A new initiative to prevent massive food waste in Bahrain and ensure better management has been launched.

The move was unveiled by the Supreme Council for the Environment (SCE) and the Hijzalnema Society during a forum at the Rotana Downtown Hotel, Manama.

SCE chief executive Dr Mohammed Mahbar bin Daina stressed the need to reduce food waste and optimise resources.

“Households dispose of 5,500 tonnes of waste on an average every day – of which 65 per cent are organic objects, mainly food,” he said.

He urged efficient solutions to deal with this challenge and reduce waste instead of dumping food which may be detrimental to public health and the environment.

Hijzalnema Society chairman Abdullah Al Rajehi said that programmes would be launched to enhance awareness and improve waste management.

“Dozens of restaurants and hotels operating in Bahrain have already backed the initiative,” he said, stressing efforts to engage more parties to contribute to the collective action.

**WAR ON WASTE**

**Mideast ‘world’s top food waster’**

MANAMA: Countries in the Middle East have been described as the “world’s top food wasters” – especially during Ramadan.

According to a report published by EcoMENA, a volunteer-driven initiative, almost one-fourth of the food purchased or prepared during Ramadan finds its way into garbage bins or landfills.

EcoMENA says tonnes of food, which could have been used to feed tens of millions of hungry people in impoverished countries of Asia, Africa and elsewhere, are wasted.

**Chamber chief vows to take legal action**

**MANAMA**: Gross financial and administrative irregularities were reportedly committed under the previous Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry management.

“We have discovered flagrant violations dating back to the previous 23rd board session,” said newly-elected BCCI chairman Sameer Abdulla Nass.

In an exclusive interview with Akbar Al Khalayel, he vowed zero tolerance – pledging to hold violators accountable.

He revealed that the 2017 BCCI financial report was approved and submitted without being endorsed by the annual assembly – in a first since the chamber was established.

“I have a mandate to investigate all administrative and financial irregularities under the previous board,” he said, vowing to enforce the law on any board official, executive staff or employees.

“I don’t pretend to be a superman but I am responsible, with a clear mandate to investigate any prejudice done to the chamber or members’ rights,” he said.

Concerning confusion over Old Manama Suq development, Mr Nass said it isn’t the chamber’s task to restore Bah Al Bahrain or pave roads.

“Any $60 spent on this project is a violation and waste of traders’ money, considering that most buildings in the suq are owned by individuals,” he pointed out.

**Premier hails ties with Manila**

**MANAMA**: His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received Philippines Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alan Peter Cayetano, who is currently on a visit to the kingdom.

They reviewed areas of co-operation between the two countries.

Mr Cayetano conveyed greetings from Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte and his wishes of further progress and prosperity to Bahrain and its people.

The Prime Minister asserted that relations between Bahrain and the Philippines are based on mutual understanding on regional and global issues.

He stressed the need to consolidate partnerships between businesses and the private sector in both countries to increase joint investments.

Philippines President’s Special Envoy to the GCC Dr Amabel Aguiluz was also present.

Full report – Page 2

**Paris knife attack**

PARIS: A knife attacker shot dead by police in central Paris last night after he killed one person and injured four, prompting a terror probe.

The attack took place near the city’s main opera house in an area full of restaurants and theatres which were brimming on a weekend night, French President Emmanuel Macron said: “France once again pays the price of freedom.”

Prosecutors cited witnesses as saying the man shouted “Allahu Akbar” as he went on the rampage, and added that a terror investigation had been launched.

The man attacked five people with a knife, one of whom died, police said.

Two were in serious condition and all the victims are in hospital. A large area was cordoned off where police, fire and rescue vehicles converged.

Police said the attacker’s motives were still unknown.

**Qatar warned**

WASHINGTON: Qatar has been warned by the Trump administration to stop financial assistance to pro-Iranian militias in the Middle East after Doha’s dealings with these groups came out in the open.

According to a report in the UK’s Daily Telegraph, American officials are concerned about Doha’s connections with “a number of Iranian-sponsored militias,” whom Washington views as terrorist organisations.

The new concerns were voiced by the Americans after emails from top Qatar government officials to Hezbollah in southern Lebanon and Iran’s Revolutionary Guards were uncovered.

Full report – Page 2
Growing co-operation with Philippines hailed

MANAMA: His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa received the Philippines Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Cayetano, in the presence of the Philippines President’s Special Envoy to the GCC Dr Amabel Aguiluz.

They reviewed areas of co-operation within the memoranda of understanding signed between the two countries for their common interests. HRH the Premier welcomed the Philippines minister’s visit, noting that it will contribute to strengthening bilateral relations at all levels.

The Philippines Secretary for Foreign Affairs conveyed Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte’s greetings to His Royal Highness. The Premier received the Philippines minister with high appreciation of the distinguished relations between Bahrain and the Philippines based on a long history of mutual understanding and respect. He hailed the Premier’s interest in expanding areas of co-operation between the GCC and Asian countries in various fields, at the bilateral level or through the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

The two countries to enhance them towards wider horizons of constructive co-operation. The Premier requested the minister to convey his greetings to President Duterte, recalling his recent successful visit to Bahrain, and its fruitful outcomes that contributed to strengthening the distinguished relations between the two countries.

The Philippines minister expressed satisfaction with the progress witnessed by the bilateral co-operation in various fields, which, he said, embodies the depth of bilateral ties of friendship which are based on a long history of mutual understanding and respect. The Philippines minister expressed thanks and appreciation to the Premier for the warm welcome accorded him, lauding his role in enhancing bilateral relations.

The Philippines Secretary for Foreign Affairs also expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome accorded him, and of further progress and prosperity to Bahrain and its people.

The Prime Minister asserted that it will contribute to strengthening bilateral relations between Bahrain and the Philippines. He hailed the Premier’s interest in expanding areas of co-operation between the two countries to enhance them to the level of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

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Stop funding pro-Iran militias US tells Qatar

MANAMA: Qatar has been told by the US to stop funding pro-Iran militias in the Middle East after Doha’s dealings with these groups came out in the open.

According to a report in the US daily Telegraph, American officials are concerned about Doha’s connections to “a number of Iranian-sponsored militias,” whom Washington views as terrorist organisations.

The new concerns were voiced by the Americans after emails that originated from top Qatari government officials to groups such as Hizbollah in southern Lebanon and Iran’s Revolutionary Guards were unearthed.

The Telegraph report goes on to say that the emails and other incriminating documents have been seen by the newspapers and points to the friendly ties that Qatari officials had with Qaem Soleimani, the prominent head of the Iranian Quds Force, and Hizbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah.

The documents of these secret talks between Qatari officials and those heading terror groups in the region prove that Doha “paid hundreds of millions of dollars” in ransom payments to secure the release of hostages held by militias in southern Iraq.

After US President Donald Trump pulled out of the nuclear deal with Iran, the US administration is now following it up and telling Qatar to review its Iran ties, “as well as its ties with Iran-sponsored terrorist groups.”

“What these emails show is that a number of senior Qatari government officials have developed cordial relations with senior figures in Iran’s Revolutionary Guard, as well as a number of Iranian-sponsored terrorist organisations,” said a senior US security official.

“At a time when the US government is trying to persuade Iran to end its support for terror groups in the Middle East, we do not believe it is helpful that Qatar continues to have ties with such organisations.”

Meanwhile, Bahrain’s Foreign Ministry yesterday dismissed as totally erroneous a statement attributed to Foreign Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa regarding the Qatari crisis by the Turkish Foreign Minister. The Turkish Ministry’s statement was reported by the Russian Sputnik Agency. The Foreign Ministry said the agency lacks credibility and professionalism to deal with such sensitive topics.

The ministry stressed that the position of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Egypt on Qatar crisis is quite clear and that these countries are defending their sovereignty and not besmirching Qatar.

The ministry affirmed that existing relations with Qatar came after the four countries tried all available means to stop it from interfering in their internal affairs and that all the steps taken so far have not affected their people or the brotherly Qatars.

Under the Patronage of H.R.H. Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa Prime Minister of Kingdom of Bahrain

The AMA International School will hold its 10th graduation of the High School Department today, Sunday, 13th May 2018 at Gulf International Convention Centre.

AMBASSADOR AMABLE R. AGUILUZ V, Chairman and Founder and the Philippine President’s Special Envoy to the Gulf Cooperation Council commended and advised the 194 graduates saying, “I congratulate you on your achievements after twelve long years of studying, exploring, and learning inside and outside of the AMA International School Bahrain. The knowledge, skills and values you have gained will always be a big part of you and cannot be taken away from you. A graduation ceremony is always a special occasion but it does not mean that you should stop learning. You have to keep moving, thinking, discovering.”

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FEARS of potentially deadly explosions in the heart of the capital have prompted a requirement for new garages, industrial workshops and gas canister refuelling stations to be certified as safe by emergency services.

The rule has been imposed by the Capital Trustees Board due to concerns about gas leaks, explosions, fires and other hazards.

It has been referred for ratification to Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam Khalaf, who could choose to make it a nationwide policy.

“It is a safety and organisational task that should have been enforced a long time ago,” Capital Trustees Board chairman Mohammed Al Khozaie told the GDN.

“Such facilities are located mostly in residential areas, especially gas canister refuelling workshops, and pose dangers for people living nearby – as well as the workers themselves, should there be any uncontrollable situation.

“Most of the facilities pose safety hazards and the workers usually are not aware of what safety measures to take.”

The new rule means such businesses must obtain a safety certificate from the General Directorate of Civil Defence before they can commence operations in the capital.

Staff would also have to undergo first-aid and other appropriate emergency training.

The measure currently affects new enterprises, although the Capital Trustees Board is studying additional requirements for existing facilities.

“Workers should take courses to be aware of what safety hazards to consider,” said Mr Al Khozaie.

“Most come from farming, gardening and fishing backgrounds in their countries.

“They should be trained either by Civil Defence or specialised institutions and be certified as being able to handle an emergency, should it happen.

“Such rules will be applied to new facilities, but we are working on the legal aspect of obliging existing ones to adhere to such rules.

“This could be applied should they seek renewal of their Commercial Registration (CR), municipal permits or other authorisations from ministries and government bodies concerned.

“It is just a suggestion, but hopefully owners of existing facilities will take the initiative and do so themselves.”

The GDN last year reported that a gas cylinder explosion in Manama prompted calls for a revamp of the traditional suq to be fast-tracked.

Three gas cylinders outside Iram Tower restaurant, located just metres from Bab Al Bahra Police Station, exploded on April 3, which the Interior Ministry blamed on a gas leak.

No-one was hurt in the blast, which completely destroyed one building and damaged surrounding properties and at least a dozen cars.

Mr Al Khozaie said such situations were made worse because employees often do not know how to respond.

“Lives of workers and others could be saved, or there would be fewer injuries and minimal damage, should all safety precautions and planned responses be in place,” he said.

The GDN reported in 2015 that gas refilling shops would be banned from operating in residential neighbourhoods across the country, after the measure was proposed by the Southern Municipal Council.

It meant all shops where gas cylinders and cookers are refilled would be forced to relocate from residential areas.

**INVEST IN OUR Mudharaba & Murabaha ACCOUNTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Competitive profit rates</th>
<th>Flexible tenor</th>
<th>Share a compliant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>1.65%</td>
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<td>3 months</td>
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<td>3 years</td>
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**Details and Conditions apply**

**Competitive profit rates**

- 1 month: 1.65%
- 3 months: 2.05%
- 6 months: 2.25%
- 1 year: 3.30%
- 2 years: 3.55%
- 3 years: 3.75%

**Flexible tenor**

- 1st year: 7.50%
- 2nd year: 7.50%
- 3rd year: 7.50%

**Share a compliant**

- 1st month: 3.05%
- 2nd month: 3.05%
- 3rd month: 3.05%

**Duration and tenor rates**

- Minimum participation: 5,000 BD
- Minimum participation: 10,000 BD
- Minimum participation: 15,000 BD
- Minimum participation: 25,000 BD

For more information, please call 17 54 00 54

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**Drugs suspect denies charges**

A MAN was arrested for attempting to smuggle drugs into the country, a court heard.

The 38-year old Bangladeshi is standing trial at the High Criminal Court where he appeared to deny drug smuggling and possessing 340gms of marijuana and 9,160 prescriptions pills.

He was arrested on February 24 when a Customs officer at Bahrain International Airport became suspicious about a strong smell coming out of the man’s bag.

By REEM AL DAAYS

“I asked him to go from the green lane to the red lane for further inspection,” the 46-year-old Bahraini officer told prosecutors.

“When I opened the bag I saw blue pouches of red pills and a green substance that looked like marijuana.”

He said the pills were hidden along the sides of the bag.

The defendant claimed he was unaware of the contents of the bag which he was bringing into Bahrain for someone in exchange for money.

“The bag does not belong to me,” he told prosecutors.

“A Bangladeshi working for airline back home gave me the bag to give to someone in Bahrain in exchange for money.”

He said the same man had given him a new bag as his was old and also told him that someone in Bahrain would give him BD10 to BD20 for the bags.

The trial was adjourned to May 22 to appoint a lawyer for the defendant.
JUST three per cent of Bahrain’s newly discovered oil reserves would be enough to dramatically overhaul the economy, according to one of the world’s most respected analysts.

The discovery of an estimated 81.5 billion barrels of offshore shale oil and 13.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas was announced last month, although complications associated with recovering the oil have prompted some observers to downplay its significance.

**Impetus**

However, Citi’s Global Head of Commodities Research, Ed Morse, told the GN that recovery of just a small fraction of the new reserve would provide major impetus to the economy – with even the smallest amount more than doubling the country’s current oil output, which averaged 197,276 barrels per day last year.

“Even if you look at the lowest level of potentially more than double Bahrain’s current production level, that would be significant,” said Mr Morse, who was named among the 36 best analysts on Wall Street by the financial website Business Insider.

“But the game changer will be if it’s five times the production level and that would change the dynamics.

“It is possible recoverability of the resource is 20pc, rather than 3pc.

“The great benefit for Bahrain is that it discovered this new reserve at a time when it can potentially perceive the end of the era of oil and use resources for post-oil regime purposes.”

The new offshore reserve is the biggest oil repository found by Bahrain since it started producing in 1932.

It is located in the Gulf of Bahrain, off the southwest coast, and authorities hope to start production from the 2,000 square kilometre field within the coming five years.

While the find puts Bahrain ahead of Russia in terms of proven oil reserves, experts have cautioned that only 10 to 15pc of the new discovery can be tapped into.

However, a conservative estimate of just 5pc would add another four million barrels to Bahrain’s oil inventory.

Mr Morse suggested the country should take a forward-thinking approach by using revenues generated by the find to invest in other industries, which could in turn power the economy in a post-oil era.

“It could be phenomenal, very important for the Bahraini economy from the perspective of enabling it to sustain debt levels that is significantly higher than the current one,” said Mr Morse during a visit to Bahrain, which included a meeting with Oil Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

“This can be used as incremental debt to build commercial and industrial resources that would be self-generating in their revenues and not like oil and gas, which are depleting resources.”

The country’s dependence on oil made it vulnerable to the shock oil price slump of 2014, forcing the government to borrow to finance a budget deficit that stood at around $3.6bn.

**A fraction of the reserves can overhaul economy say analysts**

**Boutique hotel to display works by Bahraini artists**

**ARTWORK** by established and upcoming Bahraini artists will be featured prominently in a new boutique hotel opening in Bahrain later this year.

Located next to Bab Al Bahrain suq, The Merchant House is expected to start welcoming visitors in September.

The development is a project of British hotelier Gordon Campbell Gray who has, over the past year, put together an eclectic collection of works by well-established and upcoming artists from Bahrain and region.

The hotel’s design is completely original and complements the surrounding area which is undergoing a revamp to re-establish the prominence of the old suq and restore the traditional character of Manama, said a statement.

There will be 47 suites in total, each featuring an open-plan kitchen and dining area, as well as open-plan sitting rooms ideal for both business and leisure.

The rooftop will house the main restaurant and the bar with options to eat indoors or outdoors.

There is also a rooftop pool and a gym, as well as a small boardroom for meetings and private events.

**Design**

“We are looking forward to bringing our special brand of hospitality to Bahrain this year with the opening of The Merchant House in Manama,” said Mr Gray, the founder of Campbell Gray Hotels.

“We are confident that with its central location, beautiful facilities and comfortable all-suite accommodation it will be rather special, and we are eager to welcome our first guests through the door.”
last year. As a result one forecast predicts public debt, the amount the government owes, could reach around 88pc of GDP this year – the equivalent of about $31bn.

Oil prices reached $115 per barrel in June 2014, before crashing to a low of less than $27 in 2016 - sending shock waves through the economies of oil producing countries. A steady recovery over the past two years has seen the price rise to $75 this month, although Mr Morse said the average price going forward was likely to be around $60. “If the oil price touches $100 it won’t stay there too long because the world has substitutes for oil and demand is killed at a certain price level,” explained Mr Morse. “I think the oil price will be between the volatile price range, likely between $50 and $75, while the average targeted price may be slightly below the $60 range – up or down.”

Mr Al Aali, chief economist at Bahrain’s Economic Development Board, said the country’s oil sector was set for an era of renewed growth – adding he was “optimistic” about the potential to tap into the new reserves. That is despite acknowledging that recovering shale oil and tight gas would be “a bit more complicated and a bit more expensive than conventional wells”. “Nowadays, even with these more challenging fields, you can extract a lot as they have achieved pretty good recovery rates and there’s reason to be optimistic,” he said.

“The other good news is that the world has substitutes for oil and I expect investment activity to begin in the next few years,” he said. “Projects will begin and jobs will be created, further fuelling the positive sentiment.”

Among the more cautious observers is Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) analyst Abdulaziz Aldoserti, who said the benefits would be dictated by various factors - such as how much oil could be recovered, the cost of production and future oil prices. “It’s mainly an offshore shale oil field,” he said. “It would be a world first if Bahrain succeeds in producing commercial quantities of its offshore shale oil. “Therefore, comparing Bahrain’s expected cost of operation with US onshore shale won’t be as accurate as some might expect.”

Similar sentiments have been expressed in Bank of America (BofA) Merrill Lynch’s latest World At A Glance report, which warned the costs associated with extracting the oil could be difficult to finance.

New initiative to combat bullying through art

By RAJAN ALKHAR

A TEAM of creatives have embarked on an initiative to combat bullying through art.

The ‘When You Hurt’ festival, organised by Bahrain Youth Forum Society as part of its Naseem Initiative, took place yesterday at the Isla Cultural Centre in Manama. The day long event was held under the patronage of Shura Council chairman Ali Saleh Al Saleh and featured over 20 artworks and three short film screenings themed around bullying.

It also featured an awareness exhibition, in which a number of NGOs, private and governmental centres showcased services related to bullying prevention.

Naseem Initiative head Enas Fardan highlighted the need for a national campaign to tackle the growing phenomenon. “Our aim was to start from somewhere and to encourage all of the different parties which contribute towards minimising the problem and I’m very much an advocate for a national programme,” she told the GDN.

“It has been done in neighbouring countries like Dubai and Saudi Arabia as well as in other countries like the UK and the US. Naseem has always been about awareness through art and we believe that through awareness, we can actually make people more aware and responsible so that they can take the right action.”

As part of its mission, the initiative has provided workshops for 600 students from private schools – equipping them with information to combat bullying and spread awareness. It has also run social media campaigns, art exhibitions and produced films on preventing bullying and violence.

Participating Bahraini artist Ali Al Far dan produced three artworks illustrating the emotions of those affected by bullying. “I’ve tried to portray bullying through colour and expression,” he told the GDN.

“Those who might not understand the importance of the initiative through the conference will understand it through the artwork. “The best thing in life is to be human to others, as well as to find solutions to problems that people sometimes ignore – like bullying.”

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Naseem Initiative head Enas Fardan highlighted the need for a national campaign to tackle the growing phenomenon. “Our aim was to start from somewhere and to encourage all of the different parties which contribute towards minimising the problem and I’m very much an advocate for a national programme,” she told the GDN.

“It has been done in neighbouring countries like Dubai and Saudi Arabia as well as in other countries like the UK and the US. Naseem has always been about awareness through art and we believe that through awareness, we can actually make people more aware and responsible so that they can take the right action.”

As part of its mission, the initiative has provided workshops for 600 students from private schools – equipping them with information to combat bullying and spread awareness. It has also run social media campaigns, art exhibitions and produced films on preventing bullying and violence.

Participating Bahraini artist Ali Al Far dan produced three artworks illustrating the emotions of those affected by bullying. “I’ve tried to portray bullying through colour and expression,” he told the GDN.

“Those who might not understand the importance of the initiative through the conference will understand it through the artwork. “The best thing in life is to be human to others, as well as to find solutions to problems that people sometimes ignore – like bullying.”
TODAY is Sunday, May 13, 133rd day of 2018. There are 232 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

- 1995: An Islamic terrorist bomber’s e-mails were published.
- 2007:20 – A freighter with a load of chemical weapons was seized in the Gulf of Oman.

WHAT THEY SAW

A NATION is a society united by a delusion about its ancestry and by a common hatred of its neighbours– William Randolph Hearst, English religious leader and author (1860-1954).

World News

- President Donald Trump shows the signed executive order on the Iran nuclear deal at the White House.

- Google and other search engines are thrust into the political spotlight as several of the biggest Western retailers embrace tougher vetting tactics linked to Iran, and pretend that Iran does not exist. No travel, no business; consider if Iran doesn’t exist, no conversation, nothing.

- However, the Arab world must also wonder why America, Western powers, which the BBC declares as America, Britain and France, destroyed Iran and changed the government and the entire fabric of Iraqi society. murdered all their scientists, doctors, engineers and other intellectuals – 50,000 of the Iraqi elite. Vanish? Are there any answers? Why is there no discourse on this subject? What is happening in Iran? Why no adult discourse? Why all the destruction? Why is Israel left to bomb whomever they please? Why no sanctions on Israel? Why is Israel immune to the norms that all of us must follow?

- The US withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal means simply more war, terror, sanctions, loss of resources from the Arab world. Because of the US wars will pay for this, and the only resource we have is oil and gas. We will suffer.

- The Western powers have sent a flotilla of nuclear ships in the region, searching wooden boats, for drugs. Why can they not intercept weapons being shipped from Iran? Why are these huge missiles not intercepted?

- Nuclear weapons, what is the concern? Why not arm the entire planet with nuclear weapons? Who determines who can have nuclear weapons? Why did America withdraw from the nuclear reduction deal that it had with Russia? Russia is still ready to reduce its nuclear weapons along with the US. Why is America not willing to continue that process?

- All the other countries can be forced to destroy their nuclear weapons if the US does not destroy theirs. Why does Israel have 150-plus nuclear bombs, without audits, without confirmation or inspection, without following any of the international laws applicable to all countries, except Israel, 1968.

- If we answer these questions and more, we will understand why we are at perpetual war.

Karim Mansouri

Making headway

It’s great to see how women are making their mark in Bahrain and in the Middle East – especially on the corporate landscape.

Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of His Majesty King Hamad and Supreme Council president, has contributed tremendously to national efforts to empower Bahraini women – from formulating the National Strategy for the Advancement of Bahraini Women, setting the women’s political empowerment programme of its kind in the Arab region to introducing strong initiatives such as establishing Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Award for Women Empowerment to further encourage efforts, initiatives and participation in empowering Bahraini women as well as consolidating a policy that does not discriminate against women.

Recently, INJAZ Bahrain executive director Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa was awarded the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Person of the Year Award by the CSR Regional Network. The award comes as recognition for her efforts with the INJAZ Bahrain organisation which span more than two decades.

She has been active in youth-empowering initiatives and developmental projects which have contributed to boosting voluntary work.

Her positive activism efforts are directly responsible for Bahrain’s status on the regional and international map as a leader in youth empowerment and community stability.

There is no looking back for Arab women who are better educated and skilled than ever before.

Dr Sana Farid

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Why, why, why..?

WITH America pulling out of the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, America simply perpetuates the regime of war and sanctions around the world, completely unjustified and a barbarian approach to politics. Who authorized this terror? We, the people? Sanctions and wars do not work, see Cuba, Korea, Iran, Russia, and again, are these sanctions justified? I refer to the article “Nuclear deal pull-out welcomed”, GDN, May 9. The world has been at constant war my entire lifetime. Reading Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace How We Got to Be So Hated, by Gore Vidal, I now understand why this is.

The Arab World should simply ignore Iran for the next 1,000 years. Close all offices, entities linked to Iran, and pretend that Iran does not exist. No travel, no business; consider if Iran doesn’t exist, no conversation, nothing.

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Dr Sana Farid
AN alleged terrorist’s assault rifle jammed as he tried to assassinate policemen on duty in a Bahraini village, a court heard.

The crucial delay saved the lives of his intended targets, who were on a routine patrol in Eker.

Details of the botched assassination were shared by a 31-year-old school bus driver, who said he was tasked with killing the officers last year.

He said he was provided the weapon and ammunition two days earlier by an individual called Ziyad, who claimed to be directing terrorists operations in Bahrain.

“I walked with a bag containing the assault rifle as I approached a police patrol vehicle in Eker,” the bus driver said in his statement to prosecutors.

“I was near a bank and I took up position before pointing the weapon at the policemen.

“However, when I attempted to fire the weapon on the assault rifle, it jammed.

“I had to abandon the mission and told Ziyad what had happened.

“It turned out the ammunition was old and he told me he would give me new bullets.

“However, after I collected the new bullets I was told to give back my weapon because the group needed the assault rifle to carry out another mission in Saar.

“He told me off because I was not effective in the field and said he would not give me a bomb (to carry out another attack) because I am useless.”

**Trial**

The driver, who worked for a private school transport company, is now standing trial in the High Criminal Court on charges of attempted murder, undergoing militia training abroad and possessing a firearm and ammunition.

During questioning he told prosecutors he was recruited to the terrorist group by his brother, who is at large in Iran.

“My brother told me to collect a mobile phone from a graveyard in Duraz in 2015,” the defendant said in his statement.

“A man nicknamed Ziyad then contacted me through the Threema messaging application.

“He said he was in charge of terrorist attacks in Bahrain and would give me orders.

“At first I was hesitant, but I accepted and he told me to swear under oath that I would not reveal secrets or take part in any rallies so as to avoid being arrested.

“He then ordered me to collect money and distribute it to members of the terrorist group.

“I went to Eker and took an envelope containing BD350, which I took to a mosque in Nu’waidrat.

“I then continued doing similar things, but in 2017 Ziyad ordered me to monitor police movements.

“I then went to pick up an AK-47 rifle that he left for me near a school in Ma’amer.

“A masked man opened a vehicle’s door and tying before me was the assault rifle inside.

“I grabbed it and Ziyad told me I had to carry out the operation two days later.

“Another man is also on trial for allegedly being a member of the same terrorist group. Their trial has been adjourned until May 22 for review.

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**Scholarships for Indian students**

A GRANTS schedule for undergraduate studies has been announced by the Indian Government for the 2018-2019 academic year.

The Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children will benefit children of Indian origin (PIO) and non-resident Indians (NRIs).

It aims to support them in pursuing undergraduate studies in Indian universities and institutes, including central universities of India. A grade institutions accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council and recognized by the University Grants Commission, National Institutes of Technology, Schools of Planning and Architecture and Indian Institutes of Information Technology.

The scholarship can be used for various courses including engineering, management, Ayurveda, law and journalism.

Under the scheme, financial assistance will be provided towards the tuition fee, admission fee and post-admission services.

The assistance will be available for undergraduate courses in professional and non-professional courses, postgraduate medical and related courses. Interested and eligible candidates are advised to visit spcindia.gov.in for more information and online registration.

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**Romance and the sponsor**

I’m going to make an observation that may well brand me prejudiced in many circles – there is a clear difference between how Westerners generally perceive their domestic workers’ personal lives and the way Asian and Arab families react to the same. Mind you, this is a generalisation but it holds for most cases.

Western employers usually do not interfere in the private lives of their domestic workers but paradoxically, if there is a boyfriend or girlfriend in the scene, they encourage the couple to go on dates and the pregnancies and birth of babies of many Asian and Arab employers, on the other hand, take an active and inquisitive interest in the family life of their domestic workers but short of making them use a chastity belt, everything is done to discourage romantic relationships.

Of course, it is part of the culture in most Asian countries and certainly in the Arab world, that women use this and this means guardians have to watch for ‘inappropriate’ relationships.

Many employers espouse away their strictness by saying that the woman’s family has ‘entrusted’ her in their care and they must ensure she is not emotionally tricked. Men are not so closely monitored and there are so many cases of couples in the expat community least likely to be double life because they are happily married in Bahrain – and the husband is pretty happili married in Bahrain.

But to deny a legally married couple access to each other – where is the logic in that? The reported marriage of an Indian couple – the wife, a domestic worker and the husband, a waiter in a restaurant, were not allowed to meet has shaken many of us. Here was a couple who obviously had planned their migration to Bahrain so that they could work and make a life together.

Since the woman came from a family where the parents were working in the GCC, they were not unfamiliar with the grinding loneliness that often assails migrant workers, especially in the lower echelons. But they assumed that they would have each other and manage.

Imagine their dismay when they were told by the wife’s employers that she could not meet the husband.

“What’s more, it is alleged that all the new employers of domestic worker conditions caught up with the wife – long working hours and little rest, no weekly holiday.

The subsequent death of the wife and the alleged misinformation to the husband is still being investigated and is another story. I want to focus on how employers twist the so-called concern for the moral well-being of the woman domestic worker to deny her basic rights – the right to a weekly holiday and the right to a relationship.

Would I encourage my domestic worker to develop a relationship with a man? If she is a mature adult who can make sensible decisions and manage the consequences then it’s none of my business anyway. I think it would be adultery and I would certainly not encourage it. Moreover, I would not welcome a strange man into my home even if he were her husband – they can meet outside my home but that doesn’t allow me to use this faux concern as a smoke screen to curtail her freedom rights. I cannot deny her a day off or monitor her free time and phone time under the pretext of safeguarding her moral well-being.

That is human rights abuse and hypocrisy together and it is time we call it out.
How many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here? In making a word, each letter may be used only once, each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word. No plurals or verb forms ending in "s" no words with initial capitals and no words with a hyphen or apostrophe permitted. The first word of a phrase is allowed (e.g. inkjet in inkjet printer).

TODAY’S TARGET
Good 13; very good 19; excellent 25 (or more).

YESTERDAY’S SOLUTION
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Quick Quiz
1. What type of film might informally be referred to as an oater?
2. Two Tone and ska revival band The Specials formed in which UK city in the late Seventies?
3. In which country is Tangerine, home of the famous World War II RAF station?
4. Which musical won the first Tony Award for Best Musical in 1949?
5. The First Indochina War of the mid-20th century was fought largely between which European empires and which European empires?

ANSWERS
1. Australia
2. Coventry
3. Trinidad and Tobago
4. Oklahoma
5. Spanish and English

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Sudoku
YESTERDAY’S SOLUTION
How to play Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There’s no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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| 9 |

Easy caponata
Aubergine dip is a delicious starter. Serves two.
Ingredients
1 tbsp olive oil, plus extra for drizzling
1 red onion, finely chopped
1 aubergine, cut into 1cm cubes
1 garlic clove, peeled
1 tsp dried oregano
2 tbsp capers
400ml can cherry tomatoes
2 slices of crusty bread
½ small pack of basil
½ lemon, juiced
Method
1) Heat the oil in a high-sided frying pan over a high heat, add the onion and aubergine with a big pinch of salt and fry until golden and softened, around 10 minutes. Crush the garlic with the oregano and cook for one minute maximum, then tip in the capers and tomatoes. Half fill the empty can with water and add to the pan, bring to the boil then turn the heat down to a simmer until the sauce has thickened and the veg softened.
2) Toast the bread, then drizzle with a little more olive oil. Squash the cherry tomatoes a bit with the back of a spoon, then stir in half the basil and season the caponata, adding lemon juice, salt and black pepper to taste. Tip into bowls, top with the remaining basil and serve.

Target
ACINFEINR
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YESTERDAY’S CRYPTIC SOLUTION


TODAY’S TARGET
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Livestock ‘reared in government homes’

By MOHAMMED AL A’ALL

SOME government homes are being used to raise exotic pets, farm animals and even camels, it has emerged. Bahraini authorities are now planning a crackdown on such activities, which are said to mainly occur in Hamad Town – described as a ‘wonderland’ for illegal animal breeders.

Rules preventing municipal inspectors from entering private properties without a warrant have so far hindered efforts to tackle the problem. However, a joint task force is being formed to seize illegal pets or livestock that are being reared in government housing units.

“Raising turtles, dogs, cats and or fancy mice as pets inside homes is not against the law,” clarified National Cleanliness Committee chairman and Northern Municipality director-general Yousif Al Ghatam. “It is raising cattle, horses, camels and exotic animals – like alligators, tigers, scorpions and others that belong in the wild or the jungle.

“This lack of concern for the welfare and safety of neighbours, the hygiene and cleanliness of government homes, as well as the animals themselves and the environment they are being raised in, warrants immediate action.

“A clampdown with all of those concerned is set to happen in the next few days, alongside other concerned ministries and government bodies, as we strive to restrict such improper conduct in government homes – mainly in Hamad Town.”

He said the Housing Ministry was powerless to act and could only report complaints to municipal inspectors. However, he added members of the public were too afraid to complain against neighbours for fear of reprisals.

Meanwhile, he said stopping the import of exotic animals was proving difficult – since they were hard to differentiate from those of chickens, turkeys and ducks.

“Eggs of amphibians, reptiles and insects are very difficult to differentiate from those of chickens, turkeys or ducks,” he said.

“Smugglers are getting them from their government homes, as well as the loss of their animals, like businesses or raising animals – was what he is doing in his home. Others have also told me about several individuals selling eggs of whatever animals people may fancy – whether alligators, scorpions, snakes or others – from their government homes in Hamad Town, without facing any action.”

The MP said tougher punishments were needed as a deterrent.

“The Housing Ministry should take action when someone moves out of their government home and uses it for animals – or even shares the property with their animals, like in many cases.”

The GDN reported last month that municipal inspectors had been dispatched to Hamad Town to catch a man whose livestock has been feeding on flowers and grass on roadways and roundabouts. He has already been reported to the Public Prosecution by the Northern Municipality, having led his goats and sheep to graze on public property – causing damage worth thousands of dinars.

mohammed@gdn.com.bh

One of the government apartments in Hamad Town used for raising cattle

A Bahraini man yesterday suffered minor injuries in a traffic accident on Shaikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah Highway, according to sources. The unidentified man lost control of the vehicle at approximately 1.30am and collided with security barriers placed on the road for maintenance work. Above, the man’s damaged car.

A book that features stories about 100 people living in Bahrain was launched at Words Bookstore Café, Budaiya. The book, 101 Bahrain Stories, was created by Australian Tanzeel Jabbar-Khadir who attended the launch ceremony alongside guests. Proceeds from the book will go towards supporting local charities mentioned in the book. Above, the book on display at the cafe and right, Ms Jabbar-Khadir at the launch.
1) Life Of The Party (15+) (Comedy)
   Starring: Melissa McCarthy, Gillian Jacobs and Dolly Ryan
   Shows at 11.5am, 3.15pm, 5.15pm and 7.15pm.

2) The Movie (10) (Comedy)
   Starring: Karen Gillan, Robert Downey Jr and Tom Holland
   Shows at 11am, 2pm, 5pm and 8pm.

3) Bad Samaritan (18+) (Crime/ Thriller/ Crime)
   Starring: David Tennant, Kerry Condon and Jaidhep Ahlawat
   Shows at 11.45am, 2pm, 4.45pm and 7.15pm.

4) 10/10 (15+) (Comedy)
   Starring: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal and Jaidhep Ahlawat
   Shows at 11.45am, 2pm, 4.45pm and 7.15pm.

5) OK (VIP I) (15+) (Comedy/ Thriller)
   Starring: Karen Gillan, Robert Downey Jr and Tom Holland
   Shows at 11.45am, 2pm, 4.45pm and 7.15pm.

6) You Were Never Really Here (15+) (Crime/ Thriller/ Drama)
   Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Judith Kaye and Rob Kuhl
   Shows at 10.45am, 3pm, 6.45pm and 10.15pm.

7) Raazi (PG 15) (Hindi/ Thriller/ Drama)
   Starring: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal and Jaidhep Ahlawat
   Shows at 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm and 8.15pm.

8) Rampage (PG 15) (Action/ Sci-Fi)
   Starring: Dwayne Johnson, Karen Gillan and Will Yune Lee
   Shows at 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm and 7pm.

9) Raazi (PG 15) (Hindi/ Thriller/ Drama)
   Starring: Akila Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal and Jaidhep Ahlawat
   Shows at noon, 2pm, 4.30pm and 7pm.

10) Avengers: Infinity War (PG 15) (Action/ Adventure)
    Starring: Karen Gillan, Robert Downey Jr and Tom Holland
    Shows at 10.45am, 3pm, 6.45pm and 9.15pm.

11) Life Of The Party (15+) (Comedy)
    Starring: Melissa McCarthy, Gillian Jacobs and Dolly Ryan
    Shows at 11.5am, 3.15pm, 5.15pm and 7.15pm.

12) Bad Samaritan (18+) (Crime/ Thriller/ Crime)
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A SUICIDE note allegedly written by a woman found hanged has provided more questions than answers, after it was claimed to have been written in a language she did not speak.

Saya Sulta Pulaparthy, aged 20, is believed to have taken her own life at her employer’s home, in Hidd, on May 2. However, volunteers are now supporting demands for a full inquiry by her husband Nani Pulaparthy, who also lives in Bahrain.

“The outside (the Indian) embassy he (Ms Pulaparthy’s employer) told us there was a suicide note in English blaming her husband (for her suicide),” said one of the volunteers, who said he was with the police, a colleague of Mr Pulaparthy, who accompanied the husband to the embassy, told the GDN.

“We don’t believe this, as she didn’t know how to read or write in English.”

Mr Pulaparthy earlier told the GDN he last spoke to his wife on the phone at 3.22am on May 2.

“He employer said he (the employer) saw her last at 11.30pm (on May 1) and, the next day at around 5.30am, found her room locked from the inside,” added the colleague on condition of anonymity.

“He called police who broke open the door to find her body hanging.”

Mr Pulaparthy was not informed of his wife’s death until social workers reached his room two days later.

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“Her employer said he (the employer) saw her last at 11.30pm (on May 1) and, the next day at around 5.30am, found her room locked from the inside,” added the colleague on condition of anonymity.

“She was co-ordinating repatriation of the seven editions of Khalid Bin Hamad Futsal League and the fourth edition of Khalid Bin Hamad Theatre Festival traditional clubs, youth centres, people with disabilities and girls.

Both the initiatives are organised annually in co-operation with the Youth and Sports Affairs Ministry.

Shaikh Khalid hailed the efforts of youth centres, national clubs and people with disabilities under the hashtag #People with Determination.

“The theatre festival is considered one of the most important cultural and intellectual gatherings that give Bahrain youth the space to develop the theatre as a powerful art capable of interacting directly with the masses,” said Shaikh Khalid.

Registration has opened for teams wishing to take part in the theatre festival which will be held in October.

A TOTAL of 189 graduates from Modern Knowledge School were honoured during a ceremony at the Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa and Spa yesterday under the patronage of Education Minister Dr Majid Al Nuaimi. Senior officials, parents and guests attended.

The graduation marks the 16th American Diploma and 15th International Baccalaureate (IB) batches, the largest in the school’s history.

School’s chairwoman Parveen Kadri said the graduates were announced a week earlier to allow them to travel back home before the start of the summer vacation.

“Many of the graduates are from the Indian community and the percentage of graduates is around 60%. These are the people who work closely with the Migrant Workers Protection Society (MWPS),” said Ms Kadri.

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The multi-stage mega-project, part of a Royal donation, also includes details allowing citizens to interact directly with the governorate’s projects in the governorate.

The citizens extended heartfelt gratitude to the government for the noble project which has taken many years of hard work.

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Regional designers showcase Ramadan collections

Regional designers showcased their Ramadan collections at the Saks Fifth Avenue Ramadan Designer Fair at City Centre Bahrain. Collections by designers Rana Tabbara, founder-designer at Nimisha, Sara AlBinMohamed, owner and fashion designer at Ballerina Couture, Bahrain and Mohammed Kazim, the co-founder of UAE-based Tamashee, were featured at the show.

A day-long holiday road show was launched by SOTC at Dadabhai Holidays in Yateem Centre, Manama. The road show promotes group tours to Europe, US, Scandinavia, Australia, South Africa and other travel destinations. Present at the launch were SOTC and Dadabhai Holidays staff alongside customers.

Forty-five Bahrainis received training as part of an initiative known as ‘Forsati’. It was conducted by ThinkSmart for Development and Training in co-operation with Microsoft and Tamkeen, and was held at The Westin Bahrain City Centre. The five-day training allowed Bahrainis with an information technology background to acquire important business skills to help them in current or future jobs. Above, the trainees holding their certificates after completing the training.

A number of Al Salam Bank employees in key departments have been promoted to encourage the growth of Bahraini staff. The promotions are in line with the bank’s ongoing commitment to its strategic growth and staff performance with proven track records which has been reflected positively during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. Above, some of the bank’s promoted staff with first deputy chief executive Anwar Murad, standing 10th from left.

Mr Kazim at the show

Ms Tabbara with her designs

Ms AlBinMohamed at the event

Around 400 Indian School Bahrain students were honoured for their academic performance during the previous academic year. Above, officials, teachers and students at the celebrations.

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Around 400 Indian School Bahrain students were honoured for their academic performance during the previous academic year. This came during the ISB Primary Section Grade IV and V Academic Awards Ceremony, at the school's Isa Town campus. Chief guest Indian Embassy second secretary Anand Prakash inaugurated the event in the presence of school chairman Prince S Natarajan, principal V R Palaniswamy, officials and staff. A team of students presented a skit highlighting the theme of Earth Day, while another group presented an invocation dance under the guidance of their teacher. Above, officials, teachers and students at the celebrations.

Twelve teams took part in a pre-Ramadan Dragon Boat Race, held at Bahrain Bay yesterday. The third traditional Chinese boat race was organised by the Bahrain Rowing and Canoe Centre. Participants raced in long boats with ornately carved dragon heads at the bows and other traditional designs. Above, two teams racing at Bahrain Bay. Right, participants during the race.

A new intermediate and high school building and multi-purpose hall was launched at the AMA International School in Salmabad. The time capsule laying ceremony of the adjacent Athena Private School for Special Needs also took place. It was held under the patronage of Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid Al Khalifa. Present at the ceremonies were Education Minister Dr Majid Al Nuaimi, Philippine secretary of foreign affairs Alan Cayetano, Philippine Ambassador Alfonso A Ver and school representatives. The 86-room intermediate and high school building includes Mac laboratories and science labs among other facilities. Athena Private School for Special Needs will accommodate over 1,800 students and open in September. Above, Dr Al Nuaimi, Shaikh Khalifa and Mr Cayetano alongside school officials and guests at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Right, students greeting Shaikh Khalifa and officials at the school.

Winners of the Young Goans Club May Queen Ball 2018 were crowned during a ceremony held at the Indian Club’s auditorium. Hana Ali was crowned YGC May Queen 2018 and won the ‘Miss Popular’ and ‘Best Smile’ categories. Chevonne Menezes and Richen Navacilla received first runner-up and second runner-up titles. Best hairdo was won by Jayvee Agbulos, while Ayat Shaikh won awards for ‘sporting personality’ and ‘ethical maturity’. Each contestant received gift packages from the pageant’s sponsors. Above, Ms Ali, centre, with Ms Menezes, left, and Ms Navacilla.

A total of 250 students took part in the Indian Institute for Performing Arts' (IIPA) 15th annual day celebrations at the Kerala Catholic Association auditorium, Segaiya. They showcased their talent in singing, dancing, drawing, painting and performing on musical instruments. Chief guest at the event, Aaghosh 2018, was IIPA chairman Major General Dr Mubarak Najem who distributed certificates to outstanding students. The celebration featured a fusion dance by around 50 students incorporating the national anthem of India. Above, one of the musical performances at the event.
Trump unveils plan to cut drug prices

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump outlined plans to reduce soaring US prescription drug prices, among the highest in the world, but opposition Democrats accused him of falling short of his election campaign promises.

The plan will focus on “increasing competition and reducing regulatory burdens so drugs can be gotten to the market quicker and cheaper.” Trump said at a White House ceremony with Health Secretary Alex Azar.

“We’re very much eliminating the middlemen (who) became very, very costly due to currency exchange fees, and can take up to a few days,” Albrecht said. “With Bitcoin, you can send money anywhere in the world to a bank that allows clients to transfer their credit in currency independently of where customers are. Via Internet it is very, very enriching for Hilal Computers.”

George said: “Being recognised by Dell Technologies reconfirms our commitment towards delivering the highest quality of service and solutions to large corporations, multinational and medium-sized enterprises.

Participation in the Dell Technologies World Summit gives us the opportunity to showcase our performance, technologies and innovations that are driven by seven technology leaders including Dell, Dell EMC, Pivotal, RSA, SecureWorks, Virtustream and VMware. We recognize that Dell Technologies excellence platform is a major achievement for any company in our sphere of business. Our success is driven by our clients. These global and regional corporate entities have set the requirements that the future from service delivery and Hilal Computers has delivered locally but to a global standard.

Nominations still open for the Global Partner Summit

Global Partner Summit

14th May 2018

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Hilal Computers offers clients the best-in-class technology and service delivery for their extraordi

Hilal Computers, the Bahrain-based IT solutions and technical services provider, has been inducted into the Dell EMC President’s Circle Top 20 Partners from the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) region.

The inclusion of Hilal Computers in the select President’s Circle is a benchmark achievement evaluated against Dell Technologies across their extensive network of global enterprise partners.

“Dell Technologies recognizes their top partners globally

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BDB appoints new CEO

MANAMA: Bahrain Development Bank (BDB) announced on Tuesday the appointment of Mr Paul Al Qais as the new CEO of the bank. This is the first time that an Arab national has been appointed to the role.

Mr Paul has over 20 years of experience in finance and banking, with a special focus on Islamic finance. He previously held senior positions at several international banks, including Standard Chartered Bank and Dubai Islamic Bank. His appointment is expected to strengthen BDB's position in the Islamic finance sector.

Healthcare group names executives

MANAMA: KIMS Healthcare Group, one of the leading healthcare providers in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has appointed three new executives to its leadership team.

Dr Sanjeev Sahadulla will serve as the CEO of the Apollo Hospitals Group in India and will be responsible for overseeing the group's operations across nine countries. Dr Sahadulla has over 20 years of experience in healthcare management and has served on numerous boards and committees.

Mr Thomas, a highly experienced executive, will take on the role of executive director – operations, in addition to his current role as chief medical officer. Mr Thomas has over 25 years of experience in healthcare management and has held several executive positions at leading hospitals in the US.

BDB issues listing rules draft

MANAMA: Bahrain Bourse (BHB) has issued a consultation on its draft listing rules for the secondary market. These rules include provisions for the listing of domestic companies and foreign companies listed in the GCC.

The consultation is open until 15 September and is expected to form the basis of the final listing rules, which will be published in the fourth quarter of this year.

ADNOC planning downstream expansion

ABU DHABI: Abu Dhabi National Oil Company plans to double its refining capacity and triple petrochemicals output potential by 2025, as the state energy firm focuses more on downstream expansion to be on par with Big Oil and capture new growth markets, ADNOC's chief executive said.

ADNOC said it would invest $3.1 billion to upgrade its 842,000 bpd Ruwais oil refinery to free up more crude for export from its flagship Murban grade.

"ADNOC – dubbed “a sleeping energy giant” in the regions of petrochemicals and refining – is under 'a lot of pressure' from the private sector in the GCC to capture new growth markets, ADNOC's chief executive Al Rumaihi said.

"We are truly pleased to welcome Mr Paul to the BDB Group, and hope his global leadership and deep expertise in the areas of credit risk management, SME banking and structured trade finance will bring new opportunities for our company,“ Al Jaber said.

The launch of this service further extends our partnership with Gulf Air offering exclusive discounts, in line with our commitment to provide our customers with financial solutions that better suit their needs while rewarding them for their loyalty.

"Our Visa cardholders will continue to earn 10 Gulf Air Falconflyer miles for every BD1 spent on local or international spends using their Visa credit cards that include Gold, Platinum and Infinite cards. Gulf Air Falconflyer miles can be redeemed for a range of benefits, including complimentary seat upgrades to premium class, as well as extra luggage allowance and lounge access,” Mr Buhijji added.

Cardholders can contact the bank’s customer center on 1700550 to get their exclusive discount code when booking Gulf Air tickets.

BisB unveils instant card issuance

MANAMA: Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) introduced instant issuance of debit cards and prepaid cards.

"Our cardholders will also benefit from the free miles in the areas of credit risk management, SME banking and structured trade finance under the BDB model, and in line with BisB’s digital transformation strategy,” she added.

"The centrepiece when it comes to growth of SCB’s middle market business is the centrepiece when it comes to growth of SCB’s middle market business, and we look forward to working closely with the board and management of BDB to realise its full potential, and carry out its mandate to progressively support the needs of Bahraini SMEs, entrepreneurs and project owners alike," Mr Paul said.
NEW YORK: Some investors are betting on shares of homebuilders. Cosco due from Far East at a 25% rate on 17th May. 0.000004278.

The US economy looks ideal for homebuilding stocks to benefit. The unemployment rate has fallen to its lowest level in more than 17 years and consumer confidence is near the highest levels in 17 years, according to the Conference Board. And demand for housing in an already tight market is being supported by the many millennials seeking to purchase their first home, several investors said.

Homebuilders poised for gains

Shares of the five largest US homebuilders by market capitalization jumped on April 3, when Lennar reported robust quarterly sales and raised its forecast for the year.

Lennar's shares climbed 10 pc on that day, and PulteGroup, D R Horton, Toll Brothers and NVR Inc rose between 4 pc and 6 pc. The stocks have given up much of those gains since then, even though homebuilders have continued to deliver upbeat results. Lennar shares have tumbled 13.7 pc.

D R Horton, NVR and Toll Brothers are down 3.9 pc, 3.3 pc and 3 pc, respectively. Only PulteGroup has added to its April 4 gains, rising 1.9 pc. Homebuilders that sell units at multiple price points, from starter homes to luxury properties, and are active throughout the US are best positioned to withstand investors' skittishness over interest rates, Cuggiardo said.

Next up to report is Toll Brothers, which focuses on the luxury market and is scheduled to release its quarterly earnings on May 22. Still, some investors say this year's industry underperformance looks like a normal response to the 2017 run-up.

Though housing starts have risen, hitting 1.319 million units in March, demand among home buyers has outpaced the limited housing supply in part because of the many millennials entering the market.
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Do you, or somebody you know, have a problem with alcohol? Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) in Bahrain can help. Some two million men and women worldwide are currently being supported in their sobriety in AA.

Call us anytime on (+973) 17330620.

There are AA meetings every evening of the week in Manama. Check out the list: http://www.manamaaa.com

First choice for Buying & Selling Used Cars in Bahrain!

MAZDA X9 Jeep 2016 model, 69,000kms, white color. BD36500. Tel. 36394442

TOYOTA CARRY 2009, blue, full insurance, excellent condition. Call 35395646

TOYOTA MINIBUS 2004, 15 seater, good condition, registration valid until 01/02/07. Contact 39600749 (8.00am to 6.00pm).

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MAIN DUTIES:

- Develops, initiates, maintains and revises policies and procedures for the general operation of the Risk and Compliance function, in accordance with the requirements of the Management, in line with the day-to-day operation of the Program.
- Monitoring of internal and external reviews and updates the Business Code of Conduct to ensure continuing currency and relevance in providing guidance to managers and employees.
- Identifies potential areas of compliance vulnerability and risk and develops corrective action plans for resolution of problematic issues and provides general guidance on how to avoid or deal with such situations.
- Responds to alleged violations of rules, regulations, policies, procedures and Standards of Conduct by evaluating or recommending the initiation of investigative procedures. Develops and oversees a system for uniform handling of such violations.
- Acts as an independent review and verification of compliance issuements within the organisation are being appropriately evaluated, investigated and resolved.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- A Bachelor’s degree is required, Master’s preferred
- Must have ICA and CAMS certification.

EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of 10 years’ experience in compliance, risk, audit or other related area in the financial services industry
- In depth knowledge of regulatory compliance requirements and risk management principles.
- Must be approved by CBB.

Please send Word CV’s and cover letter to
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Responsibilities:

- Configuring Siebel application using Siebel tools.
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- Development of the change requests, new-workbooks, business services, scripting browserwindow, runtime events, IA, EM interface, VBC, BIC, BEC
- Development of the Siebel Open UI
- Design and develop parameterized BP requests and also generating the reports using BP in console and non-console mode
- Working with the business users to understand data requirements, functionality and business processes
- Providing training and demonstrating the platform to business users

Requirement:

- Extensive background across multiple Siebel modules with recent experience in Siebel open UI
- Excellent understanding of Siebel application architecture, Siebel data model, configuration tools, adapters to interface with external devices, and Siebel server side processes
- Experience with Siebel business objects (BOs), Siebel schema, task based, Drack, C-query, BP scripting
- Extensive background across multiple Siebel modules
- Bachelor’s degree or 5 years working in a Siebel environment looking after Siebel load testing and upgrading Siebel applications.
- Ideally a Siebel certified individual with a deep knowledge in Information technology from a recognized University/College who is knowledgeable to new ideas and concepts and understanding the current platform and how it supports the organisation.

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One of the leading banks in Bahrain has mandated Gulf Connexions to assist them in their search for an Asset Management Consultant/CEF. (Chief Executive Officer). You will be required to provide general strategic advice on investment opportunities. To be considered for this role you must have a thorough knowledge of the financial and investment markets in more than one discipline with an emphasis on the banking equity, private equity, real estate and insurance sectors.

Responsibilities:

- Provide the CEO with advice on investment opportunities and assist in the management and speed up the development of the investment portfolio relating to assets.
- Identify, negotiate and execute execution.
- Review periodic market research on sectors that the bank has invested in and provide relevant updates on the market.
- Have oversight on the preparation of investment term sheets and lead negotiations and execution of exit transactions.
- Prepare investment memos on assets state for the CEO and Board of Directors.

Requirement:

- Minimum of 10 years’ experience in investment banking or asset management with at least the last 5 years in a senior position within an investment bank.
- Proven track record of managing and leading large and complex investments.
- Good market knowledge with contacts regularly in the Investment domain.
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- Excellent financial modelling and valuation skills.
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills.
- Bachelor’s Degree in Business of Finance, or Masters Degree in preferable.
- Professional qualifications such as a CFA, CPA or ACCA is desirable
- Superior communication and organisational skills are required.

Please send Word CV’s and cover letters to
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Applications will only be considered if you have the relevant experience and your skill set match those required and stipulated within the advert text

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SIMPSON TIES COURSE RECORD TO GRAB LEAD

Ponte Vedra Beach, US: Webb Simpson matched the course record of seven-under-par 63 at Sawgrass Country Club on Friday, despite suffering a late double bogey. He then regrouped with a five-shot lead on 15-under at the halfway point of the Players Championship.

Patrick Cantlay (68), South African Louis Oosthuizen (68), and New Zealander Danny Lee (66) were all set to duel for the title on 10-under, while Tiger Woods (71), at one-under-par, 143, made the cut with nothing to spare, as did Jordan Spieth (68) and Justin Thomas (70). Simpson was on the verge of smashing the course record after reel off four birdies on his first nine holes, but came to grief at the island-green par-three 17th. After some indecision on the tee he pushed his shot right and his ball took a huge roll off a rail and ended up in the water.

Still, the 2012 US Open champion could hardly fault his efforts, finishing off his opening 63 with two birdies on the back nine. Simpson has had his fill of winning professional championships, but was on course to become only the third player in history to win the US Open, Masters and Players titles in the same season.
DEFENDING champions Batelco Gunners United will begin their campaign taking on Al Nawayef in the Nasser bin Hamad Ramadan Sports Tournament, Nasser 11 today at 5:35pm at Khalifa Sports City soccer stadium.

In the second match, Jurnas clash with Tylos at 8pm at the same venue. Both games are part of Group 2. The Gunners defeated all odds last year to win Nasser 10. The team is coached by Shaikh Salman bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa and Adel Al Marzouqi is his assistant. The defending champions have reinforced their squad with the addition of several key players, including Brazilian Diego Silva and Isa Jehad.

**Task**

The Gunners face a tough task as Al Nawayef are among the favourites this year and a victory is a must for both the teams if they want to avoid a bumpy ride into the second round. Al Nawayef is coached by Hussain Al Ali and includes several key players, notably Serbian professional Miladlen and former Bahraini international Hussain Salman.

President of Bahrain Football Association (BFA) Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said ‘Nasser 11’ is an important sporting event in Bahrain where new talent can be discovered.

Shaikh Ali applauded the efforts of Al Shabab in reaching the semi-finals and expressed confidence that the tournament would be a great success, with Arab national leagues putting a lot of emphasis on youth development in football.

**Nawaiyef vs Batelco**

In the second match, Jurnas faced Tylos, which was a tough encounter. Tylos fought back strongly in the second half but to no avail as Jurnas won the match 3-1.

**Malkiya reach Elite Cup semis with ease**

Malkiya defeated Al Najma 4-1 in Group A to qualify for the semi-final of the Elite Football Cup Tournament. Malkiya’s victory means they will face the runners-up in Group B.

Malkiya scored the second top position of Group ‘A’ with six points from two victories, after they won the first match against Mahoor 2-1 in the semi-final, they will face the runners-up in Group B.

Malkiya dominated Al Najma and took a 1-0 lead after the first half with a goal from Ahmed Yousef in the 43rd minute. Malkiya continued their pressure against Al Shabab in the second half, and had a number of chances to score, while their opponents depended on their counter attacks. Malkiya scored the second goal in the injury time through Waleed Abdulrahman to secure the victory.

Manama lost their first match in Group ‘B’ after they drew 1-1 in their first match against Al Najma. The first half ended 3-1 for Al Hidd, with Daoo, Moona Nari and Isa Ghahbi scoring one goal each, while Mahnood Abdulrahman scored for Manama. In the second half, Manama reduced the deficit to 3-2 after Mohammed Al Rumaithi’s goal but Al Hidd went on to win the match.

**Narine stars as Kolkata rout Punjab**

Kolkata Knight Riders produced a superlative batting performance last night in comfortably beating Kings XI Punjab by 31 runs and stay in contention for a play-off berth in the Indian Premier League. Kolkata posted a mammoth 245 for six, their highest ever total and fourth-highest in the history of the league. Sunil Narine, who has been stunning as an opener, once again left everyone spellbound with a 36-ball 57 while skipper Dinesh Karthik played an equally significant role with his 23-ball 50.

The chase was always out of question and KL Rahul tried his bit with a 29-ball 56, which wasn’t enough as Punjab fell short by 31 runs. After losing by 102 runs against Mumbai Indians, the victory not only enabled Kolkata reach 12 points from as many games but also helped them improve upon their net run rate and stay fourth on the table.

Punjab, on the other hand, will be worried after their back-to-back defeats in Jaipur and now in Indore though they are also on 12 points and in third place.

**Players of Al Nawayef and Batelco Gunners United, right, warm up before a training session**

**Opu vs Jurnas**

The fourth win in 11 games for the Gunners set for the semi-final against their arch-rivals Al Shabab, who won all their matches so far. Al Shabab are in their second season in the Elite Football Cup Tournament, having won the title in their debut season last year.

**Injured players will be admitted to Bahrain Defence Force Military Hospital,” Sulabedeh said.**

**Charlie, Representative of His Majesty for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, chairman of Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and president of Bahrain Olympic Committee, for encouraging sports and youth activities in Bahrain.**

Meanwhile, Nasser’s 11 medical committee president Adel Sulabedeh hailed Bahrain Defence Force Command-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa for setting up a full-fledged medical team.

“A complete medical crew and an ambulance will be present during the matches to ensure everyone’s safety. Injured players will be admitted to Bahrain Defence Force Military Hospital,” Sulabedeh said.
Eldar Eldarov made a successful return to the cage securing an unanimous victory over Brian Hooi in three rounds on Friday night at the Brave 12: KHK Legacy in Jakarta.

Eldarov is also the coach of Bahrain National Amateur Mixed Martial Arts team and was returning to the cage after a year of absence.

It was the largest major global mixed martial arts event in Indonesia and it was held under the initiative of Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

The fight night featured 24 athletes from 15 nationalities competing which included KHK MMA Bahrain fighters Gamzat Magomedov, Marat Magomedov and Akhmat Magomedov. All three of them surprised their opponents with their wrestling skills to secure impressive victories.

Unanimous

In the co-main event, Jarrah Al-Salawie secured an unanimous decision over Tahar Hadbi, Mehdi Baghdad was overwhelmed by Pawel Kielek in a fight that went the full distance.

Mafra gave up the fight on a verbal submission, declaring Gaziev the winner.

Local star Vincent Majid dominated three rounds to win the bout unanimous-ly while Bahrain’s superstar Hamza Kooheji was submitted by Khalid Taha in the second round.

The fight night also showcased the debut of Bahrain’s IMMAF medallist Hussain Alyaaad, who scored a TKO victory over Roman Parac from Team Lakay in the Philippines.

Seven out of the 12 fights went the distance for judges to determine the outcome. Brave Combat Federation 13th event will be in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on June 9.

Results:
- Lightweight: Eldar Eldarov bt Brian Hooi by unanimous decision.
- Welterweight: Jarrah Al-Salawie bt Tahar Hadbi by unanimous decision.
- Featherweight: Pawel Kielek bt Me-
-
- Eldarov bt  Leonardo Mafra by verbal submission in the second round.
- Catchweight: Kao Kao 06 bt Jeremy Pacciales by unanimous decision.
- Flyweight: Hussain Alyaaad bt Jomar Parac by TKO in third round.
- Bantamweight: Gamzat Magomedov bt Zack Lange by unanimous decision.

RIFFA Blue Pearls were crowned champions during the closing ceremony of the 2017-2018 BFA’s national football league on Friday night at Khalifa Sports City arena in Manama.

Former Manchester United defender and French interna-
tional Mikael Silvestre was a special guest at the ceremony.

Also in attendance were Bahrain Football Association (BFA) women’s committee chairman Shaikha Hussa bint Khalid Al Khalifa, BFA general secretary Hassan Ismail and other officials.

Muharraq Club Tekkers claimed the runners-up crown and the Super Soccer Team the third-place trophy.

Shaikha Noof bint Khalid Al Khalifa of Blue Pearls won the best goal-keeper title, Lexi Martinez of Tekkers best player award and Ameera Bader Sa-
cist of Blue Pearls the top scor-
er honour.

Bahrain Sparks Team also re-
cieved an award.

At the end of the evening, Shaikha Hussa thanked BFA president Sheikh Ali bin Khal-
-
- Eldarov bt Brian Hooi in three rounds on Friday night at the Brave 12: KHK Legacy in Jakarta.
- Eldar Eldarov, left, and legendary coach Abdulmanap Nurmagomedov. Right, a bout in progress.
**Jedinkin header seals Villa win**

LONDON: Veteran Australian Mile Jedinkin’s header proved the difference as Aston Villa beat Middlesbrough 1-0 in their Championship play-off first leg clash yesterday.

The 33-year-old midfielder, who joined Villa from Crystal Palace in 2016, had not put a player at the snipe yet for a small advantage.

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Villa on the pressure searching for a second goal with another header from Jedinkin being turned round for a corner by Randolph and Albert Ademola’s shot hitting the back of the netting.
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Scotland international Rob Snodgrass went close with a header as Middlesbrough tried desperately to stop the storm.
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The hosts finally got an effort on target in the 37th minute, but Brit Assomplaamba’s header was well saved by Sam Johnstone.
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Ireland international Randolph produced an equally good save to touch Snodgrass’s sublime curling effort from outside the penalty area onto the post.
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Middlesbrough, who finished fifth in the table, seven points below Villa, barely produced a chance in the second-half with just Falto’s header seven minutes from time forcing Johnstone into a save.

However, Villa held on and brace across the line to maintain their dreams of a fifth promotion to the Premier League and the third time through the play-offs.

The match was preceded by a moving moment when former Middlesbrough goalkeeper "Leo Percovich was greeted by the Riverside crowd. Two of his daughters were killed in a car crash in Brazil in December and he returned to Middlesbrough to thank Boro fans for their support.

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Aston Villa’s Jedinkin, No. 15, celebrates with team mates after scoring against Middlesbrough.
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**YESTERDAY’S RESULTS**

**ITALIAN LEAGUE**

Benevento 0
Genoa 0

(Stadio Filadelfia) (Stadio Luigi Ferraris)

Inter Milan 1
Sassuolo 2

(Padova 80) (Pallotina 25, Bernard 72)

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TODAY’S PREMIERSHIP FINAL DAY FIXTURES
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22 Fevri
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**SPANISH LEAGUE**

Real Sociedad 2
Leganes 0

(36’), (60’, 70’)

(14’), (26’, 42’, 50’, 63’, 76’)

Laga (3), (6), (9), (3), (4)

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Gerard Moreno (3) in the third minute
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**GERMAN LEAGUE**

Bayer Leverkusen 2
Hannover 0

(90’), (90’+

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**WORLD RESULTS**

**BASEBALL**

Major League Baseball on Friday (home team in CAPS):

CHI CUBS 11
OAKLAND 5
BOSTON 9
Tampa Bay 4
NY Mets 4
DENVER 12
PITTSBURGH 5
TORONTO 2
BAY 3
MIAMI 5
KANSAS CITY 10
CLEVELAND 5
CINCINNATI 4
LOW 6
ST LOUIS 9
SAN DIEGO 5

**ICE HOCKEY**

National Hockey League playoff game on Friday (series best-of-seven):

Eastern Conference

Semi-finals

At Tampa, Florida

WASHINGTON 4
Tampa Bay 2

(Washington leads series 1-0)

**SOCCER**

Major League Soccer on Friday:

Vancouver 4
DC United 2

Hudson Dynamo 2

SHANGHAI SUPER LEAGUE:

Guizhou Zhicheng 1
Changzhou Yangzhou 2
Shanghai Shenhu 1
Tianjin Quanjude 3
Guangzhou 1
Hebei 1

J-League:

Shonan Bellmare 1
Jubilo Iwata 0
V-Varen 2
Kashiwa Reysol 1
Vegalta Sendai 1
Sanfrecce 1

Hebei 1
Barcelona: Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton sealed pole position at the Spanish Grand Prix yesterday in a Mercedes one-two that ended Sebastian Vettel’s bid for a fourth in a row. The Briton, leading his Ferrari rival by four points after four races, put in two blistering final laps at an overcast Circuit de Catalunya to take the top slot in a track record of one minute 16.173 seconds.

British team-mate Bottas was second, in 1:16.213, with Vettel third and 0.132 off the pace.

“I needed this pole, I haven’t had a pole for a while. It’s a Mercedes one-two,” said Hamilton, whose last pole was in the Australian season-opener in March.

The four-times world champion’s time, on a track that has been smoothed and resurfaced since last year, was nearly three seconds quicker than his 2017 time of 1:19.119.

The Briton has now been on pole in Spain for three years in a row and four of the last five. Yesterday’s was the record 74th of his career and a track that has historically favoured the top qualifier.

Ferrari’s Kimi Raikkonen qualified fourth with the Red Bull pairing of Gasly and Ricciardo lining up fifth and sixth for their first race since they collided in Austria last year.

Vettel said: “I was happy with the lap, I was feeling good. I looked at the tower and I saw my old data so I didn’t go as fast. We expected Mercedes to be strong so we will see what happens tomorrow.”

Vettel poles in Spain as Bottas edges out Hamilton

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Kvitova claims third Madrid Open title

MADRID: Czech 10th seed Petra Kvitova won the Madrid Open title for the third time yesterday with a marathon 7-6 (8/6), 4-6, 6-3 victory over Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands.

Kvitova, who was also the champion in Madrid in 2011 and 2015, has now claimed four titles in 2018 after triumphs in St Petersburg, Doha and last weekend in Prague.

Victory, on a chilly, damp night in the Spanish capital, took Kvitova two hours and 51 minutes against a gutsy, unseeded Bertens who had knocked out former world number ones Maria Sharapova and Caroline Wozniacki on her way to the championship match.

In a big-hitting, roller-coaster of a final, Kvitova claimed her 24th career title on the back of 39 winners and 58 unforced errors. Bertens, who had won five of her previous six finals, including on clay in Charleston earlier this year, led 4-2 with a break in the first set before Kvitova roared back, rescuing the break in the next game.

The Czech claimed the 74-minute opener on a third set point. Bertens carved out the only break in the seventh game of the second set to level the contest.

Bottas seals Mercedes 1-2