



Photos by S. Ilias Basha

Above: Some photos from the marathon.

**Health Minister Dr Al-Sayer patronizes event**

**KCR organises 'Kuwait 1st Half Marathon'**

By Valiya S. Sajjad  
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, March 19: Kuwait Charity Run (KCR) organized its first marathon in Kuwait Saturday on the Gulf Road spanning 21 kms, finishing at Marina Crescent.

The run, titled 'Kuwait 1st Half Marathon - 2011' for setting the distance at 21 kms instead of the standard 42 kms of a full marathon, was patronized by Kuwait's Health Minister, Dr Hilal Al Sayer, and dedicated to the cause of Bayt Abdullah Children's Hospice.

The organizers of the event told the Arab Times the charity run was the fulfillment of a dream of four women, three Kuwaitis and a Frenchwoman, of holding an annual local charity marathon. The profits generated from the run would be donated for charity. This year's beneficiary is Bayt Abdullah Children's Hospice.

The organizers explained the choice of Bayt Abdullah saying it is a charitable organization and the first of its kind in the entire Middle East. "It looks after terminally ill children, and offers them care and affection to help them live in dignity, comfort and tranquility in the last remaining days of their lives."

The marathon started at 8 in the morning and had two categories, 10 kms and 21 kms. There was a sizeable turnout of participants from different walks of life, including both locals and expatriates. There were professionals, students, journalists and others.

Some runners were too tired to run it out; however, determined to complete the race, they walked to the finish line. Those who ran into the last leg of the race were cheered on by the onlookers. Marina Crescent was throbbing with music and some peppy commentary by a pair of hosts.

The race part of Gulf Road was blocked, but traffic was not greatly disrupted Saturday being a weekend.

The runners said it was a great experience, and mixing good causes is always going to pay off. By 'good causes' they meant the charity and the health aspect of a marathon. "It is difficult, but I am determined I will go the whole hog," said one runner gasping for breath in between words.

"I have been planning to start exercise for a long time, and finally here was an opportunity I couldn't put off to another day," said another runner.

Awards were given away to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the 21 kms category, and for the 1st place winner of the 10 kms category.

KCR organized the event in cooperation with KAACH and with the main sponsorship of Gulf Bank and co-sponsorship of Gulf Cable and Al Arjan. Each runner had to pay KD 10 as participation fee.

**Plans to hike age of unknown parents' kids for naturalization**

Bedouns below 6 years to be registered

KUWAIT CITY, March 19: The General Department for Citizenship and Passport Affairs intends to increase the age requirement for granting citizenship to children whose parents are unknown from 18 to 21, reports Al-Watan Arabic daily quoting Director of the Family Welfare Department at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor Bader Al-Awadhi.

Al-Awadhi admitted the ministries of Interior and Health have disagreements over the issue, so the concerned authorities need to conduct a comprehensive study prior to the approval of the proposal. He revealed one of the points of contention is the naturalization of this group according to Article Five of the Citizenship Law, instead of Article One.

According to Al-Awadhi, the Family Welfare Department is in charge of 1,500 orphans - 956 of them are under the direct care of the ministry, while the rest are staying with Kuwaiti families. He said the ministry has started preparations for the Arab Orphan Day, which will be held from April 17-21 under the slogan, "Our Orphans are in Our Hearts". He added Minister Dr Mohammad Al-Afasi will patronize the event with the participation of representatives from the Public Authority for Minors Affairs (PAMA) and other specialized authorities in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). He revealed the program will include seminars in which lecturers will discuss issues concerning the

**News in Brief**

**Salary scales increased:** The salary scales of judges exceed those of members at the Fatwa and Legislation Department by approximately 50 percent, reports Al-Watan Arabic daily. The daily quoting judicial sources

added the salaries of administrative directors have been increased to KD 2,000 while presiding judges receive KD 3,000. Also, officials at the Fatwa Department take KD 1,350 and Justices receive KD 1,650.

**Kuwait Today**

**Prayer Timings**  
Fajr .....04:34 am  
Sunrise .....05:53  
Zohr .....11:56  
Asr .....03:23 pm  
Maghreb .....05:59  
Isha .....07:16

**Weather**  
Expected weather for the next 24 hours:  
**By night:** Cool with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 10-32 km/h.  
**By day:** Fair with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 10-30 km/h.

**Kuwait Weather**

| Station        | Max | Min | Exp |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Kuwait City    | 29  | 19  | 13  |
| Kuwait Airport | 29  | 13  | 13  |
| Nuwaiseeb      | 30  | 17  | 17  |
| Wafra          | 30  | 17  | 17  |
| Salmi          | 28  | 12  | 12  |
| Abdaly         | 30  | 13  | 13  |
| Jalalyah       | 29  | 12  | 12  |
| Falilaka       | 28  | 14  | 14  |
| Ahmadi Port    | 28  | 19  | 19  |
| Umm Al-Maradem | 26  | 19  | 19  |
| Warba-Bubiyan  | 29  | 13  | 13  |

**Marine Forecast**

| Station       | Max | Min | Sea | Today's | Waves | Ht | Direction |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|-------|----|-----------|
| South Dolphin | 24  | 16  | 17  | 4ft     | SE    |    |           |
| Ahmadi LV     | 24  | 18  | 18  | 4ft     | SE    |    |           |
| Beacon M28    | 23  | 16  | 17  | 4ft     | SE    |    |           |

**Tide times at Shuwaikh Port**

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| 1st high tide: | 23:45 |
| 2nd high tide: | 12:30 |
| 1st low tide:  | 22:00 |
| 2nd low tide:  | 08:30 |
| Sunrise:       | 05:54 |
| Sunset:        | 17:58 |

**Recorded yesterday at Kuwait Airport**

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Min/Max Air Temp          | 16/24C     |
| Min/Max Rel Hum           | 22/61%     |
| Wind Direction/Wind Speed | N/38 km/h  |
| Prev Wave Dir/Max Wave Ht | N/- ft     |
| Min/Max Sea Surface Temp  | 17/18C     |
| Sea Current               | Up welling |

**Recorded yesterday at South Dolphin**

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|---------------------------|------------|
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— Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Meteorological Dept.

**deaths**

**Ali Abdullah Ali Mehmas Al-Ajmi**, 40 years old, buried. Condolences: (Men) Sabahiya, Block 1, St 1, House 531, Tel: 6555721. (Women) Sabahiya, Block 4, St 5, House 340, Tel: 66155959. **Fatima Ali Hussein Abdulreha**, 64 years old, widow of Mahmoud Yousef Abdullah Kamal, buried. Condolences: Salwa, Imam Al-Hussein Hosaniya, Block 1, St 7, House 27, Tel: 65172271. **Fahd Rakan Khedat Al-Mutairi**, 74 years old, buried. Condolences: Ardhiya, Block 11, St 1, Avenue 4, House 29, Tel: 99870224, 99582145. **Mubarak Mohammed Fares Mubarak Al-Qahatani**, 34 years old, buried. Condolences: Rigga, Block 7, St 1, Avenue 4, House 29, Tel: 99191858, 5537778. **Fadhel Ahmad Reda Mohammed Sabti**, 57 years old, buried. Condolences: (Men) Salwa Sayed Mohammed Hosaniya, Tel: 97133323. (Women) Ageelah, Block 4, St 403, House 32, Tel: 66779908. **Mariem Saad Mohammed Al-Marikhi**, 76 years old, to be buried on Sunday at 9:00 am. Condolences: (Men) Salwa, Block 8, St 7, House 404, Tel: 99047733. (Women) Adan, Block 8, St 10, House 34, Tel: 66339897.

**March 19, 2011**

|                 |    |    |   |     |    |
|-----------------|----|----|---|-----|----|
| Beacon N6       | 27 | 15 | - | 4ft | SE |
| Umm Al-Maradem  | 26 | 19 | - | 4ft | SE |
| Sea Island Buoy | 26 | 17 | - | 4ft | SE |
| Salmiyah        | 27 | 17 | - | 4ft | SE |
| Jubail Port     | 26 | 15 | - | 4ft | SE |

Total Rainfall in 24 hr .....00 mm

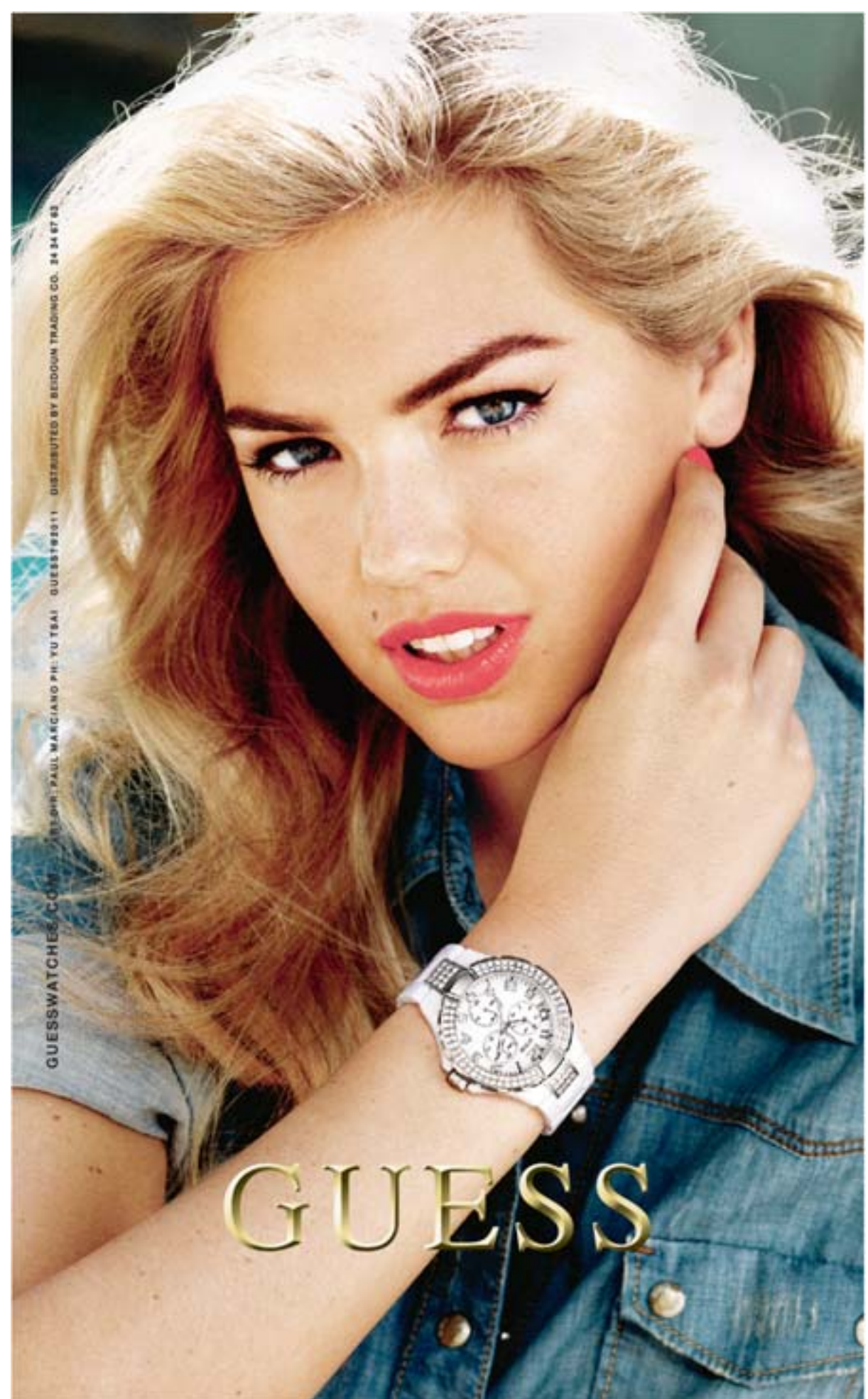
orphans. In another development, Al-Awadhi confirmed the ministry will soon establish a voluntary work section in the Social Care Department according to the recommendation of Assistant Undersecretary for Social Care Affairs Dr Jassem Ashakani. He explained the

section will provide volunteer workers to various departments in the ministry, if the need arises.

Meanwhile, the Director of Central Births and Deaths Documentation Department Rashid Al-Azmi recently announced that guardians of Bedoun children who are 6 years old could visit the

Committee of Kinship and Lawsuits to apply for their birth certificates, reports Al-Anba daily.

In a statement, Al-Azmi noted that Bedouns below 6 years old will be registered on the spot, indicating the department will start receiving applicants by Sunday, March 20.



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|---|-------------|
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|                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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