

PRIME TIME

wednesday - (all times are kuwait local)

- 10:45 squash bein sports hd
- 14:00 athens vs piraeus/basketball bein sports 8hd
- 16:15 russia vs bosnia/basketball bein sports 8hd
- 17:10 cycling bein sports 10hd
- 18:30 handball bein sports hd
- 19:30 india vs lebanon/basketball bein sports 7hd
- 22:45 spurs vs juve/soccer bein sports 1hd
- 22:45 city vs basel/soccer bein sports 2hd

Sports

Latest sports scores at — <http://sports.arabtimesonline.com>

Cavs close 5-game homestand on high note

Celtics tame Bulls

CLEVELAND, March 6, (AP): LeBron James scored 31 points before taking a seat on the bench, Larry Nance Jr reached career highs with 22 points and 15 rebounds in his first start for Cleveland, and the Cavaliers closed a disappointing five-game homestand on a positive note with a 112-90 win Monday night over the Detroit Pistons, who haven't won on the road in nearly two months.

With Cleveland missing three big men — All-Star Kevin Love, Tristan Thompson and Jeff Green — because of injuries, the Cavs needed someone to step up and Nance came through. Wearing the same No. 22 his father had retired by Cleveland, the 25-year-old Nance had the best game of his young career.

Celtics 105, Bulls 89
In Chicago, Jaylen Brown scored 21 points and Boston pounded Chicago even though Kyrie Irving sat out because of a sore left knee. Even without their All-Star guard, the Celtics took control right from the start and led by as many as 37 en route to their fifth win in six games. Jayson Tatum added 14 points, while Al Horford and Terry Rozier scored 13 apiece for Boston.



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James (right), loses control of the ball under pressure from Detroit Pistons' Reggie Bullock in the first half of an NBA basketball game, on March 5, in Cleveland. (AP)

The Bulls lost for the 14th time in 17 games. Denzel Valentine scored 20 points and nailed four 3-pointers for Chicago, but that was about the only positive for the Bulls.

Spurs 100, Grizzlies 98
In San Antonio, Tony Parker had 23 points, sparking San Antonio to a

needed victory over Memphis before embarking on a difficult road trip. Memphis has lost 14 straight, but San Antonio's recent skid has had a greater impact on the Western Conference playoff picture. The Spurs had dropped eight of 10 and fallen from third to sixth in the crowded West, putting them at

risk of missing the postseason for the first time in 21 years. San Antonio moved up a spot to fifth place ahead of Minnesota with the victory. **Trail Blazers 108, Lakers 103**
In Los Angeles, Damian Lillard scored 19 of his 39 points in the fourth quarter and Portland won its 15th consecutive game over Los Angeles.

Lillard scored 15 in a row for the Trail Blazers down the stretch, giving them a 104-103 with 1:08 remaining by knocking down 1 of 2 free throws. CJ McCollum had 22 points, and Jusuf Nurkic added 16 points and 16 rebounds.

Julius Randle had 21 points and nine rebounds for the Lakers, who had their five-game winning streak ended. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 16 points, and Lonzo Ball had 10 points, two rebounds and two assists.

Heat 125, Suns 103
In Miami, Hassan Whiteside had 24 points and 14 rebounds, Goran Dragic scored 17 and Miami moved into the No. 7 spot in the Eastern Conference by topping Phoenix.

Whiteside had his highest-scoring game since Jan. 29, making 10 of his 13 shots. He averaged only 12.2 points on 48-percent shooting in his most recent 12 games.

BASKETBALL

Kelly Olynyk scored 15 points for the Heat, who gave four of their starters — Whiteside included — the entire fourth quarter off and beat the Suns for the 18th time in their last 20 meetings.

Pacers 92, Bucks 89
In Indianapolis, Bojan Bogdanovic tied his season high with 29 points and grabbed a key jump ball late to lift Indiana over Milwaukee.

Milwaukee's Khris Middleton stole Victor Oladipo's pass with 10 seconds left and Indiana leading 90-89. He rushed to the basket, but Cory Joseph chased him down and got a hand on the basketball before Middleton could attempt a shot. The ball rolled out of bounds, and referees called a jump ball after video replay. Bogdanovic came down with the tip off the jump ball and added a pair of free throws with six seconds left.

Jazz 94, Magic 80
In Salt Lake City, Rudy Gobert had 21 points and 17 rebounds to lead Utah over Orlando.

Donovan Mitchell scored 19 points and Joe Ingles added 18 points, eight assists and seven rebounds for the Jazz, who have won three in a row and 15 of 17. Still, the Jazz sit 1-1/2 games outside the eighth playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Putin plays soccer with Infantino

Russia marks 100 days before WC

MOSCOW, March 6, (AFP): President Vladimir Putin played football with FIFA boss Gianni Infantino in the Kremlin on Tuesday as a festive Russia marked 100 days before the start of the World Cup.

The clip ended with Putin heading one back to Infantino after a heavily edited kickabout set to Rimsky-Korsakov's Flight of the Bumblebee. The footage from Putin's reception office was released by football's world governing body in a tweet featuring legends of the beautiful game juggling the ball and doing tricks.

Others playing around with the official Telstar 18 World Cup ball included ex-England midfielder Wayne Rooney and Argentina's Diego Maradona. Brazil's Ronaldo juggled by the beach while Sweden's Thomas Brodin had his fun in the snow. Putin is an all round sports fan who is hoping to use the June 14-July 15 competition to showcase Russia and boost its image

at a time of frayed relations with the West. The games will be played in 11 spruced up host cities stretching from Russia's western exclave of Kaliningrad near Poland to Yekaterinburg in the Urals. "It is important to show Russia the way it really is: open, hospitable and modern," Sports Minister Pavel Kolobkov said. Russia's preparations for the most watched event in sports are going largely according to schedule but still being clouded by scandal and global disputes.

SOCCER

"Some people just can't wait for the greatest show on earth," FIFA said in the tweet.



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NBA Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, March 6, (RTS): Results and standings from the NBA games on Monday.

Cleveland	112	Detroit	90	San Antonio	100	Memphis	98
Indiana	92	Milwaukee	89	Utah	94	Orlando	80
Miami	125	Phoenix	103	Portland	108	LA Lakers	103
Boston	105	Chicago	89				

Eastern Conference				Western Conference					
Atlantic Division				Northwest Division					
Toronto	W	L	PCT	GB	Portland	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	45	17	.726	-	Minnesota	38	26	.594	-
Philadelphia	45	20	.692	1-1/2	Oklahoma City	37	28	.569	1-1/2
New York	34	28	.548	11	Denver	35	28	.556	2-1/2
Brooklyn	24	40	.375	22	Utah	34	30	.531	4
	20	44	.313	26	Pacific Division				
Central Division					Golden State	W	L	PCT	GB
Cleveland	W	L	PCT	GB	LA Clippers	49	14	.778	-
Indiana	37	27	.578	0-1/2	LA Lakers	34	28	.548	14-1/2
Milwaukee	34	30	.531	3-1/2	Sacramento	28	35	.444	21
Detroit	29	35	.453	8-1/2	Phoenix	20	44	.313	29-1/2
Chicago	21	42	.333	16	Southwest Division				
Southeast Division					Houston	W	L	PCT	GB
Washington	W	L	PCT	GB	New Orleans	49	13	.790	-
Miami	34	30	.531	2	San Antonio	36	26	.581	13
Charlotte	28	36	.438	8	Dallas	37	27	.578	13
Atlanta	20	44	.313	16	Memphis	19	45	.297	31
Orlando	20	44	.313	16		18	45	.286	31-1/2

Kante 'collapse' shocks Chelsea

LONDON, March 6, (AFP): N'Golo Kante did not feature in Chelsea's match against Premier League leaders Manchester City at the weekend after fainting at the club's training ground, reports said on Tuesday.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper said shocked team-mates feared the France international had suffered a heart problem when he briefly passed out after training on Friday.

It said a Chelsea doctor was on the scene within seconds of Kante slumping to one side in the dressing room at the club's Cobham training ground southwest of London.

The 26-year-old was given the all-clear after cardiology tests, the report said, and Kante travelled with the squad to Manchester for Sunday's match. He was cleared to play but felt unwell on Sunday morning.

The midfielder was back in training on Monday and is expected to be available for Saturday's Premier League home game against Crystal Palace.

Kante's health scare came two days before Fiorentina captain and Italy international Davide Astori, 31, was found dead in his hotel room in Udine.



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