

TRUMP SONS TO LAUNCH GOLF COURSE IN DUBAI

DUBAI: US President Donald Trump's sons are to inaugurate a branded golf course in Dubai on Saturday, the first public launch for the business empire since Trump took office in January. Donald Trump Jr and Eric Trump will attend the opening of the Trump International Golf Club Dubai, developed by luxury real estate company DAMAC Properties. The launch comes amid growing concern in Washington over the president's potential conflict of interest.

In January, Trump - at the time still president-elect - said he had rejected a \$2 billion deal with DAMAC in Dubai as a personal and not official move. "I didn't have to turn it down," he told a press conference in January. "But I have a no-conflict-of-interest provision as president." Trump sparked controversy last year in the mainly Muslim United Arab Emirates when he said during his campaign that he wanted to impose a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims" entering the United States.

Dubai-based concept store Lifestyle, which has branches across the Middle East, Africa and Pakistan, announced it would no longer sell Trump-branded home decor items out of respect for its customers. DAMAC Properties at the time declined to comment on Trump's remarks, but said the golf course development would continue. The United Arab Emirates is not among the seven majority-Muslim countries

listed on Trump's controversial executive order restricting travel to the United States.

Since his November victory, Trump has said he will remove himself from running his business empire and transfer corporate control to his two eldest sons. But the president has resisted divesting despite calls by ethics organizations. The Trump Organization has instead said it would no longer pursue new deals outside of the United States. The 18-hole Dubai golf course predates the pledge, with talks surrounding the project going back at least to 2015.

Critics have raised questions of conflict of interest over Trump's business ties on the grounds that while the president is no longer nominally in charge of his eponymous empire, he may continue to profit from it. Ethics lawyers in the United States are now suing Trump for alleged violation of the US constitution. Liberal watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) filed a lawsuit in January, arguing that Trump's business ties violate an emolument clause in the constitution which prohibits the acceptance of payments from foreign governments by US officials. US presidents are not legally required to give up business or investments while in office.— AFP



A pigeon sits on a lamppost and cleans itself as the sun rises in Frankfurt yesterday. — AP

FIRST SAUDI COMIC-CON FEST TO WOW ATTENDEES

RIYADH: Superheroes from Hollywood's Marvel studios are among the characters set to wow thousands of curious Saudis at the Islamic kingdom's first Comic-Con event from tomorrow. The three-day festival of anime, pop art, video gaming and film-related events is part of a government initiative to bring more entertainment to Saudi Arabia which bans alcohol, public cinemas and theatre. Comic-Con began in 1970 as a convention of a few dozen geeks who swapped superhero magazines in the United States.

Tens of thousands of people now descend on San Diego every July for Comic-Con International where they don costumes and get previews of films by Marvel and Warner Brothers. Other Comic-Con events occur around the world. "We see from the high number of Saudi-based attendees at Comic-Cons abroad in recent years that there is a strong demand to host these events in our own country," Amr Al-Madani, chief executive of the government's General Entertainment

Authority, said in a statement yesterday. The authority said it is supporting the event organized in the Red Sea city of Jeddah by Saudi firm Time Entertainment. "Comic-Con events have a strong family appeal," Al-Madani said, as authorities move cautiously in a country where conservatives are wary of entertainment. Last month the kingdom's highest-ranking cleric, Grand Mufti Abdulaziz Al-Sheikh, warned of the "depravity" of cinemas and music concerts.

Unrelated men and women are normally separated in Saudi Arabia, where restaurants have sections for "single" men and families. In December a Saudi performance by US stand-up comedian and actor Mike Epps was cancelled, its organizers said, after complaints from hardliners. Entertainment programs began in October when New York theatrical group iLuminate performed at the Princess Noura University in Riyadh. Hundreds of men and women, side-by-side, hooted their appreciation and clapped to the hip hop beat. — AFP

ROSES MAKE MPs SEE RED AS CLASHES MAR...

Continued from Page 1

Fadhil, the son of former MP Nabil Al-Fadhil, who died during an Assembly session about two years ago, infuriated Islamist and conservative lawmakers by bringing red roses as a symbolic gesture on the occasion of Valentine's Day. He placed one rose on the desks of all members and Cabinet ministers, besides the speaker and Assembly secretary general. But the roses were quickly removed by Assembly officials.

Fadhil protested at the removal, saying he bought the 73 roses for KD 73 and that they should not have been removed. Hayef criticized marking Valentine's Day because it is "an atheist practice that is totally prohibited under religion". He said that the committee for alien negative practices, which he heads, should study the issue. The Assembly then overwhelmingly agreed to lift Fadhil's immunity. It also voted to lift the immunity of opposition MPs Waleed Al-Tabtabai, Harbush and Mohammad Al-Mutair to be tried for taking part in the storming of the National Assembly building in Nov 2011.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Faleh Al-Azab said the government is open to hold a special debate on the Khor Abdullah waterway with Iraq following protests on the Iraqi side against a 2012 agreement between Kuwait and Iraq. Although a string of Iraqi official statements have assured Kuwait that the agreement is not affected by the opposition, lawmakers in Kuwait want

to hear a government briefing on the issue. Azab however said he believes the government will demand the debate to be held behind closed doors.

MPs also could not push ahead with a request to debate the banking deposits scandal in which 13 former and present MPs are accused of accepting millions of dinars in bribes from the government for political reasons. MP Riyadh Al-Adasani and several other lawmakers filed a motion calling to allocate some time to debate the scandal, which was investigated by the public prosecution in 2011, but did not press charges for lack of legislation.

Adasani wants to reveal the names of the lawmakers who benefited from the bribes and the amounts they got in a public debate in the Assembly, but the government is insisting on a closed debate. The lawmaker however threatened that if the debate is either rejected or held in secret, he has other measures that he will use, but did not elaborate.

Adasani was a member of a parliamentary investigation committee that probed the issue under the opposition-dominated Assembly elected in Feb 2012. The results of the probe could not be used because that Assembly was scrapped by the constitutional court within just four months after being elected. Another probe committee was formed by the 2013 Assembly, but its findings have remained confidential. At least five MPs in the current Assembly are involved in the scandal.

Continued from Page 1

"This regional initiative is an opportunity that our regional friends should seize. Opportunity passes like a cloud. Take advantage of the good opportunity," he added.

Saudi Arabia and Bahrain cut diplomatic relations with Iran in Jan 2016 after protesters torched the Saudi

IRAN URGES

embassy in Tehran. Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates recalled their envoys in a show of solidarity with Riyadh, but Oman only expressed regret over the attack, highlighting its better ties. Oman has traditionally resisted Gulf Arab states' efforts to close ranks against Iran. It helped to mediate secret US-Iran talks in 2013 that led to a historic nuclear deal signed in Geneva two years later. Kuwait's foreign minister paid a rare visit to Tehran

Premier Brands

To see your ad here, call:
+965 248 35 616 / 617
 E MAIL: info@kuwaittimes.net
 ads@kuwaittimes.net
 Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

25 & 26 k.d

Hala Feb Offers

Lenovo 80TJ00BVAX
Ideapad 110

AMD
15-AY106-15

FREE FLASH DRIVE
16GB

69
94

25

4 GB RAM
500 GB HDD

hp 15-AY106-15

INTEL LATEST PROCESSOR 7th GEN
intel CORE I5 inside

NEW

2GB Graphic Card

1TB HDD
6 GB RAM

159
184

25

BUNDLE WORTH 15KD

Lenovo TAB3
Avialable Color

ZA0R0035AE

18
25

8GB Storage

7

4G

29
44

16GB Storage

15

ZA130059AE
ZA130051AE

best بست
AL-YOUSIFI اليوسفي

• Kuwait 1 (the New str.) • Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower) • Hawalli 1 (Tunis str.) • Hawalli 2 (Bin Khalid str.) • Shuwaikh (4th Ring road) • Al-Rai (4th Ring road) • Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarak str.) • Farwaniya (Behind police Station) • Fahaheel (Opp. General Parking) • Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.) • Airport (Departure Hall)

Credit: Start from SKD • Up to 48 month • Instant approval

Shop Online www.best.com.kw Free Delivery

1809 809

2017/02/28

CLASSIC 500

ROYAL ENFIELD

Awesome and well-known

- Single Cylinder, 4 stroke, Twinspark, Aircooled
- Digital Electronic Ignition
- 5 Speed Constant Mesh
- Electronic Fuel Injection

NOW IN KUWAIT

Available in: Lagoon Blue Chrome Green Classic Black Classic Tan

اتصل على: **6902 1397 / 6902 4472**
 الشركة الكويتية لاستيراد السيارات ذ.م.م.
 Kuwait Automotive Imports Co. W.L.L.

KAICO available in