). Saleh and Rashed had also lost in their other matches to their Kuwaiti counterparts.



Bahrain's Yusuf Qaed looks to hit a backhand return in his win yesterday