



NEWS

Driver arrested after sleeping girl was locked inside bus

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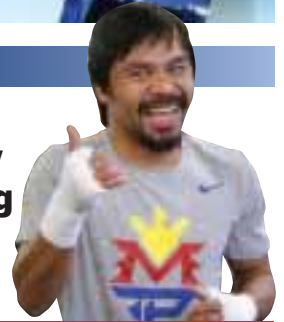
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SPORT

Win or lose to Money, Manny may be fighting in Abu Dhabi

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PLANE SPOTTERS CLEARED OF SPY CHARGES

Trio released after conviction for lesser crime of photographing forbidden sites

THREE men caught taking pictures of planes near Fujairah airport were due last night to be released from custody after being cleared of espionage.

British tourists Conrad Clitheroe, 54, Gary Cooper, 45, and their friend Neil Munro, who is a UAE resident, had been held for almost two months after being arrested on February 22.

They had initially faced spying charges at the State Security Court in Abu Dhabi.

By Ali Al Shouk

Lawyer Nasir Hashim, who is representing the three men, told 7DAYS that his clients have been convicted of the lesser charge of taking pictures without permission.

The court ruled that they had already served sufficient time for that offence.

He said they have not been fined nor do they face deportation from the UAE.

Hashim said: "The State Security

Court in Abu Dhabi punished them with time already spent in jail, which is two months. No fines or deportation order was issued and they will be released soon."

He added: "From the beginning my clients said this [plane spotting] was just a hobby and they were not aware that it's an illegal hobby in the UAE. They denied the charge in court earlier and they are happy now that this problem is over."

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Letting go: Frozen sisters poised for 'Disney on Ice' debut in Dubai
» FULL STORY PAGE 8



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A very ice surprise

Frozen princesses to make Dubai debut

THE blockbuster 'Frozen' will make its debut at 'Disney on Ice' in Dubai this summer.

Fans of the animated hit movie have the chance to see royal sisters Anna and Elsa at Princesses and Heroes, which is on at Dubai World Trade Centre on June 10-13.

Anna and Elsa will be among eight Disney heroines at the show - with Ariel, Belle, Cinderella, Rapunzel, Tiana, Jasmine, Aurora and Snow White also set to appear.

Ali Haidary, founder and CEO of organisers Sports and Entertainment Solutions, said: "There is a special second half dedicated to Frozen and we are very excited to bring a movie that has broken many records to a vibrant city like Dubai."

Tickets from Dhs150. See virginmegastore.ae.



NEWS IN BRIEF

More schoolkids hitting the books

READING is on the rise among Abu Dhabi schoolchildren. The findings were announced yesterday by Abu Dhabi Education Council during the launch of Abu Dhabi Reads 2015. The study claims that 91 per cent of private school students read on a daily basis, while the figure is 85 per cent for public school students.



Clever maid sentence upheld

AN ETHIOPIAN maid who tried to kill three children with a cleaver has been sentenced to life in jail to be followed by deportation. The Dubai Cassation Court confirmed the appeal verdict against the 25-year-old for attempting to murder two sisters and their brother and then trying to commit suicide. The housemaid confessed during the investigation and claimed she wanted revenge on the children's mother, who had refused to let her go to her home country and had hidden her passport.



Saturday rules in global sleep poll

INSIGHTS into the UAE's sleeping habits have been revealed in a global survey of app users. Among the findings was that people in the UAE sleep longest on a Thursday night and are in the best mood of the week on Friday mornings. Saturday is the world's biggest sleep day - with nearly 90 per cent of countries having a lie-in.