

Future stars set for pre-season tests at BIC

More than 50 of racing's future stars to participate in F2, F3 pre-season tests next week | P11

OPED 6 The spectacular sculpture of 90 year-old Egyptian artist Adam Henein

THE DAILY **tribune**



Courtney Cox 'so excited' for Friends reunion special 10 CELEBS

BUSINESS 5 Tamkeen launches Solar financing scheme

HM King, PM, CP condole with Saudi King

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday sent a cable of condolence to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, following the sad demise of His Royal Highness Prince Talal bin Saud bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud. HM, the King extended heartfelt condolences to the Saudi monarch, praying to Allah the Almighty to rest the soul of the deceased in eternal peace and give his family solace and fortitude.

Similar messages of condolences were sent by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier to Saudi King Salman and Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defence Minister, HRH Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

New Tunisia govt wins confidence vote

Tunisia

Tunisia's new government won a confidence vote in parliament yesterday, after more than four months of political wrangling since elections.

Former finance minister Elyes Fakhfakh was named prime minister-designate by Tunisia's president Kais Saied at the end of January and tasked with forming a government within a month.

Battle rages over strategic Syrian town of Saraqeb

Reuters | Amman/Istanbul

Syrian rebels backed by Turkish forces said yesterday they had recaptured the crossroads town of Saraqeb, marking a first big push-back of a Syrian offensive.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said developments were turning in Ankara's favour, three weeks after the armed rebel opposition lost the northwestern town at the crossroads of two main highways to the Russian-backed Syrian government forces.

Russian state television said Turkish military specialists were using shoulder-fired missiles to try to shoot down Russian and Syrian military



A view of trucks carrying belongings of displaced Syrians

aircraft over Idlib province - a development that if confirmed would mark a serious escalation of the conflict.

Syrian warplanes also launched renewed air strikes on residential areas of Idlib city, witnesses said.

Syrian forces have pushed hard in recent months to re-take region in northwestern Syria.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) updates:

Number of infected cases: 33
Patients are stable and showing positive signs of recovery

No newly recorded cases of COVID-19 within the past 24 hours

Measures taken:

- Intensified the national campaign to combat COVID-19's efforts
- Enhanced detection, quarantine, isolation and treatment capacities
- The disinfection of Bahrain International Airport's arrival and departure terminals, buses, and other areas in the airport, to prevent the virus from spreading

Latest update: 11:00 PM
27 February 2020

Need cooperation 'without exception'

Interior Minister calls on all to follow up health instructions, change social practices and give priority to general interest to prevent further spread of Covid-19

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Interior Minister yesterday called on all to exercise extreme caution by offering cooperation "without exception" in a bid to combat further spread of the coronavirus.

"Not caring and ignorance" will only lead to aggravating the situation, the minister warned, as the coronavirus or Covid-19 infection is "more serious and bigger than any other challenges" in hand.

There is a need for "changing some practices in society" and to give priority to the general interest, the minister said adding: "We are going through situations that require reinforcement of national spirit and community partnership."

"Your national role today is to follow up the implementation of health instructions in the community, each according to their capability, speciality and responsibility."

"Bahrain, with its small size, makes the solution more comprehensive, and the procedures are firmer. Cooperation of all reduces the intensity of the problem," said General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Shaikh Rashid also reminded the participants on the "need for unifying social, media and cultural efforts out of the sense of responsibility of society to



Interior Minister: Current situation requires reinforcing national spirit, community partnership

deal with this danger."

The minister was meeting religious scholars, media personalities, editors-in-chief, businessmen, owners of Majalises and heads of sports clubs and youth centres.

The discussion was also part of the ongoing follow up of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, on steps to prevent the outbreak.

Bahrain's first Covid-19 case was detected after a "citizen arriving from Iran was suspected of having contracted the virus based on emerging symptoms". Since its outbreak, the United

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- » Saudi suspends entry using CPRs
- » Bahrain suspends Umrah Trips
- » BAC advises passengers to reconfirm flight timings

Arab Emirates has reported 13 coronavirus cases, Kuwait has recorded 43 and Oman is at four cases.

Interior Minister further urged all to remain extremely careful during religious and other gatherings and cooperate with authorities for best organising religious occasions and public meetings.

"It's important to seek information from official sources and avoid exploiting social media to spread rumours that could harm security and civil peace," the minister told the meeting.

COVID-19 patients showing positive signs of recovery

Thirty-three coronavirus (COVID-19) cases currently be-

Bahrain, with its small size, makes the solution more comprehensive, and the procedures are firmer. Cooperation of all reduces the intensity of the problem

GENERAL SHAIKH RASHID BIN ABDULLAH AL KHALIFA
 INTERIOR MINISTER

ing treated here are showing positive signs of recovery, said Dr Safa Al-Khawaja, the Infectious Diseases Consultant and Head of Infection Control at the Ministry of Health.

Dr Al Khawaja urged citizens and residents to help prevent the spread by washing their hands thoroughly with soap, refraining from close interactions such as shaking hands, hugging or kissing, in addition to covering their mouths and noses with a tissue while sneezing or sneezing into the crook of their elbow.

Dr Safa reminded citizens and residents who have visited Iran or other Covid-19-affected countries during February to self-isolate immediately and call 444 to schedule medical examination dates.



04 Formula 1 to go ahead as planned

05 BenefitPay announces new features

08 Putin reveals plan to use body double

210 fils (includes VAT)



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His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, National Security Advisor and Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Affairs (SCYS) Chairman His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Khalifa with Youth and Sports Affairs Minister Ayman bin Tawfiq Almoayyed, who introduced to him a youth delegation led by Nada Al-Daihani, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Brilliant Lab startup, and Haya Al-Mana, Sustainability and Innovation director at Zain Kuwait. He was updated by Al-Daihani on the work carried out by the Kuwaiti youth delegation and the company "Brilliant Lab" aimed at providing advisory and technical services to support small and medium youth institutions to ensure their administrative development.



The Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, during an inspection visit to one of the BDF unit, yesterday. Shaikh Khalifa was briefed on the unit's achievements as well as procedures to enhance its combat and administrative readiness. Thanks to the constant follow-up and sound directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander, the BDF Commander-in-Chief said that the BDF units are moving steadily moving towards achieving the highest levels of combat and administrative readiness.



Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Development and Infrastructure Projects Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa with MPs Abdullah Al Thawadi, Basim Al Malki, Yousef Al Thawadi and Muhraq Municipal Council member Abdulaziz Al Kaabi. Deputy Premier stressed the importance of cooperation with the councils to discuss and meet service requirements in the Kingdom and implement them according to availability of funds.



Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel bin Mohammed Ali Humaidan, the Board Chairman of the Family Bank, inaugurated yesterday the bank's new premises in the Diplomatic Area. The opening ceremony was attended by the bank's board members, Chief Executives of contributing banks and economic personalities. Several employees at the Family Bank, who have spent ten years, were honoured alongside some distinguished customers. The Family Bank was set up through a partnership between the Labour and Social Development Ministry, the Royal Charity Organisation (RCO), the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK), Ithmaar Bank, Ahli United Bank and Kuwait Finance House (KFH).



Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa with Chinese Ambassador to Bahrain Anwar Habibullah. They discussed the solutions taken to settle the conditions of medical students studying in Chinese universities and what the two countries can take in joint measures to ensure the approval of their qualifications. Deputy Premier was briefed on the current circumstances of the spread of coronavirus in China and the efforts made to combat it. The ambassador expressed his thanks to Bahrain for its cooperation in this regard, expressing the hope that all local and international efforts will succeed in stopping the spread of the virus.



The Ministry of Finance and National Economy, in collaboration with the Survey and Land Registration Bureau and the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, hosted a workshop on the advancements in the Real Estate sector. The workshop took place yesterday at the Ministry of Finance and National Economy. Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) and General Director of Land Registration at the Survey and Land Registration Bureau (SLRB), led a presentation on the developments within the real estate and property sector.



Bahraini Ambassador-designate to Egypt and Permanent Representative to the Arab League, Hesham bin Mohammed Al Jowder, participate in the military funeral for former Egyptian President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak. The ambassador expressed his condolences to the family of the deceased and the government and people of Egypt. He recalled the leading role of the late president in strengthening the historical relationship between Bahrain and Egypt, affirming the Kingdom's keenness to continue supporting bilateral relations.



Foreign Affairs Ministry Undersecretary Dr Shaikha Rana bint Isa bin Daij Al Khalifa yesterday opened the Ethiopian Trade and Cultural Week. The event is organised from February 26-29 by the Consulate of Ethiopia in Bahrain, in cooperation with the Ethiopian embassy in Kuwait. Dr Shaikha Rana stressed Bahrain's keenness to strengthen cooperation with Ethiopia.

HM King ratifies UPU documents

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa ratified the documents of the Universal Postal Union approved in the 24th conference held in 2008, the 25th conference held in 2012, and the 26th conference held in 2016.

Article One stipulates that the documents of the Universal Postal Union, approved

at the 24th conference held in 2008, the 25th conference held in 2012, and the 26th conference held in 2016, are approved.

Article Two stipulates that the Prime Minister and Ministers, each in their capacity, will implement the provisions of the law that will come into effect on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

Capital Governor's term renewed

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa renewed the appointment of Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa as Capital Governor for four years.

Interior Minister shall implement the decree, which takes immediate effect and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Al Saad named Deputy CEO of SCE

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa named Rashid Salah Rashid Al Saad as Deputy CEO of the Supreme Council for the Environment

(SCE) with the rank of Assistant Undersecretary.

The Chief Executive of the SCE shall implement the decree, which takes immediate effect and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Leaking personal data: public sector employee gets 5 years in jail, BD10,000 fine

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has awarded a five-year jail term and a fine of BD10,000 to a public sector employee accused of leaking confidential records of people seeking loans to the employees of a bank.

The court awarded a one-year jail term each to two of the bank's employees while acquitting a female employee for lack of evidence.

The court also acquitted the bank manager accused of bribing the public sector employee.

Court documents say, the employees of the bank signed a contract with the public sec-

tor employee to provide them with personal information of the clients who approached the bank for loans.

Reportedly, they were paying him BD300 for his services.

Police officers found a list of the bank's clients who have applied for personal loans from the public sector employee.

As per the court files, the woman masterminded the idea with her teammates agreeing to it.

The public employee also reportedly demanded BD10,000 at a later stage for his work.

The bank's employees faced charges of bribing a public employee, while the latter for violating his authorities.



The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) has held four interactive workshops recapping general and sector-specific VAT concepts, including invoicing and filing. Following a question-and-answer session, 364 attendees representing 204 entities from small and medium-sized enterprises were invited to visit a unique interactive demo-centre that provides innovative learning experiences to ensure effective implementation of VAT. Attendees can now pre-register for upcoming workshops at https://www.nbr.gov.bh/workshop_registration. Further information is available by calling the call centre on 80008001 or emailing vat@nbr.gov.bh, in addition to visiting NBR's website <www.nbr.gov.bh>, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube channel (@bahrainNBR).



Public Awareness
Campaign
to Combat
Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

To all citizens and residents
If you have visited **Iran during the**
month of February

Schedule your medical examination
to ensure your safety

Please follow these instructions:

- 1. Quarantine yourself at home, in a separate room**
- 2. Call 444 to schedule your medical test**
- 3. Follow the instructions given by the medical team**
- 4. Avoid close contact with others**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Exposure Prevention Instructions



Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly using soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizers



Clean and disinfect frequently used objects and surfaces such as door handles



Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and dispose of used wipes properly



Avoid contact with people experiencing a fever or suffering from a cough

Saudi suspends entry using CPRs

Bahrainis currently in GCC states should contact +973 17227555 to obtain alternate measures

TDT | Manama

Bahrainis, currently in one of the Gulf Cooperation Council states, should contact the authorities here to facilitate their return home in light of Saudi restricting entry using "National Identity Card" or CPR.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a circular issued yesterday stated that Saudi Arabian authorities have suspended the use of "National Identity Card" as a travel document for Saudi and GCC nationals.

"Bahraini citizens who are now in one of the GCC States, and who travelled there through land ports using the national identity should contact the Follow-up Office on +97317227555," the statement reads.

Saudi Arabia, in an unprecedented move triggered by coronavirus (COVID-19), suspended visas for visits to Islam's holiest sites for the "umrah" pilgrimage.

The kingdom, which hosts millions of pilgrims every year in the cities of Mecca and Medina, also suspended visas for tourists from countries with reported infections as fears of a pandemic deepen.

Saudi Arabia, which so far has

BAC advises passengers to reconfirm flight timings

TDT | Manama

All travellers are advised to reconfirm the status of their flights with their airlines before their departure times, announced Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) in a statement.

BAC, the operator and managing body of Bahrain International Airport (BIA), warned that the "unstable situation occurring in the region because of the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak" may result in changes to departing and arriving flight schedules.

Passengers may also contact the BIA call centre on 80007777 or the international number 80114444 to check the status of their flights.

Gulf Air sales office in Seef Mall

Manama

Gulf Air said will open its sales office in Seef Mall, Manama today from 0800 to 1500 to serve affected customers of the recent flight suspensions/changes.

Sickle Cell Anaemia chronic disease

Manama

The Council of Representatives Speaker, Fawzia bint Abdulla Zainal, and several members submitted a proposal to designate Sickle Cell Anaemia as a chronic disease.

Bahrain suspends Umrah trips until further notice

TDT | Manama

Bahrain yesterday announced cancelling all Umrah trips, by land and by air, to Saudi Arabia, until further notice.

Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, in a statement on BNA, said, the decision was based on instructions from Saudi Arabia's Ministry of

Hajj and Umrah.

Saudi Arabia's Ministry earlier said it has suspended entry to the kingdom to perform Umrah and or to visit Medina until further notice.

Shaikh Khalid stressed that all Umrah operators should comply with the decision.

He said: The decision was among the "precautionary measures taken to ensure the safety of citizens and residents and to combat the coronavirus."

reported no cases of the virus but has expressed alarm over its spread in neighbouring countries, said the suspensions were temporary. It provided no timeframe for when they will be lifted.

"The kingdom's government has decided to take the following precautions: suspending entry to the kingdom for umrah and visit the Prophet's mosque temporarily," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

"Suspending entry into the kingdom with tourist visas for those coming from countries, in which the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) is a danger."

The move comes as Gulf countries implement a raft of measures, including flight suspensions and school closures, to curb the spread of the disease from people returning from pilgrimages to Iran.

Cases in Bahrain

Bahrain's Ministry of Health, in a statement on BNA, earlier confirmed that the total cases of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the Kingdom as 33, after registering seven new cases on Wednesday.

Infected individuals were transferred to Ebrahim Khalil Kanoo Community Medical Center for isolation and treatment following tests that con-



Bahraini citizens who are now in one of the GCC States, and who travelled there through land ports using the national identity should contact the Follow-up Office on +97317227555

FOREIGN MINISTRY

firmed they were carrying COVID-19, upon arrival at Bahrain International Airport via indirect flights from Iran.

The Ministry also noted that one of the newly recorded cases is of a Bahraini citizen who had returned from Iran before the country announced the pandemic. The citizen, who called 444 having presented COVID-19 symptoms, was quickly transferred to isolation for treatment.

The ministry called upon all citizens and residents who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 to isolate themselves, call 444, follow the instructions given by the medical team, and avoid close contact with others.

Meanwhile, Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA) in Bahrain announced on Wednesday suspending flights to and from Dubai International Airport have been suspended for an additional 48 hours.

Bahrain's ministry has also issued an entry ban to all foreign visitors arriving from Iran, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea.

What is Covid-19?

They are part of a large family of viruses known to cause illness ranging from the common cold to severe acute respiratory syndrome. Covid-19 is a new strain of the virus, whose source is currently unknown. However, infected animals are considered a potential source.

Person-to-person spread?

According to experts, the virus is transmitted through direct contact, respiratory droplets produced while talking, sneezing or coughing as well as breathing.

Any reason to panic?

No, says authorities based on the latest data as Covid-19 is less severe than other common respiratory diseases. However, individuals with weakened immunity systems are advised to take immediate measures to prevent serious complications.

Is there a vaccine for Covid-19?

No, says scientists. However, doctors may help patients fight the symptoms, while patients' immune system fight off the virus. Supportive care is proven effective all around the globe.

What are the symptoms?

Common symptoms are fever, coughing and difficulty breathing. Pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death reported in severe cases.

Preventive measures

Take protective measures by complying to standard health guidelines
Consider staying at home and avoid crowded places when possible
Wear a face mask at all times while in crowded places
Visit the nearest health care, upon experiencing any symptoms.

What should I do?

If you have travelled to one of the countries infected with the disease and have interacted with a person travelling from any of those locations, stay in your residence and call 444. A media team will be in touch with you to guide you through the preventive measures.

Avoid close contact with others. Courtesy of the Ministry of Health

Formula 1 Grand Prix race in Bahrain to go ahead as planned



Formula 1 chief executive Chase Carey Agency

Bahrain Grand Prix will go ahead as planned despite continuing concerns about coronavirus, BBC reported.

Chief executive Chase Carey said "all systems are go" for the race in Hanoi.

"The Vietnam Grand Prix will take place on 5 April in Hanoi. And to anticipate another question, we do plan to proceed with the race," Carey told BBC. Vietnam GP boss Le Ngoc Chi

said the country was "ready" for its inaugural race.

"We can't wait to welcome the world to Hanoi very soon," Chi said.

Carey added that the Bahrain Grand Prix, scheduled to be the second race of the season on 22 March, would also happen, a week after the first race in Australia.

"We're heading to Melbourne, heading to Bahrain and heading to Hanoi," Carey said.



Over 5,000 masks were distributed for free from BFC Manama branch to spread awareness and as a protective measure against the Corona outbreak.

business

Tamkeen launches Solar financing scheme

● Tamkeen supports 70 per cent of the annual profit rate

● Funding ranges between 5,000 BD and 500,000 BD

● Up to 10 years repayment period

● Grace period subject to terms of the bank

TDI | Manama

The Labour Fund 'Tamkeen' announced signing a partnership with several leading banks in Bahrain to launch a Solar Financing Scheme.

The move, part of Tamkeen's Tamweel Scheme, aims at empowering enterprises and enabling them to purchase solar energy panels to generate energy which in turn will help them reduce their costs.

Chairman of Tamkeen Shaikh Mohammed bin Essa Al-Khalifa said the deal is aligned with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 and the Kingdom's Sustainable Development Goals.

The move, he said, is going to encourage enterprises to use renewable and clean energy, "which will help them reduce their costs, allowing them to focus on expansion."

Signing the deal, Chief Executive of Tamkeen, Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi, described the move as a strategic step that will bring Bahrain closer towards achieving its Sustainable Development Goals and positioning it as a leading nation within the region.

He added: "It will create more opportunities in the field of renewable energy, and will also help reducing costs, allowing enterprises to shift their focus on growth."

The scheme covers the costs of the solar energy panels and is compliant with the Islamic Sharia within a competitive rate since Tamkeen supports 70 per cent of the annual profit rate.

The amount of funding ranges between 5,000 BHD and 500,000 BHD with a repayment period of



Officials during the deal signing of the launch of Tamkeen's Solar Financing Scheme as part of its Tamweel Scheme to help organisations save on energy

This step is aligned with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 and the Kingdom's Sustainable Development Goals. This support is going to encourage enterprises to use renewable and clean energy, which will help them reduce their costs, allowing them to focus on expansion.

SHAIKH MOHAMMED BIN ESSA AL-KHALIFA
CHAIRMAN OF TAMKEEN

This support will create more opportunities in the field of renewable energy, and it will also help in reducing costs, allowing enterprises to shift their focus on growth

DR EBRAHIM MOHAMMED JANAH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF TAMKEEN

up to 10 years, and a grace period that's subject to the terms of the bank.

5pc of renewable energy by 2025

Dr Abdulhussain bin Ali Mirza, the President of Sustainable Energy Authority said the deal will contribute to achieving the national goals adopted by the government to reach 5 per cent of renewable energy from the total energy by 2025 and 6pc of improving energy efficiency.

"Green Loans"

Dr Waheed AlQasim, the CEO of Bahrain Association of Banks, stated that the partnership is

extremely important, especially since it's aligned with the bank's direction towards promoting "Green Loans", which are targeted towards environmentally friendly businesses, encouraging customers to make optimal use of natural resources.

Dr AlQasim said: "This initiative by Tamkeen to provide these kinds of loans could also help increase the number of banks that support businesses with solar energy projects."

KFH financing schemes

Managing Director & CEO, Abdulhakeem Al Khayyat, said the agreement with Tamkeen seeks to provide new financial

solutions to support SMEs.

"The partnership will open doors to further collaboration between KFH and Tamkeen in the foreseeable future," Al Khayyat said adding that KFH will provide a variety of financing schemes for enterprises.

Ithmaar committed

The CEO of Ithmaar Bank Ahmed Abdulraheem said: "We at Ithmaar Bank are committed to supporting the economic growth of Bahrain, especially when it comes to solar energy initiatives." Abdulraheem said the bank is aware of the important role it must play to help develop solar energy.

Determined says Khaleeji Commercial Bank

Sattam Al Gosaibi, the CEO of Khaleeji Commercial Bank, said the deal will develop this industry and will help support the national economy.

This project, Al Gosaibi said, will reduce the operational cost related to the amount of energy used, in addition to the value of the monthly financial obligations on financing.

Al Baraka Islamic Bank

The CEO of the Al Baraka Islamic Bank Hamad Alobaq hailed the move as in line with the bank's approach of encouraging and financially supporting clean and sustainable energy in Bahrain.



In picture, scenes from the deal signing

He said that it's part of their sustainable programmes that Al Baraka is implementing reflecting the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Bahrain Islamic Bank

Hassan Jarar the CEO of Bahrain Islamic Bank said they are

looking forward to this fruitful partnership "which will encourage institutions and companies in the Kingdom to adopt sustainable energy to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and contribute to the growth and development of Bahrain on a wider scale."

BenefitPay announces new features

TDI | Manama

Benefit, a leading regional player in electronic financial transactions, yesterday announced releasing new features for its BenefitPay users.

The new features, Benefit said, will add value to existing products, and services or markets to meet rapidly changing consumer, and businesses demands.

BenefitPay recorded over 2500 merchants with more than 300K registered users using the platform.



Yousef Al Nefae, Benefit's Deputy CEO

The new services include a 'Split payment' by which the payment for a transaction is split among multiple payees equally or variable according to the obligations of each person, provided that the amount is deducted from each participant through his bank account.

The second feature is "Payment Request". This allows sending a notice to another person to request a payment through the application, also allowing the requester to write a remark on the reason of the request, while the other party

will be able to accept or reject the request.

Another new feature will focus on the exchange of transaction details which allows consumers to share their transaction details digitally via using the application. This feature allows consumers to share their transaction details easily with other users safely and conveniently, enabling users to send confirmation of completing the payment transaction to the other party.

A new "Contact us" option will be added in the applica-

tion for consumers to connect anytime, easily with BENEFIT's staff for all their inquiries. This will allow for quick accessibility, and allow them to solve all in their inquiries in one platform.

Additionally, the application will feature an in-depth Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page that will include high-quality content that will help customers understand the various products and services quickly and effectively. This added section will be convenient for customers, which al-

lows them to get access to their answers on the application itself.

Yousef Al Nefae, Benefit's Deputy CEO, commented: "The more we integrate different products, the more we have to make sure consumers know how to use them, and enjoy the process at the same time. This comes in line with our mission to Provide and invest in innovative payment capabilities."

Users can update BenefitPay application on both Apple and Google Stores for The latest features and enhancements.

PIECES



Sphinx of Giza restored in 1989 by Adam Henein

The spectacular sculpture

The artworks displayed at SAF's "Lasting Impressions" series, which, once a year, highlights a prominent Arab artist.

Arab News | Cairo

The acclaimed Egyptian sculptor and painter Adam Henein turned 90 last year, and his work remains relevant today, as visitors saw in a new retrospective — organized by the UAE's Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) — at the Sharjah Art Museum.

The exhibition, which ran until November 16 last year, boasted around 80 artworks created during Henein's eventful seven-decade career. It was part of SAF's "Lasting Impressions" series, which, once a year, highlights a prominent Arab artist.

"We chose Adam Henein because we thought that, as a person who (has been working) since the 1950s

until today, he's one of the very few (artists) alive and who link the modernist and contemporary styles," curator Sheikhha Noora Al-Mualla said.

Born in Cairo to a family of metalworkers and jewellers, Henein's defining encounter with art dates back to his childhood, when, aged eight, he reproduced a clay sculpture of the ancient Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten after seeing it in the Egyptian Antiquities Museum. Impressed by his talent, Henein's supportive father would go on to display a few of his son's sculptures in his shop in Old Cairo.

Henein went on to gain a degree in sculpting at the School of Fine Arts in Cairo in 1953, before receiving a scholarship to study in Europe. He enrolled at Munich's Academy of Fine Arts, where artistic luminaries including Paul Klee, Josef Albers, and Alphonse Mucha once studied. And, as with so many artists, Paris was another stop for Henein — he and his wife lived in the French capital for nearly 20 years.

The time he spent in Europe was liberating and eye-opening, enabling him to experiment artistically and acquaint himself with the works of Western sculptors, according to Al-Mualla.

Henein returned to Egypt in the 1990s, and has since been heavily involved in helping to elevate the country's cultural scene. When the government decided to initiate restoration work on the Sphinx of Giza in the late Eighties, they approached Henein to lead the design team. He was initially hesitant about taking on such a major commitment, but eventually agreed in 1989. The project was finished in 1998, and Henein was decorated for his work on it.

In "Lasting Impressions," Henein's works — most of which have arrived directly from his home-turned-museum in Cairo — were displayed in a minimalist layout over two wings. The exhibition revealed the artist's little-known experimentation with abstract painting — intertwining shapes and colours creating a harmonious composition.

Henein did not limit himself to a single artistic medium or surface; he created paintings on delicate papyrus, Japanese paper, and tempera.

"He did not (belong) to a certain school or method of painting and sculpting. His experimentation was different than anyone else's," says Al-Mualla.



Adam Henein works on a project



We chose Adam Henein because we thought that, as a person who (has been working) since the 1950s until today, he's one of the very few (artists) alive and who link the modernist and contemporary styles

SHEIKHA NOORA AL-MUALLA

Saudi calligrapher Nasser Al-Salem's modern take on Islamic art

Al-Salem is one of 10 contemporary artists awarded the Al-Burda Endowment in 2018



Nasser Al-Salem

Arab News | Dubai

Jeddah-based Saudi artist Nasser Al-Salem's latest project, was showcased in the Al-Burda Endowment exhibition organized by the UAE Ministry of Culture and Youth and the Sharjah Art Foundation — last November.

Al-Salem is one of 10 contemporary artists awarded the Al-Burda Endowment in 2018. The award is awarded to artists who are committed to Islamic art practices and continue to develop contemporary Islamic art.

That is something Al-Salem has been doing, dating back to his time at the Al-Haram Al-Sharif in Makkah. In 2017, he came second in Saudi Arabia's National Endowment for the Arts competition.



The idea (behind the) green screen room is that every (filmmaker) can create a scene, then edit the picture and add backgrounds that are sometimes surreal or difficult to achieve in real life,"

NASSER AL-SALEM

1854 1947

Republican Party formally organized in Ripon, Wisconsin

February 28 Massacre: Anti-government uprising in Taiwan is violently put down by Chiang Kai-shek and his Kuomintang-led Republic of China government with the loss of 18,000-28,000 lives. Marks the beginning of the White Terror.



1953

Francis Crick and James Watson discover the chemical structure of DNA-molecule (double-helix polymer)

1991

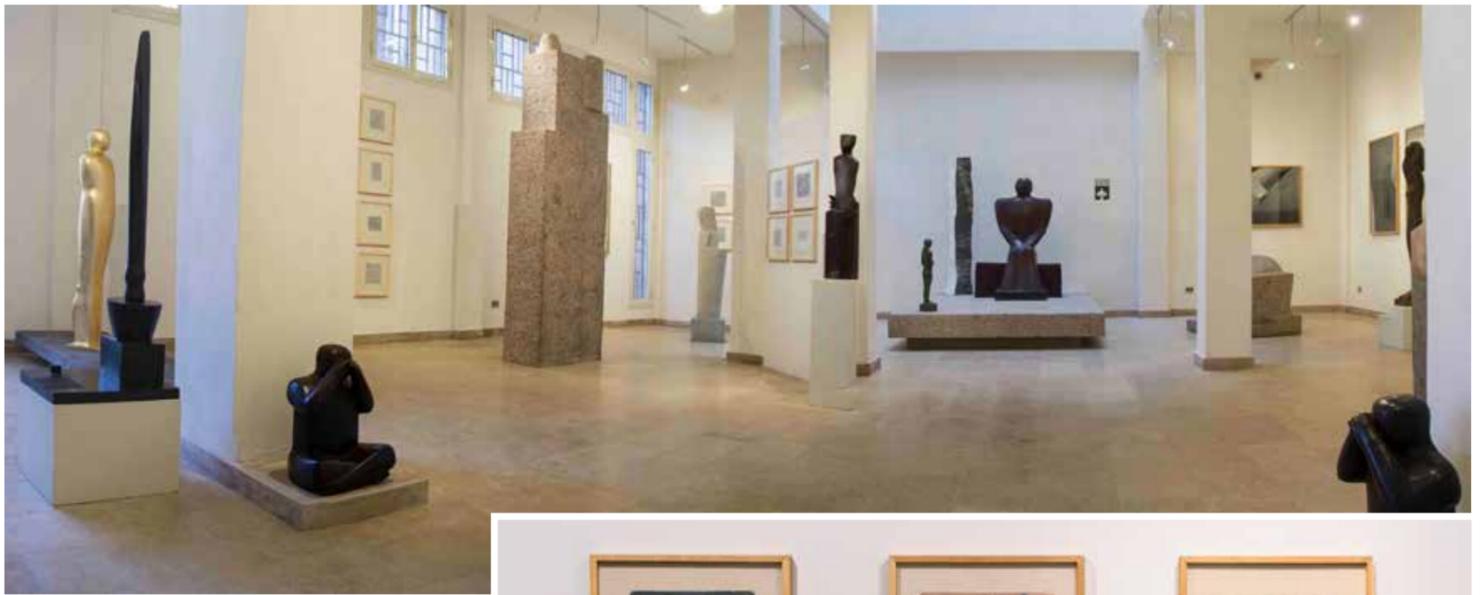
1991 Gulf War ends after Iraq accepts a ceasefire following their retreat from Kuwait

Life of 90 year-old Egyptian artist Adam Henein

“Impressions” series revealed the Adam Henein’s little-known experimentation with intertwining shapes and colours creating a harmonious composition



Work by Adam Henein displayed at the exhibition



Artworks by Adam Henein displayed at the exhibition

The artist was most celebrated, though, for creating non-traditional, bold, smooth bronze sculptures portraying animals – including cats and dogs, so popular in ancient Egyptian art – and individuals in Egypt’s working class, particularly those in the Nile Valley city of Aswan.

Henein also turned to contemporary culture for inspiration. In the early 2000s, he produced a large bust of the iconic Egyptian singer Umm Kulthum, and a noticeably round bust of the famed Egyptian writer, playwright (and Henein’s peer) Salah Jahin. One particular animal proves to be a recurring motif in Henein’s oeuvre – thoughtfully and simply presented – the bird. Whether sleeping, standing, watching, or even courting, Henein’s birds are symbolic, majestic, and somehow vulnerable. Henein, it seems, was fascinated by the liberating idea of flying, as one can see in a rare 1970s sketch in which he repeatedly draws small, bird-like planes.



“We see the bird throughout his career,” notes Al-Mualla. “It kind of symbolizes him as an artist; it symbolizes freedom, movement, and trying out different things.”



Born in Cairo to a family of metalworkers and jewellers, Henein’s defining encounter with art dates back to his childhood, when, aged eight, he reproduced a clay sculpture of the ancient Egyptian pharaoh Akhenaten after seeing it in the Egyptian Antiquities Museum

ARTIST LINES

er Al-Salem’s in the UAE’s ion – organ- and Knowl- er. orary artists in 2018. The who explore to work to- Islamic Art. as a history studying at 2010, Al-Sa- a’s National



Artworks by Nasser Al-Salem



Calligraphy competition. He is also a member of the National Guild of Calligraphers and an active member of Saudi Arabia’s Arts and Culture Group.

His work in general incorporates modern design elements (he has a background in architecture) with traditional calligraphy and Islamic geometry, often referencing verses from the Qur’an. He has been hailed as “pushing the boundaries of Islamic calligraphy” for his habit of using mixed-media platforms to present his work.

For the Al-Burda exhibition, Al-Salem created an installation of a room with green walls (a reference to the green screens used to insert special effects into movies) with Arabic text written on them – a quote from the hadith, “Ma la aynon raat,” which translates as “Like never seen before,” according to Al-Salem.

“The idea (behind the) green-screen room is that every (filmmaker) can create a scene, then edit the picture and add backgrounds that are sometimes surreal or difficult to achieve in real life,” Al-Salem said.



A work by Nasser Al-Salem

“Every one of us has different expectations of the work... and this translates the idea of ‘Like Never Seen Before.’ There isn’t one clear image you can see from one corner of the room, just like there isn’t one perspective or one picture through which we can imagine heaven.”

world

Putin reveals plan to use body double

AFP | Moscow

Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday revealed there was a secret plan to use a double to make public appearances for him, while insisting he vetoed it -- and that he is the real Putin.

Putin's comments showed that a conspiracy theory widespread on the internet that the Russian strongman has been impersonated over the years or even replaced by a lookalike is not entirely without basis.

TASS state news agency showed Putin a list of popular Russian-language Internet searches including "Putin double proof".

"Are you real?" the interviewer asked.

"Yes," said Putin.

He said he has never had a double but when asked if the idea had ever been discussed, he confirmed it had.

"I refused to have doubles," Putin said. "It was during the hardest

Conspiracy theories have long circulated suggesting that Putin had died and been replaced by a lookalike



times of the fight against terrorism."

Putin as prime minister and then president oversaw the second war against separatists in Chechnya from 1999 to 2000.

After Russian armed forces claimed victory, Islamist insurgent attacks became frequent in the North Caucasus while suicide bombers targeted Russia's main cities.

"Was that in the early 2000s?" asked interviewer Andrei Vandenko, who is doing a series of inter-

views with Putin to mark 20 years since he became president.

"Yes," said Putin.

"The double would go where things were dodgy?" asked Vandenko.

"Well yes, go, put in appearances," Putin confirmed.

These centred on the 67-year-old's apparent lack of signs of ageing, the disappearance of bags under his eyes and his seemingly worsening knowledge of German, which he learned when working as a Soviet agent in East Germany.

In 2015, Putin disappeared from public view for 10 days, unleashing a frenzy of speculation that he had once again become a father, been deposed in a palace coup, fallen ill, had cosmetic surgery or even died.

"It's boring without gossip," Putin said after reappearing.

Bullied Australian boy to donate \$475,000 to charity



The video of Quaden crying has been viewed millions of times online (Courtesy of BBC)

Sydney

An Australian boy with dwarfism whose distress from bullying became a viral video will donate hundreds-of-thousands of dollars in donations to charity rather than a trip to Disneyland.

The clip of nine-year-old Quaden Bayles showed him crying and repeatedly saying he wanted to die after being bullied at school, sparking an outpouring of support from around the world.

The video was watched millions of times and prompted US comedian Brad Williams to start a GoFundMe page that eventually raised almost US\$475,000.

Although the funds were meant to send Bayles and his mum to Disneyland, his aunt told Australia's NITV News that the money would be used

for charities instead.

"What kid wouldn't want to go to Disneyland, especially if you have lived Quaden's life. To escape to anywhere that is fun that doesn't remind him of his day to day challenges," she was quoted as saying.

"But my sister said 'you know what, let's get back to the real issue'. This little fella has been bullied. How many suicides, black or white, in our society have happened due to bullying?"

"We want the money to go to community organisations that really need it. They know what the money should be spent on, So as much as we want to go to Disneyland, I think our community would far off benefit from that."

Australian actor Hugh Jackman and NBA player Enes Kanter were among the hundreds of thousands posting support for Bayles.

Earth captures new 'mini moon'

Washington

Earth has acquired a second "mini-moon" about the size of a car, according to astronomers who spotted the object circling our planet.

The mass -- roughly 1.9-3.5 meters (6-11 feet) in diameter -- was observed by researchers Kacper Wierzchos and Teddy Pruyne at the NASA-funded Catalina Sky Survey in Arizona on the night of February 15.

"BIG NEWS. Earth has a new temporarily captured object/Possible mini-moon called 2020 CD3," likely to be a C-type asteroid, Wierzchos tweeted on Wednesday.

The astronomer said it was a "big deal" as "this is just the second asteroid known to orbit Earth (after 2006 RH120, which was also discovered by the Catalina Sky Survey)."

Catalina Sky Survey)." Its route suggests it entered Earth's orbit three years ago, he said.

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory's Minor Planet Center, which collects data on minor planets and asteroids, in an announcement said "no link to a known artificial object has been found," implying it was likely an asteroid captured by Earth's gravity.

"Orbit integrations indicate that this object is temporarily bound to the Earth." Tech entrepreneur Elon Musk said the car-sized object was not the Tesla Roadster he launched into space in 2018, which is now orbiting the Sun.

"It's not mine," he tweeted. Earth's new neighbour is not in a stable orbit around the planet and is unlikely to be around for very long.

"It is heading away from the Earth-moon system as we speak," Grigori Fedorets, research fellow at Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland, told New Scientist magazine, and was likely to escape in April.

The only other asteroid known to orbit Earth, 2006 RH120, rotated the planet from September 2006 to June 2007.



Cannibalism on rise among polar bears

Moscow

Cases of polar bears killing and eating each other are on the rise in the Arctic as melting ice and human activity erode their habitat, a Russian scientist said Wednesday.

"Cases of cannibalism among polar bears are a long-established fact, but we're worried that such cases used to be found rarely while now they are recorded quite often," said polar bear expert Ilya Mordvintsev, quoted by Interfax news agency.

"We state that cannibalism in polar bears is increasing," said Mordvintsev, a senior researcher

at Moscow's Severtsov Institute of Problems of Ecology and Evolution.

Speaking at a presentation in the northwestern city of Saint Petersburg, he suggested that the behaviour could be due to lack of food.

"In some seasons there is not enough food and large males attack females with cubs," he said.

The rise in cases may also be partly due to more people working in the Arctic and reporting such behaviour, he said.

"Now we get information not only from scientists but also



Over the last quarter-century, Arctic ice levels by the end of summer have fallen by 40 percent, said Sokolov. He predicted that polar bears would eventually no longer hunt on sea ice and be confined to shore areas and high-latitude archipelagos.

from the growing number of oil workers and defence ministry employees."

This winter the area from the Gulf of Ob to the Barents Sea, where polar bears used to hunt, is now a busy route for ships

carrying LNG (liquefied natural gas), Mordvintsev said.

"The Gulf of Ob was always a hunting ground for the polar bear. Now it has broken ice all year round," he said, linking this to active gas extraction on the huge Yamal peninsula that borders the Gulf of Ob, and the launch of an Arctic LNG plant.

Quitting normal hunting grounds

Russia, already a key global oil and gas exporter, is keen to develop its LNG potential in the Arctic. It has also significantly upgraded its military facilities there.

Another Russian scientist, Vladimir Sokolov, who has led numerous expeditions by the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, based in Saint Petersburg, said this year polar bears had mainly been affected by abnormally warm weather on Spitsbergen Island to the west in Norway's Svalbard archipelago, where there have been no ice floes and little snow.

Russian researchers have recorded growing numbers of polar bears moving away from their traditional hunting grounds as ice melts due to global warming.

Russians living in Arctic settlements have sounded the alarm over dozens of bears entering areas of human habitation, particularly to raid rubbish dumps for food.

SHOW



THE INVISIBLE MAN (15+)(THRILLER/HORROR)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE: (1.00 AM THURS/FRI.)
 CITY CENTRE (ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE (VIP I): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): (12.30 MN THURS/FRI.)
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 ELISABETH MOSS, ALDIS HODGE, STORM REID

PARADISE HILLS (PG-15) (THRILLER/DRAMA/FANTASY)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 EMMA ROBERTS, DANIELLE MACDONALD, AWKWAFINA

THAPPAD (PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/THRILLER)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM
 TAAPSEE PANNU, TANVI AZMI, SUSHIL DAHYA

STARDOG AND TURBOCAT (PG)
 OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 12.45 + 5.00 + 9.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 PM
 LUKE EVANS, NICK FROST, GEMMA ARTERTON

A MILLION LITTLE PIECES (18+) (DRAMA)
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 3.15 + 7.30 + 11.45 PM
 AARON TAYLOR-JOHNSON, BILLY BOB THORNTON, ODESSA YOUNG

VFW (18+) (ACTION)
 SEEF (II): 1.15 + 5.30 + 9.45 PM
 WILLIAM SADLER, DORA MADISON, SIERRA MCCORMICK

AIYAI : WRATHFUL SOUL (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER)
 SEEF (II): 12.30 + 4.15 + 8.00 + 11.45 PM
 KABIR SINGH, TAHLIA JADE HOLT, PENNY ANNE LACE

DOORDARSHAN (PG-15) (HINDI/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE: 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM
 MAHIE GILL, MANU RISHI CHADHA, DOLLY AHLUWALIA, SUPRIYA SHUKLA

IK SANDHU HUNDA SI (PG-13)
 SEEF (II): 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 AMRO MAMDOOH, MAJDI IDRIS, AMAD RASHAD

STOCKHOLM (PG-15) (ARABIC/THRILLER/DRAMA)
 SEEF (II): 10.45 AM + 2.30 + 6.15 + 10.00 PM
 AMRO MAMDOOH, MAJDI IDRIS, AMAD RASHAD

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (PG-15)(ACTION/COMEDY/CRIME)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 10.30 AM + 3.15 + 8.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.45 AM + 12.30 + 1.30 + 3.15 + 4.15 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 8.45 + 9.45 + 11.30 PM (12.30 MN THURS/FRI.)
 CITY CENTRE (VIP II): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM
 WILL SMITH, MARTIN LAWRENCE, VANESSA HUDGENS

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (PG) (ADVENTURE/ACTION/COMEDY/)
 OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 10.30 AM + 2.45 + 7.00 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 JIM CARREY, BEN SCHWARTZ, JAMES MARSDEN

THE CALL OF THE WILD (PG)(ADVENTURE/FAMILY)
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN THURS/FRI.)
 SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 1.15 + 6.15 + 11.15 PM
 HARRISON FORD, DAN STEVENS, OMAR SY

BRAHMS: THE BOY II (15+)(HORROR/THRILLER)
 CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN
 KATIE HOLMES, RALPH INESON, OWAIN YEOMAN



1917 (PG-15)(WAR/ACTION/DRAMA) 1917
 Winner of 3 Oscar Awards
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 GEORGE MACKAY, DEAN-CHARLES CHAPMAN, MARK STRONG

JUMANJI THE NEXT LEVEL
 CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 DWAYNE JOHNSON, JACK BLACK, KEVIN HART

DOLITTLE (PG)(ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM
 ROBERT DOWNEY JR., ANTONIO BANDERAS, MICHAEL SHEEN



PARASITE (15+)(KOREAN/COMEDY/DRAMA/THRILLER)
 Winner of 4 Oscar Award
 CITY CENTRE: (DISTRACTION FREE SCREEN): 1.00 + 6.30 + 12.00 MN
 SONG KANG HO, LEE SUN KYUN, MARIA SIMON

BIRD OF PREY (15+)(ACTION/ADVENTURE/CRIME)
 CITY CENTRE: 1.30 + 6.30 + 11.30 PM
 MARGOT ROBBIE, MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD, EWAN MCGREGOR

THE GENTLEMEN (15+)(CRIME/ACTION)
 CITY CENTRE: 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
 MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY, CHARLIE HUNNAM, HENRY GOLDING

FANTASY ISLAND (15+)(THRILLER/HORROR)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 4.00 + 9.00 PM
 LUCY HALE, MAGGIE Q, PORTIA DOUBLEDAY

AL FELOU (THE MONEY) (PG-15)
 CITY CENTRE: 1.30 + 6.15 + 11.00 PM
 TAMER HOSNY, ZEINA, KHALID EL-SAWI

FROZEN 2 (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 3.30 + 8.00 PM
 KRISTEN BELL, IDINA MENZEL, JOSH GAD

SPIES IN DISGUISE (PG)(ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE)
 CITY CENTRE: 1.15 + 5.45 + 10.15 PM
 WILL SMITH, TOM HOLLAND, KAREN GILLAN

THIEF OF BAGHDAD (PG-13)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM
 MOHAMMED EMAM, YASMINE RAEIS, AMINA KHALIL

LITTLE WOMEN (PG)(DRAMA/ROMANTIC)
 Winner of 1 Oscar Award
 CITY CENTRE: (DISTRACTION FREE SCREEN): 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.15 PM
 SAOIRSE RONAN, EMMA WATSON, FLORENCE PUGH

MALANG (PG-15)(HINDI/ACTION/ROMANTIC/THRILLER)
 SEEF (I): 5.30 + 11.30 PM
 ADITYA ROY KAPOOR, ANIL KAPOOR, DISHA PATANI

AYYAPPANUM KOSHIYUM (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.45 + 4.00 + 7.15 + 10.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 PRITHVIRAJ, BIJU MENON, RENJITH, SABUMON

VARANE AVASHYAMUND (PG-13)(MALAYALAM)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 11.45 AM + 2.30 + 5.15 + 8.00 + 10.45 PM
 SURESH GOPI, SHOBANA, DULQUER SALMAAN, KALYANI PRIYADARSHAN, URVASHI

KANNUM KANNUM KOLLAIYADITHAAL ()(TAMIL)
 From Friday 28th Feb.
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 1.45 + 8.00 PM
 AL HAMRA: 5.30 + (12.00 MN FRI.)
 DULQUER SALMAN, RITU VARMA, RAKSHAN



TRANCE ()(MALAYALAM)
 OASIS JUFFAIR: 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 4.45 + 11.00 PM
 AL HAMRA: 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 8.45 PM
 FAHADH FAASIL, NASRIYA NAZIM, GAUTHAM MENON, SOUBIN SHAHIR, VINAYAKAN, DILEESH POTHEEN

DRAUPATHI (PG-13)(TAMIL)
 From Friday 28th Feb.
 SEEF (I): 11.30 AM + 8.30 PM
 KARUNAS, NISHANTH, RICHARD RISHI

PARAMAPADHAM VILAYATTU (PG-15) (TAMIL)
 From Friday 28th Feb.
 SEEF (I): 2.30 PM
 TRISHA, NANDHA, RICHARD, AL AZHAGAPPAN, VELA RAMAMOORTHY

MOVIE REVIEW

'Paradise Hills' is a gorgeous, confusing science fantasy

● The movie isn't as fun as it sounds, but it sure looks pretty

Paradise Hills is a 2019 Spanish science fiction fantasy thriller film directed by Alice Waddington in her directorial debut

It stars Emma Roberts as Uma, a young woman sent to Paradise, a mysterious behavioural modification centre for women who have displeased their families,

alongside Danielle Macdonald, Awkwafina, Jeremy Irvine, Arnaud Valois, Eiza González, and Milla Jovovich.

It holds a 63% rating average score on review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes based on 59 reviews. The site's consensus reads: "Its ambitious reach occasionally exceeds its grasp, but Paradise Hills offers fans of thoughtful sci-fi a visually distinctive treat with timely themes".

Leslie Felperin of The Hollywood Reporter wrote, "Words can't do justice to the truly lavish



Emma Roberts and Eiza Gonzalez in 'Paradise Hills'



In this dystopian tale, a private treatment center turns privileged young women into smilingly compliant stereotypes

sets and costumes on display here which are so dazzling, intricate and bizarre they serve as a useful distraction." Louisa Moore, writing for Screen Zealots, similarly stated "so well made and has something so interesting to say that it would be a crime not to applaud the effort."

Carlos Aguilar of The Wrap wrote: "Challenging the narrative frameworks, the film turns obsolete archetypes into individuals with agency." "Princesses don't need a knight to escape their prisons; they can blow them up themselves"

SUDOKU

	6	9		3				
1								2
2			7	1	6			
	6	8	5	9	2			
		4		2	6	5	8	
	2	3		8				5
6								7
	7				4	6		

Yesterday's solution

8	7	2	4	5	3	9	1	6
6	1	4	9	2	7	5	8	3
3	9	5	6	8	1	2	4	7
7	2	8	3	4	9	1	6	5
4	5	1	7	6	2	8	3	9
9	6	3	8	1	5	7	2	4
5	8	6	2	9	4	3	7	1
2	3	9	1	7	6	4	5	8
1	4	7	5	3	8	6	9	2

How to play
 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

Across
 1- Pond organism; 5- High-pitched tone; 9- Wagon; 13- Washer cycle; 15- Lhasa ___; 16- Neighborhood; 17- Springs; 18- Barbie, e.g.; 19- Drum sound; 20- Unsafe?; 21- Duds; 23- Sardonic; 25- Super; 26- Right-leaning?; 27- Fin; 30- Tear; 31- Vows; 32- Undiplomatic; 37- ___ want for Christmas...; 38- Peaks of Peru; 40- Quickly, quickly; 41- Republic in the Indian Ocean; 43- Unconventional; 44- Born, in France; 45- Makeshift solution; 47- On deck, perhaps; 50- To ___ (perfectly); 51- Expects confidently; 52- Somewhat; 53- Posed; 56- Ethereal; Prefix; 57- Emilia's husband; 59- Orchard; 61- Capri, for one; 62- Store sign; 63- Beast of Borden; 64- Interstellar dist.; 65- Capone foe; 66- Back talk;

Down
 1- He sang about Alice; 2- Stead; 3- Midge; 4- Snake; 5- Burrowing, carnivorous mammal; 6- Epic narrative poem; 7- Alien's subj.; 8- What senators play?; 9- Christmas song; 10- Rice...; 11- Piece of history; 12- Apply powder to oneself; 14- Bars legally; 22- Washington bill; 24- Deeply moved; 25- Plant louse; 26- Dies...; 27- Froth; 28- In ___ land; 29- ___ never work!; 32- NFL scores; 33- Diploma word; 34- This, in Tijuana; 35- Dress often worn by Hindu women; 36- Raced; 38- Distaste; 39- Require; 42- ___ the finish; 43- Nervous; 45- Conductors' rods; 46- Loss leader?; 47- Give it ___; 48- Big and strong; 49- Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree; 51- Follow; 52- Aeons; 53- Cubs slugger Sammy; 54- Thrifty competitor; 55- Driving aids; 58- Copycat; 60- Literary monogram;

Yesterday's solution

T	E	A	R	C	A	R	E	S	D	O	M	E
D	Y	E	S	O	N	E	U	P	E	N	O	S
E	D	G	E	R	E	P	R	E	S	E	N	T
P	A	R	E	S	C	A	P	O	T	E		
P	A	I	R	E	D	C	I	T	E			
M	E	T	R	I	C	O	A	F	S	S	S	
I	T	H	E	T	A	L	L	Y	T	O	T	E
N	I	E	A	D	V	L	T	O	R	A		
E	T	N	A	A	R	I	E	L	O	N	E	R
S	E	A	S	C	O	E	A	R	N	E	S	
S	E	E	N	O	T	T	E	R	S			
A	T	R	E	S	T	E	P	E	E	S		
F	O	U	R	P	O	S	T	E	R	T	E	T
A	N	E	T	S	U	T	R	A	E	M	I	R
R	E	D	S	E	Q	U	A	L	P	T	A	S

celebs

Courtney Cox 'so excited' for Friends reunion special

Fox | Los Angeles

Courtney Cox is looking forward to seeing her friends.

The 55-year-old actress recently joined comedian Kevin Nealon for an episode of his "Hiking with Kevin" webseries, where she revealed some details about the upcoming



Courtney Cox

"Friends" reunion special set to air on HBO Max.

"So the exciting thing is that we're all going to get together for the first time, in a room, and actually talk about the show," Cox said. "And it's going to be on HBO Max, and I'm so excited."

"We're going to have the best time. It's going to be great," Cox said. "But we really haven't all done that and actually sat there and talked about and reminisced about this incredible experience that we had. It's gonna be fantastic."

The reunion special was confirmed by HBO Max last week in a press release. The release said that Cox would join Jennifer Aniston, Lisa Kudrow, David Schwimmer, Matthew Perry and Matt LeBlanc for an unscripted special at the show's original soundstage "for a celebration of the beloved show."

Cox also talked to Nealon, 66, about what her "ideal" reunion with her co-stars would look like. "The ideal for me — and we just actually recently did this, and it took forever. I don't know how many years it was, maybe 15 years — and we finally all got together and had dinner," she explained. "And when we get together, which is never — it just doesn't happen very often, like twice since we ended the show — it's just the most fun. We laugh so hard."

Cox revealed that the last

time she and her co-stars all reunited took place at her home, but that they'd gotten together once before at Aniston's home as well.

The "Friends" alum also talked about how meaningful the show is to its fans.

"I'm so thrilled that I was on a show that people actually learned how to speak English because they watched the show," Cox said. "It's just touched so many people's lives."

The pair also discussed Cox's gig hosting "Saturday Night Live," which took place in 1995 while Nealon was a cast member.

"I hosted SNL the first year I was on 'Friends,' but guess what, I was way too green," Cox said. "I should've done it like year five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10."

"I don't remember you as being green," Nealon said.

"I was horrible! I was so green. I was so nervous," said Cox. "I could do it now, I'd love to do it, but no one wants me to do it."

To announce the reunion special, Cox and each of her castmates -- except for LeBlanc -- posted a photo of the cast from back in the day and wrote "It's happening" in the caption.

LeBlanc, 52, jokingly shared a photo of the "M*A*S*H" cast with the same caption.

Taylor Swift transforms as 'The Man' in the song's video

ANI | Los Angeles

The wait is over! Taylor Swift on Thursday dropped the video of her new song -- The Man -- and proved that she owns it.

The 30-year-old singer took to Twitter and shared the powerful video of 'The Man', and wrote, "Man down. After a massive tantrum. #TheManMusicVideo is out now!"

She not only transformed herself with the help of prosthetics but she directed, wrote, starred in the music video and made sure that the world knows that she owns the video.

In the empowering video, Taylor hasn't even spared her arch-nemesis, Scooter Braun. The video featured Taylor transform as 'The Man' who sleeps, parties and plays badminton for 'Women's Charity'.

It also sees an old man marry a much younger woman. The video ends on a note where Taylor is seen taking charge of the director's chair. She instructs 'The Man' featured in the video whose voice has been essayed by Dwayne Johnson for a small part.



Taylor Swift



Paris Hilton

Kim pounces at Kourtney in 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' sneak peek

ANI | Los Angeles

The much-anticipated reality TV show 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' is officially returning in a month.

On Tuesday, E! announced that the famous family's long-running reality show is moving to Thursday nights instead of Sundays, with season 18 set to premiere on March 26, reported People magazine.

The announcement was accompanied by a sneak peek that shows tensions between Kourtney

Kardashian and her sisters Kim Kardashian West and Khloe Kardashian, which only seemed to get worse since the last season.

In one scene, Khloe, 35, demands, "Why do you have to have an attitude?" to which Kourtney replied, "Just don't involve yourself in business that is not yours."

Khloe fired back, and said, "Then don't talk about it in front of me."

In another scene, Kendall Jenner gets dragged into the drama, however, it's still unclear whose side she's on.

She said, "She can't sit back and just be like, 'All right, I was wrong.'"

At last, the clip teases a shocking confrontation between Kourtney and Kim

Angrily waving her finger in Kim's face, then chucking boxed water at her, Kourtney yells, "You have nothing to say."

Kim warns and lunges at her, "Don't ever come at me

like that."

In season 17, the three sisters feuded at length throughout over Kourtney's "boundaries" as she refused to film aspects of her personal life, forcing Kim and Khloe to "pick up the slack."

At one point, Kim even threatened to fire Kourtney. However, sources told People magazine that it isn't technically possible since the Kardashian sisters are equal-level executive producers.



Kim Kardashian



Kourtney Kardashian

Paris Hilton says ending engagement to Chris Zylka was 'best decision'

ANI | Los Angeles

American media personality Paris Hilton is loving her single life and isn't feeling too sad after ending her engagement to actor Chris Zylka.

In an interview with the Cosmopolitan U.K., Paris was vocal about her relationship that ended in November 2018, and how she's

feeling about it lately, reported E! News.

The businesswoman mentioned that her decision to walk away from the engagement was not a difficult one.

As Paris said: "It was the best decision I've ever made in my life. I just don't think [he] was the right person and I feel like I'm an incredible woman and I deserve someone so amazing. It just didn't feel right."

"I've worked way too hard

to just give my life to someone. They have to be perfect," she added.

Back in November 2018, Hilton and Zylka parted ways after he proposed and gave her a \$2 million engagement ring.

As per E! News, in the recent months, Paris has been romantically linked to entrepreneur Carter Reum, who she was spotted packing on PDA with at a 2020 Golden Globes after-party last month.

Lady Gaga shares her new pop solo 'Stupid Love' teaser

ANI | Los Angeles

Ahead of the official music release, Lady Gaga on Thursday shared on social media a teaser video of her first solo pop single in three years 'Stupid Love'.

"STUPID LOVE" THE SINGLE & MUSIC VIDEO OUT FRIDAY 2/28 AT MIDNIGHT ET," her tweet read.

In the 52-second teaser video, the 33-year-old singer is seen in a pink alien-inspired outfit, surrounded by a group of people dressed dramatically in an isolated desert.

The singer, who won her first best original song Oscar for 'Shallow' from her debut movie 'A Star Is Born' in 2019,

made the release of the new song announcement on Twitter.

"Stupid Love'. The new single by Lady Gaga out Friday," Gaga posted alongside a picture of a billboard featuring song's title splashed across a picture of bright pink lips.

According to Variety, the song 'Stupid Love' is a disco-infused anthem whose style harkens back to Gaga's 'Born This Way' album.

Last year, the 'Shallow' singer hinted a few times that she has been working on her sixth album. Most recently, in September she also posted an Instagram story along with her picture in the studio with the caption "#LG6".



Lady Gaga

Post Malone honours Mac Miller at Pittsburgh concert

ANI | Lon Angeles

American rapper Post Malone wowed the audience as he honoured his late pal Mac Miller at a concert in Pittsburgh.

According to TMZ, on Mon-

day night the rapper was performing at the PPG Paints Arena which is in Mac's hometown.

The 'Circles' singer came out wearing an oldie but goodie that was custom-made to pay tribute to American rapper Mac Miller, who tragically died

of an overdose back in September 2018.

The white, airbrushed t-shirt, with 'Rip Mac Miller' across the chest, and roses around the sleeves and back which Malone paired up with baggy denim jeans.

SPORTS

sports

Future stars set for pre-season tests at BIC

More than 50 of racing's future stars to participate in F2, F3 pre-season tests next week

TDI | Manama

More than 50 of motor-sport's future stars will be taking to the track next week at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir for three days of official pre-season testing in Formula 2 and Formula 3.

The tests will be held from Sunday to Tuesday between 9am and 7.45pm each day.

According to the official entry lists, there are 22 drivers representing 11 teams in Formula 2, with another 30 for 10 teams in Formula 3.

Headlining the participants in both series are Mick Schumacher and David Schumacher. Mick is the son of legendary Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher and he will be testing in a Formula 2 car. David is the nephew of Michael Schumacher and son of ex-Formula 1 driver Ralf Schumacher. He will be testing in Formula 3.

The tests are a part of both series' preparations for the start of their 2020 seasons, which will be held in support of the Formu-



A car in action at BIC (file photo)



A car on track at BIC (file photo)

la 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix at BIC from March 19 to 22.

Mick Schumacher will be a part of PREMA Racing alongside teammate Robert Shwartzman. Also set to take to the track are Sean Gelael and Dan Ticktum of DAMS, Guanyu Zhou and Callum Iliott of UNI-Virtuosi, Marcus Armstrong and Christian Lundgaard of ART Grand Prix, Yuki Tsunoda and Jehan Daruvala of Carlin, and Jack Aitken and Guilherme Samaia of Campos

Racing.

The rest of the Formula 2 testing roster includes Louis Deletraz and Pedro Piquet of Charouz Racing System, Nobuharu Matsushita and Felipe Drugovich of MP Motorsport, Artem Markelov and Giuliano Alesi of BWT HWA Racelab, Roy Nissany and Marino Sato of Trident, and Nikita Mazepin and Luca Ghiotto of Hitech Grand Prix.

In Formula 3, David Schu-

macher will be testing with Charouz Racing System. Joining him on the team are Niko Kari and Igor Fraga.

Others are Oscar Piastri, Frederik Vesti and Logan Sargeant of PREMA Racing; Max Fewtrell, Liam Lawson and Dennis Hauger of Hitech Grand Prix; Theo Pourchaire, Alexander Smolyar and Sebastian Fernandez of ART Grand Prix; Lirim Zenedeli, Devlin DeFrancesco and Oliver Caldwell of Trident; and

Enzo Fittipaldi, Jake Hughes and Jack Doohan of HWA Racelab.

The field is completed by Richard Verschoor, Bent Viscaal and Lukas Dunner of MP Motorsport; Calan Williams, Federico Malvestiti and Matteo Nannini of Jenzer Motorsport; Clement Novalak, Enaam Ahmed and Cameron Das of Carlin Buzz Racing; and Alexander Peroni, Alessio Deledda and Sophia Floersch of Campos Racing.

The Formula 2 drivers and teams will have the first chance to sample the new 18-inch Pirelli tyres—acting as a first step towards Formula 1 making the same change for 2021—during their three-day test.

Formula 3 will make use of the state-of-the-art floodlights at BIC to allow for separate sessions to take place each day. The tests will mark the first-ever action in Bahrain for the Formula 3 championship.



Headlining the participants in both series are Mick Schumacher (son of legendary Formula 1 driver Michael Schumacher) and David Schumacher (son of ex-Formula 1 driver Ralf Schumacher)

Shafiq XI edge KIMS in CBA Div D League

TDI | Manama

Shafiq XI defeated KIMS by 8 wickets in CBA Division D 25 overs League.

Shafiq won the toss and elected to bowl first. KIMS opener Arun (77) scored half century gave a good start. Ali Asgar and Fadel took three wickets each for Shafiq that helped them to restrict KIMS for 157 runs. Chasing the target, Shafiq XI opener Juzer's (76) unbeaten half century and Mansoor's 41 runs helped them to reach the target in 21st over at the loss of 2 wickets.

Shafiq XI 163/2 in 20.4 overs (Juzer 76, Mansoor 47) beat KIMS CC 157/10 (Arun 77, Ali 3/17, Fadel 3/33) by 8 wickets

United CC 221/6 (Nishad 51, Fahad 45, Azhar 44) beat CEBARCO 190/10 (Milon 42, Rahees 2/18) by 31 runs

Brave Warriors 178/6 (Salman 60, Majeed 4/16) beat Masters CC 111/10 (Shihab 15, Salman 3/11, Waqar 3/30) by 77 runs

Hyderabad Boys 155/8 (Gurvinder 39, Mahesh 41, Rishabh 2/29) beat Young Blasters 88/10 (Uzair 16, Shami 4/15) by 67 runs

Bulls 165/8 (Anil 34, Rijo 23) beat RUCT 152/8 (Faisal 50, Sunil 2/26) by 13 runs

Indian delights 146/9 (Lenu 35, Ali 3/40) beat Spartans 104/10 (Siddiqi 35, Nesar 3/15, Jerin 3/15) by 42 runs

Super Kings 158/4 in 14 overs (Suraj 71, Depu 31) beat Rising Stars 154/7 (Binu 37, Deepu 4/17) by 6 wickets

Bahrain GP just 20 days away, BIC set to light it up

TDI | Manama

Only 20 days remain until the highly anticipated start to the weekend's events in the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2020, which takes place March 19 to 22 at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC).

The four-day event is set to LIGHT IT UP! with the very best of global motor-sport and non-stop family entertainment.

This year's Bahrain Grand Prix is the second of a record 22 rounds on the 2020 FIA Formula 1 World Championship. It will be the first night race of the season and BIC will be joining Formula 1 and national carrier Gulf Air in commemorating their 70th anniversaries.

The weekend's Formula 1 action will be complemented by three highly competitive support series. These include the returning FIA Formula 2 Championship and the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East, plus the FIA Formula 3 Championship, which will be making its Bahrain Grand Prix debut.

Headlining the off-track entertainment will be the series of fantastic concerts by three of the biggest names in music today. Kicking off the live performances will

be Grammy Award-winning producer, songwriter and DJ Afrojack on the Friday (March 20) night of the race weekend. Then, on Saturday (March 21), global superstar Khalid and Top 10 DJ and producer Don Diablo will perform in an epic night of music.

Fans are urged not to miss out on this year's race weekend. Tickets to the Bahrain Grand Prix are selling fast and all those excited to attend are advised to purchase theirs as soon as possible.

All who purchase a Main Grandstand ticket will have a chance to take home a pair of Formula 1 Paddock Club three-day passes worth almost US\$10,000 in an exciting new raffle. This is the first time this prestigious prize has ever been offered for the Bahrain Grand Prix.

Interested race-goers have until March 7 to buy their Main Grandstand ticket in order to be a part of the draw. Those who have already secured their Main Grandstand seats have also already been entered automatically.

The grand prize of two Formula 1 Paddock Club passes will give the winners access to one of the most exclusive locations from where to enjoy this year's Bahrain Grand Prix.



F1 cars in action at BIC (file photo)

A four-day Main Grandstand ticket costs BD150 apiece, while a Batelco Grandstand ticket for all four days is BD120. There are also Batelco Grandstand tickets for only Saturday and Sunday priced at BD100 apiece; and also Friday-only tickets at BD60 each. Furthermore, a four-day ticket to the Turn One Grandstand costs BD100; whereas University and Victory Grandstand four-day tickets are BD60 apiece.

Also as a part of the entertainment, BIC is bringing back one of the crowd-favorites from last year's race, which is also literally the biggest attraction at BIC's F1

Village vending area. The 42-metre high giant Ferris Wheel, with 27 gondolas, will once again tower over the circuit, while there will also be a carousel-like Ghost Rider speed ride to enjoy.

Amongst the loads of other attractions are carnival games, kids' play areas, stage acts and roaming acts such as renowned street performer Abraham Thill, a life-sized Toy Brigade, a Hot Air Balloons travelling parade, Funky Style Band from Italy, Jam Batucada musical show from Spain, long-time favourites at BIC events Dr. Bubbles and Pop the Balloonman, and so much more.

Nadal cruises into quarter-finals at Acapulco

AFP | Los Angeles

World number two Rafael Nadal stepped up his bid for a third ATP Mexico Open title with an impressive display of serving and shot-making to beat Serbian youngster Miomir Kecmanovic on Wednesday.

The Spaniard hit 20 winners as he kept his hopes alive of regaining the top ranking with a 6-2, 7-5 victory over the 20-year-old Kecmanovic to reach the quarter-finals at the Acapulco hardcourt tourna-



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic

ment.

"He's a very dangerous player. Young, with a lot of power. I'm very pleased with the victory," Nadal said.

"I played a very good first set and that's important for me. That gives me confidence."

Next up for Nadal is Kwon Soon-woo, who reached his fourth quarter-final of the month with a 7-6 (7/2), 6-0 upset against eighth-seeded Dusan Lajovic.

South Korea's Kwon also reached the last eight in Pune, New York and Delray Beach.

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Juventus' Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo (L) vies for the ball with Lyon's French midfielder Lucas Tousart (C) and Brazilian defender Marcal (R)

Sarri says he is struggling to impose his style on Juventus

Reuters | Lyon, France

Juventus coach Maurizio Sarri is struggling to impose his style of play on the Turin side and his frustration came out into the open again after a poor performance in their Champions League defeat to Olympique Lyonnais on Wednesday.

In comments that could be viewed as refreshingly honest or a risky public criticism of his players, the chain-smoking 61-year-old said that his team were struggling to grasp the concept of passing the ball around quickly -- a style dubbed "Sarri-ball" by his admirers.

"I am having a lot of difficulty in getting across the idea of moving the ball quickly to this team," said an exasperated Sarri.

"In training, the ball moves around at 200 kilometres an hour but the strange thing is that doesn't happen in matches. In training, we work twice as fast as we did tonight," he added after the 1-0 defeat in the round of 16 first leg.

Juventus, Italy's most successful team domestically, have traditionally been a side

who have won trophies without worrying about how they do it.

Before Sarri -- who earned his reputation during a three-year stint at Napoli -- was appointed in the summer, they had spent five seasons under the more pragmatic Massimiliano Allegri, who repeatedly stressed the importance of



"In training, the ball moves around at 200 kilometres an hour but the strange thing is that doesn't happen in matches. In training, we work twice as fast as we did tonight"

MAURIZIO SARRI

"administering the match".

Having won the Serie A title in every season under Allegri to extend their run to eight successive titles, Juventus decided they needed more flamboyance and turned to Sarri who likes his

teams to weave intricate, passing patterns at high speed through opposing defences.

However, old habits die hard and Sarri has often observed that his team drop back to defend on the edge of their penalty area in the style of the more cautious Allegri.

Juventus have shown flashes of what Sarri wants and still lead Serie A by one point but a lot of their possession has been sterile and, in Serie A, they have scored fewer goals than at the same stage last season -- 48 against 53.

'It's not over,' Guardiola warns City

AFP | Madrid

Pep Guardiola warned his Manchester City players that Real Madrid are more than capable of a Champions League fightback after a historic 2-1 last 16, first leg win for the English champions at the Santiago Bernabeu.

City struck twice in the final 12 minutes through Gabriel Jesus and a Kevin De Bruyne penalty to beat the 13-time European champions for the first time in their history.

Madrid will also be without captain Sergio Ramos for the second leg after he was sent off late on for bringing down Jesus, but Guardiola is wary of Madrid's history of comebacks in the Champions League.

"It's just the first part, it's not three points. If one team can overcome this situation, for experience, for everything, it is this club, but of course it is a good result," Guardiola told BT Sport.

"I am so proud of course but it is just the first step, we have another game, it is not over. So be calm, enjoy it, enjoy the



Real Madrid's Spanish defender Sergio Ramos (L) vies with Manchester City's Belgian midfielder Kevin De Bruyne

moment. Have a good dinner, good regeneration, on Sunday we have a final, keep going in the Premier League and prepare the second game against Madrid."

Guardiola again sprung a surprise on a big Champions League night with his team selection as Raheem Sterling, Sergio Aguerro, David Silva and Fernandinho were left on the bench.

Action-packed nine-race card set for today at REHC

TDT | Manama

Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) hosts a packed nine-race card today, headlined by the Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) Cup.

The ninth and final race of the day will be over eight furlongs and it carries a BD5,000 total prize. It is set to feature 13 imported horses rated zero to 95, with all aged three years old and up.

Several top owners are set to be represented in the event, such as Victorious, Al Mohamediya Racing and Al Afoo Racing Stable, to name a few; as well as leading trainers like Hesham Al Haddad, Alan Smith and Yousif Taher, among others.

Meanwhile, five other races are each set to offer a Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait Cup, including races one through four as well as the day's sixth race.

Race number six is set to be over nine furlongs with a BD2,500 prize. It is for classes three, four and maiden horses aged three years old and up, and three of the five entered have been tipped with a chance, including Parchment, competing for Victorious, Alan Smith and Abdulrahim Jassim; Antar, representing Haitham Salah Abdullatef, Abdulla Kuwaiti and Ebrahim Nader; and Valentine, competing for Abdulla Fawzi Nass, Hesham Al Haddad and Ali Moosa.

The third and fourth races are both over a straight of five furlongs, with each carrying a BD2,000 prize. Race four features 11 entrants, all locally bred horses aged three years old with a top weight of 56kg. Batmobile, Najim and Laheeb are with a chance.

The second race of the day is over seven furlongs with a



A horse competes during last week's races at REHC

BD2,000 prize. It is for classes three, four and maiden imported horses aged three years old.

Light Angel, Naseeb and Arriba Arriba are all with a chance from the field of eight to claim the win.

The day's first race is also over seven furlongs with a BD2,500 total prize. It is for locally bred horses rated zero to 45, aged three and up. Six horses are in the fray.

Also today, the fifth race is set to offer the Trowers and Hamlin Cup. Sixteen imported horses rated zero to 90 and aged

three and up have been entered, and they will be competing over a straight of six furlongs for a share of the BD3,000 prize.

Elsewhere, the seventh and eighth races are over 10 furlongs each with a BD2,000 prize apiece. Ten imported horses are entered in race seven, with Albert Finney, Tamerlane and Saajod all tipped to have a chance. In race eight, which is for classes three, four and maiden horses, another 10 are set to compete, with Macaque, Midhmaar and Bataar all considered pre-race favourites.

Brave CF champion honoured by government in home country

TDT | Manama

Brave Combat Federation, the international Mixed Martial Arts promotion founded by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Bahrain Olympic Committee President, Royal Guard Special Unit Commander, Founder of KHK MMA, and Captain of Al Khalidiya Stables, keeps delivering in its core commitment of offering athletes from all around the world an international platform to achieve greatness and fulfil their potential.

The most recent example came from the Philippines, where the longest-reigning World Champion in BRAVE Combat Federation, Stephen "The Sniper" Loman was honoured by the city government of Baguio City, in recognition of his achievements in the sport of Mixed Martial Arts.

The commend, presented by city representatives, acknowledges the outstanding accomplishments of Stephen through his career and especially during the year of 2019, in which he successfully defended his world title twice (including once at home at BRAVE CF 22, in the Philippines) and his impact



Stephen Loman with Brave CF President Mohammed Shahid

in the Baguio City community, where Loman and his gym Team Lakay are both based.

A long-time veteran of BRAVE Combat Federation, being part of the very first card put together by the Bahrain-based promotion, Stephen Loman is the Bantamweight world champion in the fastest-growing MMA organization in the world since November, 2017.

Undeclared under the BRAVE CF banner, "The Sniper" has defended his world title for four times, with triumphs

overseas, including Northern Ireland, India, and Bahrain, alongside his home country of the Philippines. With 14 wins in his professional career and only two losses, Loman quickly rose through the rankings and secured a spot among the top Bantamweights in the world, regardless of promotion and affiliation.

Coming off a unanimous decision win over Louie Sanoudakis last November, at BRAVE CF 30, Stephen Loman now waits for his next BRAVE Combat Federa-

tion challenge, in which he aims to expand his title-reign record.

After starting 2020 with its debut in Slovenia, BRAVE Combat Federation is currently preparing the last details for its upcoming show in Brazil. The Bahrain-based promotion will land in the South American country on March 28th for BRAVE 35. The event will be held in the city of Balneario Camboriú and will feature 13 international fights, including the Lightweight title fight between Brazil's Cleiton "Predator" vs Sweden's Guram Kutateladze headlining the fight card.



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