THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Cabinet tasks FM with legal action to terminate accord with OCA



Kuwait to host Islamic finance conference November 11



External impact caused plane crash, says Russian airline



Mavs down Lakers, Thunder advance

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KUWAIT SENTENCES FIVE IS SUSPECTS TO 10 YEARS IN JAIL

ASSEMBLY PANEL TO PROBE IRAN-LINKED CELL CLAIMS

Min 19° **Max** 27° **High Tide** 03:10 & 15:53 **Low Tide**

10:55 & 23:01

KUWAIT TO PROBE **PLANE STOWAWAY**

By Sara Ahmed

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Interior has formed an investigation committee to uncover how an Asian man was able to stow away on a plane that was carrying the Ministry's Undersecretary General Sulaiman Al-Fahad and his accompanying delegation to an Interpol General Assembly meeting in Rwanda. Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah has ordered the formation of the committee immediately after the stowaway was caught, the MOI's public relations department said in a press statement. The ministry will not tolerate those who failed to bear their responsibility and allowed such incidents to take place, it warned.

The man allegedly claimed he had snuck onto the plane in a bid to reach the United States. He was discovered as the plane was readying to take off and confessed when confronted. The pilot contacted the control tower and informed them that he wanted to abort the takeoff and return to the gate. The stowaway was referred to the security authorities and the plane was able to take off after half an hour, security sources said. The plane was located near the VIP hall at the airport, with a higher security detail used for state officials.



SIMBACH: Migrants walk to a first registration point of the German federal police after they crossed the Austrian-German border in the small Bavarian village of Simbach, southern Germany, yesterday. — AFP

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The criminal court yesterday sentenced five men to 10 years in jail each for financing the Islamic State group known as Da'esh and ordered that two of the convicts to be deported for being foreigners. The court also acquitted two other men from the charges which included raising funds for the jihadist group which is fighting in Syria and Iraq and training members on the use of arms.

The men were accused of raising around KD 400,000 and transferring them to Da'esh through the United Arab Emirates and Turkey. The ruling can still be challenged before the appeals and supreme courts.

Kuwaiti courts have in the past year issued several verdicts against people supporting or sympathizing with the Islamic State which claimed the worst bombing in Kuwait in June. A Saudi suicide bomber blew himself up in a Shiite mosque killing 26 people and wounding 227 oth-

The criminal court in September sentenced seven men to death, five in absentia, for assisting the Saudi bomber. Eight others were handed jail terms from two to 15 years. The case is currently in the appeals stage.

In other cases, the criminal court yesterday postponed until November 23 the case involving MP Abdulhameed Dashti who is charged with making highly critical comments against Bahrain, a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) state. The postponement came after Dashti declined to make his defense arguments as was instructed by the court and instead sued the foreign ministry for making the accusations against him.

Continued on Page 13

5 CITIZENS, 16 EGYPTIANS ARRESTED

HAWALLY MALL BRAWL AND MACABRE MURDER

By A Saleh & Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Five Kuwaitis and 16 Egyptians were in custody yesterday in connection with the raging brawl that resulted in the death of an Egyptian expat outside a shopping mall in Hawally on Saturday night, the Ministry of Interior's Relations and Security Media Department said yesterday. The statement said investigations are currently underway and two Kuwaitis and ten Egyptians were arrested yesterday taking the total number of suspects to 21 for their involvement in the fight and the macabre killing that created a state of chaos in the area, terrifying passersby and blocking the traffic. The department added that all technical methods were being pursued to identify the suspects involved in the crime and that those who violated laws and regulations would be punished.

Continued on Page 13

KUWAIT OIL OUTPUT REACHES 2.8M BPD

KUWAIT: Kuwait's crude oil production hit 2.8 million barrels per day (bpd) by the end of the fiscal year 2014-2015, less than the targeted 2.9 million bpd, the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) said yesterday.

In its recently-issued 2014-2015 annual report, the company noted that the 140,000bpd shortage in output, was mainly due to the decline of production capacity south, east and north of Kuwait. The report attributed the decrease to the delay of contracts for derricks and maintenance of new wells, the latter for reasons related to deep drilling and repeatedly irregular electricity from

Continued on Page 13



ISTANBUL: Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (left) speaks to supporters after morning prayers at Eyup Sultan Mosque in Istanbul yesterday. — AP

ERDOGAN URGES RESPECT FOR HIS PARTY'S VICTORY

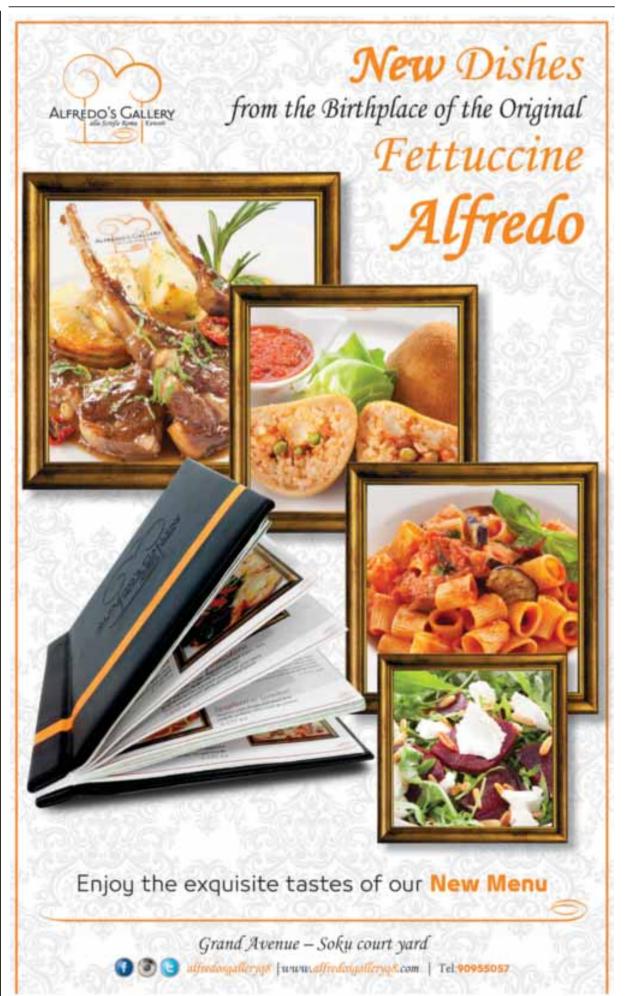
ISTANBUL: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday hailed a big victory for his ruling party in the country's parliamentary election and demanded the world respect the result. The ruling Justice and Development Party, or AKP, secured a stunning victory in Sunday's snap parliamentary election, sweeping back into single-party rule only five months after losing it.

With all of the ballots counted early yesterday, the preliminary results showed that the party won more than 49 percent of the votes. It was projected to get 317 seats in the 550-member parliament, restoring the party's single-party majority that it had lost in a June election.

Turkish financial assets were buoyant yesterday after the AKP's victory as investors hoped it will bring an end to a long period of political uncertainty. The Turkish lira was one big beneficiary from the result, surging by 5 percent or so on foreign exchange markets. "The whole world must show respect. So far I haven't seen such a maturity from the world," Erdogan said after attending prayers at a mosque and visiting his parents' graves.

It was an apparent reference to Western media's often critical coverage of AKP's policies in the past few years, including the ruling party's backsliding on democratic

Continued on Page 13





KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah chairs the cabinet's meeting yesterday. — KUNA

CABINET TASKS FM WITH LEGAL ACTION TO TERMINATE AGREEMENT WITH OCA

KUWAIT: The cabinet yesterday entrusted the Foreign Ministry and other relevant bodies with taking necessary legal procedures to break off the agreement between the Kuwaiti government and the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), of Law 6/2006. The decision was made during the routine cabinet meeting held at Bayan Palace under chairmanships of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The meeting reviewed the sports scene in Kuwait in the wake of the recent decision by the Executive Board (EB) of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) suspending the Kuwait Olympic Committee (KOC), said Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah.

As the meeting started, the ministers were informed of a message from the British Prime Minister David Cameron inviting His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to attend a conference for donors to the Syrian people, slated for February in London.

In his message, Cameron lauded His Highness the Amir's leading humanitarian role supporting the Syrian people, manifested in the First, Second and Third International Humanitarian Pledging Conferences for Syria, Kuwait hosted over three successive years, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah added.

The cabinet was also apprised of the message His Highness the Amir received from Russian President Vladimir Putin on Moscow's efforts to counter terrorism and terrorist organizations. The meeting was given notice of two messages from Presidents of the Republic of Chad Idriss Deby, and the Republic of Vanuatu Baldwin Lonsdale, on means of enhancing bilateral ties in all fields.

Amir's address

Meanwhile, the cabinet emphasized the significance of His Highness the Amir's address at the inauguration of the National Assembly's 4th session of the 14th legislative term last week, the Cabinet Affairs Minister stated. The address accurately diagnosed the challenges and risks facing Kuwait amid regional developments, escalation and tension.

The meeting underlined His Highness the Amir's directives that consolidate the potential of national unity, maintain the nation's security and stability, push ahead the wheel of development and reform, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah said. His Highness the Amir stressed the necessity of carrying on with economic reform and the confrontation against corruption, underlining the importance of cooperation between the government and the National Assembly to achieve the aspired goals of the nation.

National assembly

During yesterday's meeting, the cabinet discussed the National Assembly agenda, focusing on today's grilling session. MP Mohammad Al-Enezi had submitted an interpellation against Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Minister of State for Planning and Development Hind Al-Subaih. The ministers commended the Al-Subaih's convincing replies to all the pivots of the request, noting that the outcome of the grilling was a consolidation of the healthy parliamentary practice. They congratulated the minister. Then, First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah briefed the cabinet on the recent visit to Kuwait by Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom and Defense Minister Peter Hultqvist. The visit addressed bilateral relations and joint coordination toward the latest developments on the regional and the international arenas.

In the meantime, the cabinet approved and referred to His Highness the Amir a draft bill amending article 200 repeated of Kuwait's Code of Criminal Procedure No. 17/1960. The bill will later find its way to the National Assembly.

The cabinet reviewed a recommendation by the legal affairs committee on setting up a Kuwaiti-Canadian university in Kuwait, whose core task will be to enrich the intellectual, scientific and applied scene of the Kuwaiti society.

Labor market

It will also work on fulfilling the needs of the labor market, as well as contributing to developing the society and handling its problems through scientific research. The cabinet also approved two draft decrees pertinent to a memo of understanding for cooperation between Kuwait and Japan in the field of infrastructure, and an agreement in the field of cultural and technical cooperation between Kuwait and Senegal.

It then reviewed a report presented by Minister of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sanea on cases related to public funds as a prelude to sending them to the National Assembly. The cabinet also offered heartfelt condolence to Russian President Vladimir Putin and the people of Russia over the victims of the recent Russian air crash in Egypt's

Saudi mosque attack

Meanwhile, the cabinet condemned a recent 'terrorist attack targeting a mosque in Najran in Saudi Arabia, which left one worshipper dead and several others wounded. The cabinet said in a statement following its customary meeting that Kuwait rejects such terrorist acts that run counter with all human values and norms.

It also wished those injured in the attack swift recovery and Saudi Arabia everlasting security and stability. One person was killed and others were injured last week when a suicide bomber blew himself up inside a mosque in the Saudi southern city of Najran, the Interior Ministry said. The suicide bomber, who was wearing an explosive belt, entered the Mashhad Mosque in the Dahdha neighborhood while worshippers were leaving after performing Maghreb prayers, it



KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah receives the UN Resident Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Kuwait Zineb Benjelloun. — KUNA

FM RECEIVES **UN COORDINATOR**

KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah yesterday received the UN Resident Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Kuwait Zineb Benjelloun. During the meeting, the UN official submitted to Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled her credentials as a Resident Coordinator for the UN in Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister for the Minister's Office Ambassador Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah, Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations Ambassador Jassem Mubarak Al-Mubaraki and Deputy Foreign Minister for Protocol Ambassador Dhari Ajran Al-Ajran. —KUNA

Prince Khalifa: Bahrain, Kuwait ENJOY 'DISTINGUISHED' TIES

MANAMA: Bahraini Prime Minister Prince ness on bolstering cooperation between the Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa said Sunday that the Bahrain-Kuwait relations are 'distinguished' based on love and brotherhood thanks to the fathers and grandfathers of the two countries.

receiving Kuwaiti army's Deputy Chief of Staff Sheikh Abdullah Nawaf Al-Sabah and President of National Security Bureau Sheikh Thamer Ali Al-Sabah after participating in the Manama Dialogue which concluded today, Bahrain News Agency (BNA) reported.

Prince Khalifa stressed the Kingdom's keen-relations under the two leaderships.

two brotherly countries and opening several fields to meet the aspirations of the two countries and their peoples, BNA said. He also underlined the importance of meetings of Prince Khalifa made the statement while international and regional senior officials, like the Manama Dialogue, in unifying visions and ideas on the region's security and stability.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Abdullah and Sheikh Thamer stressed the importance of Prince Khalifa's efforts aiming to boost cooperation between the two countries, lauding bilateral

Separately, the Diplomatic Corps' Dean and the State of Kuwait's Ambassador to Bahrain, Sheikh Azzam Mubarak Al-Sabah, has lauded the Kuwaiti participation in the Manama Dialogue noting the team's keenness on ensuring its success. Ambassador Sheikh Azzam said the Kuwaiti delegation's participation at the forum brought into the limelight "the state contributions to a lot of crucial issues in the region, particularly humanitarian affairs." He was alluding to Kuwait's substantial aid to nations in need in the Middle East-such as the

INFO MINISTER UNDERLINES CULTURAL DIALOGUE



MUSCAT: Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah attends the opening session of the 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers. — KUNA

MUSCAT: Kuwaiti Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah stressed yesterday the importance of cultural dialogue and reconciliation in light of the cultural and media scene in the Muslim world.

war-stricken Syrian people.—KUNA

The minister made his remarks in the opening session of the 9th Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the auspices of Oman's Minister of Tradition and Culture and President of the conference Haitham bin Tareq Al-Said and attended by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Chairman Ayad Madani.

Sheikh Salman called for shedding light on tolerance in Islam and avoiding ideological confrontations, asserting Islam as a contributor to other civilizations and cultures. The minister also conveyed greetings on behalf of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to Sultan bin Qaboos bin Said and to the Omani leadership. Sheikh Salman praised the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) for organizing the 9th Islamic Conference, including efforts exerted by ISESCO's Director General Abdulaziz Al-Tuwaijri for designating Nizwa City as the Capital of Islamic Culture for 2015. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane and Algerian Ambassador to Kuwait Areef Khamisi cut the ceremony's cake at the Algerian embassy during the national day celebration. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

AWQAF TO TACKLE **UNLICENSED MOSQUES**

KUWAIT: Minister of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sane said Sunday the ministry has started tackling unlicensed mosques that were built on stateowned lands, thus violating "sanctity of public funds."

The ministry has formed a special committee to solve 'the dilemma' of the unlicensed mosques, usually built from tin, Sane, also Minister of Justice, told reporters on sidelines of a reception held by the Algerian Embassy on occa-

sion of the country's independence day. Sane said the ministry would follow the necessary procedures to deal with any Imam of any mosque who "use the religious address for extremist purposes."

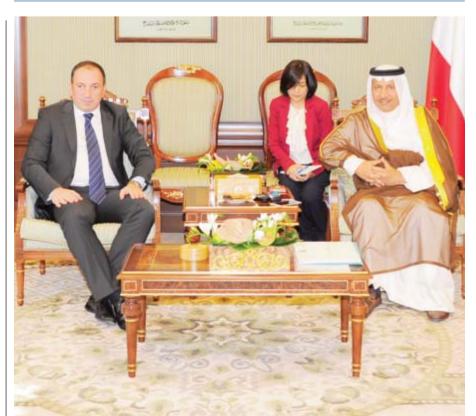
He said the Ministry of Awqaf has special mechanism to maintain the "moderate religious address." On the relations with Algeria, Sane cited a recent visit by his Algerian counterpart that resulted in an agreement on the exchange of legal and judicial expertise. — KUNA







Ambassadors attend the event



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received yesterday the visiting Bosnian Foreign Minister Igor Crnadak and his accompanying delegation at Bayan Palace. — KUNA



KUWAIT TO HOST ISLAMIC FINANCING CONFERENCE

IN COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND



Dr Mohammad Al-Hashel

KUWAIT: Kuwait will host the World Islamic Financing Conference, organized by Kuwait Central Bank (CBK) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with the participation of the IMF Center for Financing and Economy in the Middle East and Thomson Reuters as strategic partner for knowledge.

The conference will be held on November 11, 2015 under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. This announcement was made by CBK Governor Mohammad Al-Hashel and said the conference will see high ranking international attendance of decision makers headed by Christine Lagarde, Director General of IMF and senior IMF employers and experts around the world. Several finance ministers,

Central Bank Governors, their deputies and representatives in many countries are expected to attend the event. There will also be presence of International Economic Establishments that belong to the United Nations and Regional Organizations in addition to experts and academics.

Many aspects

Hashel said the conference will discuss many aspects in the field of Islamic finance industry starting with the growing development in Islamic Finance Industry and the wide ranging growth opportunities it has in world markets and new regions. These are ambitions boosted by features of Islamic financing that relies on the sharing profits and losses principle, as well as linking the pur-

poses of this financing with the activities of real economy, that in addition to the capabilities and advantages the Islamic financing provides in meeting the various financing needs for countries, individuals and establishments, which itself has become among the factors that form supporting elements for major growth in demanding Islamic financing.

He said that such view for future aspirations of Islamic Financing Industry, which appeared following the world financial crises in particular, and this made many countries to boost their capabilities and develop the Islamic financing industry in them and seeking to build an integrated infrastructure through working developing their systems and laws to attract banks and other

poses of this financing with the activities of real economy, that in operate in their markets.

Small businesses

Other topics to be discussed by the conference is the financial inclusion issue in the field of Islamic Financial Services through the discussion of means of supporting financing individuals, small and medium establishments, within the framework of the importance of the role those establishments are playing at the economic and social levels. The conference will also discuss Islamic Sukouk and other long term financing means which boost financial sources for Islamic banks that can be directed to finance to infrastructure projects in addition to investment projects and support the sustainable development.



Christine Lagarde

'NO KUWAIT AIRWAYS FLIGHTS OVER SINAI'

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Kuwait Airways stressed that its flights had no routes over the Egyptian peninsula of Sinai, adding that it was the company's general policy to avoid flying over dangerous territories so as to protect the lives of its passengers. The statement came two days after a Russian passenger jet crashed over the Egyptian peninsula, which prompted several airlines around the world to suspend air travel over the area.

Prisoners of war

Kuwait's foreign ministry strongly denied news reports which came out Sunday and claimed that remains of Kuwaiti prisoners of war have been located in Tikrit. The ministry explained that what had been discussed on that regard was

finding a mass grave in Tikrit. In this regard, high-ranking Iraqi sources strongly denied notifying Kuwaiti authorities of finding remains of any Kuwaitis in Tikrit. "An Iraqi delegation went to Tikrit and failed so far to find the grave referred to," stressed the sources.

Prosperity index

Kuwait maintained its rank as the second in Gulf Cooperation Council and Arab countries after the United Arab Emirates, and the 36th worldwide in the 2015 Legatum Prosperity Index, issued by the British Legatum Institute. The index classifies 142 countries according to 8 elements including economic performance, entrepreneurship and opportunity, governance, education, health, safety and security, personal freedom and social capital.

FORMER MPS' CASE ADJOURNED

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The Court of Appeal adjourned a case filed against four former lawmakers over promoting former MP Musallam Al-Barrak's speech till January 4th.

Slandering

The criminal court set November 16 to make its sentence in a state security case in which Saleh Al-Saeed and blogger Rania Al-Saad are accused of slandering Saudi Arabia and King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz. The court also decided to

acquit Rania Al-Saad of threatening Sheikha Fraiha Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah after she had earlier been sentenced to three months with labor and a KD 200 bail to suspend the verdict.

Bachelors evacuated

Engineer Ahmed Al-Manfouhi stressed that 500 houses which had been inhabited by bachelors were evacuated so far, adding that a report was submitted to the cabinet in this regard. Manfouhi added that the cabinet extended the evacuation project for further six months.

CITIZEN ARRESTED WITH AK-47 RIFLES

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Detectives of the weapons inspection department arrested a citizen with two AK-47 rifles following information that he keeps the illegal weapons at his home. He was sent to concerned authorities.

Citizens trapped in building

Three citizens were trapped in a smoke-filled room after a fire broke out in a two-storey building. Six citizens were also inside the same building when the fire broke out. Jahra fire center responded to the call and firemen rescued a child and a lady from the bedroom on the first floor of the building. They are being treated for smoke inhalation. Three ladies and a man were also evacuated from the second floor. All persons were taken by paramedics to hospital for smoke inhalation.

Yemenis, Egyptians held

Seven Yemeni and Egyptian expats were sent to the deportation department for violating the law and creating a scene of terror with a fight after Friday prayers. The suspects were arrested during the fight and were sent to concerned authorities.

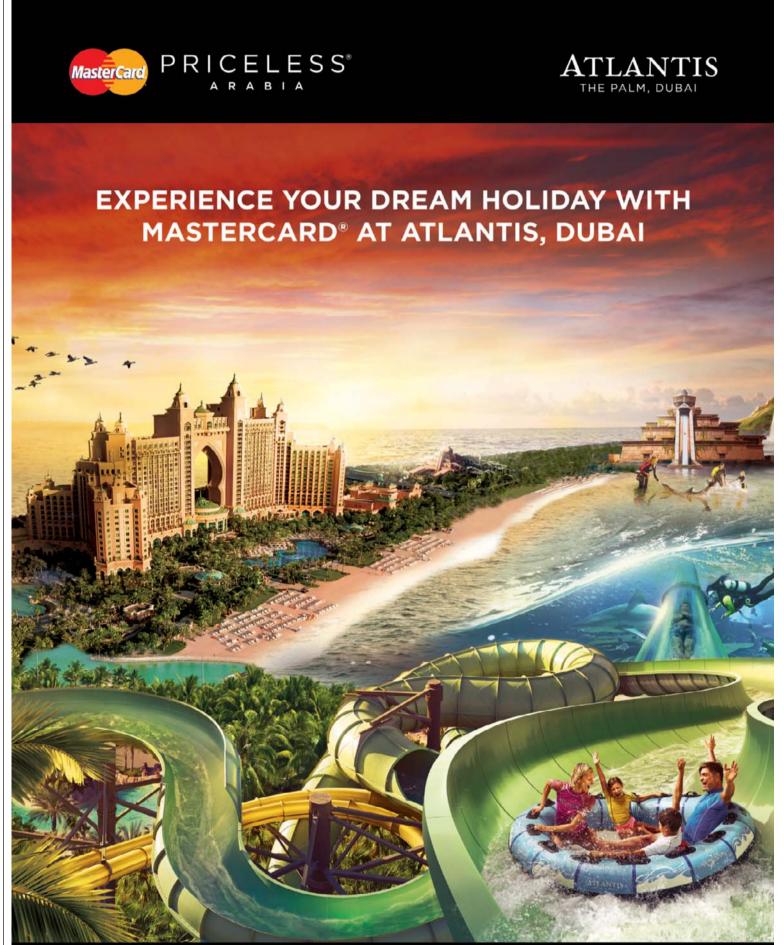
Filipina arrested with liquor

Policemen arrested a Filipina with 67 bottles of locally-made liquor. The police also arrested 70 wanted men, 46 suspects, 15 absconders and 25 persons without IDs. Security campaigns also resulted in confiscating seven wanted cars and arresting 13 persons whose visas were expired. They also arrested 11 persons for theft and gambling.

Campaigns

The traffic department carried out several campaigns between October 25, 2015 and October 30, 2015, resulting in issuing 43,860 citations, impounding 1,801 vehicles, while six expatriates were sent for deportation for driving without a license. Separately, the food and markets supervising department at Kuwait Municipality carried out several campaigns during September, resulting in destroying 857 kilograms of food found unfit for human consumption. The public relations department said inspectors issued 74 violations through checking 386 stores. It said that inspectors removed 833 violating signs.





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In Brief

NAVY DRILL

KUWAIT: Kuwait Naval Forces will carry out a live ammunition drill from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm today, the Kuwaiti Army announced yesterday. The Army's Directorate of Moral Guidance and Public Relations said in a press statement that longitude coordinates for the shooting range is 28 55 N, 48 37 E on 16.5 nautical miles of off East Julai to Qaruh Island. Latitude coordinates fall on 28 46 80 N, 48 30 20 E on 6 nautical miles East of Ras Al-Zour to Umm Al-Maradim Island. — KUNA



SPACE STATION

KUWAIT: Kuwait's space atmosphere during morning hours of the month of November and at night during December will witness the passing of the International Space Station, Kuwait Science Club's (KSC) Science and Space Administration said yesterday. November 5th will be the best day for those who wish to witness the station, KSC Director Bader Al-Omairah said, and gave specific detailed calculations and coordinates to watch the station for 12 minutes. KSC noted that the best time to monitor the station will be after sunset or before sunrise. — KUNA



APA MEETINGS

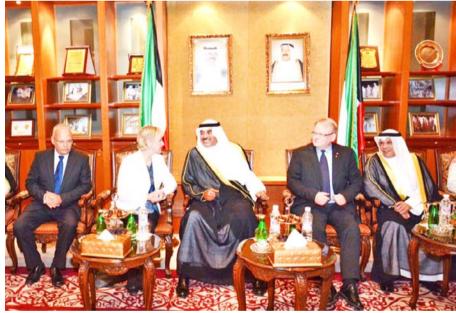
TEHRAN: MP Dr Awda Al-Rowaey said that Kuwait's National Assembly is keen on effectively taking part in the meetings of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Executive Bureau and the Standing Committee on Social and Cultural Affairs that kicked off in Tehran yesterday. Attending the Tehran meetings is part of parliamentary diplomacy which "we at the National Assembly believe can play an influential role for dissolving several Asian issues, Rowaey said. — KUNA



Photo

of the day 16818

KUWAIT: Authorities placed wheel locks on several cars parked illegally on a street in South Surra near the Public Authority for Housing Welfare and the Public Authority for Civil Information yesterday. To free their cars, drivers must pay a fine and then wait by the car for the removal service. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat



KUWAIT: First Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah meet Swedish Foreign and Defense Ministers, Margot Wallstrom and Peter Hultqvist respectively. — KUNA

DEFENSE MINISTER RECEIVES AUSTRALIAN MILITARY DELEGATION

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah discussed yesterday with the Vice-President of the Australian Defence Forces Vice Admiral Ray Griggs the most important issues of common interest to both countries.

The Moral Guidance and Public Relations Directorate of the Ministry of Defense said in a press statement that Sheikh Khaled discussed with the Australian official the deep-rooted ties between the two friendly countries and keenness of both sides to strengthen and develop them. The meeting was attended by a number of senior officials.

Meanwhile, First Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled AlHamad Al-Sabah, and Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah held a dinner banquet Sunday in honor of visiting Swedish Foreign and Defense Ministers, Margot Wallstrom and Peter Hultqvist respectively. The two sides discussed over the dinner coordination of positions vis-a-vis regional and international developments, as well as issues of mutual interest. The banquet was attended by Deputy foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah, Kuwait Army Chief of Staff General Mohammad Al-Khodhr, Assistant Foreign Minister for Europe Waleed Al-Khubaizi, Assistant Foreign Minister for the minister's office Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah and Assistant Foreign Minister for Protocol Dhari Al-Ajran. — KUNA

KUWAIT VP OF ANTI-CORRUPTION UN AGREEMENT CONFERENCE

MOSCOW: Kuwait has been elected Vice-President of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Kuwait Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Delegate to the UN Agencies in Vienna Sadeq Marafi said yesterday that this nomination took place during the 6th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, currently

being held in Petersburg, Russia. This election is considered an achievement for the Gulf country for its political stances worldwide. As part of this position, Kuwait will chair many important meetings at the UN headquarters in Vienna until 2017.

In a message of greeting to the participants in the event, delivered by Kremlin Chief of Staff Sergey Ivanov, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that various countries should join forces in the fight against corruption. "One of the most serious global problems affecting all countries is corruption. It destabilizes national economies, violates human rights, undermines the principles of justice, provokes social tension in the society," the Russian leader noted. "Only by joining



KUWAIT: Chairwoman of the Malaysia-Kuwait Business Council Nong Fatimah Ahmad Shah is pictured with Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Ali Al-Ghanem.— KUNA

forces we will be able to effectively counter Corruption Public Authority are partaking in this threat common for all our countries," he added. Senior delegates from Kuwait Anti-

the conference; they're led by the Authority's deputy Riyad Al-Hajiri. — KUNA

KUWAIT, MALAYSIA SEEK CLOSER TRADE TIES

KUWAIT: A visiting delegation from the Malaysia-Kuwait Business Council discussed means of promoting bilateral ties and increasing trade volume between the two countries. Chairwoman of the Malaysia-Kuwait Business Council Nong Fatimah Ahmad Shah met with Kuwait Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Ali Al-Ghanem

In her speech to representatives for local private sector, the Malaysian official lauded efforts made by the KCCI in developing trade ties. She expressed Malaysian companies' desire to collaborate with their Kuwaiti counterparts in all domains, noting that Malaysia enjoys a versatile markets for investments.

Meanwhile, Ghanem said that the KCCI always strives to enhance bilateral trade relations, stressing the importance of increasing visits to both countries and providing a smooth investment environment for both countries. — KUNA



Sadeq Marafi







KUWAIT: The Embassy of Honduras hosted a reception for the food and beverage delegation at the ambassador's residence recently. Officials, business and media personalities attended the event. — Photos by Joseph Shagra



KUWAIT CONSUMES 12.3 MILLION KILOGRAMS OF TEA FROM SRI LANKA

'\$1.65 BILLION TEA BUSINESS THRIVING'

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Kuwait hosted a gathering of businessmen and media representatives to introduce Sri Lanka's growing \$1.6 billion tea business contributing 15 percent to the nation's foreign exchange. Kuwait imported around 12.3 million kilograms of tea in 2014 and 16.1 million kilograms in 2013.

The 'tea talk' was presented by Hasitha De Alwis, Director Promotion from Sri



Hasitha De Alwis speaks at the gathering.

Lanka Tea Board Middle East and Africa. Sri Lankan Ambassador to Kuwait Kandeepan Bala welcomed guests and lauded Kuwait Sri-Lanka's bilateral relations in all areas from economy to politics and tourism.

The head of tea promotion, who is based in Dubai, said the world witnessed the never seen unity of Sri Lankan Republic as the country now is united after 30 long years of conflict, reaping the fruit of peace and tranquility in the form of economic growth, tourism and trust of people from all over the world. "Multiethnic, multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-linguistic nation once again in harmony after the war and because of that, there has been immense opportunities for sustainable growth in all sectors and of course the tea industry is no exception," he added.

Annual revenue

Tea earns Sri Lanka \$1.65 billion in annual revenue. "Thanks to the tea industry wherein the country is known for especially in the production and export of black tea. The tea we produce is globally recognized and the Ceylon Tea name itself is synonymous with superior quality. We want everyone to know that our tea is produced with lots of attention as we continue to invade the world market in this sector," he mentioned. Colombo is known the largest single original tea auction center in the world, disposing 99percent of all sales, and the champion in sustainable auction prices.

Explaining the huge disparity of Kuwait's tea import in the year 2013 and 2014, "Basically it was because some of the tea brought here (2013) were re-exported by Kuwait to Iraq since they are affected by the crisis. So Kuwait served as a gateway to sending tea products to other countries in the Middle East affected by the crisis," De-Alwis explained.

150 years

"Sri Lanka's tea industry will celebrate 150 years of commercial history in 2017. We will arrange about six months of celebrations with this regard and we want you all to visit and experience the hospitality of the Sri Lankan people. The tea industry continues to occupy a pivotal position in terms of foreign exchange earnings and employment. The foreign currency earnings from tea covered the entire food import bill of Sri Lanka in 2013 as well as 2014," he said.

The tea industry employed directly and indirectly 10 percent of the population of Sri Lanka, with around 2 million people directly or indirectly dependent on the industry.

To look for authentic 'Ceylon Tea Brands'
De Alwis said people should only see the
lion seal logo with 100 percent Ceylon Tea
label (above a minimum reference standard) as they are registered in 102 countries as a trade mark.



KUWAITI PHOTOGRAPHER WINS TWO AWARDS IN ITALY'S SIPA CONTEST

ROME: Kuwaiti photographer Ali Al-Zaidi has won two prizes in the Italian Siena International Photography Awards (SIPA Contest). Up to 2,500 photographers from 100 countries took part on the contest. The international contest, held as part of an art festival in Italy's historical city of Siena, announced that Al-Zaidi won the bronze medal in one category and the jurors' award in photographing people's lives.

The leading global 18 jurors voiced their admiration of Al-Zaidi's photos, 10 of which were chosen to be displayed in the SIPA Contest gallery network, entitled "Behind the camera," that are open till end of November. Al-Zaidi is known for his many travels around the world

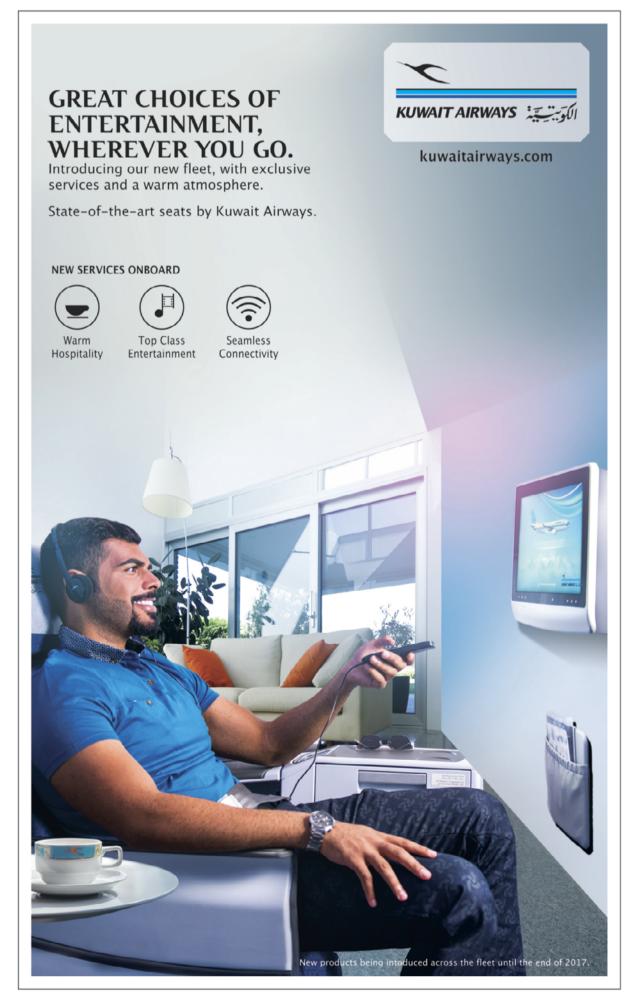
He expressed pride of the awards which "raise high the name of Kuwait in the wide-scale competition," one of the largest worldwide. He dedicated the victory to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The leading photographer, who won more than 40 international awards, stressed that Kuwait is rich with talented and gifted youth in all fields. — KUNA







KUWAIT: Sri Lankan Ambassador to Kuwait Kandeepan Bala (first from left), businessmen and media representatives attend the gathering yesterday. — Photos by Ben Garcia







Al-Anbaa

THE FALLEN MIDDLE EAST

BySami Al-Nisf

ccording to Bernard Bajolet, head of France's DGSE external intelligence agency, the Middle East region is not likely to return to its old self following the current conflicts. "The Middle East as we know it is over, and I doubt it will come back," he said. CIA chief John Brenan seconded his opinion, noting that this fallen Middle East had been formed in the aftermath of World War II by building multi-ethnic and religious states united under one flag to prevent the Soviet Union from occupying them and utilizing their resources the way Hitler did when he occupied smaller European countries, which prolonged the world war for sixth years.

By the end of the 1980s, the Soviet Union fell and with the change of enemy faces, the need for some friends changed as well. There was no longer need for big regional multi-religion and multi-ethnic states. In other words, dividing the Soviet Union contributed to fragmenting our states later on. The old Middle East project fell with major incidents that happened with ten year intervals; the first was in 1991 when Saddam Hussein unjustifiably refused to withdraw his missile and B52-stricken army and thus was defeated in the 'Mother of all Battles' before he manipulated with international inspectors to eventually weaken his own army and country. Iraq actually started dividing during his reign, and he lost control over his air space and land and both the northern and southern Iraq were controlled by rebels.

Ten years later, the world was stricken by another bloody incident when terrorist Osama Bin Laden claimed responsibility for the Manhattan foray in a video tape accidentally left in one of his camps, which all led to waging war against Afghanistan. In the same year, 2001, Saddam's intelligence made allies with radicals fleeing the Afghanistan war like Abu Mos'ab Zarqawi, which gave the West an excuse to invade Iraq in 2003, forcing Ba'athists and Al-Qaeda to become allies in brutal assassinations and sectarian-instigated explosions throughout Iraq. This paved the way to explode Syria from within when this coalition turned into one of Ba'ath-IS.

The third phase started ten years later in 2011 when a simple incident happened in Tunisia as a vegetable vendor brunt himself to death, following several others, with the result of forcing the ironman Zinedine Bin Ali to flee. He was followed by the fall of other solid regimes like those of former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi and former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in addition destabilizing Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's regime, the separation of South Sudan and the spread of terrorist, sectarian and secessionist organizations from Syrian to Yemen, from Iraq to Libya through the core of the Arab world, Egypt, without knowing who funds and arms those cancerous destructive organizations nor why they had secretly made allies with secular military regimes though they claimed to be religiously radical! Finally, the recent TIME issue published a report saying that the radical Taliban organization had almost controlled 27 out of the 34 Afghan governorates by making allies with Russia, which gave the Russian bear a second foot in warm waters after it put its first one in the Mediterranean waters; an accomplishment Russian Czars would have never dreamt of!

—Translated by Kuwait Times



BOGUS COMPANIES BUSTED

Residency Affairs Department detectives ended the activities of 15 bogus companies in various areas of Kuwait. A security source said Interior Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Nationality and Passport Affairs Major General Mazen Al-Jarrah asked detectives to launch a campaign against bogus and violating companies. Inspection campaigns took place in malls, and were able to uncover 15 bogus companies which were shut down.

Body found

Criminal evidence men recovered a citizen's body after the man was found dead in the back seat of his car. The discovery was made recently in Bayan. The body was sent for an autopsy to reveal the causes of death.

Search for thief

A thief snatched a woman's purse in Salmiya's old market and escaped on foot. The woman told police that while she was shopping, a man snatched her purse which contained money, a mobile phone, civil IDs, and ATM cards. She filed a case at the local police station. Detectives are looking for the culprit.

Physical assault

A female citizen accused four persons, including two women of severely beating her because of earlier disputes. A security source said a 24-year-old citizen came to Mubarak Al-Kabeer police station with a medical report, and told officers there that she ran into a citizen, bedoon and two female citizens with whom she had earlier disputes, so they attacked and beat her, before escaping. Investigations are ongoing.

Neighbors row

A Maidan Hawally resident beat up his neighbor after he came over to his apartment and complained about loud music. According to a security source, a Kuwaiti man headed to the apartment next door and asked the tenant to lower the volume of the music played. The tenant, a Kuwaiti man as well, became angry and beat the complainant after he threatened to call police, the source said. The alleged attacker was summoned by police, but denied the accusations. A case was filed for further investigations. -Al-Rai



الانياء

Al-Anbaa

AN IDIOT INTERVIEWER

By Saleh Al-Shayeji

is Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah rushed to the Al-Sadeq mosque shortly after the largest explosion Kuwait has ever witnessed took place and never hesitated to inspect the site while it was still on fire, and while his tears fell on saying: "Those are my children!"

The Saudi monarch, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz went around the Kaaba with all pilgrims coming from all Muslim countries. He did not carry his crown along but rather seemed like every other Muslim. King Abdullah II of Jordan visited a poor family in one of the villages and sat with its members on the ground while inquiring about the family's needs. UAE's Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan visited a military hospital where he kissed the hands of an injured soldier.

The aforementioned examples are four so humane incidents that took place in four Arab countries with hereditary rule. I started with these examples as an introduction to my comments on what the famous Egyptian movie star Hussein Fahmy said on praising 'hereditary rule' on a TV interview where the interviewer so idiotically provoked him by saying: "How can you praise hereditary rule while all countries are seeking freedom and independence?"

Fahmy's shocking answer came so objectively and

calmly as he is used to and he started telling her some stories about Egypt's history under monarchy. He totally rejected her argument and exclaimed of linking hereditary rule with the state of not being free or independent!

Unfortunately, Arab TV shows are full of such idiot interviewers and she is the perfect example of idle Arab minds loaded with ignorance, superstition, subordination and a myth that argues that dictator republican regimes are far much better than stable hereditary ones. Such ideas had been implanted in minds by dishonest, hollow hypocritical media used to describing leaders as semi-gods and slandering serene wise and stable regimes that have inherited and practiced governance through several generations and, at the same time, are so harmonious with their subjects.

We would have believed such idiotic claims about justice, integrity and fairness of republican regimes if they were still to be born. But to argue that republican regimes are so 'utopian' when we have already experienced how tyrants like Saddam Hussein, Muammar Gaddafi, Bashar Al-Assad and Ali Abdullah Saleh ruled their subjects and destroyed their own countries means that people who believe so are insane and, unfortunately, so many Arabs are!

—Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Qabas

EDUCATION'S WOES

By Ahmad Al-Sarraf

■he first Central Bank Governor in the history of Kuwait Hamza Abbas wrote a column in Al-Qabas about education and how the state neglected it. He said that the money spent on education in Kuwait is considered high according to international standards, yet education's deterioration continues, as two studies that were conducted in two close periods about the quality of education in 140 countries showed that Kuwait's ranking dropped to 80th and 108th in both studies respectively! Also, the organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) refused to include Kuwait in its study of education systems in 76 states, because the quality of education in the country is less than what qualifies it for evaluation. And in a study by the World Bank about the quality of education in Kuwait, it found out that education is at the same level with countries that live below poverty line!

A fourth study showed that there is a defect in the balance of school curricula in favor of classroom subjects at the expense of material that makes up the core of Education, which are the scientific subjects such as mathematics, biology, chemistry, and others.

Abbas condemned the uncaring reaction of politicians to this scary situation, and their great interest in Kuwait being out of the Gulf Cup, and the International Federation's suspension of Kuwait's soccer activities. He wondered about the reason that made education here a source of ridicule to the world? He answered that the reason lies in politicizing the education system, which began in the middle 1980s, this is in addition to limiting the school year to a period of no more than 120 days a year! even when the ministry attempted to increase it by 30 minutes a week, many areas objected, particularly the Kuwait Teachers Society.

Abbas continued that he spent 16 years as a member of the Higher Education Council! I do not know how he stayed all this time, while knowing the size of this damage, and that he does not believe, the he has, after 16 years, a relation, even if indirectly, to the deterioration of education. Because he knew all this time that all studies that were presented to the education ministry ended in trash cans or its archives!.

Abbas ended his column by recommendations that we will not mention despite their importance, because no one will pay attention to them, not in the government, and not in the concerned ministry, which is preoccupied with a heavy burden of inherited highly complicated problems. The minister's main concern might be his fear that the minister who comes after him may halt all his reformist work.

-Translated by Kuwait Times

FAKE EMPLOYMENT, **RENTAL OF LICENSES CRACKDOWN**

KUWAIT: Chairman of the National Fund to support small and medium enterprises, Dr Mohamed Al-Zuhair, said in remarks published yesterday that there are procedures and laws that are applied to prevent fake employment or rental

Dr Mohamed Al-Zuhair

of licenses for projects under the umbrella of the Fund. Zuhair said, in an interview with the local Al-Rai newspaper, there is full coordination with government bodies that have judicial jurisdiction and others having the right to oversee the projects, adding that the Fund would counter any fake employment or issuance of licenses for the purpose of renting them to others. He explained that the Fund would resort to the legal means should there is any violation of its regulation in this respect, stressing that this does

not mean hindering development projects, being financed by the Fund. He also stated that it only takes a few days to consider and approve the new project, urging entrepreneurs to submit all needed documents when applying for funding. —KUNA



KUWAIT: The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) was present at the Avenues Mall recently to introduce its new campaign that targets Kuwaiti employees in the public and oil sectors. The campaign, which runs through March 31, 2016, offers a KD 200 - 500 cash prize for employees who transfer their salaries to CBK, as well as to win a brand new BMW X5.

PROSECUTION INVESTIGATES ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

KUWAIT: There is a tendency to establish a special prosecution office to investigate the crimes stipulated in the environmental law number 42/2014, well-informed legal sources said. Members of the judiciary would play a very significant role in fighting environment-related crimes by imposing penal laws on violators, the sources added. Furthermore, the

sources explained that the new law includes 30 penalties varying between fines worth millions of dinars, life time in prison and capital punishment, which requires a clearly-defined structure to put them into practice such as enrolling a number of district attorneys to special training courses at the judicial studies institute, as well as dispatching them to

a number of leading countries in terms of environmental sciences and issues to gain more experience. "The tendency to establish a special prosecution for environmental issues is meant to select free prosecutors readily available to perform their duties without being overburdened with other cases," explained the sources. —Al-Anbaa



KUWAIT: Environment police officers are pictured during an inspection campaign at a West Shuaiba factory in this file photo. —KUNA



1.5 MILLION EXPATS **WORK IN** PRIVATE SECTOR

KUWAIT: The total number of expatriates working in the private sector reached 1.485 million compared to only 63,000 citizens as per the end of October 2015, Director of Labor Market Research at the Manpower Public Authority Samira Mandani said. Around 197,000 laborers entered Kuwait this year including 542,000 Arabs, 888,000 Asians, 34,000 Europeans and 9000 Africans, she added. — Al-Qabas

Kuwait Times International

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

'KURDISH OBAMA' SAVES PRIZED POLITICAL VOICE

Nepal police shoot border protesters, Indian killed

Page 8

Page 11



MOSCOW: People pass by the portraits of seven crew members, victims of the Russian passenger jet crash, at the headquarters of Kogalymavia charter airline. — AFP

AIRLINE BLAMES CRASH ON 'EXTERNAL' FACTORS

'No technical failures could account for accident'

MOSCOW: The Russian passenger jet that crashed in Egypt killing all 224 people on board came down due to "external" factors, the airline said yesterday, as relatives began identifying their loved ones in Saint Petersburg. Senior technical failures" could account for why the Airbus 321 would have broken up in mid-air, as investigators have said happened. "The only explanation is some kind of external action," Smirnov told a news conference in Moscow, without elaborating, adding that the doomed jet was in "excellent technical condition".

Both Cairo and Moscow have played down the claim from Egypt's Islamic State (IS) branch that it brought down the aircraft flown by Kogalymavia between holiday destination Sharm El-Sheikh and Russia's second largest city on Saturday. The US Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said yesterday he could not rule out IS involvement, but thought it "unlikely".

"We don't have any direct evidence of any terrorist involvement yet," he said. Investigators are examining all possible causes as they comb the remote crash site in the Sinai peninsula as part of an Egyptian-led probe into the disaster that also involves experts from Russia, Airbus, and Ireland, where the aircraft was registered.

President Vladimir Putin described the crash, Russia's worst air disaster, as a "huge tragedy" in his first comments since Saturday's catastrophe, at a meeting with his transport minister yesterday. "Without any doubt everything must be done to create an objective picture of events so that we know what happened and can react accordingly," Putin said.

The head of Russia's aviation authority Alexander Neradko slammed the airline's claims that external factors were to blame as "premature and not based on any real facts" in televised comments. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Moscow "cannot exclude any version" of what caused the crash as investigations were still ongoing, but warned against "guessing" at the reason.

'Meticulous work'

Russia has a dismal air safety record, and while larger carriers have begun upgrading ageing fleets, the crash is likely to raise concerns about smaller airlines such as Kogalymavia. The company's executive Smirnov said the

firm had ruled out a technical fault or human error and said the plane had sustained "significant damage to its construction that did not allow it to continue the flight." "The crew totally lost control and for that reason there was not one Kogalymavia executive Alexander Smirnov said that "no attempt to get in contact and report on the accident situation on board," Smirnov said. The plane was "flying out of control-that is, it wasn't flying, it was falling," he said. The claims by the airline came as relatives of those who died in the crash began the painful process of identifying their loved ones after a first plane delivered the remains of 140 victims to Saint Petersburg. "The process of identification has begun. It is complex, meticulous work," Saint Petersburg deputy governor Igor Albin told journalists outside the crematorium where the remains are being stored.—AFP

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IRAQ PARLIAMENT BARS PM FROM PASSING REFORMS UNILATERALLY

BAGHDAD: Iraq's parliament voted unanimously yesterday to bar the government from passing important reforms without its approval in an effort to curb Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi amid discontent over his leadership style, lawmakers said.

The chamber acted after Abadi unilaterally enacted reforms in August that it deemed a violation of the constitution including his dismissal of the vice presidents and deputy prime ministers and cuts to salaries of government employees. "Under this resolution no more absolute authorities for the prime minister," one member of parliament, who asked to remain anonymous, told Reuters.

Any rise in political tensions could undermine Baghdad's efforts to tackle an economic crisis and form a united front against Islamic State militants posing the worst threat to Iraq since a US-led invasion that

toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003. Last week over 60 members of Iraq's ruling State of Law coalition threatened to pull parliamentary support for Abadi's reforms - aimed at stamping out corruption and incompetence if he did not head their demands for wider cognition.

- aimed at stamping out corruption and incompetence - if he did not heed their demands for wider consultation. Many of the lawmakers who signed the letter are supporters of Abadi's predecessor, Nour Al-Maliki, whom critics branded as a polarising and authoritarian figure, allegations he denies. Abadi announced his reform campaign in August after popular protests gathered steam over graft and poor water and electricity services in Iraq, a leading OPEC oil producer.

Powerful people

The reforms aimed to scrap senior political offices that have become a vehicle for patronage for some of the most powerful people in Iraq and root out incompetence which has undermined the battle against Islamist militancy. But while parliament had now "put the brakes" on Abadi's authority, a showdown could loom, said Wathiq Al-Hashimi, chairman of the Iraqi Group for Strategic Studies think-tank.

"The question will be, is he is going to survive? I think parliament's move today is a test. The next likely scenario could be withdrawing confidence from Abadi," he said. Hashimi added that growing parliamentary objections to Abadi's statecraft and a severe shortage of cash will eventually lead Abadi "to direct a confrontation with his own party".

Graft and poor morale in the armed forces were significant reasons why Islamic State insurgents swept through northern Iraq last year virtually unopposed, and then proceeded to seize about a third of the country. The ultra-hardline Sunni Muslim group, which also

controls large parts of neighboring Syria, has been fuelling a sectarian civil war ravaging parts of Iraq.

Some of Abadi's reforms have been implemented, while others appear to have stalled. Iraq's three vice presidents, whose positions were to be cut, remain in place. When he took office in September 2014, Abadi was seen as a consensus builder who could heal divisions between Iraq's Shiite Muslims, Sunnis and non-Arab Kurds that sharpened during Maliki's tenure. But senior officials have said they are not consulted about Abadi's reforms and often learn about them through the media.

"Parliament rejects any parties, including the government, overlooking its authorities," said another MP. "The resolution was passed unanimously and it dictates that any decision needs the approval of parliament." — Reuters

WHAT IF ISRAEL'S KILLED PM RABIN HAD LIVED?

TEL AVIV: Would Israelis and Palestinians now be living in peace with one another if a Jewish extremist had not assassinated prime minister Yitzhak Rabin 20 years ago? That question, and thoughts on the nature of today's Jewish state, are on the minds of many Israelis as the anniversary of the November 4, 1995 assassination highlights the gulf between visionary hope and stark reality. Tens of thousands of Israelis-as many as 100,000 according to some media reports-gathered late Saturday for a memorial rally in the Tel Aviv square where Rabin was shot dead and which now bears his name.

Rabin, who headed the victorious Israeli armed forces in the 1967 Six-Day War, as premier chose instead the path of peace, sharing the 1994 Nobel Prize with domestic rival Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for their roles in forging the Oslo peace accords. Twenty years after that time of euphoria for the Israeli peace camp, the mood at Rabin Square on Saturday was somber.

Merav, 44, a regular at the annual event, said it was the largest turnout for years, but she also felt further than ever from the spirit of the murdered politician. "I have not had hope since November 4, 1995. Our innocence was also killed on that evening," she said, agreeing with the many who say that the Oslo agreements died alongside Rabin.

"Rally of Despair" was the heading to a commentary on the event in the Israeli daily Maariv; "Rally to Nowhere" was the headline in the mass-circulation Yediot Aharonot. Since the beginning of October, Israelis and Palestinians have been embroiled in a new wave of violence that has seen nine Israelis, 67 Palestinians and an Arab Israeli killed, raising fears of a new Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation. The two sides have not talked peace for more than 18 months.

Two states concept 'dead'

Former US president and friend of Rabin Bill Clinton urged the Tel Aviv crowd on Saturday "to complete the final chapter in the story" of Rabin's quest for peace. But as he spoke, Ofir Akunis, science minister in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government, the most rightwing in Israeli history, was saying elsewhere that the idea of a Palestinian state alongside Israel "is dead", Maariv

reported. Given this atmosphere, many people are asking: "What would have happened had Rabin not been killed?" If he had lived to serve another term, "We would have reached a permanent agreement with the Palestinians and perhaps peace with Syria," Uri Savir, Israel's chief negotiator at talks leading to the Oslo Accords, told AFP.

After the assassination the left was defeated in a general election and Netanyahu was elected premier for the first time. "He has worked to meticulously dismantle everything that was foreseen," Savir said.

"Do you think we have a magic wand? No. Must we always live by the sword? The answer is yes," Netanyahu was quoted as telling a parliamentary committee last month. Some on the left doubt if Rabin would have been able to pursue his goals to their hoped for conclusion had he lived.

'A respectable leader'

"If Rabin was alive he would be a retired but hyperactive nonagenarian like Peres," said Anshel Pfeffer, a columnist for the left-leaning Haaretz newspaper. "Netanyahu would nonetheless be prime minister and would continue to explain why everything is the fault of the Palestinians." Rabin's daughter, former MP Dalia Rabin, says that there was no real glue between her father and Arafat and that he could not have brought about lasting peace on his own.

"There is a feeling that a sort of relationship of trust was built between Arafat and Rabin, but it was, on the whole, very fragile," she said. A poll published by the pro-Netanyahu free sheet Israel Hayom said that 76 percent of respondents considered Rabin "a respectable leader" and he was missed by 55 percent, but only a third approved of the Oslo Accords.

Palestinians also have mixed feelings about Rabin, recalling how as defense minister during the first Palestinian intifada that erupted in 1987 he called on soldiers to "break the bones" of rioters. Arafat's successor, Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas, referred in a September speech at the United Nations to the "cancer" of Jewish settlement. Today, for the Palestinian public, both its own leadership and Rabin are emblematic of the failure of the Oslo process. — AFP

ISTANBUL: Co-leader of Turkey's pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Selahattin Demirtas (center) arrive to cast his ballot on November 1, 2015 for Turkey's legislative election at a polling station. — AFP

'KURDISH OBAMA' SAVES PRIZED POLITICAL VOICE

Demirtas remains a thorn at Erdogan's side

ISTANBUL: Selahattin Demirtas, the charismatic leader of Turkey's pro-Kurdish party, remains the biggest thorn in the side of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan after managing to hold onto his HDP's cherished parliamentary representation,

Nicknamed the "Kurdish Obama" for his smooth rhetorical skills, Demirtas propelled his Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) into mainstream politics with a message that embodies the hopes of Turkey's biggest minority, but also appeals to non-Kurds.

Under the 42-year-old former lawyer, the HDP became the first pro-Kurdish party in Turkey's history to win enough votes to sit in parliament in June-taking support from Erdogan's AKP in the southeastern Kurdish heartland and among non-Kurdish Turkish liberals. Five months later, the party managed once again to breach the formidable 10-percent threshold needed to take up seats in the assembly. But only just about.

From 13.1 percent of the vote which gave it 80 seats in June, the HDP's support fell to 10.7 percent for a reduced tally of 59 seats, according to results based on 97 percent of the votes. The odds were stacked against Demirtas, who had to tread a fine line after a two-year-old ceasefire between the state and the outlawed separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) fell apart in July, leading to a cycle of deadly tit-for-tat attacks.

leading to a cycle of deadly tit-for-tat attacks. Clearly infuriated by the HDP's success in the June election, which blocked his own dream of winning enough seats in parliament to create a more powerful presidency, Erdogan went on the attack. The combative president lashed out at Demirtas, calling him a "pretty boy" acting merely as a front for the PKK. The HDP also came under attack from suspected jihadists, with suicide bombers killing 102 people at a pro-Kurdish peace rally in Ankara last month-the bloodiest attack in Turkey's modern history, which forced the HDP to cancel all its major election rallies. Demirtas attributed Sunday's losses to the violence and vowed to work for peace between the state and the PKK. "We will not back down on our stance for the need for a new constitution and for the peace process," he said.

Erdogan's rival

With his good looks and sharp sense of humour, Demirtas is widely seen as the only politician with charisma and talent to rival Erdogan. Much is made of his image as a family man, with broadcasts showing him breakfasting with his wife and two daughters, or singing folk

songs and strumming the saz, a Kurdish lute.
Detractors say his wholesome image is just a photo-shopped front for a party that remains tied to the PKK, considered a terrorist group by Turkey and its Western allies over the three-decade armed insurgency that has killed 45,000

people. Prosecutors in July opened a criminal

probe against Demirtas accusing him of provoking violent pro-Kurdish demonstrations last year. If convicted, he could face up to 24 years in jail.

In an interview with AFP this week, Demirtas insisted his party had "no organic links with the PKK," but said: "The PKK is a reality of Turkey." "We have always maintained that the PKK should lay down arms and tried to convince them to move in that direction, but the Republic of Turkey should also end all its military activities against the PKK.

"We have never wanted or defended the war. We have always mobilised for peace." Demirtas, who is referred to as "Selocan" (My darling Selo) by his supporters, says he has to don a hat and sunglasses to avoid being recognised on the streets of the mainly Kurdish city of Diyarbakir when he goes out without his bodyguards.

Erdogan has mocked him as a "cici cocuk" (pretty boy) and "pop star". Born in the Kurdishmajority city of Elazig, Demirtas is the second in a family of seven children. After completing his studies at the prestigious Ankara University, Demirtas worked as a human rights lawyer in Diyarbakir before going into politics in 2007. He was elected to parliament in 2007 election as a representative for Diyarbakir and the Democratic Society Party, a precursor to the HDP. In 2010, he was sentenced to 10 months in prison for alleged links to the PKK, but his parliamentary immunity kept him out of jail. — AFP

CYCLONE ON ROUTE TO YEMEN, STORM INJURES 200 ISLANDERS

ADEN: Cyclone Chapala was approaching war-torn Yemen yesterday after wreaking havoc on Socotra island and injuring hundreds of people there, as fears of its impact on Oman eased, officials said. Strong winds hit southeast Yemen and high waves flooded the seafronts of Al-Qaeda-held Mukalla and Shehr in Hadramawt province, as well as the Belhaf gas terminal in Shabwa province, officials and residents said.

"The cyclone is approaching Mukalla and we fear a disaster," one official at the provincial capital said, requesting anonymity. "Families have evacuated coastal areas and residents are organizing themselves and helping each other to deal with the cyclone," he added. The city has been mostly controlled by militants of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula since April.

On Socotra, "more than 200 people were injured and dozens of houses and hamlets were either heavily damaged by

water or washed away by waves", said Salem Zaher, mayor of the island's main district Hadibo. Socotra is less than 250 kilometers from the Horn of Africa and 350 kilometers off the Yemeni mainland. It has 50,000 inhabitants, mostly fishermen.

The UN's weather agency said on Friday that Chapala, a "super cyclonic storm", was expected to make landfall at around midnight yesterday in both Yemen and Oman. But yesterday it said on its Twitter account that "Category 2 Chapala expected to weaken to Category 1" as it nears Yemen and Oman, but with intense rain.

Omani authorities reduced the state of alert yesterday, saying the cyclone has moved westward towards Yemen and will have no direct effect on the sultanate. However, Oman's meteorological authority warned that waves as high as three meters were still expected to hit the shores of the Dhofar and Al-Wusta provinces yesterday and today. — AFP



This October 30, 2015 NASA satellite photo shows Tropical Cyclone Chapala in The Arabian Sea. — AFP

PALESTINIAN TEEN KILLED AFTER ALLEGED STABBING ATTEMPT

JERUSALEM: Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian who they say tried to stab a soldier in the West Bank yesterday, in the latest such incident in more than a month of violence. Palestinian officials said he was 16 years old.

The military said the incident was the third attempted stabbing near the checkpoint between the West Bank and Israel in recent weeks. After soldiers approached two Palestinians at a gas station, one attempted to stab a soldier with a knife before the soldiers shot him, the army said. Forces treated the wounded Palestinian at the scene, the army said, but he died of his wounds. The other Palestinian was arrested. The official Palestinian news agency Wafa said he was wounded in the incident.

A series of Palestinian attacks linked to tensions over a sensitive Jerusalem holy site began in mid-September. In addition to the near-daily attacks, violent demonstrations have erupted in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, with Palestinian stone-throwers clashing with Israeli troops.

Eleven Israelis have been killed in Palestinian attacks, mostly stabbings. Sixty-nine Palestinians have died by Israeli fire, including 43 who Israel says were involved in attacks or attempted attacks. Rights groups say some of the killings were unjustified because the Palestinians did not pose a threat to soldiers' lives.

A military investigation found that the shooting death of an 18-year-old Palestinian woman by Israeli forces last month could have been avoided, Israeli media reported. The military had no immediate comment on the report. The woman was shot as she brandished a knife at a military checkpoint in the West Bank city of Hebron, according to the army's

account. The military investigation concluded that soldiers could have arrested her instead of shooting her to death, local media reported.

In the West Bank city of Ramallah on Monday, Palestinian security forces held a military salute at a funeral ceremony for two Palestinians killed by Israeli fire. One had tried to grab a soldier's rifle in Jerusalem, and the other had tried to stab a soldier at a West Bank checkpoint, according to the Israeli military. The Palestinian Authority has been holding official funeral parades in recent weeks in order to prevent militant groups like Hamas from using such ceremonies to whip up popular support, a senior Palestinian security official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly about the practice. — AP



GAZA CITY: Masked Palestinian youths place slogans near pictures of Palestinians who died during violence between Palestinians and Israel, as they gather in front of the UNDP (United Nations Development Program) offices to support Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. — AFP



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Victims mourned after gunman rampage in Colorado Springs

COLORADO SPRINGS: Two women described a terrifying scene. killed by a gunman who marched down the streets of Colorado Springs with a rifle were shot as they chatted on the porch of their residence for sober living, while a third victim was a bicyclist who begged for his life as the shooter wordlessly fired.

Authorities released few details Sunday about the shootings that happened a day earlier in broad daylight, refusing to identify those killed or the suspect, who died in a gunbattle with police. But a fuller picture of the three victims emerged from those who knew them and witnesses who

Witnesses said the gunman first took aim at a young man riding a bicycle, shot him several times and left him face-down on the sidewalk. The man then roamed the streets with a rifle in one hand and a revolver in the other. About a half-mile away, he turned suddenly, shooting two residents on the porch of a home for women in recovery. He then continued down the block as police closed in, shooting out the window of a squad car before officers fired back, said Matthew Abshire, who followed the gunman.

Urging compassion

"It looked totally random," said Abshire, who rushed to help the women, using his shirt as a tourniquet. "He walked calmly and collectedly. His demeanor was like he was having a stroll in the park." Bullet holes were still visible in the home's siding on Sunday, and a pair of red roses lay on the bench where the women could often be found together. "Those ladies were often on the porch, almost always they said good morning," said Benjamin Broadbent, lead minister of the First Congregational Church of Colorado Springs, who lives nearby. As a group of more than 50 people, urging compassion, even for the family of the gunman

Those who knew the women said they were working hard to improve their lives. The shooting has shaken other women living in the home, said Adrieanna Waldridge, the roommate of one of the victims. She said her friend had been excelling at a new job and had looked forward to taking her two young children trick-or-treating.

"We were going to be each other's sober buddies," she said. "It feels like a part of me is missing." Naomi Bettis,

dusk fell, he led a candlelight vigil for who lives across the street from where the bicyclist was slain, did not know him but laid a bouquet of flowers and note where he fell. "My thoughts are with you. Praying for the family. I'm sorry for your loss."

> Bettis said she saw the gunman, in a green jacket and cap, shoot the cyclist, who was coming down the block. "His last words were 'Please God, no," said another neighbor, Teresa Willingham, who saw the man lying face down in the street, his mangled legs still intertwined in his bike. "He was just at the wrong place at the wrong time."—AP

BETWEEN HUGE NEIGHBORS: MONGOLS SEEK NEUTRALITY

ULAANBAATAR: Sandwiched between China and Russia, landlocked Mongolia has long tread a middle path, maintaining a balance between Moscow and Beijing while referring to the US and other remote allies as "third neighbors." Now, with a wealth of mineral resources set to transform its largely agrarian economy, Mongolia is moving to cement that evenhanded status by adopting permanent neutrality as a safeguard against outside dominance. President Elbegdorj Tsakhia says the move would best serve a desire for peace, security and balanced foreign relations in the vast Asian nation of slightly under 3 million people, while boosting its global profile in international organizations such as the United Nations. Draft legislation on adopting that status was submitted to the legislature last week.

Mongolia's permanent neutrality would "contribute to the strengthening of peace, security and development in our region and the world at large," Elbegdorj said in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly in September.

The building blocks of neutrality are already in place, with Mongolia legally eschewing nuclear weapons and military alliances. Mongolian officials say that since the collapse of former sponsor the Soviet Union in 1992, the country has been de facto neutral, despite close relations with the US that have seen it dispatch troops and instructors to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Neutrality imbues a country with protection for its territory and people as long as it refrains from involvement in armed conflict. Switzerland, Costa Rica and the Vatican City are the best-known adherents to that status, enshrined in the 1907 Hague Convention, with a long list of other countries having claimed neutrality at various times in their history.

In his writings advocating neutrality, the Harvard-educated Elbegdorj has cited Mongolia's recent history, along with its geographic location and "the uniqueness of our chosen path of development." The country has plenty of cause to be wary of encroachments by its immediate neighbors. China is the country's biggest economic partner, absorbing 80 percent of its exports and providing 30 percent of its imports, along with more than \$3.8 billion in investment.

Limiting US influence

Russia, meanwhile, provides all of Mongolia's energy imports. Bonds forged during the Cold War, when Russia dominated political life here, remain strong, with Mongolia abstaining from a United Nations vote condemning Russia over its annexation of Crimea.

Neutrality would end Mongolia's lowlevel engagement with NATO and the US. as well as precluding full membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, a regional political and economic grouping that seeks to limit US influence in Central Asia and is dominated by Russia and China. Mongolia has reportedly been invited to join the bloc, although the Mongolian leadership has been cool on the idea.

"Our two neighbors are not interested in us getting close to the US. So, if our country becomes a permanently neutral country, we will get out of this pressure," said J Baysakh, a professor of international relations at the National University of Mongolia. The law would permit Mongolia to retain its armed forces, and to join a military alliance in the event its sovereignty or independence was threatened.

Yet, the move has little value unless China and Russia rein in their diplomatic and economic pressure on Mongolia, raising doubts about the significance of the exercise, said Enkhsaikhan Jargalsaikhan, Mongolia's former representative to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. Mongolia's foreign policy already hews to the principles of balance, pragmatism and flexibility, Enkhsaikhan said. He questions whether Mongolians need to "limit our sovereignty voluntarily."

Regardless, Mongolia seems intent on formalizing its neutral status following further dialogue between Elbegdorj and lawmakers and the passage of the necessary legislation. Foreign Minister Purevsuren Lundeg has already broadcast the country's intentions in visits abroad, including seeking neutral Switzerland's counsel. "Having permanent neutrality doesn't mean isola-Choinkhor Jalbuu, director of the Mongolian Geopolitical institute and former ambassador to the US. "In simple words, it is a position that Mongolia will not join any side against any country." — AFP



ULAANBAATAR: Mongolia schoolchildren pose for photos near the Chinggis Khaan statue in front of the Mongolian Parliament House. — AP

BUSH E-BOOK DETAILS DAYS AS FLORIDA GOV

MIAMI: Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush is releasing his long-planned ebook, "Reply All," a selection of email exchanges with everyday Floridians, journalists and others during his two terms as Florida governor. Bush's decision to bring out the 730-page digital book comes as he attempts to reset a campaign hobbled by stagnant poll numbers, a fundraising slowdown and a poor debate performance.

Bush officially begins his "Jeb Can Fix It" tour in Tampa. He then travels to Orlando and Jacksonville before heading off to the early primary states of South Carolina and New Hampshire. It is viewed as the start of a comeback - or possibly the beginning of the collapse of his campaign. The e-book covers his two terms as governor, 1999-2007, when he carried a Blackberry at all times, spending 25 to 30 hours a week emailing and responding to a diverse range of people through his public and personal email account. The Blackberry was included in Bush's official por-

Quest for transparency

Earlier this year, Bush released tens of thousands of those emails on a website. His aim was to be more transparent in his quest for the White House. Bush told NBC's "Meet the Press" Sunday that the e-book is "really the essence of the servant leadership that I had as governor of this state."

Since launching his presidential campaign in June, Bush has repeatedly pointed to his record and experience as governor to sell voters on why he should be the GOP's next nominee. The first chapter, "This is Exhilarating," opens with his inaugural address on Jan. 5, 1999, and ends with a chapter titled "This Job Gives Me Great Jov!"

He shares and comments on emails he received during some critical times in office. It includes the saga of Elian Gonzalez, the 5year-old Cuban boy returned to Cuba, and his father in 2000, more than a year after Gonzalez was found clinging to an inner tube off the Florida coast when his mother and others fleeing Cuba drowned trying to reach U.S. soil. He wrote one constituent that the case "should not be looked at from a political perspective" but what's in the child's "best interest." In the case of Terri Schiavo, Bush wrote that "I knew in my heart I had done absolutely everything I could to save Terri." She was the Florida woman removed from life support in 2005 after spending more than a decade in what doctors described as a "persistent vegetative state." Her husband wanted her feeding tube removed, arguing that she once told him she would not want to be kept alive artificially. —AP



MACEDONIA: Migrants and refugees prepare to enter a registration camp after crossing the Greece-Macedonia border near Gevgelija. — AFP

SELF-INFLICTED WOUNDS HAMPER EU ATTEMPTS TO MANAGE CRISIS

AMBITIONS EXCEED CAPABILITIES, PROMISES BROKEN

nent's biggest refugee emergency in over half a century. But far from being insurmountable, many of the EU's challenges are self-inflicted, the bloc's own chief executive admits. Ambitions exceed capabilities and promises are broken. On the ground, there is chaos, willful obstruction or just plain incompetence.

EU nations are "moving slowly at a time when they should be running," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker recently told lawmakers. "The gap between the pledges and what is on the table must be reduced," he said. "Otherwise we are losing all kinds of credibility."

The arrival of more than 700,000 people this year is ratcheting up tensions. Many EU countries are blaming Germany - the preferred home of many seeking sanctuary or jobs in Europe - for encouraging the masses to continue making the perilous journey.

The controversial razor-wire border fence in Hungary, with its echoes of Europe's darker past, has begun to seem like a reasonable option to Slovenia and Austria. Police and the military now stand alongside guards on Europe's borders. Speed is of the essence in tackling the crisis. Increasingly cold weather is a new enemy, as the EU and member states race to set up shelters along thousands of kilometers of the "migrant route" out of Greece northwest to Austria.

Throwing money at challenges

The vast amounts of money that the EU often throws at its challenges are being grudgingly mustered - but cash and policy changes have so far proved woefully inadequate. Yet neither the tragic recent deaths in the Aegean; nor the scenes of shivering migrants trudging through Balkan mud; nor the mounting chaos and squalor in asylum centers in even wealthy

BRUSSELS: The European Union's struggle to Germany should come as any surprise. Since the vision for how the thousands of asylum-seekers staunch the flow of hundreds of thousands of drowning of more than 350 migrants off Italy people across its borders represents the contihensive response, there has mainly been footdragging and bickering.

The frontline in this fight is Greece - where more than half a million people have arrived this year alone. Many of them are Syrians fleeing conflict and coming to Europe via Turkey. Greece has been overwhelmed. Already battling a severe economic crisis, Athens is unable to stop let alone register and fingerprint - the sheer numbers coming through.

Beyond this, Greece has proved incapable of even accepting help from others. It has dithered about EU aid money and stymied humanitarian groups trying to erect tents on islands where no shelter exists. Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has committed to increasing Greece's reception capacity to 50,000 places from around 10,000 currently. But Athens has no obvious plan for how and where this will happen. But given Greece's debt mountain, and the austerity imposed on citizens, no one dares criticize the country in public, and the government has appeared too proud to accept help.

After the recent EU-Balkans mini-summit, Tsipras said the leaders' plans contained "absurd proposals" and that he rejected them. One would have created "nearly an entire city of 50,000 refugees." Another could have allowed countries to block refugees coming from a neighbor, which Tsipras said would create "a domino effect" going backward into countries like Greece.

"My number one suggestion was that we should go down south and defend the borders of Greece if they are not able to do that," said Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. "But nobody listened to us." A similar reception scheme for the Balkans route is advancing, but major hurdles remain, and there is no common should be sheltered.

Reception points

Four nations - Austria, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia - have promised to set up reception points for 12,000 people along the route. Each has chosen locations on its own though, and has not coordinated with neighbors. Serbia says it is moving fast, with shelters due in place by the beginning of November. It has asked for EU money before providing any more. Concerned by the disunity, Macedonian President Gjorge Ivanov has warned: "If we don't stick together, we will hang separately." One obvious failure is a plan to deploy 400 police officers to Slovenia by Oct 22. As of Oct 29, EU partners had pledged less than half - 183 officers. Only 13 were on the ground, with 30 more due soon.

Plans for the EU's Frontex border agency to start work in Croatia near the Serbian border are on hold, awaiting a response from the government in Zagreb. Faced with little likelihood that the flow of migrants will ease, Germany has notified the EU that it plans to extend border checks on people until at least Nov 13.

Berlin has also warned that it may continue to do so using a new legal mechanism which could allow controls for up to two years. It is feared that such checks could undermine Europe's open borders project. In terms of financial aid, EU nations promised to provide an extra 2.3 billion Euros a month ago. So far 86 million Euros has been pledged. More broadly, the plan to move tens of thousands of refugees out of Greece and Italy has barely advanced. So far 86 people have been shared among EU partners. Thirty more were due in Luxembourg soon. "Nine member states have let us know that they can soon relocate 700 people," Juncker said. "But let's not forget that we have a decision to relocate 160,000 refugees."—AP

OBAMA GETS PERSONAL IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE CHANGE

WASHINGTON: As President Barack Obama has toured the country in a recent push for a criminal justice overhaul, he's worried publicly about the possibility of his daughters' teenage rebellion. He's mused about his own drug use as a wayward youth. He's told stories of being pulled over for speeding - and not always deserving the

In the national conversation about crime and punishment, Obama hasn't been afraid to identify with the people being policed, as well as with the police. It's a remarkable shift in tone after decades of politicians worrying more about being labeled soft on crime than too hard on criminals. Previous presidents have talked tough on the topic and heaped praise on police. They've rarely woven in personal encounters

Obama, speaking to police chiefs in Chicago last week, praised police for their work but also called for "serious and robust debate over fairness in law enforcement." He used himself as an example. "There were times when I was younger and maybe even as I got a little older, but before

I had a motorcade - where I got pulled over," Obama told the crowd. "Most of the time I got a ticket, I deserved it. I knew why I was pulled over. But there were times where I didn't."

Presidential rhetoric

Such comments stand out from the history of presidential rhetoric in part because of Obama's place in that presidential history. Questions of racial bias in the criminal justice system are not merely academic for him, noted Marc Mauer, executive director of the Sentencing Project, a group that advocates for sentencing reform.

"He's the first African-American president and his life experiences are different than others. He's lived it - directly or indirectly - more than other presidents have. The empathy is there," Mauer said. But Obama's comments also reflect the moment, Mauer noted. The current political conversation about crime, justice, race and violence in America largely has been driven by a course correction. A push to overhaul sentencing laws has bipartisan support in Congress. Violent images of police have sparked outrage

about racism and use of force in policing. All of this is playing out while crime rates overall are

The contrast is stark from the conversation in the late 1980s, when Massachusetts Gov Michael Dukakis, the Democratic nominee for president, was pounded by ads all but blaming him for the crimes of Willie Horton, a convicted murderer who raped a woman while out on a weekend furlough. By 1994, President Bill Clinton was pushing for "the toughest crime bill in history" in his State of the Union address, and urging Congress to help him "reclaim our streets from violent crime and drugs and gangs." Clinton referenced his days as Arkansas attorney general to boost his bona fides on the issue.

"There was an inclination in the old days to get tough, or at least not be a leader on this (criminal justice) issue. Now I think it's much safer politically. Nobody is going to lose an election based on crime policy like they might have once," Mauer said. "The days of Willie Horton seem pretty far away now, which isn't to say they couldn't come back."—AP

BANGLADESH PUBLISHERS BURN BOOKS IN PROTEST OF KILLINGS

DHAKA: Angry publishers burnt books and closed their businesses in Bangladesh yesterday, in the third day of protests over the latest gruesome attacks on secular writers and publishers by suspected hardline Islamists. Hundreds of people, including book-shop owners, took to the streets of Dhaka to protest perceived government inaction over a string of attacks including the machete murder on Saturday of a publisher of secular books.

"This is not an isolated incident. They first started killing authors, then the bloggers and now they've targeted the publishers," Mustafa Selim, head of the Bangladesh Creative Publishers Society, told reporters. Rallies were also held in other cities and towns to demand more protection for publishers, bloggers and writers, some of whom have fled the country or gone into hiding, rally organizers said in a statement.

Fears of Islamist violence have been rising in mainly moderate Muslim-majority Bangladesh after four atheist bloggers were murdered this year, also by

machete-wielding attackers. Bangladesh has also been rocked by the recent murders of an Italian aid worker and a Japanese farmer, while Dhaka's main Shiite shrine was bombed last month, killing two people and wounding dozens.

After staging protests on Saturday night and Sunday, secular activists including hundreds of teachers, writers and students also resumed their rallies at Dhaka University, the nation's main secular bastion. "The murderers should be caught as soon as possible. There must be an end to

this nightmare," publisher Farid Ahmed, who received a death threat in a text message on Sunday, told AFP.

On Saturday, a gang of suspected Islamists armed with machetes and cleavers hacked to death Faisal Arefin Dipan in his publishing office in the capital. Two secular bloggers and another publisher were also badly injured in a similar and separate attack hours earlier, leaving them lying in pools of blood in their

Dhaka office. Al-Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS) claimed responsibility for the attacks, calling the victims "atheists and blasphemers". The group, which claims to be behind the previous killings, also threatened to murder more writers and publishers who defamed Islam. Police say they are skeptical of the AQIS claim of responsibility and suspect a banned local Islamist outfit is behind all of them. Both of the publishers targeted on Saturday put out books by Avijit Roy, a US-born atheist writer of Bangladeshi origin, who was hacked to death in February. —AFP



NEW DELHI: In this Oct. 23, 2015 file photo, an Indian writer assists another with tying a black band around her mouth as a mark of protest before participating in a silent protest march outside Sahitya Akademi, or National Academy of Letters. —AP

MODI FACES TIGHT ELECTION, HITS BACK AT 'INTOLERANCE' CRITICISM

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, battling to win power in the big heartland state of Bihar and push his stalled economic reforms, hit back at his critics yesterday for trying to paint a picture of intolerance in the country. Rivals say the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party is whipping up religious tensions to win the election in Bihar, the country's third most populous state and critical to Modi's plans to improve his party's strength in the upper house of parliament.

Modi's administration has faced a rising tide of criticism for failing to rein in hardline Hindu groups that are campaigning for issues such as cow worship in a multi-faith country. But Modi, addressing a political rally in Purnea, sidestepped the criticism and accused his long-time foe, the Congress party, of playing partisan politics.

Re-opening a sensitive chapter in recent history, Modi said that hundreds of Sikhs were massacred in Delhi by supporters of the Congress soon after the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards in November 1984. "Should the Congress be giving lessons in tolerance?" he said to thunderous applause from supporters wearing saffron headbands. "Sikh families in Delhi are still grieving. Have you tried to wipe their tears."

Modi himself has faced allegations that he looked the other way or was complicit in attacks on Muslims in Gujarat state that he governed after a mob set a train carrying Hindu pilgrims on fire. He has denied the charges and a Supreme Court orderedinvestigation absolved him of any wrongdoing. Hindus make up around 80 percent of India's 1.2 billion population, followed by Muslims, Sikhs and Christians.

Since the BJP swept to power, Hindu groups have stepped up a campaign against intermarriage with Muslims as "love jihad", begun rewriting school textbooks to reflect a nationalist view and are demanding a ban on cow slaughter. Last month a Muslim man was beaten to death by a mob for eating beef and another was murdered for espousing atheism, stoking fears for India's tradition of tolerance.

"There is extreme intolerance," Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan told India Today television channel, the latest artist to speak up after a string of writers returned awards given by the government in protest against attacks on religious minorities. Central Bank governor Raghuram Rajan also called for greater tolerance. Modi didn't respond to those comments, but promised voters that he would lift Bihar out of poverty. Control of Bihar, which lies next to most populous Uttar Pradesh, is key to Modi's ambition to secure a majority in the upper house of parliament. —Reuters

NEPAL POLICE SHOOT BORDER PROTESTERS, INDIAN KILLED

ANGER OVER NEW CONSTITUTION BOILS OVER

KATHMANDU: Nepal police yesterday fired into a crowd of protesters trying to block a key border checkpoint and killed an Indian civilian as anger over a new constitution boiled over. The violence came hours after police forcibly broke up the blockade in the southern town of Birgunj on the border with India that has led to crippling fuel shortages and cut off access to other vital supplies in the landlocked Himalayan nation.

"Police warned the protesters to disperse but they did not listen, compelling security forces to open fire," said Nepal police spokesman Kamal Singh Bam. "An Indian national was wounded and died after being taken to hospital." Four police were injured in clashes at the checkpoint in Birgunj, Bam

Bam could not confirm if any other civilians were wounded. A local party leader involved in the protests said seven people had been hurt, including a 11-year-old boy struck by a rubber bullet. "When police fired rubber bullets at the demonstrators, one hit the child on the head, leaving him bleeding," said Shiva Patel, general secretary of the regional Sadbhawana party.

Earlier, police used batons to disperse ethnic minority protesters angered by Nepal's new constitution, which they say will leave them politically marginalized. Patel said hundreds more protestors had arrived at the scene after police beat up demonstrators and burned down their tents to force an end to the blockade that began on September 24.

"We were outnumbered then but now hundreds more have descended on the bridge and blocked it again," he said. The protesters, from Nepal's Madhesi ethnic minority, want the government to change the constitution because they say a new federal structure it lays out will mean they are under-represented in parliament. The latest violence dashed

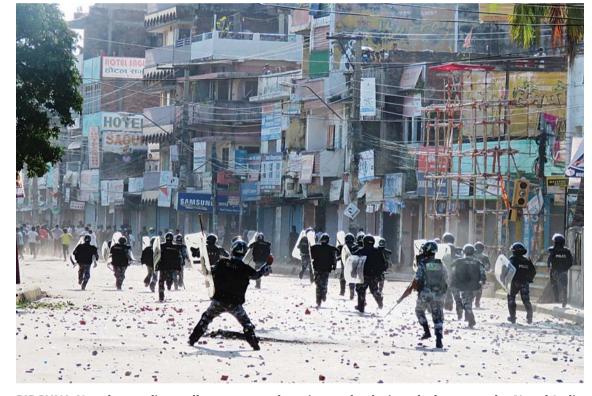
hopes of a compromise raised when the government and protesting parties held weekend talks. Madhesi leaders announced a halt to negotiations. "We will not sit at a table and hold talks with the government until the police stop attacking our people," said Laxman Lal Karna, vice-chair of the Sadbhawana party.

More than 40 people have been killed in clashes between police and people protesting against the constitution, which was intro-

resolved by force," its foreign ministry said in a statement. "Causes underlying the present state of confrontation need to addressed by the Government of Nepal credibly and effectively."

The fuel crisis has soured ties between Nepal and its powerful neighbor, with authorities in Kathmandu accusing New Delhi of imposing an "unofficial blockade" to show its dissatisfaction with the new constitution. Nepal has long sourced all its fuel from India, but sign of fuel trucks entering Nepal, although a customs official told AFP more than 100 empty Indian trucks left stranded in Nepal due to the blockade had crossed over to India during the brief period the border was open.

The disruption prompted Nepal to sign its first-ever fuel supply agreement with China last week, ending a decades-long monopoly by India. Beijing also agreed to donate 1.3 million liters of petrol to Nepal to try to ease shortages.



BIRGUNJ: Nepalese police walk protesters throwing rocks during clashes near the Nepal-India border at Birgunj, some 90 km south of Kathmandu. —AFP

duced in September after a deadly earthquake pushed warring political parties to reach agreement.

Ties with India sour

India, which has repeatedly urged dialogue, said it was "deeply concerned" by yesterday's violence. "Issues facing Nepal are political in nature and cannot be

the movement of cargo across Birgunj and other Indian border checkpoints had slowed to a crawl since the blockade began.

New Delhi denies the charge and has urged dialogue with the protesting Madhesis, who have close cultural, linguistic and family ties to Indians living across the border. There was no immediate

The blockade has also forced international aid organizations to halt relief operations for tens of thousands of quake victims just weeks before winter. The constitution was meant to cement peace and bolster Nepal's transformation to a democratic republic after decades of political instability and a 10-year Maoist insurgency —AFP

SWAT VALLEY: An undated photograph shows prominent Pakistani Pashtun leader Afzal Khan Lala (right) posing for a photograph with a friend. —AFP

PAKISTAN'S ANTI-TALEBAN HERO DIES IN BED AGED 89

hero who defied the Taleban in Swat Valley and survived more than 10 assassination attempts by the insurgents has died peacefully of liver disease at the age of 89, his family said yesterday.

Prominent Pashtun leader Afzal Khan Lala was feted nationwide after his stand in Swat, where he vowed he would stay despite multiple attacks on his home by the Taleban and a bloody military offensive that displaced millions. He was buried late Sunday in the scenic valley after he passed away in a military hospital in the garrison city of Rawalpindi, his nephew told AFP.

In 2007 the valley-previously a popular international tourist destination, which lies in the shadow of the Hindu Kush in the northwestern province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-fell under the control of the Pakistani Taleban. Radical cleric Maulana Fazlullah mounted a violent campaign in which his followers beheaded opponents, burnt schools and fought to enforce Islamic sharia

Steadfast fighter

Lala refused to leave his home, vowing "I would rather die than cede ground to the Taleban". He survived his first Taleban assassination attempt in 2008 when militants opened fire on his car, killing his two security guards. Most

PESHAWAR: A Pakistani nationalist of the further 10 attacks were on his home in Matta-also Fazullah's native village and the then-headquarters of the Taleban. The militants torched around 80 shops he owned and destroyed his fruit orchards.

He also stood firm during a bloody offensive by the Pakistan army which saw millions flee the valley. Originally called Muhammad Afzal Khan, Lala graduated with a law degree in Karachi before going on to become a veteran politician of the Awami National Party. He also wrote six books and headed a Pashtun Nationalist movement called PONM (Pakistan Oppressed Nations Movement) in the 1990s.

He was imprisoned from 1975 to 1978 when the government of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto banned his party, but was freed by military dictator Zia ul-Haq. Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed his grief and lauded Lala's services to democracy, local media said.

Afghan president Ashraf Ghani also offered his condolences, saying in a statement that Lala was "a moderate, kind and thoughtful politician, he served and fought all his life for sovereignty and people's rights... His death is a big loss". Lala was awarded Pakistan's highest civilian award for bravery, the Hilal-i-Shujaat, in 2009. He is survived by his wife, three sons and three daugh-

SRI LANKA ARRESTS MALDIVIAN WANTED OVER 'BOMB PLOT'

COLOMBO: Sri Lankan authorities have arrested a Maldivian man wanted in connection with an alleged bomb blast aboard President Abdulla Yameen's speed boat and forced him to return home, an immigration official said yesterday.

The man, identified as Ahmed Ashraf, was arrested on Sunday night in a Colombo suburb after the Maldives asked Sri Lanka to cancel his visa, immigration department spokesman Lakshman de Zoysa said. De Zoysa said he was not deported but instead handed over to the Maldivian authorities in Sri Lanka for repatriation.

"We acted on a request from the Maldivian High Commission," he said. "As he no longer had a valid visa he was asked to go back. He went this morning. His ticket was arranged by the High Commission." Ashraf is reportedly an close associate of the country's Vice President Ahmed Adeeb who was arrested last month over an alleged plot to kill Yameen, fuelling fears of fresh turmoil on the honeymoon islands wracked by political power struggles.

President Yameen was unharmed in an explo-

sion on his speedboat on September 28 that slightly injured his wife and was described by authorities as an attempt on the leader's life Media reports in the Maldives said Ashraf, one of eight suspects wanted by the Maldives in connection with the blast, was arrested on arrival and sent to a detention centre for interrogation.

President Yameen ordered a major shake-up of his security following the explosion and sacked several of his ministers, although it emerged over the weekend that an FBI report found no evidence of a bomb blast. Maldivian Home Minister Umar Naseer said on Sunday that eight suspects had fled the country and gone into hiding. The Maldives has faced tough international criticism over the jailing in March of its first democratically elected leader Mohamed Nasheed, after a rushed trial which the UN said was seriously flawed.

Yameen, who came to power in November 2013 following a controversial election, faces international censure over his crackdown on supporters of opposition leader Nasheed and other opponents of his regime. —AFP



MALE: In this file photograph taken on September 28, 2015, a person injured in an explosion aboard the presidential speedboat Finifenma (left) is transferred to an accompanying police speedboat. —AFP

UBER RAPIST TO BE SENTENCED

NEW DELHI: An Indian court is expected today to sentence an Uber driver for raping a female passenger in New Delhi, a case that sparked fresh fears in a city hit by sexual violence. Shiv Kumar Yadav could face life in jail for the rape and abduction of his 25-year-old passenger as she returned home from dinner with friends last December.

A Delhi court convicted Yadav of four charges last month but sentencing was delayed because of a shortage of police in the Indian capital, where a summit of African leaders was being held at the time. "The final argument on quantum (of punishment) and sentencing will happen in the second half of tomorrow," public prosecutor Atul Shrivastava told AFP yesterday.

The prosecution is expected to argue for the maximum punishment. Yadav was tried by one of the fast-track courts introduced in 2013 following the fatal gang-rape of a student on a bus in Delhi, a crime that sparked nationwide protests about women's safety in India. India recorded 36,735 rape cases in 2014, with 2,096 of them in Delhi alone. Experts say those figures are likely to represent only the tip of the iceberg.

California-based Uber was accused of failing to conduct adequate background checks after it emerged that Yadav had been accused of assaulting other women, although he had no previous convictions. The company was officially banned from Delhi, but the ban has not been well enforced and Uber cars continue to operate in the capital. Uber set up its India operation in September 2013 and now does business in more than a dozen cities. —AFP

REPORTER SHOT DEAD IN NEW PHILIPPINES MEDIA MURDER

MANILA: A Philippine radio reporter has been shot dead, police and colleagues said yesterday, in the latest attack in a country known for dozens of unsolved killings of journalists. Jose Bernardo, 44, was shot repeatedly by one of two suspects aboard a motorcycle outside a Manila restaurant late Saturday and died later in hospital, police said.

He had told his family he was meeting an unnamed person, according to authorities. No suspects have been arrested in the attack, which also wounded a restaurant worker, and authorities said they were checking whether it was linked to Bernardo's work as a reporter.

"We denounce this killing regardless of the motive. It shows that there is still a culture of impunity at work," the Philippines' National Press Club president Joel Sy Egco told AFP. Bernardo was a reporter and broadcaster for Manila's DWBL radio sta-

tion, as well as a reporter for DWIZ, another station in the capital, Egco added.

Staff at both stations did not have any immediate comment on the attack. "It's possible the attack was work-related or due to a personal quarrel," chief inspector Rodelio Marcelo told DZMM radio. "We expect to collect CCTV footage in the area and for witnesses to come forward to testify," he said. Despite a relatively long history of press freedom, the Asian nation is

for journalists, with powerful figures sometimes resorting to killing critics,

knowing they may not face punishment. Four journalists were murdered in the country in August and September, according to media rights monitors. Since 1992, 77 journalists and two media support workers have been killed in the Philippines for their work, according to New York-based watchdog Committee to

prior to a school visit. —AFP

SYDNEY: Australia has removed knights and

dames from the national honors system,

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said yester-

day, dismissing the ancient titles as "not

appropriate" in the modern age. Knights and

dames were unexpectedly revived last year

among the world's most dangerous places Protect Journalists. It said 52 other journalists were murdered in the country for unclear reasons.

> One of the world's deadliest attacks against journalists took place in the Philippines in 2009, when 32 journalists were among 58 people killed by a warlord clan intent on stopping a rival's election challenge. More than one hundred people are on trial for the massacre, with the verdicts expected next year. —AFP

S KOREA, JAPAN LEADERS SUMMIT BREAKS LONG DIPLOMATIC FREEZE

RESOLVING DECADE LONG TAINTED TIES

Korea and Japan broke an extended diplomatic freeze yesterday with a rare summit that saw agreement on trying to resolve sensitive historical disputes that have tainted ties for decades. South Korean President Park Geun-Hye and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo

SEOUL: The leaders of South unlikely to mend the many broken fences between the two neighbors, it was seen as an important step towards a more pragmatic partnership that is less encumbered by decades of rancor and bitterness. Park began the meeting by stressing the need to "heal the wounds of the past," and the presidential Blue

that he had agreed on the importance of resolving the problem "as early as possible."

"We should not leave obstacles for future generations," he said, while offering no new apology for Japan's wartime past. Japan maintains that the comfort women issue was settled in a 1965 normal-

began. It was a contrast to previous meetings between the two at multilateral events which had been studies in unsmiling, stony indifference, especially on Park's part. Since taking office in February 2013, Park has taken a particularly strong line on the issue of compensation for Korean comfort women. It has been a politically popular stance in South Korea where Abe remains extremely unpopular, amid suspicions that he wants to water down Tokyo's past apologies for its wartime aggression.

Unpopular Abe

But there has also been public support for a summit given the importance of the relationship between the two US military allies, who have strong trade links and a mutual interest in curbing the nuclear weapons ambitions of North Korea. Their meeting was only confirmed days before amid reports of behind-the-scenes bickering over how Japan's wartime sex slavery might be addressed.

"Remember this is the first summit between the two countries in nearly four years, so expectations need to be kept in check," said Hong Hyun-Ik, an analyst at the Sejong Institute think-tank in Seoul. "What's important is creating a normal channel for dialogue to pave the way for more workinglevel discussions and coordination," Hong said.

The two leaders participated Sunday in a trilateral summit with Chinese Premier Li Kegiang-the first meeting of its kind in more than three years. In a joint statement, the leaders vowed to work together again on improving trade and security between the three largest economies in Northeast Asia. The statement stressed the importance of "facing history squarely" but qualified that reference to old disputes by also underlining the necessity of "advancing



by then prime minister and ardent monarchist Tony Abbott-prompting accusations he was in a "time warp" and out of touch with voters. Turnbull, an outspoken republican, had been widely expected to dump the titles ever since he replaced Abbott in a conservative Liberal Party room coup in "The cabinet recently considered the Order of Australia... and agreed that knights and dames are not appropriate in our modern honors system," Turnbull said in a statement. The prime minister said Britain's

> Queen Elizabeth had agreed to the government's recommendation to remove knights and dames from the Order of Australia, which recognizes achievement and service. "This change will not affect existing knights and dames," he added. Speaking later to reporters in Sydney, Turnbull said the

matter was "a long way from being the most important issue in Australia today". But he added: "This reflects modern Australia; knights and dames are titles that are really anachronistic, they're out of date, they're not appropriate in 2015 in Australia."

Abbott's reintroduction of knights and dames in 2014 was questioned, but it was his subsequent decision to knight Queen Elizabeth II's husband Prince Philip which was met with ridicule and disbelief. Republicans, who favor cutting Australia's ties to the British monarchy, had already accused Abbott of turning the clock back to a colonial mindset, while the Labor opposition said the titles should never have been brought back.

"It was a farce, a joke, a national disgrace," Labor MP Chris Bowen told reporters in Sydney. "It is not appropriate in modern day Australia ... that we are clinging onto imperial Britain through our honors system, and we shouldn't be celebrating the fact that knights and dames are gone, we should be lamenting the fact that they came back under this government."—AFP



SEOUL: South Korean President Park Geun-hye, (right) and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pose for photos before their meeting at the presidential Blue House. —AP

Abe discussed a range of topics including the thorny issue of the so-called "comfort women," forced to work in Japanese military brothels during World War II.

It was their first ever one-on-one meeting with Park having previously rebuffed all summit proposals, arguing that Tokyo had yet to properly atone for its wartime past and

House said their talks did not shy away from tough issues.

Agreement on comfort women

"The two leaders agreed to speed up consultations to try to quickly resolve the comfort women question," the Blue House said, adding that Park had referred to the issue as the "biggest stum-1910-45 colonial rule over the bling block" to friendly relations. Korean peninsula. While it was Abe also told reporters afterwards shook hands before the talks

ization agreement, which saw Tokyo make a total payment of \$800 million in grants or loans to

The summit capped a series of moves in recent weeks-prompted and pushed by their mutual military ally the United States-to normalize relations. Park met Abe as he arrived at the presidential Blue House and the two smiled as they

towards the future." —AFP CHINA'S LEFTOVER WOMEN WAKE UP AND FIGHT BACK

HONG KONG: Demonized by the government, pestered by their parents and pitied by the media, for China's 'leftover women' the pressure to settle down can be unbearable, author Leta Hong Fincher says. But emboldened by a nascent organized feminist movement and the proliferation of social media,

some women are starting to fight back, she adds. "I think there are many more middle class women in China who are aware-who have had an awakening about their rights," comments Fincher, whose book "Leftover Women, The Resurgence of Gender Inequality in China" highlighted the precarious position of well educated, urban, professional women who choose to remain single after the age

From self help books to mass matchmaking events, there is now a mini industry dedicated to help the 'shengnu', or leftover women, fall in line with government and in turn, society's expectations of marriage and procreation. "The stigma of being a single woman is universal but the threshold in China the point where one is regarded as undesirably single is very young," Fincher explains. "Women are expected to settle down in their mid-twenties arguably before they know what they want and have built up their career or financial independence, while in the UK or the US it is perhaps late 30s, early

"But what really distinguishes mainland China is the massive state propaganda machine pushing the message that educated women should marry and have children young for the good of Chinese society." Authorities coined the derogatory term "leftover women" to shame or scare urban professionals into marriage, with the ultimate aim of creating "highquality" babies, she says, citing a 2007 China State Council plan to improve the population "quality".

For the greater good

Fincher adds that the "campaign was backed up by many agencies of the state" including government departments and media outlets. "Even the medical establishment has pushed the messagewomen in their mid-twenties have told me that their doctors are telling (them) to hurry up as they are passing their best child-bearing years, warning them if they wait their children will be handi-

The China All-Women's Federation, set up in 1949 ostensibly to protect rights, joined the onslaught, publishing a series of posts on their website with subjects such as "Do Leftover Women Really Deserve Our Sympathy?". But the release of Fincher's book in early 2014 triggered a debate on China's social media platforms and a modest backlash is now taking place.

Fincher, who lectures at the Centre for China Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, points to the huge response to 41-year-old actress Xu Jinglei's confirmation she had gone to the US to freeze her eggs, a practice banned for single women on the mainland.



Leta Hong Fincher

State-run broadcaster CCTV later ran a report on the subject defending the ban and highlighting the risks surrounding the procedure, prompting more than 30,000 comments on the station's Weibo account, many attacking state policy. "There was tremendous social media discussion about women's rights and their bodies. That kind of public discussion is relatively new."

Fincher describes the arrest of the so-called Feminist Five as an "important turning point" in China's burgeoning organised women's rights movement. The group were detained for "picking guarrels and provoking trouble" after planning activities to raise awareness about sexual harassment. Authorities, as ever, were quick to quash any signs of organised activism the women were detained for more than a month and remain under surveillance but Fincher argues the ensuing debate on social media forums such as WeChat and Weibo marked a step forward.

"Word got around quickly and people were talking about the issues facing women, and sexism in China today. Again, this kind of discussion is new. Younger women I have spoken to do feel they want more of a say over their lives. They are saying 'this is nonsense - I won't be bullied." she says.

Shame women into marriage

There are other signs the barrage is softening, Fincher adds-the China All-Women's Federation has deleted many of its harshest posts on the subject of leftover women, and the "brutal crudity of the state media" hammering home the message has lessened. Fincher says the government wants to shame well-educated women into marriage due to a desire to produce more babies from elite stock. She explains:

"They regard it as women's duty to the nation to have a 'high quality' child. To safeguard China's position in the world." Authorities announced Thursday that couples would be allowed two offspring, ending a controversial one-child policy that created a severe gender imbalance, in part caused by sex selection practices due to a traditional preference for boys. According to state newswire Xinhua, China has around 30 million more men than women.

At face value this should put women at a premium, but Fincher says the disparity tends to be greatest in rural areas, in cities women are still "persuaded to settle" as their parents fear they will be unwanted if they wait too long. "Most urban educated women are still succumbing to marriage pressure, but things are changing," Fincher says, adding that some are fighting expectations and delaying or avoiding marriage.

"Women in urban China are becoming more like their counterparts in Japan, Taiwan, or South Korea." But she concedes the abolition of the one-child policy could create fresh issues. She explains: "We are likely to see new propaganda urging urban, educated women to have two children. This may well create new pressures on women in their twenties to marry, so they can schedule in time to have two children, but it's too early to tell." —AFP

COMPLEX HISTORY BEHIND KOREA-JAPAN RELATIONS

SYDNEY: Australia's Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull speaks to the media

AUSTRALIA DECIDES TO

DITCH KNIGHTS, DAMES

SEOUL: Thousands of years of deeply complicated history bubbled beneath the surface images of handshakes and flashing cameras yesterday at the first formal meeting of Japanese and South Korean leaders in 31/2 years.

The two Asian heavyweights' relationship is so unique, so vexing, that the major accomplishment of the summit, which included a three-way meeting Sunday with China's premier, was simply Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and South Korean President Park Geun-hye rising, for now, above past disputes and agreeing to meet again. More talk, in a cordial, formal setting, is no small result for these two often bickering neighbors. Here then is a look at five things that unite and divide Japan and South Korea:

A long, uneasy history

Both Japan and the Korean Peninsula have benefited from centuries of exchanges of people and ideas. Much of the contact, however, has been bloody. Many Koreans are knowledgeable about aspects of Japanese invasions of the peninsula in the late 16th century that were repulsed only after massive slaughter and devastation.

Bitterness also lingers over what is seen as Japan's whitewashing of its colonization of Korea in the early 20th century, when Japan enslaved many Koreans in military brothels a dwindling number of whom gather for weekly protests in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul - and Japanese mines and

In Japan, the history dispute has sparked occasional fringe protests against Japan's 500,000-strong ethnic Korean population some third- or fourth-generation descendants of those who came or were brought to Japan as laborers during the colonial era. Tokyo says all wartime compensation issues have been settled under a 1965 normaliza-

Related, but very different, cultures

Japan has borrowed much from China and Korea over the centuries: language and religious and cultural aspects, for example. Envoys from the countries regularly traveled back and forth, stoking interest and curiosity, and even now a mutual fascination lingers. About 2.5 million South Koreans travelled to Japan last year, while 2.3 million Japanese visited South Korea, according to South Korea's Korea Tourism Organization. Japanese enthusiasts travel to Seoul for K-Pop concerts and to take tours of the neighborhoods of their favorite South Korean TV stars.

After South Korea began lifting its ban on Japanese pop culture in the late 1990s, Japanese movies, cartoons and other pop culture flooded in. The countries also co-hosted the soccer World Cup in 2002. The history spat, however, has cast a shadow at times. South

Korean stars who were once common on Japanese commercials have largely disappeared from them, and Japanese TV stations have cut back on Korean programming, partly over protests when the shows were broadcast.

Arguments over land - and sea

The countries contest barren volcanic outcroppings located in fishing rich waters roughly halfway between South Korea and Japan. They are occupied by Seoul but claimed by Tokyo. Japan, which calls the rocks Takeshima, says it has historical evidence backing its sovereignty since at least the 17th century. South Korea has countered that it has far older historical evidence that the islets it calls Dokdo are theirs. The countries also bicker over what to call the body of water between them. Japan, and much of the world, refers to it as the Sea of Japan. South Korea insists on its name for the water: the

Staying safe in a tough neighborhood

Both countries are strong US allies and the bulwark of US defense efforts in the region. Some 80,000 US troops are stationed in the countries, both to combat possible North Korean provocations and to send a signal to a rising China as it tests its territorial claims and U.S. military power in Asia.

Tokyo and Seoul are also worried about North Korea's nuclear bomb and missile ambitions and are part of now-stalled sixnation North Korean nuclear disarmament talks. After a South Korea-Japan intelligencesharing pact on North Korea collapsed at the last minute following a backlash in South Korea in 2012, the countries signed a threeway pact with Washington to share Pyongyang-related intelligence.

Economic ties - and competition

Japan and South Korea are major commercial partners, even as they jockey for markets. South Korea was Japan's No. 3 trading partner last year and vice versa. Japan was passed by China for the world's secondlargest economy several years ago, but its people are far more affluent on average, and it's a manufacturing and technology powerhouse with globally recognized brands.

Despite a decline in population and two decades of domestic economic malaise, Japan's prowess in fields from robotics to architecture and pop culture means it is a role model for many South Koreans. The mobile and Internet startup scene in South Korea, one of the world's most wired places, meanwhile, has attracted Japanese venture capitalists. There is also interest in Seoul in a major trade initiative that includes Japan and the United States: the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a yet-to-be ratified free trade arrangement among a dozen nations. —AP



IRAN MAY QUIT SYRIA TALKS IN SPAT WITH SAUDI

DUBAI: Iran said yesterday it would quit regional dominance between Russia and Syria peace talks if it found them unconstructive, citing the "negative role" of Saudi Arabia, in the latest twist in a spat between the regional rivals that bodes ill for efforts to ease turmoil across the Middle East. Increasingly bad-tempered exchanges between the conservative Sunni-ruled kingdom and the revolutionary Shi'ite theocracy have dampened hopes of improved ties after the adversaries sat down for their first meeting to discuss the Syria war last week.

"In the first round of talks, some countries, especially Saudi Arabia, played a negative and unconstructive role Iran will not participate if the talks are not fruitful," ISNA cited deputy Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian as saying. Delivering unusually personal criticism, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani appeared to reprimand Saudi Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir, who, on Saturday, lashed out at Tehran for what he termed its interference in regional countries.

"An inexperienced young man in a regional country will not reach anywhere by rudeness in front of elders," Rouhani was quoted as saying by state news agency IRNA yesterday. He did not name the 'young man' but Jubeir was assumed to be

Jubeir, in his mid-50s, took up his job on the death this year of veteran predecessor Prince Saud al-Faisal at age 75. World and regional powers including Iran and Saudi Arabia met in Vienna on Friday to discuss a political solution to Syria's civil war but failed, as expected, to reach a consensus on the future of President Bashar Al-Assad. Iran backs Assad in the war while Saudi Arabia supports rebels seeking to oust him.

It was the first time Tehran and Riyadh were at the same table to tackle a war that has evolved into a wider proxy struggle for Iran on Assad's side and Turkey, US-allied Gulf Arab states and Western powers who support rebels to various degrees.

Saudi Arabia wants Assad gone, and has provided support to Syria's moderate opposition forces, while Iran has sent in fighters and material support to bolster Assad. Less than 24 hours after the Vienna talks, Jubeir used a high-profile regional security conference in the Gulf Arab kingdom of Bahrain, which Iran's government did not attend, to attack Iranian policies.

Jubeir accused Iran of attempting to smuggle weapons to Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, as well as meddling in Lebanon Syria, Iraq and Yemen, something he said was "driving the negativity" in Iran-Saudi relationship. "We have extended our hand in friendship to Iran," said the soft-spoken Jubeir, adding that Riyadh had made the point "time and time again" that it sought good relations with Tehran.

"It is up to the Iranians whether they want to have relations with us based on good neighborliness ... or if they want to have relations that are filled with tension.

"That is on Iran." Tehran reacted with ire. Speaking to Iranian media, Abdollahian warned Jubeir "not totest our patience". He did not elaborate.

In 2011, US authorities said they had foiled a plot by two men linked to Iran's security services to assassinate Jubeir, then the Saudi ambassador in Washington. Iran denied any role. Riyadh had long refused to accept any Iranian presence at Syria peace talks. Dynamics changed after Iran sealed a deal on its disputed nuclear program with world powers that began to ease its international isolation. The start of Russian air strikes in Syria in support of Assad helped to persuade Western powers that as one of Assad's top supporters, Tehran had to be at the negotiating table too. — Reuters

SPOTLIGHT ON IS AFTER CLAIM IT DOWNED RUSSIAN PLANE

CAIRO: Despite a lack of evidence for the claim, the Islamic State group has stepped into the spotlight by saying it downed a Russian airliner that crashed in Egypt killing 224 people.

Experts say the jihadist group, whose local affiliate is waging an insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula, has managed to instil doubt about the cause of the crash in the rugged desert terrain. Both Cairo and Moscow have downplayed the suggestion that an attack brought down the Kogalymavia Airbus A-321, and US Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said he knew of no "direct evidence" that terrorism was to blame but did not rule out the possibility. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has urged patience until the results of a "complicated" investigation into the cause of the tragedy.

Experts say the fact that debris and bodies were strewn over such a wide area points to midair disintegration of the aircraft. On Saturday, the Airbus took off at dawn from the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh bound for Saint Petersburg, but disappeared from radar screens over Sinai after just 23 minutes into the flight.

Kogalymavia said on Monday that the crew "totally lost control" of the plane. Analysts have dismissed claims the jet could have been shot down by IS-affiliated groups if it was flying at its cruising height of 30,000 feet (9,000 metres). That left two possibilities-a technical fault that caused the plane to disintegrate, or an explosion caused by a bomb smuggled on board.

Kogalymavia that operated the charter flight insisted yesterday the disaster was caused by "external" factors, raising the possibility of a bomb. "What the Egyptian affiliate of IS has achieved is that it has shaped the narrative about what happened to the plane," said Professor Fawaz Gerges from the London School of Economics and Political Science. "That's what matters to IS-to show its capability, its invincibility when it comes to convince its support base that it is powerful to get vengeance against its enemies, particularly Russia."



SHARM EL-SHEIKH: Tourists walk by the beach at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh yesterday. A Russian passenger plane carrying 224 people and heading from Sharm el-Sheikh to the Russian city of Saint Petersburg crashed in Egypt's Sinai desert on October 31 killing everyone aboard. — AFP

The "Sinai Province" group, the Egyptian affiliate of IS, claimed that it brought down the jet in revenge for Russian air strikes against its jihadists in Syria. Analysts said the longer it takes for investigators to determine the cause of the crash, the more it helps IS propaganda.

"In terms of perception, it's certainly a temporary win for ISIS, in that they managed to control the public discussion for a while," said HA Hellyer, Arab affairs specialist at the Royal United Services Institute in London.

IS could not have shot down the plane, he said, but did not rule out a bomb on board. "The possibility that ISIS managed to get down the plane with an explosive device on board is theoretically possible, but that would raise other questions about security at Sharm el-Sheikh airport," Hellyer said.

"But to bring down a plane at that altitude you need a physical support base and ISIS does not have such a base-at least in that area where the plane came down."

The arid peninsula bordering Israel and the Palestinian Gaza Strip has long been a breeding ground for militancy, which swelled into an insurgency led by IS after Egypt's army ousted Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in 2013. The claim by Sinai Province "is credible", said Mathieu Guidere, a terrorism expert at the University of Toulouse in France. — AFP

KUWAIT OIL OUTPUT REACHES 2.8M BPD

Continued from Page 1

the Ministry of Electricity and Water power distribution points. The company noted that they had dug 376 new wells for crude oil and non-associated gas, 33 wells more than the targeted 343 ones for the past fiscal year, thanks to the enhanced performance of derricks. As for the production of associated and non-associated gas, the company said that it hit

5 CITIZENS, 16 EGYPTIANS ARRESTED

Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, an Egyptian foreign ministry spokesperson Ahmed Abu Zaid said that the Kuwaiti authorities had arrested the citizens involved in murdering the Egyptian during the fight in Hawally between Egyptians and Kuwaitis. He added that the deceased Egyptian's corpse had already arrived in Egypt for burial.

Speaking on a television channel yesterday, Abu Zaid said that the Egyptian foreign ministry was following in progress.

1.596 billion cubic feet daily, marking a rise of 187 million more than the targeted 1.409 billion cubic

the investigations that are currently underway. He said the culprits would be punished for their crimes.

He denied any leniency on the side of the Kuwaiti authorities towards the culprits. "They have shown full cooperation", he said pointing out that the Egyptian consulate in Kuwait managed to interfere in the matter and stop deportation of 14 Egyptians detained in connection with the fight on the grounds that both sides had violated the law and that an investigation was still

ERDOGAN URGES RESPECT FOR HIS PARTY'S...

Continued from Page 1

reforms and moves to muzzle critical voices. International election observers yesterday noted that elections were free and peaceful but criticized media restrictions in the run-up to the vote, including the seizure by the government of an opposition media company and criminal investigations of journalists for allegedly supporting terrorism or defaming Erdogan. The observers said the incidents of violence as well as physical attacks on party officials had hindered many of the contestants' ability to campaign

"Unfortunately we came to the conclusion that this campaign was unfair and was characterized by too much violence and by too much fear," Andreas Gross, who headed a delegation of parliamentarians from the Council of Europe, told a news conference in Ankara.

There were no allegations of large-scale fraud. Any hope that Erdogan would ease media repression evaporated yesterday after a court ordered police to seize all copies of a weekly political magazine for suggesting on its cover page that the aftermath of the election would mark the start of a civil war in the country. Nokta magazine said on its website that its chief editor and a manager were expected to be questioned for allegedly inciting people to violence.

Erdogan had called for a new election after Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu failed to form a coalition with any of the three opposition parties in parliament after the June vote.

Sunday's election was held amid renewed violence and Erdogan and Davutoglu argued that only a single-party majority could restore stability. Fighting between Turkey's security forces and Kurdish rebels has left hundreds of people dead and shattered an already-fragile peace process. Two recent massive suicide bombings at pro-Kurdish gatherings that killed some 130 people, apparently carried out by an Islamic State group cell, also raised tensions.

"The will of the people ... opted for stability," Erdogan said. "The developments in that short span of time made the people say: 'there is no way out other than stability."

Most analysts had expected AKP to fall short of a majori-

ty again, but the preliminary results suggest it picked up millions of votes at the expense of a nationalist party and a pro-Kurdish party.

Yesterday, the European Union's chief diplomat Federica Mogherini and EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn issued a joint statement praising the strong voter turnout of more than 85 percent as a sign of the Turkish people's commitment to democracy. They said the 28-nation group would work with the new government to advance ties. In Germany, a spokesman for Chancellor Angela Merkel said it was now important for Turkey to tackle challenges including fighting IS militants, solving the Kurdish conflict and overcoming polarization "in the spirit of national unity and readiness to compromise."

The lira's recovery yesterday came following a bad year. As well as suffering from the fallout of the previous election, the lira has been hit by expectations the US Federal Reserve will soon raise interest rates. That will ratchet up the costs for Turkish companies, many of whom have borrowed in dollars to fund their expansion. It could also see an outflow of funds from Turkey as the prospect of higher US interest rates encourages investors from around the world to reduce their exposure to emerging markets in favor of improving returns in the US. As a result, analysts were careful not to get too carried away by Sunday's election result as the fundamentals haven't changed.

"This rally should not blind us to the underlying issues in Turkey, such as the continued current account deficit which is causing underlying pressure on the currency as the market continues to fear the first Fed rate hike," said Simon Smith, chief economist at FxPro. Another worry in markets centers on whether President Erdogan will use the opportunity offered by his party's surprisingly big election victory to push for greater powers.

According to Derek Halpenny of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, any aggressive move by Erdogan on that front "could unsettle investors." He said that the AKP has also been well-known to interfere with central bank decision making, one of the factors behind the lira's recent slump.

"The strong gains we see for the lira are unlikely to be repeated going forward," he said. — AP

KUWAIT SENTENCES FIVE IS SUSPECTS TO 10...

Continued from Page 1

The court also decided to appoint a lawyer to defend Dashti after refusing to make his own defense. Dashti is himself a lawyer. The court also set November 16 to issue its verdict

against former MPs and brothers Mubarak and Nasser Al-Duwailah and Tareq Suwaidan for allegedly undermining Egypt and threatening to damage Kuwaiti diplomatic ties with Cairo after making comments on Twitter insulting to

In the meantime, the National Assembly human rights defense committee yesterday elected MP Jamal Al-Omar as its head and MP Askar Al-Enezi as the rapporteur.

Enezi said that the committee has received a complaint

from one of the 26 members on trial for alleged links to Iran and Hezbollah and that the committee will investigate the claim. He did not elaborate on the nature of the complaint but a majority of the defendants in the case have complained of physical torture by the secret service.

The Assembly's public funds protection committee also elected MP Abdullah Al-Turaiji as its head and MP Saif Al-Azemi as the rapporteur. Azemi said the panel decided to withdraw a report on Kuwaiti investments in London from the National Assembly. The committee was asked in the previous term to investigate suspected violations at the Kuwaiti investments overseas. The National Assembly will hold its first regular meeting in the current term today. It is scheduled to discuss a large number of

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P.O.Box 1301 Safat,13014 Kuwait. E MAIL :info@kuwaittimes.net Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

Focus

RUSSIAN MOTIVES IN SYRIA MOVE DEFINED BY TIMING

By Steven R Hurst

here's much speculation about Russian motives for intervening in Syria. The root answer lies in the timing. Vladimir Putin, the Kremlin boss, finally decided Syrian leader and Moscow ally Bashar Assad was in danger of losing control of Damascus, the capital of the civil-war rayaged nation.

That, in turn, would have crushed a key Russian foreign policy objective - keeping Syria together as a unitary state and maintaining the Russian foothold in the Middle East.

"Assad has not been doing well for a long time, so that leads me to believe they (the Russians) saw something lately that made them think things were getting considerably worse, and they had to intervene," said Eugene Rumer, director of the Carnegie Endowment Russia and Eurasia program.

Holding together the status quo has played heavily in Kremlin foreign policy reaching deep into the past. And the logic of Mideast and North African developments - the centrifugal spinning apart of Iraq and Libya, for example - was deeply unnerving to Moscow.

That was particularly true as the Russians saw the danger in Syria, a long-time client, arms customer and Moscow's only remaining outpost in the region. Beyond that, Syria is home to Moscow's only naval base in the Mediterranean.

Putin began Russian involvement in what is becoming his textbook incremental fashion. First, in late summer, he quietly boosted military hardware and personnel at the Soviet-era Tartus base on the Syrian Mediterranean coast. Then, in late September, Putin spoke at the United Nations General Assembly for the first time in years. He issued a strong argument that the US was failing against ISIS militants who hold a large swath of territory in Syria and neighboring Iraq.

The Kremlin fears

The next day, Putin said Russia might start air strikes. Those bombing runs began within days, but the targets were not ISIS fighters, as Putin had said, but the more moderate Syrian rebels Washington was backing against Assad. The northwest region out of which Moscow is operating remains a heartland of Alawite supporters of Assad. Alawites form a branch of Shiite Islam, a fact that also has made Syria a close ally of non-Arab but predominantly Shiite Iran. Tehran already was heavily involved on Assad's behalf in the four-year civil war.

But Tehran's help, along with militia fighters from Lebanon's Shiite Hezbollah, wasn't enough. "For some time Russian security and military leaders have been frustrated that even with the aid of fighters from Iran and Hezbollah, Assad's forces have been unable to hold their own," said William Courtney, a former US diplomat in Moscow, and now adjunct senior fellow at the RAND Corporation, and a former ambassador to Kazakhstan and Georgia.

The Kremlin fears, however, that the armed opposition to Assad will adapt to Russian air power, which will then lose effectiveness, Courtney said.

"These worries have contributed to Russia's recent professed interest in finding a 'political solution' to the Syrian crisis," he said. "The Kremlin may press for a while for Assad to retain his position. In some time, however, Russia and the West may both see him as expendable. The West views Assad as too brutal, and Russia (sees him) as too weak and ineffective."

Whether effective or not, Russia's involvement has led to resumed talks about Syria's future in Vienna. So far there's no progress but at least there are talks, notable for including Iran - at Russia's insistence - for the first time. They are notable as well for easing the Kremlin's isolation after its takeover of Crimea and backing for pro-Moscow forces fighting the central government in Ukraine.

The Russian action - whether causal or not - has now been followed by President Barack Obama's decision to insert a few dozen American special operators in Syria to bolster the Assad opposition, including highly effective Kurdish fighters in the north. That move is in contrast to Obama's previous vow to not put American "boots on the ground" in Syria.

While it remains unclear if Russia can succeed in Syria by holding together a unified state whether led by Assad or another strongman - it is certain Kremlin intervention was strategically timed, has undercut US tactics and has restarted negotiations to end the Syrian civil war.

The success of those talks, however, remains highly uncertain. —AP

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EU HAS TO DEAL WITH STRENGTHENED ERDOGAN

By Bryan McManus

he EU, desperate for help to solve the migrant crisis, has little option but to deal with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on his own terms after a stunning election victory yesterday, analysts say. They said Erdogan can now set the agenda for a European Union which dislikes doing business with a man who wants to join the bloc but also flouts its rules on human rights and press freedoms.

"The EU will be forced to swallow its pride and pander to the hubristic ego of President Erdogan," Natalie Martin, an expert on Turkish politics at Nottingham Trent University in Britain, told AFP. "In so doing, it will be dealing with a government which may be democratic but is certainly not liberal and which will demand a high price for its cooperation." Turkey is a longstanding candidate country for European Union membership but talks have stalled, largely on concerns over its human rights record which critics say went from bad to worse during the election campaign.

Yet in recent months Brussels has been wooing its Muslim-majority neighbor in the hope it will help resolve the Syrian war and stem the flow of hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants fleeing the conflict. The EU issued a surprisingly terse statement yesterday, saying that it looked forward to working with the new Turkish government-but stressing that it awaited an OSCE observer report on the vote.

Brussels notably avoided directly congratulating Erdogan, his Justice and Development Party (AKP) which won 316 seats in the 550-member

parliament, or Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu.
The OSCE said yesterday that the conduct of the ballot was hindered by violence including a huge suicide bombing at a peace rally, and a crackdown on the media. Critics and the opposition said Erdogan manipulated the press crackdown and a bloody new campaign against Kurdish rebels to convince voters frightened by the upsurge of violence.

'Lamentable cynicism'

Erdogan rejected the charges, saying he alone could ensure national security at a time when the Syrian conflict has stoked regional tensions and forced more than two million refugees to seek safety in Turkey. Anne-Marie Le Gloannec of the Sciences Po institute in Paris said that the EU had got itself caught between needing Turkey to solve the migrants crisis and holding up membership on its rights record.

"You cannot make membership harder and



ISTANBUL: Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (right) and his daughter Sumeyye Erdogan (second right) speak to supporters after morning prayers at Eyup Sultan Mosque in Istanbul yesterday. —AP

harder .. and then ease off for this supposed democracy-that is just lamentable cynicism, just because you need it to help you cope with a flood of migrants," Le Gloannec said.

But other analysts said that a stronger, more confident Erdogan might just see some merit in compromise. They noted in particular how the president has played hardball with Brussels on plans to control the migrant flows to Europe via Turkey in return for increased aid and speeding up the accession talks.

Sinan Ulgen, visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe in Brussels, said of the refugee crisis: "Perhaps it is time for both to stop this bazaar diplomacy, this 'I do this, you do that diplomacy.""

"I expect the government to revitalize the peace process (with Kurdish rebels) from a position of strength... which would help ease relations with the EU," Ulgen said. Ulgen also cited the possibility of progress on Cyprus, long divided between a Greek Cypriot south and a Turkish-backed north. Ian Lesser, executive director of the German Marshall Fund's Brussels office, said Turkey's international part ners would view the vote with "ambivalence mixed with wariness" in light of Erdogan's track record. "Turkey's European and American interlocutors are going to be looking very closely whether this election result simply reinforces those tendencies or allows Turkey to somehow turn a page," Lesser said. "Europe and Turkey have a lot of business to do together." —AFP

Washington Watch

INTOLERANCE ON DISPLAY

Dr James J Zogby *President*

President Arab American Institute

ntolerance, especially when it comes to issues involving the Middle East, is a destructive force that has distorted American politics and our policies, rendering us powerless to provide constructive leadership across the Arab World. Such intolerance was on display last week following Democratic presidential candidate Martin O'Malley's appearance at the Arab American Institute's National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Dearborn, Michigan.

O'Malley, the former governor of Maryland, is one of the three remaining contestants in the Democratic presidential primary. In his address to the NLC, he spoke passionately both about the Syrian refugee crisis and Israeli and Palestinian victims of recent violence in Jerusalem. What was deeply distressing was the intolerance some supporters of Israel displayed not only toward O'Malley's remarks, but the very fact that he made them at an Arab American event.

Because O'Malley was the first candidate to champion the cause of Syrian refugees and because the first full day of our NLC was devoted to the refugee crisis, we were pleased that he accepted our invitation to deliver a keynote address. Before his remarks, O'Malley asked to meet with a small group of recent refugees who had made their way to Michigan. He joked with their children, listened to their stories, and responded with compassion to their plight.

While his formal speech to the NLC covered a range of topics, his focus was on the issue of the refugees, how we welcome them and how we treat them. He explained that the issue was of personal importance, noting how as Governor he kept on his desk a sign from the 1890's which read "Help Wanted: No Irish Need Apply". "It served", he said, "as a daily reminder" that "we were all immigrants" and that many groups, including his great grandparents, had to confront intolerance.

Because his family overcame discrimination and exclusion, O'Malley said that he was determined as Governor to "make the American Dream a reality for all people". During his two terms in office, he signed into law a "Dream Act" that provided educational opportunities for 36,000 children of undocumented residents. And he actively recruited Arab and Muslim Americans to serve in his Administration.

Scourges of bigotry

O'Malley then turned his attention to the scourges of bigotry and intolerance and the negative impact they had on Arabs and Muslims, observing how "this Islamophobia and xenophobia had entered the debate about those fleeing the horrific violence in Syria". He pledged to fight this because "we are a nation of immigrants and refugees...[and] we must not forget what it means to...yearn for a better life". He then reaffirmed his call to the Administration and Congress to admit 65,000 Syrian refugees, closing with this challenge-"Will we listen to our better angels or will we slam the doors and build walls?"

O'Malley concluded his address bringing this same values-based approach to the recent violence in Jerusalem. His remarks were compassionate and balanced and that was enough to prompt some supporters of Israel to attempt to manufacture a controversy. In order to understand the intolerance of O'Malley's critics and just how distressing this entire situation is for Arab Americans, it is important to read the former governor's words, in full.

Here's what he said: "Like everyone here, I have been concerned by the recent developments in Jerusalem and in cities across Israel and the West Bank.

"We have lost 50 Palestinians in the recent violence. Many of them were only teenagers, their entire lives before them. We have lost 8 Israelis, including a 19 year-old and an American couple shot in front of their young children.

"Some of the people in this room have family members who've been affected. All of the victims were sons and daughters, brothers or sisters, or parents of children. All of them leave behind grieving families with holes in their hearts.

"This senseless violence produces nothing except more tragedy and mistrust. It does nothing to move the parties closer to a peaceful and lasting settlement.

"Both sides must take steps to end this violence and address the underlying causes of it. Both sides must make the resumption of final status talks a firm priority.

"Part of those talks must include fair, safe and adequate access to religious sites in Jerusalem and elsewhere. People have a right to worship. Provocative actions on either side must be avoided.

"I am a strong supporter of the two-state solution, which would meet Israel's critical security needs and affirm the dignity of the Palestinians to live as a free people in an independent state of their own".

The reaction to these words was immediate and

intolerant. Some Jewish and right-wing publications criticized O'Malley for suggesting that "both sides" bore responsibility for the violence. His campaign was pressured to "clarify" or "repudiate" the remarks. Despite the fact that O'Malley's rather benign framing of the issue closely tracked the language used by the State Department, and despite the fact that he proposed that equal access to "religious sites" be part of future Israeli-Palestinian talks, his critics felt the need to pummel the candidate into submission because he had committed the unpardonable sins of displaying compassion for and finding fault in the behavior of both sides and because he had done so before an Arab American audience.

Evidence of the disdain O'Malley's critics have for my community was exemplified by comments made by a "Democratic strategist" Hank Sheinkopf and columnist Jeffery Goldberg. Sheinkopf was nasty saying "Obviously seeking support from any place he might find it, a desperate former governor...has lost all touch with reality". Goldberg was equally dismissive noting that "Martin O'Malley [was] not going after the Jewish vote"-as if they are the only voters who matter.

We have had long experience with such intolerance that seeks to marginalize Arab Americans while punishing candidates who treat us and our concerns with respect. I was present in 1984 when a prominent Senator told Jesse Jackson that he could never expect to be a leader as long as he courted the "Ay-rabs". And I remember a few years later when Ron Brown, then Chair of the Democratic Party, was coming to speak to our NLC and was threatened by a prominent donor who told him "if you even go into that room to speak to them, we will stop sending money to the party". For months, in 1992, the Clinton campaign was pressured to exclude Arab Americans. And, in 2003, then presidential candidate John Kerry was punished after he denounced Israel's construction of the barrier wall at

Despite this distressing state of affairs, we continue our efforts to provide leadership for our community and a forum for compassionate leaders like Martin O'Malley to address critical issues facing our nation. Whether discussing America's responsibility to welcome Syrian refugees, the need to combat xenophobia and exclusion, or the need to demonstrate concern for both Israeli and Palestinian lives, we remain committed to open and tolerant discourse. It is only way to advance desperately needed change in our politics and policies.

DENMARK RECALL FORWARD FISCHER

DENMARK: Denmark have recalled Ajax Amsterdam forward Viktor Fischer to the squad for this month's Euro 2016 playoff against rivals Sweden as coach Morten Olsen seeks to end their goal drought. Despite creating plenty of chances, the Danes failed to score in their final three Group I games, finishing in third place in behind Portugal and Albania, and now face a two-legged playoff against their Scandinavian neighbours. "We had chances to qualify directly in the game against Albania, but we weren't good enough," Olsen told reporters,

referring to the goalless home draw in early September, as he unveiled his 23-man playoff squad. "We don't' have a player that will score ten goals in qualifying, so we all have to work very hard to put ourselves in that position and create chances, and obviously we need to be better at exploiting them," the 66-year-old added. Nicklas

Bendtner netted for his club Vfl Wolfsburg in a 2-1 home win

against Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday, but the former Arsenal

striker has struggled for playing time since moving to the Bundesliga after a barren spell on loan at Juventus. In contrast, Fischer was involved in four goals as Ajax thrashed Roda JC Kerkrade 6-0 at the weekend, scoring twice and helping to set up two more while contributing an inch-perfect pass in the

NO DECISION ON SA COACH

CAPE TOWN: There has been no decision on Springbok coach Heyneke Meyer's future, the South African Rugby Union (SARU) said yesterday following reports that he has signed a new four-year deal through to the next Rugby World Cup.

Local media have said that Meyer signed a new contract worth 5 million rand (US\$363,372) a year, excluding performance-related bonuses, before the start of the World Cup.

But SARU said in a media statement that only the organisation's General Council could approve a new deal for the coach and they will not meet until Dec. 4. "The Executive Council has the power to appoint management and coaching staff with the exception of the position of the Springbok coach, which is ultimately decided by the General Council of SARU," CEO Jurie Roux said. "That body meets on Dec. 4 when the position of the Springbok coach for 2016 will be on the agenda. "Once all affected individuals have been notified of any decisions a public announcement will be made, which is not expected before Dec. 5.

"We realise the great public interest in the subject and this is easily one of the most important decisions we take as an organisation. Supporters will understand therefore that we have many factors to consider before any announcements can be made.

"Those deliberations cannot take place in public out of respect for individuals and our governance structures." Meyer has said he would like to stay on as coach despite some major setbacks in 2015. —Reuters

BENITEZ: ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

MADRID: Real Madrid may top La Liga and their Champions League group but coach Rafael Benitez believes there is room for improvement. The 10-times European champions, who take on Paris St Germain at home in Group A today, are still unbeaten this season but Benitez reckons they have more to give. "The team are doing well but I am convinced that they will improve. I want to see the best team when we are competing for titles," the Spaniard told a news conference on Monday.

"We've got a great margin of improvement. I hope the best is yet to come." Under Benitez, Real have turned into a more compact side, playing tight at the back and looking to bring the ball forward as fast possible, giving the impression they are a defensive team, which the former Liverpool manager has been denying.

He has not been able to reunite his attacking trio of Cristiano Ronaldo, Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale since the Welshman limped off against Shakhtar Donetsk on Sept. 15.

Today he will again have to make do without Benzema and Bale but James Rodriguez is back in the squad after injury. "He's on the list, he's better. That does not mean he starts. He lacks match fitness," said Benitez. Sergio Ramos also returns to the squad but Raphael Varane and Pepe are expected to start in central defence. —Reuters

MICHELIN PILOT SPORT EXPERIENCE WELCOMES MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA PARTICIPANTS

build-up to a fifth. —Reuters

DUBAI: Michelin, the world's tyre technology leader, hosted a thrilling yet professional car racing experience for brand loyalists across Middle East and Africa for the very first time, at the MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Held at the prestigious Sepang International F1 Circuit between 17 and 24 August 2015, motoring enthusiasts from the region joined a very select group comprising of members from over 15 countries who were able to enjoy this rare and unique opportunity of experiencing the rush of piloting some of the most competitive racing cars in the world of motorsports.

"Michelin's affiliation with mobility has been long, prolific and rewarding, tapping into numerous opportunities to consistently strengthen its bond with safety and innovation," said Philippe Verneuil, Chairman and President of Michelin Africa, India and Middle East Zone (AIM). "The MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience is an event we consider of great importance as it allows us to demonstrate, to our customers and fans of motorsports, how the brand actually measures up to its high standards of safety and quality. We are delighted to have received participation from the Middle East and Africa region this year as they form a key part of our target market."

Celebrating its 10th edition in 2015, the MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience engaged Michelin fans from across UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt and South Africa this year, to participate in a series of contests run across multiple digital platforms. 10 lucky winners were awarded a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take part in a variety of racing experiences:

- * Formula 4 racing
- * Rally racing in a Citroln DS3 R1

* Touring Car racing in a Renault Clio IV The highlight of the event was a ride in laps driven by professional racers in legendary motorsports cars such as the Lamborghini Gallardo GT3 and the Formula

Le Mans. The MICHELIN Pilot Sport

Experience event was founded to offer customers the unique experience of taking part in a professional-style racing competition, demonstrations and workshops on tyre technology and safety by industry professionals, and to absorb the pioneering world-class motorsports credentials of Michelin. Michelin's innovative technology is tested to withstand extreme conditions such as in the field of competitive racing, to bring innovations from the 'Track to Street' and offer consumers the same superior tyre technologies for their safety on public roads.

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience event gives participants an in-depth understanding of why MICHELIN tyres are the key winning criteria of top racers in world-class motorsports. All activities at the MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience are conducted by professional and experienced instructors and renowned race car drivers in a safe and competitive driving environment.

Participating for the very first time, one of the Michelin competition winners Abdulaziz Al Rayes from Kuwait said, "I am absolutely thrilled to have had the chance to attend the event this year. Being an avid supporter of motorsports vehicles and racing, to have actually driven professional race cars on an impressive F1 circuit, and to have received training on how to safely and responsibly drive such vehicles by a team of professional instructors, has been an incredible experience!"

The MICHELIN Pilot Sport Experience (MPSE) reflects Michelin commitment to safety, delivering optimum and total performance through MICHELIN tyres to motorsports racers. It is testimony to the exceptional levels of performance that have translated into Michelin successes and wins in many world class races such as the World Endurance Championship. including the 24th consecutive win at Le Mans 24 Hours, the World Rally Championship, and the recent FIA Formula E Championship.



ANAHEIM: Nashville Predators' Colin Wilson (left) and Anaheim Ducks' Rickard Rakell (right) of Sweden, fight for the puck as Predators' James Neal (center) watches during the third period of an NHL hockey game. — AP

DUCKS DEFEAT PREDATORS

ANAHEIM: Chris Stewart had a goal and two assists, Frederick Andersen stopped 40 shots, and the Anaheim Ducks beat the Nashville Predators 4-2 Sunday night.

Rickard Rakell, Sami Vatanen and Andrew Cogliano also scored to help the Ducks snap a five-game skid (0-4-1) and get their second win in 11 games (2-8-2). Shea Weber and Calle Jarnkrok had Nashville's goals and Carter Hutton stopped 24 shots. The Predators, coming off a 4-3 overtime defeat at Los Angeles the previous night, lost consecutive games for the first time this season. After scoring just 10 goals in 10 games, the Ducks broke out of their funk with their second four-goal effort of the season.

CANADIENS 5, JETS 1

Tomas Fleischmann had two goals and an assist to lead Montreal past Winnipeg. Paul Byron, David Desharnais and Lars Eller also scored for the Canadiens, who have a leaguebest 22 points (11-2-0) and remained perfect at home (5-0-0). Mike Condon stopped 18 shots to improve to 4-0.

Chris Thorburn scored for Winnipeg, spoiling Condon's shutout bid with 6:03 remaining. Michael Hutchison gave up four goals on nine shots for the Jets, and was pulled after giving up Desharnais' goal early in the second period. Ondrej Pavelec replaced him and stopped 16 of the 17 shots he faced.

SABRES 2, ISLANDERS 1

Sam Reinhart broke a tie with 6:16 remaining to rally Buffalo past the new York Islanders. Matt Moulson also scored in the third period and Linus Ullmark stopped 29 shots to help the Sabres win their second straight and third in their last five. Calvin de Haan scored his first goal of the season for the Islanders, who have lost three straight. The loss was New York's second at Barclays Center in regulation. Thomas Greiss made 20 saves. Neither team scored until past the midpoint of the second period. Both the Sabres and Islanders clogged the middle of the ice, limiting offensive chances mostly to low-percentage shots from the perimeter.

LIGHTNING 4, HURRICANES 3

Ryan Callahan and Steven Stamkos scored in the second period to help Tampa Bay snap a four-game losing streak. JT Brown and Tyler Johnson scored in the third as the Lightning beat the Hurricanes for the 10th time in the last 12 meetings.

Andrei Vasilevsky finished with 31 saves. Eric Staal, Kris Versteeg and Jordan Staal scored for Carolina, which snapped a three-game winning streak. Cam Ward stopped 27 shots. Callahan tied it 38 seconds into the second and Stamkos gave the Lightning the lead with 1:06 left in the period. Brown and Johnson made it 4-1 before the midpoint of the third. Versteeg's snap shot pulled Carolina within two with about 4 1/2 minutes to go and Jordan Staal closed the scoring with 1 second left in the game.

SHARKS 4, AVALANCHE 3

Brent Burns broke a tie with 1:39 left to help San Jose beat Colorado, Burns made it 3-2 when he came down the right boards and sent a snap shot through traffic and past goalie Semyon Varlamov. The goal was upheld under review. Burns also had a short-handed goal in the second period, Joe Pavelski and Joel Ward added goals, and Martin Jones stopped 23 shots. The Sharks won for the second time in seven games to improve to 6-5-0.

Pavelski had an empty-net goal 19 seconds after Burns' second goal, and Colorado made it a one-goal game on Dennis Everberg's shot with 1:05 left. The Avalanche pulled Varlamov for the final 1:05 seconds, but couldn't get the equalizer. Jarome Iginla and Francios Beauchemin also scored for Colorado. — AP

NHL Results/Standings

San Jose 4, Colorado 3; Tampa Bay 4, Carolina 3; Montreal 5, Winnipeg 1; Anaheim 4, Nashville 2;

Buffalo 2, N	Y Island	ders	1.											
	Weste	rn C	onfer	ence			Tampa Bay	6	5	2	33	34	14	
	Cen	tral	Divisi	on			Boston	6	3	1	39	31	13	
	W	L	OTL		GΑ	PTS	Florida	5	4	2	32	23	12	
Dallas	9	2	0	40	30	18	Ottawa	5	4	2	35	36	12	
St. Louis	8	2	1	30	23	17	Detroit	5	5	1	28	30	11	
Minnesota	7	2	2	35	32	16	Buffalo	5	7	0	28	35	10	
Nashville	7	2	2	32	25	16	Toronto	1	7	2	20	35	4	
Winnipeg	7 6	4 5	1 0	36 24	33 24	15 12	M	etror	oolita	n Di	visio	n		
Chicago Colorado	3	5 7	1	27	33	7	Washington	8	2	0	34	23	16	
Colorado	_	•) Divisio		33	,	NY Rangers	7	2	2	31	21	16	
Los Angeles	7	3	0	24	21	14	NY Islanders	6	3	3	36	30	15	
Vancouver	5	2	4	32	25	14	Pittsburgh	7	4	0	24	20	14	
San Jose	6	5	0	31	28	12	New Jersey	6	4	1	28	29	13	
Arizona	5	5	1	30	32	11	Philadelphia	4	4	2	21	29	10	
Edmonton	4	8	0	32	39	8	Carolina	5	7	0	26	34	10	
Calgary	3	8	1	27	50	7	Columbus	2	10	0	25	46	4	
Anaheim	2	7	2	14	29	6	Note: Overtir			-			-	_
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Montreal	11	2	0	50	24	22	the loss coluit	III (L)						

Diokovic hopes to resume 2015 domination in Paris

PARIS: Novak Djokovic carries a ten-match winning streak into the Paris Masters, that begins late yesterday for the final event of the ATP season, with the world number one riding a wave of form which has lifted him to a record year.

The Serb has not lost at the Bercy Arena since going down to American Sam Querrey in the second round three years ago when he was also dealing with a family health cri-

Since then, Djokovic has claimed the last two titles, beating Canadian Milos Raonic in the final a year ago and Spaniard David Ferrer in 2013.

With another undefeated autumn run in

China now in the record books, there seems to be no limits to the confidence of the top man in the sport this season."I haven't lost a match, the last couple years during the indoor season," said Djokovic in the Paris

"I've played only Paris and London (yearend finals) for the last couple years. But still the perfect record that I have in these two tournaments allows me to believe that I can do well. "I'm not thinking about being unbeaten till the rest of the year. But, yes, that's an option. It's a possibility. But I'll still try to keep the kind of a philosophy and approach where the next match matters." All 16 seeds in the field receive first-round byes,

with number two Scot Andy Murray playing for the first time since losing badly in the Shanghai semi-finals last month against Djokovic.

Murray is concentrating on Britain's historic Davis Cup final against Belgium, later in the month, as he worries about how to make the switch from indoor hardcourt to clay. The British number one says he intends to play the World Tour Finals in London despite the fact he must switch surfaces within a week.

There were reports the 28-year-old would skip the eight-man season finale at London's O2 Arena from November 15-22 in order to adjust to the indoor clay surface set to be used in Ghent when Britain chase a from injury after booking one of the last first Davis Cup since 1936 from November

"My intention is to play at the O2," Murray said on the eve of the Paris tournament. Third seed Roger Federer arrives in the capital fresh from his 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 win over Rafael Nadal at the Swiss Indoors to claim a sixth trophy this season behind the nine of Djokovic.

Compatriot Stan Wawrinka will be hoping to regain form after an eighth firstround defeat in Basel. Czech Tomas Berdych, the number five, will try to back up his Stockholm title from last month. Japanese sixth seed Kei Nishikori will make a return two spots in the London World Tour Finals.

Basel finalist Nadal, who lost a Bercy title bid eight years ago, comes to Paris pleased with his form after putting Federer under pressure in their Sunday showdown.

A year ago, the Spaniard missed Paris while undergoing appendix surgery but the former world number one has recently been busy compiling solid results, including finals in Beijing and Basel and a

Shanghai semi-final. Compatriot David Ferrer, last man into the London year-end field, takes the eighth seeding after missing last week with an arm injury. — AFP



SHEIKH MOHAMMED CHASES **ELUSIVE MELBOURNE CUP**

SYDNEY: Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed will make his 18th attempt at an elusive Melbourne Cup win today as some of the world's biggest trainers descend for Australia's most prestigious race.

The 154-year-old Melbourne Cup over 3,200 metres (two miles) has become a global event and its bumper Aus\$6.2 million (\$4.4 million) prize money lures the big names of thoroughbred racing, from Japan to the Gulf and the British isles.

While Japan's Fame Game is the prepost favourite, a roll call of leading international trainers are trying their luck, some of them not for the first time. A recordequalling contingent of 11 foreign-trained horses are running at Flemington racecourse, where the Cup has gone to an international winner only six times.

Godolphin, the Dubai racing and breeding monolith owned by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, is back for the 18th time after three second placings-Central Park (1999), Give The Slip (2001) and Crime Scene (2009).

Godolphin's main chance this year is Sky Hunter, but the stable also has the locally trained Hartnell in the running. "You need to bring horses that have the speed, stay the trip and handle the ground and I think we have three good chances this year," said Saeed bin Suroor, trainer of Sky Hunter.

"At home, we have some good horses but they have to carry too much weight (in the handicap race). So, I have to think what is our best chance. "This is a great race to win, we're trying. We'll come back next year and the next year."

Michael Stoute has been a champion trainer 10 times in England and he has won races all over the globe, including victories in the Dubai World Cup, the Breeders Cup and the Japan Cup along with five Epsom Derbies and two Ascot Gold Cups.

But he has also yet to capture the Melbourne Cup and gets his chance with top-weight Snow Sky, owned by Saudi Arabia's Prince Khalid Abdullah, 10 years

"I love the race. For years I've wanted to come and be competitive in it," Stoute said. "We've brought a much better horse this time because we have to."

Newmarket trainer Ed Dunlop has come close to winning the Melbourne with Red Cadeaux-the 10-year-old gelding has been a runner-up in three of the last four years.

"If he runs in the top four it would be an astonishing result for a horse of his age to come to this country six times," Dunlop said. Dunlop also has a strong chance with Trip To Paris, who finished second to Mongolian Khan in the shorter main leadup race the Caulfield Cup (2400m) a fortnight ago. "Everyone thought because he won an Ascot Gold Cup he's a dour stayer, but he's not at all. The Caulfield Cup showed that," Dunlop said.

Irishman Aidan O'Brien is hoping to replicate the trailblazing successes of compatriot trainer Dermot Weld with Vintage Crop (1993) and Media Puzzle (2002) for his two runners, Kingfisher and Bondi Beach. O'Brien hasn't had a Cup runner since 2008 but both this year's entries have strong credentials. Bondi Beach won the English St Leger after an inquiry, while Kingfisher finished second in the Ascot Gold Cup. Another Irish contender Max Dynamite, will be ridden by Frankie Dettori.

The Melbourne Cup has been won six times by internationally trained horses: 2014 (Protectonist, Germany), 2011 (Dunaden, France), 2010 (Americain, France), 2006 (Delta Blues, Japan), 2002 (Media Puzzle, Ireland), 1993 (Vintage Crop,

Pre-post betting - 9/4 Fame Game, 8/1 Trip To Paris, 9/1 Max Dynamite, Preferment, 13/1 Criterion, 16/1 Almoonqith, 18/1 Red Cadeaux, The United States, Who Shot Thebarman, 25/1 Excess Knowledge, Kingfisher, 34/1 Bondi Beach, Grand Marshal, Gust Of Wind, Hartnell, Hokko Brave, Our Ivanhowe, Snow Sky, The Offer, 50/1 Big Orange, Prince Of Penzance,



Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed

MEXICO: Mercedes driver Nico Rosberg of Germany (center) celebrates on the podium after winning the Formula One Mexico Grand Prix auto race at the Hermanos Rodriguez racetrack. — AP

ROSBERG WINS MEXICO GP

PETRONAS

"BlacckBerry

MEXICO CITY: Nico Rosberg put his Texas blues behind him on Sunday to win the first Mexican Grand Prix in 23 years and show triple world champion Mercedes team mate Lewis Hamilton how it feels to finish second.

态 UBS

The German's fourth victory of the year, and 12th of his career, ended Hamilton's three-race winning streak a week after the Briton secured his third title.

On a sunny afternoon, with the 135,000strong crowd creating a party atmosphere, the Briton was left feeling sore after questioning a team instruction to pit for fresh tyres after Rosberg had already done so. The German, whose late mistake in Austin handed Hamilton the victory that clinched the title, led cleanly away from pole position and finished 1.9 seconds ahead after also setting the fastest lap.

It was Mercedes' 10th one-two in 17 races. "This is really the best podium of the year, what a place to win" said Rosberg, addressing a cheering mass of more than 100,000 from a podium overlooking the stadium complex. "Amazing day, great race," added the German.

With both championships already decided, Mercedes having retained their constructors' crown in Russia last month, the race win was all that mattered for the dominant duo at the Hermanos Rodriguez circuit.

Rosberg's win lifted him to second in the championship, 21 points clear of Ferrari's Raikkonen breaking his suspension after collid- one lap before having to retire with a loss of Sebastian Vettel who failed to score after a crash ing with Bottas for the second time in three power. — Reuters

that brought out the safety car on the 52nd of the 71 laps. The German was unhurt. Finland's Valtteri Bottas finished third for Williams.

HAMILTON ARGUES

The last winner in Mexico before Sunday was Britain's Nigel Mansell, in 1992 when he was with Williams. Mansell, who now has the last corner named after him, conducted the podium interviews on Sunday. Hamilton had hoped to follow on from his fellow-Englishman but had to concede that his team mate had won fair and square in a race with none of the first corner wheelbanging that triggered a controversy in Austin.

"Nico drove a fantastic race. No mistakes, no gust of wind," he said, a dig at Rosberg's U.S. error that the German blamed on windy conditions. Hamilton had clearly opposed the team's decision to bring him in for an unscheduled second pitstop, with sceptics inevitably speculating about team orders, and ignored it initially.

"Can I ask why?," he enquired. "My tyres feel good." He obeyed when it was made clear that it was for safety reasons due after an inspection of the tyres used in the first stint showed excessive wear. The high-altitude Mexico straight is one of the longest and fastest on the calendar with cars reaching speeds in excess of 360kph.

Neither Ferrari finished the race, ending a run of 20 in the points, with Vettel's team mate Kimi races. Bottas, who had been trying to pass on the inside when they tangled wheels, raced on to take a revenge podium. In Russia last month, Raikkonen wrecked Bottas's hopes of third place when he tried to pass on the last lap and sent his compatriot into the barriers.

"That is what you call payback," commented former F1 driver David Coulthard on the BBC. The stewards investigated and decided to take no further action. Vettel had a nightmare afternoon, picking up a puncture on the first lap after banging wheels with Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo and then spinning. Russian Daniil Kvyat was fourth for Red Bull, ahead of Australian Ricciardo with Brazilian Felipe Massa sixth for Williams.

The Force India pair of Nico Hulkenberg and Sergio Perez, the local hero and crowd favourite, finished seventh and eighth.

Perez, whose every appearance in the baseball stadium area had the crowd leaping in excitement, became the first Mexican to score a point in a home race since Pedro Rodriguez in 1970 and only the second ever

"I will remember this weekend forever," said the 25-year-old. "I think everybody has enjoyed the energy of the crowd and this must surely be one of the most popular races on the calendar now." Toro Rosso's Dutch teenager Max Verstappen was ninth and Romain Grosjean 10th for Lotus. McLaren's Fernando Alonso lasted just

JOCKEY HOPES CUP VICTORY CAN EASE ADMIRE RAKTI PAIN

MELBOURNE: Riding last year's favorite in the Melbourne Cup, Australia's oldest and most prestigious thoroughbred race, should have been a thrill for local jockey Zac Purton but ended up a nightmare when Admire Rakti died minutes after the

The Japanese-trained horse was the clear favourite at 5/1 for the gruelling 3,200 metres handicap at Flemington Racecourse but it wasn't long into the race that Purton felt something was amiss.

Weeks before, he had enjoyed a great ride on Admire Rakti, the bay stallion storming home to win the leadup Caulfield Cup over 2,400 metres.

Saddled with the top weight of 58.5 kg at Flemington, Admire Rakti faded badly over the last 600 metres in the Melbourne

Cup, finishing last of the 22 entrants. Minutes after the race, he died of a heart attack in a stall, casting a pall over a bumper public holiday crowd at the meeting. Admire Rakti was one of two horses to die after the race, with seventh-placed Araldo euthanised after suffering an injury to his leg when spooked by a fan on the

way to the stalls. Hong Kong-based Purton said he had been haunted by Admire Rakti's sudden death. "Because you have the whole buildup to the race-I was riding the favourite in it-and then to hear what happened and see the vision splashed all over the news, it was just really, really sad," he told local media in the leadup to Tuesday's 155th running of the 'race that stops a nation'. "It was probably one of the-I don't know what word to use it left me feeling very empty."

Purton will saddle up again on the race favourite, another Japanese-trained stayer called Fame Game, who bookmakers rate a 5/2 chance.

Fame Game has drawn barrier 12, a favourable position in the middle of the 24entrant field, after raising eyebrows with a barnstorming finish at the Caulfield Cup, in which he was last into the final straight before crossing sixth.

"He's not just the best horse, he's clearly the best horse," Purton said. "His best form is over a longer distance, he does prefer big tracks. "(A win) is never going to change what happened and that's always going to be with me, but hopefully we can atone for it have a little bit more luck this time." — Reuters

SHARJAH: James Taylor hit a maiden halfcentury in his comeback match to bolster England to 222-4 at stumps on the second day of the third Test against Pakistan in

Sharjah yesterday. The 25-year-old, playing his first Test since 2012, kept Pakistan at bay with an unbeaten 74 and found an able ally in Jonny Bairstow (37 not out) as the two put on an invaluable 83 for the unbroken fifthwicket stand at Sharjah Stadium.

That leaves England just 12 behind Pakistan's first-innings total of 234 with six wickets intact as they hope to gain a decisive lead in their bid to level the threematch series.

Pakistan lead the series 1-0 after winning the second Test in Dubai while the first Test ended in a draw in Abu Dhabi. Taylor kept England in the hunt as he survived a keen tussle between bat and ball, with Pakistan's spin duo of Yasir Shah and Zulfigar Babar threatening to take wickets.

But Taylor, playing his first Test since his two debut Tests against South Africa three years ago, batted with resolve, using his feet and sweeping to blunt the spin.

He pushed paceman Wahab Riaz for a single to reach his first half century off 100 balls. He has so far hit six boundaries during his 141-ball fight. When Taylor walked in England were struggling at 97-3 after Alastair Cook (49) and Joe Root-their two key batsmen-had been dismissed.

Taylor added 42 for the fourth wicket with lan Bell (40) to steady the innings as Pakistan attacked through both pace and spin. For Pakistan, Shah took 2-79 while Babar went wicket-less in his 25 overs and even a second new ball at 181-4 failed to dislodge the Taylor-Bairstow partnership.

"I think the bowlers were outstanding to bowl Pakistan out in a day and today was a better day to bat and obviously we wanted to get as close as we can and obviously now it's to try and get past them," said Bell, who had praise for Taylor. "He (Taylor) is a smart and a busy crick-

eter and what we saw today that he swept and used his feet and was busy and at the back end of the day he had a good partnership with Jonny."

Bell, who survived a confident caught behind appeal off Babar, was finally stumped off Shah. He hit two boundaries and a six during his three hour, 37 minute

Bell and Cook had steadied the innings





SHARJAH: England's Alastair Cook (rear) runs between the wicket during Pakistan and England Test match at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium. — AP

with a 71-run stand for the second wicket. England had added three runs to their lunch score of 87-1 when Cook fell to a soft dismissal as he pushed a Shah delivery straight into the hands of short leg fielder Azhar Ali. Cook hit four boundaries during his 119-ball knock. England had hoped Root would supplement Bell but the fastrising batsman

fell to a loose shot off paceman Rahat Ali and was smartly snapped low to his right by wicketkeeper Sarfraz Ahmed. Resuming at 4-0, England lost Ali in the seventh over of the day when he miscued an aggressive shot off spinner Shoaib Malik and was caught in the slip by Younis Khan for 14.

Cook, who made an epic 263 in the drawn first Test in Abu Dhabi, looked in no trouble as he negotiated Pakistan's pace-

appeared set for another half-century before he fell. Bell smashed Babar for a six ond wicket partnership with Cook. — AFP

cum-spin attack with confidence and early in the innings and ably supported his skipper, adding valuable runs for the sec-

SCOREBOARD

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates: Scores at close on the second day of the third and final Test between Pakistan and England at Sharjah Stadium yesterday.

Pakistan 1st innings 234 (Misbah-ul-Haq J. Bairstow not out 71; J. Anderson 4-17)

England 1st innings (overnight 4-0) A.Cook c Ali b Shah Moeen Ali c Younis b Malik 14 I. Bell st Ahmed b Shah

J. Root c Ahmed b Rahat

J. Taylor not out

Extras: (lb2, nb2) Total: (for four wkts, 92 overs) 222 To bat: B. Stokes, Adil Rashid, S. Patel, S. Broad, J. Anderson

Fall of wicket: 1-19 (Ali), 2-90 (Cook), 3-97 (Root), 4-139 (Bell) Bowling: Rahat 16-8-35-1, Shah 29-3-79-2, Riaz 15-4-23-0 (2nb), Babar 25-2-60-0, Malik 5-2-16-1, Ali 2-0-7-0.



NEW YORK: Kansas City Royals pose with World Series trophy after Game 5 of the Major League Baseball World Series against the New York Mets. The Royals won 7-2 to win the series. — AP

ROYALS END 30-YEARS WORLD SERIES DROUGHT

NEW YORK: Sparked by the most amazing rally in a comeback-filled playoff run, the Kansas City Royals captured their first World Series title in 30 years Sunday by defeating the New York Mets 7-2 in 12 innings. The Royals took Major League Baseball's best-of-seven championship final four games to one after scoring twice in the ninth inning to equalize and break open the contest with five runs in the last inning. "We never quit. We never put our heads down," said Royals catcher Salvador Perez, the World Series Most Valuable Player. "We never think 'OK, the game is over.' No. We always compete to the last out. And that's what we did tonight."

The Royals seized their first crown since 1985 with a record eighth come-from-behind playoff victory, including all four of their World Series triumphs. Seven of them were multi-run

rallies to win. "Our guys, you never count them out," said Royals manager Ned Yost. "It's just a team that never quits, never panics. They just find ways to win."

Lorenzo Cain scored the Royals' first run in the crucial ninth inning and smacked a threerun double in the 12th that sealed New York's fate, ending the Mets' dream of their first World Series title since 1986.

"We're real disappointed," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "I told the guys this is the time to enjoy it and be proud of your accomplishment, but when you get beat at the end of the season, it's not fun."

Inspired by a seven-game loss to San Francisco in last year's World Series, the Royals became the first team since the 1989 Oakland A's to win the World Series a year after losing it. They are the first team since the 1961 New

York Yankees to lose in a seventh game and win the title the next year. "I already forget about last year," Perez said. "I'll just enjoy the moment now. In 2015 Kansas City is number one. Who cares about what happened last year?"

Deadlocked 2-2 after nine innings, the game went into the 12th with the title poised on a knife's edge. Perez singled down the right-field line off Mets reliever Addison Reed to open the 12th. Pinch-runner Jerrod Dyson replaced Perez, promptly stole second base and took third when Eric Gordon grounded out to first. Pinch-hitter Christian Colon then smacked a single to left field to score Dyson and give Kansas City their first lead at 3-2.

Brazilian Paulo Orlando then reached on a fielder's choice that advanced Colon on an error by Mets second baseman Daniel Murphy.

Alcides Escobar then stretched his playoff hit streak to 15 games with a run-scoring double to left and Ben Zobrist was intentionally walked to load the bases, setting the stage for Cain's double to left center field to clear the bases and produce the final margin.

"There was no doubt in my mind they were going to get back and finish the deal this time," Yost said. New York's Curtis Granderson hit a leadoff home run in the first inning and scored again after walking in the fourth to give the Mets a 2-0 advantage.

Mets starting pitcher Matt Harvey, a 26-year-old right-hander, baffled the Royals for eight shutout innings, striking out nine while scattering four hits and two walks as only one runner got past first base.

But in the ninth inning, the Royals added to their legend as comeback kings as Cain

opened the ninth with a walk and stole second base, allowing him to race home on Eric Hosmer's double to left field and cut the Mets' lead to 2-1. That prompted Collins to remove Harvey in favor of Dominican closing relief ace Jeurys Familia, who promptly surrendered a ground out to first by Mike Moustakas that advanced Hosmer to third base.

"It's my fault," Collins said of staying with Harvey into the ninth when he could have brought in Familia earlier. "I've got one of the greatest closers in baseball. I got him in the game a little late. That's inexcusable for me."

Perez then grounded out but Hosmer raced home and scored the tying run as an errant desperation throw home by Lucas Duda was way off target. "A good throw he's out," Collins said. "Luke has got a great arm and threw the ball wide."— AFP

BILES AND UCHIMURA WIN 10TH WORLD GOLD

GLASGOW: The days of scooping a perfect 10 in gymnastics are long gone, even for Simone Biles and Kohei Uchimura, but both cemented their places among the greats by claiming their 10th world titles on Sunday. Already considered the finest gymnasts of this generation, and possibly ever-with Biles now holding a record number of world golds for a womanthe two all-around champions once again showed their ability to produce 24-karat-winning routines.

American Biles maintained her poise during a mesmerising balance beam display to obliterate the opposition with a score of 15.358, more than a point ahead of Dutchwoman Sanne Wevers. While wobbles and falls littered the programmes of the seven other finalists, with four gymnasts slipping off the beam, Biles was rock solid as she spun around 900 degrees on her right toes. She flew through her other acrobatic flips and when she nailed her full-twisting double back somersault dismount, it was game over for the others.

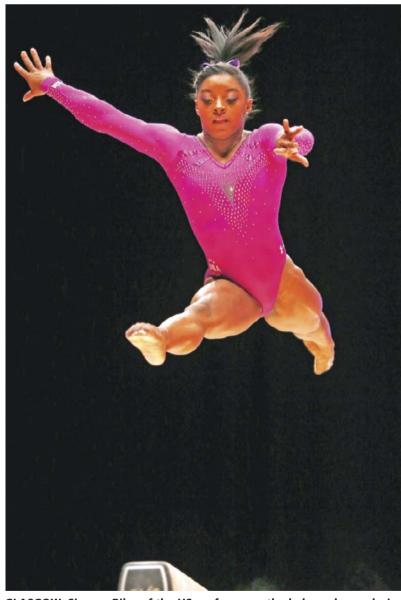
An hour later she was back to dazzle again with a hip-swinging floor-exercise. Her explosive tumbling passes-which included her trademark soaring double layout with half twist at the end- and sassy moves were beautifully choreographed to the music of 'Perhaps, perhaps', perhaps'.

After a score of 15.800 earned her a fourth title in Scotland, the 18-year-old might consider employing the services of a bodyguard as she heads back to her Texan home with a heavy load of precious metal. "It's an amazing feeling and I don't think it has hit me yet," said Biles, who won golds in the women's team and all-around finals earlier in the week. She also bagged bronze on the vault.

"I can't even wrap my head around it. I still don't believe my ability to achieve such things. It's crazy." Asked what she plans to do with so many glittering prizes, she added with a huge grin: "My mom ... puts them in a safe and I do not know the combination."

Solving the riddle of how to beat Biles and Uchimura will no doubt cause a lot of anxiety to their rivals going into 2016.

While Biles will arrive at the Rio Olympics a three-times all-around world champion, Japan's Uchimura showed that his appetite for gold remains insatiable.



GLASGOW; Simone Biles of the US performs on the balance beam during the women's apparatus final competition at the World Artistic Gymnastics championships at the SSE Hydro Arena . — AP

The holder of a record six successive world all-around titles ended the theatrical celebrations of American Danell Leyva, and his step-father-coach Yin Alvarez, with a high-flying routine on the horizontal bar that drew 15.833.

A performance that had the crowd oohing and aahhing with every one of his four release manoeuvres secured him a third gold in Glasgow, taking his overall worlds medal tally to 19.

It did not seem to satisfy Uchimura. "I want to see the Japanese flag rising more than three times," declared Uchimura, who is fast closing in on the record held by Vitaly Scherbo. The Belarussian won 23 world medals, including 12 golds.

While Biles and Uchimura were the leading lights on Sunday, Ri Se-gwang was saluting North Korea's flag as his country's national anthem was played for the second year running following his success in the vault final.

The 30-year-old took a step forward following his first vault-a piked double front summersault with half twist-and then stuck his tongue out bashfully when he failed to nail the second one cleanly.

But there was so much difficulty packed into his Tsukahara full-twisting double back effort, that the stumbled landing did not really dent his average score. His mark of 15.450 edged out Marian Dragulescu by 0.050 of a point-the Romanian jumping into the arms of his coach after winning his 10th world medal, 14 years after earning his first.

You Hao ended a week of disappointment for China's men as he captured their first gold medal in Glasgow by eclipsing Ukrainian defending champion Oleg Verniaiev by 0.15 of a point in the parallel bars final. He scored 16.216 on a day Asia won all three of the men's apparatus finals. — Reuters

KANSAS ERUPTS IN CELEBRATION

KANSAS CITY: Jubilant Kansas City Royals fans poured onto the streets of Missouri's largest city on Sunday to celebrate a World Series triumph that marked a first Major League Baseball championship in 30 years. The Game Five 7-2 road win in 12 innings over the New York Mets at Citi Field gave the American League champions their first title since a 1985 triumph over cross-state rivals the St Louis Cardinals, and only their second ever triumph.

Thousands of Royals fans crowded a downtown Kansas City entertainment district to watch the game on a giant outdoor video screen and at many surrounding bars. Fans stood 10 deep on the sidewalks to watch the action in front of some ale houses.

When the last out was made, they jumped, high-fived, hugged and leaped for joy. Cabs and cars honked horns, dodging ecstatic pedestrians.

"I feel amazing," Trevor Reynolds said as he thrust two triumphant fists into the air on a downtown sidewalk after the Royals sealed a 4-1 triumph in the best-of-seven series.

"We haven't won this for 30 years." Much of the crowd appeared too young to remember or even exist when the Royals last won the series. "The last time they won I was a baby... in 1985," said a joyous Terryl Robinson. "I'm feeling good and happy to be a Kansas Citian."

Fans had endured 29 years without seeing the Royals make the playoffs until last year, when they reached the deciding game of the World Series before losing to the San Francisco Giants by a single run. But on Sunday they saw their team fight back from a 2-0 deficit in the ninth, scoring two runs and sending the game into extra innings. The Royals then blew the game open with a five-run 12th to win the series. Kansas City, one of baseball's smallest markets, has feted the Royals across the community since the beginning of the playoffs. The city's many public fountains were dyed royal blue, while some statuary was donned in Royals garb. "I never thought would see this in my life," said Jake Miller, 24. "It's mind-boggling. It is something special beating a team from New York just because half the country thinks Kansas City is in Kansas. This puts us on the map and

that is what I really like about it."

"It pulled this city together in ways that it wouldn't in major cities," said fan John Weidensaul as he watched the game from a the sidewalk outside a bar.

Jim Schlaman remembered when the Royals, first formed in 1969, won their last World Series when he was just seven. "This is fantastic," he said. "They've had a couple decades of down years and it's pretty exciting to have a winner." — Reuters

ASIANS SUPPORT SHOOTING FEDERATION

KUWAIT: The technical meeting of the 13th Asian Championship which includes the shotgun, air rifle and pistol was held yesterday at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Olympic shooting complex with the participation of 33 countries.

The meeting was chaired by President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations, Chairman of he Higher Organizing Committee, in the presence of Secretary General of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Obaid Al-Osaimi as well as technical delegates of shotgun Abdullah Al-Hamadi and pistol and Rifle. Eng. Al-Otaibi spoke at the start of the meeting about the HOC carrying out all the necessary arrangements to ensure the championship success, adding it will be carried



out according to the international law and there will also be testing for doping.

Al-Otaibi stressed that the distribution of quota places is a definite right of Asia and Kuwait Shooting Federation, the organizer. Those present lauded all the facilities presented by HOC, and expressed



their support to the Kuwait Federation to take all legal action to demand the right of Asia to distribute the quota places.

Meanwhile, there will be 7 gold medals distributed today in the men's double trap, women's 10m rifle, men's 50m pistol and

women's 25 precision pistol.

The double trap event will see strong competition as it includes the Rio Di Jonairo quotas. Official pre event training on the men's 10m rifle, and 50m prone rifle, and women's 25 rapid pistol will also take place. Secretary General of Iraq Central Shooting Federation Dr. Mawaheb Hameed totally rejected the actions of the IOC and ISSF excluding the results of this championship from the Olympic quotas. She said the decision is highly unfair, and

unrealistic to deprive an entire contenant from its rights, and reflects the confusion in both organizations. She said the Iraqi delegation strongly supports Kuwait stand to face the conspiracies being made against it. Meanwhile President of Lebanon's Shooting Federation Butrous Jalakh slammed the arrogant decisions of IOC and ISSF, and asked all Asian delegations to face such decisions that are made by irresponsible bodies who work like mafia principles.

Jalakh said that he felt total rejection by all delegations to the exclusion of the results from Oylmpic quotas, adding that the decision carries with it personal attitudes and lacks professionalism in dealing with such events.





SPAIN: Real Madrid player Cristiano Ronaldo (center right) and team mates train at the Valdebebas stadium, Real Madrid will face Paris Saint-Germain in a Group stage of Champion's League Group A soccer match today. — AP

MADRID: Real Madrid coach Rafa Benitez has been relying on second-string players to get the club through a mini injury crisis but should have several of his heavyweights back when Paris St Germain visit in the Champions League today.

Playmaker James Rodriguez, striker Karim Benzema and captain and centre back Sergio Ramos all look likely to be fit for the clash at the Bernabeu as the record 10-times winners look to pull clear of PSG at the top of Group A.

Midfielder Luka Modric may not be available after he was taken off at halftime in Saturday's 3-1 La Liga win at home to Las Palmas with a sore hip, while it is unclear when forward Gareth Bale might return from a calf injury. With a string of regulars missing in recent weeks, Benitez has deployed youngsters like Casemiro, Jese, Lucas Vazquez and Nacho-who all graduated from Real's B team-

to keep their season ticking over. Real remain unbeaten in La Liga and are joint top with champions Barcelona on 24 points after 10 matches. The goal they conceded to Las Palmas on Saturday-a header at a corner- was the first they conceded at home this season.

"I told the players that these are the games they have to make the most of," Benitez said. "They are collecting points for us and they are helping us maintain our competitiveness so

players return it will be harder but the important thing is that they are available and they contribute to keeping the team winning."

PSG coach Laurent Blanc was pleased to come through Friday's Ligue 1 match at Rennes with a 1-0 win thanks to a goal from former Real midfielder Angel Di Maria and without sustaining any injuries to key players. Blanc, whose side are also unbeaten this term,

the team can keep growing. "When the other has been without centre back David Luiz after he sustained a knee injury on duty with Brazil last month.

> Real and PSG drew 0-0 at the Parc des Princes last month in their first competitive game in more than 20 years and are tied on seven points from three of six matches. A win for either side would earn a place in the last 16 should Malmo lose at Shakhtar



CARRINGTON: Manchester United's Marouane Fellaini (left) Wayne Rooney (second left) Ashley Young and Michael Carrick (right) attend a training session at the Aon

SCHNEIDERLIN HOPES FOR END TO MAN UNITED DROUGHT

LONDON: Manchester United's goal-shy players tackle CSKA Moscow at Old Trafford in the Champions League today determined to end a goal drought that now stretches to 295 minutes. Since Anthony Martial's diving header earned United a 1-1 draw in the reverse fixture two weeks ago, Louis van Gaal's side have registered successive 0-0 draws against Manchester City, second-tier Middlesbrough, who beat them on penalties in the League Cup, and Crystal Palace.

It is the first time since 2005 that United have gone three games without scoring, which Van Gaal admits is a "big concern", and Morgan Schneiderlin has urged his team-mates not to allow the issue to become a fixation. "It's frustrating when you don't win games," the French midfielder told MUTV.

"We have the players to score goals and we will score goals. It's not a worry for me. We've had the chances and sometimes it's just a matter of taking the time to make a good choice.

"It will come if we keep believing. We will keep clean sheets, that's not a problem, and we will win games, but we need to make sure it comes quickly." United's latest stalemate saw them held by Palace at Selhurst Park on



UEFA CHAMPIONS	LEAGUE
Astana v Atletico	18:00
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	
Man United v Moskva	22:45
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	
Eindhoven v Wolfsburg	22:45
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
Real Madrid v Paris Saint	22:45
beIN SPORTS 1 HD	
Benfica v Galatasaray	22:45
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	
Sevilla v Man City	22:45
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Shakhtar v Malmo	22:45
beIN SPORTS 7 HD	
Borussia v Juventus	22:45
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	

Saturday, where the visitors mustered just a single shot on target.

United's drop in productivity has coincided with Van Gaal's decision to move Martial, the Premier League's Player of the Month for September, to the left flank and utilise Wayne Rooney as a lone striker. Rooney's dismal form has prompted calls for the United captain to be either dropped or withdrawn to a number 10 role and Van Gaal's tweak in the latter stages at Palace, when Martial went up front and Rooney moved out to the left, suggests the Dutchman may be thinking along similar lines. Whichever attacking configuration he settles on, Van Gaal will hope it enables his team to register a first ever home victory against Russian opposition.

United drew 3-3 with CSKA when the sides first met at Old Trafford in November 2009 and their two previous home games against Russian teams ended in draws — 0-0 against Torpedo Moscow in 1992, 2-2 against Rotor Volgograd in 1995 — that led to early exits from the UEFA Cup.

In total, United have won only one of their eight matches against Russian teams and with the two sides level on four points in Group B, two points below leaders Wolfsburg and just a point above fourth-place PSV Eindhoven, it is a statistic they will be eager to improve on.

CSKA geared up for the trip to northwest England by beating struggling Ufa 2-0 on Saturday to preserve their unbeaten record in the Russian Premier League, which they lead by nine points.

But victory came at the cost of a muscular injury to Ivorian striker Seydou Doumbia, scourge of Manchester City in last season's group phase, who was substituted at half-time and is now a doubt for today's game. Playmaker Roman Eremenko is also doubtful, while full-back Vasily Berezutsky has been ruled out with a thigh problem.

CSKA's former United winger Zoran Tosic, who curled in the second goal against Ufa, suggested that his side would approach the trip to Old Trafford with caution. "Of course CSKA want to win every single match that we play, but when you face Man United at Old Trafford, you can't expect an easy trip," said the Croatian, who was on United's books between 2008 and 2010. —AFP

SEVILLA COACH WRITES OFF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CHANCES

SEVILLE: Sevilla coach Unai Emery has admitted his side have no chance of winning the Champions League and says their priority is to perform well in La Liga so they can secure a lucrative berth in the competition again for next

Europa League holders prepare to host Manchester City today, Emery said Sevilla must focus on improving their domestic form after they suffered another setback in Saturday's 2-1 defeat at Villarreal which left them in ninth after

The Andalusian club qualified for the Champions League after winning a second consecutive Europa League crown last term and are third in Group D on three points after going down 2-1 at City last month. Managed by former Villarreal, Real Madrid and Malaga coach Manuel Pellegrini, City are second on six points, a point behind leaders Juventus, and will qualify for the last 16 with two games to spare if they beat Sevilla and the Italian champions win at Borussia Moenchengladbach.

"The Champions League is a very attractive goal but if we don't feed ourselves every day in La Liga we will go hungry," Emery told a news conference after the defeat at Villarreal.

"I am thinking about what gives us our daily bread and that is the domestic league," he added. "The Champions League is something to be enjoyed but it is here (in La Liga) that we have to win, that is our reality. "We are not going to win the Champions League, La Liga is what conditions our present and future." City warmed up for the match at the Sanchez Pizjuan with a 2-1 Premier League success at home to Norwich City on Saturday which kept them top ahead of Arsenal on goal difference.



SPAIN: Sevilla's coach Unai Emery sits during a press conference on the eve of the UEFA Champions League football match against Manchester City at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan

Chilean Pellegrini, who is in his third season in charge at City, has a mixed record against Emery from his time in Spain, winning four, drawing two and losing three.

His record against Sevilla was poor, winning only five of 19 matches and losing nine. Emery

will be without Kevin Gameiro for City's visit after the French forward was forced off with a muscle injury on Saturday. He is likely to be replaced up front by former Spain striker Fernando Llorente, who has yet to spark after joining from Juve in the close season. — Reuters

BOTTOM SIDE GLADBACH HOST UVENTUS ON RECORD HIGH

GERMANY: Borussia Moenchengladbach host Juventus today bottom of their Champions League group, but buoyed by their record run of six league wins which has seen them shoot up the Bundesliga. Under caretaker coach Andre Schubert, Gladbach have won all of their league games to climb from bottom of the German league to fifth.

Schubert's six wins on his first stint in the Bundesliga equals the record Willi Entenmann achieved with VfB Stuttgart in 1986. To give that context, Bayern Munich's coach Pep Guardiola won only his opening three games in his first Bundesliga season in

2013/14. But Borussia are bottom of Group D in Europe after losing their opening two games: 3-0 at Sevilla and 2-1 at home to Manchester City before drawing at Juventus a fortnight ago. Gladbach's 4-1 Bundesliga win at Hertha Berlin on Saturday was a timely booster after holding Juventus to a goalless draw in Turin. Gladbach need to beat Juventus to keep alive their faint hopes of reaching the knockout stages. Since Schubert took charge, after Lucien Favre's shock resignation in September, Gladbach have only lost oncewhen Manchester City secured a 2-1 comeback win at Borussia Park in the Champions League. Gladbach have never lost to Serie A opposition in six games at this level, but this is their first year they are playing in Europe since the 1977/78 season. Unbeaten in Europe, Juventus will secure qualification for the last 16 if they beat Gladbach and Sevilla lose at Manchester City today.

Juve will be without Germany midfielder Sami Khedira who tore his calf early in Saturday's 2-1 win at Torino and came off after ten minutes.

"He told me he had a problem, but I risked him and used him in the game," said Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri. Juventus have had a disappointing start to the season and are tenth in the Italian league, but top Group D after wins over City and Sevilla before drawing with Gladbach.

The Germans are relishing taking on last season's finalists again and right-back Havard Nordveit, who scored their fourth goal in Berlin, says there will be a special atmosphere. "We're really looking forward to this special game," said the Norway international. "This is the second Champions League match at Borussia Park and the atmosphere will be top. "I hope we can play our game and then anything can happen. "It's a good time to play such a big match.

"I don't believe that Juventus will think: 'this will be easy'. "They also know that we have won six league games in a row, that we are self-confident and that it will be difficult against us."

Despite hauling his team up the league table, Schubert does not have a permanent contract, but director of sport Max Eberl has hinted he is set to get the head coach job

A win over Juve would be another step in the right direction. "Now comes the Champions League, and there's every reason I'll still be here, I think," said Schubert after Gladbach's win in Berlin. "For anything else, you have to ask Max Eberl.

"I'll do this job as long as I can. "I am enjoying working with the team and I like working in professional football, but it's not something I have to do." — AFP

BRONCOS ROCK PACKERS, SAINTS WIN

DENVER: In only the fourth meeting of teams 6-0 or better, Peyton Manning tied Brett Favre's NFL record with his 186th regular-season win and Denver rattled Aaron Rodgers into one of the worst games of his career in the Broncos' 29-10 victory over the Green Bay Packers on Sunday night.

Wearing the blue jerseys they did in beating the Packers for their first Super Bowl win in 1997, the Broncos piled it on in the fourth quarter, when DeMarcus Ware sacked Rodgers and the ball ended up in the end zone for a safety. The Broncos improved to 7-0 for the first time since 1998, when they won the Super Bowl after finishing 14-2. Rodgers was 14 of 22 for just 77 yards for the Packers (6-1) the lowest of his career in a game where he wasn't knocked out by injury.

Although neither quarterback threw for a touchdown, Manning was 21 of 29 for 340 yards. The Packers had only 140 yards of total offense to Denver's 500.

SAINTS 52, GIANTS 49

Drew Brees passed for career highs of 511 yards and seven touchdowns, and recently signed Kai Forbath kicked a 50-yard field goal as time ran out, giving New Orleans the victory in a game with a record 13 scoring passes.

Eli Manning connected on a career-high six touchdown passes, three to fellow New Orleans native Odell Beckham Jr., but New York (4-4) fell for the second time in three games. The 101 points tied for third most in NFL history. The teams combined for 1,030 yards. Brandin Cooks and Willie Snead each had two touchdown catches for the Saints (4-4), who have won four of five after an 0-3 start. Brees' other three touchdown passes went to Marques Colston, Ben Watson and C.J. Spiller, the last to tie the score at 49 with 36 seconds left. The Saints' defense then forced a Giants punt with 20 seconds to go. Marcus Murphy returned it across the 50 and fumbled, but Snead recovered. The Giants were flagged for a face mask penalty, setting up the winning kick.

BENGALS 16, STEELERS 10

Ben Roethlisberger's return wasn't enough to prevent the Bengals from getting off to their best start in franchise history. Andy Dalton threw a touchdown pass with 2:57 to go, and the Bengals picked off Roethlisberger twice in the fourth quarter.

The Bengals are 7-0 for the first time and have a comfortable lead in their division. The defending AFC North champion Steelers (4-4) hoped Roethlisberger's return after missing four games with a sprained knee would kickstart them. After leading most of the game, they fall apart in the closing minutes.

Shawn Williams' diving sideline interception at the Pittsburgh 45-yard line set up Dalton's 9-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Green, who had another big game against the Steelers. He finished with 11 catches for 118 yards. Reggie Nelson's second interception set

34, NY Jets 20; Denver 29, Green Bay 10.

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7 0 0 0

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3 5 0 0

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AFC West

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4 0

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AFC North

New England

NY Jets

Buffalo

Miami

Cincinnati

Pittsburgh

Cleveland

Baltimore

Houston

Indianapolis

Jacksonville

Tennessee

Denver

Oakland

Kansas City

American Football Conference

W L T OTL PF PA PCT

249 133 1.000

172 139 .571

176 173 .429

154 173 .429

198 132 1.000

168 147 .500

167 216 .250

190 214 .250

147 174 .429

174 205 .375

147 207 .286

125 159 .143

168 112 1.000

178 173 .571

195 182 .375 191 227 .250

AFC East



DENVER: Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) is sacked by Denver Broncos defensive end Antonio Smith (90) and outside linebacker Von Miller (58) during the second half of an NFL football game. — AP

up Mike Nugent's 44-yard field goal with 1:47 to go. The Steelers drove to the Cincinnati 16yard line with 4 seconds left, but Roethlisberger's pass went out of the end zone to finish it.

SEAHAWKS 13, COWBOYS 12

Russell Wilson had a scoring pass for the game's only touchdown and directed a late drive to the winning field goal, leading the defending NFC champions (4-4) back to .500 after an 0-2 start. The Cowboys (2-5) lost their fifth straight without Tony Romo in Dez Bryant's return from a five-game absence with

The Seahawks started the decisive drive at

National Football Conference

NFC East

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NFC North

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NFC South

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6 2 0 0 263 153 .750

6 0 0 0

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6 2 0

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3 4

5 2

4 4 0 0 215 208 .500

148 168 .429

160 137 .429

133 171 .286

174 130 .857

147 122 .714

140 202 .286

149 245 .125

162 110 1.000

213 173 .750

213 234 .500

163 199 .429

167 140 .500

109 207 .250

0 135 125 .571

their 15, with Wilson converting three third downs capped by a scramble that helped run the clock before Steven Hauschka's 24-yard field goal with 1:06 remaining. All of Dallas' points came on Dan Bailey field goals.

Seattle receiver Ricardo Lockette had an injury scare and came away with a concussion and was moving his extremities after a vicious block by Jeff Heath on a punt return. Lockette was carted off the field after a lengthy delay.

BUCCANEERS 23, FALCONS 20

Bouncing back after blowing a 17-point lead, the Bucs got a 31-yard field goal from Connor Barth in the extra period to beat the

mistake-prone Falcons. Matt Ryan tied the game for the Falcons (6-2) on an 8-yard pass to Julio Jones with 17 seconds left in regulation. Having squandered a 24-point edge the previous week at Washington, the Bucs (3-4) were in trouble again. Instead, Jameis Winston led an impressive drive on the first possession of OT, converting three times on third down before the drive stalled when he short-hopped a pass into the end zone for an open Adam Humphries. Barth made his third field goal of the game.

Atlanta got the ball but didn't even make it to midfield. On fourth down, Ryan was heavily pressured by Gerald McCoy and Howard Jones, forcing a desperation pass that wasn't close to anyone.

Despite four turnovers, the Falcons rallied from a 20-3 deficit, benefiting from a highly questionable decision by Tampa Bay coach Lovie Smith to go on fourth-and-1 at the Bucs 40 with 2 minutes to go.

CARDINALS 34, BROWNS 20

Carson Palmer threw for four touchdowns, three in the second half, and for 374 yards as Arizona rallied. Palmer had two TD passes in the third quarter when the Cardinals (6-2) overcame a 20-10 halftime deficit. His third TD of the second half, a 6-yarder to Larry Fitzgerald, gave Arizona a 31-20 lead. Michael Floyd had a 60-yard TD catch and tight end Troy Niklas had two short TD receptions as the Cardinals overcame four turnovers and won in Cleveland for the first time since 1985.

The Browns (2-6) dropped their third straight, and cornerback Joe Haden and safety Donte Whitner sustained concussions on consecutive plays in the third quarter; Cleveland lost two defenders and the lead in a span of 7:25. Quarterback Josh McCown had three TD passes. The 36-year-old also played much of the second half in pain after re-injuring his right shoulder and ribs.

VIKINGS 23, BEARS 20

Adrian Peterson ran for 103 yards and Blair Walsh kicked a 36-yard field goal as time expired. The Vikings had dropped seven straight at Soldier Field, and it looked like the streak would reach eight when Jay Cutler rolled to his right and plowed over safety Harrison Smith for a 4-yard touchdown with just under five minutes remaining. But two late scores lifted Minnesota (5-2) to its third straight win.

Stefon Diggs turned a short pass into a 40yard TD when he spun around Sherrick McManis and went up the left side, tying it with 1:49 left.

After Chicago (2-5) punted, Teddy Bridgewater hit a leaping Charles Johnson for a 35-yard pass that put the ball on the 27. Two plays later Walsh booted the winner, pumping his right arm as the ball went through the uprights. The Bears (2-5) lost star running back Matt Forte and receiver Eddie Royal to knee injuries while dropping their second straight game.

RAVENS 29, CHARGERS 26

Justin Tucker kicked a 39-yard field goal on the final play. Joe Flacco threw for 319 yards and ran for a score to help Baltimore (2-6) snap a three-game skid and hand the Chargers (2-6) their fourth straight defeat. The Ravens' six losses this season have come by a combined 30 points, and their only win before Sunday came in overtime.

Tucker's fifth field goal came three plays after a third-down pass interference call against Steve Williams moved the ball 21 yards to the San Diego 22.

The victory came at a price: Receiver Steve Smith tore his right Achilles tendon in the third quarter and is lost for the season. After being tackled at the end of an 18-yard gain, the 36-year-old Smith had to be helped off the field and could not put any weight on his right leg. Now in his 15th NFL season, Smith has said he will retire after this year. He had five catches for 82 yards before the injury.

San Diego's Philip Rivers threw three touchdown passes and went 28 for 37 for 301 yards, his franchise-record fifth consecutive 300-yard game. Two of his touchdown passes went to Malcom Floyd, including a 70-yarder.

RAMS 27, 49ERS 6

Todd Gurley rushed for 133 yards on 20 carries, topping 100 yards for the fourth straight start to open his career, and the Rams had three sacks and a safety.

Gurley, who had a 71-yard touchdown run,

and another touchdown, and Taiwan Jones got his first career score on a tackle-breaking 59-yard catch-and-run that exposed a New York defense that had been outstanding the first six games. Ryan Fitzpatrick left with a left hand injury on the opening drive for the Jets (4-3), who have lost two straight games.

TEXANS 20, TITANS 6

Brian Hoyer threw for 235 yards and two touchdowns, and Houston tied a franchise record with seven sacks. A 21-yard touchdown reception by DeAndre Hopkins put Houston on top in the second quarter and the Texans (3-5) didn't trail after that. Nate Washington's 42-yard TD catch extended the lead.

Zach Mettenberger threw for 171 yards with an interception in his second straight start in place of rookie Marcus Mariota, who is out with a knee injury. Mettenberger was hurried and harassed all day to remain winless in eight career starts, with three losses against the Texans.

The Titans (1-6) had three turnovers in their sixth straight loss since a win over Tampa Bay in the opener. Whitney Mercilus had a career-high 3 1/2 sacks and J.J. Watt added 2 1/2, including one where he caused a fumble that the Texans recovered early in the fourth quarter.



PITTSBURGH: Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver AJ Green (18) makes a catch and takes it in for a touchdown as Pittsburgh Steelers defensive back Ross Cockrell (31) and cornerback William Gay (22) defend in the second half of an NFL football game. — AP

is the first rookie to open his career with four consecutive 100-yard games, according to STATS, with data available since 1991.

Tavon Austin caught a 66-yard touchdown pass and ran for a 2-yard score, compensating for an early lost fumble. The Rams (4-3) are 3-0 against the NFC West for the first time since 2004, and they're above .500 this late in the season for the first time since 2006. The St. Louis defense hasn't allowed a touchdown the last two games, permitting just four field goals.

The 49ers (2-6) were hit hard by injuries, losing Reggie Bush early, and haven't scored a touchdown in two games. They've lost six of seven, are 0-3 in the division and have lost two straight to St. Louis for the first time since 2004.

RAIDERS 34, JETS 20

Derek Carr threw for 333 yards and four touchdowns to help Oakland pick apart the Jets' vaunted defense. Latavius Murray ran for 113 yards, Andre Holmes caught two touchdown passes and Charles Woodson intercepted his league-leading fifth pass of the season to give the Raiders (4-3) their first winning

record this late in the season since 2011. Michael Crabtree had 102 yards receiving

CHIEFS 45, LIONS 10

Alex Smith threw for 145 yards and two touchdowns, and ran for 78 yards and another TD to lead Kansas City over Detroit Lions at Wemblev Stadium.

Smith scrambled his way through the Detroit defense for some big plays, including a career-high 49-yard run in the second quarter that set up his 12-yard touchdown run.

The Chiefs (3-5) were at Wembley for the first time, while the Lions (1-7) played in London for the second straight season.

De'Anthony Thomas, Charcandrick West and Spencer Ware also rushed for touchdowns for the Chiefs. Thomas ended up with 100 total yards, while West ran for 97. Travis Kelce and Jeremy Maclin caught TD passes in the second half. The Lions were playing for the first time since offensive coordinator Jim Bob Cooter took over for the fired Joe Lombardi. And although the offense got moving on the opening possession, it stalled horribly after that. Matthew Stafford threw for 217 yards, one touchdown and two interceptions. Also, Calvin Johnson had 85 receiving yards, while Joique Bell ran for 56. But after the Lions took a 3-0 lead on 35-yard field goal from Matt Prater, Detroit was hapless with the ball. —AP



NFL Results/Standings

Kansas City 45. Detroit 10: Tampa Bay 23. Atlanta 20 (OT): Arizona 34. Cleveland 20: St. Louis 27.

San Francisco 6; New Orleans 52, NY Giants 49; Minnesota 23, Chicago 20; Baltimore 29, San

Diego 26; Cincinnati 16, Pittsburgh 10; Houston 20, Tennessee 6; Seattle 13, Dallas 12; Oakland

NY Giants

Washington

Philadelphia

Green Bay

Minnesota

Chicago

Detroit

Carolina

Atlanta

Arizona

St. Louis

Seattle

San Francisco

New Orleans

Tampa Bay

Dallas

ATLANTA: Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Jameis Winston (3) flies over Atlanta Falcons free safety Ricardo Allen (37) as Winston tries for the first down during the second of an NFL football game. — AP

Rosberg wins Mexico GP



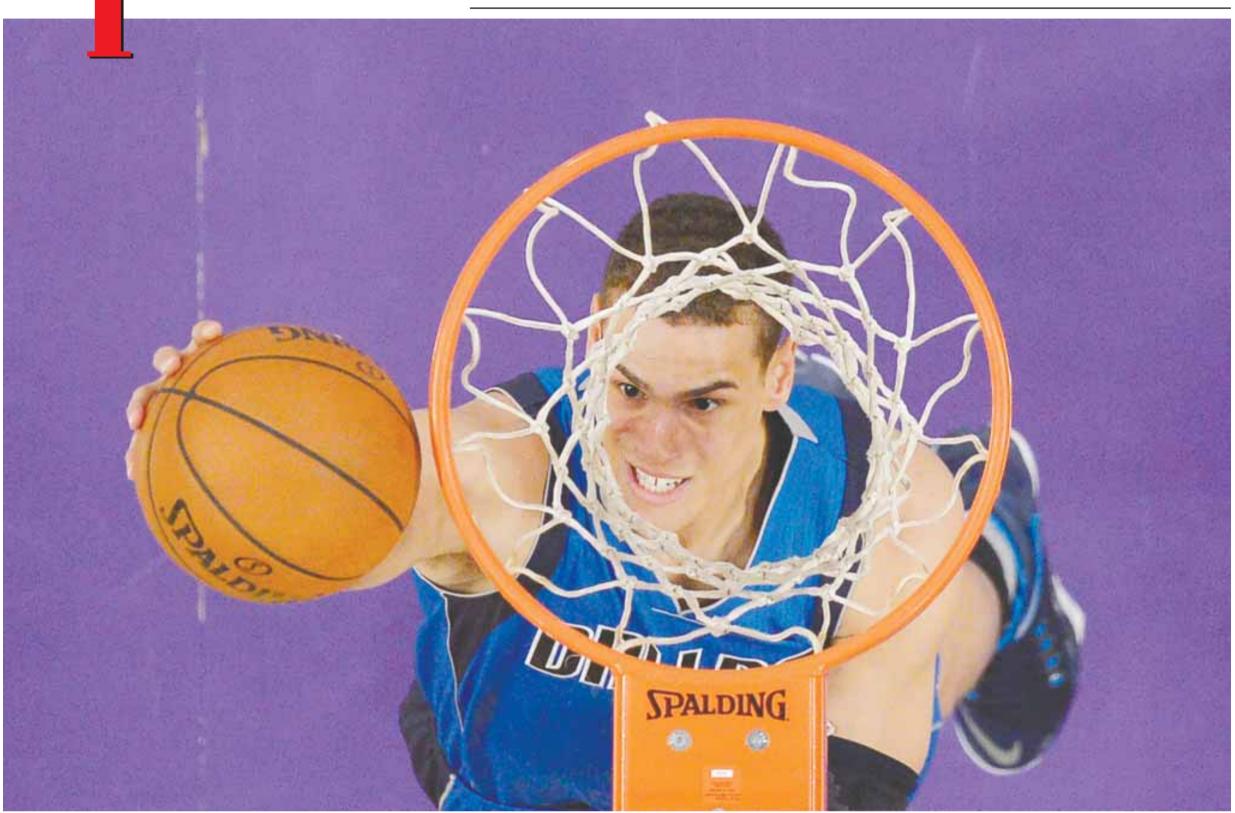
Royals end 30-years World Series drought



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Real Heavyweights returning for PSG

Page 18



LOS AGELES: Dallas Mavericks forward Dwight Powell puts up a shot during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Los Angeles Lakers. — AP

AVS DOWN LAKERS, THUNDER ADVANCE

LOS ANGELES: Dirk Nowitzki scored 25 points and the Dallas Mavericks held off a late rally by the winless Los Angeles Lakers for a 103-93 victory on Sunday night.

This is the first time in franchise history the Lakers have started 0-3 in consecutive seasons. They lost their first five games last season and ended up with their worst record ever (21-61).

The Mavericks opened the game with a 15-0 blitz that included two 3-pointers each by Wesley Matthews and Nowitzki - the latter has made more 3-point shots than any 7-footer in league history (1,580). The Lakers missed their first five shots before Julius Randle's dunk with 7:13 left in the first guarter. Randle posted his second consecutive double-double with 22 points and 15 rebounds. Kobe Bryant had 15 points on 3-of-15 shooting.

THUNDER 117, NUGGETS 93

Kevin Durant scored 25 points to help Oklahoma City beat Denver. Durant made 8 of 11 field goals and all six of his free throws to help new coach Billy Donovan remain unbeaten in the NBA.

Serge Ibaka had 18 points, seven rebounds and five blocks and Russell Westbrook had 15 points, nine rebounds and eight assists for the Thunder, who have won their first three games for the first time since the 2011-12 season. The Thunder shot 52 percent from the field, and all five Oklahoma City starters rested for the entire fourth quarter.

Danilo Gallinari and Will Barton each scored 15 points and Jameer Nelson added 13 points and seven assists for the Nuggets, who shot just 38 percent.

Hassan Whiteside had 25 points and 15 rebounds, Chris Bosh scored all 10 of his points in the fourth quarter and Miami erased a 21-point second-half deficit to beat Houston.

Dwyane Wade scored 20 points and Luol Deng added 14 for Miami, which outscored Houston 65-24 in the final 23 minutes. It was Miami's largest comeback win since a 27point rally against Cleveland in March 2013. Marcus Thornton scored 21 points for Houston, and James Harden had 16. The Rockets have dropped their first three games of the season - all by exactly 20 points each.

Dwight Howard sat out to rest on the first night of a back-to-back. He's expected to play when the Rockets host Oklahoma City late yesterday.

BULLS 92, MAGIC 87

Pau Gasol and Nikola Mirotic each scored 16 points and Chicago withstood a late surge from Orlando. Chicago led by 14 at halftime and 12 after three quarters, and the Bulls appeared to be headed for an easy win. But Orlando cut the lead to two with just under 3 minutes left before Chicago's Jimmy Butler jumped to intercept a pass and squelch the comeback bid.

Then, under the Bulls' basket after a Magic rebound, Butler came up with another takeaway to again foil Orlando. It was the third win in four games for Chicago. The Magic dropped to 0-3. Derrick Rose is still playing with a face mask as he recovers from a broken orbital bone suffered before the start of the season. He was held scoreless in the second and third quarters and finished with just six points.

HAWKS 94, HORNETS 92

Kent Bazemore scored 20 points, Al Horford added 16 points and 12 rebounds and Atlanta held on to beat Charlotte for the second time in three days.

The Hornets had a chance to tie the game at the buzzer, but Kemba Walker's 17-footer from the left wing hit the back rim and bounced out. Walker also missed a 3-pointer in the final seconds of Charlotte's 97-94 loss to Atlanta on Friday night.

Jeff Teague had 18 points and Paul Millsap added 16 points, including a key 3pointer to give Atlanta the lead for good with less than a minute to play.

Walker finished with 17 points and Nicolas Batum added 16 points and eight assists for winless Charlotte. Al Jefferson contributed 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Hornets.

SPURS 95, CELTICS 87

BOSTON (AP) - LaMarcus Aldridge had 24 points and 14 rebounds, Kawhi Leonard added 19 points and San Antonio beat

Manu Ginobili scored 13 points and Boris Diaw had 10 for the Spurs Avery Bradley led Boston with 18 points and Marcus Smart had 17. Isaiah Thomas scored 15, but shot only 4 of 18 from the floor. Jared Sullinger had 10 points and eight rebounds.

San Antonio opened a double-digit lead early in the game and held off Boston's charges the rest of the way. The Celtics closed a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit to four points three times in the final 4 minutes, the last on Smart's 3-pointer from the right corner that made it 86-82 with 2:45 to

play. But then Leonard nailed a jumper and Tony Parker had a fast-break layup with 2:02 to go.

RAPTORS 106, BUCKS 87

Dwane Casey got his franchise-record 157th win as coach of Toronto with a victory over Milwaukee. The milestone came in his 315th game with the Raptors, besting the previous record held by current Minnesota Timberwolves coach Sam Mitchell.

Jonas Valanciunas had 19 points and eight rebounds, and DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry had 15 points each. The victory boosted Toronto's record to 3-0, just the third time in team history that it has been perfect through the season's opening three games, and the first time since 2008-09.

The Bucks dropped to 0-3 despite a game-high 20 points from Giannis Antetokounmpo. It's the first time the team has started a season with three consecutive losses since 1976-77, when it dropped five straight. Milwaukee previously had the longest streak in NBA history without starting 0-3. — AP

NBA results/standings

Atlanta 94, Charlotte 92; San Antonio 95, Boston 87; Miami 109, Houston 89; Toronto 106, Milwaukee 87; Chicago 92, Orlando 87; Oklahoma City 117, Denver 93; Dallas 102, LA Lakers 94.

	astern Co Atlantic						Confere st Divis		
	W	L	PCT	GB	Oklahoma City	3	0	1.000	-
Toronto	3	0	1.000	-	Minnesota	2	0	1.000	0.5
NY Knicks	2	1	.667	1	Utah	2	1	.667	1
Boston	1	2	.333	2	Denver	1	2	.333	2
Philadelphia	0	2	0	2.5	Portland	1	2	.333	2
Brooklyn	0	3	0	3	Pa	cific	Divisio	n	
	Central I	Divisi	on		LA Clippers	3	0	1.000	_
Detroit	3	0	1.000	-		_	_		_
Chicago	3	1	.750	0.5	Golden State	3	0	1.000	-
Cleveland	2	1	.667	1	Phoenix	2	1	.667	1
Indiana	0	3	0	3	Sacramento	1	2	.333	2
Milwaukee	0	3	0	3	LA Lakers	0	3	0	3
	outheas	t Divi	sion		Sout	thwe	st Divis	ion	
Atlanta	3	1	.750	_	Dallas	2	1	.667	-
Washington	2	1	.667	0.5	San Antonio	2	1	.667	-
Miami	2	1	.667	0.5	Memphis	2	1	.667	-
Orlando	0	3	0	2.5	Houston	0	3	0	2
Charlotte	0	3	0	2.5	New Orleans	0	3	0	2

MARQUEZ-ROSSI FEUD FUELS TITLE SHOWDOWN

MADRID: What started as a minor jibe from Valentino Sport not succeed. Rossi towards defending MotoGP world champion Marc Marguez has descended into battle on and off the track and reared the ugly head of a simmering sporting rivalry between Italy and Spain.

Rossi is the sport's most recognisable and, until recent events, most respected figure. A seven-time world champion in the top category, should he seal another championship in the final race of the season in Valencia next weekend he will join compatriot Giacomo Agostini as the most successful rider of all-time. Yet, in the face of history, his credibility has suffered after he sensationally kicked Marquez off his bike at the Malaysian Grand Prix last weekend sparking a sanction that will see him start from the back of the grid in Valencia should an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for

Whilst he is coming to blows with Marquez, it isn't even the two-time world champion Rossi is fighting with for the title. Instead it is his Yamaha teammate Jorge Lorenzo who lies just seven points back ahead of the title decider.

Rossi's gripe with Marquez is that he believes the latter has been deliberately trying to sabotage his title bid to help his compatriot. "He would prefer Lorenzo to win. He is angry at me for a personal matter," Rossi said after the Australian Grand Prix last month.

"At this point, the lesser evil is for him is for Lorenzo to win." A week later in Malaysia it exploded into an even more personal battle. "I have lost respect for him," Marquez replied. "After an action like that he doesn't deserve to be champion."

For two football mad nations, the clash between two champions and idols in their respective countries has seen motorcycling dominate the sporting landscape for the past week.

Predictably, the response has been split down partisan lines with even the Prime Ministers of both countries getting involved.

"In sport as in politics, not everything is premissable,"

Spanish leader Mariano Rajoy posted on Twitter. Meanwhile, his Italian counterpart Matteo Renzi took time out of a diplomatic visit to South America to phone Rossi to offer his support. Lorenzo was caught in the crossfire when he had to deny a report from Italian newspaper La Reppublica that he and Marguez had agreed a pact to work together against Rossi in Andorra in September. — AFP

BAN, FINE FOR MOURINHO

LONDON: Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has been hit with a one-match stadium ban and a £40,000 (\$61,680, 56,000 euros) fine after admitting to a charge of misconduct, the Football Association announced yesterday.

The charge related to Mourinho's conduct towards referee Jon Moss during Chelsea's recent 2-1 loss at West Ham United, which saw him sent to the stands, and means he will miss Saturday's game at Stoke City. "Following an Independent Regulatory Commission hearing today, Jose Mourinho has been given a onematch stadium suspension with immediate effect and fined £40,000," the FA said in a statement.

"The Chelsea manager admitted an FA charge of misconduct regarding his language and/or behavior towards the match officials in or around the dressing room area during half-time of the game against West Ham United on 24 October 2015." — AFP

Kuwait Times JSINESS

Ryanair profit soars 40% in strong first half

Page 22

Turkish markets surge on return to single-party rule

Page 22

Page 23



China completes production of own passenger plane

Page 25

GCC EQUITY MARKETS FAIL TO RECOVER DESPITE STRONG GAINS

HONG KONG: A pedestrian walks past a HSBC sign in Hong Kong yesterday. HSBC saw pre-tax profit surge 32 percent year on year in the third quarter the banking giant announced, but revenue dropped in the wake of Asian market volatility. —AFP

HSBC PROFIT LEAPS DESPITE SLIDING REVENUES

MAY DEFER DECISION ON MOVING HEADQUARTERS

LONDON: Global banking giant HSBC saw pre-tax quarterly profit surge almost a third on the back of lower fines, beating market expectations, but turnover slid amid markets volatility, it said yesterday. Earnings before taxation jumped 32 percent to \$6.1 billion (5.5 billion euros) in the third quarter or three months to the end of September, from \$4.6 billion in the same period last year, HSBC said in a results statement. "Our third quarter performance was resilient against a tough market backdrop," said chief executive Stuart Gulliver, who unveiled a radical restructuring earlier this year to boost profitability and move on from recent scandals.

Revenue was adversely affected by fierce stock market sell-offs in Asia, and fell four percent to \$15.1 billion in the reporting period. Gulliver noted that "the stock market correction in Asia" had weighed on HSBC's Principal Retail Banking & Wealth Management division, and on its Global Banking & Markets unit. HSBC had announced in June it would cut its global workforce by up to 50,000 and sell off its businesses in Brazil and Turkey to cut costs. "Our cost-

reduction measures are beginning to have an impact on our cost base," Gulliver said, but added there was more to achieve. The bank is also considering moving its headguarters from Britain but said there was a "considerable amount of work still to do" before a decision is made. "Whilst the target for completion of the review was initially set as by the end of 2015, this is a self-imposed deadline that can be moved should the Board require further work to be performed," the report said. Chairman Douglas Flint, speaking to reporters in a conference call, added that the bank would try to make a decision by the end of the year. We take it very seriously and give it the appropriate amount of work," Flint added.

The Q3 results meanwhile beat analysts' expectations, with some saying cost reductions are now reaping rewards. "This time the earnings were pretty impressive," said Jackson Wong, associate director for Simsen Financial Group. "Their cost control had (previously) not really lived up to the target, but now it looks like they are finally in control." But Wong added it would be a long

road before revenue growth resumes. "When we look at growth, it's still limited... hopefully if China's economy picks up steam then it will help emerging markets in Asia." The Chinese economy grew at 6.9 percent between July and September this year, according to official figures, the slowest pace since the aftermath of the global financial crisis in 2009.

But many analysts believe China's actual growth is significantly lower. HSBC's London share price was down 1.08 percent at 502.10 pence in late morning deals.

Legal battles

HSBC's rise in third-quarter pre-tax profits "reflected lower fines" and settlements, the report said. But it added that adjusted operating expenses were up two percent year-on-year, partly due to investment in regulatory programmes and compliance. HSBC was fined late last year by US and British regulators for attempting to rig foreign exchange markets. In February it was forced to apologise for "unacceptable" failings at its Swiss division following allegations the unit helped rich clients hide billions from the taxman.

The bank has faced a storm over claims it helped clients from around the world dodge taxes on accounts containing 180 billion euros (\$200 billion) between November 2006 and March 2007, in cases that are being investigated in several countries.

HSBC is also facing a French criminal probe over the affair. It agreed in June to pay Geneva authorities 40 million Swiss francs (\$41 million) to settle a money-laundering investigation at its Swiss private bank. A former HSBC employee, who leaked documents alleging that the bank helped clients evade millions of dollars in taxes, said last week he would not attend his trial in Switzerland because he would not get a fair hearing.

Herve Falciani, a 43-year-old French-Italian national, is widely viewed as a whistleblower and hailed as a hero in countries where his leaked information is helping to net tax cheats. But the Swiss authorities remain intent on prosecuting him. —AFP



NEW YORK: Trader Kevin Lodewick, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, yesterday. Stocks opened slightly higher on Wall Street as the market comes off its biggest monthly gain in four years. Health care stocks were among the early winners. —AP

SAUDI STABILISES AFTER DEBT DOWNGRADE, EMAAR LIFTS DUBAI

DUBAI: Saudi Arabia's stock market stabilised yesterday after a slide on the previous day in response to a downgrade of the kingdom's debt. Emaar Properties lifted Dubai's market after reporting third-quarter earnings. The Saudi equities index had dropped 1.1 percent on Sunday after Standard & Poor's cut its rating of the kingdom's sovereign debt, citing the damage to state finances from low oil prices.

Yesterday the impact of that news faded and the index closed 0.3 percent higher at 7,066 points, though it finished well off the day's high of 7,118

Saudi Printing and Packaging Co surged 9.8 percent. It has been rising sharply in heavy trade since shortly after it reported earnings on Oct. 20; nine-month net profit jumped 49 percent, though third-quarter profit

dropped 10 percent on year. Saudi Research and Marketing Group, publisher of pan-Arab newspaper Asharq al-Awsat and one of the Middle East's largest media companies, jumped 7.2 percent to 20.15 riyals as it resumed trading after being suspended since last Wednesday. On Sunday, the company said two funds owned by NCB Capital had bought over 50 percent of it but do not plan any changes to the overall "strategy of the company and have no plans to buy the rest of the outstanding shares". Some industrial stocks hit in Sunday's sell-off were bought back, with industrial park developer Emaar Economic City adding 1.1 percent. But City Cement tumbled 6.2 percent as it went ex-dividend; it plans to pay a 1 riyal dividend for the first three quarters of 2015.

DUBAI, EGYPT

Dubai's index, which had fallen 2.1 percent on Sunday as the Saudi downgrade hit sentiment around the region, recovered 1.9 percent yesterday.

Emaar Properties, Dubai's top real estate developer, reported a 31 percent rise in third-quarter net profit to 843 million dirhams (\$229.5 million). That came in below a forecast by EFG Hermes, which had estimated 1.02 billion dirhams, but it was enough to boost Emaar shares 4.5 percent to 6.48 dirhams.

Naeem brokerage said in a note that Emaar's earnings were marginally weaker than expected but citing its diversified property portfolio and recent drops in its share price, kept a "buy" on the stock with a target price of 14.61 dirhams. Shipping firm Gulf Navigation soared 10.4 percent after reporting a 123 percent rise in ninemonth net profit on an 11 percent increase in revenues.

Abu Dhabi's index was flat though Aldar Properties, the most heavily traded stock, climbed 4.9 percent. Qatar edged down 0.3 percent while Kuwait was 0.1 percent higher. Kuwait's Burgan Bank added 1.3 percent after it reported a 41 percent rise in thirdquarter net profit to 21.64 million dinars (\$71.5 million). Analysts had estimated 17.0-17.8 million dinars. Egypt's index edged up 0.3 percent with most of the 10 most heavily traded stocks

barely changed. President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi promised in a speech on Sunday evening that there would be no gas shortage problems for any factories in Egypt by

the end of November. That would remove one of the biggest negative factors for industrial stocks, but Sisi did not explain how the government would achieve this, and the market's lack of significant reaction to the speech suggested some investors remained sceptical.

MONDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS SAUDI ARABIA

The index rose 0.3 percent to 7,066

DUBAI The index rose 1.9 percent to 3,495

points. **ABU DHABI**

The index was flat at 4,299 points. **QATAR**

The index fell 0.3 percent to 11,547 **EGYPT**

The index climbed 0.3 percent to

7,435 points.

points.

points. —Reuters

KUWAIT The index edged up 0.1 percent to

5,785 points. **OMAN**

The index fell 0.2 percent to 5,939

BAHRAIN The index rose 0.8 percent to 1,261



Volkswagen sales down 3% in France after scandal

France last month, figures showed yesterday, as it continued to deal with the impact of revelations that it cheated on emissions tests.

The drop is a marked contrast with the 6.3-percent growth in sales the German brand had seen in France in the first nine months of the year, according to the Committee of French Automobile Manufacturers (CCFA).

Volkswagen admitted in September that it had used software to cheat pollution tests for 11 million

PARIS: Volkswagen saw sales drop 3.0 percent in of its diesel cars, including one million in France. The company was not alone in seeing sales drop last month but its reversal was the most pronounced.

PSA Peugeot Citroen sales were down 6.3 percent in October, compared with yearly growth of 3.0 percent. Overall, car sales were up just 0.6 percent in October to 161,000 — though the CCFA said this was largely due to there being one less working day than last year.

The VW scandal has galvanised opponents of diesel cars more generally, and their share of total

sales in France fell from 55.7 to 54.5 percent between September and October.

France has been reducing its tax breaks on diesel cars in recent years, leading to a dramatic drop in their share of new purchases from a peak of 77.3 percent in 2008 to 64 percent last year.

The shift to petrol cars "is going quicker than expected-it's accelerating and that will continue," said Flavien Neuvy, director of the automobile observatory at Cetelem. Renault fared a little better in the monthly results, with sales up 2.9 percent, against

growth of 2.6 percent for the year to date.

Overall, the Volkswagen group-which also includes Audi, Seat, Skoda and Porsche-appears largely unaffected by the scandal with sales up 2.7 percent. It remains by far the biggest importer to France with 12.9 percent of the market, compared with 4.3 percent for second-place Ford.

"Given the scale of the scandal, one could easily have imagined a bigger hit to its figures," said Neuvy, adding that it may take longer for the crisis to take its full toll. — AFP



BARCELONA: In a file picture taken on September 1, 2010 an airplane of the Irish low-cost airline Ryanair takes off from Barcelona's airport. Irish airline Ryanair's firsthalf net profits soared by nearly 40 percent on keen demand, the strong pound, fuel savings and poor weather conditions in northern Europe, it said yesterday. — AFP

RYANAIR PROFIT SOARS 40% IN STRONG FIRST HALF

DUBLIN: Irish airline Ryanair's first-half net profits soared by nearly 40 percent on keen demand, the strong pound, fuel savings and poor weather conditions in northern Europe, it said yesterday.

The Dublin-based carrier added in a results statement that it was on target to hit the upper end of its annual earnings forecast, aided also by ongoing improvements to customer services.

Earnings after taxation jumped 37 percent to 1.09 billion euros (\$1.2 billion) in the six months to the end of September, compared with 795 million euros a year earlier. Passenger numbers swelled 13 percent to 58.1 million people and revenues grew 14 percent to 4.04 billion euros.

"We have enjoyed a bumper summer due to a very rare confluence of favourable events including stronger sterling, adverse weather in northern Europe, reasonably flat industry capacity and further savings on our unhedged fuel," said chief executive Michael

He added that the airline's "Always Getting Better" customer services programme was "driving stronger forward bookings, higher load factors" and "accelerating traffic growth." Ryanair predicted full-year net profit would be towards the upper end of its forecast range of between 1.175-1.225 billion euros. Aviation analyst Stephen Furlong with Dublin-based stockbrokers Davy said it was "an exceptional performance".

New routes

Keith Bowman, equity analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown Stockbrokers noted that "Ryanair's ascent in comparison to former flag carrying competitors shows little sign of slowing".

He added: "New bases and routes continue to be undertaken, the group's stranglehold on costs is now the template rivals aspire to, while the group remains in a key position to lead future industry consolidation." O'Leary said it was now the airline's target to carry 180 million passengers per year by 2024, from an earlier goal of 160 million.

The carrier's chief marketing manager Kenny Jacobs said Ryanair was setting this target on the back of "a very strong two years." "We've got 330 aircraft on order in the next nine years so that gives us the platform that we need to get to a business with 180 million customers by 2024, which would give us about 24 percent of the market," he told Irish radio RTE. O'Leary said lower fuel costs would save the airline 430 million euros next year, while it had already hedged 95 percent of its fuel for next year.

The airline confirmed it will return a special dividend of 398 million euros to shareholders this month after the sale of its stake in Irish competitor Aer Lingus to the International Airlines Group earlier

The company moved to overhaul its approach to customer service in 2014 in the wake of years of negative publicity.

Ryanair said it would carry a record 105 million passengers this year, raising its earlier forecast of 104 million people issued only last month. Jacobs said Ryanair was expecting a "fare war" between competitor airlines in the coming months. "We expect fares through the winter, particularly after Christmas, to be very, very competitive." — AFP

TURKISH MARKETS SURGE ON RETURN TO SINGLE-PARTY RULE

Lira rallies 3%, shares up 5%

ISTANBUL: Turkish assets rallied yesterday, with the lira on track for its biggest one-day gain in seven years and stocks up nearly 6 percent after an election that returned the country to single-party rule, ending months of uncertainty for investors.

The AK Party, founded by President Tayyip Erdogan, won just short of 50 percent of Sunday's national vote, giving it a clear majority of around 317 seats in the 550-seat parliament and a far higher margin of victory than even party insiders had expected.

The result offers a reprieve from the uncertainty that has plagued Turkey's markets since the AKP lost its single-party majority in a previous election in June, though in the longer term it may raise concerns by widening the country's political divisions.

"The markets are focused on one thing and one thing alone, and that's stability. From a markets standpoint - particularly given the fact that the markets were expecting something significantly worse this is a positive," said Nicholas Spiro, managing director of Spiro Sovereign Strategy.

But his long-term view was less optimistic. "This is inevitably going to raise fears about an even more authoritarian, an even more economically populist, nationalistic Turkey," he said. Political concerns have kept Turkish assets lagging far behind their emerging market peers this year, with the lira down around 20 percent.

But by 1330 GMT the currency was heading for its biggest one-day gain since November 2008, up nearly 4 percent against the dollar at 2.8010. The BIST 100 share index, the broadest measure of stock performance, surged nearly 6 percent, its highest level since July and its biggest one-day jump in two years. "The longer-lasting impact will come down to what the AKP will use its majority for," said Anders Faergemann, senior sovereign portfolio manager at PineBridge Investments.

"If they take a mature, more democratic approach and do what needs to be done in terms of addressing security and economic concerns and allowing the central bank to be independent, it will be a very positive outcome."

Major stock gainers included construction companies and real estate investment trusts, on expectations they would benefit from AKP stimulus, while shares closely linked to Erdogan's political rivals fell.

Banks rallied, though Moody's cautioned they markets. Bond yields fell, as did the price of insuring Turkish debt against default.

ERDOGAN EMBOLDENED

The election result could embolden Erdogan and the AKP to extend uncompromising policies that have already divided the country, said Inan Demir, chief economist at Finansbank, in a note.

Demir said that could include "insistence on executive presidency, unrelenting pressure on opposing business and media groups, aggressive foreign policy, hardliner stance regarding the Kurdish issue and obsessive calls for lower interest rates". Sunday's election was called after the AKP failed to find a junior coalition partner following the June vote. Erdogan's critics said it was a gamble by the combative leader to win back enough support so the party can eventually change the constitution and give him greater presidential powers.

In an attempt to win back nationalist support, the AKP government in recent months struck against Kurdish militants, putting an end to a 2-1/2year ceasefire and sparking almost daily violence in the largely Kurdish southeast.

Erdogan has also cracked down on opposition media groups and companies linked to a prominent political ally-turned-foe, US-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen. Highlighting worries about further such action, shares in Dogan Holding - whose media affiliates are the subject of an investigation by prosecutors - tumbled 19 percent. Shares in mining company Koza Ipek and sister firm Koza Metal also fell sharply. The owner of both companies is close to Gulen and the firms have been under investigation over accusations of terrorism.

IT'S THE ECONOMY

Management of the economy presents another source of potential future tension with investors.

Jonathan Friedman, Turkey analyst at global risk consultancy Stroz Friedberg, said that was likely to be the government's Achilles' heel.

"Political turmoil has caused Turkey to lose the

confidence of foreign capital and foreign investment. Unless the new government finds a way to address the social tensions dividing the country, that confidence is unlikely to come back," he said in the shorter term, many eyes will be on the make-up of the AKP's economic team, which should be announced in coming days. The inclusion of former Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan, long seen as a stabilising influence, would be likely to go down well. Investors will also be keen to see whether Erdogan will give the central bank breathing space or resume calls for lower interest rates that have undermined the institution's independence. "The key for investors to look for is any sign that the AK Party will try to regain its economic policy-making credibility. Chief among these would be moves to reinforce the central bank's independence," said William Jackson of Capital Economics in a note. "However, given developments over the past few years, we're not holding our breath." — Reuters



NEW YORK: The VISA logo hangs on the front of the New York Stock Exchange in New York. US credit card issuer Visa Inc. said yesterday it is buying back its former subsidiary Visa Europe in a 21.2-billion-euro (\$23.5-billion) deal identifying increased scale and efficiencies. — AFP

VISA TO BUY VISA EUROPE IN DEAL THAT COULD EXCEED \$23BN

NEW YORK: Payment processing giant Visa the banks into a publicly traded company. Visa ny, Visa Europe, in a deal that could be worth more than \$23 billion and would consolidate all of Visa's operations worldwide.

The deal was long expected and, if approved by regulators, would make the world's largest payment processing company even larger. The two companies have more than 2.9 billion cards issued on its combined network, processing roughly 88 billion individual transactions a year.

"We are very excited about unifying Visa into a single global company with unmatched scale, technology and services," said Charles Scharf, Visa's chief executive officer, in a prepared statement.

Under the terms of the transaction, Visa will pay 11.5 billion euros (\$12.66 billion) in cash plus stock valued at about \$5.5 billion. Visa Europe investors also could earn an additional payment valued at nearly \$5.2 billion if certain revenue targets are met four years after the deal is closed, which is expected in mid-2016. Visa plans to pay for the transaction through the issuance of \$15 billion to \$16 billion in new debt. Visa and Visa Europe operated under one banner for years, but had to separate when Visa started its conversion from a cooperative owned by

announced plans vesterday to buy its sister compa-Visa always continued to have a hand in the fate of Visa Europe through an option to buy Visa Europe under certain conditions. Visa became a publicly traded company in 2008. The deal will finally give Visa meaningful exposure to Europe, which was considered a competitive disadvantage to its rival MasterCard, which owns its European operations. But the combined company is likely to face more regulatory scrutiny as the payment processing industry becomes even further consolidated under the banners of Visa, MasterCard and, to a much lesser extent, American Express. Visa's announcement of a deal came as the com-

pany reported its fiscal fourth quarter and full year results that mostly met Wall Street's expectations. The company reported net income of \$1.51 billion for the period ending Sept. 30, up from \$1.07 billion in the same period a year ago. On a per-share basis, Visa earned 62 cents per A-class common share, versus 43 cents per A-class common share a year earlier Global payment volume on Visa's network, a key measure of the company's business, rose 12 percent to \$1.265 trillion in the quarter, when adjusted for currency fluctuations. —AP

EXCHANGE RATES

2.517

4.672

2.905

2.163

2.927

218.420

39.174

3.902

6.494

8.570

81.003

83.441

788.980

806.700

302.400

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO. **ASIAN COUNTRIES** Japanese Yen **Indian Rupees** Pakistani Rupees Srilankan Rupees Nepali Rupees Singapore Dollar Hongkong Dollar Bangladesh Taka Philippine Peso Thai Baht **GCC COUNTRIES** Saudi Riyal Qatari Riyal Omani Riyal Bahraini Dinar **UAE Dirham ARAB COUNTRIES** Egyptian Pound - Cash Egyptian Pound - Transfer Yemen Riyal/for 1000 Tunisian Dinar Jordanian Dinar Lebanese Lira/for 1000

US Dollar Buying

39.800 37.855 1.417 153.720 427.850 2.024 Syrian Lira 2.165 Morocco Dirham 31.396 **EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES** 303.600 336.690

US Dollar Transfer Sterling Pound 466.330 230.000 Canadian dollar Turkish lira 104.510 Swiss France 309.800 218.590 Australian dollar

GOLD 20 gram 237.55 10 gram 121.47 61.42 5 gram

UAE EXCHANGE CENTRE WLL

CURRENCIES TELEX TRANSFER PER 1000 Australian Dollar 208.59 Canadian Dollar 232.31 **Swiss Franc** 338.05 US Dollar 303.80 Sterling Pound 467.36 Japanese Yen 2.56 . Bangladesh Taka 3.900 Indian Rupee 4.676 Sri Lankan Rupee 2.162 Nepali Rupee 2.918 Pakistani Rupee 2.882 **UAE Dirhams** 0.08267 Bahraini Dinar 0.8074 **Egyptian Pound** 0.03786 0.4321 Jordanian Dinar Omani Riyal 0.7889 Qatari Riya 0.08376 Saudi Riyal

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer Selling Rate **US** Dollar 303.800 Canadian Dollar 234.355 Sterling Pound 469.675 335.840 Euro Swiss Frank 301.190 Bahrain Dinar 806.320 **UAE Dirhams** 83.010 Qatari Riyals 91.015

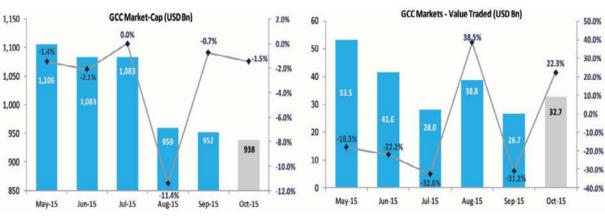
Saudi Riyals 81.740 Jordanian Dinai 428.080 **Egyptian Pound** 37.724 Sri Lankan Rupees 2.162 Indian Rupees 4.641 2.879 Pakistani Rupees 3.887 Bangladesh Taka Philippines Pesso 6.483 Cyprus pound 578.645 Japanese Yen 3.510 Syrian Pound 2.605 Nepalese Rupees 3.900 72.080 Malaysian Ringgit Chinese Yuan Renminbi 48.415 Thai Bhat 9.500 Turkish Lira

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

SELLDRAFT COUNTRY SELL CASH Europe 0.461207 **British Pound** 0.470207 Czech Korune 0.004326 0.016326 Danish Krone 0.040772 0.045772 Euro 0.328953 0.336953 Norwegian Krone 0.031700 0.036900 0.075253 0.075253 Romanian Leu 0.019060 Slovakia 0.009060 Swedish Krona 0.031511 0.036511 0.310946 0.300746 Swiss Franc Turkish Lira 0.111514 0.101214 Australasia Australian Dollar 0.219705 0.208205 New Zealand Dollar 0.198969 0.208469 America Canadian Dollar 0.226625 0.235125 **US** Dollars 0.299450 0.303950

0.299950 0.303950 **US Dollars Mint** Asia Bangladesh Taka 0.003498 0.004098 0.046495 0.049995 Chinese Yuan Hong Kong Dollar 0.037076 0.039826 0.004784 0.004394 Indian upee Indonesian Rupiah 0.000018 0.000024 0.002437 0.002617 Japanese Yen Kenyan Shilling 0.002972 0.002972 0.000256 0.000271 Korean Won 0.067427 0.073427 Malaysian Ringgi Nepalese Rupee 0.002908 0.003078 0.003079 Pakistan Rupee 0.002799 0.006697 Philippine Peso 0.006417 0.000064 0.000070 Sierra Leone Singapore Dollar 0.213244 0.219244 South African Rand 0.015969 0.024469 Sri Lankan Rupee 0.001866 0.002446 0.009229 0.009409 Taiwan Thai Baht 0.008216 0.008766 Arab Bahraini Dinar 0.797964 0.805964 0.037323 0.040153 **Egyptian Pound** 0.000085 Iranian Riyal 0.000084 Iraqi Dinar 0.000260 0.000200 Jordanian Dinar 0.424138 0.431638 Kuwaiti Dinar

1.000000 1.000000 0.000251 Lebanese Pound 0.000151 0.020565 0.044565 Moroccan Dirhams 0.000920 0.001555 Nigerian Naira Omani Riyal 0.782021 0.787701 0.083879 Qatar Riyal 0.082666 0.080310 0.081010 Saudi Riyal 0.001507 Syrian Pound 0.001287 0.157122 Tunisian Dinar 0.149122 Turkish Lira 0.101214 0.111514 0.082813 **UAE Dirhams** 0.081664 Yemeni Rival 0.001372





GCC EQUITY MARKETS FAIL TO RECOVER DESPITE STRONG GAINS

KAMCO's GCC Markets Monthly Report

KUWAIT: GCC equity markets failed to recover during October-15 despite strong monthly returns for almost all major global stock markets. Key markets in the region fell with Abu Dhabi reporting the steepest monthly decline followed by Saudi Arabia and Dubai. On the other hand, the MSCI World Index jumped 7.8% by the end of the month whereas S&P 500 was up 8.3%. The strongest monthly return was seen for the German and Chinese benchmark indices with monthly returns at 12.3% and 10.8%, respectively.

On the global front, A slew of disappointing economic data in the recent months prompted central banks across the globe to provide additional support to push economic activity. Although expected, the US Federal Reserve kept rates unchanged in its latest policy statement (however, it gave one of the clearest indication of a possible hike in short term interest rates in December-15). A statement from the European Central Bank also indicated that to stir growth in the Euro Area and to push up inflation, the bank would resort to even deeper interest rate cuts along with increasing the quantitative easing program or extending the program from its original deadline of September-2016. Furthermore, China slashed benchmark interest rates by 25 bps in order to stimulate borrowing and spending in the economy and also announced a 50 bps reduction in Chinese banks reserve requirement ratios. The country's central bank also, in a historic move, removed the bank deposit rate ceiling.

On the macroeconomic front, S&P lowered Saudi Arabia's long-term foreign currency sovereign rating to A+ from AA-, citing a widening budget deficit resulting from weaker oil prices and kept its outlook at Negative highlighting the difficulties in reversing the challenges on the fiscal front. S&P expects that Saudi Arabia's deficits will increase to 16% of GDP this year.

KSE gains

KSE indices remained within a narrow range during October-15 with minimal volatility. The KSE Price index closed the month with a gain of 0.9% whereas the KSE Weighted Index ended flat after a month of positive return during September-15. The large cap KSE-15 Index declined by 1.2% during the month as a majority of the constituent stocks failed to maintain the positive momentum seen during the previous month. CBK was among the steepest monthly decliners recording a fall of 13.3% after the company reported a 28.1% decline in Q3-15 net profits on the back of a steep fall in gain from investment securities. Zain remained the second biggest decliner within the KSE-15 index recording a fall of 5% due to continued decline in net profits for Q3-15 as well as for 9M-15. On the other hand, large-cap gainers during the month included Boubyan Bank (+7.41%), Burgan Bank (+2.6%) and NBK (+1.2%).

The 9M-15 earnings season has remained largely positive so far with banks reporting 12.5% increase in net profits for the period. However, overall growth in profit was fully offset by the 29.2% fall in profits reported by telecom companies Zain and Ooredoo Kuwait. Results reported by companies within the real estate sector has also been positive with the sector recording profit growth of 21% during 9M-15 as compared to 9M-14. This was also reflected in the sector performance chart with the Real Estate Index topping the chart with a monthly gain of 3% followed by the Basic Materials and the Consumer Goods indices with monthly returns of 1.8% and 1.6%, respectively. The Bank index also ended with a marginally positive gain of

Trading activity during the month saw slight improvement in terms of total monthly volume growth that stood at 1% to reach 2.8 Bn shares resulting in average daily volume of 148 Mn shares as compared to 147 Mn shares during September-15. Contrastingly, total value traded during the month declined by 7% to KWD 230 Mn as compared to KWD 248 Mn during the previous month. As a result, the average daily value traded increased declined from KWD 13 Mn in September-15 to KWD 12.1 Mn during October-15.

The monthly gainers chart was topped by Mishref Trading with a return of 43.2% after the company won a KWD 82 Mn contract this summer from the Ministry of Public Works to develop a 40 Km road to develop a 40kmr road linking Mina Abdulla to Wafra. Real Estate Trade Centers (Marakez) came second on the monthly gainers chart with a return of 38.3% followed by Gulf Petroleum Investment and Nafais Holding with monthly returns of 27.7% and 25.4%. respectively. On the monthly losers side,

United Foodstuff Industries topped the list with a decline of 26.3% followed by First Takaful Insurance and Burgan for Well Drilling, Trading & Maintenance with monthly declines of 23.5% and 20.3%, respectively. The monthly most active by volume list was topped by Al Dar National Real Estate with 349.7 Mn shares traded during the month followed by Investors Holding (247.3 Mn shares) and Ithmar Bank (170.6 Mn shares). On the other hand, NBK topped the most active by value chart with KWD 25.6 Mn in value traded followed by KFH (KWD 16.3 Mn) and Zain (KWD 12.3 Mn).

Saudi monthly volume up

Sentiments over oil price weakness continued to hammer TASI during October-15 resulting in a monthly decline of 3.8% for the third straight month. Saudi Arabia is currently the worst performing market in the GCC in terms of YTD-15 decline which stood at 14.5% at the end of October-15. However, trading activity during the month saw a strong pickup due to higher number of trading days during October-15. Monthly volume was up 28.5% to 4.6bn shares as compared to last month's 3.6 Bn shares whereas total monthly value traded increased to SAR 102.4 Bn as compared to SAR 79.4 Bn during September-15. The average daily value traded increased to SAR 4.9 Bn as compared to SAR 4.7 Bn during the previous month.

Sector performance showed a contrasting picture during October-15 as compared to the previous month with positive returns for sectors that had seen the steepest declines since the start of the year. These include the Telecom & IT index that gained 2.4%, the Energy & Utilities index with a 2.0% return and the Petrochemical Index with a 0.2% positive return. On the other hand, the Hotel & Tourism index declined the most with a

Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange

ADX General Index saw the steepest monthly decline in the GCC in October-15 after marginal gains during the previous month. The index plunged by 4% during the month as a majority of the large cap indices failed to recover from last month's levels. Nevertheless, the Telecom index continued to rally with a monthly gain of 7.7%, following a month of double-digit growth. The Services index also closed with a marginal gain of 0.2%. On the other side, the Energy index plunged by 12.7% during the month followed by Banks and Real Estate indices with monthly decline of 8.2% and 5.2% respectively.

Trading activity also a took a hit during the month as volumes plunged 44.3% to 1.2 Bn shares as compared to 2.1bn shares in the previous month. Similarly, value traded declined by 18.7% to AED 3.6bn as compared to 4.5bn during the previous month. The average daily value traded declined from AED 222.8m during September-15 to AED 179.4 Mn in October-15 whereas the average daily volume traded declined from 106.6 Mn shares to 59.9 Mn shares in October-15.

Telecom bellwether Etisalat closed the month of Oct-15 at a ten year high after the stock's inclusion in the market maker program of the ADX exchange. The stock finished the month at AED 15.3, up by 7.7% m-o-m, recording the highest level since Jun-05. The stock is the fifth stock to be included in the exchange's market maker programme, which commenced in Apr-15. The other stocks included in the programme earlier were Aldar Properties, Waha Capital, FGB & ADCB.

Etisalat reported a fall in Q3-15 revenue and net profit, largely driven by FX losses. Revenue came in at AED 13 Bn for Q3-15, down 1% y-o-y. EBITDA fell 5% yo-y to AED 6.7bn reportedly due to high-

and DISB (-3.4%) despite reporting strong growth in net profits.

The Insurance index reported a monthly gain of 4.1% although a majority of the stocks didn't trade or saw minimal trades during the month. The sector got a boost from the 10.7% monthly return in shares of Takaful Emarat followed by 6.3% monthly return for shares of Dubai Islamic Insurance & Reinsurance. Both the stocks are yet to report 9M-15 results. Gains within the sector was partially offset by 8.4% monthly decline in shares of Dubai National Insurance & Reinsurance followed by 4.1% decline in shares of Takaful

On the decliners side, the Financial Services index plunged 7.0% during the month as a majority of the stocks within the sector saw steep monthly declines. The decline was led by DFM that was down 14.9% after the company reported 60% fall in earnings for 9M-15. Meanwhile, shares in Shuaa Capital also plunged by 10.9% during the month followed by 4.6% decline in shares of Dubai Investment which reported a 24% fall in 9M-15 earnings. The Real Estate & Construction index fell 2.6% as a majority of the stocks within the sector saw monthly declines. Arabtec was the biggest decliner in the sector with a loss of 11.4% to AED 1.63/share after Egypt stalled its \$35 bn housing project in which Arabtec was a major beneficiary. Meanwhile, shares in Deyaar Development fell 9.3% after the company reported a 38% decline in 3Q-15 profits. Shares in Union Properties also declined by almost 9% despite the company announcing plans to foray in Saudi

In terms of trading activity, total shares traded on the exchange increased by 2.7% to 3.9 Bn shares as compared to 3.8 Bn shares traded during the previous month whereas total value traded during

Among the major sectors, the Bank & Financial Services index declined marginally with a monthly return of -1.1%, dragged into the negative zone by Islamic Holding Group (-8.3%), Ahli Bank (-6.0%) and Commercial Bank of Qatar (-5.7%). Meanwhile, the Industrial index improved by 1.0% during the month, as a majority of the stocks in the sector recorded positive or stable monthly returns. The Insurance Index recorded a monthly decline of 0.3% during the month, owing to negative returns recorded by heavyweight Qatar Insurance (-0.1%). Trading activity picked up during the month as total volume traded went up by 31% to 167.1 Mn shares in Oct-15. Average daily traded shares increased marginally from 7.1 Mn shares in Sept-15 to 8.0 Mn shares in Oct-15. Total monthly value traded improved at a slower pace than volumes at 4.3% to reach QAR 5.8 Bn during Oct-15, as compared to QAR 5.5 Bn during the previous month. Average daily value traded declined from QAR 306.9 Mn in Sept -15 to QAR 274.2 Mn during Oct-15. Market breadth during the month was in favor of gainers that included 23 companies as against 18 losers. In terms of sector contribution, Banks & Financial Services contributed 26.1% to total monthly value traded, with QAR 1.5 Bn worth of shares traded in the sector followed by QAR 1.3 Bn (22.8%) for the Industrial sector, and QAR 1.3 Bn (21.8%) for the Real Estate

Monthly gainers chart for October-15 was topped by Qatari German Co. for Medical Devices (+23.6%), followed by Qatar Gas (+10.7%), Aamal Co. (+7.4%) and Qatar Investors Group (+7.1%). Gulf International Services was the most actively traded stock with QAR 514 Mn worth of shares traded during the month. On the losers side, Islamic Holding Group receded the most with a BHD 72.9 Mn, up 7.5 % y-o-y for 9M-15. The bank's cost to income ratio improved to 30.6% in 9M-15 from 32.5 % for the previous year. Total Customer Deposits was BHD 2,276.9 Mn for the nine month period in 2015, up by 4.2 % over 9M-14.

Telecom player Zain Bahrain recorded net profit of BHD 3.4 Mn for the 9M-15 compared to BHD 2.9 Mn for the corresponding period in 2014, representing an increase of 16.7%. Net profit for the Q3-15 increased by 91% y-o-y and amounted to BHD 1.3 million compared to BHD 700,000 reported during Q-14. EBITDA for 9M-15 BHD 21.0 Mn, representing An EBITDA margin of 38.6%, compared to EBITDA of BHD 20.2 Mn for 9M-14. As per Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB), Bahrain's nonoil sector is on target to grow by 4.6% in 2015 according to their latest Bahrain Economic Quarterly. The further expect overall GDP growth to reach 3.6% with output in the oil sector forecast to remain flat y-o-y.

The best performer for the month of Oct -15 was Investcorp with a monthly return of 6.7%. Gulf Finance House followed with gains of 6.5% m-o-m for the month. On the losers chart, Bahrain Islamic Bank was the main laggard with a monthly decline of 25.2%, followed by Arab Banking Corporation (-11.5%) and Aluminum Bahrain (-5.2%). Ahli United Bank featured as the most widely traded

Muscat Securities Market

After two consecutive months of decline, the MSM 30 index saw the strongest monthly gain in the GCC recorded at 2.4% during October-15 to close at 5,928.15 points, just below the psychologically important mark of 6,000 points. All of the sectoral indices recorded positive performance during the month with the Financial Index recording a monthly return of 5.9% followed by Services index at 1.6% and Industrial index at +0.4%. A majority of the stocks within the Financial sector ended with a positive monthly gain, although the biggest company in the sector, Bank Muscat, fell 1.8% despite the bank reporting 7.5% growth in 9M-15 earnings and 14.8% growth in Q3-15 net profits. Major gainers in the financial sector included Al Batinah Development with a monthly return of 12.2% followed by Oman United Insurance (+11.8%) and HSBC Bank Oman (+9.0%) although all the three companies reported a decline in 9M-15 earnings.

Trading activity also improved significantly with volumes up five fold to 1.3 Bn shares. However, the increase was primarily due to more than a billion shares traded in HSBC Bank Oman on the first day of the month. Total monthly value traded also saw a similar growth and recorded OMR 190 Mn in value traded as compared to OMR 61 Mn during the previous month. In terms of sector contribution, owing to the trade in HSBC Bank Oman, the Financial Sector contributed 80% to total monthly value traded during October-15 whereas the Services sector contributed 16%.

The monthly gainers list was topped by Port Services Corp., which topped the losers chart last month, with a monthly return of 19.4% although trades in the company was minimal (OMR 0.13 Mn). Other monthly gainers included Al Batinah Development (+12.2%), which was also one of the top decliners last month, and Oman Investment and Finance (+12.1%). On the other hand, the monthly losers chart primarily included stocks with marginal trades during the month. The list was topped by Oman Oil Marketing with a monthly decline of 10.3% followed by United Power and Global Financial Investment with monthly declines of 7.5% and 7.2%, respectively. The market breadth improved from last month and favored gainers that included 34 companies as against 12 gainers. Prices of 13 stocks remained unchanged during the month.

In terms of value of shares traded, HSBC Bank Oman topped the chart with monthly shares traded valued at OMR 113.8 Mn. Bank Muscat continued to remain at the second position on the chart with trades totaling OMR 10.4 Mn. Al Anwar Holding was third in the list with OMR 9.4 Mn worth of trades followed by Sembcorp Salalah with OMR 8.2 Mn in monthly value traded.

On the economic front, Oman's first sukuk issue received strong response. According to the Finance Ministry, the 5year OMR 200 Mn sukuk issue with an ljara format had drawn 22 orders totaling OMR 336 Mn during the subscription period (October 8 to October 22). The Ministry also said that it plans a second sukuk issue next vear but did not give further details of the plan. The sovereign sukuk may also serve as a benchmark for private Omani companies to issue Islamic



monthly fall of 10.1% followed by Cement and Real Estate indices with monthly decline of 7.9% and 7.3%, respectively.

Bearish sentiments in the market is also affecting listing plans of new companies. Yasref, an oil refiner, expressed its plans to list on the Saudi bourse but did not confirm the time of the listing. Similarly, a number of rumored IPO plans are in the pipeline including the expected USD 2bn IPO of Sulaiman Al Habib Medical Group, ACWA Power's likely plan to list in 2016 and the early last month announcement by Saudi poultry firm Al Watania. In an interview, the Chairman of Saudi Arabia CMA confirmed that there exists a healthy pipeline of IPOs and that the authority is working on a number of new initiatives in order to attract new investors. The exchange is also making a strong case to be included in the MSCI Emerging Markets index and is open to relaxing rules on foreign investments to help it get included in the index. The CMA Is also working to improve the depth of the market by adding additional products especially related to the local debt market. Moreover, the regulator is also studying the prospects of starting a second exchange, promoting the listing of SMEs and family-owned businesses to encourage listing of such firms. Furthermore, the CMA is also looking at ways it can ease mergers of listed entities.

The monthly gainers chart was topped by Saudi Research and Marketing with a monthly return of 42.8% after the company reported positive net profit or 9M-15 (SAR 30.6 Mn) as compared to a loss of SAR 19.0 Mn during the corresponding period in the previous year. Sagr Insurance came second on the list with a monthly return of 36.7%. The company saw six fold increase in net profit for 9M-15. Saudi Printing and Packaging recorded the third highest monthly return of 18.7% followed by Jazan Development with a monthly return of 16.2%. Both the companies recorded strong growth in 9M-15 profits. On the losers side, Al Ahlia Insurance topped the chart with a monthly decline of 20.1% followed by Al-Tayyar Travel Group and Tabuk Cement with monthly returns 14.4% and 14.3%,

respectively. Meanwhile, Alinma Bank topped the most liquid stocks chart with SAR 16.1 Bn in monthly value traded.

er regulatory charges and interconnection costs. Net profit receded by 9% to AED1.9 Bn, attributed to higher depreciation and amortization charges, a higher federal royalty payment, and higher forex losses compared to Q3-14. First Gulf Bank (FGB), the third-largest lender by assets in the United Arab Emirates, reported a net profit of AED 1.4 Bn for Q3-15, exhibiting almost flat trends from Q3-14 (AED 1.43 Bn). The bank's net interest margin was 3.3% in 9M-15, down from 3.6% during the same period in 2014. Loans for 9M-15 rose 16% y-o-y to AED 154.1bn, while deposits declined by 2 % y-o-y to reach AED 141.5bn.

ADCB earnings grew 18% in Q3-15 y--y to AED 1.2 Bn, driven by higher fees and commissions. 9M-15 earnings rose 18% y-o-y to reach AED 3.7 Bn and operating income improved by 11 % y-oy to reach AED 6.2 Bn. Net interest income for the bank was up 13% at AED 4.7 Bn and non-interest income was up 4% at AED1.5 Bn. Net fees and commission income showed growth of 17%, reaching AED 1.0

In terms of monthly trading performance, Green Crescent Insurance topped the gainers chart with a monthly gain of 21.2% followed by National Corp for Tourism & Hotels and Etisalat with monthly gains of 12.5% and 7.7%, respectively. National Bank of Fujairah was the worst performer during the month falling by 34.3% followed by Al Khazna Insurance which declined by 22.5% m-om. The most active stocks by valued traded included Etisalat (AED 1.4 Bn), Etisalat (AED 568 Mn) and Al Dar Properties (AED 396 Mn).

Dubai Financial Market

DFM Index followed ADX but ended with a slightly smaller monthly decline of 2.5% in October-15 as positive returns in Insurance and Services stocks failed to offset the decline in large cap stocks in the Banking, Financial Services and Real Estate sectors. The decline in Banking stocks comes despite 6 out of the 8 banks in Dubai reporting 25% increase in 9M-15 profits. Within the banking sector, Amlak Finance saw the steepest monthly decline of 14.7% although the company is yet to report 9M-15 results. Other major decliners included Mashreq Bank (-6.3%) which reported a 7.6% drop in Q3-15 profits (although 9M-15 profit was up by 5.1%)

of 13.7% to AED 5.7 Bn as compared to AED 6.6bn during the previous month. The average daily volume traded increased to 197.7 Mn shares as compared to 192.5 Mn shares traded during September-15. Meanwhile, average daily value traded fell to AED 283.1 Mn in October-15 as compared to AED 306.9m during the previous month. In terms of sectoral contribution, the Real Estate sector contributed almost half of the total value traded during the month whereas the Banking sector contributed 23.3%.

The monthly gainers chart was topped by Gulf Navigation Holding with a return of 37.1%. The company's net profit for 9M-15 more than doubled to AED 15.7 Mn in addition to a contract win with Dana Gas that the company announced towards the end of the month. In terms of monthly value traded, Emaar Properties topped the chart with trades valued at AED 1.14 Bn.

Qatar Exchange

After three consecutive months of decline, the Qatar Exchange made positive progress during October-15 with the index up 1.2% to 11,604.59 points. The positive trend was broad based as seen in the 1.1% return for the Qatar All Share Index. Nevertheless, the exchange continues to remain in the red in terms of YTD-15 returns that stood at 5.5% by the end of October-15. The positive trend in October-15 was led by Transportation, Real Estate and Telecom stocks. The Transportation Index was up 5.8% during the month on the back of strong earnings for the sector resulting in positive returns for Qatar Gas Transport (+10.7%) and Oatar Navigation (+1.3%). Similarly, the real estate index gained 4.6% during the month led by strong earnings for the sector that led to positive returns for the four listed real estate firms.

For 9M-15, all but one of the 43 listed companies at Oatar Exchange (OSE) disclosed their earnings at the end of disclosure period. The combined net profit of all companies as of 30-Sept-2015 amounted to QAR 35.1 Bn versus QAR 32.9 Bn for the corresponding period in 2014, representing an increase of 6.4%. Vodafone Qatar was not included in the announcement of 9M-15 earnings due to its different fiscal year for reporting (01-Apr - 31-Mar).

decline of 8.3% followed by Gulf Warehousing Company and Al Khaleej Takaful Group with monthly declines of 7.9% and 6.5% respectively. On the economic front, IMF expects Qatar apart from Kuwait to be the only economy to run a fiscal surplus in 2015 (4.5% of GDP), contrary to estimates from Fitch in Sept-15, which guided for a budget deficit of 0.6% of GDP for the same period.

Bahrain Bourse

Bahrain All Share Index saw the fourth consecutive month of decline amid low trading activity on the exchange. The Bahrain All Share Index declined by 2.0% to 1,250.4 points resulting in a YTD-15 decline of 12.4%, one of the highest in the GCC. Trading activity contracted by more than two thirds to merely 28 Mn shares traded in October-15 after a pickup in September-15. Total value traded on the exchange went back to historical levels of BHD 5 Mn as compared to BHD 22 Mn in September-15.

Trading activity declined in Oct-15 after three consecutive months of positive activity. Monthly volume traded more than halved during the month to 28 Mn shares as compared to 87 Mn shares during Sept-15. The resulting average daily shares traded stood at 1.6 Mn shares as compared to 4.6 Mn shares during the previous month. The value of shares traded during the month declined more than 75% during the month to reach BHD 5.5 Mn as compared to BHD 21.9 Mn during the previous month, resulting in average daily trades of BHD 0.3 Mn as compared to BHD 1.14 Mn during Sep-15.

In terms of earnings, Ahli United Bank reported a net profit of USD 419 Mn for the 9M-15, an increase of 11.4% as compared to USD 376 Mn achieved in 9M-15. The net profit achieved for O3-15 was USD 141 Mn, a 23.8% increase over the Q3-14 reported profit of USD 114 Mn. The reported 9M-15 EPS increased to USD 0.065, from USD 0.06 in 9M-14. National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) recorded a net profit of BHD 43.4 Mn for 9M-15, compared to BHD 42.2 Mn for the corresponding period of the previous year, representing an increase of 2.8%. For O3-15, the NBB recorded a net profit of BHD 13.7 Mn compared to BHD 13.4 Mn for the corresponding period of the previous year. Total operating income came in at



CHALLENGES REMAIN FOR EUROPE'S SINGLE BANKING SUPERVISOR

FRANKFURT: A year after it took up its duties when it was entrusted with overseeing some as Europe's banking watchdog, observers say the Single Supervisory Mechanism is doing a good job, but challenges nevertheless remain. Setting up the SSM has been "a huge achievement. It has worked very well," said Bert Van Roosebeke, financial markets expert at the Freiburg-based think tank, the Centre for European Policy.

"The importance of the SSM is enormous. There isn't a bigger banking supervisor anywhere else in the world," he told AFP. The SSM officially started work on November 4, 2014

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123 banking groups within the 19-country eurozone.

Around 3,500 "less significant" credit institutions continue to be monitored by the national authorities of the individual eurozone countries, but under the overall oversight of the SSM.

The aim was to prevent a repeat of the 2008-2009 financial crisis that nearly led to the collapse of the euro. The SSM is one of the three main pillars of a planned European banking union, alongside a single banking

rule-book and a Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) in charge of winding up failing banks.

"We want the banks to be well-capitalised," even if it remains "up to the banks themselves to decide what their business model will be," insists Daniele Nouy, who is head of the new authority which employs a workforce of more than 1,000.

In concrete terms, the SSM can order fragile banks to recapitalise themselves and can even veto the appointment of managers who are not deemed suitably qualified. It also conducts regular "stress tests" of banks and in-

depth audits of their balance sheets to determine their current financial health.

While the SSM is formally part of the ECB, it is run totally independently. The idea of placing it under the ECB's umbrella was to ensure banking supervision from a Europe-wide perspective.

Conflict of interests

But critics, particularly in Germany, were quick to point out a potential conflict of interests. By having the ECB in charge of both monetary policy and banking supervision, there were concerns that its policy decisions could be influenced and distorted by the perceived needs of banks.

For example, it could be tempted to set low interest to assist weak banks, it was suggested. In order to get around this, the different operations were strictly separated, not only organisationally but physically, too.

The SSM is housed in the ECB's former Eurotower headquarters in downtown Frankfurt, while the monetary policy operations have moved to the bank's spectacular new skyscraper a few kilometres away in the east of the city.

CEP's Van Roosebeke conceded the set-up is not ideal. "But it was the best solution, given the speed with which it had to be set up," he argued. Taking the SSM out of the ECB altogether and turning it into a legally separate body would require a change in EU treaties and would have to be voted unanimously by all member states, he noted.

And Van Roosebeke felt the concerns were primarily German ones. "It doesn't bother other countries so much, who see

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other more pressing issues," he said.

Andreas Dombret, who is in charge of supervision within the German central bank or Bundesbank, said the new system "is functioning very well," even if there was still room for improvement, for example in the decision-making structures and processes.

Making banks safer

"A year ago, lots of people had doubts that it could work. There were a lot of banks, too, that didn't like it. But now most of them have come to accept the new mechanism," a German financial source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Sabine Lautenschlaeger, former deputy chief of the Bundesbank, but now vice chair of the SSM, called it a "successful but stressful year. We've made good progress in the better oversight of European banks and making them safer."

In France, too, the first year of the SSM is seen as largely positive. It has "helped calm the situation in the wake of the financial crisis, and reassured markets," said one banker. While the regulatory environment in Europe was becoming increasingly complex, "that will help restore credibility in the eurozone financial system, and that is a good thing," said another.

Fernando Restoy, deputy governor of the Bank of Spain and a member of the SSM's supervisory board, admitted that "the first year has, in fact, been difficult, but the results have been satisfactory on the road to a more stable and more solvent European banking system." —AFP

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0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	-	0.0	ABYAAR	33.0	33.0	2,211,500	72,980	23
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	-	0.0	MUNSHAAT	97	97	200,000	19,400	8
73	70	6,771.336	487,430	135	72	A	2.0	FIRSTDUBAI	56	54	867,070	47,539	20
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	84	-	0.0	KBT	43.0	41.5	2,044,000	86,022	63
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	-	0.0	REAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
87	86	43,000	3,713	7	87	•	3.0	MENA	29.5	27.0	1,723,536	47,491	77
540	530	748,444	403,574	37	530		-10.0	ALMUDON	37.5	35.5	7,427,066	272,421	118
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	216		0.0	MARAKEZ	28.0	27.5	456,110	12,553	29
45.0	43.5	2,910,240	128,938	67	44.5		0.5	REMAL	42.0	41.5	260,000	10,878	12
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	400	-	0.0	MASHAER	112	112	40,080	4,489	3
49.0	47.0	1,105,711	52,772	46	48.5	A	1.5	Real Estate			36,110,521	1,672,435	851
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	206	_	0.0						
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,060	_	0.0	KINV	112	110	450	50	2
158	146	5,256	768	3	152		2.0	FACIL	184	184	7,345	1,351	1
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	330	_	0.0	IFA	37.0	35.5	5,334,486	192,859	114
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	_	0.0	NINV	110	108	192,700	20,816	12
25.5	24.5	1,797,188	44,936	45	25.0	_	0.0	KPROJ	580	580	975,110	565,564	32
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	780	_	0.0	COAST	34.0	33.5	1,130,709	38,282	54
							5.0	SECH					38
73	73	518,000	37,814	10	73				51	49.5	1,495,955	74,675	
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	700	-	0.0	SGC	112	112	283	32	1
224	220	242,468	53,348	17	222	_	0.0	ARZAN	44.0	41.5	2,565,135	108,552	92
83	82	190.000	15.590	4	82	-	0.0	MARKAZ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
67	62	6,694,273	434,362	112	66	A :	4.0	KMEFIC	34.5	33.0	39,225	1,295	12
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	88	-	0.0	ALAMAN	62	61	144,000	8,784	5
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	81	-	0.0	ALOLA	66	66	200,000	13,200	5
81	81	2,740	222	4	81	-	0.0	ALMAL	35.5	34.5	1,190,249	41,428	45
75	75	50,000	3,750	2	75	-	0.0	GIH	37.5	36.5	12,630,334	469,649	202
106	106	500	53	1	106		4.0	AAYAN	47.5	47.0	772,290	36,534	25
87	82	10.100	829	2	87	_	0.0	BAYANINV	39.5	39.0	310,000	12,205	13
		21,277,009	1,708,711	515	1087.77		4.11	OSOUL	39.5	38.0	72,763	2,801	8
								KFIC	48.5	48.5	1,000	49	1
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	220	_	0.0	KAMCO	102	96	117,835	11,692	12
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	62	-	0.0	NIH	67	65	809,754	53,193	35
0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	_	0.0	ISKAN	31.5	31.5	282,000	8,883	11
138	138	10,000	1,380	1	138	•	-2.0	MADAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
88	86	356,000	30.817	8	88	•	1.0	ALDEERA	38.5	37.0	293,391	11,130	23
176	170	787	135	7	176	•	-4.0	ALSALAM	43.5	42.0	2,924,423	124,876	69
2,300	2,300	293	674	1	2,300	A	40.0	EKTTITAB	35.0	34.5	510,200	17,763	18
2,300	2,300	367,080	33,005	17	1101.00	*	-2.87	QURAINHLD	7.5	7.0	18,500	130	2
		307,000	33,000	17	1101.00		2.01	AL MADINA	54	51	6.591.968	346.072	106

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ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	920	_	0
YIACO	126	126	50,000	6,300	1	126		4
Health Care			50,000	6,300	-1	951.51		2.93
KCIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	950	_	0
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	196	_	0
SULTAN	75	73	80,575	5,946	14	73	•	-2
CABLETV	30.0	25.5	269	7	4	30.0		3
EYAS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	305	-	0
IFAHR	136	136	105,100	14,294	4	136		-10
OULAFUEL	118	112	27,140	3,181	13	116		2
MUNTAZAHAT	100	100	250,000	25,000	7	100		1
JAZEERA	480	465	2,359	1,131	4	480	90	0
SOOR	116	110	1,250,353	144,783	29	110		-4
FUTUREKID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	110	-	0
ALNAWADI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	83	_	0
ALRAI	166	158	470,115	75,496	33	158		-8
ZIMAH	89	88	2,216,344	195,834	39	88		1
UFIG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	140	-	0
KOUTFOOD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	580	_	0
Mezzan	1,100	1,100	137,255	150,981	10	1,100	*	-20
Consumer Servic	es		4,539,510	616,652	157	987.02		-3.86
ZAIN	375	370	608,444	225,599	44	370	*	-5
OOREDOO	1,040	1,040	8,625	8,970	5	1,040	-	0
HITSTELEC	30.5	30.0	2,146,500	64,816	28	30.5		1
VIVA	870	860	468,389	407,460	89	870		-10
Telecommunicati	ons		3,231,958	706,845	166	563.90	7	-3.59

OOREDOO	1,040	1,040	8,625	8,970	5	1,040	_	0
HITSTELEC	30.5	30.0	2,146,500	64,816	28	30.5		1
VIVA	870	860	468,389	407,460	89	870		-10
Telecommunicati	ons		3,231,958	706,845	166	563.90	▼	-3.59
NBK	820	820	1,408,672	1,155,111	31	820	_	0
GBK	270	270	500,000	135,000	13	270		5
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	520	_	0
ABK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	375		0
ALMUTAHED	550	530	33,368	18,032	13	550	-	0
KIB	234	230	1,145,369	267,409	35	232	-	0
BURG	400	395	164,963	65,635	13	400	A	5
KFIN	570	550	1,214,805	688,230	72	560	_	0
BOUBYAN	435	430	30,873	13,297	7	435	-	0
AUB	210	210	100,000	21,000	4	210	-	0
ITHMR	47.5	46.5	2,676,890	125,440	63	46.5		-1
WARBABANK	210	208	712,350	149,198	119	208	-	0
Banks			7,987,290	2,638,353	370	934.08	A	1.43
KINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	_	0
GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	600	_	0.0
AIMC	280	380	6.416	2 428	- 41	390		E 0

5,076

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STRATEGIA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	40.5		0.0
ASIYA	39.0	38.0	278,188	10,703	20	38.5	_	1.0
GNAHC				and the second	41	34.0	Ŷ	-0.5
The state of the s	34.5	33.5	1,545,171	52,648	- Lincoln			-
AMWAL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	31.0	_	0.0
ALIMTIAZ	74	74	200,000	14,800	3	74	•	-1.0
MANAZEL	34.0	33.5	841,350	28,282	21	33.5	_	0.0
NIND	144	144	979,024	140,979	43	144		2.0
BIIHC	39.0	37.0	11,900,451	454,674	205	38.5	•	1.5
SENERGY	14.0	13.5	1,295,000	18,080	18	14.0	_	0.0
AGHC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	84	-	0.0
KPPC	55	54	150,200	8,161	4	55	_	0.0
TAHSSILAT	40.0	40.0	1	0	- 1	40.0	A	1.0
JEERANH	67	64	185,782	12,051	11	65	-	0.0
EKHOLDING	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	-	0.0
GFH	42.5	41.5	1,835,916	77,154	36	42.5	A	0.5
INOVEST	58	58	10,000	580	1	58	•	-1.0
Financial Service	5		59,649,578	3,035,325	1,380	649.97	*	-1.31
Investment Instru	ments		0	0	0	1081.97	_	0.00
ASC	325	325	5,000	1,625	1	325		-25.0
osos	79	79	71,000	5,609	4	79		3.0
FUTURE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	116	-	0.0
HAYATCOMM	49.5	48.0	498,080	24,237	35	48.5	A	1.0
Technology	70.0	10.0	574,080	31,471	40	856.51		-10.4
BAREEQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	110	-	0.0
AFAQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	182	_	0.0
ALSHAMEL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0
SAFRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	16.5	-	0.0
AJWAN	30.0	29.5	800.700	24.001	19	30.0	-	0.0
MASAKEN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	53	_	0.0
DALQAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	-	0.0
ALEID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0
MIDAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,220	_	0.0
FLEX	48.0	44.0	2,001	91	3	48.0	-	-1.0
THURAYA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	150	-	0.0
KCLINIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.5	_	0.0
	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	72	-	0.0
AMAR	0.0							

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For more information, call Global Investment House on 1 80 42 42, www.globalinv.net

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		"Fin	ancia	l Mar	kets		140	11 1
~			Daily	Repo	rt			
7			02:00 PM					
	_	200						
		Glo	bal St	ock In	dices		Dailte	Yearly
Index	Previou	is Close	Last	Price	Cha	nge	Performance	ALLES PORTRE CONT.
Dow Jones	17,7	55.80	17,6	63.54	-92.26	•	-0.52	-0.90
NASDAQ	5,07	4.27	5,05	3.75	-20.52	*	-0.40	6.71
S&P 500	2,08	9.41	2,07	9.36	-10.05	•	-0.48	0.99
Financial Times	6,36	1.09	6,34	11.71	-19.38	•	-0.30	-3.42
DAX		50.14		18.50	68.36	A	0.63	11.35
CAC 40		7.66	3.50	0.98	13.32	A	0.27	14.94
Swiss		8.65	50.00.00	3.07	-15.58	•	-0.17	-0.67
Nikkei 225		83.10	8.45,35,74	83.24	-399.86		-2.10	7.06
Topix	1,00,00	8.20	107.00	6.97	-31.23		-2.00	8.49
Hang Seng Straits Times		40.04 8.35	0.000	70.04	-270.00 -23.94	_ *	-1.19	-5.23
straits rilles	2,77	1555.00	-22 1 0 1	W 100	2.02		-0.80	-11.61
		ME	NA Sto	ock In	dices			
Index	Previou	ıs Close	Last	Price	Cha	nge	Daily Performance	Yearly Performanc
Kuwait	5.77	9.74	5.78	4.80	5.06	_	0.09	-13.08
Saudi Arabia		5.77	-	0.05	54.28	_	0.77	-15.45
Dubai		0.93		4.65	63.72	A	1.86	-9.09
Abu Dhabi		8.72	-	9.11	0.39	_	0.01	-5.08
Bahrain	1,25	1.27	1,26	0.68	9.41	_	0.75	-12.29
Qatar	11,5	85.99	11,5	46.94	-39.05	*	-0.34	-5.70
Oman	5,94	8.14	5,93	8.57	-9.57	•	-0.16	-6.23
Lebanon	1,13	2.23	1,12	8.69	-3.55	*	-0.31	-4.36
Jordan	2,04	2.81	2,05	1.70	8.89	A	0.44	-5.66
Egypt	7,41	3.01	7,42	0.01	7.00	_	0.09	-16.96
Morocco	9,08	1.80	9,08	7.50	5.70	A	0.06	-5.60
Tunisia	5,11	3.30	5,09	5.76	-17.54	•	-0.34	0.46
	Glob	al Cui	rrenci	es Exc	change	Rate	9	
Currency	Kuwaiti	Saudi Riyal	US Dollar	Euro	Sterling	Swiss	Japanese	Australian
Kuwait Dinar	Dinar	12.2741	3.2868	2.9809	Pound 2.1238	3.2404	Yen 396.35	Dollar 4.6020
Saudi Riyal	0.08147	12.2741	0.2678	0.2429	0.1730	0.2640	32.29	0.3749
US Dollar	0.30425	3.7344	0.2070	0.9069	0.6462	0.9859	120.59	1.4002
Euro	0.33547	4.1175	1.1026	0.7007	0.7127	1.0874	133.03	1.5449
Sterling Pound	0.47086	5.7794	1.5476	1.4031	411121	1.5267	186.68	2.1668
Swiss Franc	0.30860	3.7878	1.0143	0.9196	0.6550		122.32	1.4202
Japanese Yen	0.00252	0.0310	0.0083	0.0075	0.0054	0.0082		0.0116
Australian Dollar	0.21730	2.6671	0.7142	0.6473	0.4615	0.7041	86.13	1
	MFN	IA Cur	renci	es Exc	hange	Rate		
TO EARTH AND DOCUMENT		Kuwaiti		Bahraini	Qatari	Omani	Emirates	Egyptian
Currency	US Dollar	Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Dinar	Riyal	Riyal	Dirham	Pound
US Dollar		0.30425	3.7344	0.3744	3.6255	0.3832	3.6570	7.9201
Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2868		12.2741	1.2305	11.9162	1.2593	12.0197	26.0316
Saudi Riyal	0.2678	0.08147		0.1002	0.9708	0.1026	0.9793	2.1208
Bahraini Dinar	2.6712	0.81270	9.9752		9.6843	1.0235	9.7684	21.1558
Qatari Riyal	0.2758	0.08392	1.0300	0.1033	0.4404	0.1057	1.0087	2.1846
Omani Riyal Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.79408	9.7466	0.9771	9.4624 0.9914	0.1048	9.5446	20.6710
Egyptian Pound	0.2734	0.08320	0.4715	0.1024	0.4578	0.1048	0.4617	2.103/
ay parametering	0.1203					313-104	0.1017	
Curren	4.10-1-		al Int			onth	4.	/ose
Currency Kuwaiti Dinar	1-Week 0.00	1-Month 0.81		onth 06		onth 31		/ear 50
US Dollar	0.00	0.19	1,000	33		55		86
Euro	-0.16	-0.13		.07		00		09
Sterling Pound	0.48	0.51		58		73	-	03
Swiss Franc	-0.79	-0.77	10002	.73		.69	-	.60
Australian Dollar	2.05	2.04	11 30.0	93	2 (2/5)	85		77
Canadian Dollar	0.00	0.83	0.	83	0.	88	0.	94
		Glo	bal B	ond Y	ields			
Country	2-1	'ear	5-Y	fear	10-1	Year	30-	Year
CONTROL OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		74	1	55	2	17	2	95
United States	0.	/-1		33	2.	17	2.	73

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0.64

Previous Close

44.18

48.01

46.65

1142.00

15.52

Europe

West Texas

Gold

-0.06

1.30

Last Price

42.53

47.93

46.55

1137.76

15.39

Commodities

0.56

1.95

Change

-1.65

-0.08

-0.10

-4.24

1.30

2.63

Yearly

-15.73

-15.54

-14.58

-3.67

Daily

-3.73

-0.17

-0.21

-0.37





REAL ESTATE PRICES WEAKEN AS ACTIVITY SLOWDOWN PERSISTS

NBK Economic Report

KUWAIT: Activity in Kuwait's real estate market remained relatively weak with multiple factors dampening sales and lessening its appeal to investors. Seasonality, a strong 2014 and low oil prices have been the main sources of weakness. For the first nine months of the year, total real estate sales reached KD 2.3 billion, down 26% from the same period last year. Most of the real estate price indices continue to exhibit positive annual growth, to the exception of the residential home index that has been in negative territory since last month.

To date, total residential sales in 2015 reached KD 1,065 million, and were KD 82.2 million in September. KD volumes and number of units sold year-to-date (ytd) were both down 24% and 29%, respectively compared to the same period last year. One of the factors behind the steep decline in activity might be the government's commitment to distribute around 12,000 plots each fiscal year, which represents an increase from previous years.

Sales in the investment sector are comparable to 2011-2013 levels, as 2014 was exceptionally high for the sector. Total KD volumes reached KD 960 million ytd, a 33% decline from the same period last year; however 7% higher than the average sales in 2011-2013. In terms of transactions, 1,079 sale contracts were executed ytd, the lowest in five years.

Investors appear to shift their appetite towards the commercial sector, where sales activity also slowed, though less severely. KD sales volumes were down 4% to KD 297 million ytd. In September, the sector recorded 11 transactions worth KD 45 million. Transactions in the commercial sector increased 12% ytd driven by a growing demand for retail space by start-ups and SMEs primarily in the food and beverage industry.

Meanwhile, according to Ministry of Justice figures, a transaction for KD 9 million for a restaurant complex was recorded separately. Although classified as commercial property, restaurant complexes have increasingly attracted investors for their higher return on investment (ROI).

Significant slowdown

Surprisingly, the significant slow-down in real estate activity since the beginning of the year has exercised minimal pressure on real estate prices so far. In fact, growth rates of the real estate indices trended slightly downward in September but remain up year-on-year (y/y). The investment building price index leads the pack with double digit growth of 16.4% y/y, followed by residential-land at 4.2% y/y. The residential-home price index trailed behind, logging negative growth of 1.8% y/y for the second consecutive month, signaling potential softness in prices.

The market appears to be set for another correction in residential home prices. In September, the NBK residential-home index stood at 175.8 points, 1.8% lower y/y. The residential home

price index has been trending slowly but steadily upward since 2006, although it seems to have flattened in recent months. However, the y/y growth rate depicts a different picture. From 2006 to date, the y/y growth of the residential home index peaked twice, the first time in December 2007; it peaked again in September 2013. During the first correction episode, the index's growth remained in negative territory for 12 consecutive months between November 2008 and October 2009, during which Brent averaged \$56.8/bbl and recorded a low of \$36.2/bbl in December 2008. Since the second peak in September 2013 (25 months to date), the annual growth has been steadily slowing and went into negative territory the last two

The market could be set for further correction in residential home prices as oil prices averaged \$56/bbl since the beginning of the year and sales and price growth have slowed; however it

is premature to forecast a "recession-like" period for residential home prices.

On the other hand, the NBK residential-land index appears now to be stabilizing after a correction during the first five months of the year. The index is up 4.3% for the year; though relatively flat for the month at 198.9 points. Out of the 16 areas included in the index, only four areas exhibited a decline in the average price/sqm for the first nine months of the year of around 1%.

Growth in the investment building price index remains in double digit, though it has been slowing down in 2015. To date price growth averaged 14.6%, almost half the average growth recorded for the same period last year. The investment building price index stood at 214.3 points, 5% lower than in August. Out of the 11 areas included in the index, 7 areas showed negative average growth in price/sqm for the first nine months of the year, with Abu Halifah, Jabriya, Salmiya and Farwaniya retreating the most by around 5%.

CHINA OCTOBER MANUFACTURING CONTRACTS AT SLOWER PACE

BEIJING: China's manufacturing activity shrank again in October but the rate of decline slowed in the world's second largest economy, an independent survey showed yesterday.

The sector is key to the health of the economy which is a major driver of global expansion, but has been showing shrinkage for the last eight months. Chinese growth is slowing and media group Caixin said domestic demand continued to fall, although new export business improved.

Its Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which tracks activity in factories and workshops, came in at 48.3 last month, it said in a joint statement with financial information provider Markit, which compiled the survey. The index is closely watched by investors as a barometer of the country's economic health. It remained below the break-even point of 50 but marked the smallest contraction since June, said the statement.

It also beat the median estimate of 47.6 in a poll of economists by Bloomberg News. "The slight upswing shows the manufacturing industry's overall weakening has slowed down, indicating that previous stimulating measures have begun to take effect," He Fan, an economist at Caixin Insight Group, said in the statement.

The Chinese government's own PMI reading for October stood at 49.8, unchanged from the previous month, the National Bureau of Statistics said Sunday. China's economy expanded 6.9 percent in the July-September period, the slowest

pace since the aftermath of the global financial crisis in 2009, official data showed.

Many analysts believe the actual

Many analysts believe the actual increase was even lower, due to factors such as the weak PMI readings. The government has taken a series of measures to stimulate growth. On October 23 it cut interest rates by 0.25 percent-the sixth reduction in a year-and abolished the official cap on interest rates for savers, a liberalising move.

But government intervention which struggled to halt a stock market rout this summer has increased doubts over policymakers' competence in managing a transition to a more market-based economy.

Brian Jackson, an economist with IHS Global Insight, said that with debts mounting, Beijing was likely to further reduce borrowing costs next year.

"Significant debt will continue to require refinancing in China in 2016, with further monetary easing likely through the first half," he said in a note.

The country has seen several corporate bond defaults this year as slowing growth pressures businesses. The Caixin survey showed domestic demand remained subdued, leading total new business to fall.

Input costs and selling prices both continued dropping as international commodity prices declined, highlighting deflationary pressures, it added.

The PMI data sent Chinese stocks lower yesterday, with the benchmark Shanghai Composite Index closing down 1.70 percent at 3,325.08. — AFP



SHANGHAI: China's first big passenger plane C919, a narrow-body jet which can seat 168 passengers, goes on display at a facility in commercial hub in Shanghai yesterday. The C919 rolled off the assembly line as the Asian giant seeks to develop its own aviation sector and challenge foreign industry giants for prestige and market share. —AFP

CHINA COMPLETES PRODUCTION OF OWN PASSENGER PLANE

SHANGHAI: China's first big passenger plane rolled off the assembly line yesterday as the Asian giant seeks the prestige of having its own aviation sector, and to challenge foreign giants Airbus and Boeing for market share.

Workers spent over a year putting together the C919, a narrow-body jet which can seat 168 passengers, at the Commercial Aircraft Corp. of China (COMAC) facility in Shanghai. For China, the plane represents at least seven years of efforts in a state-mandated drive to reduce dependence on European consortium Airbus and Boeing of the United States, and even compete against them.

"China's air transport industry cannot completely rely on imports. A great nation must have its own large commercial aircraft," the country's civil aviation chief Li Jiaxiang told an audience of government and industry officials.

A small truck towed the 39-metre long plane-painted white with a green tail-out of a cavernous building decorated with an enormous Chinese flag into the sunlight as project workers marched alongside, an AFP journalist

"The roll out of the first C919 aircraft marks a significant milestone in the development of China's first indigenous aircraft," COMAC chairman Jin Zhuanglong told the ceremony. The aircraft, which has a range of up to 5,555 kilometres (3,444 miles), will make its first test

flight in 2016, he said-meaning that it will miss the original deadline of this year.

The China Daily newspaper has reported the maiden voyage could even be put back to 2017. China has dreamed of building its own civil aircraft since the 1970s when Jiang Qing, leader Mao Zedong's wife and a member of the notorious "Gang of Four", personally backed an attempt to do so. But the Y-10's heavy weight made it impractical and only three were ever made.

Although the C919 is made in China, foreign firms are playing key roles by supplying systems as well as the engines, which are made by CFM International, a joint venture between General Electric (GE) of the US and France's Safran.

More than 500 orders

Spending on the C919 has not been revealed. Last month, the Export-Import Bank of China said it would provide state-owned COMAC with \$7.9 billion in finance for its aircraft projects.

The company already has orders for 517 of its C919 planes, according to a COMAC statement, almost all of them from domestic buyers. Among foreign customers, Thailand's City Airways has ordered 10, according to an announcement last month.

But it will take years for the C919 to be delivered to customers, with the plane

expected to enter service in 2019 at the earliest, industry officials said. "There's a lot of work to do still," said Briand Greer, president for Asia-Pacific of Honeywell Aerospace, which is supplying four key systems for the C919: flight control, wheels and brakes, auxiliary power units and navigation.

"A lot of testing, a lot of flight testing, systems integration testing and of course all the certification," he told AFP. COMAC has already developed a smaller regional jet, the ARJ, in a project which is years behind schedule.

The 78-90 seat ARJ is still undergoing test flights and lacks the crucial certification by the US Federal Aviation Administration that would enable it to fly in US skies.

The Chinese company also plans a wide body plane, the C929, in cooperation with Russia's United Aircraft Corp., and speculation is mounting China will create a new aeroengine entity to try to produce the powerful jets needed for large civil aircraft.

China is expected to add 6,330 new aircraft worth \$950 billion to its commercial fleet by 2034, Boeing estimates. The single-aisle C919 targets the lucrative segment dominated by Boeing's 737 and the Airbus A320.

"Research and manufacturing of a big plane is complex," said China's Vice Premier Ma Kai, the highest government leader attending the ceremony. "There is still a long way to go to commercial operation." —AFP



BEIJING: A pedicab driver waits for customers near a mall in Beijing yesterday. China's manufacturing activity shrank again in October but the rate of decline in the world's second-largest economy improved, an independent survey showed yesterday. — AFP





Claude Badan, General Director of the Kazakh Airport Management Group

FLYDUBAI EXPANDS NETWORK WITH FLIGHTS TO ASTANA

AIRLINE INCREASES FOOTPRINT IN KAZAKHSTAN TO THREE DESTINATIONS

DUBAI: flydubai yesterday marked the Kazakhstan in September 2014 with tinations in Africa, the Middle East and launch of its first flight to Astana, the airline's third destination in Kazakhstan. With two flights a week to Astana flydubai is the first Dubai-based carrier to provide a direct link to the Kazakhstan

Speaking at a press conference in Astana flydubai's Chief Executive Officer, Ghaith Al Ghaith, said: "Astana is an important addition to flydubai's network as we continue to grow our presence in Central Asia. Since our launch in Kazakhstan a year ago we now serve three routes in the country, demonstrating our commitment to further enhancing connections to new destinations from Dubai. Travelling to Dubai has never been more convenient and we look forward to providing passengers from the UAE and Kazakhstan with the oppor-

tunity to explore both countries." flydubai launched services to

direct links to Almaty and Shymkent. The airline now offers two flights a week to both Astana and Almaty and one flight a week to Shymkent. The launch sees flydubai's footprint in Central Asia and the Caucasus region expand to nine destinations, with 60 flights a weekto Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

Jeyhun Efendi, Senior Vice President Commercial (UAE, EU, ME, CIS) for flydubai, added: "This is an exciting time to launch services to the capital of Kazakhstan as both Astana and Dubai are preparing to host the EXPO in 2017 and 2020 respectively. We are committed to supporting travel and trade between Kazakhstan and the UAE by offering affordable and flexible services along with Business Class and Cargo operations. Now passengers from Astana will be able to visit multiple desthe Subcontinent throughout the flydubai network."

New destinations

flydubai has launched 16 new destinations since the start of 2015 creating a network of more than 96 routes across 45 countries. It operates a fleet of 50 new Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 aircraft with an average age of 3.1 years and has more than 100 new aircraft on order. The carrier's interline agreements allow passengers to benefit from Dubai's efficient aviation hub providing opportunity for onward travel to more than 250 destinations around the world.

Flights details

flydubai operates two flights a week between Dubai and Astana starting from 26 October on Mondays and Fridays with return flights the following day.



Ghaith Al Ghaith, flydubai and Saltanat Tompiyeva, Kazakhstan Civil Aviation.

BAHRAIN'S MINISTER TO INAUGURATE ARAB AVIATION AND MEDIA SUMMIT

KUWAIT: Bahrain's Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Engineer Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed will inaugurate the twoday annual Arab Aviation and Media Summit 2015. The fifth edition of the summit will take place on the 7th & 8th of December 2015 in the Kingdom of Bahrain's capital, Manama.

The Arab Aviation and Media Summit (AAMS) 2015 is a joint industry initiative by world-leading organizations committed to improving the state of aviation and tourism sectors

in the Arab world. This year's conference will focus on emerging areas such as the untapped potential of Arab aviation and tourism sectors and the way forward amidst the current political and economic climate as well as shed light on Bahrain's travel & Tourism experience. The summit will also see industry experts debating and discussing the growing significance of private sector contribution and opening up the sector to increased foreign investments.

"The Arab world's aviation and tourism sectors are changing rapidly and this platform has enabled industry experts to come together to discuss and debate the significant opportunities and challenges faced by the sector. We highly encourage such discussions and are proud to be the host to this year's Arab Aviation and Media Summit" Said Engineer Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Bilateral trade

"This year, Bahrain will host eminent industry leaders who will discuss how the sector is well placed for strong and consistent growth which will drive investment, job creation and bilateral trade. We are happy to welcome all the participants and look forward to meeting them in Bahrain" added Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Airport Company.

Described as the 'voice of the industry', the Arab Aviation and

Media Summit is the largest assembly of Arab media together with top executives from the aviation and tourism industry. AAMS takes place in a different Arab city every year drawing attention to the host city travel and tourism experience as well as facilitating for a large audience of Governments, decision makers and media to share, learn and exchange.

This industry initiative is supported and endorsed by many world leading organizations such as Airbus Middle East, Air Arabia Group, CFM, Amadeus, Alpha Aviation, CNBC TV among many other supporting partners; and this year's edition is held in partnership with the Kingdom of Bahrain's Ministry of Transportation & Telecommunications and Bahrain Airport Company.

Live updates from the conference will be made available through Twitter @AAMSummit and the dedicated website www.aamsummit.com In addition, a detailed White Paper summarizing the key discussion outcomes and recommendations will be available after the event.

GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF SUMMER CAMPAIGN FOR ITS CARDHOLDERS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank is pleased to announce the winners of the second draw in its exclusive 2015 Summer Campaign for its Credit and Debit cardholders. The campaign took place from 1 August to 30 September and all Gulf Bank credit and debit cardholders, who used their cards either internationally or locally, were automatically enrolled into the raffle draw for a chance to win a wide range of valuable prizes.

The second draw of the campaign took place on 12 October 2015. The winner of the grand prize, the Chevrolet Tahoe LS 2015, was Hmoud Mohammad Obaid Mejbil. Abdulmohsen Abdulrahman Al-Bishr won the Chevrolet Camaro LT Coupe 2015, while Ziad Nestas Antoun and Mohammed Saeed Majeed Ibrahim each won a Chevrolet Captiva LS 2015. Rolf Wimmer and Mohammad Mandani Ismael Ali each won a travel package worth KD 2,500. Gulf Bank congratulates the winners.

Gulf Bank values its customers and pledges to continue to offer them the exciting prize draws, exclusive discounts, and promotions, while also offering the best in banking services in Kuwait.

For more information on Gulf Bank and its latest promotions, please see the Bank's bilingual website www.egulfbank.com, or visit one of Gulf Bank's 57 branches, or call the Customer Contact Center at 1805805.



Hmoud Mohammad Obaid Mejbil winner of the grand prize, the Chevrolet Tahoe LS 2015



One of the winners of the Chevrolet Captiva LS 2015

NISSAN REPORTS NET INCOME OF 325.6BN YEN FOR H1 OF 2015

KUWAIT: Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. yesterday announced first-half fiscal year financial results for the six-month period ending September 30, 2015.

Nissan reported sharply increased operating profit and solid revenue growth. Strong demand for new products in North America and Western Europe, combined with the benefits of continued cost discipline and the yen correction against the US dollar, offset declining market conditions in Japan and several emerging markets.

Operating profit rose to 395.0 billion yen for the period, representing a 6.7% margin on net revenues that climbed 15.3% to 5.93 trillion yen for the period.

"Nissan has delivered solid revenue growth and improved profitability in the first-half of the fiscal year, driven by encouraging demand for our vehicles in North America and a rebound in Western Europe, which compensated for market volatility elsewhere," said Carlos Ghosn, president and chief executive

On a management pro forma basis, which includes the proportional consolidation of results from Nissan's joint venture operation in China, net revenue for the period increased to 6.45 trillion yen, up 14.4% year-on-year. Operating profit was up 38.8% versus the same period last year, to 461.6 billion yen, resulting in a 7.2% operating profit margin.

Nissan sold 2.62 million vehicles globally during the period, a 1.3% rise year-on-year.

World-leader

The sales and earnings improvement followed strong growth in North America, particularly for the Altima sedan and Rogue SUV, and encouraging demand in Western Europe for models including the X-Trail and Qashqai. In China, nine-month passenger vehicle unit sales rose by 9.5% to 722,000 units.



several emerging markets, the company continued to benefit from robust overall sales of award-winning models derived from the Common Module Family, developed within the Renault-Nissan Alliance. Nissan also remained the world-leader in electric vehicles, with cumulative sales approaching 200,000 units. As part of its zero-emission strategy, the company announced in September that its best-selling all-electric Nissan LEAF will be available with a new, larger 30 kWh battery that delivers a more-than-20-percent-longer driving range between charges.

FY2015 Outlook

"We are increasing our financial forecast for the full year as our product offensive, our continued financial discipline and the ongoing benefits of our Alliance strategy is delivering better than expected results," said Ghosn. Nissan has updated its forecasts first issued to the Tokyo Stock Exchange on May 13, 2015. Calculated under the equity accounting method for our joint venture in China for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016, the revised forecasts showed. The upward revision is based on a global sales forecast of 5.5 million units for the full fiscal year, up 3.4% on the prior fiscal year.

Since the beginning of fiscal year 2013, Nissan has reported figures calculated under the equity method accounting for its joint venture with Dong Feng in China. Although net income reporting remains unchanged under this accounting method, the equity-accounting income statements no longer include Dong Feng-Nissan's results in revenues and operating profit.

KIPCO ANNOUNCES 17% INCREASE IN PROFIT FOR FIRST 9 MTHS OF 2015

KUWAIT: KIPCO - the Kuwait Projects Company - has announced a net profit of KD 37.2 million (US\$ 123.1 million) for the first nine months of 2015, an increase of 17 per cent on the KD 31.82 million (US\$ 105.3 million) reported for the same period of 2014.

KIPCO's net profit for the three months ended September 30, 2015, came to KD 11.8 million (US\$ 39.1 million), an increase of 17 per cent on the KD 10.1 million (US\$ 33.4 million) reported for the same period last year.

The company's total revenue for the first nine months of 2015 increased by 3 per cent to KD 451.7 million (US\$ 1.49 billion) compared to KD 438.3 million (US\$ 1.45 billion) reported for the first nine months of last year.

KIPCO's consolidated assets increased in the first nine months of 2015 to KD 9.5 billion (US\$ 31.4 billion) from KD 9.3 billion (US\$ 30.8 billion) at year-end 2014.

Masaud Hayat, KIPCO's Chief Executive Officer - Banking, said KIPCO's results in the first nine months of the year demonstrate the strong performance of the core companies despite the harsh economic circumstances in the region:

"The results of the first nine months of the year reflect the level of delivery we expected from our core businesses. The performance of our companies is in line with the expectations we announced to our shareholders during our Shafafiyah Investors' Forum in March. Despite the difficult economic conditions in some of the countries in which we operate, the results we have achieved remain on the course of our objective to double our 2014 profit by 2018."



Masaud Hayat

AKON TO DEBUT NEW ALBUMS ON HIS OWN 'STADIUM' APP

LOS ANGELES: Akon, an R&B star who's collaborated with everyone from Eminem to Andy Samberg, is about to release his first albums in seven years - but you won't find them in stores or on streaming services like Spotify. Instead, he plans to release four albums through a new app, making him the latest artist to experiment with bypassing big record labels and traditional music distribution altogether.

The new app, called Stadium, will let fans stream Akon songs for free, although they'll have to put up with ads. But interacting with the app by clicking the ads or sharing with friends on Facebook will earn users credits they can use to "buy" digital goods such as ringtones, wallpapers and Akon-styled emoji. And, of course, to unlock more songs and unreleased videos. "It's going to definitely regenerate the music business," Akon said in an exclusive interview with The Associated Press, calling his app "the answer" to the music industry's problems. "It's going to take someone like me to take the chance on it."

Digital route

It's not a bad deal for Akon junkies; it lets them stream otherwise unavailable new music legally from their smartphones. For artists like Akon, this kind of independent digital route offers other major advantages - among them, sidestepping Spotify, Pandora and their ilk. Many musicians resent those services for offering what artists consider a tiny cut of streaming rev-

That's a big issue in the music industry, where sales of downloaded music are falling while streaming is surging. Services like Pandora and Spotify argue that they give out the majority of their revenue to artists and labels and the amount will only grow as more people stream.

Artists' own apps, however, can garner them a greater slice of ad revenue, while also scooping up data on which songs fans like most and where they live. Musicians can use them to sell concert tickets, backstage passes and T-shirts and other merchandise. By appifying himself and going independent, Akon aims to super-serve his 60 million-plus fans on social media. He said that roughly 200,000 people have already registered to receive the Stadium app when it's released in the next couple of

Other artists have gone down a similar road. Radiohead released "In Rainbows" as a pay-what-you-want album download in 2007. Lady Gaga debuted songs from "Born This Way" on a special version of the video game "FarmVille" in 2011, and last year U2 released "Songs of Innocence" as a free album to iTunes users, sponsored by Apple. Some acts - like Macklemore, Nine Inch Nails and The White Stripes - have foregone traditional record-label deals and thrived.

But none of these efforts have yet yielded a broadly viable way of getting music into the hands of fans while paying artists what they think they deserve. Streaming music, meanwhile, is exploding. It's on pace to double this year, according to Nielsen Music data, gains that would propel US "album" sales upward for the first time in four years. (Nielsen counts 1,500 song streams as equivalent to an album sale.) Streaming is "a huge piece of the business," said David Bakula, senior vice president of analytics at Nielsen.

Different genre

Akon's first four albums for the Stadium app will each hew to a different genre: world, house, urban and reggae. The last album, in the pop genre, will be released sometime before March next year, likely in standard formats on multiple digital and physical channels through Warner Music Group's Atlantic Records, Akon said. Warner said it was too early to comment on its

Vickie Nauman, a Los Angeles-based digital music consultant, says more artists should experiment with offerings like Stadium. Major streaming platforms, she says, are often incredibly cluttered, given that they can offer 30 million or more tracks. She argues that streaming is also too expensive, since the \$10-per-month on-demand plans like Spotify and Apple Music are roughly double what consumers have traditionally paid for music.

"Until we meet consumers where they are, at a price point they're willing to pay, and a user experience that has value, we won't have mass adoption of streaming," Nauman said. The Stadium app was developed by EscapeX, a New York startup that launched in July. It has made white-label apps for artists such as Karmin and plans to also release new music in new apps for the estate of Bob Marley and DJ Armin Van Buuren. Artists that own their music, as in Akon's case, keep 70 percent of the revenue. Otherwise they have to divvy that share with other rights holders.

EscapeX CEO Sephi Shapira says artists need to tap into the economy of engagement instead of hoping more people will pay for music. "Ninety-five percent of people will never pay for a subscription service," Shapira said. "We're telling artists to come join this economy." Akon said his cut of streaming revenue will be far better than on popular platforms like Spotify or Pandora. "You've got a fraction of a penny with them, and you've got cents over here," he said, noting that songs like "Sexy Chick" and "Lonely" have collectively been streamed more than a billion times since release. "Just think about it," he said. "Why give someone like Spotify or Pandora 99.9 percent of what should go in your pocket? It doesn't make sense." — AP



SEOUL: In this Thursday July 16, 2015, file photo, South Korean high school students play games on their smartphones on a bench on

S KOREA PULLS PLUG ON CHILD MONITORING APP

SEOUL: The most widely used child surveillance app in South Korea has been pulled from the market after security specialists raised serious concerns about the program's safety. Moon Hyunseok, a senior official at the Korea Communications Commission, told The Associated Press that "Smart Sheriff" has been removed from the Play store, Google's software marketplace, and that existing users are being asked to switch to other programs.

The government plans to shut down the service to existing users "as soon as possible," he said. Smart Sheriff's maker, an association of South Korean mobile operators called MOIBA, declined comment. Smart Sheriff's disappearance is a blow to South Korea's contentious effort to keep closer tabs on the online lives of its youngest citizens. Less than a year ago, the government and schools sent letters to students and parents to encourage them to download Smart Sheriff.

While security was one of the reasons that led to the removal of Smart Sheriff, the KCC official said the regulator had decided earlier this year to suspend the app at the end of December. The fasterthan-expected availability of free monitoring apps from private companies prompted the regulator to remove the app two months sooner than scheduled, he said.

'Catastrophic'

A law passed in April requires all new smartphones sold to those 18 and under to be equipped with software which parents can use to snoop on their kids' social media activity. Smart Sheriff, the most popular of more than a dozen state-approved apps, was meant to keep children safe from pornography, bullying and other threats, but experts say its abysmal security left the door wide open to hackers and put the personal information of some 380,000 users at risk.

Pulling the plug on Smart Sheriff was "long overdue," said independent researcher Collin Anderson, who worked with Internet watchdog group Citizen Lab and German software auditing firm Cure53 to comb through the app's code. In a pair of reports published in September, Cure53 described the app's security as "catastrophic." Citizen Lab, which is based at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs, said the problems could lead to a "mass compromise" of all users.

MOIBA said in response then that the vulnerabilities had been dealt with in the six weeks preceding publication of the reports. But the researchers said in new reports published Sunday that the fixes were mainly cosmetic. Anderson said they were "akin to putting a lock on a few of the doors but then leaving the keys to the locks outside."

Mario Heiderich of Cure53 said it wasn't his place to say whether it was right to mandate the installation of monitoring apps on children's phones. But he said Smart Sheriff's implementation of the surveillance was disastrous.

"If you are going to do it at all, you have to do it right," he said. "And this was not done right at all." Anderson said there was no guarantee that the other monitoring apps didn't also have security issues. If the government requires its citizens to use specific programs, citizens should demand more transparency and more information from the government as well as from the companies that create the apps so that anyone can audit the programs, said Ronald Deibert, director at The Citizen Lab. — AP



LOS ANGELES: In this Wednesday, Oct 21, 2015 photo, Akon poses for a portrait. When Akon releases his first albums in seven years, heill largely bypass the music labels and ask fans to download an app to their phone for exclusive access.

RSA VIA CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS EMBRACE SMART IDENTITY SOLUTIONS

DUABI: RSA, The Security Division of EMC (NYSE:EMC), today announced a host of RSA Via customers and partners who are embracing RSA's Smart Identity solutions. These organizations state that RSA Via solutions help enable them to regain control over their users' identities and access across locations globally, by offering a single, central view of identity, resources, entitlements, and access. With identity becoming an ever-increasing attack vector, this comprehensive view of who has access to what resources helps customers and partners better detect and respond to advanced

RSA Helps Ensure Customer Success as they Extend to the CloudCurrent approaches to identity fail as organizations seeking increased productivity, business responsiveness, and efficiency

embrace the cloud. Legacy identity solutions lack the flexibility to support new cloud applications, and today's cloud-only identity providers cannot adequately address the reality of hybrid enterprise/cloud environments, which will be the norm for years to come.RSA Via Access is engineered to take a hybrid cloud approach to securing identities, allowing customers to enforce the same level of secure access to enterprise and SaaS resources, whether in the cloud or on-premise, without the need to sync sensitive user credentials to the cloud.

Additionally, the RSA Via Access integration with RSA SecurID authentication helps increase the number of authentication methods to cloud applications available to users, enabling further optimization of convenience and security for end users.

INVESTORS IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY **PARIS:** Music streaming was supposed to have come of age with the public listing of

STREAMING STILL HASN'T CONVINCED

Deezer, but the French company's postponement of its stock offer demonstrated investors still have concerns about its economic model. Deezer hit the pause button on the first initial public offering of a music streaming firm at the last minute on Tuesday, citing "market conditions", sending a bad signal for companies in the sector which have so far been dependent on venture funding.

The French company, a pioneer in the field, had sought to raise at least 300 million Euros (\$330 million) via the float, with a listing on the Paris stock exchange, and to get more visibility and funds as it seeks to take on its better-known Swedish rival Spotify in a market that is becoming more crowded with the entry earlier this year of Apple. Despite a number of major investors being interested, Deezer was unable to fill the order book for the operation which would have valued it at over \$1 billion.

"It's a big disappointment, said Greg Revenu, a specialist on IPOs of startups at the investment bank Bryan Garnier & Co. The postponement of the company's IPO has resulted in concern about Deezer's business model. Despite a 53 percent jump in revenues last year to 142 million Euros, Deezer is still not profitable. Neither is the much larger Spotify, which lost 162.3 million Euros on revenue of 1.08 billion last year as it made major investments in technology and expansion.

Nevertheless many analysts see services like Deezer and Spotify, which make most of their money by getting users to pay a monthly subscription fee for unfettered access to song catalogues that number in the millions, as the future of the industry to the detriment of downloads and CDs. The market is shifting fast, with streaming revenue to music labels already beating sales of CDs and records in the United States, and in France it is worth half the amount of physical sales.

Deezer's dependence

Despite the strong growth, streaming serv-

ices have yet to turn profitable, mostly due to their heavy dependence upon music recording companies for content. Due to the strong concentration of music labels "the costs of rights and royalties ... are too high" and weigh upon the profitability of the streaming companies, said Revenu.

In comparison, video streaming company Netflix had reduced its dependence on film studios by producing its own programs. Investors were also likely hesitant about Deezer's reliance on tie-ups with mobile operators for most of its subscriptions. The service "is unique in having a high integration with mobile operators", notably with Orange in France, said Revenu. Of Deezer's 6.3 million subscribers, only 1.5 million subscribe directly to the service. The other 4.8 million get it as part of their mobile phone subscriptions, and of these only 1.5 million were active in June 2015. The difficult market environment also played a role, said Revenu. A few days before, shares in Pandora plunged more than 35 percent when the Internet radio station posted disappointing results, and Netflix's third quarter profits fell by half to \$29.4 million.

And even as the sector is expanding, it is already crowded. Spotify says it has 75 million users, of whom 20 million subscribe to the paid service. Apple Music already has 6.5 million subscribers after just four months. And YouTube is also looking to push into the segment, having in October launched a paid, adfree service. And then there is the question of whether the seament will ever be profitable.

Bloomberg View columnist Leonid Bershidsky recently said that both Deezer and Spotify have been hoping that their expanding subscriber base would produce fast enough revenue growth to cover their development and marketing costs. "It's not really happening, though: Costs are growing in step with revenue," he said. Bershidsky also noted that the music industry is just half the size it was in 1999. "Deezer, Spotify, Apple Music and others are taking over a shrinking market, so profits will remain elusive," he wrote in an edi-



Jr speaks at Harvard University in Cambridge. — AP

GATES HOPING TO INSPIRE LOVE OF STEM THROUGH GENEALOGY

WASHINGTON: Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. hopes to trigger a love for science, technology and math among American students by turning them on to searching for their family roots. Gates, the Harvard University scholar and host of a genealogy show on PBS, and fellow researchers from Spelman College and Pennsylvania State University recently received a \$355,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to create a genealogy and genetics summer camp for middle school children, as well as a \$304,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for college-level courses.

The summer camps will start at Penn State University and the University of South Carolina this summer, and at the American Museum of Natural History in 2017. The college courses, in biology with a genetics and genealogy-centered approach, will be held at Spelman College and Morehouse College in Atlanta, and North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

'Ancestry chasing'

"Ancestry chasing through genealogy and genetics is about one thing ultimately and that is you," Gates said in a phone interview. "And what's your favorite subject? Your favorite subject is yourself." Gates, host of "Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr" on PBS, said the curriculum he is developing would teach social science, history, interview skills, archival skills and biology. The goal is to help students discover an innate love of science, technology, engineering and math that may lead to careers in STEM fields.

Hispanics, blacks, and Native Americans together comprise only 10 percent of workers in science and engineering jobs and 13 percent of science and engineering degree holders, according to the National Science Board's Science and Engineering Indicators 2014 report, though they represent 26 percent of the population. The popularity of genealogy and finding ancestors would get children hooked, potentially inspiring future professors, scientists and mathematicians, said Gates. He said he wasn't worried about being able to keep the attention of young people. "We're going to teach them about Y-DNA if you're a man, how you get that from your father who got that marker from his father and his father," said Gates, referring to the Y chromosome. Students also will learn about mitochondrial DNA, "which you get from your mother and her mother and her mother, whether vou're a man or a woman."—AP

UK POLICE COST-CUTTING WITH SKYPE INTERVIEWS

LONDON: Victims of non-emergency crimes in Britain are being asked to conduct police interviews via online phone service Skype to cut costs, the constabulary pioneering the scheme said Friday. Cambridgeshire Constabulary in eastern England, which is trialing the scheme in the city of Peterborough, hopes it will provide more flexibility than the current method of home visits, allowing better response time.

Crimes reported on the non-emergency 101 telephone number will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and the victims will be advised whether to continue via phone, Skype or with a home visit. Under the scheme-to be rolled out from Tuesday-older victims, those unfamiliar with technology and victims of more personal crimes could still be interviewed at

home, a force spokesman told AFP. Forces across the country are turning to technology to

help plug the funding gap caused by spending cuts imposed to reduce Britain's deficit. Oz Merrygold, secretary of Cambridgeshire Police Federation, said it was "just not possible anymore" to visit homes for all crimes.

"We're having to redefine the way we police," he said. Former officer Clive Chamberlain criticized the measure as 'virtual policing". "This is such a retrograde step-but when budgets are slashed by millions 'virtual policing' is going to be the norm," he wrote on Twitter. Retired London officer Norman Brennan added that "personal" crimes such as burglary should always require a home visit. Melanie Dales, area commander for Peterborough, insisted that the initiative would improve their service.

"We understand people have busy lives and this service will provide flexibility, with appointments from 8am to 10pm seven days a week," she said. "It will allow officers, who use a large proportion of their time travelling across the city to and from appointments, more time to patrol their neighborhoods. "Also, by using modern technology such as Skype, we are increasing our efficiency and ensuring we are able to respond to people in a shorter time frame," she added. — AFP



MONTERREY, Mexico: Mayela Benavides helps her daughter Graciela walk inside her home.—AP photos



MONTERREY, Mexico: Graciela Elizalde, an 8-year-old who suffers from Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, a severe form of epilepsy that causes intense seizures, receives hydrotherapy.



MONTERREY, Mexico: Mayela Benavides carries a her daughter Graciela who suffers from Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, a severe form of epilepsy that causes intense seizures, after a hydrotherapy treatment at a swimming complex.

MEXICAN FAMILIES HOPING FOR MEDICINAL MARIJUANA

MONTERREY, Mexico: As Mexico's top court prepares to consider arguments that could open the door to the recreational use of marijuana, some families are hoping such a step could help make medicinal marijuana more accessible. The parents of 8-year-old Graciela Elizalde of Monterrey have already seen a difference in their daughter since she began taking a marijuana extract recently. A federal judge gave them permission to import the marijuana oil. "We're very happy because what we're seeing is that Grace is sleeping

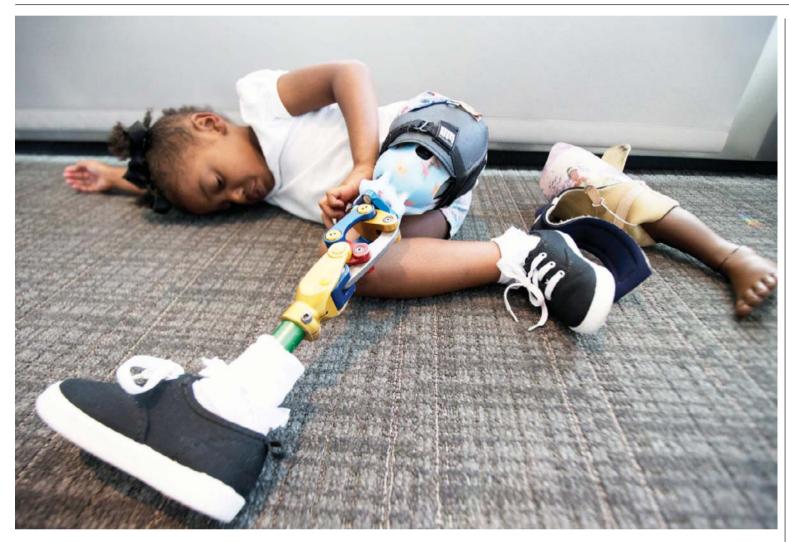
continuously through the nights, something she had not done in months," said her father, Raul Elizalde, using the child's nickname. Graciela suffers from a severe form of epilepsy that causes intense seizures.

The Elizaldes are not part of the case on recreational use that Mexico's Supreme Court this week put off hearing until at least next week, but they hope it could make things easier for them and other families. "The debate before the Supreme Court right not is about recreational cannabis," Raul Elizalde

said. "What we're looking for is medicinal cannabis, but if it (the court) opens the door for recreational cannabis it would be welcome because by default it would benefit us,

Mexico has decriminalized the possession of some drugs, including marijuana, for personal use since 2009. Elizalde said the family arrived at the decision to try marijuana for their daughter only after exhausting every other option. "The first person who changed his way of thinking was me," he said. "I was someone who thought that cannabis did not serve for anything, that it couldn't be a good thing for someone." Reynold Guadalupe Nava, a 4-year-old who also lives in Monterrey, is another child whose mother thinks he could benefit from medicinal marijuana.

Mirna Alvarado said Graciela's case had opened the door and she hopes authorities will begin looking favorably on others as well. She said through talking to other families with children suffering from similar conditions they heard that cannabis oil could help Reynold. "We know there are about 40 families right now that have been organizing around Grace's parents," said Dr Carlos Aguirre Velazquez, chief of pediatric neurology at Monterrey's Children's Hospital. "We don't know what the final result will be, but I believe it's time to set aside a bit the debates and take clear positions," he said. "To say, we, from a health perspective, are in favor of a therapeutic resource used scientifically for the health of any neurological case that requires it."—AP



WASHINGTON: Miyah Williams, 3, wearing her prosthetic leg, rests in Washington, at a meeting on the need for new pediatric medical devices hosted by Children's National Health System.

NEW PUSH FOR PINT-SIZED MEDICAL DEVICES TO TREAT SICK KIDS

want to hear from their kid's doctor. Yet pediatric specialists too often have to jury-rig care because many of the medical devices needed to treat sick children were built for adults. Part of the problem is size. Doctors fixed Alice de Pooter's faltering heartbeat by wedging an adult pacemaker into a baby's body. But the device's large battery bulged so badly under her rib cage that she struggled to sit upright until her first birthday. It's also an engineering problem. Children aren't just miniature adults; their bodies are growing and changing. When adult devices haven't been formally studied in children, using them in youngsters can raise safety questions.

Treatment market

"It affects patient care. We need to find a resolution," Dr Matthew Oetgen, chief of orthopedic surgery and sports medicine at Children's National Health System, said at a recent grants competition that the Washington hospital hosted to help spur development of innovative pediatric devices. There's little financial incentive to create and test pint-sized devices because children overall are healthier than adults and make up a fraction of the treatment market. But families are starting to demand solutions.

A birth defect left Miyah Williams with one leg missing at midthigh. The prosthetic leg she received as a toddler came with such a painful, sweat- and sore-inducing socket - a rigid cup connecting the leg to her thigh - that she refused to wear it. Her mother eventually found a small San Francisco company willing to design a softer, adjustable socket able to grow some as Miyah does. Miyah, now 3, dances to show off a leg finally comfortable enough to wear all day. "She told them earlier today that her bone no longer hurts," Tamara Williams of Fayetteville, North Carolina, said of manufacturer LIM Innovations. "They made her a socket that changed her life."

The industry acknowledges medical devices designed specifically for children often lag five years to 10 years behind new technology for adults, and Food and Drug Administration statistics illustrate the disparity. In 2013, eight of the 38 novel or higher-risk devices FDA approved were labeled for use by patients younger than 22. In 2014, six of 33 such device approvals were for pediatric use; so were two devices for rare disorders allowed to sell under a special fast-

WASHINGTON: Improvise isn't a word parents tracking program. Consider pacemakers. Children account for only about 1 percent of pacemaker implants, said Dr Charles Berul, codirector of Children's National Heart Institute. Adult pacemakers such as the biventricular version implanted into Alice de Pooter when she was 4 months old can save lives, but improvising has drawbacks, he said.

Less invasive

Adults typically have a pacemaker's electrical leads, or wires, easily threaded into the heart through a vein, but babies require open-chest surgery attaching them to the outside of the heart, explained Berul, Alice's longtime cardiologist. Faster child heartbeats wear out the batteries more rapidly, and the leads can stretch out of place as tots grow. Now 3 and living near Houston, Alice has a well-functioning heart and while the battery's outline remains visible in her belly, "she's running and happy," said her mother, Charlotte Vanheusden. Manufacturers are developing a tiny wireless pacemaker for adults. If it works, Berul hopes eventually that could be adapted for children, too. Meanwhile, he's developing a less invasive way to place today's wires in tots, with aid from a tiny camera normally used in the urinary tract.

It's an example of partnerships between doctors and bioengineers that are springing up at numerous children's hospitals and universities, sparked in part by 2007 legislation establishing an FDA program with a small budget to help fund early pediatric device development. This year, FDA awarded \$3.5 million to eight such consortia around the country. Some experts argue more far-reaching incentives are needed, such as tax credits and patent exclusivity that in recent years have spurred an increase in medications for rare diseases.

Early prototypes

Another incentive: Make a device that works first in kids, and "absolutely there will be benefit for the adult population. It's not as easy the other way around," said Dr Vasum Peiris, FDA's new chief medical officer for pediatric devices. Doctors point to some successes. The Berlin Heart child-sized implantable pump was approved through a special FDA program in 2011 to help children survive the wait for a heart transplant, an option long available for adults. OrthoPediatrics Corp of Warsaw, Indiana, recently created a device to repair a common knee injury, a torn ACL, without damaging young children's still-growing bones.

Last month's competition by Children's National's innovation institute highlighted early prototypes attempting to wind through the pipeline, from a device by Ireland's AventaMed to implant ear tubes in voungsters without requiring full anesthesia to a test by Prospiria Inc in Galveston, Texas, showing if breathing tubes are inserted properly. The ideas don't have to come from pediatricians: "Just ask patients what they want," said Dr Andrew Pedtke, an orthopedic surgeon who co-founded LIM Innovations after seeing adult amputees struggle with painful sockets and had a small team beginning pediatric work when Miyah's mother made her request.—AP



surgery scar and the bulge from a pacemaker battery in Tomball, Texas.—AP photos

EXOSKELETON RESEARCH COULD ALLOW PARALYZED TO TURN AND CLIMB

NEW YORK: Swiss sensory motor scientists are hoping to inspire a new generation of more flexible, less constraining, powered exoskeletons that improve the lives of the severely disabled and paralyzed. Metal exoskeleton suits worn outside the body, delivering energy for limb movement, are becoming more widespread, helping survivors of strokes, spinal cord injuries, and other lower extremity weaknesses to walk again. Yet they are far from perfect solutions. A patient's joints can be misaligned with those of the exoskeleton, thus constraining the wearer's walking. They are also usually bulky, making climbing stairs impossible, while the limitations of their joint mechanisms makes anything other than walking in a straight line difficult, slow, and inefficient, and in some cases unachievable. ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal institute of Technology) researcher Volker Bartenbach told Reuters that a prototype developed at the institute's Sensory Motor Laboratory allows users far more freedom. "Hopefully we will build systems that allow you to do more tasks," he said. "Besides walking in a straight line, you might be able to walk sideways in front of your kitchen counter or something like that, to walk stairs up and down. Also to turn round on the spot, so they need different joints, they need different degrees of freedom and if we had a system that was powerful enough to support you but also less constraining to allow you those movements you would be able to do such movements, even if you were a paraplegic or handicapped person."

Bartenbach and professor of sensory motor systems, Robert Riener, are seeking to replicate the natural kinematics of human lower limbs, in an attempt to improve the type of exoskeleton currently being manufactured. Pointing to one of the exoskeleton hip joints, Bartenbach demonstrated to Reuters how the device could allow users to move their joint in a variety of ways. "We have here the hip joint, so if move my leg like this the exoskeleton provides this degree of freedom. The same, different degree of freedom is, for example, the adduction abduction, so if I spread my leg to the side and this is also provided here by the exoskeleton, by the joint, so if I'm inside I can still perform this movement," he said.

Assistive devices

He added: "The human also has internal, external rotation, so we can rotate our hip around this axis, which we need for example if you turn around on the spot - and here you see we are testing a technical solution, how to reproduce it, how to allow this movement. What you can see here is this four bar linkage mechanism. If you have multiple joints connected in a certain

way then we allow the leg inside to still perform this movement."

Bartenbach wants to build an exoskeleton that is an alternative to a wheelchair for a spinal paralysis patient. The lab is also working on a different approach for assistive devices, a so called soft exosuit. These robotic devices rely on force transmission through textiles and can be worn like regular clothes, yet provide sufficient assistance to support the wearer during specific motions and ideally feature no rigid structures like traditional exoskeletons. The lack of a rigid structure avoids, or at least reduces, many of the negative effects rooted in the heaviness and high inertia of the structure and actuators, as well as in the bulky design and kinematic constraints.

The team has already developed the second generation of a gait training robot called Lokomat, in cooperation with commercial company Hocoma. It consists of an exoskeleton attached to a treadmill, while a variety of cameras track the user's limb movements. Lokomart is used to help those with gait paralysis walk again. Riener says patients using Lokomat undertake training considerably more intensive than conventional gait therapies. "They (patients) have to walk a lot, they have to do intensive training and walk on that treadmill while being body weight supported and the robot guides the legs and enables them to walk, which they could not do at all without this device," he said.

Recovery times

Riener added: "The only alternative to this device in gait training is the application of manual gait therapy where two or even three therapists are guiding the leg and helping the patients to walk. However, that's personally very intensive and the training duration is limited. With the robot the patients can train much longer and much more intensive."

The professor says that, if developed on a commercial scale, the process will reduce the costs of healthcare, while intensifying recovery times. Riener is organizing next year's Cybathlon, an annual event organized by ETH Zurich in which people with a variety of disabilities compete to finish a variety of everyday tasks that are particularly difficult for their individual handicap. For instance, patients with prosthetic upper limbs will perform tasks such as carrying shopping bags or preparing a meal, while those with lower limb paralysis will be asked to undertake activities such as climbing stairs, using a robotic exoskeleton for assistance. According to the ETH Zurich website, "through the organization of the Cybathlon we want to help removing barriers between the public, people with disabilities and science."—Reuters

CHIPOTLE CLOSES 43 US RESTAURANTS AFTER E COLI OUTBREAK

NEW YORK: Chipotle Mexican Grill shut 43 restaurants in Oregon and Washington states following an outbreak of E coli linked to at least 22 cases, a Chipotle spokesman said yesterday. The burrito chain said the outbreak had been traced to six restaurants, but that it had taken action on other Chipotle outlets in the two western states out of "an abundance of caution." "We are working with health department officials to determine the cause of this issue," said a Chipotle spokesman "We offer our deepest sympathies to those who have been affected by this situation." Regulators said over the weekend they found 19 cases of infection in Washington state and three

in Oregon. One third of the infected people were hospitalized and there were no fatalities, the Oregon Health Authority said.

"Many people affected with Shiga toxin E coli may not seek health care, so the number of people made ill by this outbreak is likely more than identified," it said. Typical cases usually develop diarrhea and abdominal cramps within 1-10 days, with most illnesses resolving on their own within seven days, the agency said. However, in rare cases, elderly and young children can develop a severe type of kidney failure, the agency said. Chipotle, which has about 1,850 restaurants, shares fell 2.9 percent to \$621.95 in morning trade.—AFP

HEALTH & SCIENCE





KUWAIT: Musaed Bader Al-Sayer and Dr Hossam Afify.

AL-SAYER GROUP JOINS CANCER AWARE NATION CAMPAIGN

'YOU DESERVE OUR CARE AND ATTENTION'

KUWAIT: In view of their interest in the community affairs, Al-Sayer Group CSR and Al-Sayer Medical held a joint campaign in the activities of Cancer Aware Nation Campaign (CAN) on the occasion of world day for breast cancer under the logo "You deserve our care and attention" and World Heart day 2015 under the mission healthy heart choices for everyone, everywhere.

Cancer Aware Nation Campaign

As part of efforts to participate in the awareness campaign of early detection of cancer, Al-Sayer Group participated with "C.A.N" in organizing a special event for all ladies working at the Group. The event was attended by Musaed Bader Al-Sayer, Board Member Al-Sayer Group Holding, Luluwa Naser Al-Sayer, Treasury Manager, in addition to a large numbers of participants.

On the occasion of inaugurating the awareness campaign Eng Nehad Al-Haj Ali, Manager, Corporate Excellence, Nawraz Ibrahim Agwa , Assistant Manager, Quality Assurance, and Yehia Al-Othman, Supervisor, Corporate Events represented Al-Sayer

Group Holding during the Press conference. During the event, Najlaa Al-Sayed,

Internal Medicine at Makki Jomaa Hospital gave a lecture about breast cancer disease and the importance of the early detection to fight this disease.

Al-Sayer Medical company endorses breast cancer awareness campaign

Al-Sayer Medical participated in the event by displaying variety of medical tools and equipment related to this disease. On the occasion of inaugurating the awareness campaign, Dr Hossam Afify, GM of Al-Sayer Medical Company said: "The company is eager to support all awareness activities to increase the general health and raise the health awareness in the society. Therefore, we have worked in collaboration with our partner Mentor, one of Jhonson & Jhonson's Companies, to support this campaign. Mentor is a global leader in the industry of padding and fillers used in Breast Reconstruction after Mastectomy in the case of cancer. Mentor is also keen on spreading general health culture among patients and

give them the opportunity to recognize the available options for breast reconstruction which will make the patient live normally and will reflect positively on her psychologi-

He added "The number of Breast Reconstruction surgeries in the Middle East is relatively low comparing to USA and Europe, because of the lack of the patient's knowledge. We are proud of representing Mentor Jhonson & Jhonson's in Kuwait, certified by US Food & Drug Organization. Mentor has published an instruction booklet for patients which explains the Breast Reconstruction surgery in details, in addition to few leaflets for breast self-exam and Breast Cancer Early Detection which helps in early treatment and will affect to raise the percentage of recovery. We also keep advising ladies on the age of 35 and above to visit their doctors and make the annual periodic examination. At the end of the event, the Top Management of Al-Sayer Group Holding expressed their appreciation for C.A.N Campaign and the organizers for their great efforts and wished all the ladies health



and wellness.

World Heart Day

World Heart Day, is an initiative by World Heart Federation to focus on creating hearthealthy environments by ensuring that people are able to make heart-healthy choices wherever they live, work and play.

The mobile heart unit conducted medical

examinations among the Group employees and visitors for early detection of risk factors related to heart diseases like high levels of sugar, cholesterol, blood pressure and salts.

Appreciating the positive support offered by Kuwait Heart Foundation Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility Manager Al-Sayer Group Holding Nehad Al-Haj Ali said "Al-Sayer Group Management is always trying to provide a healthy work environment backed by all means of convenience and comfort including providing healthy meals served at the employee cafeteria in addition to encouraging employees to quit smoking and maintaining a healthy life style". Meanwhile Dr Hind Shomar Board Member Kuwait Heart Foundation said "World Heart Day 2015 encourages us all to reduce our cardiovascular risk, and promotes a heart-healthy planet for those around us. World Heart Day takes place on 29th September each year to inform people around the globe that heart diseases and strokes are the world's leading cause of death, claiming 17.3 million lives each year and the numbers are rising".



PALMAS, Brazil: Cinta Larga indigenous men sell products made from Brazil nuts during a fair on the sidelines of the Indigenous World Games.—AP

INDIGENOUS FROM AMAZON SEE BRAZIL NUT AS FOREST'S FUTURE

PALMAS, Brazil: The creation story of the Cinta world wrapping up this weekend in Palmas. The containing the nuts naturally tumble to the forest Larga people holds that they were born out of the project was the brainchild of Paulo Cesar Nunes, an floor during the rainy season, meaning harvesters fruit of the Brazil nut tree. Now they are betting that agronomist whose family moved from Sao Paulo to just have to pick up the shells. But the oily nuts' the mighty tree could be the key to their very future in the Amazon rain forest. A project sponsored by international donors has helped the Cinta Larga and other indigenous people from Brazil's Mato Grosso state monetize the towering centenary trees by turning their nuts, which normally plummet to the forest floor and rot, into cash. Since it started last year, the Sentinels of the Forest program has boosted the tribes' incomes 50 percent, said Daeit Akata Kaban, leader of the Cinta Larga. That's given the group of about 1,700 people renewed incentive to protect their roughly 80,000 hectares (2 million acres) of ancestral forest from loggers, ranchers and poachers pressing in on all sides.

"It has completely changed our lives," Kaban said at the group's stand at the World Indigenous Games, a celebration of cultures from around the

the forest state of Rondonia on Brazil's western frontier to harvest Brazil nuts. Growing up, Nunes witnessed the catastrophic results of a government project to resettle landless farmers in Rondonia, which led to nearly wholesale clear-cutting in the state. Nunes believes the Brazil nut can help prevent a similar fate for neighboring Mato Grosso, which is in the sights of big agricultural interests as a frontier for soy, cotton, corn and cattle.

Securing \$1.25 million from the Fundo Amazonas, a fund of international donors that is administered by the Brazilian government's national development bank, he set up a Brazil nut cooperative in Juruena, a town roughly halfway between the Cinta Larga's reserve and another where the Cayabi, Apiaka and Munduruku peoples live. Brazil nut trees dot the region, and the melon-sized shells

susceptibility to fungus, bacteria and insects make getting them to market before they rot tricky.

Face creams and lotions

Sentinels of the Forest built 18 storage facilities throughout the forest to keep the nuts fresh and dry while awaiting processing. The project has also invested in industrial drying machines that allow them not only to sell the nuts whole but also to extract the oil, which is used for cooking and also as an ingredient in shampoos, face creams and lotions. Brazilian cosmetics firm Natura buys oil from the group. The dried meal left over from the extraction process is used to make cookies, noodles and granola bars that the federal government distributes to 40,000 local residents through its "Zero Hunger" social program.—AP



Kuwait a Times 248 33 199

















The Jordanian Embassy held the 'Third Job Opportunities Exhibition' at the Women's Cultural Society's building in Khaldiya recently. Deputy Ambassador Shakir Al-Amoush opened the event on behalf of Ambassador Mohammad Al-Kayyed.—Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



Grand Gold Fest 2015 1KG Gold Mega Prize Winner Ramesh Babu Ganeshan receives his prize in the presence of the Ambassador of India, Sunil Jain. Ayyoob Kacheri - Regional Director, Mohamed Suneer - CEO, Thehaseer Ali - General Manager and Sanin - Marketing and Business Development Manager are also seen in the photo.

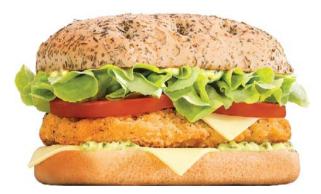
MCDONALD'S 'TASTES OF THE WORLD' IS BACK, AND FIRST STOP IS ITALY

cDonald's Kuwait has brought back its beloved 'Tastes of the World' annual campaign, which takes customers on a journey to discover flavors from different countries across the globe. Now in its fourth year, 'Tastes of the World' brings a range of great new limited time creations, kicking things off with 'The Italian' burger, which will be available at all McDonald's restaurants starting October 31st until stocks last. 'The Italian' will be followed by two more burgers with new flavors, which will be revealed soon.

'The Italian' is made with a deliciously juicy Halal chicken patty, two slices of Emmental cheese, a whole Boston lettuce leaf and tender tomato slices, all dressed in a mouth-watering basil pesto mayo sauce in a soft focacciastyle bun.

"Tastes of the World has become a major and eagerly awaited annual event at McDonald's, as it brings innovative experiences and flavors that our customers love. These mouth-watering sandwiches introduce a range of exciting high quality new ingredients and dressings, in line with our never-ending commitment to provide the highest quality to our customers," said Sherif Coutry, Marketing Director at McDonald's Kuwait.

Customers should also look out for two additional limited-time experiences. The first is a bite-sized spicy delight with the 'Jalapeno Blasters', featuring a breaded jalapeno stuffed with creamy cheese. Then there is also the all-new and refreshing Mango Pineapple McFizz, a tasty tropical fusion that builds on the popularity of the juice version launched for a limited time earlier this year. For more information on The Italian and Jalapeno Blasters limited-time offers, please visit www.mcdonaldsarabia.com.





MMF KUWAIT HOLDS FAMILY DAY

alayali Media Forum (MMF) Kuwait, a common platform for Keralites working in various media fields, held a family day on Friday, 23rd October 2015 at United Indian School, Abbasiya. Members of Malayali Media Forum and their families with their friends attended the event. MMF General Convener Abdul Fathah Thayyil presided over the function. Prominent media personality and Managing Director of Kairali TV John Britas inaugurated the family day. MMF Convener Muneer Ahmad welcomed the audience and Anwar Sadath Thalasserry proposed a vote of thank. Members and their families including children staged a variety of cultural programs. Reshmi Krishnakumar and Gafoor Moodady coordinated the cultural events. Mohammed Rafi Kallayi, Muhammed Rafi and Biju Thikkodi led orchestra during the event.

What's On - Submission Guidelines

All photos submitted for What's On should be minimum 200dpi. Articles must be in plain text and should include name and phone numbers. Articles and photos that fail to meet these requirements will not be published.

Please send them to news@kuwaittimes.net



Media students at Kuwait University's College of Arts visited the Sabah Al-Salem University City project recently as part of their news editing class activities.

CRYCHESS 2015

riends of CRY Club (FOCC), announces a rescheduled dates for children's chess tournament 2015. "CRYchess 2015" will be held at the Gulf Indian School (GIS), Fahaheel, on Friday, 06th November 2015, from 0930 - 1630 hrs. It is open to all School children. The players will be placed into groups, allocated by their age, to play in the Swiss pairing format. Medals and certificates are awarded to all participating children and first 3 positions in each group win trophies. For more details, registration forms, rules of CRYChess 2015, please visit http://www.focckwt.org/ or contact FOCC members.

KALA-KUWAIT TO HOLD DRAWING AND PAINTING COMPETITION

erala Art Lovers Association, KALA-Kuwait, the oldest among Indian Associations, is working constructively in the Indian Society, upholding the rich cultural heritage of the nation. KALA has verities of programs, covering different sections of the society. Art & Cultural promotions, Malayalam Education program, Seminars & Symposiums, literary programs, Award functions and charity for destitute. Now KALA-Kuwait is again putting here a milestone....with "Mazhavillu-2015" Drawing & Painting competitions for Indian School Children, to discover the true talents. The competitions are classified into four categories, as follows, with several prizes.

















A youth gallery titled 'Those are my Children' kicked off recently at the Abdulaziz Cultural Center, featuring 80 youth projects and 40 talented young men and women. Sheikh Duaij Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah sponsored and attended the three-day event. —By Meshaal Al-Enezi

NBK'S 'I DREAM TO BE' INITIATIVE GRANTS JANA MUHAMMAD HER WISH TO BECOME A PRINCESS

'I Dream to Be' initiative, a first-of-a-kind initiative that aims at granting wishes for children with severe illnesses and special needs around Kuwait, giving them the chance to make their dreams come true.

Jana Muhammad, a 6undergoing treatment at Amiri Hospital, has always dreamt to become a princess. Therefore, NBK's family organized a princess themed party for her sixth birthday; where she looked like a princess from lip to toe.

"Jana's dream to be a princess is yet another wish granted through NBK's initiative 'I Dream to Be'. We are proud to be a part of the children's

ational Bank of Kuwait (NBK) continues its dreams and expand our support to them as much as possible," said Joanne Al-Abdul Jaleel, NBK Public Relations Officer.

'I Dream to Be' initiative is a lifetime experience for children not only with life-threatening conditions but children with special needs as well." she added. "This initiative is a great way to spread joy and show that there's always a positive side to a difficult situation. We ask children what they want to be and try to fulfill that for

NBK gives top priority to children through its commitment to corporate social responsibility. NBK works closely with the Kuwait Association for the Care of Children in Hospitals (KACCH),

Bayt Abdullah for the Care of Children in Hospice (BACCH) and several other special needs organizations to maximize its reach to all the children in numerous hospitals and schools.

NBK has been at the forefront of supporting Kuwait's community through a range of initiatives towards education, health, sports and social responsibilities. The establishment of NBK's Children Hospital for Oncology and Hematology at Al Sabah Medical Area stands as one of many ongoing corporate social initiatives towards health and children. 'I Dream to Be' aims at focusing and supporting NBK's efforts towards children and addressing their needs as much as









seed oil, carrots and juice, noodles, drinks and honey.

Taiwan has a strong food and beverage industrial cluster with 6,000 manufacturers and an annual production of

\$19.04 billion (2014). Home to ethnic diversity, Taiwan has

incorporated the essence and flavors of foods from all over

TAIWAN ORGANIZES FOOD TRADE EVENT



ponsored by Taiwan's Bureau of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) organized a delegation of 13 leading food and beverage companies to visit Iran, UAE, and Kuwait. To help Taiwanese companies develop contacts within the Middle East, TAITRA's branch offices in Tehran and Kuwait respectively co-organized trade meetings in Tehran and Kuwait.

their up-to-date food and beverage, such as bubble tea ingredients, confectioneries, frozen fish, frozen vegetable, prepared and canned food, soybean sauces and dressings, vinegar, tea

the world and developed well-known food processing industries that ensure consumers' safety in regards to quality, healthy foods. Furthermore, Taiwan's leading Halal certificate, which is issued by the Taiwan Halal Integrity Development The visible delegation of dynamic companies showcased Association (THIDA), has been accredited by the UAE's Ministry of Environment and Water, as well as by their Malaysian, Indonesian, and Singaporean counterparts.





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NICOLAS CAGE

MURRAY THOMSON WHELAN

SOME WERE SAVED.

AND SOME WERE...

BASED ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER

LEFT BEHIND ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

titing in a bathtub with a pen in one hand and glass of whiskey in the other,

beneath his wiry moustache, Dalton Trumbo

wrote countless Hollywood screenplays.

From B-movies to Oscar winners, he

remained prolific throughout his career,

even during the 13 years he was blacklisted

by the movie business for being a commu-

nist. He went to prison for holding fast to his

ideals - that Americans have the right to

believe as they please without retribution

a long cigarette holder dangling

Cranston commands as

blacklisted writer in 'Trumbo'

EFT BEHIND

CHAD MICHAEL



Kuwait 🗻 Times

00:50 Gator Boys 01:45 Call Of The Wildman 02:15 Call Of The Wildman

02:40 Bondi Vet

03:35 Tanked

04:25 Ten Deadliest Snakes 05:15 Gator Boys 06:02 Treehouse Masters

06:49 Gangland Killers 07:36 Call Of The Wildman 08:00 Call Of The Wildman

08:25 Dogs 101

09:15 Ten Deadliest Snakes

10:10 Treehouse Masters

11:05 Tanked

12:00 Dogs 101

12:55 Bondi Vet 13:50 Bondi Vet

14:45 Ten Deadliest Snakes

15:40 Treehouse Masters 16:35 Tanked

17:30 Gangland Killers 18:25 Austin Stevens:

Snakemaster 19:20 Biggest And Baddest

20:15 Tanked 21:10 Shamwari: A Wild Life 21:35 Shamwari: A Wild Life

22:05 Treehouse Masters 23:00 Biggest And Baddest

23:55 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster

Discoverv

00:20 Fast N' Loud

01:10 Deadliest Catch 02:00 Outback Truckers 02:50 Manhunt With Joel Lambert

03:40 Auction Hunters

04:05 Garage Gold 04:30 Baggage Battles

05:00 How It's Made: Dream Cars 05:30 How It's Made

06:00 Alaskan Bush People 06:50 Fire In The Hole

07:40 Fast N' Loud

08:30 Auction Hunters 08:55 Garage Gold

09:20 Baggage Battles 09:45 How It's Made: Dream Cars 10:10 How It's Made

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11:25 Outback Truckers 12:15 Manhunt With Joel Lambert

13:05 Auction Hunters 13:30 Garage Gold

13:55 Baggage Battles 14:20 Alaskan Bush People

15:10 Fire In The Hole

16:00 Fast N' Loud 16:50 How It's Made: Dream Cars

17:15 How It's Made

17:40 Marooned With Ed Stafford 18:30 Kings Of The Wild

19:20 Dual Survival 20:10 Garage Gold

20:35 Baggage Battles

21:00 Marooned With Ed Stafford 21:50 Kings Of The Wild

22:40 River Monsters 23:30 Fire In The Hole



00:50 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:15 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

01:40 Wolfblood 02:05 Wolfblood 02:30 Violetta

03:15 The Hive

03:20 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

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Teenage Witch 04:10 Wolfblood 04:35 Wolfblood

05:00 Violetta 05:45 The Hive

05:50 Mouk 06:00 Lolirock

06:25 Hank Zipzer

06:50 Girl Meets World

07:15 H2O: Just Add Water 07:40 Jessie

08:05 Wizards Of Waverly Place 08:30 Wizards Of Waverly Place

08:55 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

09:20 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 09:45 Austin & Ally

10:10 Austin & Ally 10:35 H2O: Just Add Water 11:00 H2O: Just Add Water 11:25 Jessie 11:50 Jessie

12:20 Hank Zipzer 12:45 Gravity Falls 13:10 Good Luck Charlie 13:35 | Didn't Do It 14:00 Dog With A Blog

14:30 H2O: Just Add Water 14:55 Lolirock 15:20 Austin & Ally 15:45 Girl Meets World

16:10 Violetta 17:00 The Next Step 17:25 Mako Mermaids 17:50 Girl Meets World

18:15 Dog With A Blog 18:40 Gravity Falls 19:05 H2O: Just Add Water

19:30 Violetta 20:20 The Next Step 20:45 Good Luck Charlie

21:10 Good Luck Charlie 21:35 Wizards Of Waverly Place 22:00 Binny And The Ghost 22:25 Sabrina: Secrets Of A

Teenage Witch 22:50 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 23:10 Wolfblood 23:35 Wolfblood



00:00 E! Entertainment Special 00:55 The Grace Helbig Show 01:25 Kourtney And Khloe Take

The Hamptons 02:20 E! News

03:15 Escape Club 04:10 The E! True Hollywood Story 05:05 The E! True Hollywood Story 06:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians

06:55 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 07:50 Style Star 08:20 E! News

09:15 Giuliana & Bill 10:15 Giuliana & Bill 11:10 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills 11:35 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills 12:05 E! News

13:05 House Of DVF 14:05 Fashion Bloggers 14:30 Fashion Bloggers 15:00 Kourtney And Khloe Take

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19:00 WAGs 20:00 Hollywood Cycle 21:00 Keeping Up With The

Kardashians 22:00 E! News 23:00 Dash Dolls



00:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 00:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 01:00 Food Court Wars

02:00 Mystery Diners 02:30 Mystery Diners 03:00 Man Fire Food 03:30 Man Fire Food

04:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 04:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 05:00 Guy's Grocery Games

06:00 Chopped 07:00 Man Fire Food 07:30 Man Fire Food

08:00 Chopped 09:00 Barefoot Contessa 09:30 Barefoot Contessa

10:00 The Kitchen 11:00 The Pioneer Woman

11:30 The Pioneer Woman 12:00 Chopped 13:00 Guy's Big Bite

13:30 Guy's Big Bite 14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 15:00 Guy's Grocery Games

16:00 Chopped 17:00 The Kitchen 18:00 The Pioneer Woman

18:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen 19:00 Chopped 20:00 Guy's Grocery Games 21:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

21:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 22:00 Man Finds Food 22:30 Man Finds Food 23:00 Roadtrip With G. Garvin 23:30 Roadtrip With G. Garvin



00:10 The Chase: Celebrity

01:05 Who's Doing The Dishes? 02:00 Emmerdale 02:25 Emmerdale

02:55 Coronation Street 03:25 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime

04:20 The Jonathan Boss Show 05:15 Take On The Twisters 06:10 Who's Doing The Dishes? 07:05 Coronation Street 07:30 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime

08:25 The Jonathan Ross Show 09:20 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 10:15 Who's Doing The Dishes? 11:10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night

Takeaway 12:30 Take On The Twisters 13:25 Emmerdale 13:50 Eggheads 14:20 Coronation Street

14:45 The Chase: Celebrity Specials 15:35 Who's Doing The Dishes? 16:30 Doc Martin

17:25 Shetland 18:20 Take On The Twisters 19:10 Coronation Street 19:35 Who's Doing The Dishes? 20:30 Doc Martin

23:40 Eggheads

21:25 Shetland

ON FIRST HD COMEDY

22:20 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night

00:30 Last Man Standing 01:00 Last Week Tonight With John 02:30 Man Seeking Woman 04:00 Marry Me

04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 06:00 Community 06:30 Til Death 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers

08:00 Marry Me 10:30 Til Death 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 12:00 Community

12:30 Marry Me 13:30 Til Death 15:30 Last Man Standing 16:30 Community

17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 18:00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 19:00 Hot In Cleveland 19:30 2 Broke Girls

20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 21:00 Last Man Standing 22:00 Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll 23:00 Man Seeking Woman

23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers



00:00 The Americans 01:00 Quantico 02:00 Homeland

06:00 The Fosters 07:00 Witches Of East End 08:00 Sleepy Hollow

12:00 Emmerdale 12:30 Coronation Street 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 14:00 Sleepy Hollow 16:00 Emmerdale

16:30 Coronation Street 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 18:00 Sleepy Hollow 19:00 The Voice

21:00 Blood & Oil 22:00 Downton Abbey

MORE

03:00 Odyssey 07:00 Emmerdale

07:30 Coronation Street 10:00 Emmerdale 10:30 Coronation Street 12:00 Switched At Birth

13:00 Franklin & Bash

17:00 Switched At Birth 18:00 Franklin & Bash 22:00 Odyssey 23:00 Strike Back

00:00 The Factory 02:00 Hammer Of The Gods 04:00 Arachnophobia 06:00 Left Behind

08:00 Escape Plan

10:00 Arachnophobia

12:00 Percy Jackson And The Lightning Thief 14:00 Born To Race: Fast Track

16:00 Escape Plan 18:00 A Stranger In Paradise 20:00 Percy Jackson And The Liahtnina Thief

22:00 G.I. Joe: The Rise Of Cobra **OM** MOVIES HD

00:00 Hammer Of The Gods-18 02:00 Arachnophobia-PG15 04:00 Left Behind-PG15 06:00 Escape Plan-PG15 08:00 Arachnophobia-PG15 10:00 Percy Jackson And The

Lightning Thief-PG15

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ACTION

PG15 14:00 Escape Plan-PG15 16:00 A Stranger In Paradise-PG15 18:00 Percy Jackson And The Lightning Thief-PG15 20:00 G.I. Joe: The Rise Of Cobra-

12:00 Born To Race: Fast Track-

OM MOVIES HD COMEDY

00:00 John Dies At The End 02:00 Tooth Fairy 04:00 Life With Mikey

22:00 Blade: Trinity-18

06:00 Moms' Night Out 08:00 How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days

10:00 Life With Mikey 12:00 The Comebacks 14:00 Muppets Most Wanted 16:00 How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days

18:00 The Love Punch

20:00 AmeriQua

22:00 Duets

MOVIES)

DRAMA 01:00 The Citizen-PG15

03:00 As Cool As I Am-PG15 05:00 Stone Markers-PG15

07:00 Philomena-PG15 09:00 A Promise-PG15 11:00 Stone Markers-PG15 13:00 Kon-Tiki-PG15 15:00 The Giver-PG15

17:00 A Promise-PG15

23:00 Mall-18

21:00 Scenic Route-PG15

OM MOVIES

19:00 The Railway Man-PG15

01:00 The Magic Of Belle Isle 03:00 Not Fade Away

05:00 Next Goal Wins 07:00 One Chance 09:00 Sunshine On Leith

13:00 We Are Family 15:00 Belle

19:00 Disconnect 21:00 Raging Bull

01:15 13 Eerie-PG15 03:00 Dragonheart 3: The

05:00 A Gift Of Miracles-PG15 07:00 Le Weekend-PG15 09:00 Paranoia-PG15 11:00 In My Dreams-PG15

13:00 Quartet-PG15 17:00 Paranoia-PG15 19:00 Baggage Claim-PG15

Marked Ones-18

Journe 06:00 Jungle Book: Mowgli's Adventures 07:45 Jungle Shuffle 09:45 Tarzan

18:00 Tarzan

Adventure

11:00 Next Goal Wins 17:00 Sunshine On Leith

23:15 The Wolf Of Wall Street

MOVIES HD

15:00 Forget And Forgive-PG15 21:00 Cas & Dylan-PG15 23:00 Paranormal Activity: The

01:00 Mamma Moo And Crow 02:45 Saving Santa 04:30 Columbus In The Last

Sorcerer's Curse-PG15

11:30 Bolts And Blip 13:00 Saving Santa

20:00 Patoruzito: The Great

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BBC entertainment 00:05 The Cafe

00:30 Alan Carr: Chatty Man 01:15 Live At The Apollo 02:05 Inside No 9 02:35 A Farmer's Life For Me

03:25 Doctor Who 04:10 The Weakest Link 05:00 The Green Balloon Club 05:25 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll 05:45 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll

06:05 Jollywobbles 06:15 The Green Balloon Club 06:35 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll 06:55 Jollywobbles 07:10 Doctors

08:10 Doctors 08:40 Doctors 09:10 Fastenders 09:35 Eastenders

07:40 Doctors

10:10 Eastenders

17:30 Love Life

18:15 Love Life

19:05 The Paradise

20:00 New Tricks

22:35 Doctor Who

20:55 Waking The Dead

21:45 Waking The Dead

10:40 Eastenders 11:05 Abandoned At Birth 11:55 The Weakest Link 12:40 Doctor Who 13:25 Gates

13:45 Abandoned At Birth 14:35 The Weakest Link 15:25 Doctor Who 16:05 Up The Women 16:40 Love Life

from the government - and upon his release, he worked constantly and defiantly, but at significant personal and professional But you don't have to know a thing about Trumbo, Hollywood or communism to enjoy watching "Trumbo." A biopic loving-

ly rendered with input and approval from his daughters, "Trumbo" is about an idealistic yet imperfect man who stands up for what he believes is right, even when it means risking the things he holds most dear. The script is funny and fact-filled; the acting outstanding. As the title character, Bryan Cranston gives a performance as compelling and complex as the man himself must have been. Cranston's Trumbo is eminently interesting, from his rounded posture and curious eyes to his distinct cadence and diction.

vocabulary of witticisms, Trumbo speaks like a man who loves language.

Appearing in nearly every frame of the film,

Cranston infuses John McNamara's clever

screenplay with even more life. With a

Clever retorts The ensemble of supporting actors is also excellent. As Trumbo's wife, Cleo, Diane Lane embodies quiet strength, conveying heartbreak, pride and concern with just her eyes. Louis CK plays Trumbo's fictional friend Arlen Hird, who delivers sharp one-liners and clever retorts just like the comedian himself might. Dean O'Gorman is uncanny as Kirk Douglas, right down to the chin dimple. Michael Stuhlbarg brings the necessary gravitas as actor Edward G Robinson. Helen Mirren's grounded performance keeps the outlandish gossip columnist Hedda Hopper from becoming a caricature. And John Goodman absolutely steals his scenes as Bmovie producer Frank King. Watching him smash up his office with a bat and explain what keeps him in the movie business is

alone worth a trip to the theater. Director Jay Roach ("Game Change," "Meet the Parents") keeps these big performances of even bigger personalities in balance, an oscillation of stars around Trumbo. The story begins in 1947. Trumbo, a labor-union supporter, would regularly meet with his friends - Hird, Robinson and other Hollywood colleagues - to discuss political and social ideas. Like many others, Trumbo had become a communist after the Great Depression, and the group was concerned about the state of the country. As Louis CK describes it: It was "kind of like blogging, but they did it in person."



Archival footage

The US government, meanwhile, was concerned about the rise of communism, and thought movies were one way communists conspired to control American minds. The House Un-American Activities Committee called on Trumbo and other artists to testify about their political beliefs and identify colleagues who might be communists. Trumbo declined to name names, and said his right to peaceably assemble and share ideas is protected by the Constitution. He was held in contempt of Congress and spent a year in jail. Others in Hollywood did name names, and those believed to be associated with communism

were suddenly indefinitely unemployed. The industry policed itself through the Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals (which sounds fake, but wasn't). John Wavne (David James Elliot) was its leader, and gossip columnist Hopper its unofficial enforcer. By combining archival footage with shots of the cast, Roach effectively inserts them into history, lending a sense of realism to the events. Production designer Mark Ricker and costume designer Daniel Orlandi bring mid-century LA to life with vintage cars and short neckties. It all makes for an enthralling story about how far government, industry and individuals might go to uphold what they believe is right. "Trumbo," a Bleecker Street Media release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "language including some sexual references." Running time: 124 minutes. Three and a half stars out of four. — AP

MOST SECURE ORLD'S BREAKS OUT ALONE ONE

ESCAPE PLAN ON OSN MOVIES ACTION

CLASSIFIEDS

Kuwait Times

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015





KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (29/10/2015 TO 04/11/2015)

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				11:45 AM		
BURNT 8:15 PM PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION 2:15 PM BURNT 6:00 PM						
	BURNT	8:15 PM	PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	2:15 PM	BURNT	6:00 PM



NOTICE October 28, 2015



Mr. Laney Mario Fernandes son of Mr. Caetano Expiridao Fernandes, Indian national, resident of H.No. 333, Grande Coima Waddo, Aldana Bardez, Goa and Miss Maricho Obliosca Absin daughter of Lucio R Absin, Philippines national, resident of Kabulawan, Logonglong, Misamis Oriental - 9006, Phillippines, both presently residing in Kuwait, have given notice of intended marriage between them under the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969. If anyone has any objection to the proposed marriage, he/she may file the same with the undersigned according to the procedure laid down under the Act/Rule within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

(K.K. Pahel) First Secretary (Consular) and Marriage Officer

Embassy of India, Kuwait. Ph.00965-22533315

FOR RENT

A fully furnished Penthouse flat with two master bedrooms, guests bathroom and lift at Shaab Area.

For inquiries: 99035303

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HOZEFA (old name) holder of Indian Passport No. L1165262, R/o B-241, Saheli Nagar, near Bheruji, Udaipur (Raj.), changed my name as HUZEFA PARSOLA. (C 5066)

3-11-2015

Fajr:

Duhr:

Asr:

Shorook

Maghrib:

I, Modapothula Elamma holder of Indian Passport

04:41

06:02

17:01

Prayer timings

Mora. (C 5063)

MATRIMONIAL

Seeking alliance for
Marthoma Girl 31, 151 cm,
M.A. Teacher, divorced,
from educated non alcoholic smoker boys. Email:
shaadimeonly@gmail.com
(C 5065)
29-10-2015

No. G1689507 has convert-

Agraharam Chitvel, Kadapa,

I, Morasudhakar, holder of

L5934350, R/o Nakkapalli

Kadapa Dist, A.P., Changed my name as Muhammad

Village, Kumpinipuram Post, Nandalur Mandal,

Indian Passport No.

ed Islam by name Shaik Ayesha, address 3/65, K.S

A.P. (C 5064)

28-10-2015

Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

In case you are not travelling, your proper cancellation of bookings will help other passengers to use seats

	Α	Arrival Flights on Tuesday 3/11/2015		AXB	393	Kozhikode	14:20		Dep	parture Flights on Tuesday 3/11/2015		JZR	324	Al Najaf	14:25
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
BBC	143	Dhaka	00:05	KNE	472	Jeddah	14:35	JAD	302	Amman	00:15	FDB	058	Dubai	15:10
MSC	405	Sohag	00:05	KAC	672	Dubai	14:45	FDB	072	Dubai	00:40	QTR	1079	Doha	15:10
KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	00:20	KAC	788	Jeddah	14:50	MSC	404	Asyut	00:55	AXB	394	Kozhikode	15:20
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	GFA	221	Bahrain	15:00	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:55	KNE	473	Jeddah	15:35
JZR	539	Cairo	00:40	OMA	645	Muscat	15:30	MSC	406	Sohag	01:00	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	KAC	562	Amman	15:40	BBC	143	Chittagong/Dhaka	01:35	GFA		Bahrain	
THY	772	Istanbul	01:05	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:45	KLM	411	Amsterdam	01:35		222		15:45
DLH	635	Doha	01:35	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	THY	773	Istanbul	02:30	KAC	617	Doha	15:45
ETH	620	Ababa	01:45	QTR	1072	Doha	16:10	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:35	KAC	613	Bahrain	15:50
PGT	858	Istanbul	02:00	FDB	051	Dubai	16:30	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:50
UAE	853	Dubai	02:30	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	16:40	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	KAC	741	Dammam	15:55
									859			ABY	128	Sharjah	16:25
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:30	RJA	640	Amman	16:55	PGT		Istanbul	03:55	OMA	646	Muscat	16:30
OMA	643	Muscat	02:55	KAC	542	Cairo	16:55	OMA	644	Muscat	03:55	JZR	266	Beirut	17:05
FDB	067	Dubai	03:05	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	FDB	068	Dubai	04:00	JZR	238	Amman	17:30
RJA	644	Amman	03:05	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	MSR	613	Cairo	04:10	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	17:30
MSR	612	Cairo	03:10	KAC	502	Beirut	17:30	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:15	FDB	052	Dubai	17:35
QTR	1076	Doha	03:15	MSR	614	Cairo	17:35	KKK	6508	Istanbul	04:20	QTR	1073	Doha	17:40
KKK	6507	Istanbul	03:20	JZR	325	Al Najaf	17:50	QTR	1077	Doha	05:00				
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:25	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:55	THY	765	Istanbul	05:15	JZR	538	Cairo	17:45
THY	1464	Istanbul	03:25	UAE	875	Dubai	18:00	ICV	673	Hong Kong	05:50	UAE	858	Dubai	17:45
ICV	673	MXP	04:20	FDB	063	Dubai	18:05	FDB	070	Dubai	06:30	RJA	641	Amman	17:55
JZR	503	Luxor	04:25	UAL	982	IAD	18:15	THY	6376	Dubai/Istanbul	06:35	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
THY	6376	Istanbul	05:05	JZR	177	Dubai	18:20	JZR	164	Dubai	06:55	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:40	KAC	680	Muscat	18:25	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:55	MSR	615	Cairo	18:35
THY	770	Istanbul	05:55	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:30	RJA	645	Amman	07:05	JZR	184	Dubai	18:40
THY	764	Istanbul	05:55	ABY	123	Sharjah	18:45	THY	771	Istanbul	07:05	JZR	124	Bahrain	19:10
FDB	5061	Dubai	06:30	QTR	1080	Doha	18:55	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:10	FDB	064	Dubai	19:20
BAW	157	London	06:40	KAC	742	Dammam	19:05	GFA	212	Bahrain	07:15	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:25
KAC	416	Jakarta/Kuala Lumpur	07:15	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30	UAE	876	Dubai	19:30
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	07:20	KAC	774	Riyadh	19:25	QTR	1087	Doha	08:40	UAL	982	Bahrain	19:30
QTR	1086	Doha	07:40	KAC	166	Paris/Rome	19:30	BAW	156	London	08:45	GFA	218		
FDB	053	Dubai	07:45	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:30	SVA	513	Riyadh	08:50			Bahrain	20:15
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	KAC	618	Doha	19:35	OMA	642	Muscat	08:55	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:35
		•		KAC	104	London	19:40	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:25	QTR	1081	Doha	20:50
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50					ABY	126	Sharjah	09.23	KAC	351	Kochi	20:55
KAC	382	Delhi	08:00	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45					KAC	343	Chennai	21:00
OMA	641	Muscat	08:00	MSR	618	Alexandria	20:05	KAC	513	Tehran	09:45	MSR	607	Luxor	21:05
KAC	354	BLR	08:15	FDB	061	Dubai	20:20	KAC	101	London/New York	09:55	OMA	648	Muscat	21:20
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20	KAC	541	Cairo	09:55	FDB	062	Dubai	21:20
KAC	206	Islamabad	08:25	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:50	UAE	856	Dubai	09:55	DLH	634	Doha	21:45
UAE	855	Dubai	08:40	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:55	KAC	501	Beirut	10:00	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:50	JAI	572	Mumbai	20:55	KAC	561	Amman	10:00	FDB	5054	Dubai	21:50
KAC	362	Colombo	09:00	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:20	KAC	671	Dubai	10:05	JAI	571	Mumbai	21:55
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	MEA	402	Beirut	21:20	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:25	KAC	381	Delhi	22:00
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:10	ALK	229	Colombo	21:25	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:10
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:20	UAE	859	Dubai	21:40	QTR	1071	Doha	11:00				
QTR	1070	Doha	09:25	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:45	KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:00	KAC	203	Lahore	22:10
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	QTR	1082	Doha	22:00	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:25	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:10
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:00	IRA	674	Lar	11:40	MEA	403	Beirut	22:20
IRA	675	Lar	10:40	KLM	415	Amsterdam	22:05	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:20	ALK	230	Colombo	22:25
UAE	873	Dubai	11:05	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:25	UAE	874	Dubai	12:30	GFA	220	Bahrain	22:30
JZR	165	Dubai	11:30	FDB	059	Dubai	22:30	MEA	405	Beirut	12:55	UAE	860	Dubai	22:55
MEA	404	Beirut	11:55	PIA	239	Sialkot	22:35	CKS	9529	Hong Kong	13:00	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	23:00
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	JZR	239	Amman	23:05	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00	QTR	1083	Doha	23:05
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	JZR	185	Dubai	23:15	KAC	679	Muscat	13:00	KLM	415	Dammam/Amsterdam	23:05
UAE	871	Dubai	12:50	UAL	981	Bahrain	23:25	FDB	076	Dubai	13:10	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:10
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	JAD	301	Amman	23:30	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:15
QTR			14:10		071		23:45	JZR	176	Dubai	13:45	KAC		Bangkok/Manila	23:35
-	1078	Doha Dubai		FDB		Dubai Mumbai		MSR	611	Cairo	14:00		411	5	
FDB	057	Dubai	14:10	JAI MSC	574	Mumbai	23:55	UAE				FDB	060	Dubai	23:35
KAC	514	Tehran	14:10	MSC	403	Asyut	23:55	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15	PIA	240	Sialkot	23:35

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Kuwait Times

p34 p34 stars 11/2/15 8:36 PM Page 1

CROSSWORD 1068

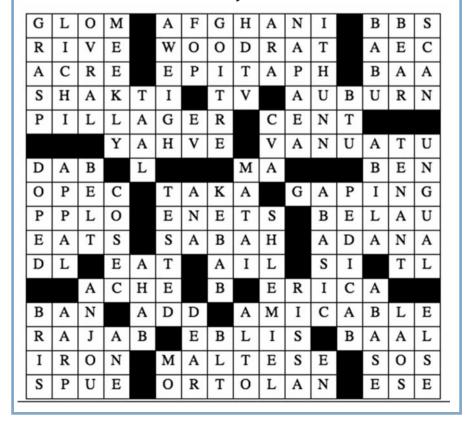
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ACROSS 4. Bushy herb of tropical Asia grown for its yel-

- 1. A master's degree in business.
- low or pink to scarlet blooms that resemble the hibiscus.
- 12. A steep-walled semicircular basin in a mountain.
- 15. An awkward stupid person.
- 16. Any object that radiates energy.
- 17. A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event. 18. A loose sleeveless outer garment made
- from aba cloth. 19. A permanent council of the United
- Nations. 20. A nonmetallic element belonging to the
- halogens. 22. Covered with paving material.
- 24. A soft silver-white or yellowish metallic element of the alkali metal group.
- 25. Cause to start burning.
- 26. (geology) Before the appearance of life. 29. A small island.
- 30. (Babylonian) God of storms and wind.
- 33. Before noon. 34. (computer science) A system of world-
- wide electronic communication in which a computer user can compose a message at one terminal that is generated at the recipient's terminal when he logs in.
- 35. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- 36. Wild or seedling sweet cherry used as stock for grafting.
- 38. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
- 41. Work hard.
- 43. The act of using.
- 46. A soft white precious univalent metallic element having the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any metal.
- 47. Not divisible by two. 49. Paper with a crinkled texture.
- 50. A blood group antigen possessed by Rhpositive people.
- 51. Any of various spectacular plants of the genus Laelia having showy flowers in many colors.
- 53. Any of several bog orchids of the genus Arethusa having 1 or 2 showy flowers.
- 56. A colorless and odorless inert gas.
- 57. Muslim name for God.
- 60. The state of being decayed or destroyed. 65. Deciduous South African tree having large odd-pinnate leaves and profuse fragrant orange-yellow flowers.
- 67. (Greek mythology) Goddess of the earth and mother of Cronus and the Titans in ancient mythology.
- 69. The largest continent with 60% of the earth's population.
- 70. An implement used to propel or steer a 71. Being or befitting or characteristic of an
- infant. 75. The corporate executive responsible for
- the operations of the firm.
- 76. The spatial property resulting from a relatively small distance.
- 78. (informal) Of the highest quality. 79. Imperial dynasty that ruled China (most of
- the time) from 206 BC to 221 and expanded its boundaries and developed its bureaucracy.
- 80. A French policeman. 81. (Irish) The sea personified.

- **DOWN**
- 1. Ditch dug as a fortification and usually filled with water.
- 2. A small cake leavened with yeast. 3. (old-fashioned) At or from or to a great dis-
- 4. A particular geographical region of indefinite boundary (usually serving some special purpose or distinguished by its peo-
- ple or culture or geography). 5. An indehiscent fruit derived from a single ovary having one or many seeds within a
- fleshy wall or pericarp. 6. The capital and largest city of Japan.
- 7. Gracefully slender. 8. The Oceanic language spoken by the Maori
- people in New Zealand. 9. (of securities) Not quoted on a stock
- exchange.
- 10. Conforming to truth. 11. Any small branched yellow-flowered North
- American herb of the genus Krigia. 12. A diacritical mark (,) placed below the let-
- ter c to indicate that it is pronounced as
- 13. Produce a literary work.
- 14. French painter whose work influenced the impressionists (1832-1883).
- 21. (sports) Not offside.
- 23. An award for winning a championship or
- commemorating some other event. 27. An angular shape characterized by sharp
- turns in alternating directions. 28. A container for burning incense (especially one that is swung on a chain in a religious ritual).
- 31. Tall East Indian cedar having spreading
- branches with nodding tips. 32. Dwell (archaic).
- 37. A sensation (as of a cold breeze or bright light) that precedes the onset of certain disorders such as a migraine attack or epileptic seizure.
- 39. Gymnastic apparatus consisting of two parallel wooden bars supported on uprights.
- 40. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
- 42. A river that rises in central Germany and flows north to join the Elbe River.
- 44. South American cavy. 45. A set of clothing (with accessories).
- 48. The guidance of ships or airplanes from place to place.
- 52. A Tibetan or Mongolian priest of Lamaism.
- 54. Of or relating to or located near a hilum. 55. Not usual or common or ordinary.
- 58. The blood group whose red cells carry both the A and B antigens.
- 59. British writer noted for romantic adventure novels (1856-1925).
- 61. American professional baseball player who hit more home runs than Babe Ruth (born
- 62. Try to prevent. 63. Food chopped into small bits.
- 64. Someone who consumes food for nourish-
- 66. The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy. 68. A former copper coin of Pakistan.
- 72. (meaning literally `born') Used to indicate the maiden or family name of a married
- 73. A device for creating a current of air by movement of a surface or surfaces.
- 74. A fatal disease of cattle that affects the central nervous system.
- 77. A gray lustrous metallic element of the rare earth group.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

All eyes are on you today because you can imagine the most amazing possibilities where everyone else only sees problems. Others flock to your positivity since they believe in your solutions and admire your confidence. Nevertheless, you can end up disappointing those you want to impress if your plans ignore the hard cold facts. Separating your dreams from reality will require a high level of concentration, but the results will turn you into a hero. Taking a risk is worthwhile as long as the odds are in your favor.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your coworkers are more interested in playing around than being serious today and you don't want to waste precious time participating in their games. Although you have a lot of obligations on your plate now, thankfully, you possess enough common sense to save your strength for when you will need it. Nevertheless, spending some time laughing and joking with others could also be rejuvenating in a heartwarming kind of way. Work smarter, not harder so you can have your cake and eat it, too.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may be swept up in an emotional current that weaves together several separate threads of your life. Fortunately, there isn't much that you need to do to prepare since the integration could come rather naturally now. The one obstacle that could block your way is your desire to logically understand each of your choices. Rational mastery is a dead-end street today; it's time to simply go with the flow of your feelings and trust your heart to lead you in the right direction.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You could easily spend more money today than you expect, especially if you're hosting a celebration of some sort. Naturally, you hope to make a good impression with the perfect setting and delicious refreshments, but others may be less concerned about the details than you are now. Extravagance can bring its own punishment if it leaves you short on cash or creates too much stress. Establishing a budget prevents you from overextending your resources; keep in mind that it's the company that matters most.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You want to build a strategy for success around the practice of only stating the absolute truth. However, the Moon's presence in your expressive sign encourages you to share your motivational message even if there isn't an appreciative audience. It's admirable if you want to inspire others to seek enlightenment, but keep in mind that your idea of Nirvana is not the same for everyone else. Walking your talk creates the most positive impact today, setting an enviable example for everyone to follow.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Your organizational skills may be needed to bail someone out and you are happy to ride to the rescue today. You typically don't mind working behind the scenes and you prefer total anonymity now with the Moon playing hide-andseek in your 12th House of Secrets. You just want the quiet satisfaction of knowing that your sacrifice helped to save the day for your colleague. Think of this as a friendly reminder from the cosmos that you can accomplish nearly anything you put your mind to as long as your heart is in the right place.

WORD SEARCH

GOLD RUSH WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Z	Q	٧	Z	Р	Q	С	Υ	G	G	O	L	D	D	U	S	Т	R	Ν
Κ	W	D	U	D	J	S	L	S	Υ	K	M	R	V	C	С	Р	С	L
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Υ	В	G	R	٧	U	Ν	Е	Х	Q	S	Е	Р	L	Α	С	Е	R	E
D	U	G	1	Е	Q	Н	R	Ν	Α	Κ	F	С	J	L	Ν	J	N	Н
Р	0	J	C	L	R	Е	R	L	1	E	C	0	Т	W	X	S	1	H
Α	S	S	Α	Υ	Е	R	Α	D	Α	Е	F	Z	Ρ	0	Υ	В	Α	٨
Ν	Υ	Z	Ν	Т	M	В	Ν	U	G	G	Ε	Т	K	K	R	Р	U	X
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ALASKA AMERICAN RIVER **ASSAYER** BOOMTOWN

CALIFORNIA

CLAIM FORTY-NINERS **GOLD DUST** KLONDIKE

NUGGET PANNING **PLACER PROSPECTOR** RIVERBED

SHOVEL SIERRA NEVADA SLUICE SUTTER'S MILL YUKON

Libra (September 23-October 22)

You're longing to show off to the world today, and social gatherings can become your temporary stage of choice. Although you want to be applauded for your efforts, it's still prudent to hold some energy in reserve. People may not know the whole story yet and it's advisable to keep it that way for a while longer. Avoid the temptation to bring everything out into the open now, for there's no hurry to set the record straight. Your performance leaves more to the imagination if you don't color in all the details.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

It's a no-brainer to do what is expected when the rules and the limits are welldefined. However, there are so many fuzzy boundaries today that everything could get sloppy before you know it. Don't wait until you have fallen over the edge to figure out where it is. Observe social protocols, for they can prevent you from landing in trouble. It's a perfect day to embark on a spiritual quest of some sort, but do yourself a favor now and don't make any major moves until your clarity returns.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

You can't seem to find the voice of your own logic today, or maybe you just choose to ignore it. You have a rather straightforward decision to make: pursue a pleasurable experience or work hard while delaying the fun for another day. Naturally, no one is surprised if you are the first one at a party and the last one to leave. Self-indulgence most likely will win out, so you might as well kick up your heels while you can. But don't fool yourself; the work will still be waiting for you tomorrow.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You have your heart set on something special and you won't let anyone deter you from your current destination. Perhaps you've been dreaming of a night out on the town or a weekend getaway, only to run into logistical problems today. Unfortunately, you might not be able to power your way through the changing circumstances. Be proactive and scale back your plans so reality doesn't need to do it for you. Luckily, you can still find plenty of satisfaction now in a smaller version of your original dream.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You may feel lucky to have such a loyal partner or playmate in your life, yet for some reason today it's tricky to hold up your end of the deal. Instead of being attached to someone at the hip, you long for more personal freedom to move creatively on your own. However, if you can show a little self-restraint in your choices now, you might be able to find a way to balance your opposing needs and make everyone happy, including yourself. Relationships thrive when you master the art of compromise.

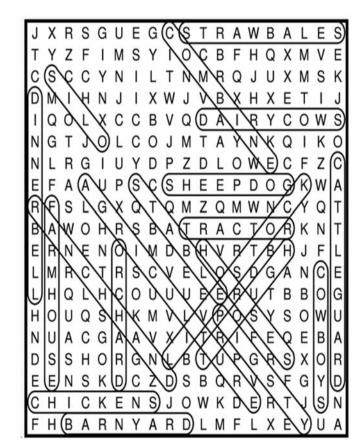


Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You might start the day with the intention to be serious-minded about your business, but you soon realize that having fun amplifies your creative expression. However, you may have to stand up to a naysayer who tries to restrict your freedom today. Obviously, you plan on honoring your promises but it's not your job to drop everything and put on a performance just to placate someone else. You can still fulfill your commitments tomorrow after you sow your wild oats today.

Yesterday Solution

SOLUTION TO FARMS & RANCHES PUZZLE



Daily SuDoku

	6	9		1				
2			5	4		9		
1						2	7	
			7	3			2	
	9			8	6			
	8	3						9
		6		7	1			9
				9		6	4	

Yesterday's Solution

4 8 2 8 9 6 5 4 3 4 2 8 5 6 9 3 5 8 9 4 6 9 2 4 3 5 8 6 1 5 9 3 8 6 8 9 3 6 4 2 5 3 2 6 9 5 8 4 9 3 6

Sabah Hospital

Amiri Hospital

Chest Hospital

Adan Hospital

Ibn Sina Hospital

Al-Razi Hospital

Kaizen center

Rawda

Adaliya

Khaldiya

Kaifan

Shamiya

Shuwaikh

Nuzha

Qadsiya

Dasmah

Shaab

Qibla

Mirqab

Sharq

Salmiya

Jabriya

Bayan

Mishref

Sabah

Jahra

W Hawally

New Jahra

West Jahra

South Jahra

North Jahra

North Jleeb

Ardhiya

Firdous

Omariya

N Khaitan

Fintas

Bneid Al-Gar

Ayoun Al-Qibla

Maidan Hawally

Abdullah Salem

Industrial Shuwaikh

Physiotherapy Hospital

Maternity Hospital

Farwaniya Hospital

Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital

CALLS

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Venezuela

Wales (UK)

Yugoslavia

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Virgin Islands UK

Virgin Islands US

Vietnam

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Afghanistan

Albania

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Andorra

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Argentina

Armenia

Australia Austria

Bahamas

Bahrain Bangladesh

Barbados

Belarus

Belgium

Belize

Benin

Bermuda

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia

Brazil

Brunei

Bulgaria

Burkina

Burundi

Cambodia

Cameroon

Cape Verde

Cayman Islands

Central African

Canada

Chad

Chile

China

Colombia

Comoros

Cook Islands

Costa Rica

Congo

Croatia

Cuba

Cyprus

Denmark

Djibouti

Dominica

Ecuador

El Salvador England (UK)

Equatorial Guinea

Falkland Islands

Faroe Islands

French Guiana

French Polynesia

Egypt

Estonia

Ethiopia

Finland

France

Gabon Gambia

Georgia

Germany

Ghana

Gibraltar

Greece

Greenland

Grenada Guadeloupe

Guam

Guyana

Honduras

Hungary

Iceland

Indonesia

India **Indian Ocean**

Iran

Iraq Ireland

Italy

Japan

Jordan Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kiribati

Kuwait

Laos Latvia

Liberia

Lithuania

Libya

Kyrgyzstan

Ivory Coast

Hong Kong

Ibiza (Spain)

Haiti

Guatemala Guinea

Holland (Netherlands) 0031

Diego Garcia

Cyprus (Northern) **Czech Republic**

Botswana



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:

Clinics

24812000

22450005

24843100

25312700

24849400

24892010

23940620

24840300

24846000

24874330/9

25716707

22517733

22517144

24848075

24849807

24848913

24814507

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22526804

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22532265

22531908

22518752

22459381

22451082

22456536

22465401

25746401

25316254

25623444

25388462

25381200

22630786

24810221

24770319

24575755

24772608

24775066

24775992

24311795

24884079

24892674

24719048

24710044

23900322

Soor Center

Tel: 2290-1677

Fax: 2290 1688

Call MSAL hotline 128 **Hospitals**

PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan	Fahaeel Makka St	23915883
	Abu Halaifa	Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd	23715414
	Danat Al-Sultan	Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1	24575518
	Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 92	24566622
Capital	Ahlam	Fahad Al-Salem St	22436184
	Khaldiya Coop	Khaldiya Coop	24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa	Farwaniya Block 40	24734000
	Ferdous Coop	Ferdous Coop	24881201
	Modern Safwan	Old Kheitan Block 11	24726638
Hawally	Tariq	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25726265
	Hana	Salmiya-Amman St	25647075
	Ikhlas	Hawally-Beirut St	22625999
	Hawally & Rawdha	Hawally & Rawdha Coop	22564549
	Ghadeer	Jabriya-Block 1A	25340559
	Kindy	Jabriya-Block 3B	25326554
	Ibn Al-Nafis	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25721264
	Mishrif Coop	Mishrif Coop	25380581
	Salwa Coop	Salwa Coop	25628241

STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw

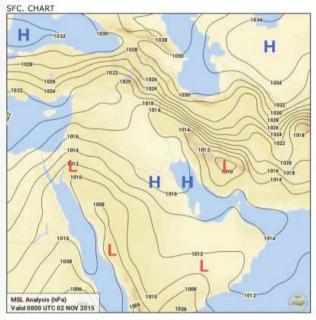


Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

MAX Temperature 28 °C

By Day: Partly cloudy with light variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h

By Night: Partly cloudy with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 08 - 30 km/h with a chance for scattered light rain later on



Four-Day	Forecast

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	***		***	
Expected Weather	partly cloudy + scattered rain	Mostly sunny	partly cloudy + scattered thunder rain	partly cloudy +cloudy + scattered thunder rain
Min Temp °C	17	19	20	20
Max Temp °C	26	29	29	28
Wind Direction	north westerly to light variable	north easterly to light variable	variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly	southerly to south easterly
Wind Speed km/h	06 - 26	06 - 26	08 - 30	15 - 40

NO CURRENT WARNINGS

Kuwait Forecast		
Station	MIN °C REC	Max °C EXP
KUWAIT CITY	22	27
KUWAIT AIRPORT	18	28
ABDALY	16	29
BUBYAN	18	27
JAHRA	20	28
FAILAKA ISLAND	20	26
SALMIYAH	23	27
AHMADI	22	26
JAL ALIYAH	16	27
QAROH ISLAND	26	27
UMM AL-MARADEM	25	27
NUWAISIB	19	28
WAFRA	17	27
MANAGISH	17	29
SALMY	15	28
MUTRIBA	16	29

p (°C)	27	
(°C)	20	
Hum (%)	85	
lum (%)	40	
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction		
AINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm	
Sunrise	06:02	
Sunset	17:02	
	dum (%) Is Speed (km/h) Istion AINFALL IN 24 HR Sunrise	

Prayer Times		
Fajr	04:41	
Sunrise	06:02	
Zuhr	11:32	
Asr	14:39	
Sunset	17:02	
Isha	18:20	

PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologi	sts
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752222
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700
Dr Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223
Ear, Nose & Throat	(ENT)
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555050 Ext 510
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory	25731988
	22620166
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22020100
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
•	25651426
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio	25651426 ners
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 256555528
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz General Practitio Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	25651426 ners 24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955 di 22616660

Psychologists

/Psychotherapists

Plastic Surge	eons
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doc	tor
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatris	sts
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & O	bstetricians
DrAdrian arbe	23729596/23729581
Dr. Verginia s.Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami	25343406
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272
Dr. Salem soso	22618787
General Surg	eons
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Bash	er 25327148
Internists, Chest	& Heart
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

info@soorcenter.com

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Paediatricia	ns
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
Dr. Snaa Maaroof	25713514
Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatolog	Jy .
Dr. Mohammed Salam	
Bern University	23845955
Dentists	
Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/3729581
Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2
Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226
Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer	22561444
Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557
Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888
Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan	25653755
Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111
Neurologis	ts
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologis	ts
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali	22633135

Kaizen center

25716707

Noor Clinic

23845955

	Endocrinologi	ist
_	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330
	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888	1
	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924	ļ.
	Physiotherapists	&VD
	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291	
	Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees	22666288
	Rheumatologis	sts:
	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060)
1	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
	Internist, Chest &	Heart
	DR.Mohammes Akkad	24555050 Ext 210
	Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicin Head, Division of Cardiology	ne
	Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	25339667
	Consultant Cardio	
	Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555
	Inaya German Medical Center Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123	

William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677

Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015 INTERNATIONAL Luxembourg 00352 00853 Macau 00213 00389 Macedonia Madagascar 00261 00244 Majorca 0034 001264 Malawi 00265 001268 Malaysia 0060 **Maldives** 00960 Mali 00223 00356 Marshall Islands 00692 001242 Martinique 00596 00973 Mauritania 00222 Mauritius 00230 001246 Mayotte 00269 Mexico 0052 Micronesia 00691 Moldova 00373 00229 Monaco 00377 001441 Mongolia 00976 00975 Montserrat 001664 00212 Morocco Mozambique 00258 Myanmar (Burma) 0095 00264 Namibia Nepal 00977 Netherlands 0031 Netherlands Antilles 00599 **New Caledonia** 00687 **New Zealand** 0064 Nicaragua 00505 00227 Nigar 00234 Nigeria 001345 Niue 00683 00236 Norfolk Island 00672 N. Ireland (UK) 0044 **North Korea** 00850 Norway 0047 Oman 00968 **Pakistan** 0092 00242 Palau 00680 00507 **Panama** 00506 Papua New Guinea 00675 **Paraguay** 00595 Peru 0051 **Philippines** 0063 0090392 Poland 0048 **Portugal** 00351 **Puerto Rico** 001787 00974 Romania 0040 001767 **Russian Federation** 007 Dominican Republic 001809 Rwanda 00250 Saint Helena 00290 Saint Kitts 001869 Saint Lucia 001758 Saint Pierre 00508 Saint Vincent 001784 Samoa US 00684 00372 Samoa West 00685 San Marino 00378 00239 Sao Tone Saudi Arabia 00966 Scotland (UK) 0044 Senegal 00221 00284 Seychelles Sierra Leone 00232 Singapore 0065 Slovakia 00421 Slovenia 00386 00677 Solomon Islands 00252 Somalia South Africa 0027 South Korea 0082 Spain 0034 Sri Lanka 0094 001473 Sudan 00249 Suriname 00597 001671 Swaziland 00268 00502 Sweden 0046 Switzerland 0041 Syria 00963 Serbia 00381 00886 Tanzania 00255 Thailand 0066 00228 Toga 00676 00690 Tokelau **Trinidad** 001868 Tunisia 00216 Turkey 0090 Tuvalu 00688 Uganda 00256 Ukraine 00380 **United Arab Emirates 00976** United Kingdom 0044 001876 Uruguay 00598 USA 001 Uzbekistan 00998 Vanuatu 00678

Gossip



Bond producer plan to hang on to Craig

ames Bond producer Barbara Broccoli says they're "planning to hold on to" Daniel Craig for as long as possible. Barbara - who is the daughter of original Bond producer Albert 'Cubby' Broccoli and now co-produces the films alongside her half brother Michael G Wilson - has revealed there are no plans to replace the 47-year-old actor following his work on 'Spectre', 'Skyfall', 'Quantum of Solace' and 'Casino Royale'. Explaining that "making a James Bond film is tough",

Barbara shared: "The logistics are a grind but Sam Mendes was directing for a second time, and LEa Seydoux is absolutely mesmerizing as [Bond's love interest] Dr Madeline Swann. In a lot of ways, making the films is like what James experiences in Spectre: You're put through your paces, but the result is tremendously exciting." The 55-year-old producer added to New York magazine that "we're planning to hang on to Daniel as long as we can." Barbara's comments come

after the actor caused controversy by claiming he'd rather "slash his wrists" than star in another Bond film. Asked if he planned to reprise the role of 007 for a fifth time, he said: "I'd rather break this glass and slash my wrists. "We're done. All I want to do is move on." However, he has since backtracked by claiming he "loves making these films".

Carey enjoyed Halloween with Cannon

Halloween with Nick Cannon. The 'Hero' hitmaker threw a lavish party in Beverly Hills on Saturday, with both her ex-husband and current boyfriend James Packer in attendance, and she thinks its good for twins Moroccan and Monroe, four, to see their parents getting along. She said: "It was cool. It was nice. It's really good for the kids." Mariah hired a lavish estate via Airbnb for the party, which she threw because her children who dressed as superman and supergirl - were so excited about the occasion. She explained to ETOnline: "They wanted to be super heroes. "They've been celebrating Halloween since August.

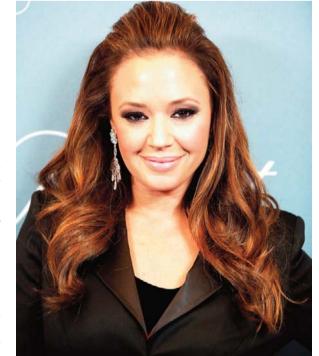
ariah Carey thinks it was "nice" to spend So I figured, you know, we should have something fun, and a haunted house and really be festive so they can enjoy the holidays." It was previously claimed the 'America's Got Talent' host is very supportive of his ex-wife's new romance. A source said: "Nick is doing well in his personal life and he just wants Mariah to be happy. "He feels as long as his kids are in good hands, he will support any decision Mariah makes. "Mariah will always be in Nick's life that will never change. It makes Nick happy that Mariah is in a great place in her life between



Katona 'doesn't need a man'

rry Katona "doesn't need a man" to make her "strong". The Atomic Kitten singer split from third husband George Kay in October after 11 months of marriage after he was arrested for allegedly assaulting her. Since the painful break-up, Kerry has quit the couple's home in Crowborough, East Sussex, and is now focused on living for herself and her kids and is adamant she doesn't need a guy for anything because she has the love of her children. Taking to Twitter, she revealed: "I Am A Single Mum Who Doesn't Need a man 2 make Her laugh, wipe her tears, Hug Her Tight, see Her Succeed, watch Her Fail, or Cheer Her On 2 make her Strong. my Kids Do x (sic)" Kerry, 35, has five children, Molly, 14, and Lilly-Sue, 12, her daughters with first husband Brian McFadden, daughter Heidi, eight, and son Max with second spouse Mark Croft, and 17-month-old daughter Dylan with George. The former 'I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! winner also urged all her followers on the social networking site to follow her new outlook on life and be "patient enough to wait for the things you deserve". She said in another tweet: "Be strong enough to know when to let go and patient enough to wait for the things you deserve! Happy Monday all (sic)" Kerry's friend Katie Price re-tweeted her empowering statement and sent her message back full of kisses, describing the reality TV star as her "gorgeous girl". George has now been charged with assault following his and Kerry's alleged altercation last month. The 35-year-old muscle man will be forced to stand before a judge next month following charges of assault by beating and unlawful possession of a stun gun disguised as a torch after the pop star reportedly sustained bruises to her face following the row at their home.





Leah Remini: Cruise and Holmes left their baby to cry

eah Remini claims Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes left their baby daughter crying on the floor. The 45-year-old ■actress - who has penned an expose on her life within the Church of Scientology, which she quit in 2013 - claims the former couple's pre-wedding dinner was constantly interrupted by the cries of a baby, but no one apart from her seemed to concerned. According to Leah, after five minutes of hearing the wailing, she followed the noise to a nearby bathroom, where she found three women - including Tom's sister and his assistant - gaping at the couple's then-seven-month-old daughter, Suri, "as if she was [late Scientology founder] L. Ron Hubbard incarnate". In her book, 'Troublemaker: Surviving Hollywood and Scientology', Leah stated she eventually convinced the women to pick up the tot and give her a bottle of milk. Elsewhere in the tome, the 'King of Queens' actress claimed Tom's older children, Isabella and Connor, wanted little to do with their mother, Nicole Kidman, because the 'Grace of Monaco' star had been deemed an SP, or Suppressive Person, by the church. She recalled how she asked the pair, on a ride back to the airport following Tom and Katie's wedding in 2006, if they saw their mother often. Isabella responded: "Not if I have a choice. Our mom is a SP." The Church have branded the actress' claims "ridiculous and stupid".



'in Diesel finds it "impossible" not to talk about Paul Walker. The 48-year-old actor was left devastated when his friend passed away in a car crash almost two years ago and admits it is "hard" to celebrate 'Furious 7', the final movie they worked on together. Accepting the Hollywood Blockbuster Award for the movie at the Hollywood Film Awards last night, he said: "We made a film that made the whole world cry with us. "It's impossible not to receive an award and not feel emotional. "It is hard to celebrate 'Furious 7'. I said I wasn't going to talk about Paul,

but when you have had a brother like that it is impossible not to." And Vin - who was joined on stage at the Beverly Hilton hotel by co-stars Jordana Brewster and Michelle Rodriguez - dedicated the accolade to his "angel" friend. He added: "Thank you for recognizing that angel. The world is a little lonelier without him. "But I know he's looking down at us, and smiling, because all of you have acknowledged him. This is for you, Pablo."



West's bizarre demands in his hotel rooms

Tanye West insists on having cylindrical vases, a discontinued speaker and black towels in his hotel rooms. The 'Only One' hitmaker has a list of specific demands which must be met when he's on the road, including specifically-shaped items to hold his flowers and a speaker, despite the fact it has been unavailable for 10 years. He also requests mint dental floss and Kashi Go Lean cereal, as well as \$3,200 worth of liquor, including three bottles of Paradis Hennessy, TMZ reports. While he doesn't have specific requirements for his two-year-old daughter North, his friend and former 'Watch the Throne' tourmate Jay Z insists his three-yearold daughter Blue Ivy's needs are met, thanks to the addition of organic whole milk on his rider. And all the '99 Problems' hitmaker's suites must be childproofed with all corners, sharp edges, and electrical outlets covered, and statues, lamps, and breakable objects removed. Jay - who is married to Beyonce - insists his accommodation is heated to 71∞F and requires three \$80 Mayan tuberose-scented candles. He also requests staff don't vacuum near his room and, to "avoid embarrassment", they must not ask for concert tickets. Though the rapper doesn't request as much liquor as Kanye whose wife Kim Kardashian West is pregnant with their second child - he does insist on Ace of Spades champagne. However, his contract specifies he can't be charged for the fizz as he owns the company.

Presley was preparing for a UK tour when he died

he 'Jailhouse Rock' hitmaker passed away in 1977 aged 42 and although he never performed in the UK, his ex-wife Priscilla Presley claims he was gearing up to play shows in the country when he died. She revealed: "He was preparing for a tour over here before he passed." Despite his legacy as the King of Rock 'n' Roll, Priscilla, now 70, believes he never felt appreciated by critics for being such a revolutionary artist, especially when he hit the music scene in the 50s. Asked whether she thought he got the critical acclaim he deserved, she said: "No I don't. God I wish peo ple only knew what he would do to be able to get that sound. When you were in the recording studio with him he actually was the producer. He knew exactly what he wanted to hear and what he didn't want to hear. But people don't realize that he was a perfectionist and he lived his music." Priscilla is currently promoting a new album from the star titled 'If I Can Dream' which features recordings of the singer accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Speaking of the LP, she explained: "In Vegas he was able to do what he wanted to do on stage and on his albums he wasn't, because you know it's just a little bit more sedate. Still when I hear the album it makes me feel good because it's something that I see him do on stage but [we've] been able to bring it to an album." During their time together they had daughter Lisa Marie Presley, who now has four children of her own, who Priscilla believes Elvis would have loved. Speaking on ITV show 'Good Morning Britain, she added: "They love his music, they have much appreciation for their grandfather and I think he would absolutely adore them." — Bang Showbiz



Clooney's dog loves Italian food

he 54-year-old actor adopted cocker spaniel Einstein an obese stray who was due to be put down - from a crowded animal shelter in 2010 and is delighted he has been able to give the pooch a "beautiful life", taking his canine companion with him when he travels the world, including to his estate on Lake Como. George quipped: "He's grown to love Italian food." Einstein was five years old when he was taken in



dogs to find a home, but George insists it was more practical for him than taking on the care of a puppy. He explained in new book 'My Old Dog: Rescued Pets With Remarkable Second Acts': "He was house-trained and had a great attitude. Age doesn't matter." George has previously admitted he was nervous the dog wouldn't like him when they first met, and resorted to desperate measures to win over the pooch. He said: "I start to panic that Einstein is not going to like me. So I run into the kitchen, where I have these turkey meatballs, and I rub them all over my shoes. "Who knew Einstein was such a food wh**e on top of everything? He throws himself at my feet." Last week, the 'Oceans 11' star and wife Amal adopted a basset hound named Millie, who joins Einstein and their other dog Louie in their family. The couple - who tied the knot in a lavish Italian ceremony in 2014 - took the four-year-old basset hound from the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society in California. The humane society shared a photograph on its Facebook page of the couple with Millie and Louie, 10, who they rescued in March. SGVHS wrote: "ADOPTED! Millie was adopted by George Clooney and his wife Amal!! Millie, a bassett hound, now has a new brother named Louie who is also a rescue! Congratulations and thank you for adopting!!'

by the 'Monuments Men' star, and it is often harder for older

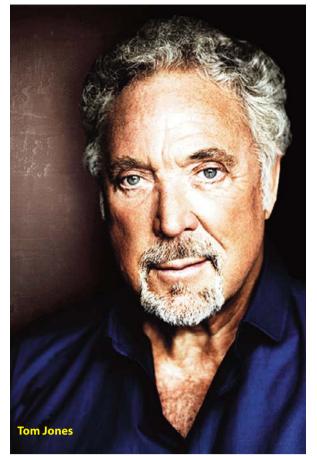
Music & Movies

Q&A

Tom Jones wants DNA test to find if he has black ancestry

fter being told that he is "just passing as white", Welsh crooner Tom Jones says he is ready to take a DNA test to find out once and for all if he has black ancestry. The star, whose hits include "It's Not Unusual", "Delilah" and "Sex Bomb", is often thought to have black heritage for his booming baritone voice, tight curly hair and olive complexion. "A lot of people still think I'm black. When I first came to America, people who had heard me sing on the radio would be surprised that I was white when they saw me," Jones was quoted as saying by the Times.

"When I was born, my mother came out in big dark patches all over her body. They asked if she had any black blood and she said she didn't know. I'm going to get my DNA tested. I want to find out," he said. DNA tests claiming to track ancestral lineage are now easily accessible and affordable. The hipswivelling singer has enjoyed a long career as a sex symbol but now bemoans feeling objectified, saying he can "never predict when the knickers are going to get thrown". Born Thomas Jones Woodward in South Wales to a coal-mining family, the 75-year-old singer discovered his musical talent as a child, his career spanning more than half a century with hundreds of records to his name. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2006. — AFP



Fred Thompson, 'Law & Order' actor and dormer Senator, dies at 73

red Thompson, a former US senator for Tennessee and actor who starred on "Law & Order" from 2002-2007, died Sunday of lymphoma in Nashville, his family said in a statement. He was 73. "It is with a heavy heart and a deep sense of grief that we share the passing of our brother, husband, father, and grandfather who died peacefully in Nashville surrounded by his family," reads the statement from his family. Thompson was also a GOP presidential candidate in 2008, as well as a Watergate attorney. He played D.A. Arthur Branch on "Law & Order" for five years, and also appeared on the show's spinoffs "Special Victims Unit" and "Trial by Jury" as the character.



In this Sept 2, 2008, file photo, former Sen Fred Thompson, R-Tenn, gives thumbs up after speaking at the Republican National Convention in St Paul, Minn. — AP

Thompson, who was born in Sheffield, Ala., shifted between politics and acting frequently throughout his life, but he gained a degree of visibility in 1973, when he served as minority counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee, after having managed the reelection campaign of Sen. Howard Baker (R-Tenn), the top Republican on the committee. At one hearing, he asked former White House aide Alexander

Butterfield, "Mr. Butterfield, are you aware of the installation of any listening devices in the Oval Office of the president?" Butterfield's confirmation of a secret recording system was a key turning point in the scandal that eventually led to President Richard M Nixon's resignation.

Four years later, when Thompson was working in private practice in Tennessee, Thompson represented Marie Ragghianti, former chair of the Tennessee Parole Board, in a wrongful termination case against the state's governor. The trial exposed a scandal in which cash payments were being given to state officials in exchange for clemency. The case was the subject of a book and a 1985 movie, "Marie," and started Thompson's acting career when he was offered the part of playing himself. After enjoying a number of character parts, Thompson ran for Senate in a 1994 special election, in a campaign in which he drove around in a red pickup truck to try to show his populist appeal. He was reelected in 1996, but declined to run for reelection in 2002.

High-powered politician

In 2007, he was viewed as a leading contender for the GOP presidential nomination in the months before he officially announced his candidacy on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." But his campaign sputtered, and he dropped out after just a few primaries. After Thompson's acting role in "Marie," director Roger Donaldson then cast him in "No Way Out" (1987) opposite Kevin Costner and Gene Hackman, and Thompson quickly got the reputation as an actor who could portray a high-powered politician. He would go on to appear in films "Die Hard 2," "The Hunt for Red October" and "Days of Thunder" in the '90s before joining "Law & Drope the official state of the series of the ser

Thompson joined the NBC procedural in 2002, during the final months of his Senate run. He left in 2007, most likely to prepare for his presidential bid that would come that year. His other film credits include "Cape Fear," "In the Line of Fire," "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee," "Thunderheart" and "Born Yesterday." He also appeared on episodes of "Sex and the City," "The Good Wife," "Life on Mars," "Wiseguy," "Roseanne" and "Matlock." Several celebrities, including Elisabeth Rohm who worked with Thompson on "Law & Diamond Phillips have taken to social media to pay tribute to him. — Reuters

Why R&B star **Akon** decided to appify his next albums

n the cusp of his first album release since 2008, Akon wants to steer his considerable fan base away from services like YouTube to a new - and Akon-branded - app where he'll give away music for free, supported by ads. That might strike you as a head-scratcher, given Akon's millions of album sales. But with digital downloads falling and streaming on the rise, it makes sense to the R&B star. Akon spoke exclusively with The Associated Press about his plans. This interview was edited for brevity.

Q: Back in 2010, you said "Stadium" would come out that year.

A: Unfortunately there was a lot of changes happening within the Universal (Music) building. They were restructuring. And my project unfortunately got caught up in the midst of it. In the meantime, I was building the Konvict Africa brand, releasing artists such as P-Square and Wizkid. As that was happening I also got involved in energy, and started the Akon Lighting Africa project. I started realizing how much the music played a role and offered me the opportunity to branch off outside of music to become successful in other areas. So it was about that time that I wanted to focus on the album. I recorded so many songs. The biggest challenge was: How am I going to release this?

Q: So, you decided to release them via an app. How did that idea get started?

A: This is going to be the first time ever done in the history of music. I had a friend named Dada Mills who was working with a company named EscapeX. Together we came up with a formula, pretty much called the "app album." I'm releasing multiple albums on my platform, an urban album, a world music album, a house album, a reggae album called the Island album, and the pop album, which we'll probably release off the platform, which will create more marketing to lead you back to the app itself.

Q: So the pop version will be downloads?

A: The pop version will be released through a record company (Atlantic). That's the way of tying the app in with the majors.

Q: How did the label feel about the idea?

A: From the moment I explained it, they were all in. There were like, well at least just give us one so we can be attached to this thing somehow. They understand the power of digital. They're like, the fans are the ones who create this success in the first place, so if you have the fan base, then guess what, you have the buyers. As long as you have buyers, you can sell them anything, it doesn't have to be music. It can be headphones. Just ask (Beats co-founder) Jimmy Iovine.

Q: What about Apple Music? Does the pop album go there as well?

A: Yeah, the pop album will go to all the traditional sources. The way I look at it is, as long as we can capitalize on all those resources, that'll be the way to market and promote four albums. One hand washes the other and both hands wash the face.

Q: How do you feel about how artists are compensated through streaming platforms?

A: No artist is happy with how they're getting paid from the streaming platforms. Outside of subscription models, there are other models. Look at Facebook. How do they make billions? When you look at this app, my fans are doing exactly what people are doing on Facebook. The only difference is they're going to be on my app a lot longer.

Q: Other artists like Karmin are on this platform.

Ads churn through and you don't have to do anything.

n the cusp of his first album release since 2008, As: The crazier part of it is it doesn't interrupt anything. You can actually choose if you even want to see the away from services like You Tube to a new - and ads

Q: How important is it for you to own the app versus having free streaming on Spotify free or other platforms?

A: From a business standpoint it doesn't make sense. Why give someone like Spotify or Pandora 99.9 percent of what should go in your pocket? Also, you don't get the data. And the data is the most important part.

Q: How much better is it for you if someone streams on your app vs Spotify free?

A: You've got a fraction of a penny with them and you got cents over here for a streamed song. Start multiplying that by millions of people and billions in some cases. Just think about it. One record me and David Guetta did called "Sexy Chick" has almost a billion streams to date. People are always going to stream. It goes back to the role of the artists, because now they feel like being part of the business. The business is set up for the corporation to make money and the artist just to work. Now the artist is getting a bigger piece of the pie.



Q: How do the albums get released?

A: When you get the Stadium app, the world music album will be unlocked. According to your participation, you earn "acorns" to be able to unlock the next album and the next album until all four albums are unlocked.

Q: What's the amount of time you have to spend on

A: That depends on the listener. It's almost like a game. Unfortunately you can cheat the game. Just put on the app, press play and leave it on your dresser for 3 to 4 weeks and come back and it's unlocked.

A: Eventually the goal is to make the app a formula that even the majors can use. The majors are trying to figure out how this works. So the Stadium app will be

Q: Why release the pop album the standard way?

a way of allowing them to understand what this is.

Q: It's interesting to release the music a bit at a

time. A: It's like walking into a buffet. You can only fill your

stomach to a certain level and then you get full. So we'll give them just enough to be able to get full long enough to look forward to the next meal.

Q: Is there a magic number you have to hit before the pop album comes out?

A: I think you jinx yourself when you do that. But I'm highly confident that once this comes out, it's going to create a new wave. It's definitely going to regenerate the music business. I think this is the answer to the problems the majors are dealing with. And it's going to take someone like me to take the chance on it. I've been gambling on myself since Day 1, so this is not new for me. — AP

Muschiettis to produce supernatural thriller 'Shadows'

iblings Andy and Barbara Muschietti, director and producer of "Mama," a US chart-toper in 2013, brothers will produce, teaming with Russell Ackerman and John Schoenfelder, the next project of Alex and David Pastor, supernatural thriller "In Shadows." Spanish writers-directors, the Pastors, also siblings, have carve out a name on the international genre scene, with "The Last Days" and "Carriers." EOne is in advanced talks with the Muschiettis to board "Shadows." A Spanish commercial broadcaster is also studying the project for possible co-production.

"Shadows' is a twisted coming-of-age story, a dark tale where supernatural horror is a manifestation of the most mundane horror the characters face in their daily lives. Unfolding along two different timelines, the movie explores how the horrors of the past can haunt us all our lives and define us as adults," David Pastor explained to Variety. The Pastors' new title turns on Jason, a man who comes out of prison after serving 20 years for an unspeakable crime, and is forced to confront the terrible events of his past that sent him there.

"In a similar way to features such as 'Near Dark' or 'Let the Right One In' that gave the genre a spin, a twist, 'Shadows' will do the same," said Andy Muschietti. "We wrote the kind of genre movie that as audience members we long to see: a character-driven horror film that is as scary as it is emotional, a supernatural tale that uses its fantastical elements to explore the darkest impulses of its characters," Alex Pastor added. The Pastor brothers have just shot "Incorporated," a futuristic thriller pilot , which they also wrote, also for Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's Pearl Street Productions, Universal Cable



Siblings Andy and Barbara Muschietti

Productions and CBS Television Studios. The Argentine-born Muschiettis are two of Argentina's highest-profile producer-directors, working genre films with international mainstream appeal. Co-produced by Guillermo del Toro and starring Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Jessica Chastainm, chiller "Mama" cumed \$147 million worldwide. The Muschiettis are Barcelona-based, having founded the Toma78 production shingle there. They also have offices in LA. "Shadows' is also the story of two brothers and the complex relationship between them, which is a very appropriate first collaboration for us and the Muschiettis!," the Pastors joked. It is scheduled to go into principal production in the first quarter of 2016. Screenplay has been penned by Alex and David Pastor.

Working hard

Pic is currently casting. Muschietti are putting together a packed slate of projects for Andy to direct and Barbara produce or both produce. "We've been working hard for the last year and a half to have a significant lineup to develop," Barbara said. Andy Muschietti is preparing "It," a Stephen King adaptation that would be made as two feature. two pics). Recently announced, Andy Muschietti substituted Cary Fukunaga on a New Line project. Shoot would take place next summer, partly to allow for work with children, as they have the main roles in the first part. Casting is in process. "Will Poulter ('The Maze Runner," 'The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader') would be a great option. For me he is at the top of my list," Andy advanced to Variety. Andy Muschietti is also attached to direct "Shadow of the Colossus" for Sony, a muchawaited adaptation of the vidgame. Regarding the Steven King adaptation, "King described 50s' terror iconography. And I feel there's a whole world now to rediscover, to update. There won't be mommies, werewolves. Terrors are going to be a lot more surprising," Andy announced of his potential update. Also swelling Muschietti's slate, Barbara revealed that they have just bought rights to award-winning graphic novel "Anya's Ghost," by Vera Brosgol. They are in talks with scriptwriter Patrick Ness ("Juan Antonio Bayona's "A Monster Calls") to pen the script. — Reuters

Kellie Pickler gets personal, but no drama on reality show

ountry singer Kellie Pickler is a veteran of reality television after honing her musical and dancing skills on "American Idol" and "Dancing With the Stars," so she was very careful about agreeing to a new CMT reality show about her marriage to songwriter-producer Kyle Jacobs. "You definitely have to set boundaries from the start with anything you do," Pickler said of her new show, "I Love Kellie Pickler." "And keep things sacred for you and your marriage." The 13-episode series, produced by Ryan Seacrest and premiering Thursday at 10 pm Eastern, doesn't have the designer lifestyle and high drama found in the Kardashian household, or the raucous, drunken carousing of CMT's signature reality show, "Party Down South." The sweet Southern singer and her husband wanted to give fans a peek at their home life, but in a wholesome, family friendly way.—AP



In this June 10, 2015 file photo, Kellie Pickler arrives at the CMT Music Awards at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tenn. — AP



James Franco

Franco's 'Memoria' bought by Monterey Media for North America

onterey Media has acquired North American distribution rights to the indie drama "Memoria," starring James Franco, Sam Dillon and Thomas Mann. "Memoria" had its world premiere Sunday at the Austin Film Festival. Monterey Media plans to release the film next year. The film is based on the short story by Franco. "Memoria" was written and directed by Nina Ljeti and Vladimir de Fontenay, and produced by Rabbit Bandini Productions and Burn Later Productions with the Art of Elysium.

"Memoria" is the second film in Monterey's release lineup produced by the Art of Elysium and Rabbit Bandini Productions, following "Yosemite." All of the funds from these films go to the Art of Elysium, a non-profit organization which supports and encourages bringing the arts to hospitalized youth, elders and the homeless community. The film follows an anti-social boy, played by Dillon, who's living in the suburbs of Palo Alto, Calif., and retreating to a world of military combat within the confines of his bedroom. Franco plays a teacher at the boy's school.

"James and I are thrilled that 'Memoria' is the second film to be released with the Rabbit Bandini/the Art of Elysium partnership," said Vince Jolivette, partner with Franco at Rabbit Bandini. "These films are so special to us because they bring together our passion for giving young, talented artists such as Nina and Vlad the chance to create, our love for philanthropy and our production company."— Reuters

Awards

WILL SMITH QUELLS 'CONCUSSION' ONTROVERSY AT FILM AWARDS



Jamie Foxx, left, presents the Hollywood actor award to Will Smith for "Concussion" at the Hollywood Film Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Sunday. — AP/AFP photos



Kurt Russell, from left, Michael Madsen, Walton Goggins, Bruce Dern, Tim Roth and Channing Tatum accept the Hollywood ensemble award for 'The Hateful Eight'.

ill Smith is not expecting any pushback from the National Football League over his upcoming football drama "Concussion." "I don't think it's going to generate too much controversy (with the NFL). There will be a little difficulty in swallowing it, as it was for me. I'm a football dad, you know," said the 47-year-old father of three. Smith was honored Sunday at the Hollywood Film Awards for his work in "Concussion." He plays Dr Bennet Omalu, the forensic neuropathologist who uncovered the dangerous effects of head trauma on the brain in football. "You don't want it to be true," Smith said on the red carpet. "I think that the science is really irrefutable and the story of Dr Bennet Omalu is such a powerful story. I think that it will be difficult at first for some, but I don't think that it's going to be that big of an issue. It's something that we have to accept." "Concussion" made headlines after the New York Times reported that the film was altered to placate the National Football League, a charge director Peter Landesman and Sony have denied. The Grammy-winning rapper, who recently appeared on the remix of Bomba Estereo's song, "Fiesta," also discussed his return to music after a decade-long hiatus.

Police men

"It's such a new exploration for me. The most fun that I have. There's nothing that compares to being on the stage with a hit record. So you know I've been performing a little bit with (DJ Jazzy) Jeff. We've been sneaking out and going to places and working out a little bit. So I think it's going to be magnificent." Another hot-button honoree Sunday was Quentin Tarantino's "The Hateful Eight." Police associations have urged boycotts of Tarantino's movies after the filmmaker said he was "on the side of the murdered" during a recent rally against police brutality in New

"We all have a tremendous respect for what police do every day, putting their lives on the line, OK? And I know Quentin feels that way too," said Kurt Russell, who stars in Tarantino's western, out December."Now when it comes to his comments on police men, that's his to comment on," continued Russell. "You don't have to agree every time with everybody to like work together." The awards show, which has raised eyebrows for giving honors to unreleased films, was not televised this year after dismal ratings in 2014. Still, honorees including Robert De Niro, Benicio Del Toro, Jane



Will Smith accepts the Hollywood actor award for "Concussion".

Fonda and Amy Schumer turned out for the glitzy gala in Beverly Hills hosted by James Corden of "The Late Late Show." Carey Mulligan, who received an award for her historical drama "Suffragette," hoped the attention will help at the box office. "It's an important film for people to see and to understand what women went through for us to have a vote," she said. "All of this award stuff is very good because it means more people will go and see it." — AP



Charlie Puth, left, and Wiz Khalifa, winners of the Hollywood song award for 'See You Again' from the Furious 7 soundtrack, pose in the press room.



David O. Russell, left, presents Robert De Niro the Hollywood career achievement award.



Channing Tatum, from left, Walton Goggins, Tim Roth, Kurt Russell, James Parks and Michael Madsen, winners of the Hollywood ensemble award for "The Hateful Eight," pose in the press room.



Selena Gomez presents the Hollywood comedy award.



Carey Mulligan accepts the Hollywood actress award for



Amy Schumer accepts the Hollywood comedy award for "Trainwreck".



Alicia Vikander accepts the Hollywood breakout actress award for "The Danish Girl".



O'Shea Jackson Jr., from left, Jason Mitchell and Corey Hawkins accept the Hollywood breakout ensemble award for Charlie Puth, left, and Wiz Khalifa perform at the Hollywood Film Awards. 'Straight Outta Compton'.



Awards



Benicio Del Toro accepts the Hollywood supporting actor award for "Sicario".



award for "Youth."



Jane Fonda accepts the Hollywood supporting actress Russell Crowe presents the Hollywood producer award.



Tom Hooper accepts the Hollywood director award for "The Danish Girl."







Saoirse Ronan accepts the new Hollywood award for "Brooklyn."

Ridley Scott accepts the Hollywood producer award for "In Martian."

Pete Docter, accepts the Hollywood animation award for "Inside Out."

Armie Hammer presents the Hollywood break-out actor award for "Black Mass."







Vin Diesel, left, and Jordana Brewster accept the Hollywood blockbuster award for "Furious 7."



Dakota Johnson, left, and Johnny Depp present the Hollywood breakout actor award.



Jake Gyllenhaal, left, presents Carey Mulligan the Hollywood actress award for "Suffragettei.



Doris Roberts, left, and Jack Betts arrive at the Hollywood



Channing Tatum, left, and Jenna Dewan Tatum arrive at the Hollywood Film Awards.

Janusz Kaminski, winner of the Hollywood cinematogra-



Danica McKellar arrives at the Hollywood Laura Dern presents the Hollywood sup-Film Awards.







Michelle Rodriguez arrives at the **Hollywood Film Awards.**



Hollywood supporting actor.



Steve Carell, presents the award for Hollywood breakthrough director.



Robert De Niro, winner of the Hollywood career achievement award, third from right, and from left, Amber Heard poses in the press room at the Hollywood Film Awards. Drena De Niro, David O Russell and Diane Ladd pose in the press room.



Kuwait Times

Will Smith quells 'Concussion' controversy at Film Awards





Mary Triana, 16, wears an intricate Day Of The Dead face at the first annual 'Viva la Vida' festival at the Santa Ana, Calif, train station Sunday.—AP

In Egypt's Red Sea resort, 'Russian season' all year round



Swimmers use a floating bridge to access the coral reef on the Red Sea at Sharm



A Russian models for a photograph as the sun sets over the Red Sea at Sharm



Divers prepare to enter the Red Seas as the sun sets in Sharm El-Sheikh.

resort, a mecca of Oriental kitsch where "let's water pipes - this is number one for the Russians," he said. hanks!" no longer pull the same weight as their Russian equivalents. Some hawkers even go so far as to evoke the last name of Russia's strongman president, shouting "Putin!" at people walking by. As Egypt's tourism sector slowly recovers from years of political tumult that left the economy battered, Russians have emerged as the dominant group on its Red Sea beaches. And it was here that over 200 of them had their final getaway before perishing on the way home in Saturday's airline disaster.

Menus, advertisements, club flyers, and souvenir shops all feature prominent Russian language signage, with one store, ironically across from the Americana-standard Hard Rock Cafe, bearing in large letters "CCCP," the Cyrillic acronym for the Soviet Union. Ekaterina Ivanova, 34, a scientist researching nanoparticles from St. Petersburg, Russia, the destination of the downed Russian plane, arrived after a day of delays. She said the aircraft she was initially supposed to take to Egypt was the very one that crashed.

"My mother begged me to cancel the trip, but we were waiting all day and dreaming of the sea for so long so we went anyway," she said after a dip in the bay and lunch with her friend, engineer Sergei Igolkin, also of St Petersburg. "This place is wonderful for the weather and because it's close for us," compared to holiday destinations like India with more expensive long-haul flights, Ivanova said - adding that this was her sixth trip to the resort town since she began coming as a student. Roughly three million Russian tourists came to Egypt in 2014 - nearly a third of all visitors - with most heading to the resorts in the southern Sinai Peninsula or its opposite mainland coast, far off from an insurgency being fought by Islamic militants against the army further north. While Sharm El-Sheikh, the most developed of the resort areas, draws many British, Germans and Gulf Arabs, Russians have left a particular mark, and Egyptian proprietors have adapted. 'You have to speak Russian here, they're most of our customers and they don't necessarily speak English," said Mustapha Abdel-Hakim, 26, who has been working in Sharm el-Sheikh for six years.

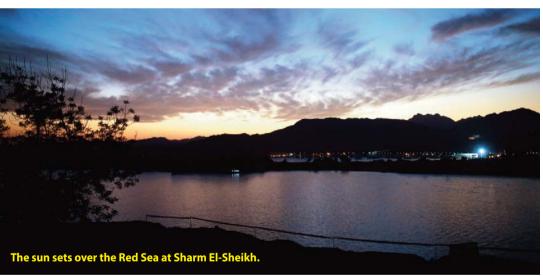
"They come for diving, snorkeling, and of course, the parties ... We love Russia and make many friends and connections with them," he said in front of his cafe, called "La Rose" but which he pronounced "La Rousse" - Arabic for Russian. Nearby souvenir shop vendor Raymond Michael said the winter months are particularly prized by the Russians, seeking to escape cold winters of the north, but that "Russian season" was now all year round. "They are all

avai! Spasibo!" cry the restaurant touts along over Sharm, they buy all sorts of souvenirs, King Tut statthe main strip in Egypt's Sharm El-Sheikh ues and carved wooden objects but especially Arabic

Fake blood

On the strip in the central Naama Bay, the party starts after midnight, after a lull when families retreat home to surrender the night to 20-somethings seeking a high-

quests wore elaborate costumes as electronic music boomed across a packed dancefloor. For the moment, the impact of Saturday's crash, which killed all 224 people on board, is far from being felt in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egyptian authorities have said the pilot had radioed and said the aircraft was experiencing technical problems, and a multinational team of experts has been dispatched to Egypt to investigate the crash. On Sunday Russia's top aviation offi-



octane good time. On Saturday, the day of the crash, the show went on, with many of the hundreds roaming the main drag dripping fake blood and sporting macabre costumes for Halloween. That segment, a lucrative market with disposable income for clubbing nights that last till sunrise, is an essential element to Red Sea tourism.

Adly El-Mestekawy, a former software engineer turned nightclub prince who helped pioneer the area from barren desert in the 1980s into the bustling resort of today, said he wanted to make it into a destination for young adults to enjoy themselves. Russians make up some 60 percent of guests these days, he said. "I created entertainment in Sharm to be an international clubbing destination and here we are 20 years later," he said, describing himself as the "Sheikh of Sharm" from inside his club, Pacha smack in the middle of the main pedestrian thoroughfare.

Technical problems

"We have sunshine all year and open-air parties all year, what's not to love," he said during the Halloween festivities, where acrobats swung from the ceilings and most cial on the scene said it appeared the plane had broken up in midair at high altitude.

Hesitation by tourists so far has focused on the airline, Metrojet, not Egypt in general, with Russian state media reporting that some tourists were seeking to cancel package tours that used the carrier.

Still, two major European airlines, as well as Qatar Airways and Dubai-based Emirates, the Middle East's biggest carrier, announced they would stop flying over the area for safety reasons. Egyptian authorities say it is too early to tell what impact, if any, the crash will have on tourism. When asked, tourists, Russian and otherwise, expressed sorrow over the tragedy, seen as a terrible accident. "It's very sad, I had some people from the flight who were potential clients who cancelled at the last moment, and I never got to meet them," said Muscovite Anna Vishneskaya, 29, a photographer who lives in Sharm El-Sheikh, shooting weddings, tourism and fashion here. "Everyone is sad here about this story, it's obvious. There are no words to describe it."— AP



pray at the Coptic Orthodox Cathedral of the Heavens in Sharm El-Sheikh.



In this image made from video, Russian tourists and Egyptian Coptic Christians A vendor waits for customers at a kiosk in Naama Bay, Sharm El-Sheikh.