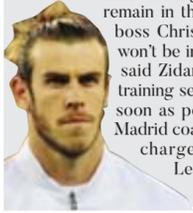


## Sports

Bale to sit out  
Wales friendlies

**MADRID:** Gareth Bale will be kept in Madrid to work on his fitness rather than meeting up with the Wales squad for friendlies against France and Panama next week, Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane confirmed yesterday. Bale returned to training with the European champions this week after five weeks on the sidelines with a calf injury. However, he will again miss out for Real's La Liga clash at home to Las Palmas on Sunday and will remain in the Spanish capital despite being included in Wales boss Chris Coleman's 24-man squad earlier this week. "He won't be in the squad and he won't go with his national team," said Zidane. "After 35 days with his injury, he has had two training sessions and we want him to stay here to be ready as soon as possible." Zidane is facing his first troubled time as Madrid coach after a spectacularly successful first 22 months in charge that have included back-to-back Champions League wins and last season's La Liga title. —AFP

Keita accused of using  
forged driving licences

**BERLIN:** Liverpool-bound midfielder Naby Keita could face a six-figure fine after allegedly twice using forged licences to try to obtain a German driving permit, a report claimed yesterday. The RB Leipzig defensive midfielder and Guinea international, who is joining Liverpool for 2018/19, is accused of two counts of forgery which carries a minimum penalty of 100,000 euros (\$115,195), according to Bild. The daily newspaper claims Keita, 22, is also under investigation for driving in Germany without a valid licence. German prosecutors accuse Keita of using forged Guinean licences at the licensing centre in Leipzig in December 2016, then again six weeks later in January, in order to get a permit. The drivers licences from the West African nation were apparently so badly forged that employees in Leipzig became suspicious and handed them to police. "Both documents were identified as complete forgeries," a court official told Bild. "It's a six-figure penalty," confirmed the official when asked how much a potential fine would be. —AFP

Cavendish sprints  
to victory in Japan

**SAITAMA:** Britain's Mark Cavendish produced a blistering late surge to win the Tour de France's Saitama Criterium yesterday, overshadowing crowd favourite Chris Froome in a sprint finish. The Olympic medallist and 30-time Tour de France stage winner pipped Japanese riders Fumiuyuki Beppu and Yusuke Hatanaka to claim victory in the fifth edition of the criterium, held just north of Tokyo. Froome, who captured his fourth Tour de France title this year, had no response as Cavendish broke away from a peloton that also included Marcel Kittel and Greg van Avermaet to win the 19-lap race over a three-kilometre course. "It was a flat course so I was expecting it to be a sprint," said Cavendish, who finished runner-up in the morning's keirin-style event. "I tried to save my energy for the final and lucky I did because when the breakaway went, I was fortunate to get them before the end." —AFP



# Flanagan wants New York Marathon show of 'resilience'

## 'May consider retiring if she stuns the field with victory today'

**NEW YORK:** American runner Shalane Flanagan hopes today's New York Marathon will be a show of resilience as the city recovers from the deadly truck attack that left eight people dead in Manhattan.

Blanket security will line the route of the world-famous race, which will see an estimated 50,000 runners pound the pavements of the Big Apple. Flanagan, the 2008 Olympic silver medallist over 10,000m, said Tuesday's carnage in New York had hit her hard as a veteran of the 2013 Boston Marathon targeted by bombers.

"It's obviously devastating and very concerning," Flanagan said of the New York attack, which also left 12 people injured. "I've been in a terrorist attack in 2013 in Boston. I was there that day and had just completed my race. So it very much hits home and is very personal to me having been a part of a terrorist attack."

Flanagan, who finished sixth in last year's Olympic marathon in Rio de Janeiro, said she hoped Sunday's race would provide an opportunity to put on a show of strength. "What I do know, 100 percent, is that we're a very resilient nation and I don't think there are many tougher people than New Yorkers, and marathoners are pretty tough too," Flanagan said.

"So I think it's an opportunity to show resilience and strength and coming together. "And when you come together as a community it really empowers people and helps people heal." Flanagan, 36, meanwhile said she may consider retiring if she stuns the field with a victory today. "I can think of no better way to end my career and my story with a major win," she said. "If I was in the position of winning today, this would be my last marathon. That's how I want things to end." Standing in Flanagan's way however is defending champion Mary Keitany of Kenya. Keitany is chasing a fourth consecutive victory in New York after wins in 2014, 2015 and 2016.

The men's race meanwhile will see Eritrea's Ghirmay Ghebreslassie return hoping to make a successful defence of his title. The 21-year-old is likely to face a tough challenge from Kenya's Wilson Kipsang, the 2014 champion. Kipsang raced in the Berlin Marathon in September but quit mid-race citing the damp, humid conditions. The 35-year-old however is confident that his body will last the course today.

"Currently I'm feeling well, all my preparation has been going on well," Kipsang said. "I'm ready for a tough race today." —AFP



Shalane Flanagan



### Blanket security will line the route of famous race

groups and companies sending teams to the event. We encourage our staff to have a healthy work-life balance and know that fun group activities like this foster a sense of teamwork. Therefore, we look forward to welcoming more teams and groups to the event this year. The group rate offer is valid until Tuesday, 7 November and the minimum number of team participants must be 30 persons and the discount increases as the number of team members increases. Other benefits include your team logo onsite at the event and a post on social media, depending on number of team participants."

The walk/run event enables participants to tour Kuwait's beautiful landmarks in an atmosphere that is filled with energy and excitement. The event starts and ends at Souq Sharq, and the race route is on Gulf Road, passing by Souk Al Mubarakiya, the Gulf Bank head office, the Grand Mosque, Al Seif Palace, the National Assembly, Kuwait Towers, as well as other landmarks.

The 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon' is the first road race in Kuwait to have three of its longer distance race categories accredited by the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS) meaning that those races appear in the international calendar of races and serve as qualifying race for the major international marathons.

To find out more about the 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon', visit the dedicated website at: [www.gulfbank642marathon.com](http://www.gulfbank642marathon.com) or its Instagram account @GulfBank642, or through Gulf Bank's social media channels.

## Discounts for group rates on 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon'

**KUWAIT:** The 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon', which is set to take place at 7 am on Saturday, 18 November at Souq Sharq, is offering groups and companies with multiple registrants an exclusive discount on their registration fees for this Kuwait's most exciting walk/run event. The tickets can be purchased in bulk through the dedicated website [www.gulfbank642marathon.com](http://www.gulfbank642marathon.com).

The 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon' caters to all levels, from beginners to challenging athletes and even families because it has four different distances to walk or run: Family Fun Walk/Run (5KM); Souq Run for regular runners (10KM); Half Marathon for more advanced runners (21KM); and a Full Marathon (42KM). To get ready for the 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon', Gulf Bank and Pro-Vision Sports Management are organizing weekly runs to train participants, in cooperation with leading running clubs in Kuwait.

Ms Laila Al-Qatami, Assistant General Manager for Corporate Communications at Gulf Bank said: "At last year's Marathon the day was filled with excitement and camaraderie and we saw strong participation from

## Hassan signs agreement to establish Anderlecht Academy in Kuwait



Ahmad Hassan seen with officials and children after signing the agreement.

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** Former Egyptian soccer star Ahmad Hassan signed an agreement to establish the Anderlecht Academy in Kuwait in the presence of Director General of Al-Nahar Royal Company Amro Hindi, board member of Egypt Soccer Association Magdy Abdelghany, and board member of Presentation Company Ibrahim Al-Tahawi.

Hassan said during a press conference "it is an honor to be in Kuwait to establish Anderlecht Academy, in order to discover talent." He added "due to my relation with the Belgian club, I got the rights to establish academies in the Middle East, and we have many branches in Egypt, and negotiations began with our friends in Kuwait a short time ago through Ibrahim Al-Tahawi and things went smoothly, and an agreement was reached during a record tie." Abdelghani on his part said "Kuwait is the first Arab state that broke the sports siege against Egypt in 1983, when the national team received an invitation from Martyr Fahad Al-Ahmad to play a friendly match in Kuwait, then received several invitations from Arab countries.

Abdelghani spoke about Egypt's qualification to the World Cup, adding that we qualified due to the unity between all sides and hiring an



The signing of agreement of Anderlecht Academy.

outstanding coach the Argentinean Hector Cooper, and hoped that Egypt end in an easy group during the draw, while all officials have hopes that Egypt will reach the round of 16.

He expressed regret that the generation of Ahmad Hassan Mohammad Abu Taika, Mohammad Barakat, Wael Jumaa and Hosny Abdel Rabu were not able to qualify for the World Cup.

Meanwhile Amro Hindi said the aim of this academy is to teach children sports, besides the

educational aspect.

He said that he suffered from many drawbacks in some academies in Kuwait, so he decided to establish the academy and is keen to avoid the drawbacks, and that Ahmad Hassan was the best man that an agreement can be signed with due to his tremendous popularity. He said the academy was keen on signing with accredited coaches, and agreed with Salmiya Sports Club to provide the play grounds and there is a good interest in the athletes clothes.

Under the Patronage of H.E. Dr. Ghazi Sheikh, Khalid Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior

**GULF BANK 642 MARATHON** REGISTER NOW!  
[www.gulfbank642marathon.com](http://www.gulfbank642marathon.com)

5 KM, 10 KM, 21 KM, 42 KM

SOUQ SHARQ - 7 AM - SATURDAY, 18 NOV. 2017

Logos: Chevrolet, SAMSUNG, and other sponsors.