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BLACK BOX DATA INDICATE RUSSIAN PLANE 'BOMBED'

GOVERNMENTS WARN CITIZENS AGAINST TRAVELLING TO SHARM EL-SHEIKH



Min 16°
Max 25°
High Tide 09:55 & 22:15
Low Tide 04:05 & 15:35



KUWAIT: A panorama photo captures a tide at the seashore in Kuwait City. — KUNA

PARIS: Black box data from the Russian plane that crashed in Egypt last week indicate it was bombed, sources said yesterday, ahead of a first update from the Egyptian-led probe into the disaster. Both the flight data and voice recorders failed 24 minutes after the plane took off from Egypt's Sharm El-Sheikh resort en route to Saint Petersburg on October 31, when it plummeted from the sky into the Sinai Peninsula killing all 224 people on board.

Cairo and Moscow initially dismissed a claim Islamic State (IS) jihadists downed the plane, but mounting evidence that the Airbus A321 was attacked has prompted a growing list of governments to warn against travel to Sharm El-Sheikh. On Friday, President Vladimir Putin ordered all Russian flights to Egypt halted, in a fresh blow to the country's already struggling tourism industry. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told news agencies the measure did not mean Moscow believed the crash-the worst aviation disaster in Russia's history-was due to an attack, and the investigation continued.

The head of Russia's emergencies ministry said Russian experts had taken samples from the crashed jet and were testing it for any traces of explosives. But a source close to the investigation said the black box data "strongly favors" the theory a bomb on board brought down the plane. Another person close to the case in Paris said the plane had suffered "a violent, sudden" end, saying: "Everything was normal during the flight, absolutely normal, and suddenly there was nothing."

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi's office said he called Putin and they agreed to bolster coordination to "strengthen security measures for Russian planes". Nearly 80,000 Russian tourists are estimated have been stranded in Egypt by their government's decision to halt flights.

Continued on Page 13

US STEPS UP SCREENING OF MIDDLE EAST FLIGHTS

WASHINGTON: The United States said it was stepping up security screenings of US-bound flights from some Middle East airports as a precaution after the crash of a Russian airliner in Egypt. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said the United States also would review its assessments of certain foreign airports and offer them help with security, as well as take other measures, "both seen and unseen."

There is growing evidence that the plane that crashed Saturday in the Sinai, killing all 224 people, was brought down by an explosion. Sources close to the investigation said that information from the airliner's flight data and voice recorders "strongly favors" the theory that a bomb exploded on board the Airbus A321. Russia halted flights to Egypt, while Britain scrambled to evacuate passengers in the Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh after cancelling flights following the crash.

Johnson noted that the facts and circumstances surrounding the crash were still under investigation, although US President Barack Obama on Thursday acknowledged the "possibility that there was a bomb on board."

Fewer than 10 airports in the region will be affected by the measures, White House spokesman Josh Earnest said. "This is a specific reaction to the information that we have learned about this incident in the Sinai Peninsula," Earnest explained, stressing there was no specific threat to the US. "But it is the prudent exercise of an abundance of caution, given the information that US officials have learned about this airline disaster in the Sinai Peninsula."

Johnson described the US actions as "interim, precautionary enhancements to aviation security with respect to commercial flights bound to the United States from certain foreign airports in the region." He said expanded screenings would be applied to items on aircraft, airport assessments would be enhanced in conjunction with US international partners, and offers of help would be made to beef up aviation and airport security. Johnson said they were designed to provide "an additional layer of security for the traveling public." "At this time, these security enhancements are intended only for certain foreign airports in the region," he said in a statement. — AFP

NASTINESS THREATENING THE ONLINE READER COMMENTS

WASHINGTON: The Internet was supposed to facilitate better exchange between the public and news media. But vile and hateful comments changed all that. In the face of rising vitriol-attacks, bigotry and general nastiness-news organizations are increasingly throwing in the towel on online comments. Last month, Vice Media's Motherboard news site turned off reader comments, saying "the scorched earth nature of comments sections just stifles real conversation." It instead began taking "letters to the editor" to be screened by staff. Vox Media's online news site The Verge said in July it was "turning off comments for a bit," noting that the tone was "getting a little too aggressive and negative."

Blogging platform Medium this past week allowed its users to hide reader comments, acknowledging that "sometimes you may not want to get in a discussion." The Chicago Sun-Times, The Daily Beast, news website Re/code, the millennial-focused news site Mic and Popular Science also have shut off comments. And Vox.com launched last year without them, saying that "flame wars" turned readers off. "Newsrooms are really struggling with this," said Jennifer Stromer-Galley, a professor of information studies at Syracuse University.

"They like the idea of the comments because it brings readers back, it creates a community of people who are dedicated and that's good for advertising," she said. "But the downside is that when people see lots of vitriol and attack, even if they are not using bad language, it turns people off. The worry is that instead of fostering communication, you lose readers." Research this year by University of Houston professor Arthur Santana found anonymous comments on online news sites can often bring out the vilest of views, particularly on hot topics such as immigration.

"Often the targets of the incivility are marginalized groups, including racial minorities," Santana said in the Newspaper Research Journal. Santana found readers referred to immigrants as "cockroaches, locusts, scumbags, rats, bums, buzzards, blood-sucking leeches, vermin, slime, dogs, brown invaders, wetbacks," among others.

Santana said that newspapers "have expressed frustration with rampant incivility and ad hominem attacks in their commenting forums," but may also be hurting their own reputations by becoming a place for mud-slinging.

The problem is not limited to US news sites: "Flame wars" have forced the shut-down of comments on South Africa's

largest online news publisher 24.com and Independent Online has done the same. Controlling online forums can be especially tricky in countries where news organizations may be held liable for defaming content from readers. Some news organizations have sought to clamp down on incivility by requiring registration and banning anonymity.

One tool is from Facebook, whose plug-in verifies the identity of those who post comments, requiring people to use their real names. Some evidence indicates the Facebook platform and other tools have helped the tone.

Continued on Page 13

RADIOACTIVE LEAK

KUWAIT: Firemen are trying to contain a radioactive leak at the Air Cargo Building. A security source said the leak was from two parcels (out of 25) that arrived from London aboard Emirate Airlines. The parcels are for the Health Ministry. Spokesman of the Customs Department Mishal Al-Jaraid confirmed the news about the leak. He said the incident happened when a driver had a minor accident which damaged five parcels. Officials from the Ministry of Health and Fire Department are going through the necessary procedures in containing the leak. Statements by the Health Ministry officials indicate that readings of the parcels are normal. The parcels have been placed in the storage area at the cargo area.

MP Saleh plans to grill Oil Minister Al-Omar



World alarm as Burundi poised to crush opponents



Epic handshake highlights China-Taiwan Summit



United beat West Brom, close gap on EPL leaders



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RUSSIAN BOOK HIGHLIGHTS AMIR'S ACHIEVEMENTS

MOSCOW: A book, issued in Moscow, Russia recently under the title of 'Kuwait at the turn of the last millennium - domestic and foreign policy developments,' sheds light on the national achievements made by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The book, authored by Yelena Malcolm Yan, an expert in Kuwaiti affairs and head of the department of contemporary east at the Russian

University, highlights the role of His Highness the Amir in the development of the Kuwaiti-Russian relationship.

The bilateral ties between the two countries were influenced by regional and international developments since the Middle East became the focal point of major events that changed the world's power balance and made it difficult to maintain the status quo, according to the book.

Since he assumed power in 2006, His Highness the Amir has attached great importance to the foreign policy issues and strengthened the neighborly ties with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states and the friendly ties with the outside world.

Security agreement

The Kuwaiti-Russian ties passed through various stages of development and gained momentum by the signing of the security agreement of 1993. The agreement prepared the ground for the joint war games in December of the same year and the delivery to Kuwait of 100 Russian armored vehicles and 30 air defense systems in the following year.

Russian-Kuwaiti economic and commercial ties had a quantum leap in 1980 when the two countries inked an agreement on preferential treatment in trade exchanges. The economic cooperation expanded in scope to cover such areas as oil, gas, nuclear energy, infrastructure, seawater desalination and agriculture, the book reads.

In 2002, the two sides formed a joint commission on economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation, which meets alternately in Moscow and Kuwait, regularly, on an annual basis. At the behest of His Highness the Amir, Kuwait's relations grew remarkably with Asian countries that constitute important economic powers such as Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Thailand.

The growing relations with Africa signal Kuwait's keenness on diversifying its foreign ties,

the book says, recalling Kuwait's hosting of the Arab-African summit in 2003 and the offering of more than USD one billion in soft loans for African countries.

Regarding Kuwait's ties with neighboring countries, the book pointed out that Kuwait responded promptly to the humanitarian disasters in Iraq and offered relief aid to the Iraqi people despite the negative impacts left by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The State of Kuwait played a great role in dispute settlement in the Arab world and the Middle East, and contributed effectively to the GCC efforts to clear the air in the region and address the crises in countries such as Yemen and Libya. Kuwait's stance towards the recent events in Egypt is based on keenness on maintaining special ties with the nation and respect for the political choices of the Egyptian people, according to the book.

Necessary support

On the Palestinian cause, the book said Kuwait continued offering the necessary political and material support to the Palestinian people and contributed to rehabilitation projects in Gaza Strip. Kuwait supported the legitimate demands of the Palestinian people for statehood and recognition by the United Nations, it went on. As for the parliamentary life in Kuwait, it reviewed the main junctures in the relationship between the National Assembly and the Government and the measures adopted by the legislative and executive authorities to enrich the country's democratic experience.

The reasonable approach to domestic and foreign policy issues signals that Kuwait, under His Highness the Amir, acts as a responsible member of the international community undertaking gradual and practical reforms, the book added. —KUNA



The book's cover.

university, highlights the role of His Highness the Amir in the development of the Kuwaiti-Russian relationship.

MINISTRY OPENS INT'L HEAD, NECK CANCER CONFERENCE

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Cancer Control Center in cooperation with the Ministry of Health is holding the 3rd International Head and Neck Cancer Conference at the Sheikhha Salwa Al Sabah Hall, in the Marina Crescent.

Dr Mahmoud Abdulhadi, Assisting Undersecretary for Legal Affairs represented Minister of Health Dr Ali Al-Obaidi at the conference. "This conference includes the latest medical developments, modern medicine practices and recommendations in this field," he noted during the two-day event's opening ceremony yesterday.

Clear strategy

"Cancers are chronic diseases that received high attention from the World Health Organization. All countries are committed by the international sustainable development plan from 2015 - 2030 to set a clear vision strategy with specific goals in order to prevent and eliminate chronic non-infectious diseases, and to work on its early detection and on providing the detection, diagnosis, and care for the patients suffering from it," Abdulhadi further said.



KUWAIT: Assisting Undersecretary Dr Mahmoud Abdulhadi speaks at the conference.

Dr Khaled Al-Saleh, President of the conference said that head and neck cancer is curable, as it stays in place for a longer period compared to other types of cancer, so surgeries and radiation therapies play a key role in the curing process. "The head and neck cancer disables some main functions of the human body such as swallowing, talking, smelling, hearing, or sight," he said. "For this reason, it is not enough to cure this cancer, but it is also necessary to pro-



Dr Khaled Al-Saleh, President of the conference speaks. — Photos by Joseph Shagra

vide quality life for the patient. It is difficult for the patient to get well and then leave him suffering of not being able to talk for losing voice."

Training program

Different public institutions including the Ministry of Health, First Care Department, Dental Medicine, and 'CAN' cancer awareness campaign cooperated to organize a program to train first care doctors and dentists to early detect the head and neck cancer. "Until today, more than 800 first care doctors and 400 dentists were trained. The Health Ministry has adopted the recommendations of the World Health Organization to establish cooperation between the doctors of the first care and the specialized cancer hospital for a bigger chance of early detection to achieve higher curing percentage and better life quality," added Saleh.

"Experts in the field from different countries including Kuwait, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia and other are participating in this conference. The conference includes lectures, workshops, discussion sessions, and parallel sessions for nurses, physicians, technicians, and palliative care staff, in addition to other specialists including oncology doctors and nurses and alternative medicine doctors. Furthermore a cooperation agreement with visiting doctors on collaboration in scientific researches will be signed during the conference," he concluded.



Dr Mahmoud Abdulhadi listens to a demonstration presented by a medical company participating in the event.



Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah



Lieutenant General Sheikh Mubarak Al-Abdullah



The late Defense Minister Sheikh Ali Sabah Al-Salem



Infantry Commander Major General Sheikh Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah

SANDHURST ACADEMY TO HONOR KUWAITI OFFICERS

KUWAIT: The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst will hold a ceremony at the end of November to honor all Kuwaitis who were trained there since 1952 until today. The ceremony will take place under the patronage of Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah. It will be held in coordination with Spink company, a British manufacturer of medals since the era of Queen Victoria.

Spink's agent in Kuwait Nedhal Masoud Al-Fuhaid told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that

this event aims to build bridges of communication between Sandhurst and its members and to promote humanitarian and military relations with Britain in general and Sandhurst in particular. Fuhaid stressed that the patronage of Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister for this charity event emphasizes loyalty and gratitude for the previous generation of Kuwaiti military pioneers and care and attention to the current generation of officers, pointing out that the event is the first on the Gulf and Arab domain,

"and we are honored that Kuwait takes the lead to patronize it". The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in Surrey is where all officers in the British Army are trained to take on the responsibilities of leading the soldiers under their command. Senior Kuwaiti officials who trained at the academy include Lieutenant General Sheikh Mubarak Al-Abdullah, the first Chief of Staff in Kuwait, the Late Defense Minister Sheikh Ali Sabah Al-Salem and Infantry Commander Major General Sheikh Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah. —KUNA



Fawzy Al-Thunayan, General Manager of Board Affairs at ABK delivers the sponsorship check to Abdulmohsen Al-Marzouq.

ABK SPONSORS HUMAN MARATHON 2015

KUWAIT: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) announced its sponsorship of the Human Marathon 2015, which is organized by the Kuwait Youth Volunteer (KYV) team and aims to promote socializing between the disabled and the general public. The event will take place on 14 November, 2015, from 9 am to 12 pm at 360 Mall.

Participants in the marathon will be from organizations, institutions and clubs for the disabled. The age group of participants ranges from 10 years of age and above.

Fawzy Al-Thunayan, General Manager of Board Affairs at ABK said, "We believe in equality and in giving every human being the right to lead a normal and healthy life. By supporting such events, we are raising

public awareness and encouraging the society to recognize the importance of the need for disabled people to fit in and to lead active and productive lives."

ABK's sponsorship of this marathon is in line with the Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy, which focuses a great deal on the support of humanitarian causes and special needs.

The Bank plays an active role to support humanitarian causes in Kuwait and will continue to seek new opportunities and initiatives in which it can participate. For more information about Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait please visit www.eahli.com, contact an ABK representative via 'Ahli Chat' or a customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.

OOREDOO PARTNERS WITH QOUT MARKET TO EMPOWER THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of the international Ooredoo Group, today announced that it has partnered with 'Qout Market,' the Kuwait-based artisanal farmers market, to support their third season, which launches its season today and continues until April 2016.

This season, Qout Market will be held at the newly launched venue Murouj on the 6th Ring Road. The market will showcase local farm produce, artisanal food products and crafts, with a 'street food' section aimed at highlighting the culinary diversity of Kuwait's local food community. The market also offers a section dedicated for children's activities.

Ooredoo is offering an exclusive package that includes an iPhone 6s or iPhone 6s Plus, in addition to a Jawbone fitness tracker, an iPad Mini, a router, and a Macbook starting from KD 40 a month. The offer is available exclusively at Ooredoo's booth in Qout Market.

Commenting on the sponsorship,

Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo Kuwait said: "We're proud to be partnering with such a successful project. Our partnership with Qout is an extension to our support for youth and entrepreneurship. Qout is a great project that showcases the diversity of local talents. We wish everyone the best of luck for this season, and aspire to continue our support for youth-related initiatives."

At the event, Ooredoo will engage with participants and visitors through a special onsite booth. Company representatives will be available to provide information about Ooredoo's latest offers and promotions, answer inquiries and distribute giveaways to all.

Ooredoo is committed to supporting Kuwait and its youth. This participation is one of the many initiatives that comes in line with the company's objective to contribute to the support and development of Kuwait's youth across different areas.

KUWAIT-BORN PROFESSOR COOPERATES WITH KUWAIT TO TREAT DIABETICS

MADRID: A Kuwait-born medical professor is currently cooperating with Kuwait University to use stem-cells therapy for treating diabetes, in the hope this method may result in changing the prevailing concept that the disease is incurable.

Professor Dr Maher Al-Atari, director of the Spanish UIC Regenerative Medicine Research Institute, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) in an interview that some stem cells are extracted from the wisdom tooth pulp. These cells are mutated into tissues for implanting in the liver, the arteries, nerve and muscle or bone tissues for treating diverse diseases.

Dr Atari, who received patent for discovery of the dental cells in 2012, said his patent was registered in the United States of America and European countries, adding that it would be accredited by Japan and China, soon. He also indicated that he would pursue the work for wider application of the therapy with aim of treating diverse diseases, namely diabetes which is widely spread in Kuwait.

The professor is cooperating with

Kuwait University and Kuwait's Dasman Diabetes Institute, seeking to, ultimately, transplant the pancreatic tissue, PETA, which secretes the insulin, hoping a patient will be able to quit insulin intakes.

Dr Atari is currently in charge of experiments aimed at extracting the stem cells (DPPSCs) from the wisdom tooth of a patient suffering from type-one diabetes, seeking to transform them into PETA tissues. The professor, who revealed that his institute would host, next year, Kuwaiti medical researchers, affirmed that the State of Kuwait is keen on finding a cure for diabetes. As to latest and most significant accomplishment that has been made in this medical realm, Dr Atari confirmed that a complete human muscle had been successfully grown from these extracted cells. Elaborating, Dr Atari says his techniques are different from those applied by the Japanese professor, Shinya Yamanaka, whose works focused on re-programming grown cells and turning them into tissues to replace sick ones. Dr Atari, a Palestinian, was born in Kuwait in 1972. —KUNA

KUWAITI WORK PAPER GARNERS AWARD AT REGIONAL FORUM

KUWAIT: The Public Institution for Social Security in Kuwait announced yesterday it had been given an award for a work paper it recently presented at The Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific, held in Muscat, Oman.

The work paper dealt with the Public Institution's improvements in the work place, in particular mechanizing most paper work, creating a mechanized archival system to store information, and reducing red-tape to a bare minimum, said the Public Institution in a press statement it issued today.

Receiving the award from the International Social Security Association (ISSA), Khaled Al-Fadhala, head of the Kuwaiti

delegation to the Forum, said it was a feather in the cap of the Public Institution to garner this award. He said the Public Institution spared no efforts in streamlining all its operations and administrative undertakings to the ultimate benefit of the public.

The two-day forum, which concluded last Wednesday, hosted 200 experts and specialists in the field of social security. It reviewed the social security experiences in Oman and other countries, with the participation of 51 insurance, investment, and retirement organizations from 31 countries. It came up with effective and viable recommendations that can serve the workforce in the labor market in Asia and the Pacific region. —KUNA



KUWAIT: British Ambassador to Kuwait Mathew Lodge speaks at the symposium.
— Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

TEST RUN FOR E-VISA SYSTEM FOR KUWAITIS: UK ENVOY

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The new electronic visas for Kuwaiti citizens has experimentally started, British Ambassador to Kuwait Mathew Lodge said. Speaking to reporters at the sidelines of a symposium organized by Al-Bayan Bilingual School with the presence of UN representatives and a number of

ambassador designated in Kuwait, Ambassador Lodge added that so far, the total number of Kuwaitis applying for visas to the United Kingdom is limited. He said that the new system will be fully in use within two months. Lodge also stressed that by February, the final decision on whether the new system was successful or not would be made. Responding to a ques-

tion about statements made by Kuwait's Foreign Ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Waleed Al-Kubaizi regarding the total number of bedoons (stateless) in the UK, Lodge seconded Kubaizi's statements that the total number was only one, as opposed to six as mentioned by some media outlets.

Local Spotlight

CHOLERA IN KUWAIT?



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

A recent statement by a UNICEF official about a possible spread of cholera in Kuwait had really freaked me out. According to UNICEF's Iraq director Peter Hawkins and as quoted by Reuters, "Kuwait, Bahrain and Syria have already had confirmed cases." Did we? When, how and what to do?

The disease was detected in west Baghdad last September and has killed six people and infected at least 2,200 in Iraq. Of course, one in five cases is among children. Health officials are now concerned that the disease, which can lead to death by dehydration and kidney failure within hours if left untreated, will soon become a regional epidemic.

It is common knowledge that the living conditions are high conducive to the spread of cholera at any country, with poor sanitation and contaminated water being the primary sources of cholera infection. Iraq is suffering from worn out infrastructure, especially in the electricity and water sectors.

This is no joke, if this disease started in Iraq, let us consider how many people are going and coming from Iraq daily from Kuwait? Those people can be infected or become carrier for the bacteria. But, if this condition started last September how, come we know nothing about it, and what is the precautionary measures that should be taken the Ministry of Health?

A cholera spread from Iraq, Syria, Kuwait and Bahrain, could turn into a

region-wide epidemic for many people soon, especially those prepared to visit Iraq and come back to their countries, mixing with others. The chain would be unstoppable. According to health officials, we are confronting a major health threat. We are an open small society and such disease can easily become a national threat.

There are many Shiites in Kuwait who prepare themselves to visit Iraq in December for 'Arbaeen,' which is a ritual marking the end of an annual mourning period for the Prophet Mohammad's (PBUH) grandson Hussein. Therefore, the UNICEF there are distributing information over the protection against cholera. I wonder if this procedure is enough?

What are the precautionary measures that have been taken by the Ministry of Health? In contrast, the Ministry of Health denied the news in a statement to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), stating that it had previously monitored a few cases of cholera in Kuwait of people who come from Iraq, and the last case was confirmed on October of last year, referring to the healing of all those cases.

I am surprised at this contradiction in statements, but I personally am in favor of the UNICEF's call and warning. I believe their plea must be taken with consideration. However, I think the MOH must provide a vaccine for all those who plan to travel to Iraq and check all those who are coming back.

MP SALEH PLANS TO GRILL OMAIR

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: MP Khalil Al-Saleh said that a grilling motion he intends to file against Oil Minister Ali Al-Omair included remarks about the oil sector as well as violations committed at the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR). He added that support for his grilling motion was growing amongst lawmakers. Meanwhile, the Islamic Salafi Alliance showed full support to minister Omaid, who is considered one of its members, and called for keeping him in office with full governmental support or dismissing him to go back to his parliamentary position as an MP, according to sources. The alliance added that there were no signs so far that the government strongly supports Omaid and that, in such case, the alliance agrees to dismissing him from office without reshuffling him to another portfolio.

Strategic payroll

The government is yet to refer the strategic payroll project to the parliament due to its high financial cost, sources said. The sources added that the government was



MP Khalil Al-Saleh

still reviewing all suggested amendments and strongly denied any intention to cancel it.

Expat employees

Responding to the grilling motion filed against her by MP Mohammad Al-Enezi, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Hind Al-Subaih recently asked for a report about employing expatriates at the Public Authority for the Disabled merely for profiteering. Making sure the information were true, the minister decided to dismiss the expat workers and replace them with Kuwaiti employees. Subaih



Minister Ali Al-Omaid

also formed a special committee to study the points mentioned in Enezi's grilling motion to respond to them. Separately, MP Enezi warned officials responsible for projects underway in Jahra of manipulating or delaying those projects because "Jahra is the least publically served governorate in Kuwait." Enezi pointed out that due to manipulation and violations, it would be impossible to finish the Jahra hospital and the ministries' complex projects in time.

Committees meet

Six parliamentary committees

are due to meet today to review their agendas in the absence of cabinet members, said informed sources.

The committees include the legislative and legal affairs, the financial and economic affairs, the special needs affairs, national human resources affairs and the housing affairs committees in addition to a committee entrusted with investigating Kuwait's foreign investments.

Senior officials

MP Yousif Al-Zalzalah stressed that some cabinet members are currently trying to appoint some close people in leading positions in their ministries before a law on appointing senior officials is passed during the current parliamentary term.

Oil fields

Kuwait and Iraq are scheduled to discuss joint oil investments on the meeting of a joint higher committee next month, said informed sources, noting that a team of technicians from both countries had prepared a study on investing oil fields on the borders between the two countries.



IRBIL: Distribution of Kuwaiti humanitarian aid in Iraqi Kurdistan. — KUNA



KRCS's executive Yousef Al-Meraj

KRCS' CHIEF ASSERTS NEED TO ADHERE TO RED CROSS, RED CRESCENT SEVEN PRINCIPLES

KUWAIT: Board Chairman of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS), Dr Hilal Al-Sayer asserted yesterday the need to adhere to the seven fundamental principles of the movement of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent societies "because they are a key factor for those working in the field."

Dr Sayer told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the seven principles of the movement for the international Red Cross and Red Crescent, which falls tomorrow (Sunday) that those principles "maintain our movement and our identity at the regional and international levels."

He added that the seven principles, namely, humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality "necessitate on us in this field to promote these concepts and be a factor for us in the field work."

He explained that the principles of the movement mean saving lives in times of crises and disasters, adding that the KRCS has effectively contributed in saving the lives of millions of people in many of the countries that suffered natural or man-made disasters.

He said that his society has helped a lot of needy and affected people, affirming that the

State of Kuwait has provided over the years till now a lot of help for refugees and displaced persons of different nationalities out of the basic principles of the International Movement of Red Cross and Red Crescent.



Dr Hilal Al-Sayer

The Fundamental Principles are an expression of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movements values and practices. They were developed based on the Movements experience responding to suffering and needs over the previous century. The Fundamental Principles are at once operational and aspirational. They serve both as

a guide for action and as the Movements common identity and purpose.

The Fundamental Principles guide the work and decisions of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement for all Red Cross Red Crescent workers in all situations and at all times. Proclaimed in Vienna in 1965, the seven Fundamental Principles bond together the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. They guarantee the continuity of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and its humanitarian work.

Housing units

Separately, KRCS is planning to construct some 500 housing units for displaced people in Iraq's Kurdistan. The visiting KRCS's executive, Yousef Al-Meraj, told KUNA that the construction of the housing units was to ease the pain of people, relocated in the country. The project will provide basic necessities for the families of the displaced, said the official.

Meraj added that Kuwait had allocated a sum of \$200 million to help the displaced in Iraq. According to statistics coming from Iraq's Kurdistan, there are some 1.5 million relocated in the region, residing in 48 camps. — KUNA

MUNICIPALITY EVACUATES OVER HALF OF IRREGULAR REAL ESTATE

KUWAIT: Acting Director General of Kuwait Municipality Ahmad Al-Manfouhi said Friday the taskforce against the phenomenon of singles' residence in model and private housing areas was able to evacuate 393 of the 651 irregular real estate.

"The team has made this great achievement over the last six months in collaboration with other competent state departments," he told reporters after his meeting with heads of the emergency units of the Municipality branches in the country's six governorates. "The meeting decided to extend for another six months the mandate

of the team until they complete ending this illegal phenomenon pursuant to the Ministerial Decree No. 494 for 2015," he revealed. Manfouhi, who doubles as head of the taskforce, reviewed during the meeting the report presented by the team to the Cabinet and the civil service council on the progress made so far. He stressed the determination to pursue the campaign against this phenomenon thoroughly, noting that the evacuation process goes on smoothly and amicably as landlords respond positively to the ultimatums they receive from his team. — KUNA

MORE BIRTH CERTIFICATES ISSUED FOR ILLEGAL RESIDENTS

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Health has issued 2,551 births and deaths certificates for illegal residents between January 1 and September 30, a ministry official said yesterday. The ministry released, during this period of time, 2,387 birth certificates and 164 death ones, said Dr Mahmoud Al-

Abdulhadi, the assistant undersecretary for legal affairs. The total number of such certificates that has been issued by the ministry since release of the Law 409/2011, stipulating facilities for this segment of the residents, amounted to 27,800. — KUNA



Firefighters tackle a fire in a car in Shuhada yesterday.

THREE KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: A motorist was instantly killed when he lost control over his vehicle and it turned turtle along Subbiya highway following a sudden tire puncture, according to preliminary investigations. A case was filed for further investigations. Separately, a man was instantly killed and another was injured when their vehicles collided along Kabad Road, said security sources. Meanwhile, a 36-year-old man was instantly killed in a collision between a truck and towing truck with a van on top that the victim was driving, said security sources.

Car fire

A vehicle yesterday caught fire in Shuhada area, said security sources, noting

that firemen rushed to the scene and tackled the blaze in a record time. No casualties were reported.

Drunk driver arrested

A driver was arrested for drunk driving after police discovered that he was inebriated when they reported to a call about traffic accident he was involved in. The man was taken to the proper authorities for further action.

Drunk servant

A woman recently called police and reported that her 22-year-old male servant was heavily drunk and that he was creating a lot of noise in his room. Police were dispatched to the scene and arrested the drunk man.

OIL EXPERTS URGE ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

DOHA: Oil experts and economists opined yesterday that diversified economies are the optimal way to offset the current dip in international oil prices, given that oil revenues of the OPEC's Arab members make up 85-95 percent of their budgets.

Speaking at a one-day symposium focusing on the repercussions of the drop in oil prices on oil exporting countries, the experts sounded the alarm about the looming adverse impacts of low oil prices on oil exporting countries. But, they predicted that the factors of supply and demand would lead to a slow drop in oil prices by the end of this year, and prices would rebound by 2016.

Mamdouh Salama, an international oil expert, believed that the surge in oil prices over the last years made costly investment in unconventional oil production so economically feasible that unconventional oil production

has been expanded in the US since 2012, but influence in oil prices began only in the second half of 2014.

This increase in shale oil production has resulted in unprecedented output levels in the US, hitting 8.5 million barrels of oil a day from six million barrels in 2012, he added. This synchronized with growing conventional and unconventional oil output by OPEC members and Russia, and economic slowdown in several countries, mainly China, Salama noted.

Unfair

Qatar's ex-oil minister Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, said it was unfair to repeatedly urge the OPEC to cut its production while non-OPEC members exerted no effort to maintain acceptable oil price levels. Attiyah, who chaired the OPEC for several terms of office, dismissed allegations that the OPEC's decision to maintain

output levels unchanged was part of a US-Saudi plan to rein in the financial and economic capabilities of Russia and Iran.

Khaled Al-Khater, a financial expert, suggested should high supply and low demand continue, then oil prices would not rebound in the near future. The continuation of high supply is contingent upon two factors: output reduction and the ability of unconventional oil to absorb oil fall and expanded production, he pointed out. Meanwhile, Amer Al-Tamimi, an economist, estimated that Kuwaiti oil revenues for this year couldn't exceed KD 14 billion, which indicates a possible annual budget deficit worth KD 6 billion unless retrenchment measures are adopted. He called on Kuwaiti and Gulf governments to cut their capital and current spending and to reconsider their policies of subsidy which amounts to KD 6 billion in Kuwait annually.—KUNA



KUWAIT: Environmental police officers are seen in an inspection tour in this file photo.

An environmental policeman is pictured during an inspection tour. — KUNA

KUWAIT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE MONITORS, PUNISHES FELONIES, CRIMINAL CASES TO PUBLIC PROSECUTION

KUWAIT: The State of Kuwait, adopting international laws and principles on the environment protection, has taken a chain of steps at this level, latest of which was establishment of the Kuwait Environmental Police (KEP). The KEP has been established in line with guidelines by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Kuwait's top advocate of humanitarian principles and security-whose efforts in these domains have earned him the UN-designated title, the 'Humanitarian Leader,' coupled with another equal-caliber gesture on part of the international organization, dubbing the State of Kuwait, the 'Humanitarian Center.'

On the basis of His Highness the Amir's instructions, the National Assembly (Parliament) has enacted Law 42/2014, modified with the Law 99/2015, stipulating formation of the KEP and setting its tasks in the provisions, 113, 114 and 115, said Lieutenant Colonel Hussein Mohammad Al-Ajmi, the KEP Chief, in an exclusive interview with Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister, has hastily implemented these laws, responding to His Highness the Amir's desire, putting all the resources in his hands for enforcement and establishing the necessary administration for the special squad, said Lieutenant Colonel Ajmi in the interview. He also lauded, in this respect, efforts of the Undersecretary, Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad and the chief of the special commission tasked of setting regulations for establishment of the KEP department, the Assistant Undersecretary for Public Security, Major General Abdulfattah Al-Ali.

Executive plan

Lt Col Ajmi, who has a Master's degree in environmental sciences, revealed that the Ministry of Interior has mapped out an executive plan for launching media campaigns and educating the public about necessary role of the new force, with respect of protecting the environment as well as ensuring sustainable development and bolstering environmental security.

The squad has already staged patrols at shopping malls, fair grounds, Kuwait International Airport, hospitals and ministries, monitoring any violations against sound and clean surrounding, such as littering or smoking. Tickets have been issued against smokers at some malls, where special enclosures for smokers are available.

Elaborating, Lt Col Ajmi said the ministry is cooperating with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), seeking guidance on regulating the newly-born department, in addition to cooperation with the Interpol for expertise exchange in this field, namely identification of environmental crimes and penalties.

The KEP command will take part later this month in a conference at officers' level, due in the French city Nimes, for examining other states' experience in combating environmental offenses and establishing cooperation in the sector.

Criminal cases

Lt Col Ajmi indicated that the squad cooperates with the Environment Public Authority (EPA), noting that several cases, classified as both felonies and crimes, have been referred to the Public Prosecution. Shedding some light on offenses, categorized as part of the KEP tasks, he mentioned fishing in the Kuwait Bay, dropping waste randomly, scooping up soil particularly at the camping locations or another harmful action in the desert that may harm the wild life. Lt Col Ajmi urged citizens and residents to report about any detrimental acts against the Kuwaiti environment, via the Mol operations room phone number, 112.

Meanwhile, Khaled Mardhi Al-Enezi, EPA Public Relations Director, affirmed the necessary role of the KEP in clamping down on environment violations, "with the power of the law." The force also helps the authority during inspection tours to plants, factories, natural reserves, ports and beaches.

The KEP and EPA perform in an integrated manner, where the squad takes charge of the security matters, while the authority handles technical issues, he said, noting that penalties and fines imposed on the offenders are not intended to make financial pro-

ceeds; but to inject awareness among such persons of who do inconsiderate acts that leave damage on the surroundings and the environment.

Fines

Fines range between KD 50 and KD 1 million, he said, explaining that persons who may import materials of mass destruction, such as nuclear ordnance, may receive utmost severe punishment, reaching execution, considering the immense magnitude of the damage inflicted to the Kuwaiti environment and people's safety. Smokers in public are fined KD 50, and if they commit the offense again, the penalty reaches KD 100. Restaurants that allow tobacco puffing are fined KD 5,000. Among the recently executed anti-smoking campaigns was the one at the Avenues shopping mall-themed "it is worth protection."

Also in this regard, KUNA interviewed citizen Fawaz Al-Saeedi, who lauded the campaigns for protecting people against passive smoking, expressing gratitude to the Mol for seeking to secure healthy leisure places for the families and children.

Farhan Al-Ebayyan, another citizen, said public smoking must be fought because it is tantamount to infringement on the others' freedoms. Also, Nabila Hayat said the action should spread to public department where "smoking is rampant."

Right arm

Separately, the Kuwait Environment Protection Society (KEPS) has called for furnishing the Kuwait Environmental Police with all facilities needed because it constitutes "the right arm for the environmental associations in the country."

Abdul-Amir Al-Jazzaf, the society secretary general, told KUNA yesterday that it was putting all its expertise, teams, committees and researchers at the disposal of the KEP, with aim of ensuring best environmental awareness among the citizens.

The society has organized a seminar on negative effects of camping on the environment, touching on the natural resources degradation due to some inconsiderate actions in the desert. — KUNA



Environmental police stop a truck for inspection.



Environmental police and officials are pictured during an inspection tour.



Environmental police enforcing the 'No Smoking' law.



Environmental police seen in an inspection tour inside malls.



DIVE TEAM LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN UP KUWAIT'S BEACHES

KUWAIT: Kuwait Dive team has launched a voluntary campaign to clean up the shores of the country from wastes with the participation of educational and civil institutions and support from government agencies.

This campaign aims to protect the marine environment, increase environmental awareness and encourage voluntary work, team leader Walid Al-Fadil said yesterday. He explained that the campaign also includes a large truck carrying special graphics to encourage children to clean the environment, adding that the truck would tour a number of Kuwaiti coastal areas, with the participation of school students, in order to increase environmental awareness among citizens and demonstrate the importance of preserving the environment.

He urged those who want to take part in the campaign to register their names online through the Dive Club's website. He pointed out that the campaign also includes a program to release fish into the sea. The initiative is provided by the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in an attractive educational manner to lure students and make them love the environment. — KUNA



KEPS: KUWAIT MAKES LONG STRIDES IN ENVIRONMENTAL REHABILITATION

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Environment Protection Society (KEPS) has made big and costly strides in rehabilitating the deteriorating environment systems due to the destruction caused by the Iraqi invasion in 1991.

Marking the anniversary of extinguishing the last oil well fire, KPES Secretary General and a member of the Board of the Environment Public Authority, Wejdan Al-Oqab said on Friday that Kuwait had faced unprecedented destruction due to military operations and oil wells burning by the invading Iraqi forces. She added that the sixth of November is a global day as it prohibits the use of environment in wars and armed conflicts. The Iraqi troops had planted more than two million landmines in desert, she said, noting over 24 years remnants of war have been monitored like cluster bombs, mortar bombs, artillery shells, tank shells, and anti-personnel and anti-tank mines.

Kuwait's marine life and desert components need great attention as they are the real wealth of the country and a natural capital that should be increased, she noted. The Iraqi troops set fire to over 700 oil wells in several areas in Kuwait, and as a result, many birds and wild ani-



Wejdan Al-Oqab

mals died, she stated. She stressed that Kuwait had called on international organizations not to use environment in disputes among countries.

Oqab thanked all international government agencies and organizations, and societies of environment protection for their efforts and endeavors aiming to preserve environment and its natural resources in particular living creatures. In November, 2001, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Resolution No 56/4 declaring November 6 of every year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict. — KUNA

PROFESSOR DODGE LECTURES ON ISLAMIC STATE AT GUST



Professor Toby Dodge

By Athoob Al-Shuabi

KUWAIT: As part of the Challenging Extremism initiative, undergraduate students in the Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) have formed a student-run agency to develop and implement a campaign using a \$2,000 budget. GUST campaign 'Raise Your Words' revolves around a clear objective: To build within Kuwaiti college students the willingness to speak openly against extremist violence on social media channels. Social media make up the virtual public sphere used by Kuwaiti millennials to chat with friends, initiate group activities, and post items of common interest. The communication strategy is designed to empower the silent majority, while emphasizing solidarity with the victims, common causes, shared values, and raising awareness of the threats from violent extremism. Results of a survey conducted to support the strategic decision-making in this campaign show that 62 percent of Kuwaiti college students think that violent extremism can affect their lives; 30.5 percent are high or very concerned about this issue, but just 22 percent feel very or totally free to discuss openly with their friends. Furthermore, 61 percent agree that open public discussion on social media is important in countering violent extremism.

Lecture

From the Global Studies Center in the university campus, the campaign was launched with a talk by Professor Toby Dodge from the London School of Economics. The talk was titled 'The Rise of the Islamic State, the Future of Iraq, and the Risks to the Gulf States.' Dodge began his detailed historical account of what happened since the fall of the Baath Party and how the United States intervention to control and rebuild Iraq has led to the birth of Daesh, the Arabic abbreviation used to refer to the Islamic State (IS). "The Islamic State was created in 2006 at the height of Iraq's civil war. As a radical Sunni Jihadist Organization, it was designed to capitalize on the increasing sectarian conflict in Iraq, and it bears all the hallmarks of that civil war's brutality," Dodge said.

Sudden rise

Dodge then talked about the sudden rise of IS after 2011 and its brutal ideology in comparison with its forerunner Al-Qaeda and how it continues to expand the territories under its control. "In September 2014, it was estimated that IS could mobilize between 20,000 and 31,500 fighters across both Iraq and Syria. It is a self-sustainable organization that has a monthly wage bill as high as ten million dollars a month to keep its fighters in the field," mentioned Dodge.

He also explained why even after the US campaign against IS which was launched in 2014 and spending twenty five billion dollars on rebuilding the Iraqi forces, they chose not to fight against IS because most of these funds were seized by the Iraqi generals, which weakened their incentives. He went on and described the local political scene in Iraq, then provided an analysis of the external threat posed by IS on the countries of the region and the European Union. He concluded his talk by saying: "As long as the US and indeed the International community only use a military solutions to what are primarily political problems, IS will remain a threat."

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KUWAIT: Professor Toby Dodge speaks during a lecture at Gulf University of Science and Technology. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

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NBK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF ITS OCTOBER ONLINE, MOBILE BANKING WEEKLY DRAWS



One of the winners receives his prize from NBK Public Relation Manager, Abdul Mohsen Al-Rushaid

KUWAIT: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) announced the first group of winners for its Online and Mobile Banking campaign that offered the chance to win weekly valuable prizes when using NBK electronic channels.

Talal Fahad Al Azmi, Abdulaziz Shamlan Al Enizi, and Mohammad Musa'ed Al-Suleimani won a smart watch in the weekly draws that occurred during the month of October. NBK customers who enroll or use NBK's Online Banking and Mobile Banking Application are eligible to enter weekly draws to win apple watches and android smart watches.

In an exclusive campaign valid until 7th, January 2016, NBK customers will have a chance to enter a weekly draw for every financial transaction made through these channels. The more financial transactions are conducted, the higher chances customers will get to win.

All NBK customers can benefit from the most developed banking services and products on NBK Mobile Banking application and NBK Online Banking, including checking balances, transferring funds locally or to any NBK bank account outside Kuwait with no fees, and reduced fees to any bank in the world, making payments, ordering check-books, requesting a printed account statement, a branch and ATMs locator and much more.

NBK customers can register on NBK Online Banking by visiting NBK's website www.nbk.com. NBK customers can also download NBK Mobile Banking application by visiting the associate store on their mobile devices. For assistance, customers can visit any of NBK's branches or call NBK Call Center at 1801801 or +96522248361 from outside Kuwait.

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Al-Anbaa

PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS' BAD LUCK

By Ahmad Al-Sarraf

Despite the daily suffering of Palestinians, the majority of Arabs became, or may always have been not knowing anything about their tragedy, or do not want to know anything about it. Meanwhile, the majority of those who know have become careless for one reason or another, and this is the maximum of inhumanity.

The Palestinian man is not the one who stood against my cause with Saddam Hussein during the former Iraqi president's heinous occupation of my country, and is not the one who cheated me with goods dealings. Rather, he, before everything else, is a human being that deserves that I stand beside him in his cause regardless of anything. It is either that I go along with my principles and thoughts, or let hatred and grudge eat me from within!

Modern history has never known a case with such complication and a tragedy this deep as the Palestinian cause and the tragedy of millions of Palestinian refugees, deprived of their rights as human beings for over 70 years. The bad luck of Palestinians had it that those who took over their land and forced them out were oppressed one day, and the world had shed rivers of tears over their tragedy and the killing they experienced. Then, they became the strongest political, economic and media power in the world. If it was someone else than the Jews who occupied Palestinians, they would be out of it today.

Meanwhile, it is of Israelis' bad luck that Palestinians are the owners of the land, and if they were anyone other than them, they would have accepted the situation. But Palestinians were and still are fierce resistance fighters in demanding their rights, land and country. We say that with respect to all other people.

The bad luck of Palestinians also is that their Arab brothers were the ones who 'decided' to stand with them, and they gravely harmed their cause, as they fragmented their resistance. They made leaders of resistance groups traitors, and they made them fight against each other. And of course, there was not an Arab country left without having an affiliate group among the Palestinians who started to consider each other traitors and kill each other, based on instructions by their 'Arab brother'. And what those brothers have done in Palestine have repeated later in Lebanon, Libya, Iraq, Syria and others.

The Israelis' bad luck had it that America, the largest economic and military power in the world, was the one that supported them. Its stand was decisive from the beginning, but its continued unconditional support made Israel an aggressive and tyrant country that refuses to listen to the sound of reason.

We remind at this occasion of the valued review our colleague and friend Hamid Al-Humoud made of the book 'My Promised Land' by the Israeli author Ari Shafit which was published by Al-Qabas last week, for its valued and new information! NOTE: We admit that secularism is an evil and dangerous thing on the ignorant and extremists.

— Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Jarida

Al-Anbaa

IS AND SS

By Sami Al-Nisf

There are many opinions why Daesh, the Arabic abbreviation for the organization known as the Islamic State, became known by the abbreviation 'IS'. The truth is that name is so close to the one used for the terrible Gestapo headed by Himmler, who was behind annihilating millions in prisons they supervised. In addition, Gestapo paramilitary troops assisted Nazi regular army in committing terrible horrifying crimes. So, the name IS brings world peoples hate to the Gestapo back to minds.

What makes things worse, is that IS and its leader Abu Baker Al-Baghdadi are not any less brutal or criminal than the Gestapo. Both organizations' mottos reflect their founders' ideas in terms of hatred towards all of mankind, mastery in slaughtering and decimating people, strong belief in killing merely for the sake of killing and destroying human heritage in the lands they occupy.

Following Hitler's suicide in 1945, Heinrich Himmler did the same, taking away so many of the secrets and ideas of that dark period of mankind history along with them. We just hope that we do not someday hear that Al-Baghdadi disappeared or committed suicide as well!

Therefore, it was not strange that in response to the world's compassion with Palestinians, the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tries to mix everything by reminding the world of a meeting between Hitler and the Palestinian Mufti, Amin Al-Husseini and claiming that it was the latter who convinced Nazi monsters to commit the Holocaust crimes, which are condemned by the entire humanity except for some stupid monsters, against the Jews.

The sad thing is that by committing such brutal crimes and putting them on tape, IS leaders are the ones who create humanitarian and civilized animosity to the peoples in this region giving world armies excuses to throw all their destructive weapons storage at Arabs and Muslims after IS practices contributed to killing international compassion with our peoples. If we only exclude IS from the regional equation, all the excuses used to justify the atrocities against the inhabited of IS-plagued regions, who once get killed and destroyed by IS and once by its enemies, would be void.

Finally, how can we explain the information showing that IS could only expand in Mosul and Ramadi thanks to former Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki troops' leniency, as well as expand in Palmyra and Deir Ez-Zor thanks to the leniency of Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's troops, though both are IS enemies?

It seems that Al-Husseini insisted on doing the Palestinian cause more harm even after his death as in his diaries published in 1999, 25 years after his death, he mentioned how he asked Himmler to prevent the Jews from migrating out of Germany and the countries it occupied. He also refers to American and French press accusations to him of precipitating in Jews' annihilation. The funny thing is that his diary also refers to arresting all his companions while he was sent to live in a luxurious heavily guarded Parisian mansion to protect him from the French resistance's members. The diaries also mentioned that Britain did not ask France to hand him over to be tried, but rather allowed him to head to Egypt, which was under the British mandate, and where King Farouk received him and granted him a palace to live in. Well, nowadays, many such Muftis are living amongst us.

— Translated by Kuwait Times



ZAIN RENOVATES AVENUES PHASE 1 BRANCH

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, announced the inauguration of its recently renovated retail branch in the Avenues Mall - Phase 1, which is now expanded and relocated to a strategic location to serve more customers faster and more conveniently.

Ahmad Al-Kandari, Zain Kuwait's Sales Director, and Fahad Al-Jassim, Zain Kuwait's Marketing Director, inaugurated the renovated branch during a special ceremony held in the Avenues mall. The reopening of the branch reinforces Zain's leadership position in the country's telecom sector, where it serves the largest family of customers in the country.

to do so in order to further raise customer satisfaction."

Kandari continued, "The newly renovated branch in the Avenues mall is part of our strategy to be closer to our customers wherever they are, as we also serve our customers through a second branch in Grand Avenue phase to offer them convenience and ease of mind."

Zain constantly looks at ways to improve the retail experience for its customers, including providing them with the latest solutions to better serve their needs through the biggest network of branches in Kuwait.



Supporters walking at the Fatma Clinic Walkathon.

GULF BANK CONCLUDES 3RD ANNUAL 'PINK...BECAUSE WE CARE' CAMPAIGN FOUR COMPONENTS TO THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank concluded its third annual breast cancer awareness campaign, 'Pink...Because We Care'. This year the Bank participated in three activities highlighting the seriousness of breast cancer and to spread awareness about the benefits of early detection, in addition to offering its female customers discounted medical testing. To encourage customers and staff to seek testing, Gulf Bank partnered with Royale Hayat Hospital to offer special discounts on breast cancer related tests. This discount was offered to female Gulf Bank customers for mammogram and ultrasound tests.

For the third year, the Bank also sponsored 'Pink Cause' breast cancer awareness fundraising Walkathon, on Oct 24, that was organized by Fatma Clinic to support those who had lost relatives or close friends to breast cancer, as well as to celebrate with those who have survived the disease. All raised funds were donated to Al-Sidra Association for Psychological Care of Cancer Patients and their Families.

This year Gulf Bank was happy to be a gold sponsor of the new breast cancer awareness seminar, 'Fight Like A Girl' on 26 October at the Regency Hotel. This event was dedicated to raising awareness about the disease and was held under the

patronage of the US Ambassador Douglas A. Silliman, in partnership with the American Women's League. Three renowned Kuwaiti doctors spoke during the event on issues related to the detection, treatment, and prevention of breast cancer.

Lastly, Gulf Bank aligned with 'Wear it Pink', an international charity that encourages thousands of people all around the world to join with a collective of scientists, supporters, and people affected by breast cancer. 'Wear it Pink' is working towards the goal that no one will die of breast cancer by the year 2050. Every year, 'Wear it Pink' raises funds by asking people in schools, workplaces, homes and social venues to wear something pink and to make a donation. The donated money goes to fund world-class research, by the brightest scientific minds. Gulf Bank staff in all branches and the Head Office wore pink items to work on Thursday October 22nd in support of the campaign. This campaign is part of Gulf Bank's corporate social responsibility strategy, as the Bank is committed to raising awareness of health issues. For more information on Gulf Bank's corporate social responsibility initiatives and activities, please visit our website at <http://www.e-gulfbank.com> or our social media channels.



Gulf Bank employees participate in the Bank's 'Wear it Pink Day.'



US Ambassador Douglas Silliman, Laila Al-Qatami of Gulf Bank, Lynda Van Greenstone of the American Women's League and her daughter at the 'Fight Like A Girl' event.

Al-Jarida

SARAH

By Ali Khajah

Activist Sarah Al-Dowais recently posted a tweet that includes a story mentioned in Bukhari and Muslim Hadith collections reasonably calling for reviewing our historic legacy and verifying what it conveys to avoid exploiting some historic texts and turning them into allegories used in arguments with IS or non-IS affiliates.

I might disagree with Sarah and find her strongly critical of ideas I believe in or a bloc I belong to. However, this does not mean I would fall for fault-finding or twisting what she says or, even, calls to punish and execute her simply because she posted some books' content on Twitter.

Regardless of whether she was right or wrong in what she wrote, the only fact we have to realize is that we will not be able to develop unless we review our legacy, discuss it and compare it to come up with truths. That was what Sarah exactly said, but some people thought her argument was wrong. However, her attempt to consider and think about what she reads instead of taking what is dictated here or there for granted is highly commendable.

On the other hand, some bloggers have been playing angels on Twitter as if one was holding the keys to Heaven while another standing guard at Hell's gates, to decide which blogger should go to Heaven and which should go to Hell based on 140 characters used in a post. Those 'angels' may have thousands of followers who totally believe what they post and re-tweet it. They are a group of idiots who have never understood religion and never will. They make judgments without even understanding what is being said or written. They would create too much fuss about an ignorant child talking about her family's cook and turn the whole thing into 'an abuse to the prophet's companions'. They would shout loudly at a school principle who asked school girls to wear uniforms with Kuwait flag colors. They would demand executing a blogger and detain another simply because their own minds, if they ever have any, are too small to perceive that diversity is the base of everything and that some people justifiably consider white as the master of all colors while others find black the master of all colors. They should realize that both sides need not fight to prove themselves right because diversity is needed and there is no use in attempting to conceal.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

Crime

Report

BODY FOUND IN SLAUGHTERHOUSE

KUWAIT: A man was found dead inside Jahra slaughterhouse, said security sources, noting that the body was found with blood traces on it. A case was filed and the body was referred to forensic medicine to determine the cause of death.

Alcohol possession

Three men were recently arrested with possession of 71 small and 24 large bottles of homemade liquor in Fahaheel, said security sources. The suspects were referred to the proper authorities for further action.

Rape

A man reported that his neighbor's son had sexually molested his 10-year-old son underneath the stairway in the building they both inhabited in Fintas, said security sources. A case was filed and further investigations are in progress.

Offensive writings

A man living in Adan reported that an unidentified person had sprayed his vehicle with spray paint, and wrote some indecent phrases. The man accused nobody but noted that the same remarks had been sprayed before on the walls of his house. A case was filed and further investigations are in progress.

Fugitive caught

A man who had been wanted for a KD 85,000 financial claim was recently arrested in Salhiya, said security sources. He was taken to the proper authorities for further action. Separately, a man was recently arrested with the possession of 70 psychotropic pills while driving a vehicle that had been reported stolen, said security sources noting that the man was also found wanted for a five year prison sentence.

Girl found

Following up the case filed by a family reporting that their daughter, who works for the information ministry, was missing, security sources noted that the girl was found hospitalized in Mubarak Hospital. The girl told police that she was having a stroll along the beach with a friend when she fainted and then woke up to find herself in the hospital.

Meth possession

A man was recently arrested at a routine checkpoint in Jahra with possession of meth, said security sources. They added that the suspect looked so nervous at the checkpoint, which prompted a search for his vehicle where policemen found six bags of the drugs. A case was filed and further investigations are in progress.



China and Taiwan leaders join hands at historic summit

SEXTING SCANDAL SHOCKS US HIGH SCHOOL

WORLD ALARM AS BURUNDI POISED TO CRUSH OPPONENTS
GOVERNMENT THREATENS TO UNLEASH A NEW ROUND OF BLOOD-LETTING

WASHINGTON: Senior world officials reacted with deep alarm yesterday as Burundi's government threatened to unleash a new round of blood-letting in the Great Lakes region of Africa. President Pierre Nkurunziza's govern-

ment has escalated its already strident rhetoric, warning of tough measures to stamp out resistance to his recent re-election. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon voiced deep concern after a leading rights activist's son was found

dead, the latest in a series of murders linked to the crisis.

The United Nations chief said the discovery of bodies—"many apparently summarily executed"—has become a "regular occurrence" in

Burundi's capital Bujumbura. "The recurring violence and killings in Burundi must stop," he warned. There has been violence both from security forces and opposition gunmen. But Washington's top envoy to the region, Thomas Perriello, specifically condemned what he called the "inflammatory and dangerous government rhetoric."

This, he warned, indicated "the potential for wider-spread violence as early as this weekend." Perriello will travel to Burundi from Sunday through Wednesday, the State Department said. "He will communicate the US government's alarm at violence by government and non-government actors inside of Burundi, and the recent dangerous rhetoric by the Burundian government," the State Department said. "He will also call for all parties to exercise maximum restraint and to follow through on commitments to dialogue."

Perriello is also set to discuss the developments with regional leaders in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda.

In The Hague, the International Criminal Court warned it was ready to prosecute the instigators of any large-scale violence. Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said if there is any conduct "whether by security forces, militias or any armed forces" that could "amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide, no one should doubt my resolve to fulfill my mandate so that the perpetrators do not go unpunished." Burundi has been engulfed in violence triggered by Nkurunziza's successful bid to rescind constitutional term limits and win a third term in office.

At least 200 people have died in the latest turmoil and 200,000 have fled the country, recalling some of the darkest periods of recent history in the region. Burundi itself was wracked by 13 years of conflict between Hutu rebels and the minority Tutsi that left 300,000 dead before a peace deal in 2006. And its northern neighbor Rwanda is sadly notorious for the 1994 geno-

cide that left at least 800,000 dead. This week, independent watchdog the International Crisis Group warned that Burundi again faces the "possibility of mass atrocities and civil war."

International alarm has grown over a five-day deadline that expires on Friday for Burundian civilians to hand over weapons or face a new regime crackdown.

'Do not come crying to us'

Last week, the country's Senate president Reverien Ndikuriyo threatened to "pulverize" regime opponents who do not lay down arms before Friday's deadline. "Today, the police shoot in the legs... but when the day comes that we tell them to go to 'work,' do not come crying to us," he said. The loaded term "work" was a euphemism used in Rwanda during the 1994 genocide to describe the mass killings of mainly Tutsi people by extremist Hutu militias. Vice President Gaston Sindimwo echoed the warning with the simple threat: "Holiday time is over." Nkurunziza's opponents have denounced the "messages of hate and division" and opposition leader Jeremiah Minani has warned that "genocide is on its way." "Nobody is preparing a genocide," a senior police officer said. But he warned his officers would do "anything to defend the democracy for which we have shed our blood."

While the crisis is largely political, ethnic tensions are not far below the surface and opponents say Nkurunziza's re-election breached the terms of the Arusha peace deal that ended the civil war. The United States was critical of the decision to allow the president to stand for a third term, and Perriello returned to the theme as the deadline loomed. "We absolutely deplore any effort to incite violence or undermine regionally-mediated peace talks," he said. The UN Security Council will meet tomorrow to discuss the crisis, the French foreign ministry said, denouncing the wave of "hate speech" threatening the country. —AFP



BUJUMBURA: Burundians carry their belongings on bicycles in Bujumbura, Burundi yesterday. Carrying their prized possessions, scores of people fled Burundi's capital before a looming security crackdown that has left many predicting more bloody violence ahead. —AP

DECORATED SIKH SOLDIER TAKES COMMAND OF CANADA'S ARMY

OTTAWA: Sporting a turban and a thick beard, decorated soldier Harjit Sajjan stood out in the Canadian military, but as defense minister he is among several Sikhs appointed to key positions in Justin Trudeau's administration. The veteran of wars in Bosnia and Afghanistan was appointed to the senior ministerial post on Wednesday, when Trudeau and his cabinet were sworn in, following the Liberals' October 19 election victory. At age 45, he takes on one of the toughest jobs of the new administration. He will be responsible for winding down Canada's combat mission against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, withdrawing from the US-led F-35 fighter jet program and quashing sexual misconduct in the military.

He will also sit on the new government's most powerful cabinet committees, including public safety and espionage. Born in Punjab, India in 1970, Sajjan moved to Canada with his family at age five, settling in the Pacific coast city of Vancouver. He worked 11 years as a police officer, including a stint as a detective with the gang crimes unit, before joining the Canadian military and rising to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Ironically, he was reportedly rejected by the first unit where he applied 26 years ago, but stuck it out.

He would go on to deploy four times overseas to Bosnia and Afghanistan—where he earned honors for helping to weaken the Taliban's influence—and became the first Sikh to command a Canadian army regiment. "He was the best single Canadian intelligence asset in theater (in Afghanistan) and his hard work, personal bravery, and dogged determination undoubtedly saved a multitude of coalition lives," said David Fraser, former commander of the Multinational Brigade in southern Afghanistan, in a short biography of the Liberal candidate for the Vancouver South electoral district.

'True warrior'

In an interview with The Globe and Mail, Fraser said Sajjan was a "true warrior" who thrives in the face of adversity. "I picked him (for the Afghanistan job) because of his experience in dealing with gangs because the Taliban

were nothing more than bunch of thugs and gangs," Fraser told the daily. Entering politics, Sajjan faced a messy nomination that split the large Vancouver Sikh community.

Many ripped up their Liberal membership cards over the backing he received from former leaders of the World Sikh Organization (WSO), including Sajjan's own father. The WSO, which has long advocated for the creation of a Sikh homeland, was criticized in the past for praising Air India bomb-maker Inderjit Reyat, who remains the only person convicted in the 1985 attack on a jetliner that killed 329 passengers and crew over the Atlantic Ocean, southwest of Ireland. "I am not a member of the WSO. I've had no negative vibes from anybody," Sajjan told public broadcaster CBC last year.

On Wednesday, WSO president Amritpal Singh Shergill praised the record number of Sikh MPs that would be serving in the new parliament. They include three men and a woman in the cabinet—Sajjan, Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Minister Navdeep Bains and Small Business and Tourism Minister Bardish Chagger. This comes nearly two decades after Herb Dhaliwal became the first Indo-Canadian to be appointed to the cabinet. "Punjabi is now the third most common language at Parliament Hill," the seat of Canada's government, Shergill said.

Settling into his new job while still a lieutenant in the army reserves, Sajjan is in the unusual position of maybe having to take orders from generals who answer to him as minister. Among them are the chief of the Defense Staff, General Jon Vance, who requested Sajjan's specialized skills in counterinsurgency and Afghanistan tribal politics for a 2009 mission in Kandahar. Sajjan has asked to be released from the Canadian forces, but it has not yet been finalized. "If we all of a sudden send soldiers in harm's way and my skills are absolutely needed for the mission, I'd be happy to take a leave of absence from being a member of Parliament and share the risk with the other members of the CAF (Canadian Armed Forces)," Sajjan told the Canadian Military Family Magazine during the campaign. —AFP

CHILDREN MASSACRED IN SOUTH SUDAN BATTLES

JUBA: Dozens of children have been killed in fighting in South Sudan, where battles rage despite political deals to end almost two years of civil war, the United Nations has said. The UN said that fighting in the northern battleground state of Unity has "intensified with grave consequences for civilians" in recent weeks, adding that 40,000 people are also starving to death. The report by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) released late Friday detailed killings in just one area of Unity state during a two-week period.

It said that in the Leer district of southern Unity, which has swapped hands multiple times between government and rebel forces, at least 80

civilians were killed between October 4 to 22. Almost three-quarters of those killed were children—at least 57 killed in Leer—while there were more than 50 cases of rape being used as "a weapon of war," the report said. Both sides are accused of having perpetrated ethnic massacres, recruited and killed children and carried out widespread rape, torture and forced displacement of populations to "cleanse" areas of their opponents.

Hunger experts from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) have warned of a "concrete risk of famine" before the end of the year if fighting continues and aid does not reach the hardest-hit areas. While some aid has reached

two districts in Unity—Buaw and Koch—other areas are cut off.

Some 3.9 million people are in critical need of aid—a third of the country's population and a massive 80 percent rise compared to the same period last year, the UN said. Civil war began in December 2013 when President Salva Kiir accused his former deputy Riek Machar of planning a coup, setting off a cycle of retaliatory killings that have split the poverty-stricken, landlocked country along ethnic lines. The army and rebels have repeatedly accused each other of breaking an internationally-brokered August 26 ceasefire, the eighth such agreement aimed at ending the nearly two-year long war. —AFP

LANDMARK GROUP

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Join the walk

Date: Saturday, November 14, 2015
Time: 7:30 AM - T-shirt/Cap Collection
 9:00 AM - Walk
Venue: Yacht Club to Green Island

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RUSSIAN PLANE CRASH POINTS TO EGYPT COUNTERINSURGENCY FLAWS

RISK OF CREATING MORE RADICALS

ARISH: Giant posters of Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi in military uniform hang at security checkpoints leading to the Sinai, but the crash of a Russian airliner in the peninsula has shattered the image of control they seek to project. Western officials have raised the possibility that the same militants that are fighting to topple Sisi's government may have brought down the passenger airplane with a bomb.

Whatever the case, the death of 224 mostly Russian tourists has raised tough questions about the wisdom of Sisi's approach to militants. Sisi has justified his goal of crushing every last militant by describing Islamist radicals as a threat to Arab and Western powers which pump billions of dollars into Egypt every year. Ignoring lessons of the past, Sisi believes

is fighting terrorism, but old women and children are not terrorists," one elderly woman told Reuters, sitting in her desert shack made of wood and straw in Arish, North Sinai's provincial capital. She was forced to live in grim conditions after escaping fighting in her old village, where her mother-in-law was killed. "She was inside her house when bullets went through the wall and killed her. The soldiers did not even take her to hospital. They went inside, saw she was dead, so they covered her body and just left," she said. A security official who asked not to be named denied allegations that heavy handed tactics by the army cause civilian deaths.

Textbook case
Even as Red Sea holiday resorts in

fix for the long-term."

Residents who spoke on condition of anonymity out of fear of reprisal from both militants and the army told Reuters official militant death tolls often include civilians and that many of those deaths go unreported. Between three to five civilians are killed daily in North Sinai by either security forces or militants, Hagag Fayeze, who runs the office in charge of burials at Arish Hospital said. The military forcefully evicted about 3,200 families in the Sinai over the past two years, Human Rights Watch said in a September report. "Destroying homes, neighborhoods, and livelihoods is a textbook example of how to lose a counterinsurgency campaign," said Sarah Leah Whitson, its Middle East and North Africa director.

Sisi's hard line towards militants has

bilise Egypt, the most populous Arab country. "Sisi's approach to counter-terrorism is almost a textbook case of what not to do," said Daniel Byman, a counter-terrorism expert at the Washington-based Brookings Institution. By treating all Islamist politicians and activists as the equivalent of militant fighters, Sisi has been "sending a message, which is peaceful participation in politics will not work if you are an Islamist," Byman told a Washington forum.

They want dragon slain

Islamic State's Egypt branch, Sinai Province, now consists of hundreds of militants scattered into secretive groups of 5-7 men which are hard to track, Egyptian intelligence officials say. Mohannad Sabry, author of a new book, "Sinai: Egypt's Linchpin, Gaza's Lifeline, Israel's Nightmare," said that the longer the government pursues its fierce counter-terrorism campaign in Sinai, the greater the danger that it will lose control of the strategic peninsula. He described a friend's village in Sinai where the military had razed most of the 60 homes. There were three militants in the village three years ago, now there are around 40, he said.

Francis J Ricciardone Jr, who served as the US ambassador to Egypt from 2005 to 2008, said that many Egyptians support the Sisi government's anti-terrorism campaign. "Egyptians understandably are frightened and so tend to see 'the enemy' as a single agglomeration of internal and external forces, all the more terrifying and sinister for its polymorphism," Ricciardone, now vice president of the Atlantic Council, said in an email. "Thus they want that dragon definitively slain, with a ferocity and relentlessness at least equal to the enemy's."

Like a hydra

If the airplane crash was caused by a bomb, Sisi may use that to justify even tougher measures against militants, the Egyptian state's most dangerous and resilient foes for decades. Checkpoints leading to Arish are manned by soldiers brandishing assault rifles. Cars passing along a road cutting through coarse desert are thoroughly checked.

At one Arish checkpoint, police stopped cars and pulled out any men whose national ID cards listed their home towns as Rafah or Sheikh Zuweid. Eight were being held in a van. There would always be more militants, one Sheikh Zuweid activist said: "It is normal that anyone who has their house torn down or their family killed will try to join militant groups. Militant groups are like a hydra; they grow the more you hit them." For now, as Russia, Western powers and Egypt scramble to determine the cause of the crash, Sinai residents can only wonder if the fighting will escalate. Many hang Egyptian flags on their rooftops, hoping that will prevent fighters planes from bombing their homes. —Reuters



SHARM EL-SHEIKH: Tourists enjoy a boat ride in the Egyptian resort of Sharm El-Sheikh yesterday. Britain has suspended all flights to and from the resort over concerns that the crashed Russian plane which flew out of Sharm may have been brought down by a bomb. —AFP

wiping out, jailing and sentencing Islamists to death will stabilize Egypt. But the suspicions that Islamic State militants may have planted an explosive device on Airbus A321 suggest his strategy may backfire by creating more radicals.

The plane was likely brought down by a bomb, US and British governments said on Thursday. On Friday even Russia, which had called such conclusions premature, suspended its flights to Egypt. In early September the Egyptian military launched what it called a comprehensive operation dubbed Martyr's Right. More than 500 people the military identified as militants were killed in the first two weeks alone. Residents of the Sinai say such high death rates include civilians and have encouraged some young men to take up arms against the state and those who don't harbor resentment.

"Sisi is waging war against us. He says he

southern Sinai have remained packed with European tourists, the northern part of the peninsula has been under effective army control. The areas with the worst fighting - Arish and the towns of Sheikh Zuweid and Rafah, which border the Palestinian Gaza Strip ruled by the Islamist group Hamas - have been under a state of emergency with a curfew in place for over a year.

The military publishes lists of dead "terrorists" and photos of bodies almost daily, to show Egypt is winning the war against militancy. Diplomats say Sisi's hardline tactics may only generate short-term solutions. Long-term stability can only come with investment and job creation in the Sinai, where residents have long complained of neglect by the state. "Their goal is to contain the problem now. They want quick results. In the sense they are making some progress," said one Western diplomat in Cairo. "Their strategy will not provide a

paved his path to power since 2013, when as army chief he toppled President Mohammed Mursi. Mursi was a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, an 87-year-old Islamist movement that had won the first competitive leadership elections in Egyptian history, but a year into his rule he was facing mass protests. Sisi removed him, saying Mursi had lost legitimacy. He then launched the fiercest crackdown on Islamists in Egypt's history: Security forces killed hundreds of Brotherhood supporters in assaults on street protests, and jailed thousands of others. Sisi, who has since won his own election to the presidency, has branded the Brotherhood a terrorist movement and says it is just as dangerous as Islamic State militants and their sympathizers in the Sinai.

Many Western security experts say that prevents authorities from devising the kind of nuanced strategies needed to sta-

GULF ARABS, BRICS SHOULD DO MORE FOR SYRIA REFUGEES: US

WASHINGTON: Wealthy Gulf Arab states such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar as well as the so-called BRICs emerging market nations should do more to help Syrian refugees, a senior US official said on Friday. "I would like to see more aid come from the Gulf states that are in the Middle East area and are relatively wealthy compared to Jordan and Lebanon," Assistant Secretary of State Anne Richard told C-SPAN's "Newsmakers" program.

"We would also like to see more from the so-called BRICs—Brazil, Russia, India, China and, to a lesser extent South Africa," she added. "These are the wealthy states that care about the region that could and should be doing more on the humanitarian side." About 250,000 people have died and some four million driven abroad as refugees because of the Syrian conflict, which began in 2011 with protests against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and has evolved into a full-blown civil war.

The majority of the refugees have flowed into neighboring nations such as Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon but hundreds of thousands have also made their way to Europe. Richard said that some Gulf Arab states such as Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates had contributed strongly for refugees while others, such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar, could do more. She said some Gulf states' contributions for refugees varied from year to year and that she would like to see their efforts better integrated into the international humanitarian system.

None of the six states in the Gulf Cooperation Council—Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar—has signed the UN convention on refugees, which has governed international law on asylum since World War II. Gulf states say they have taken in hundreds of thousands of Syrians since the civil war began just not as refugees. The Saudi Press Agency in September cited an official source in the foreign ministry as saying that the kingdom had received nearly 2.5 million Syrians since the conflict erupted. The source Saudi Arabia had given those who wished to stay residency, including such benefits as free health care, and had provided humanitarian aid to countries hosting Syrian refugees and via international relief organizations. —Reuters



ZAYED CITY: A handout image made available by United Arab Emirates News Agency (WAM) shows a UAE military convoy traveling from the Al-Hamra military base to Zayed city after returning from Yemen. The UAE has lost 68 soldiers fighting as part of the Arab coalition against Iran-backed rebels in Yemen. —AFP

19 DIE IN CLASHES IN SOUTH YEMEN

ADEN: At least 19 people have been killed in Saudi-led coalition air strikes and clashes between pro-government forces and rebels in Yemen's south, military sources said yesterday. The air strikes took place late Friday and targeted two rebel vehicles on a road linking the central province of Ibb to Daleh further south, the sources said. Forces loyal to Gulf-backed President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi recaptured Daleh and four other southern provinces in July.

Loyalist forces also clashed with Iran-backed Houthi rebels and their allies on the outskirts of Daleh's second-largest city Damt on Friday, the sources said. Eight pro-government fighters and 11 rebels were killed in the clashes and air strikes, they added. In Saudi Arabia, the

civil defense announced late on Friday the death of a Saudi woman and her three-month-old baby in the border city of Najran when a missile fired from Yemen crashed into their home, the official SPA news agency said.

The Saudi-led coalition, in which the United Arab Emirates has played a key role, has been battling rebel forces who since last year have controlled the capital Sanaa, as well as much of northern and central Yemen. The UAE, which has lost 68 soldiers fighting as part of the coalition yesterday welcomed the first group of its soldiers returning from Yemen, the official WAM news agency said. They were replaced by a second group, it added, without giving their numbers.

Thousands of Emirati troops have

reportedly been deployed in the war-ravaged country, the first time the Gulf country has sent ground troops to a conflict abroad. Western sources this week indicated that only a limited number of UAE Special Forces will now remain in Yemen. In early September, a missile strike on a coalition base in Yemen's Marib province killed 67 coalition soldiers, 52 of whom were Emiratis. The United Nations says around 5,000 people have been killed and 25,000 wounded, many of them civilians, in Yemen's conflict since it escalated in March. In Saudi Arabia, more than 70 people have been killed from border shelling and skirmishes since the coalition campaign began. Soldiers have accounted for most of the border casualties. —AFP

News

in brief

Former Israeli president Yitzhak Navon dies at 94

JERUSALEM: Yitzhak Navon, who served as Israel's fifth president, has died. He was 94. His family said he died yesterday. Navon was a top aide to Israel's founding father David Ben-Gurion. Later he embarked on a political career in the Labor Party. He served as president between 1978 and 1983 and had a lengthy term as education minister. He quit politics in 1992 and became a successful author and playwright. Labor Party leader Isaac Herzog remembered Navon as a member of Israel's founding generation who "built our national home with their own hands." Centrist Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid called him a "moderating, embracing, respecting voice that is so missing these days." Navon was born in Jerusalem to a Sephardi family descended from Spanish Jews expelled in the inquisition of 1492.

US officers arrested over death of 6-year-old boy

CHICAGO: Two US law enforcement officers have been arrested on charges of murder and attempted murder over the fatal shooting of a six-year-old boy in Louisiana, officials said. The death of Jeremy Mardis will add to growing criticism over perceived brutality in US police forces after several high-profile incidents over the last year. City marshals Norris Greenhouse, 23, and Derrick Stafford, 32, were arrested on Friday following an incident in Marksville on November 3 in which they opened fire on a vehicle, killing the boy and critically wounding his father, Chris Few, who was driving. The boy was reportedly hit by five bullets, in the head and the chest. Another two officers that were involved were also placed on administrative leave. Colonel Mike Edmonson of Louisiana State Police said the boy died while strapped into the front passenger seat. "He didn't deserve to die like that," he told reporters at a press conference late on Friday, saying the police badge had been "tarnished." Citing police body-camera footage of the incident, he described it as "the most disturbing thing I've seen."



LAAYOUNE: Morocco's King Mohammed VI waves to the crowd from his car during a rally marking the 40th anniversary of the "Green March" in Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara's main city of Laayoune. —AFP

Moroccan king in a rare visit to disputed region

LAAYOUNE: Morocco's King Mohammed VI has vowed that revenues from the mineral-rich Western Sahara will continue to be invested locally, on a rare visit to the disputed territory. He was speaking late Friday in the territory's main city Laayoune, to mark 40 years since hundreds of thousands of Moroccan civilians marched across the border with the then Spanish colony to lay claim to it. The Green March triggered war with the Algerian-backed Polisario Front which had been campaigning for independence for the territory since 1973 and continues to do so to this day. King Mohammed, who arrived to much fanfare in the city for only his third visit since he succeeded to the throne in 1999, described the Green March as "a watershed moment in the process of completing the kingdom's territorial integrity". He listed several projects that are due to be implemented to improve infrastructure in the territory, including a desalination plant and industrial zones. He promised that "revenues from natural resources will continue to be invested in the region, for the benefit of the local populations and in consultation and coordination with them".

IS frees 37 kidnapped Syrian Christians: NGO

BEIRUT: The Islamic State group yesterday released 37 Syrian Christians, most of them women, who were among more than 200 people kidnapped more than eight months ago, an NGO said. The Assyrian Monitor for Human Rights said the group of freed Assyrian Christians included 27 women and 10 men, most of them elderly. They arrived yesterday morning in the town of Tal Tamr in the Khabur region of Hasakeh province in northeastern Syria, the group said. The releases were confirmed by the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor, which said most of those freed were from other towns elsewhere in the Khabur region. The former hostages were among a group of 220 Assyrians captured by IS when they overran parts of the Khabur region in February. Since then, a trickle of the prisoners have been released, with between 140 and 150 believed to still be held by IS. The Assyrian Monitor said the releases were the result of negotiations carried out by the church, but other reports suggest IS has been paid to free the hostages.

Foreign powers ignored calls to fight terrorism, Egypt says

CAIRO: Egypt criticized its foreign partners yesterday for ignoring calls to work harder to combat terrorism, after Western intelligence sources said there were signs Islamist militants may have bombed the Russian plane which crashed in Sinai. An Islamic State affiliate has claimed responsibility for the crash of the Airbus A321 operated by a Russian carrier that was bringing holidaymakers home from the Sinai Peninsula resort of Sharm El-Sheikh one week ago. All 224 people on board were killed in what the militants described as revenge for Russian air strikes against Islamist fighters in Syria. Russia, Turkey and several European countries have suspended flights to Sharm El-Sheikh and the United States has imposed new air travel security requirements in the wake of the crash. Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, speaking hours before authorities were due to make an announcement about their investigations so far, said it would be wrong to speculate on the cause until findings were delivered. But he said Cairo was not ruling out any possibility, and suggested countries now flagging the likelihood that militants were behind the crash should have heeded Egypt's repeated calls for coordination to combat militants.

CONTROVERSIAL RUSSIAN MEDIA MOGUL FOUND DEAD AT WASHINGTON HOTEL

WASHINGTON: Controversial Russian media mogul Mikhail Lesin, who helped found the RT English-language television network, has been found dead at a Washington hotel. He was 57. RT, formerly known as Russia Today, said the former minister of media affairs died of a heart attack. "Lesin died. It's impossible to believe this," tweeted Margarita Simonyan, editor-in-chief of RT, which is state funded. ACB News, quoting a Russian and a US official, reported late Friday that Lesin had been found in Washington's Dupont Circle Hotel the day before.

A controversial figure, Lesin had been accused of limiting press freedom in Russia. In a terse statement, Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters late Friday that the "president highly values the enormous contribution Mikhail Lesin made helping establish Russian media." Washington police would not confirm his death, saying only that they were investigating the death of someone on the block where the hotel is located in a fashionable area of Washington.

US officials notified the Russian embassy of Lesin's death and authorities from both countries are trying to determine the circumstances in which he died. Lesin was Russia's minister of press, television and radio between 1999 and 2004 and later served as a Kremlin aide. In 2013, he became head of Gazprom-Media Holding, the media arm of state energy giant

Gazprom, and oversaw the work of Russia's top liberal radio station Echo of Moscow, among other tasks. Lesin resigned a year later, citing family reasons. In a recent interview, the former editor of state news agency RIA Novosti, Svetlana Mironyuk, claimed Lesin was one of two people behind her sacking in 2013.

'A state man'

Mironyuk told the Russian edition of Forbes she was let go after she became a student at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, with Kremlin officials telling her a media executive of her stature should not study in the United States. Republican Senator Robin Wicker of Mississippi called for a probe into Lesin last year on suspicion of money laundering and corruption, ABC said. He allegedly amassed millions of dollars in assets in Europe and the United States while working for the government, including \$28 million (26 million euros) in real estate in Los Angeles.

"That a Russian public servant could have amassed the considerable funds required to acquire and maintain these assets in Europe and the United States raises serious questions," Wicker wrote, according to ABC. It said it was unclear whether the FBI had actually opened an investigation. In 2014, Lesin told Forbes he thought it was okay that most television channels in Russia were state-controlled. "I am a state man," he said. — AFP



MOSCOW: In this file photo, former Telecommunication Minister Leonid Reiman (left) and Minister of Press, Television and Radio Broadcasting, Mikhail Lesin confer over documents during a meeting, headed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, at the Kremlin. Controversial Russian media mogul Mikhail Lesin, who helped found the RT English-language television network, has been found dead at a Washington hotel. — AFP



ROCK HILL: Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton greets supporters after a democratic presidential candidate forum at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC on Friday, Nov 6, 2015. — AP

WITH ATTACKS ON CLINTON, RACE ENTERS A NEW PHASE

US DEMOCRATIC OPPONENTS TARGET HILLARY

ROCK HILL: Vermont Sen Bernie Sanders and former Gov Martin O'Malley escalated their attacks on 2016 Democratic front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton at a forum Friday night. With her numbers on the rise after a summer slump, Clinton finds herself increasingly targeted by her primary opponents - a marked tonal shift for a race that stayed largely civil for much of the early primary. But that wasn't the case in South Carolina on Friday night. In individual interviews with MSNBC host Rachel Maddow, both Sen. Bernie Sanders and former Gov Martin O'Malley cast themselves as the party's liberal standard-bearers, questioning Clinton's commitment to the causes Democrats hold dear.

The party nominee will face the winner of a crowded Republican place currently led by billionaire businessman Donald Trump and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson. Though careful never to mention Clinton by name, Sanders wasted little time drawing a sharp contrast with her on everything from campaign finance reform to foreign affairs. He noted his opposition to the war in Iraq and his refusal to accept super political action committee donations and said he opposes the

Obama administration's recent decision to send special forces to Syria, a position that Clinton supports. He also undermined Clinton's opposition to the Keystone XL pipeline, which was officially rejected by President Barack Obama's administration hours earlier after a yearlong campaign by liberal activists.

Clinton said she opposed the pipeline in September, a project she said she was "inclined" to support back in 2010 as President Barack Obama's secretary of state. "For me, as opposed to some other unnamed candidates, the issue of Keystone was kind of no brainer," he said. "I said no to Keystone on Day One." O'Malley echoed his critique, adding in his own words that Clinton was "not a fighter." In an effort to break into what's shaping up to be a two-person primary race, he suggested that the self-identified democratic socialist is not a loyal member of the party.

"I think that when President Obama was running for re-election, I was glad to step up and work very hard for him while Sen Sanders was trying to find someone to primary him," O'Malley said. "I'm a Democrat. I'm a lifelong Democrat. I'm not an inde-

pendent. I'm not a former Republican. I believe in the party of Franklin Roosevelt." The intensified assault comes little more than a week before the candidates will meet in Iowa for their next debate, a forum Clinton showed a commanding control of during the first match-up last month. The message intended for Democratic voters was clear: Clinton cannot be trusted to fight hard for liberal values.

Clinton, who followed the two men on the stage, largely stuck to her campaign themes, never acknowledging either of her opponents, but she cast herself as a fighter for liberal principals, demurring when asked whether she's the most hawkish of the Democratic hopefuls and vowing to take on the Koch brothers. "Anybody who thinks they can influence what I will do doesn't know me very well," she said, responded to a question about the millions of dollars she made from highly paid speeches to Wall Street bankers. Democrats have spent months boasting about the substantive tone of their contest, attempting to set-up a favorable early contrast with the crowded and often carnival-like insults of the Republican primary. — AP

CASTRO AND PENA NIETO SEAL WARMER CUBA-MEXICO TIES

MERIDA: Cuban leader Raul Castro received a warm welcome in Mexico on Friday as President Enrique Pena Nieto sought to end a diplomatic chill and boost business opportunities on the island. With the colonial Caribbean city of Merida serving as the backdrop, Castro was given red carpet treatment at the Yucatan state government palace for his first official visit to Mexico since taking power in 2006. "Long live the indestructible brotherhood between the people of Cuba and Mexico," Castro said as he delivered a speech alongside Pena Nieto following a private meeting.

For his part, Pena Nieto greeted Castro with an embrace and told him that "Mexico welcomes you with open arms." The two governments signed five cooperation agreements in migration, education, diplomacy, fishing and tourism. Both leaders made clear that the improved relations could lead to more investment opportunities for Mexican companies as the communist nation implements economic reforms. "We committed both our governments to creating the conditions for Mexican businessmen and investors to invest in Cuba," Pena Nieto said.

Cuban migration surge

The diplomatic reconciliation between the United States and Cuba has raised the prospect of new business opportunities on the island, though the US embargo remains in place. In May 2014, Mexico sent a business delegation to Havana representing 48 companies. It also opened a trade promotion office in Havana. Mexico has several investment projects in Cuba's Mariel megaport. "We are pleased by the interest that Mexican companies have in doing business and investing in Cuba, especially at the special development zone of Mariel and in sec-



MERIDA: Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto (left) hugs Cuban President Raul Castro, as he arrives for an official welcome ceremony at the Yucatan State Government Palace in Merida, Mexico on Friday, Nov 6, 2015. — AP

orderly" flow of migrants between both countries, and combat human trafficking.

'Eat and leave'

Castro's visit sealed a warming of relations between two nations that have had close ties in past decades. Pena Nieto feted him with a toast at lunch at a famous villa in Merida, where Castro, an 84-year-old great-grandfather, invoked his plans to retire on February 24, 2018. "I won't be a great-great-grandfather... because Cubans will get bored of me," quipped Castro, adding that he would like to return to Merida after retirement because it was the first place he visited in Mexico 60 years ago. His brother Fidel had less brotherly relations with conservative Mexican governments that were in power from 2000 to 2012. — AFP

SEXTING SCANDAL SHOCKS US HIGH SCHOOL

LOS ANGELES: A massive sexting ring is rocking a high school in Colorado, with at least 100 students trading nude pictures and posting them on social media, news reports said Friday. Some of the kids in the photographs were as young as 12, and included eighth graders from the middle school, The New York Times reported. The students, many of whom are on the football team at Canon City High School, could now face criminal charges, reports said. The school district announced Wednesday that "a number of our students have engaged in behavior where they take and pass along pictures of themselves that expose private parts of their bodies or their undergarments." Noting that a "large number" of the high school football team play-

ers were implicated in the scandal, the district said it was canceling the high school's last football game of the season. "Because we can't guarantee that every kid we put out on the field would be clean of this circumstance, we would just rather not put a team out at all," Canon City Schools Superintendent George Welsh told NBC television affiliate KOAA.

Noting it first learned of the behavior on Monday based on anonymous tips and student reports, the district stressed that taking a picture of yourself showing a naked private body part and sending it to another person was a felony. The same applies if receiving such a picture and forwarding it to another person, or receiving such a picture and retaining possession of

it over time. According to The New York Times, police and the district attorney's office are weighing whether to file child pornography charges-including felony charges-against some of the participants. Students circulated up to 400 lewd photographs, it added. The police probe is focusing on whether any adults were involved, the school district said. Students used password-protected "phone vaults," apps that often appear to be simple calculators at first glance, to hide the photos from their parents and school officials. "It's been going on for years," one Canon City student told KRDO13, an affiliate of ABC television. The student said some fellow students, especially girls, had been pressured to take pictures of themselves. — AFP

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DISILLUSIONED YOUNG POLES LEND REFUGEES A HELPING HAND

WARSAW: Angered by their country's foot-dragging on Europe's refugee crisis, 30 young Poles are lending a helping hand to refugees in the Balkans, breathing new life into a "Solidarity" ethic made famous in Poland in the 1980s. "We're heading to the Balkans this week with clothing for refugees," says Maciej Bulanda, 26, one of four friends who launched the aid drive on Facebook by creating the Dobrowolki ("volunteers" or "goodwillers") page. "We've got eight cars and around 30 volunteers," he told AFP as students and activists stuffed garbage bags full of warm clothes, shoes and blankets into vehicles.

Soon they will set off on the 2,000-kilometre journey south to Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia. "The response of ordinary people was incredible," Bulanda said as he loaded a shiny new luxury-brand van that a car rental company

loaned them free of charge. "Everything we're doing is also a way to voice our protest against the inaction of the countries in our region regarding the humanitarian crisis in the Balkans." More than 750,000 people have crossed the Mediterranean this year, many fleeing war in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, and the European Union has struggled to craft a unified strategy to deal with the influx.

In eastern Europe, a potent mix of fear, ignorance and Islamophobia is fuelling widespread opposition to taking in refugees, despite the EU's adoption of a quota system to redistribute the new arrivals around the 28-member bloc. But the young volunteers are determined to press on with their mission to help the new arrivals. "We're going to Slavonski Brod in Croatia first. We'll drop the clothes off and then the group will split up: some will go to Slovenia and others will head

elsewhere in Croatia," says Monika Pronczuk, who returned two weeks ago from her first aid trip, to Berkasevo in Serbia. "We'll get special ID cards in Slavonski Brod allowing us to work as volunteers," she adds.

'Cholera,' parasites'

Like Poland, Croatia is a member of the 28-state European Union, while Macedonia and Serbia are not. Pronczuk explains some Polish volunteers then plan to head to Presevo, a small Serbian town near the Macedonian border that hosting a refugee and migrant reception centre. The enthusiasm displayed by the young Poles stands in stark contrast to the words of a leading Polish politician, dubbed by some Poland's new "king" due to his party's control over the presidency, the parliament and soon, the central bank.

Jaroslav Kaczynski's push for power

in last month's parliamentary elections preyed on fears arising from Europe's worst migrant crisis since World War II. Analysts believe his victorious Law and Justice majority government will likely try to reverse the decision of the outgoing centrist administration to accept refugees under an EU quota plan. Kaczynski claimed refugees were bringing "cholera to the Greek islands, dysentery to Vienna, various types of parasites", in comments that critics said recalled the Nazi era. He insists Warsaw should financially support EU efforts to tackle the crisis, but not take in refugees—a view surveys suggest is shared by nearly 60 percent of Poles.

In their determination to defy the government and do what they see as the right thing, the Dobrowolki have reminded some Poles of the Solidarity movement of the 1980s. Led by then Gdansk

shipyard electrician Lech Walesa, Solidarity spiraled into the biggest opposition movement behind the Iron Curtain, triggering the peaceful demise of communism in Poland by 1989.

Insisting there is too much "indifference" to the plight of refugees and migrants, one of the volunteers, 33-year-old Jacek Kastelaniec said he had postponed a dream trip to the Caribbean in order to help refugees in the Balkans. "This drama is happening here and now in Europe, close to us. During World War II, too many people said the same thing: 'It's not my business,'" said Kastelaniec, director of a special fund aimed at preserving the site of the Nazi German twin death camps, Auschwitz-Birkenau—now a state museum in southern Poland. "As a Pole, I want to feel that I have done something for these people, to ease their plight." — AFP



A couple, refugees from Syria, take a selfie after crossing the border from Greece into Macedonia, near the southern Macedonian town of Gevgelija yesterday. Thousands of refugees and migrants are heading to Macedonia from Greece on their way to more prosperous European Union countries, after the Greek seamen's union called off rolling 48-hour ferry strikes that had stranded an estimated 25,000 people on the eastern Aegean islands. —AP

ORBAN RATINGS RISE AS HUNGARIAN FENCE DETERS MIGRANT 'INVASION'

PM MAINTAINS RHETORIC DESPITE XENOPHOBIA ACCUSATIONS

BUDAPEST: With an anti-immigrant campaign and razor-wire border fence Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has reversed a slide in his party's popularity, emerging at home as a winner in the crisis that has divided Europe. Personal approval ratings have also jumped for the man who closed down a major transit route through Hungary for hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers fleeing war and poverty.

Voters are less willing to give Orban the benefit of the doubt on creating jobs. But while Hungarians often helped migrants stranded in appalling conditions last summer, many voters are ignoring criticism that rights groups and foreign governments have directed at their leader over migration. Despite accusations of xenophobia, Orban shows no sign of moderating his language as he attacks the European Union's failure to solve the migrant crisis, and tries to undermine support for the far-right at home.

Speaking on state radio, he said Hungary was now in a "different time zone" from the rest of Europe as it has fended off the "invasion" by sealing its southern borders. This goes down well with many Hungarians, including the young who are often more conservative than their peers in western Europe. Not far from Budapest's eastern railway station, where thousands of migrants slept rough in September, 21-year-old student Mate Sebok gave his whole-hearted support to Orban's stand. Hungary needed a strong leader who spoke up for the country's interests in the EU, Sebok told Reuters.

"There was no common European solution, and I believe Hungary needs to protect its own borders," he said. "A few months ago the eastern railway station was still teeming with migrants and now the country is nice and empty, luckily, so I think the border fence was a good measure." Huge numbers of people, many escaping the Syrian civil war, tried to get through Hungary in the late summer on their way to seeking asylum in countries to the north, notably Germany and Sweden. Orban finally halted that flow with the border fence.

'Xenophobic characterization'

Wrapped in a striped scarf against the autumn chill, Sebok said he voted for Orban's right-wing Fidesz party when it won re-election last year, and would do the same now. An opinion poll by Ipsos put support for Fidesz on 37 percent right after the 2014 vote but its popularity started to slide due to perceived corruption and some unpopular measures, dropping to 20 percent in June this year. The fence on the Serbian border was completed this September, and backing for Fidesz rose to 24 percent, according to Ipsos. The party solidified its core support and attracted around 300,000 swing voters, mostly aged 30-40. Fidesz was the most popular party in all age groups except the under-30s where it fell behind Jobbik, Ipsos said. The ratings rose further in October after the fence was extended along the Croatian border, sealing the southern frontier and forcing migrants to seek different routes north.

Orban accompanied the fence building with rhetoric, saying Hungary did not want Muslims in large numbers, and people were not coming to Europe to live in safety but rather because they wanted "a German or perhaps a Swedish life". Austria likened his policies to those of the Nazis, an allegation Hungary rejected, while the US ambassador to Budapest warned against "xenophobic characterisation of refugees". Many Hungarians appear unworried by such criticism. "The measures tackling the migration crisis were very positive," said Margit Tamas, 62, a retired intensive care nurse. With Germany and Sweden struggling to cope with the asylum seekers, the European Commission wants EU member states to take in a share of the new arrivals.

But this has split the bloc, with Orban rejecting quotas and accusing governments which had welcomed asylum seekers of encouraging the influx. "Who commissioned European leaders ... (to) not only let in but ship into Europe by the hundreds of thousands groups that are culturally different from European culture?" he asked in a speech last week. With the opposition divided and weak, rights groups have been largely left to question his arguments at home. Zsuzsanna Zsohar, a spokeswoman for Migration Aid, accepted Hungary had the right to decide who could come in. "At the same time, as a U.N. member state it is obliged to help people who were stuck in conflict zones," she said. "With its current behaviour, Hungary has lost its right to claim solidarity." — Reuters

ROW OVER REFUGEES' STATUS REOPENS DIVISIONS IN GERMAN GOVERNMENT

BERLIN: Just two days after resolving a coalition row over how to handle a record influx of refugees, Germany's ruling parties are embroiled in another spat over whether to limit the asylum rights of refugees from Syria. The government was forced to clarify on Friday that its asylum policy for refugees from Syria remained unchanged after the interior minister said they would receive a modified refugee status and be barred from having family members join them.

But the comments made by Thomas de Maiziere in a radio interview have reopened a rift between Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats (CSU), its Bavarian sister party (CSU) and their Social Democrat (SPD) coalition partners. Yesterday, Ralf Stegner, deputy chairman of the SPD, accused the CDU of making half-baked proposals instead of implementing the decisions agreed on by the coalition. Restricting family reunions would only mean that more women and children

would undertake the dangerous journey from Syria to Europe, he said, adding that the SPD opposed the idea.

"It's off the table as far as the SPD is concerned," Stegner told German radio. "This won't wash with the SPD, and the CDU knows this perfectly well." However, lawmakers from the CSU, who govern the state of Bavaria which has borne the brunt of the refugee influx, backed de Maiziere's proposals.

"Hundreds of thousands of Syrians are getting shelter here, but it must only be subsidiary protection - this means for a limited period and without having family members join them," Andreas Scheuer, the secretary general of the Christian Social Union (CSU) told Bild am Sonntag. Subsidiary protection means migrants are not granted asylum or refugee status and their rights are limited. The latest row comes after the coalition ended weeks of fighting on Thursday evening on how to speed up the deportation of asylum seekers who have little chance of being allowed to stay.

UNDER FIRE

It is not the first time de Maiziere, a reserved man who prefers to operate out of the spotlight, has come under attack over his handling of the influx of hundreds of thousands of migrants, many of whom are fleeing war in the Middle East. De Maiziere was lambasted by mass-selling daily Bild earlier this week for taking a short break in Majorca while the government struggled to manage the pace and scale of the influx, which is putting communities under strain. Last month Merkel appointed her chief of staff Peter Altmaier to oversee the government's handling of the crisis, a move widely viewed as a rebuff to de Maiziere. — Reuters

MIGRATION TESTS SWEDEN'S 'HUMANITARIAN SUPERPOWER' IMAGE

STOCKHOLM: Overwhelmed by a massive influx of migrants, Sweden is approaching its fiscal and emotional limit and this "humanitarian superpower" is now being forced to hit the brakes. The Scandinavian kingdom, in which one in every five residents is of foreign origin, is expected to receive up to 360,000 new immigrants in 2015 and 2016. That's roughly the equivalent of Germany dealing with 3 million new migrants or 2.2 million arriving in France. "The situation is no longer tenable."

Sweden can no longer take refugees in the way it has before, Prime Minister Stefan Lofven warned this week. Earlier this year, Lofven was still ruling out the idea of setting a limit on migration. Immigration Minister Morgan Johansson reiterated the government's line when he said: "We cannot guarantee housing to all refugees. If you have a roof over your head in Germany, then it's probably best for you to stay there." In a sign of the problems involved in dealing with the huge influx, the Migration Agency reported that it had to set up beds for 50 migrants at its own headquarters on Thursday night.

Redistribution of migrants

In a bid to address the urgency of the situation and to put a lid on public spending, the Ministry of Finance began suggesting that development aid be cut by up to 60 percent in next year's budget to help pay for the influx. Then, turning towards the EU, Sweden is seeking to relocate some of its asylum applicants to other EU Countries. Brussels unveiled a plan in September for the redistribution of nearly 160,000 migrants and refugees from frontline states Italy and Greece. So far, only a small number have been relocated. The EU plan was also to have seen 54,000 migrants and refugees relocated from Hungary. But Hungary, along with several other eastern European countries, rejected the compulsory quota plan out of hand—and Sweden is now very eager to take advantage of the offer made to Budapest for relocating some of its own asylum seekers.

Finally Stockholm has said it would like to receive special financial assistance from the European Commission. Since the 1950s, Sweden

has become a coveted destination for immigrants. Before that, more than a million poor peasants and workers migrated to North America from Sweden between 1840 and 1930. Last year the then prime minister Fredrik Reinfeldt, a conservative, presented the country as a "humanitarian superpower". One year later, his party fiercely supports stemming the flow of migrants.

Welfare state cuts

Because of the welfare cuts made over the past 25 years, the generous "Swedish model" is being challenged. Now Sweden, with its economy coming in at 17th per capita, according to World Bank figures last year, can no longer afford its ambitions. Many of the most recent asylum seekers are sleeping on concrete floors in disused warehouses or in prisons.

Hospitals, schools and social services are overcrowded and longtime immigrants, plagued by high unemployment, are being crammed into poor suburbs. "It's nice to play good Samaritan, but in the suburbs we stand outside of the system," said Alex Ngabo, a community activist in Tensta, a suburb north of Stockholm, where 87 percent of residents are from immigrant families. Up to now, the government announcements have not had the desired effect. More than 1,700 asylum applications were filed Wednesday, almost beating Sweden's daily record—which was set last month. Lofven negotiated with opposition parties in October to set restrictions on migration, which would apply only at the end of next year.

Polls indicate that the anti-immigrant Sweden Democrats are benefiting most from the growing tensions. The Social Democrats have lost support among the poorer sections of society, those perceived to be the most exposed to the unprecedented influx. As a former welder and trade unionist, the prime minister knows he is leading his party across a social and economic tightrope. "Since the crisis of the 1990s, the Social Democrats have contributed to deconstruct the welfare state when they were in power and failed to defend it when they were in opposition," said Stefan Jonsson Institute Migration Research at the University of Linköping. — AFP



ARFURT: Thousands hold up the glowing displays of their mobile phones during a demonstration initiated by the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party against what they call the uncontrolled immigration and asylum abuse in Erfurt. — AP

HITLER WAS SHREWD, NOT SO HYPNOTIC, BIOGRAPHY SAYS

BERLIN: A new biography of Hitler by a prominent German historian is likely to stir controversy with its argument that the Nazi leader's political acumen has been underestimated and that the belief in his hypnotic grip over Germans is inflated. Peter Longerich's "Hitler", to be published on Monday, is a 1,295-page tome that includes material from the diaries of Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels and early Hitler speeches. "Overall, you have a picture of a dictator who controlled much more, who was more closely involved in individual decisions than previously thought. I wanted to put Hitler as a person back in the centre," Longerich told Reuters in an interview.

Recent works on the Third Reich have placed more emphasis on the social and political climate that led to the rise of Nazism after defeat in World War One and crippling reparations demands. Soon after World War Two, Germans clung to the belief that they had been held hostage by a criminal gang led by the charismatic Hitler, bent on conquering Europe and exterminating Jews. Longerich, a professor at London University, argues that while all Hitler's policies and the results were catastrophic, he acted smartly in specific situations.

"The question why he managed to get so far needs to be addressed: Obviously he had the ability to exploit individual situations in his own interest and for his own aims," he said. Even his racial policies, which culminated in the murder of at least 6 million Jews in the Holocaust, were in large part down to political opportunism, says Longerich, who does not think Hitler was radically anti-Semitic at an early age. "Around 1919-1920 he realized he could be successful in politics by embracing and inciting anti-Semitism," he said, adding it became a central element only in the 1930s.

Hitler's skill in taking power is even more striking given that the Austrian-born art student was a 'nobody' with no ideology until he was about 30. Only then, refusing to accept Germany's defeat, was he drawn to the early Nazi party. Longerich also seeks to debunk the theory that Hitler had an irresistible charisma that captivated Germans, arguing it was largely artificially constructed by the Nazi propaganda machine which pumped out pictures of entranced fans at rallies. The author does not exonerate Germans, saying large parts of the population supported Hitler while others were opportunistic in following him, but he argues that there were social tensions and discontent, for example within the church. — Reuters



BUJUMBURA: Burundians carry their belongings in Bujumbura yesterday. Carrying their prized possessions, scores of people fled Burundi's capital yesterday before a looming security crackdown that has left many predicting more bloody violence ahead. — AP

MYANMAR JUNTA: MILITARY WILL RESPECT POLL RESULTS

YANGON: Myanmar's president says his government and the military, which gave up power only five years ago, will respect the results of today's elections that are expected to be won by opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party.

"I heard that there are worries whether the outcome of the election would be respected. Our government and the military want to repeat that we will respect the outcomes of the free and fair election," President Thein Sein said in a speech broadcast on national television late Friday night.

His remarks are aimed at signaling to the international community that the government is sincere about holding free and credible elections despite concerns about voter list irregularities, intimidation and disenfranchisement of a large section of the population - the Rohingya Muslims who have been denied citizenship and made ineligible to vote.

"According to the outcome of the election, we will work together in the new political arena," said Thein Sein, who is also the chairman of the ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party, which is aligned closely to the military. Concerns about the military's lurking

influence stems from events in 1990, when it refused to accept results of elections that were won overwhelmingly by Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party. The junta continued its rule that had begun in 1962.

After intense international pressure, the military called elections in late 2010, which the NLD boycotted, citing unfair rules. By default, the elections were won by the USDP, made up of former military figures. It formally took over power from the junta in 2011.

"To be where we are today, we have overcome a difficult history. It was never easy to be able to hold this election. That's why as the election will change our destiny, especially in this important transition, I encourage all the voters to vote," Thein Sein said.

Observers believe that the election is Myanmar's best chance in decades to move toward greater democracy despite an in-built handicap for Suu Kyi's party: of the 664 seats in Parliament, 25 percent are reserved for the military. This means that even without winning an outright majority, the military-aligned USDP will be able to control the legislature with the help of the military's seats. But given the huge crowds that Suu Kyi

and her candidates have been attracting, that might still prove to be difficult for USDP.

The NLD's popularity was evident in the 2012 by-election, when it won 43 of the 44 parliamentary seats it contested. Despite such odds, USDP co-chairman Htay Oo said Friday that his party will win the election comfortably.

"Some expect that the USDP will win 80 percent in the election, but I want to say we will win between 65 and 80 percent," he told Radio Free Asia's Myanmar service. He said experts have underestimated the support for the party.

"The USDP didn't show the strength of the party in the past, but when we campaign, we can see how many party members and supporters we have," he said.

Other party leaders also exuded confidence. "I'm sure that we will win on Nov. 8. So we will no longer use the phrase 'we will win.' Let me tell you in advance that that we have won," USDP central executive committee member Nada Kyaw Zaw said at a campaign rally.

Suu Kyi in her campaign rallies has also said her party expects to win if the elections are fair. Winning the election would only be the first step toward full

power for the NLD. After the polls, the newly elected members and the military appointees will propose three candidates, and elect one as the president. The other two will become vice presidents. That vote won't be held before February.

However, Suu Kyi cannot run for president, thanks to a constitutional amendment that bars people with foreign spouses or children from assuming the executive's post. Suu Kyi's late husband and sons are British. —AP



Myanmar President Thein Sein walks on the historic U Bein bridge while assessing environmental changes at Taungthaman lake in Amarapura, Mandalay yesterday. —AP



LAHORE: Pakistani teenager Shahid who was rescued after 50 hours trapped under the rubble of a four-storey factory which collapsed, rests at a local hospital in Lahore yesterday. —AFP

TEENAGER FOUND ALIVE 50 HOURS AFTER PAKISTAN FACTORY COLLAPSE

LAHORE: Rescuers in Pakistan have pulled a teenage boy alive from the rubble of a collapsed factory near Lahore 50 hours after the structure toppled, officials said yesterday. The teenager had been trapped for more than two days after the collapse and his family, thinking him dead, had already identified and buried another recovered body they believed to be his. "An 18-year-old Muhammad Shahid was also evacuated alive 50 hours after the building collapsed by the blessing of God," Muhammad Usman, a top administration official in Lahore, told AFP.

The four-storey Rajput Polyester polythene bag factory came crashing down on Wednesday evening, and at least 37 bodies have so far been recovered from the wreckage.

Shahid's discovery ignited emotional scenes at the site as workers chanted "Allah-O-Akbar (God is great)" and encouraged each other to boost morale. The news was a welcome surprise to his family who had mistakenly identified the dead body of another boy earlier this week as Shahid

and buried the remains in their ancestral town of Kabirwala, some 265 kilometres (164 miles) from Lahore.

Officials have said at least 150 people were in the factory when it came down and it was unclear how many—dead or alive—may still be trapped. Punjab chief minister Shahbaz Sharif has said the factory may have suffered structural damage in the October 26 quake, which killed almost 400 people across Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Provincial labour minister Raja Ashfaq Sarwar said that an enquiry into the collapse "is being conducted and we will probe all angles," with a report to be submitted within two weeks.

At least 24 people died last year when a mosque collapsed in the same city, while more than 200 people lost their lives, mostly due to collapsed roofs, following torrential rain and flooding in 2014. In 2012, at least 255 workers were killed when a fire tore through a clothing factory in Karachi, one of the deadliest industrial accidents in Pakistani history. —AFP



QUETTA: Pakistani paramedics inspect the body of a Shiite Muslim after he was shot to death by gunmen in Quetta yesterday. Unknown gunmen yesterday killed two members of the Hazara Shiite minority in Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province officials said. —AFP

FOUR PAKISTANIS AMONG 'MILITANTS' HELD IN DHAKA

DHAKA: Bangladesh police have arrested seven suspected Islamist militants including four Pakistani nationals, they said yesterday, accusing them of planning to commit acts of violence in the Muslim-majority country. The seven, who were arrested on Friday and later taken to court for interrogation, are suspected of belonging to the banned Islamist group Jamayetul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), police said.

"In primary interrogation, they've admitted that they're activating the operation of the banned JMB. They gathered to commit acts of violence," a police statement said, adding authorities believed the group was conspiring against the government. The arrests come as tensions run high in Bangladesh following a spate of targeted killings and fears of mounting Islamist violence in the conservative country of 160 million.

Dhaka police spokesman Muntashirul Islam said those arrested included four Pakistani nationals, the first time police have claimed Pakistanis are active in the banned group. Police said they had seized Pakistani currency and jihadist books from those arrested, including one which spells out punishment for defaming the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH).

JMB militants have been blamed for attacks in recent weeks including slashing the throat of a Christian pastor and a series of murders of Sufi Muslims, who the militants consider as heretics. Bangladesh is also grappling with a series of murders claimed by the Islamic State group (IS) in recent weeks, including the fatal stabbing of a policeman on Wednesday. IS has also said it was responsible for the murders of an Italian aid worker and a Japanese farmer, as well as a blast at the country's main Shiite shrine which left two people dead. The government has rejected IS's claims, saying it does not have a presence in the country. A branch of Al-Qaeda has also claimed responsibility for the murders of four atheist bloggers and machete attacks on publishers in the past year, calling the victims "atheists and blasphemers".

The government, however, has blamed those attacks on local militants, along with the main opposition party and its Islamist ally, for orchestrating violence to destabilize the country. The home-grown JMB, whose leaders were executed in 2007 over a series of blasts, have been trying to regroup in recent years. The group was set up in late 1990s by Bangladeshi jihadists, some of whom had fought in the Afghan war against the Russians. —AFP

MODI PLEDGES \$12BN TO 'FULFIL KASHMIR DREAMS'

PM ADDRESSES CROWD AMID INTENSE SECURITY

SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday announced \$12 billion in financial assistance to Indian-administered Kashmir, more than a year after deadly floods devastated parts of the disputed Himalayan region. Speaking in the main city of Srinagar amid intense security, the Hindu nationalist leader said he wished to take India's only Muslim-majority state back to its "former glory".

Modi stressed the need to create jobs for young people, boost tourism and infrastructure, and close a gaping digital divide in the conflict-wracked region, where many do not have access to the Internet. "To fulfil these dreams, the Indian government is announcing an 80,000 crore rupee (\$12.1 billion) package to Jammu and Kashmir," Modi told a cheering crowd at a public rally in Srinagar, as authorities imposed a curfew for the second day running.

"My heart wants this money to be spent to change your fortunes, to give strength to your youth, to build a modern Kashmir," he said as some in the audience jumped up and down, waving their arms with joy. "Not only are Delhi's funds yours, but so is its heart."

Srinagar was hardest hit after the rain-swollen River Jhelum burst its banks in September 2014 leaving thousands stranded. The floods killed 300 people and caused an estimated \$16 billion worth of damage, with thousands of homes and large tracts of farmland ruined, according to official data.

Most Indian prime ministers have announced economic packages for Kashmir in the past, with some seeking political engagement with separatists in the restive region.

"I hope he (Modi) will stop all the violence here," said Bashir Ahmed, a resident of Srinagar who had come

to listen to the prime minister along with his family.

But Modi steered clear of politics in his speech, prompting opposition leader Omar Abdullah to react sharply. "PM Modi has made the same mistake of weighing the Kashmir issue in Rupees & Paisel!!!" Abdullah, the former chief minister of the state tweeted.

Pakistan protests

Authorities imposed a near-lockdown and suspended mobile Internet services common during high-profile visits to the volatile region, which is divided between India and Pakistan but claimed by both in its entirety.

Hundreds of separatist activists were arrested ahead of the visit, with leaders confined to their homes to prevent them from holding a protest march against Modi's rally.

"Modi's visit and the economic package will not change anything, like in the past," top separatist leader Syed Ali Geelani told reporters outside his residence, surrounded by police to prevent him from leaving. Minor clashes broke out in Srinagar and in the northern town of Baramulla on Saturday afternoon, an AFP reporter at the scene said.

In Pakistan-administered Kashmir, about 600 people took part in a rally in the capital Muzaffarabad in protest at Modi's visit, chanting anti-

India slogans and pouring black ink on the Indian flag.

Protesters carried placards and banners bearing slogans such as "India is destined to defeat in Kashmir," "War will continue until freedom" and "Go Modi Go back." "Our fight will continue until each inch of Kashmir is freed from Indian occupation," Syed Salahuddin, a rebel commander who heads several militant groups told protesters, describing the Indian prime minister as the "enemy of Muslims".

A separatist insurgency against Indian rule and India's counter-insurgency campaign has left tens of thousands dead since 1989, mostly civilians. —AFP



SRINAGAR: Kashmiri supporters listen to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a public rally in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir yesterday. —AP

WITH SUU KYI BANNED, MYANMAR VOTERS PONDER 'PROXY PRESIDENTS'

YANGON: In a ramshackle hospital in Myanmar's largest city, at the end of a corridor milling with patients, sits the man some people believe will be the country's next president. Tin Myo Win is the long-time personal physician of Aung San Suu Kyi, whose party is expected to win Sunday's landmark general election. That position has earned him a place on a list of presidential candidates, some of them improbable.

Even if her National League for Democracy (NLD) wins big, Suu Kyi is barred from the presidency by a constitution written by Myanmar's powerful military. It ruled the country for nearly 50 years before a nominally civilian government ushered in an era of faltering reform in 2011.

Suu Kyi vowed on Thursday to run the country from "above the president", filling the position with a proxy she has chosen but not disclosed, a move that could antagonize the military. It has also left Myanmar's voters with a presidential puzzle: If not "Mother Suu", as she is affectionately known, then who? An NLD loyalist and former political prisoner, Tin Myo Win, 64, was one of the few people allowed to visit the Nobel Peace Prize winner during her 15 years as a prisoner of the military.

He seemed bemused at the prospect of being considered president. "My job is cutting and sewing - I am a surgeon," he told Reuters between consultations with patients at Yangon's Muslim Free Hospital, where he volunteers his services. But earlier he told the Irrawaddy, a Myanmar news service, that he would accept any offer of the presidency "for the good of the country." Myanmar's legions of Facebook users have already entertained and dismissed the possibility of Tin Myo Win becoming president.

A more likely choice could be former general

Shwe Mann, now the speaker of the lower house, or the party's ageing patron, Tin Oo.

"SOMETHING LIKE SONIA GANDHI"

Even if Sunday's election is deemed free and fair, it will still only elect 75 percent of Myanmar's parliament, where a quarter of all seats are reserved for unelected military officers. On the eve of the election, it is still unclear whether the NLD can win enough votes to form a government and choose its own president, who does not have to be an elected MP. To get there, the NLD on its own or with allies must win more than two-thirds of all contested seats.

The military-drafted constitution bars presidential and vice-presidential candidates with for-

ign children. Suu Kyi's two sons are British citizens. She said on Thursday that the constitution "says nothing about somebody being above the president".

In fact, it does state that the president "takes precedence over all other persons" in Myanmar.

But Suu Kyi could be "something like Sonia Gandhi," said Win Htein, a top NLD leader and Suu Kyi confidant. Gandhi is the Italian-born widow of the late prime minister Rajiv Gandhi. As leader of the Congress party, she dominated the government of former Prime Minister Mahatma Gandhi before it fell from power last year. "We'll appoint someone (as president) but he will be controlled by Aung San Suu Kyi," said Win Htein. —Reuters

BAD WEATHER CAUSED CHOPPER CRASH IN NEPAL

KATHMANDU: Bad weather likely caused a US helicopter to crash in Nepal while on an aid mission to help victims of April's massive earthquake, killing 13 people, the United States Marine Corps said. The UH-1Y Huey helicopter was delivering relief supplies and evacuating injured quake victims to Kathmandu when it went missing on May 12, the same day a deadly aftershock hit the Himalayan nation. Six US Marines, two Nepalese soldiers and five villagers died in the accident, the Marine Corps said Friday in a press release summarising the results of their investigation into the crash.

After picking up injured civilians from northern Dolakha district, the crew decided to fly the most direct route to the capital, apparently to secure urgent medical aid, the investigation found. "The chosen course required

a brief period over unfamiliar terrain with unstable meteorological conditions," the Marine Corps 3rd Expeditionary Force, based on the Japanese island of Okinawa, said. "It is believed that the aircraft... was enveloped by rapidly developing clouds or lifted into a cloud by rising air currents," it said. "As they attempted to maneuver out of the weather conditions, they lost visual reference with the terrain and impacted the ground."

Relief teams from 18 nations, including India, China and the United States, spent weeks working to provide water, food, shelter and medical assistance to Nepal after a 7.8-magnitude quake struck on April 25. The disaster killed nearly 9,000 people, destroyed more than half a million homes and left thousands without shelter just weeks before annual monsoon rains. —AFP

UNBRIDGEABLE DIVIDE? CHINA-TAIWAN SCHISM SINCE 1949

TAIPEI: When presidents Ma Ying-jeou and Xi Jinping shake hands yesterday it will be a gesture of solidarity once unthinkable for the two sides, locked in hostility for decades over their very identity and right to exist. The schism has been unbridgeable since Taiwan split from the mainland after a civil war in 1949, which saw Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek flee to the island after defeat by Mao Zedong's Communist forces. It set the stage for a technical state of war as Taiwan evolved into a self-ruling democracy, while China still sees it as part of its territory awaiting reunification, by force if necessary. While it is unclear what will come out of the meeting, it is symbolic of a dramatic rapprochement under Ma that has paved the way for the two leaders to be in the same room together—a seismic shift in relations.

Following is a brief history of the journey to the Ma-Xi summit. Taiwan, formerly known as Formosa, is an island off the southeast coast of China between the East and South China Seas. Chinese immigration began in the 17th century and the island came under mainland control after a period of Dutch rule from 1620-62. Taiwan was also occupied by

Japan from 1895-1945. In 1949, about two million supporters of the KMT led by Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan to establish a separate government after losing a civil war to Mao Zedong's communists.

Beijing and Taipei were frozen in enmity as each insisted on recognition as the only representative of China. As Chinese clout grew, more countries began to recognize Beijing as China's seat of power-Taiwan lost its United Nations seat to China in 1971 and is now only formally recognized by 22 states. After Chiang died in 1975 his son Chiang Ching-kuo took the reins, lifting martial law in 1987. Chiang's deputy Lee Teng-hui succeeded him in 1988 and the first signs of a possible thaw with China began to show. In 1991, Lee declared the end of 43 years of emergency rule, unilaterally ending a state of war with China.

Two years later, the first direct talks between the two sides were held in Singapore between quasi-official envoys. But relations soured once more in 1995 when Lee visited the US, prompting Beijing to suspend the high-level talks in protest. Lee stressed the island's statehood, which riled China. In 1996 the United States sent in the Seventh Fleet after Beijing fired test mis-



TAIPEI: Protesters carry signs denouncing the meeting in Singapore of Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou and China counterpart Xi Jinping outside of the Songshan Airport in Taipei yesterday.—AP

siles into the Taiwan Strait in a bid to stop voters electing Lee in the island's first ever democratic elections—he won by a landslide. Washington is Taiwan's key ally and the island's leading arms supplier, despite switching diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.

Closer ties

Ties with China were further strained in 2000, when Chen Shui-bian of the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) was elected president in Taiwan, ending the KMT's 51-year grip on power. But despite political turbulence, the two became eco-

nomically closer with improved trade links. A corruption scandal played a major role in Chen's defeat in 2008, paving the way for Ma, who promised prosperity through closer ties. Relations have improved dramatically since Ma took office, as the two sides held direct talks in Beijing, which led to regular direct flights and a tourism boom. The Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement was signed in 2010 to reduce commercial barriers and in February last year the first government-to-government talks took place in Nanjing.

However, public sentiment in Taiwan has turned against the KMT with concerns over Chinese influence a major factor. In spring 2014, 200 students occupied parliament for more than three weeks to demonstrate against a controversial trade pact in what became known as the Sunflower Movement. The KMT suffered its worst-ever local election defeat in November last year and the DPP looks set to be voted in at presidential elections in January. Friday's summit is seen as a move to emphasize how far relations have come under Ma and promote the "one China" principle as Taiwan looks likely to imminently vote in a far less Beijing-friendly leader.—AFP

PHILIPPINE COUPLE FIND HOPE, LOVE AMONG TYPHOON MISERY

TACLOBAN: After losing her husband and six children to the fury of Typhoon Haiyan, Juvelyn Luana has found fresh hope among the misery and crushing poverty as she rebuilds her life with a new family. Two years after the monster storm devastated the coastal city of Tacloban, killing thousands, Luana has a new partner, a new son and a shack far from the deadly shore. "Having a husband and a baby gave my life direction," the 32-year-old said as she scooped water into four grey drums to take to their brick and tin shanty that lacks tap water and electricity.

She fetches water from a distant swamp at night because her partner Joel Aradana, also widowed by Haiyan, works during the day and there is no one else to look after their five-month-old baby Jacob. Built just 500 meters from a landfill, the shanty bakes under the tropical sun by day and the stench is overpowering. "It smells like raw fish mixed with rotten food. I'm worried that my baby might get sick," Luana said during one recent humid evening.

A few plastic chairs, a gas stove and a tiny solar-powered television set that works only in daytime are the sum of the couple's possessions. Unable to afford even a bed, they sleep on a straw mat laid out on the floor. Pictures of their former spouses and children who perished in the storm hang from the wall, beside a picture of the new couple being interviewed on local television that featured their unconventional love story. Outside, children played noisily with their pet dogs and elderly women traded gossip on their doorways.

'Life is very difficult'

But the couple can consider themselves among the lucky ones. They were among the first 929 families to get new homes from the government, which is still struggling to shelter more than a million people

displaced by the deadliest known typhoon to have struck the Philippines. Haiyan smashed already impoverished fishing and farming communities in the central islands on November 8, 2013, leaving 7,350 people dead or missing.

A 150-billion-peso (\$3.2-billion) government plan to build 205,128 new homes by 2017 in devastated areas, along with roads, bridges and classrooms has crawled under the weight of a cumbersome bureaucracy. Thousands of the less fortunate survivors still live in cramped palm-thatch and wooden temporary shelters. Though opportunities are scarce, Luana's partner gets occasional carpentry work that pays 350 pesos (\$7) a day. "We are OK, rebuilding our lives slowly," she said. "One look at Jacob every night and all my body aches disappear." "But life here is very difficult." The couple hopes to marry as soon as Aradana secures a death certificate for his wife, whose body was among hundreds that have not been found. Luana said she gets no sleep at night fanning her son while Aradana rests his aching body after long hours at work.

Like many other Haiyan survivors, Luana said aid has not come fast enough. A promised government loan she had been counting on to start a small business selling rice from her home has not been given. A third of Aradana's pay is spent on the 18-kilometre commute to the city where he works, leaving them with barely enough to buy rice and sardines. "I want to help my husband. He doesn't always have construction jobs so we need a steady source of income," said Luana, a high school graduate, who used to give manicures and massages to her neighbors. "I also want to buy a television set. My neighbors are crazy about soap operas but I want to know when the next typhoon is coming so I can prepare.—AFP

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT MYANMAR

YANGON: Myanmar is holding a general election on Sunday, its second since polls in 2010 ended almost a half-century of military rule. Five things to know about the Southeast Asian country:

Reforms

President Thein Sein's government makes the case that it is prudently managing a successful transition to democracy. Shortly after coming to power in 2011, Thein Sein - a former general and prime minister in the previous military government - instituted economic and political reforms that resulted in Western nations largely lifting trade and investment embargoes they had maintained against the previous military government. This spurred foreign investment and much-needed economic growth. Supporters of the opposition National League for Democracy see the country's democracy as half-empty rather than half-full. They believe the generals and their cronies have too much of a vested interest in the status quo to challenge exploitation of natural resources and ensure economic justice.

Human rights

The euphoria over long-overdue reforms has already gone sour, as new political prisoners have replaced those freed in mass releases, prior censorship has been replaced by lawsuits against the press, and liberalizing the economy has failed to solve problems such as income inequality and land grabbing. The government has also come under criticism, mostly from abroad, for failing to stem violence against the Muslim Rohingya minority, who are also denied citizenship. Some Buddhist monks formed a group to channel the anti-Muslim sentiment into a political force that has already successfully lobbied for laws restricting the Muslim community. The monks' group does not support the National League for Democracy because it considers the party soft on the issue. The party and its leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, have also disappointed admirers by failing to stand up for Muslims' rights.

Electoral history

The 2010 election was boycotted by the National League for Democracy, which saw it as illegitimate and unfair. It won 43 of the 44 seats it contested in 2012 by-elections. But its small share in the 664-member parliament meant it could not challenge the authority of the ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party and its ally, the military, which allotted itself an automatic 25 percent of parliament's seats when it drafted a constitution in 2008. For the NLD, Sunday's polls are a chance to test the mandate it won in the 1990 election, when it garnered just over 80 percent of the seats, only to have the polls annulled by the military.

The players

There are 91 parties running candidates, but the election is a two-horse race, with several wild cards. Suu Kyi's NLD has popular support across the board, in city and countryside, and is expected to win a strong plurality. President Thein Sein and his USDP have a well-organized political machine with all the advantages of incumbency, including the opportunity to rig the vote if they so choose. They also enjoy the support of many of the country's tycoons, whose status as cronies to the previous military regime carried over to the military-backed ruling party.

With its automatic 25 percent of the seats in parliament, the army does not need to campaign, but it can use its strong presence in the vast rural backwaters to intimidate voters to the advantage of its USDP allies. Parties representing the country's various ethnic minorities are likely to win seats in their home regions. While most are at least loosely allied with the NLD, the votes of their lawmakers will be in play when it comes time for parliament to select the nation's president early next year.

Ethnic troubles

Last month, the government signed a cease-fire agreement with many of the country's fractious ethnic minority guerrilla groups, nominally putting an end to decades of armed conflict.—AP



SINGAPORE: Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) and Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou shake hands at the Shangri-la Hotel in Singapore. The two leaders shook hands at the start of a historic meeting marking the first top level contact between the formerly bitter Cold War goes since they split amid civil war 66 years ago.—AP

CHINA, TAIWAN LEADERS JOIN HANDS AT HISTORIC SUMMIT

'WE ARE BROTHERS CONNECTED BY FLESH'

SINGAPORE: The presidents of China and Taiwan reached across decades of Cold War-era estrangement and rivalry to exchange a historic handshake and warm words in the first summit since the two sides' traumatic 1949 split. China's Xi Jinping and Taiwan's Ma Ying-jeou shook hands for more than a minute and smiled for a mass of reporters before their talks in Singapore in scenes considered unthinkable until recently.

They later sat down across a table from each other, with Xi praising the event as opening a "historic chapter in our relations" and repeating China's oft-expressed desire for eventual reunification. "We are brothers connected by flesh even if our bones are broken. We are a family whose blood is thicker than water," Xi said. "The development of cross-strait relations over the past 66 years shows that no matter what kind of winds and rains are experienced by compatriots on the two sides, no matter how long divisions last there is no power that can separate us."

Despite the apparent warmth, the hour-long meeting's lasting significance remains to be seen. No agreements were announced between two sides that still refuse to formally recognize each other's legitimacy. But the encounter is undeniably historic: the previous occasion was in 1945, when Communist revolutionary leader Mao Zedong met with China's nationalist President Chiang Kai-shek in a failed reconciliation attempt. The eventual Communist takeover forced Chiang's armies and about two million followers to flee to Taiwan, then a backwater island province, leaving a national rupture that has preoccupied both sides ever since.

'Like old friends'

"Even though this is the first meeting, we feel like old friends," Ma told Xi, in the unexpectedly cordial encounter. "Behind us is history stretching for 60 years. Now before our eyes there are fruits of conciliation instead of confrontation." Ma later told reporters he proposed the establishment of a hotline between the two sides and that Xi responded positively. He also raised issues sensitive to Taiwan's people, including the arsenal of Chinese missiles aimed at Taiwan, and China's policy of marginalizing the island diplomatically. "We hope these things do not continue," said Ma, who told Xi that both sides should exercise "mutual respect."

Xi did not address reporters, leaving that to a lower-ranking official. Ma has expressed hope the meeting could be a step toward normalizing cross-strait relations, but no further plans for closer contact emerged. Analysts said there is no guarantee any glow will last, especially with Ma out of office soon, and his ruling party

expected to lose in January polls to an opposition that distrusts China.

"This meeting will remain a historic moment but everything will depend on the result of the elections in Taiwan," said Jean-Pierre Cabestan of Hong Kong Baptist University. "Xi's very pro-reunification language... risks alarming more than one person on the island." Though politically divided for decades, business and investment ties have flourished. Since taking office in 2008, Ma's Beijing-friendly policies have borne fruit, including a boom in Chinese visitors to the island, the opening of flight routes, more than 20 trade agreements and yesterday's summit.

But many in Taiwan, a rambunctious democracy, are deeply uneasy at drawing too close to the Communist-ruled mainland orbit, and reunification remains a distant prospect. "After watching Ma-Xi meeting this afternoon on TV, I believe most Taiwanese people, like me, feel very disappointed," the presidential candidate of the opposition Democratic People's Party, Tsai Ing-wen, said in a statement. "We really regret that the only result from the Ma-Xi meeting is an attempt to put people's choices on cross-strait relations in a box, using a political framework on an international stage."

Hundreds of opponents of the summit

massed outside Ma's office in Taipei yesterday, condemning the meeting and Xi's "family" comments. There were also overnight demonstrations at Taiwan's parliament building, and 27 people were arrested as protesters scuffled with police at the capital's airport as Ma departed.

Mister, Mister

The lingering tensions were in plain view at the summit, where the leaders addressed each other as "mister" rather than "president"—which would have legitimized their governments. Beijing sees Taiwan as a wayward province and this disdain surfaced in China's coverage of the event. After Xi finished addressing Ma at the meeting's opening, Chinese state broadcaster CCTV cut away to a studio discussion as video of Ma speaking rolled, but with no sound. Opponents at home accuse Ma, who leaves office soon, of using the summit to boost his ruling Kuomintang's (KMT) flagging chances at the polls. Some analysts feel China also finally granted the meeting, long sought by Ma, to help boost the KMT, which Beijing favors over the more independence-minded opposition. But they warn the strategy could backfire with anxious Taiwanese voters if China is seen meddling in the election.—AFP

HK LGBT PROTESTERS SAY CITY LAGS BEHIND IN GAY RIGHTS

HONG KONG: Hong Kong's streets were a sea of rainbow flags yesterday as protesters marched in the city's annual gay pride parade to call for equality and same-sex marriage.

Around a thousand demonstrators paraded through downtown Hong Kong, with many complaining that the city lags behind other major Asian hubs in terms of LGBT rights. "There's still a lot of room to improve, compared to Taiwan and even to Japan," Carol Yung, a 40-year-old marketing officer in the music industry, told AFP.

"These days they are...already discussing about same sex marriage, but in Hong Kong we're still very far behind," Yung said. Taiwan, which held a massive pride parade attended by nearly 80,000 people last month, is one of the most progressive Asian countries when it comes to homosexuality, but a bill to make same-sex marriage legal has been stalled in parliament since it was first proposed in 2013.

Hong Kong's LGBT community has for years sought a ban on discrimination on the

grounds of sexual orientation. LGBT issues are in the spotlight again this month after comments from the city's Catholic bishop, which angered many in the community.

Cardinal John Tong, in a letter published Thursday, said concepts of marriage and family were being "challenged" by what he called "the gay movement". If a Sexual Orientation Discrimination Ordinance were enacted, or gay marriage legalised "this would force our society into undergoing a change that would turn it upside-down", Tong said.

In another development, the judgement for a landmark court case in which a gay British woman challenged the government's refusal to grant her a visa to live in the territory with her partner, is expected in November. QT, as she is referred to in court, had called the authorities' decision to be "discriminatory". She entered into a civil partnership in Britain in 2011 and moved to Hong Kong in the same year after her partner was offered a job in the city.—AFP



SHARM EL-SHEIKH: Tourists sunbathe in the Egyptian resort of Sharm El-Sheikh yesterday. Britain had on November 4, 2015, suspended all flights to and from the resort over concerns the crashed Russian plane which flew out of Sharm may have been brought down by a bomb. — AFP

ISRAELI TROOPS IN HEBRON CRACKDOWN AFTER SHOOTINGS

HEBRON: Israeli forces blocked yesterday exits from the southern West Bank city of Hebron as they launched a manhunt for assailants after shooting incidents targeting Jewish worshippers and a soldier. Two Israeli teens were shot and wounded on Friday at the flashpoint site known to Jews as the Tomb of the Patriarchs and Muslims as the Ibrahimi Mosque, the army said.

Around 4,000 Jewish worshippers were visiting Hebron on Friday and yesterday as part of a religious pilgrimage centered

around the biblical matriarch Sarah, who according to tradition was buried in a field which eventually became part of the city Hebron. A soldier was also shot and wounded on Friday near the Palestinian village of Beit Anon north of Hebron. Army spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Peter Lerner said there was "ongoing activity to locate the perpetrators of yesterday's attacks".

Israeli forces were searching Palestinian homes in and around Hebron as well as setting up new checkpoints for vehicles and

people, an AFP reporter said. In addition the army blocked off the northern entrance of Hebron with mounds of dirt. The eastern entrance has been sealed off for days. Israeli rights group B'Tselem on Friday criticized the army for carrying out "immoral and unlawful" measures which it said hinder Palestinian freedom of movement in Hebron, including closing off the Tel Rumeida neighborhood.

"These steps constitute collective punishment of residents of Hebron who are

suspected of nothing and are forced to suffer serious disruptions in their daily lives," the group said. Hebron has 200,000 Palestinian residents with approximately 500 Israeli settlers living in the centre, protected by an army-patrolled buffer zone. The situation is a constant source of tensions. Also on Friday a 72-year-old Palestinian woman was shot dead by soldiers after allegedly attempting to ram them with her car nearby Hebron.

Friday's unrest broke a brief lull in the

wave of deadly attacks and violent protests throughout October that raised fears of a new Palestinian intifada, or uprising, against Israeli occupation. Most of it had occurred in and around Hebron and mainly involved Palestinian stabbing attacks. There were no clashes or attacks in the city yesterday as troops searched for the assailants. But an army spokeswoman said a soldier was slightly wounded by "an accidental discharge of a bullet near a military position in Hebron". — AFP

BLACK BOX DATA INDICATE RUSSIAN PLANE ...

Continued from Page 1

Britain on Friday lifted its block on flights out of Sharm El-Sheikh but just 1,200 of the estimated 20,000 Britons who were holidaying in the resort managed to get home. There were angry scenes as thousands more who had hoped to fly home were sent back to their hotels after Egypt placed restrictions on the number of repatriation flights.

Those that did get out were forced to leave their check-in baggage behind to be transported separately after London ordered airlines to allow hand luggage only. Egypt's aviation minister said the restrictions on flights were imposed because the airport could not cope with all the luggage left behind. "I think a lot of people will question whether they ever want to go to Egypt again," said human resources manager Nicky Bull, as she arrived back in Britain on board one of the eight flights that made it out. Ben Khosravi, 27, who was another of the flights, said: "The security at Sharm was horrendous. It was quite worrying how easy you could get through-you could pay people money to fast track it." Washington said it would step up security screenings of US-bound flights from some Middle East airports as a precaution.

Tourism industry hit

IS said it downed the plane in retaliation for Russian air strikes in Syria, but has provided no details as to how. If it was behind the attack, it would be the first time the jihadists, who control large areas of Syria and Iraq, have hit a passenger plane. US President Barack Obama has said that Washington is "seriously" considering the possibility of a bomb aboard the plane, while British premier David Cameron told reporters it was "more likely than not that... a terrorist bomb" caused the crash.

Egypt has beefed up security at airports to "give confidence to the British government, but that does not mean we concur with any scenario," foreign ministry spokesman Ahmed Abu Zeid said. The crash has the potential to deeply damage Egypt's tourism industry, still struggling to recover from a turbulent four years following its 2011 revolution. Once a remote beach on the edge of the Red Sea, Sharm El-Sheikh has grown into the jewel of Egypt's tourism industry, with dozens of luxury hotels and night life attracting tourists from around the world. The town attracted on average three to four million tourists a year before the 2011 popular uprising that ousted longtime president Hosni Mubarak. — AFP

NASTINESS THREATENING THE ONLINE READER...

Continued from Page 1

A 2013 University of Kent study found that by making users "accountable," the Facebook system makes them "less likely to engage in uncivil discussion."

But when The Huffington Post ended anonymous comments and began using the Facebook plug-in, it sparked anger. By creating obstacles to posting, "you lose a lot of commenters," said David Wolfgang, a doctoral researcher in journalism at the University of Missouri. Wolfgang, who has been researching the state of online news comments, said many newsrooms were unprepared for the deluge of acrimony but should not give up. "If your local news organization isn't going to provide a space for this conversation, who will? It doesn't always work out the way we want, but that doesn't mean we should throw it out," he said.

Tech solutions?

Large news organization employ teams of moderators, sometimes with help from outside contractors, to weed out inappropriate comments. But that's not feasible for many budget-stretched newsrooms. Some are looking to technology, to filter out nastiness and highlight constructive conversations from readers. Several private vendors offer software for this. The Washington Post and New York

Times have joined forces on a project funded by the Knight Foundation to create open-source software that can be adapted for news websites to get a better handle on online discussions.

Greg Barber, director of digital news projects at the Post and a member of the "Coral Project" team working with the Mozilla Foundation, said the competing dailies realized that "we had the same problems and it made sense for us to work together." "Civility is a challenge for everyone," Barber said, adding that the Post gets some eight million comments a year and struggles to keep a positive tone with its own moderators and an outside contractor. "When users come in and see a pie fight, they are likely to pick up a pie and throw it," he said. "If they see a reasoned discussion, they will want to contribute in a reasoned way."

Project members have spoken with publishers in 25 countries interested in trying the software, which will be offered free. News sites may use their own criteria to keep the dialogue on course, according to Barber. Barber said the software, set to be released for testing in January, aims not only to filter out the ugliness but to identify the "trusted" readers and display constructive comments more prominently. "It's not just to scrape the mud off our boots, but to find and highlight the valuable contributions," he said. — AFP

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Kuwait Times
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT
DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF
ESTABLISHED 1961

Founder and Publisher
YOUSUF S. AL-ALYAN

Editor-in-Chief
ABD AL-RAHMAN AL-ALYAN

EDITORIAL : 24833199-24833358-24833432
ADVERTISING : 24835616/7
FAX : 24835620/1
CIRCULATION : 24833199 Extn. 163
ACCOUNTS : 24835619
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Washington Watch

NETANYAHU'S
ARROGANCE -
OUR STUPIDITY

By Dr James J Zogby

"When I entered the Prime Minister's office for my second term, I was summoned to Washington. 'Not one brick,' they told me...The pressure from the international community and the Americans was enormous...And still, after five years on the job, we built a little more than 'one brick'...the important thing is to do it in a smart way...to stand up to international pressure by maneuvering...we continue to head straight toward our goal, even if one time we walk right and another time we walk left," Benjamin Netanyahu, 2014.

"I know what America is. America is a thing that can be easily moved in the right direction. They will not bother us. Let's suppose they will say something...so they say it?...We have such support there!" Benjamin Netanyahu, 2001. For over two decades, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been playing us for fools-a role we have filled to the detriment of our national honor and the cause of peace. His entire political career has been focused on demonstrating to Israelis that he could "move [America] very easily"-and, on too many occasions, he has done just that.

Since his first election as Prime Minister in 1996, he has been proud of his ability to get away with defying American presidents, while paying no price for his defiance. His successes, in large measure, have been due to the ties he has built with Republicans in Congress, using them to counter peace-making efforts led by two Democratic presidents, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

After the Oslo Accords were signed in 1993, Netanyahu went into action. Together with a small group of Likudniks, he launched a lobbying campaign against Oslo. Weekly faxes were sent to Congressional offices warning of the dangers that peace with the Palestinians posed for Israel and providing talking points that some Members of Congress followed. It was unprecedented-an Israeli opposition party acting against their government lobbying the US Congress to turn against the policy of our government.

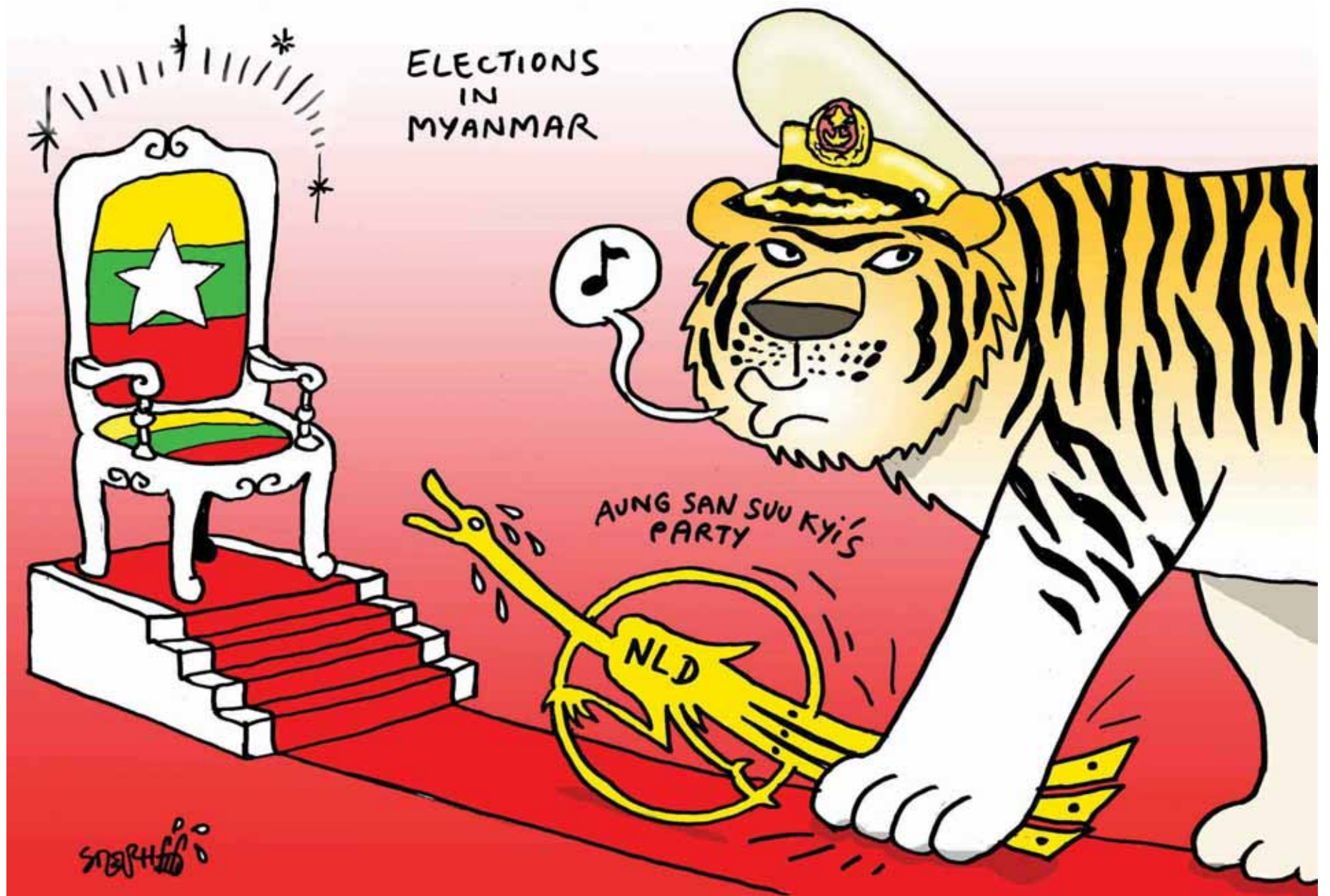
The effort won allies among Republicans in Congress who were only too happy to place obstacles in Bill Clinton's way. When the GOP won control of Congress in 1994 and Netanyahu won the Israeli elections in 1996, he was in a perfect position to accomplish his goal of ending the Oslo Accords.

The Gingrich-controlled Congress invited Netanyahu to speak to a Joint Session. He used the opportunity to attack the peace process and to call on Congress to join him on a war footing against Iraq and Iran. Throughout the rest of his first term, Netanyahu defied pressure from the Administration to curtail settlement construction and to make a serious commitment to peace. He knew that Congress would "have his back". Even when President Clinton did force the Israelis to negotiate with the Palestinians, Netanyahu never fully implemented the agreement they concluded. And when Clinton vigorously objected to Netanyahu's plans to construct a new colony between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, Netanyahu defiantly broke ground erecting HarHoma-a settlement that now houses almost 20,000 Israelis.

President Obama's aspirations to negotiate an Israeli-Palestinian peace, were also frustrated by Netanyahu, whose second election as Israeli Prime Minister coincided with Obama's entry to the White House. After two frustrating years, Obama put the process on hold. In 2010, Republicans again won control of Congress and their new leadership once again invited Netanyahu to speak to a Joint Session of Congress. The Israeli used this appearance to rebuke Obama's call for an Israeli-Palestinian peace based on "the 1967 borders, with mutually agreed land swaps". In the face of Israeli intransigence and Congressional pressure, once again the Administration shelved peace-making, until after the 2012 elections. Secretary of State John Kerry's ill-fated effort to restart Israeli-Palestinian negotiations were eclipsed by the disastrous and deadly Syrian conflict and the effort to negotiate a nuclear deal with Iran-a deal which Netanyahu was determined to stymie. And so, when the Republican-led Congress invited Netanyahu to deliver his third address to a Joint Session, he used this appearance to call on Congress to block the Administration's support for the P5+1 deal with Iran.

Netanyahu's Washington performances have been focused on two audiences. He sought to muster the support of his Republican allies to defeat the work of Democratic Presidents, while at the same time seeking to demonstrate to his Israeli supporters how "very easily" he could "move America in the right direction". While his first two efforts were a success, he failed with the third. Not only was he unable to block the Iran deal, but his gambit exposed a partisan divide over support for his policies, leaving Israelis uncomfortable about Netanyahu's ability to manage their relationship with the United States.

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WIELDING RICHES, QATAR SEEKS TO DEEPEN US TIES

By Tom Finn

Qatar is hoping big investment and trade deals with Washington will help restore its position as a Middle East power broker after charges of World Cup graft, labor abuse and links to militants damaged its standing. The country, adept at using finance as a form of "soft power", also wants to reverse what it sees as waning US interest in Gulf Arab states and ensure US rapprochement with Iran does not shift it from the centre of Middle East politics. Once the enfant terrible of the Gulf Arab dynasties, Qatar has toned down a traditionally assertive foreign policy in the past two years, chastened by setbacks in Egypt and Syria, after helping bankroll Arab Spring revolts.

Its prestige has been clouded by allegations of poor labor rights, alleged corruption over the 2022 World Cup and strains with some fellow Arabs over its ties to Islamist groups. But Western governments see Qatar, maverick though it may be, as a potentially significant regional mediator because of its ties to Islamists around the Middle East, a role that may gain importance if moves to end Syria's civil war gather pace.

Its gas riches also mean its value as an economic partner remains undimmed, a point Qatar has been emphasizing most recently with its main non-Arab ally, setting aside billions to deepen ties with the world's biggest economy. At the launch of a US-Qatar Economic and Investment Dialogue in Washington in October, Deputy Secretary of State Tony Blinken said Washington's partnership with Qatar was "absolutely essential and fundamental" to American strategy in the region. The U.S. was determined to help the Gulf states defend themselves from new and emerging dangers, he said.

Outsized role

"The US and Qatar are partners economically just as we are in the security sphere," said Blinken, adding that Qatar plays an outsized diplomatic and strategic role and is a "very significant" source of foreign capital.

He was speaking after the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), one of the world's most aggressive sovereign wealth funds, announced it pledged to invest

\$35 billion in the United States over the next five years. The QIA, which helps manage the country's energy-generated wealth through a traditionally Europe-based portfolio, said it had opened an office in New York to "better access new and existing investment partners".

On the trade front, Qatar has agreed to deals worth more than \$20 billion in total from US companies like Raytheon Co, Lockheed Boeing in the past two years. "Qatari investments are not purely financial, but carry with them a political aspect," said analyst Ghanem Nuseibeh of Cornerstone Global Associates. "The Qataris are trying to tell the Americans 'look our relationship is about more than just politics - it's holistic it involves other sectors, this investment is to compensate for any political rifts or disagreements with the Americans."

Alarm

Those strains have included disagreements with Washington over the Qatari approach to conflicts like Libya and Syria-US politicians have voiced alarm over Doha's ties to Islamist armed groups seen in the West as militants. But Qatar says it is precisely because it is on good terms with a wide network of contacts-although not with terrorists, it says-that it has value as a partner and was able to mediate in disputes and wars from Somalia and Sudan to Lebanon.

Qatar prides itself on being able to convene a bewildering array of big name guests, a more complicated feat in other Arab Gulf states like Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates where sectarian politics and anti-Islamist policies have led to blacklisting. Home to the biggest US military land base in the Middle East, and campuses from six top US universities, Qatar also hosts delegates of the Afghan Taliban and Palestinian Hamas, among other Islamist groups. US First Lady Michelle Obama was in Doha on Wednesday to promote schooling for girls. "The Middle East is a complex region with complex alliances and politics: We believe there is a critical need for a country that can facilitate open dialogue," said a senior Qatari official. "The goal is to try to finally open up dialogue and communication between groups that for too long have refused to talk and instead focused on violence."

Dialogue

"Qatar is working hard to play that role - and we believe it will benefit the US to be a part of that dialogue." Some Qataris remain wary of US assurances that it remains a good ally. They worry that America's strategic interests in the Gulf have been affected by a cautious detente now under way with Tehran, and may not always be matched with a willingness to commit manpower and guarantee its security. "There is this perception that the US is no longer playing the role it used to in the Middle East," said a former Qatari official, referring to President Barack Obama's policies. "Obama is pulling back at a time when others, like Russia and Iran, are moving in and becoming more hands on. Of course America must think about its future and its allies in the region, that's normal but we must think about our future too."

By devoting billions to US investments, Qatar is not only showing Washington that there may be a benefit to doing business with Doha even if they disagree politically, diplomats say, but also buying itself room to manoeuvre. Those disagreements prominently include Syria. At the UN General Assembly in September, the emir, Tamim bin Hamad, offered Qatar as a venue for a "meaningful dialogue" to repair rifts between Gulf Arabs and Iran. He also voiced frustration with Syria peace efforts, in comments diplomats said appeared aimed at lacklustre US support for the Syria opposition. He described as "a major crime" the failure of the outside world to end the conflict.

While Qatar has been among the most ardent opponents of President Bashar Al-Assad, its lax controls on suspected financiers of rebel groups gained it a reputation in Washington as a place of "permissive jurisdiction" for terrorism financing. Doha has tried to counter the criticism by assisting the United States, in 2012 helping win freedom for journalist Peter Theo Curtis, who was held in Syria, through extensive mediation. It agreed to supervise the activities of five Taliban leaders released from the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and flown to Qatar as part of a trade for Bowe Bergdahl, a US soldier held hostage for years in Afghanistan. Qatar's channels to Islamist groups America is unable to reach, analysts say, make it hard to shrug off as an ally. —Reuters

THE LANDMARK CHINA-TAIWAN SUMMIT

SINGAPORE: The summit between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou in Singapore yesterday is the first meeting between leaders from the two sides since their 1949 split after a bloody civil war. Following are key questions surrounding the historic encounter:

Why is meeting significant?

The estrangement that began in 1949 when the Communist army forced China's Nationalist government to retreat to Taiwan remains one of the world's last Cold War-era political divides. The divorce split families, led to decades of tension and periodic fire across the Taiwan Strait, and left a wound in the Chinese psyche that both sides have yearned to heal for decades. So any progress towards bridging the rift triggers intense emotions while raising the prospect of enduring stability between two dynamic economies-and the Xi-Ma meeting is easily the most significant step forward yet.

Why now?

Cross-strait ties have steadily warmed under Ma's seven-year-old government-which favours moving closer to China-with the summit marking a key milestone. But China has long spurned top-level contact with what it considers an illegitimate province, and Xi's motiva-

tions for meeting Ma now remain unclear. Many, however, believe Taiwan's January elections are a key factor. Beijing strongly prefers Ma's Kuomintang (KMT) party over the more independent-minded Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), which remains deeply wary of the mainland Chinese colossus next door.

But the KMT is widely expected to be trounced in January, and the summit has triggered speculation that Beijing is angling to boost the party's standing ahead of the elections. Analysts believe China may also be seeking to appear the peacemaker to counter the growing alarm among its neighbors over its rapid military buildup and increasingly

uncompromising maritime territorial claims.

What is the agenda?

The meeting is deeply sensitive for both sides and thus little has been made known about the expected talking points. Ma's camp has said the summit's goal was to "secure cross-strait peace" but that there would be no agreement signed or joint statement. China, ever-fearful of appearing to legitimize Taiwan's government, has said almost nothing about the meeting beyond a confirmation by its state media that it would take place.

Potential risks and rewards

Taipei has become increasingly marginalized on the world stage as China's clout grows, and Ma has voiced hope the meeting could lead to "greater international space" for Taiwan. Better relations also could help China lure the island into its economic and diplomatic orbit and potentially undercut Taiwan's US ties, which include an American pledge to assist Taipei in the event of war that China deeply resents. But the summit is a potential gamble for both Xi and Ma. It could backfire if already China-wary voters in Taiwan view it as an attempt to influence the vote and award a strong DPP mandate that puts cross-strait rapprochement on hold.—AFP



SINGAPORE: Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) and Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou wave to journalists before their meeting at Shangri-la hotel in Singapore yesterday. —AFP

BENZEMA LEFT OUT OF MADRID SQUAD

MADRID: Karim Benzema has been left out of coach Rafael Benitez's squad for Real Madrid's trip to Sevilla yesterday just days after he was charged in an extortion case involving a sex tape featuring fellow French international Mathieu Valbuena. Benzema returned to Madrid on Thursday after spending the night in custody in Versailles, outside Paris, charged with complicity to blackmail and conspiring to commit a criminal act. The 27-year-old hasn't featured for Madrid since injuring his hamstring on international duty a month ago and Benitez insisted it was his physical rather than mental well-being that forced him to leave Benzema behind in Madrid. "Benzema is in the final part of his recovery. We have decided to leave him here to finish his recuperation until he is 100 percent," Benitez said yesterday. "He will be working with the team in the upcoming days to be in perfect condition for what we have ahead." Benzema will remain in the Spanish capital for the next two weeks ahead of Madrid's blockbuster clash with Barcelona on November 21 after being left out of French coach Didier Deschamps' squad on Thursday for friendlies against Germany and England. Madrid also released a statement upon his return to training on Thursday offering their full support to their star striker, who has scored 141 goals for the club since joining from Lyon in 2009. "We can't speculate, but what we know is that as of today he still needs a little bit of time to be fit. "We have two weeks to come so we are not going to risk him and because of that he isn't in the squad."



KANE RELIEVED WITH RAPE CASE CLOSED

NEWARK: Chicago Blackhawks star Patrick Kane is relieved for his family and friends now that a prosecutor has closed a rape investigation against him. Kane sidestepped questions about his own feelings Friday in his first comments after learning he won't be criminally charged following a three-month investigation by local authorities in upstate New York. A 21-year-old woman had contended she was raped Aug. 2 at Kane's offseason home outside Buffalo. Prosecutors said the case was "rife with reasonable doubt." Surrounded by about two dozen reporters after a pre-game skate before a game in New Jersey against the Devils, Kane refused to say if he felt vindicated or learned any lessons. He repeatedly referred to the Blackhawks' statement Thursday in which he reiterated he had done nothing wrong, he respected the legal process and he was glad the matter is closed. His hope on Friday was to get back to normal. "That's the goal, right? The main thing," Kane said. "You know as far as everything goes I have happy to be playing hockey. I am happy to be here tonight and see some of the Blackhawks' fans in the crowd and play another game tonight. I'll try to do it as normal as possible." Kane said playing hockey helped him. "When I am on the ice I am not thinking about it too much, said the 26-year-old who has won three Stanley Cups with the Blackhawks."

SANE POISED FOR GERMANY DEBUT

BERLIN: Schalke's rising star Leroy Sane is set for a big week in his fledgling career ahead of today's crunch derby against Borussia Dortmund after being called into Germany's senior squad. The talented 19-year-old has attracted the attention of Premier League sides Liverpool and Arsenal with match-winning goals for Schalke in Germany's top-flight this season. He is poised to play in his first Ruhr Valley derby at the Royal Blues' arch-rivals Dortmund and could make his senior international debut against France in Paris next Friday, or four days later against the Netherlands in Hanover. "We've already got to know him in our youth selections and he's one of the big positives to have emerged from the current season," said Germany's head coach Joachim Loew after calling up Sane on Friday. "He's quick, technically gifted and he likes going one-on-one with his opponents, while he's totally easy-going. We can see his enormous potential." Sane's rise has been meteoric despite making just 25 Bundesliga appearances before his senior call-up. The eldest son of ex-Senegal striker Souleymane Sane and former German Olympic gymnast Regina Sane-Weber, Leroy joined Schalke's academy aged nine while both of his younger brothers play for the club's junior teams.



BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES SPONSORSHIP OF NATIONAL ARABIAN HORSE FESTIVAL 2015

KUWAIT: As part of its social responsibility strategy, Burgan Bank announced yesterday its major sponsorship of the Kuwait National Arabian Horse Festival 2015, during which the 4th National Arabian Horse Competition will take place, from 13th-14th November, 2015 and the Egyptian Arabian Horse Competition will take place from 20th-21st November, 2015 at Bait Al Arab show arena. The event is organized by Bait Al Arab, under the umbrella of Al Diwan Al Amiri, and is under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. This sponsorship comes in line with Burgan Bank's commitment to support early traditional activities in addition to preserving the history and breed of Arabian horses as part of the Kuwaiti and Arab cultural heritage.

The 4th National Championship will be supervised by ECAHO (European Conference of Arab Horse Organizations) which is the official body concerned with managing similar local and international tournaments. The Kuwait National Arabian Horse Festival is also popular for its huge publicity and vast active participation by Arab horse breeders as well as owners from both inside and outside the State of Kuwait, along with a large number of fans and enthusiasts of Arabian horses.

Burgan Bank's sponsorship of this unique event stems from its overall social responsibility and firm belief in supporting initiatives that help to spread the Arab cultural heritage in all parts of society in addition to helping local talents to add more value to the community as a whole.



VALENCIA: Repsol Honda's Spanish rider Marc Marquez (L), Movistar Yamaha's Spanish rider Jorge Lorenzo (C) and Repsol Honda's Spanish rider Dani Pedrosa pose after the MotoGP qualifying session on the eve of the Valencia Grand Prix at Ricardo Tormo racetrack in Cheste, near Valencia yesterday. — AFP

LORENZO CLAIMS VALENCIA POLE IN RECORD TIME

VALENCIA: Jorge Lorenzo stormed to pole position in a circuit record time for today's decisive Valencia Grand Prix to boost his chances of claiming a third MotoGP world championship. Lorenzo smashed defending world champion Marc Marquez's previous track record by over two tenths of a second to claim his fifth pole of the season in 1min 30.011sec. Marquez and his Honda teammate Dani Pedrosa complete the front row with championship leader Valentino Rossi forced to start from the back of the grid as punishment for kicking Marquez off his bike at the Malaysian Grand Prix two weeks ago. However, despite not needing to register a qualifying time, Rossi still endured a tough session as he came flying off his bike into the gravel track. Thankfully, the nine-time world champion was able to walk away from the crash as he prepares for an assault on a record-equaling eighth title in the premier category of motorcycling. Lorenzo trails Rossi by just seven points in the

championship standings meaning the Italian will need to finish second to deny his Yamaha teammate if Lorenzo wins the race. And Lorenzo hailed his qualifying lap as the best of his career as he attempts to add to the titles he won in 2010 and 2012. "Without doubt the best lap of my life," he said. "I could try to repeat it 20, 25, or 30 times and it wouldn't go so well. It was perfect. "I am very happy, above all because it puts us in a good position for tomorrow. It is important to make a good start and try to get away from the Hondas." Minor error Marquez had posted the best time of the weekend on his first qualifying lap despite, by his own admission, committing a minor error. However, he acknowledged that it would have been hard to deny Lorenzo even with a perfect

lap. "With the first tyres I made an error, even though it ended up being my best lap. It could have been even better, but looking at Jorge's time, I'm not sure it could have been that much better." All eyes will be on whether Marquez is able to pursue Lorenzo after his controversial clash with Rossi a fortnight ago. The bad blood between the two started when Rossi accused Marquez of conspiring against him to help Lorenzo land the title at the Australian Grand Prix last month. Rossi then said Marquez had "made me lose the championship" when he was slapped with starting from the back of the grid after their clash in Sepang. However, Marquez insisted he will be going for his sixth race victory of the season today. "We have had a good Saturday overall in terms of the rhythm and number of laps we have done," he said. "We will try to be attentive to Jorge so that he doesn't escape and then we can fight for the win towards the end of the race." — AFP

CHINA'S LI ON BRINK OF GLOBAL GLORY AT WGC-HSBC CHAMPIONS

SHANGHAI: Li Haotong at just 20 years old has a chance to do Sunday something that just a few years ago would have been unthinkable-win one of golf's biggest events for China. Li is just one shot behind the leader Kevin Kisner in the WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai after a six-under par 66 in the third round yesterday took him to 15-under par-two shots ahead of Masters and US Open champion Jordan Spieth, who just happens to be about the best player on the planet right now. He will likely play with world number eight Dustin Johnson in the final round Sunday as they compete for the massive \$1.4 million winner's cheque and the "Old Tom Morris" trophy-one of the most prestigious outside a major championship. The Shanghai-based Li has had the HSBC Champions coursing through his veins from a young age. The tournament was founded in 2005 when Li was just 10 years old and he participated in its junior golf programme, which enabled him to be inspired by watching legends such as Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Rory McIlroy at Sheshan International Golf Club. "This tournament is so big - it's too big," Li said smiling, as he tried to take in the enormity of what he was achieving in front of thousands of enraptured home-town fans. "I know that the final day, a lot of people are going to be hitting a lot of birdies. "But that's why I thought that my target, my goal of this tournament would be making the top 10, because making the top 10 will already be a highlight and a milestone for my short career." Li should not be surprised that he can compete with the world's best. In fact, he seems to be inspired all the more when he plays with the game's global superstars.

In April this year, in the European Tour's Shenzhen International in southern China, he teed up alongside world number four and double US Masters champion Bubba Watson for the first three rounds. He didn't on the fourth day because by then he had outplayed the big-hitting lefty and was leading the event. Composed Li eventually lost a playoff to Thailand's Kiradech Aphibarnrat. So could he get over the winning line this time? "I don't think so," he said, laughing. But if he plays as he did here Saturday, he might just. He reeled off four straight birdies to start his round and stayed composed throughout even with the intimidating figure of Spieth charging up the leaderboard with a best of the day nine-under 63. Ten years ago when HSBC founded the Champions tournament there were fewer than 100 golf courses in this vast nation. "If anyone wants to see just how far golf in China has come over the last decade, then look at the leaderboard," Giles Morgan, HSBC global head of sponsorship and events, told AFP. "It's an incredible story. Li Haotong is one of our own. He graduated through the ranks of the HSBC China Junior Golf Program. "Just recently I said our dream was to have a Chinese player at the top of the leaderboard at the HSBC Champions here in China in five years-and now it has happened so soon." Li's said he would go out today and just try to play his natural game and let fate take care of the rest. "If it's destined for me to do something good, you cannot stop it," Li said. "So what I will try to do is my best tomorrow and see how things go." —AFP



SHANGHAI: Li Haotong of China considers a shot during the WGC-HSBC Champions golf tournament in Shanghai yesterday. The WGC-HSBC Champions tournament takes place at Shanghai's Sheshan International Golf Club today. — AFP

LAMBROS & PETERSON SECURE WIN IN XEROX GOLF CHALLENGE'S KUWAIT QUALIFIER

KUWAIT: Xerox Corporate Golf Challenge (XCGC) has concluded its 13th qualifying round at Kuwait's Sahara Golf & Country Club on Saturday, 31st October. From a full field of participants, George Lambros and Dave Peterson emerged as the winners. Joon Ho Bae and Ki Won Yoo took second place, while Wael Al Welayti and Fadia Emadi came in at third. All three teams finished the qualifying round with a score of 43, and the winners were selected by 'Countback' (a standardised method of deciding the winner of a tied game by awarding it to the participant with the better score in the later part. In this method, scores in the 'Back 9' then 'Back 6' holes were considered). On-course competitions included Aramex's Hole 8 Nearest the Pin, claimed by Mike Hewlett, Ecco's Hole 14 Nearest the Pin, won by Meong Ok Cha, Crystal Gallery's Hole 9 longest drive won by Sunny Kim and PWS's Hole 13 Longest Drive claimed by Hyon Kyung. The top three teams from the Kuwait qualifier join other finalists in the Grand Final which will be held in Ras Al Khaimah at the end of 2015.



Winners of XCGC's 13th qualifier in Kuwait's Sahara Golf & Country Club.



TORONTO: Toronto Maple Leafs' defenseman Morgan Rielly, bottom, is taken down by Detroit Red Wings' forward Riley Sheahan (15) during second-period NHL hockey game action in Toronto, Friday. — AP

NHL Results/Standings

Detroit 2, Toronto 1 (OT); New Jersey 4, Chicago 2; Dallas 4, Carolina 1; NY Rangers 2, Colorado 1; Pittsburgh 2, Edmonton 1.

Western Conference					
Central Division					
	W	L	OTL	GF	GA PTS
Dallas	11	3	0	50	38 22
St. Louis	9	3	1	36	31 19
Nashville	8	2	2	35	27 18
Winnipeg	8	4	2	42	38 18
Minnesota	7	3	2	37	35 16
Chicago	7	6	1	35	36 15
Colorado	4	9	1	36	42 9
Pacific Division					
Los Angeles	8	5	0	31	28 16
Vancouver	6	3	4	38	29 16
San Jose	7	6	0	38	35 14
Arizona	6	5	1	34	34 13
Anaheim	4	7	2	21	33 10
Edmonton	5	9	0	37	43 10
Calgary	4	9	1	32	57 9
Eastern Conference					
Atlantic Division					
Montreal	12	2	1	55	27 25
Ottawa	7	4	2	40	39 16
Tampa Bay	7	6	2	38	37 16
Detroit	7	5	1	32	32 15
Boston	6	5	1	43	40 13
Florida	5	5	3	36	31 13
Buffalo	5	8	0	29	39 10
Toronto	2	8	3	27	42 7
Metropolitan Division					
NY Rangers	9	2	2	38	24 20
Washington	9	3	0	40	29 18
Pittsburgh	9	4	0	29	23 18
NY Islanders	7	4	3	39	35 17
New Jersey	7	5	1	33	33 15
Philadelphia	4	6	3	25	39 11
Carolina	5	8	0	27	38 10
Columbus	4	11	0	35	54 8

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L)

RED WINGS SWEEP ASIDE BABCOCK'S LEAFS IN OT

TORONTO: Jakub Kindl scored 2:17 into overtime, Henrik Zetterberg got his 300th career goal and Detroit won its third straight. Kindl was able to skate in down the middle and beat James Reimer over the blocker for his second goal of the season. Dion Phaneuf scored and Reimer finished with 22 saves for Toronto, which has just one win in seven games this season at Air Canada Centre. Petr Mrazek made 32 saves for Detroit. The Red Wings went 0 for 3 on the power play while the Leafs failed to score on four chances with the man advantage. Zetterberg opened the scoring with 3:39 to play in the first on an apparently harmless wrist shot taken from just inside the blue line. It fooled Reimer blocker side for Zetterberg's fourth goal this season.

DEVILS 4, BLACKHAWKS 2

Travis Zajac capped a three-goal first period with a goal and an assist in a 26-second span and the New Jersey Devils beat the Chicago Blackhawks 4-2 on Friday night. The Blackhawks' poor performance came a day after an upstate New York prosecutor decided not to bring rape charges against Chicago star forward Patrick Kane because of a lack of credible evidence following a three-month investigation. Kane extended his goal-scoring streak to three games and his points streak to nine (6 goals, 7 assists). The Devils dominated in winning for the seventh time in nine games, sending the Blackhawks to their second straight loss and ending a four-game losing streak against Chicago. Lee Stempniak and Kyle Palmieri had a goal and an assist, Severson added two assists and Mike Cammalleri tallied a goal as New Jersey took a 4-0 lead in the opening 27:28.

PENGUINS 2, OILERS 1

Phil Kessel broke a tie midway through the third period and Pittsburgh won its sixth straight. Kessel's goal was his fifth. Daniel Sprong also scored and the Penguins won their ninth in 10 games. Oscar Klefbom had the Oilers' lone goal. Edmonton has lost two of three. Kessel scored on a power play 9:45 into the third. His shot from the point was partially blocked by Brandon Davidson then floated past goalie Anders Nilsson. Jeff Zatkoff stopped 27 shots and won for the second time in two starts this year.

STARS 4, HURRICANES 1

Patrick Sharp scored the go-ahead goal and Radek Faska added his first of his career to lead Dallas. Ales Hemsky and Jason Demers also scored and Colton Sceviour had two assists for the Stars. Kari Lehtonen finished with 30 saves. Jordan Staal scored for Carolina and Eddie Lack stopped 25 shots. Staal's goal marked the sixth time he had scored on an assist from brother Eric. Jordan has assisted Eric nine times. The Western Conference-leading Stars have won six of their last seven games and are 6-2 on the road. Dallas has also won eight of the last 11 against Carolina and four of the last five meetings in Raleigh.

RANGERS 2, AVALANCHE 1

Derek Stepan and Oscar Lindberg scored 21 seconds apart in the second period, helping New York to its fourth straight win. Henrik Lundqvist made 29 saves as the Rangers improved to 14-2 on the road against Western Conference teams dating to last season. Nathan MacKinnon scored a power-play goal for the Avalanche, who have dropped four of their last five contests. They begin a seven-game trip Tuesday.

DUCKS 4, BLUE JACKETS 2

Anaheim captain Ryan Getzlaf had three assists in his first game back from an appendectomy, including one on defenseman Josh Manson's first NHL goal, and the Ducks beat Columbus. Cam Fowler and Patrick Maroon also scored, Corey Perry also had three assists and Frederik Andersen made 34 saves for the three-time defending Pacific Division champions in a matchup of teams that began the day last in their respective divisions. Anaheim has won three straight following a 1-7-2 start. Clayton Stoner scored into an empty net with 16 seconds to play after Columbus' Scott Hartnell got his second goal of the night with a minute on the clock. Curtis McElhinney stopped 33 shots for the Blue Jackets against his former club. Columbus is 4-4-0 under new coach John Tortorella, who replaced Todd Richards after the team's 0-7 start. — AP

ENGLAND FAIL TO HELP BURGESS CRACK CODE

LONDON: As if presiding over the first host nation to suffer a pool-phase exit at a World Cup was not bad enough, Sam Burgess's return to rugby league after just a year in rugby union will further undermine England coach Stuart Lancaster.

It was always asking a lot of Burgess, heading back to the South Sydney Rabbitohs, barely 12 months after helping the club win the Australian NRL Grand Final, to become a fully fledged union international in such a short space of time.

And it became all the more difficult when, in the absence of a central contract, club side Bath and England saw his union future in two different positions.

Bath played him mainly as a flank forward, while England saw him as an inside centre—a key playmaking position in the backline. Because the two rugby codes are played with an oval-shaped ball, it is easy to think the only key difference between them is that there are 15 players in a union team and 13 in a league one.

Yet while a tackle in league sees play halted, in union it is the start of a contest for possession. Meanwhile the line-out, another important area for union forwards, simply does not exist in league.

Burgess, trying to master two of union's most demanding positions and a complex rulebook, made only one start and two appearances off the bench

during the World Cup. He certainly did not cost England a quarter-final place. In the key defeat by Wales, having done an admirable defensive job and been a useful decoy runner in build-up to a try, his side were leading when Burgess came off only for the Welsh to rally late on.

But his undeniable physical power and presence could not disguise his lack of ease in his England role, with veteran Ireland centre Gordon D'Arcy's withering critique that Burgess "doesn't know how to play inside centre" sadly proving all too accurate.

'Doesn't know'

That Burgess's inclusion in the World Cup squad came at the expense of experienced centre Luther Burrell, who up until the tournament had been one of the mainstays of Lancaster's three years as England coach, all added to the sense of a needless gamble.

There was a hope in some quarters that Burgess might do for Lancaster what fleet-footed former rugby league star Jason Robinson did for Clive Woodward's World Cup-winning England side of 2003.

Robinson, however, was a wing, a position in which there is the least difference between the two codes, and he had two years of international rugby union behind him when England won the World Cup. "What happened really was he (Burgess) was

asked to play either at flanker for his club or centre for England—two of the most difficult positions to play rugby, with a constant 80 minutes of decision-making," former England union fly-half Stuart Barnes told Sky Sports.

"It's not a mark of failure for Burgess not to have cracked it in under a year," Barnes added: "What it does do is question England's blind determination to force him in, when it was always going to be a race against time."

For all that England assistant coach Andy Farrell, another cross-code convert, was in the firing line over Burgess's rapid promotion, Lancaster-bidding to stay in post as England review a woeful World Cup campaign—will have to carry the can.

"It leaves Stuart Lancaster in a very tenuous position," said Barnes.

"I don't think he was the most convinced of the England coaches about the qualities of Sam Burgess for this year, but the fact is Stuart Lancaster had the final say and he selected him in the 31 (man squad)."

So long as union remains the higher profile international sport, more league players can be expected to switch codes—the traffic was all the other way when union was an amateur game.

But they must hope for more sympathetic treatment, and above all, more time than England gave Burgess or, indeed, Burgess gave himself. —AFP



TOULON: Montpellier's Oleg Ishchenko, right, tries to tackle Toulon's (RCT) new recruit, Tom Taylor of New-Zealand, during the Top 14 final rugby match between Toulon and Montpellier, at the Mayol stadium, in Toulon, Southern France, yesterday. — AP

MURRAY CHARGES PAST FERRER TO REACH PARIS FINAL

PARIS: World number three Andy Murray reached his maiden Paris Masters final when he overpowered Spanish eighth seed David Ferrer 6-4 6-3 despite a few off lapses yesterday.

The British second seed lost his focus at times but eventually had too much for the 2012 Bercy champion as he set up a showdown with either world number one Novak Djokovic or French Open champion Stanislas Wawrinka. "I managed to shorten a lot of the points. There was some variety in there with the way the points finished, which was pleasing for me," Murray told a news conference.

"I dictated a lot of the points and I finished a lot of points up at the net and was able to shorten enough points to not make it too tiring," Murray made a dream start, breaking to love in the first game, but Ferrer was spurred into action and the Spaniard levelled for 3-3 when two Murray unforced errors gave him a break in the sixth game.

In a see-saw opening set, Ferrer set up four more break points in the eighth game but Murray saved them all and went on to steal his opponent's serve as the Spaniard made a string of unforced errors. The Scot finished a superb

exchange at the net with a fine sliced lob to set up two set points and on the first one Ferrer netted a routine backhand.

In typically tenacious fashion Ferrer got straight back down to business and raced to a 3-1 lead in the second set. But double grand slam champion Murray found his range again, producing some improbable angles as he won five games in a row, wrapping up the victory on his first match point when Ferrer netted an attempted drop shot. Murray will be guaranteed finishing the year second in the ATP rankings for the first time if he wins the title. — Reuters



SHEIKH SALMAN HANDS OVER PRESIDENCY TO BAHRAIN

INDIA TOPS WITH 12 GOLD IN 13TH ASIAN SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: In an unexpected move Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah gave up his presidency of the Asian Shooting Confederation in favor of Bahrain candidate Sheikh Ali bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, who was elected by acclamation to be president for the next four years.

The move took place during the ordinary general assembly meeting of ASC Friday, on the sidelines of the 13th Asian Shooting Championship being held in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Engineer Duaij Khalaf Al-Otaibi gave up his membership of ASC executive committee to other Asian candidates, as all those attending were taken by surprise by these moves.

The general assembly chose Sheikh Salman as honorary president of ASC, while Chinese Lee Fing was chosen honorary secretary and Engineer Duaij Al-Otaibi for honorary membership. The general assembly lauded the major role Kuwait had played in developing the sport of shooting, also laws of Kuwait Shooting

Federation which agrees with the Olympic charter.

Information Minister, State Minister for Youth Affairs,



Honorary President of the Asian Shooting Confederation Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah congratulated all winners for their new posts and congratulated Bahrain for having Sheikh Ali bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa President of ASC. He said the Asian community gives Kuwait total support in its current crises, and believe that Kuwait was treated unfairly, though local laws agree with the international ones. The general assembly said the ISSF

decision for the Olympics is unfair, adding that there is a unanimous decision from ASC to ISSF asking it to reverse its deci-

sion to suspend Kuwait Sports by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). He said he preferred to stay away to send a message to some who claim that we are looking for posts, and prove to them that the highest goal is Kuwait sports in general, and not the lies they are spreading. Meanwhile, ASC President Sheikh Ali bin Ibrahim al Khalifa thanked Sheikh Salman and said he will continue the march of Sheikh Salman to fulfill the Asian ambitions. He said the issue of considering Asia's Championship in Kuwait not qualifying for the Olympics is the most important and considered it unfair and was made after intense preparations by all countries.

The medal situation as of Friday is as follows:

India now tops the medals table with 12 gold, 8 silver and 8 bronze, while China dropped to second place with 11 gold, 8 silver and bronze. Korea 9 gold, 10 silver, 10 bronze, Iran 5 gold, 4 silver, 5 bronze. Kuwait 3 gold, 2 silver, 5 bronze, Kazakhstan 2 gold, Tajikistan 1 gold, Mongolia 4 silver, 1 bronze, Malaysia and UAE 1 silver and 1 bronze each, Singapore and Taiwan 1 silver each and Vietnam 2 bronze.

Meanwhile, President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Eng Duaij Al-Otaibi said, his drop out of the elections had nothing to do with the deci-

sion in order to safeguard the rights of shooters.

Unfair

Sheikh Salman said he will not be away from the Asian shooting community and will continue supporting them in various events and activities.

Meanwhile, President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Eng Duaij Al-Otaibi said, his drop out of the elections had nothing to do with the deci-

Results of Friday's competitions are as follows:

<p>Skeet Men</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Saud Habib - Kuwait Saif bin Futaiss - UAE Shuai Tang - China 	<p>10 M Air Pistol Women Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Korea Chinese Taipei China
<p>Skeet Men Junior</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Angad Vir Singh Bajwa - India Naser Al-Mutairi - Kuwait Anant Jeet Singh Naruka - India 	<p>10 M Air Pistol Women Youth</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Soo Young Sim - Korea Haniyeh Rostaiyan - Iran Jeoungmin Min - Korea
<p>Skeet Men Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> China Kuwait UAE 	<p>10 M Air Pistol Women Youth Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> India Korea Iran
<p>Skeet Men Team Junior</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> India Kuwait Qatar 	<p>25 M Pistol Men Junior</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Shivam Shukla - India Jung Woo Park - Korea Lee Jaek Yoon - Korea
<p>10 M Air Pistol Women</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Heena Sidhu - India Gundegamaa Otryad - Mongolia Jangmi Kim - Korea 	<p>25 M Pistol Men Junior Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Korea India Thailand
<p>10 M Air Pistol Women Junior</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Shri Nivetha Paramanatham - India Shinemorun Nyamdorj - Mongolia Hessun Kim - Korea 	<p>50 M Rifle 3 positions Women Junior Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Iran Mongolia Korea
<p>10 M Air Pistol Women Junior Team</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> India Mongolia Korea 	<p>50 M Rifle 3 positions Women Junior</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Najmeh Khedmati - Iran Fatemeh Karamzadeh - Iran Meng Yao shi - China



JAMES REACHES MILESTONE, TAKES A TUMBLE AS CAVS BEAT SIXERS

CLEVELAND: LeBron James scored a season-high 31 points, including his 9,000th career field goal, and the Cleveland Cavaliers recorded their fifth straight victory, 108-102 over the winless Philadelphia 76ers on Friday night. James remained in the game after taking a hard fall driving to the basket early in the fourth quarter. He was on the court for a couple of moments and limped to the bench after being checked by a trainer. James was pulled with 2:31 remaining and Cleveland (5-1) leading 104-90. James, who scored 18 points in the third quarter, reached his latest milestone with a dunk late in the second quarter to become the 20th player in NBA history - and fifth active - to record 9,000 field goals. Nerlens Noel and Jahlil Okafor scored 18 points each for Philadelphia (0-5).

WARRIORS 119, NUGGETS 104

Stephen Curry had 34 points and 10 assists and defending champion Golden State remained unbeaten. Harrison Barnes scored 21 points for Golden State and Festus Ezeli had a career-high 16 points to go with seven rebounds and two blocked shots. At 6-0, Golden State is off to the franchise's best start in its West Coast era dating to 1962-63. The Warriors are three victories from tying the Philadelphia team's 9-0 start in 1960-61. Klay Thompson added 18 points, six rebounds and five assists and Draymond Green added 12 points, nine rebounds and eight assists as Golden State extended its franchise-record home unbeaten streak to 22 games. Danilo Gallinari had 25 points for Denver, which lost its third straight at Golden State and sixth in nine games overall.

ROCKETS 116, KINGS 110

James Harden broke out of his early season shooting slump and scored 22 of his season-

high 43 points in the second half to lead Houston. Harden went into the game shooting just 29.4 percent from the field but he made 10 of his first 15 shots and finished with a season-high 13 assists. He finished 13-of-23 shooting and Houston won its third consecutive game. Trevor Ariza had 18 points, including two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to help Houston hold off a late run by Sacramento. Clint Capela added 13 points and 12 rebounds and former King Marcus Thornton scored 16 points. Omri Casspi had 22 points for Sacramento.

LAKERS 104, NETS 98

Kobe Bryant scored 22 points, his highest performance since opening night, and Los Angeles beat winless Brooklyn for its first victory of the season. Rookie D'Angelo Russell and Jordan Clarkson each scored 16 points for the Lakers (1-4), while the Nets dropped to 0-6. The Lakers' 11-point lead was down to three in the final half-minute but they forced a 5-second violation on an inbounds pass. Bryant then made four straight free throws for a 102-95 lead while receiving loud cheers, as he did all night. Brook Lopez had 23 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets, while Joe Johnson scored 22 points.

HAWKS 121, PELICANS 115

Kyle Korver scored 22 points, hitting all four of his 3-point shots, and Atlanta won its sixth straight over winless New Orleans. Anthony Davis tied a career high with 43 points, but injury-decimated New Orleans dropped to 0-5 under new coach Alvin Gentry. Paul Millsap also scored 22 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for Atlanta, which had six players score in double figures, shot 53.2 percent and led by double digits for much of the game. The Hawks fended off a furious comeback attempted in the fourth quarter, when New Orleans briefly tied it. Eric

Gordon scored 22 and Ish Smith had a career-high 11 assists for New Orleans.

MAGIC 92, RAPTORS 87

Tobias Harris had 20 points, including what turned out to be the decisive free throw, and Orlando handed Toronto its first loss of the season. Victor Oladipo added 18 points, and reserve C.J. Watson had 12 as the Magic snapped an 11-game losing streak to the Raptors. Trailing 88-86 after Harris' free throw, Toronto had a chance to take the lead but Jonas Valanciunas was forced to put up an awkward runner that rolled off the rim, and was rebounded by Orlando. The loss ended what had been a franchise-best 5-0 start for Toronto. DeMar DeRozan led the Raptors with 23 points and Kyle Lowry added 17.

PACERS 90, HEAT 87

Paul George scored 36 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead Indiana to a victory over Miami. George, who missed almost all last season when he broke his right leg in a Team USA scrimmage, put the finishing touches on his best performance of the early season by icing the game at the free throw line with 4.1 seconds left. Chris Bosh led the Heat with 21 points and 11 rebounds. In scoring 14 first-half points, Bosh helped the Heat build a 13-point lead. But a balanced effort by George and the bench allowed Indiana to creep back to tie the game at 49 at halftime. Justice Winslow finished with 13 points and eight rebounds while Goran Dragic added 11 points for the Heat, who were playing the second night of a back-to-back.

CELTICS 118, WIZARDS 98

Jared Sullinger scored 21 points, Isaiah Thomas added 16 points and eight assists and Boston ended a three-game losing streak by

beating Washington. Jae Crowder had 12 points and 10 rebounds, Kelly Olynyk added 19 points and Evan Turner scored 16 as the Celtics won for the first time since opening night with a dominant performance at home. Bradley Beal led Washington with 24 points. John Wall, who fell into foul trouble early, finished with 13 points and eight assists.

BUCKS 99, KNICKS 92

John Hensen scored 22 points and Giannis Antetokounmpo had 20 to lift Milwaukee to a win over New York. Carmelo Anthony led the Knicks with 17 points. Derrick Williams had 15 and Kristaps Porzingis added 14 points and 13 rebounds. The Bucks never trailed, opening a game-high 14-point lead, 44-30, on Jerryd Bayless's 3-pointer with 7:35 left in the second quarter. With the score tied at 81 in the fourth quarter, Milwaukee scored the next seven points and went ahead 95-86 on Khris Middleton's 3-pointer with 1:57 left. The Knicks pulled within 95-90, but Middleton hit two free throws with 19 seconds left and New York never got closer.

PISTONS 100, SUNS 92

Marcus Morris, who said he was looking to "disrespect" his former team in Phoenix and was booed every time he touched the ball early in the game, scored 20 points to help Detroit open a six-game road trip. Morris' twin brother Markieff had 18 points for the Suns. Reggie Jackson scored 14 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter for Detroit and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 18. Eric Bledsoe and Brandon Knight scored 22 points apiece for the Suns, who trailed throughout after the game's early moments. Andre Drummond had 12 points and 16 rebounds for the Pistons but was 2 of 13 from the free throw line. The victory put Detroit at 4-1 for the first time since 2008. — AP

NBA Results/Standings

Orlando 92, Toronto 87; Boston 118, Washington 98; LA Lakers 104, Brooklyn 98; Cleveland 108, Philadelphia 102; Milwaukee 99, NY Knicks 92; Indiana 90, Miami 87; Atlanta 121, New Orleans 115; Detroit 100, Phoenix 92; Golden State 119, Denver 104; Houston 116, Sacramento 110.

Eastern Conference				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Toronto	5	1	.833	-
Boston	2	3	.400	2.5
NY Knicks	2	4	.333	3
Philadelphia	0	5	0	4.5
Brooklyn	0	6	0	5
Central Division				
Cleveland	5	1	.833	-
Detroit	4	1	.800	0.5
Chicago	4	2	.667	1
Indiana	3	3	.500	2
Milwaukee	3	3	.500	2
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	6	1	.857	-
Washington	3	2	.600	2
Miami	3	3	.500	2.5
Charlotte	2	3	.400	3
Orlando	2	4	.333	3.5
Western Conference				
Northwest Division				
Portland	4	2	.667	-
Utah	3	2	.600	0.5
Oklahoma City	3	3	.500	1
Minnesota	2	2	.500	1
Denver	2	4	.333	2
Pacific Division				
Golden State	6	0	1.000	-
LA Clippers	4	1	.800	1.5
Phoenix	3	3	.500	3
LA Lakers	1	4	.200	4.5
Sacramento	1	5	.167	5
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	3	2	.600	-
Houston	3	3	.500	0.5
Memphis	3	3	.500	0.5
Dallas	2	3	.400	1
New Orleans	0	5	0	3

TON-UP RAHIM STEERS BANGLADESH TO 273-9

DHAKA: Mushfiqur Rahim struck a brilliant century to guide Bangladesh to 273-9 in the first one-day international against Zimbabwe in Dhaka yesterday.

Rahim hit 107 off 109 balls as Bangladesh recovered from early damage to post a respectable total on a slow wicket at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium. Sabbir Rahman made 57 off 58 balls to provide support to Rahim, who hit nine fours and a six in his fourth ODI century.

The pair added 119 runs in their fifth wicket partnership after Zimbabwe reduced Bangladesh to 123-4 at one stage. Bangladesh were off to a shaky start in the three-match series as new opener Liton Das got out for a duck. He flashed medium pacer Luke Jongwe and

offered a catch at point to Graeme Cremer.

Tinashe Panyangara then bowled Mahmudullah for nine before Tamim Iqbal and Rahim repaired the innings with a patient 70-run third wicket partnership. Off-break bowler Sikandar Raza had Tamim caught by Jongwe at long-on for 40 and soon he got rid of Shakib Al Hasan (16), as the world's leading all-rounder was stumped by wicketkeeper Richmond Mutumbami.

Rahim pushed Taurai Muzarabani towards long on to complete his century before he was run out with a direct throw by Cremer from backward point. Raza claimed 2-47 runs while Muzarabani finished with 2-64 for Zimbabwe. —AFP

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play in the first One Day International between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe on yesterday in Mirpur, Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Innings

T. Iqbal c Jongwe b Raza	40
L. Das c Cremer b Jongwe	0
Mahmudullah b Panyangara	9
M. Rahim run out (Cremer, Cremer)	107
S. Al Hasan st Mutumbami b Raza	16
Sa. Rahman run out (Cremer, Cremer)	57
Nas. Hossain c Chibhabha b Muzarabani	0
M. Mortaza c Jongwe b Muzarabani	14
A. Sunny run out (Williams, Waller)	15
A. Hossain not out	0
Extras (lb-2 nb-1 w-12)	15
Total (for 9 wickets, 50 overs)	273
Fall of wickets: 1-2 L. Das, 2-30 Mahmudullah, 3-100 T. Iqbal, 4-123 S. Al Hasan, 5-242 Sa. Rahman, 6-243 Nas. Hossain, 7-243 M. Rahim, 8-264 M. Mortaza, 9-273 A. Sunny	
Did not bat: M. Rahman	
Bowling: T. Panyangara 10-0-38-1(w-1); L. Jongwe 8-1-45-1(nb-1 w-1); T. Muzarabani 10-0-64-2(w-2); G. Cremer 10-0-45-0(w-1); S. Williams 5-0-32-0(w-2); S. Raza 7-0-47-2.	

Zimbabwe Innings

C. Chibhabha c Das b Al Hasan	9
L. Jongwe c Rahim b A. Hossain	39
C. Ervine c Nas. Hossain b Al Hasan	2
S. Williams b Al Hasan	8
E. Chigumbura lbw b Nas. Hossain	41
S. Raza c Rahim b Mortaza	3
M. Waller c Nas. Hossain b Mortaza	1
G. Cremer lbw b Al Hasan	15
T. Panyangara b Al Hasan	5
T. Muzarabani not out	0
R. Mutumbami absent injured	
Extras (lb-1 w-4)	5
Total (all out, 36.1 overs)	128
Fall of wickets: 1-40 C. Chibhabha, 2-48 C. Ervine, 3-54 L. Jongwe, 4-65 S. Williams, 5-79 S. Raza, 6-83 M. Waller, 7-120 G. Cremer, 8-128 T. Panyangara, 9-128 E. Chigumbura	
Bowling: M. Rahman 6-0-27-0(w-2); A. Sunny 7-2-19-0; S. Al Hasan 10-0-47-5(w-1); A. Hossain 5-0-15-1(w-1); M. Mortaza 6-0-13-2; Nas. Hossain 2.1-0-6-1.	



MOHALI: India's Ravindra Jadeja (2R) celebrates with teammates the wicket of South Africa's Dane Vilas during the third day of the first Test match between India and South Africa at The Punjab Cricket Association Stadium in Mohali yesterday. — AFP

INDIA SPIN S AFRICA TO DEFEAT IN FIRST TEST

MOHALI: India's spinners tied South Africa's batsmen in knots to give the hosts a 108-run victory in the bowler-dominated first Test in Mohali yesterday. Left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja grabbed five wickets and off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin took three as the Proteas, set a victory target of 218, were shot out for 109 after tea on the third day.

Both bowlers finished with eight wickets in the low-scoring match played on a dusty, dry pitch at the I.S. Bindra stadium, with the Indian spinners claiming 19 of the 20 South African scalps.

The Proteas were reduced to 60-6 before Stiaan van Zyl, who top-scored with 36, and Simon Harmer (11) got together to put on 42 for the seventh wicket. Seven batsmen failed to reach double figures, leaving the top-ranked South Africans a lot to ponder ahead of the second Test in the four-match series which starts in Bangalore on November 14.

Indian captain Virat Kohli said he was delighted to win his first Test on home soil as captain. "This was a special occasion for me," said Kohli, who turned 27 on the first day of the match. "Ours is a young team and we are trying to build a strong team together. A lot of credit to the boys for bouncing back after the loss in the limited-overs series."

'No demons in pitch'

Kohli said it was wrong to criticise the pitch which produced a three-day Test. "I don't think there were any demons in the wicket," he said. "The ball did not turn square at any stage. Batsmen had to apply themselves since it was a bowler's game."

South African skipper Hashim Amla refused to blame the defeat on the pitch, saying there were a few "soft dismissals" by his batsmen. "200 was a chaseable total, although probably 150 would have been more realistic and a challenge on a deteriorating wicket," he said. "There were some soft dismissals. We were in the game till we lost four or five wickets and put pressure on the lower order guys. Stiaan showed you could get runs if you hung in there."

"To get India out for 200 was an excellent effort from our bowlers and we kept ourselves in the game till the last session. But credit to India for bowling us out."

Batsmen's nightmare

Earlier, South African spinners Harmer and Imran Tahir claimed four wickets each to rip through India's batting in the morning session. India, who started the third day at 125-2 in their second innings, moved to 161-2 before a batting meltdown saw them lose their last eight wickets for 39 runs.

South Africa fared worse when they batted a second time on a wicket that proved to be a batsman's nightmare. The gamble to open the batting with tailender Vernon Philander backfired when the fast bowler was leg-before to Jadeja for one in the second over. Ashwin, who had taken five wickets in the first innings, struck

in the third over as Faf du Plessis edged an easy catch to Ajinkya Rahane in the slips. From 9-2, the Proteas became 32-4 as Jadeja bowled Amla for no score and star batsman AB de Villiers (16) also found his stumps shattered by leg-spinner Amit Mishra.

The wickets continued to tumble as opener Dean Elgar (16) top-edged an intended pull off seamer Varun Aaron and spooned an easy catch to Indian captain Virat Kohli at mid-on.

In the morning, the loss of three top-order batsmen in the space of three runs triggered India's collapse even though the Proteas fielded without their injured pace spearhead Dale Steyn.

The overnight pair of Cheteshwar Pujara and Kohli batted through the first hour to take their third wicket stand to 66 runs. The tourists took the field without Steyn, who was sidelined for the entire innings due to a groin strain. —AFP

SCOREBOARD

MOHALI, India: Final scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between India and South Africa at the IS Bindra stadium in Mohali on yesterday.

India 1st innings: 201 (M. Vijay 75, R. Jadeja 38, D. Elgar 4-22) 7-1-34-0, Tahir 16.3-1-48-4, Rabada 12-7-19-0, van Zyl 4-1-5-1.

South Africa 1st innings: 184 (AB de Villiers 63, H. Amla 43, R. Ashwin 5-51)

India 2nd innings (overnight 125-2):

M. Vijay c sub (Bavuma) b Tahir	47
S. Dhawan c de Villiers b Philander	0
C. Pujara c Amla b Tahir	77
V. Kohli c Vilas b van Zyl	29
A. Rahane c sub (Bavuma) b Harmer	2
W. Saha c Vilas b Tahir	20
R. Jadeja lbw b Harmer	8
A. Mishra c du Plessis b Harmer	2
R. Ashwin c Amla b Tahir	3
U. Yadav b Harmer	1
V. Aaron not out	1
Extras (b9, lb1)	10
Total (all out, 75.3 overs)	200
Fall of wickets: 1-9 (Dhawan), 2-95 (Vijay), 3-161 (Kohli), 4-164 (Pujara), 5-164 (Rahane), 6-178 (Jadeja), 7-182 (Mishra), 8-185 (Ashwin), 9-188 (Yadav), 10-200 (Saha).	
Bowling: Philander 12-3-23-1, Harmer 24-5-61-4, Elgar	

South Africa 2nd innings:	
D. Elgar c Kohli b Aaron	16
V. Philander lbw b Jadeja	1
F. du Plessis c Rahane b Ashwin	1
H. Amla b Jadeja	0
AB de Villiers b Mishra	16
S. van Zyl c Rahane b Ashwin	36
D. Vilas b Jadeja	7
S. Harmer c Rahane b Jadeja	11
D. Steyn c Vijay b Ashwin	2
K. Rabada not out	1
Imran Tahir lbw b Jadeja	4
Extras (b8, lb5, w1)	14
Total (all out, 39.5 overs)	109
Fall of wickets: 1-8 (Philander), 2-9 (du Plessis), 3-10 (Amla), 4-32 (de Villiers), 5-45 (Edgar), 6-60 (Vilas), 7-102 (Harmer), 8-102 (van Zyl), 9-105 (Steyn), 10-109 (Tahir)	
Bowling: Ashwin 14-5-39-3, Jadeja 11.5-4-21-5, Mishra 8-0-26-1, Aaron 3-0-3-1 (w1), Yadav 3-0-7-0.	
India won by 108 runs; lead 1-0 in four-Test series.	



PALLEKELE: West Indies' Jonathan Carter plays a shot during their third one day international cricket match against Sri Lanka, in Pallekele, Sri Lanka, yesterday. — AP

S LANKA SWEEPS ODI SERIES

PALLEKELE: Sri Lanka overcame an unbeaten 110 by Marlon Samuels to beat the West Indies by 19 runs in a rain-interrupted third one-day international and sweep the series 3-0 yesterday.

Asked to bat first, the West Indies made 206-9 in 36 overs in its rain-shortened innings. Samuels faced 95 deliveries hit a

six and 15 boundaries. Sri Lanka was set 190 to win, and it reached 180-5 in 32.3 overs, 19 runs ahead of the par score when rain ended the game. Kusal Perera top-scored for Sri Lanka with 50, while captain Angelo Mathews was 27 not out. Jason Holder returned the best bowling figures of 2-44 for the West Indies. — AP

WARNER, BURNS SET RECORDS AS AUSTRALIA TAKES LEAD

BRISBANE: It took one test for David Warner and Joe Burns to become established as Australia's opening combination, creating a milestone with two century partnerships in the first test against New Zealand to change the complexion of the series.

Burns (129) plundered two sixes in three deliveries to reach his maiden test hundred, moments before rain interrupted play on Saturday evening, and Warner (116) completed a personal double after the resumption. The pair became the first Australians to combine for two 100-plus stands for the first wicket in the same test.

Their 237-run partnership in the second

innings followed a 161 stand on day one of the first test, which set Australia on course for its first innings of 556-4 declared. Warner, who scored 163 in the first innings, joined former Australia skipper Ricky Ponting and India captain Sunil Gavaskar as the only batsmen to post hundreds in each innings of a test three times.

At stumps on day three, Australia was 264-4 in its second innings, an overall lead of 503 runs. "We always set out to try and break records as a team, and that's one thing we'll continue to do," Warner said. "When you're on top in the first innings you get to go out like today and play the way you want to play, with all the confidence in the world. You get

that opportunity to go back to back.

Rare feat

"That's something special, as a pair as well, a century-run partnership in both innings, it was probably a credit to the way we went about the game," Burns said. Burns, who batted at No.6 in his first two tests but was promoted to open following the retirement of Chris Rogers, achieved the rare feat of outscoring Warner for most of their partnership, getting off the mark with a boundary and then calmly clouting spinner Mark Craig for straight sixes to move from 88 to 100. His 123-ball innings contained 14 fours and four sixes.

"It's been fantastic - (Warner) certainly keeps me in check and keeps me level," Burns said. "When you're doing well it's easy to sit here and say that we're operating really well, but there's certainly going to be challenges coming every week. As long as we keep preparing well and working off each other, hopefully we can have plenty more days like this."

Warner was also on the attack but, after reaching his 14th test century, tried an ill-timed reverse sweep to spinner Mark Craig and was caught in the deep to end the opening stand.

It was the first of three quick wickets for Craig, who also had Burns caught in the outfield and dismissed Mitch Marsh (2) to return 3-77. Kane Williamson caught Steve Smith (1) low to the ground to give Trent Boult his first wicket of the innings, and only second of the match in which the beleaguered New Zealand attack is missing injured swing bowler Tim Southee.

With a handful of senior players retiring after the last Ashes series, Australia was considered vulnerable - particularly at the top of the order - at the Gabba, where it hadn't lost since 1988. — AP



BRISBANE: Australia's batsman David Warner celebrates his 100-runs during day three of the first Test cricket match between Australia and New Zealand in Brisbane yesterday. — AFP

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day in the first Test between Australia and New Zealand on yesterday in Brisbane, Australia.

Australia 1st innings 556 for 4 decl (U. Khawaja 174, D. Warner 163, A. Voges 83no, J. Burns 71)	
New Zealand 1st innings (Overnight: 157-5)	
M. Guptill c Warner b Hazlewood	23
T. Latham c Lyon b Starc	47
K. Williamson c Nevill b Starc	140
R. Taylor c Smith b Johnson	0
B. McCullum c Voges b Johnson	6
J. Neesham b Starc	3
B. Watling c Nevill b Johnson	32
M. Craig c M. Marsh b Lyon	24
D. Bracewell b M. Marsh	16
T. Southee b Starc	14
T. Boult not out	0
Extras (lb-4 nb-7 w-1)	12
Total (all out, 82.2 overs)	317
Fall of wickets: 1-56 M. Guptill, 2-102 T. Latham, 3-105 R. Taylor, 4-114 B. McCullum, 5-118 J. Neesham, 6-185 B. Watling, 7-231 M. Craig, 8-273 D. Bracewell, 9-310 T. Southee, 10-317 K. Williamson	

Bowling: M. Starc 17.2-4-57-4(nb-2 w-1); M. Johnson 21-3-105-3(nb-1); J. Hazlewood 21-5-70-1(nb-1); N. Lyon 17-3-46-1; M. Marsh 5-0-32-1(nb-3); A. Voges 1-0-3-0.

Australia 2nd innings

J. Burns c Taylor b Craig	129
D. Warner c Boult b Craig	116
U. Khawaja not out	9
S. Smith c Williamson b Boult	1
M. Marsh c B. McCullum b Craig	2
A. Voges not out	1
Extras (lb-1 nb-4 w-1)	6
Total (for 4 wickets, 42 overs)	264
Fall of wickets: 1-237 D. Warner, 2-254 J. Burns, 3-258 S. Smith, 4-263 M. Marsh	
To bat: P. Nevill, M. Johnson, M. Starc, J. Hazlewood, N. Lyon	
Bowling: T. Boult 8-0-61-1; D. Bracewell 11-1-63-0(nb-4); J. Neesham 9-0-61-0(w-1); M. Craig 14-0-78-3.	

ALCACER, PAREJO LEAD VALENCIA TO 5-1 WIN AT CELTA

BARCELONA: Spain striker Paco Alcacer and Dani Parejo scored two goals apiece to lead Valencia to a commanding 5-1 victory at Celta Vigo in the Spanish league yesterday. The duo also combined for several good passing moves against a third-place Celta side that failed to convert several scoring chances during the first hour.

Alcacer worked a one-two passing combination with Parejo to open the scoring at Balaidos Stadium in the 13th.

Augusto Fernandez leveled for the hosts in the 24th, but Parejo dipped a free kick over the wall and into the corner of the net just before halftime to restore Valencia's advantage.

Alcacer added to the lead seconds after the restart when he poached Jonathan Castro's poor pass before he set up Parejo to score again in the 64th. Parejo got a third assist when Shkodran Mustafi headed home his cross in the 79th to cap the rout.

Valencia's first away win in the league in four outings came three days after a disappointing 1-0 loss at Ghent in the Champions League. It should relieve some pressure on coach Nuno Espirito Santo as the team rose into provisional sixth place before a week-long break for international matches.

"We were all looking for a win like this one," Parejo said. "You saw a Valencia with its pride stung and we brought it all out." Celta wasted a

chance to take the overnight lead before leader Real Madrid and second-place Barcelona play today. It remained three points behind the front-runners and can be overtaken by Atletico Madrid and Villarreal, who also play on Sunday.

Celta dictated the pace for most of the match until it fell behind 4-1 from Parejo's second goal. Daniel Wass had a goal waived off in the first half by the referee who didn't let play continue

after a foul against Valencia, and striker Iago Aspas hit the post in the 61st, seconds before Andre Fontas sent a deflected shot just by the upright.

"We conceded goals that normally we don't concede, but I think we have enough of a team to bounce back from this," said Celta defender Sergi Gomez. Bottom side Levante hosts Deportivo La Coruna later, while Granada visits Rayo Vallecano, Real Betis plays at Malaga, and Eibar hosts Getafe. — AP

RAMPANT HULL UNDERLINE PROMOTION CREDENTIALS

LONDON: Hull underlined their credentials as Championship promotion contenders with an emphatic 3-0 victory over Middlesbrough at the KC Stadium yesterday. Steve Bruce's side, relegated from the Premier League last season, retained first place on goal difference ahead of Brighton thanks to goals from Mohamed Diame, Sam Clucas and Tom Huddlestone.

Diame opened the scoring against fourth placed Middlesbrough just before the interval and second-half strikes from Clucas and Huddlestone ensured a fifth successive league win for the Tigers.

Brighton kept the pressure on Hull as Chris Hughton's team ended a run of three consecutive draws with a 2-1 win against Milton Keynes Dons at the Amex Stadium.

Solly March and Jamie Murphy gave Brighton a flying start with goals in the opening 20 minutes and although the struggling Dons quickly responded through Nicky Maynard, they couldn't find an equaliser.

Third placed Burnley, who started the day level on points with Hull and Brighton, could only draw 0-0 at Wolves to slip two points adrift of the automatic promotion spots.

Birmingham took advantage of Derby's 1-0 defeat at local rivals Nottingham Forest on Friday to move to within two points of the fifth-placed Rams with a 5-2 drubbing of 10-man Fulham at Craven Cottage. Stephen Gleeson, Paul Caddis and Jon Toral put

Birmingham 3-0 ahead inside 31 minutes and, after Fulham had lost James Husband to a 49th-minute red card, Clayton Donaldson and Viv Solomon-Otabor added late goals for the visitors. Fulham's goals came from Alex Kacaniklic and Ross McCormack when the hosts were 3-0 and 4-1 down.

Daryl Murphy bagged a hat-trick in Ipswich's 5-2 victory at bottom of the table Rotherham. Brett Pitman and Jonathan Douglas had earlier put Ipswich 2-0 up, with Rotherham briefly threatening an unlikely comeback with goals from Brandon Barker and Matt Derbyshire just before the hour. Cardiff moved above Reading into seventh with a 2-0 win over the Royals, while struggling Charlton celebrated their first victory since August after beating in-form Sheffield Wednesday 3-1.

Leeds recorded back-to-back wins for the first time this season after beating Yorkshire rivals Huddersfield 3-0. Mirco Antenucci and Chris Wood both netted in first-half stoppage time before Alex Mowatt crashed home a third after the break. Blackburn and Brentford shared a 1-1 draw at Ewood Park, Tom Lawrence cancelling out Lasse Vibe's goal for the visitors, while Preston recorded a sixth successive clean sheet in drawing 0-0 at QPR.

Bolton had to settle for a 0-0 draw against relegation rivals Bristol City after Shola Ameobi's second-half penalty was saved by City keeper Frank Fielding. —AFP



MUNICH: Stuttgart's midfielder Daniel Didavi (L) and Bayern Munich's Brazilian defender Rafinha (R) vie for the ball during the German first division football Bundesliga match between FC Bayern Munich and VfB Stuttgart yesterday in Munich, southern Germany. — AFP

GOAL ADDICTS BAYERN THRASH STUTTGART, WOLFSBURG LOSE

BERLIN: Champions Bayern Munich demolished VfB Stuttgart 4-0 yesterday with all the goals coming in the first half as they increased their lead to eight points and stayed on course for a record fourth consecutive title on a day of red cards in the Bundesliga.

Bayern, who drew 0-0 last week at Eintracht Frankfurt after a league record 10 successive wins since the start of the season, hit top form once more and Arjen Robben and Douglas Costa put them 2-0 ahead after 17 minutes. Thomas Mueller and Bundesliga top scorer Robert Lewandowski added two more before the break to take their tally to 11 and 14 goals respectively as the hosts picked up where they had left off in midweek when they crushed Arsenal 5-1 in the Champions League.

Bayern stepped off the gas after the break but have now scored four or more goals in their last six home games in all competitions to move up to 34 points, eight ahead of second-placed Borussia Dortmund, who face Schalke 04 on Sunday. Brazilian Costa was far too fast down the wings for the Stuttgart defence, who could not contain Bayern's lethal attacking trio of Mueller, Lewandowski and Robben as the hosts had a league record 23 shots on goal in the first half. "It is so difficult to play every three games and keep showing the kind of mentality we are showing," Bayern coach Pep Guardiola told reporters. "I want to thank my players because they have been doing it really well. I hope they can keep it up until the winter break and then until the end of the season." "I know that if we don't win the treble it will be a bad season," said the former Barcelona coach in his third season in charge at the German club. "I know where I am, it's like Barcelona. We have to keep winning, winning, winning." There was more good news with defender Holger Badstuber, plagued by injuries in his career, recovering from the most recent to make his comeback after 200 days out.

Third-placed VfL Wolfsburg lost further ground in their pursuit of Bayern, losing 2-0 at Mainz 05 to drop 13 points behind the leaders. The Wolves were down to 10 men after 13 minutes when Julian Draxler was dismissed for a flying studs-up challenge.

Borussia Moenchengladbach's six-game winning run in the Bundesliga under coach Andre Schubert ended when they drew 0-0 against promoted visitors Ingolstadt. The Foes, who had captain Granit Xhaka sent off in the 86th minute, are sixth on 19 points.

Fellow Champions League club Bayer Leverkusen slumped to a 2-1 home loss to Cologne and had defender Kyriakos Papadopoulos sent off with Slovenia international Dominic Maroh scoring both goals for the visitors. —Reuters

IBRAHIMOVIC DOUBLE BLAST INSPIRES FIVE-GOAL PSG

PARIS: Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored twice as Paris Saint-Germain extended their huge lead at the top of Ligue 1 by destroying a hapless Toulouse 5-0 at the Parc des Princes yesterday.

Frustrated by their inability to put the ball in the net in a Champions League defeat to Real Madrid in midweek, PSG saw Angel Di Maria open the scoring on their return to domestic duty before Ibrahimovic got a brace either side of a Lucas goal and Ezequiel Lavezzi completed the rout.

The win saw the reigning French champions continue their unbeaten start to the domestic season as they made it seven league victories in a row.

The campaign is only 13 games old but they are already 13 points ahead of Lyon and Saint-Etienne—who meet each other on Sunday evening—as well as Angers, who were beaten 2-0 at home by Rennes on Friday.

However, Caen will have the chance to close the gap to a mere 11 points if they can win at home to Guingamp later. Laurent Blanc's side dominated Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu on Tuesday only for their finishing to let them down as they succumbed to a 1-0 defeat but their finishing was better here and it was a day to forget for struggling Toulouse.

The visitors started the day in the relegation zone and had not won in 11 league games since the opening week-end of the season, so an away win would have been an enormous upset.

As it was it took Paris just six minutes to open the scoring thanks to Di Maria. The Argentine hit the bar from a late free-kick in Madrid but on this occasion his dead-ball delivery from 40 yards,

which was not intended as a shot, evaded everyone on its way into the net.

The hosts continued to create openings but their second goal in the 18th minute was something of a gift from the Toulouse defence as on-loan Monaco man Marcel Tisserand inexplicably headed the ball back across his own six-yard box to leave Ibrahimovic a simple finish.

The Swede and Di Maria both had chances to increase the advantage prior to the interval while Edinson Cavani was denied by a good Ali Ahamada save at the start of the second half before Toulouse created their first opportunity of note from a Jean-Daniel Akpa-Akpro ball across the box that passed just beyond the reach of Martin Braithwaite.

Super subs

However, Blanc freshened up his attack with the introduction of Lucas and Lavezzi in place of Cavani and Di Maria and it was the Brazilian who made it 3-0 on 66 minutes, starting the move and then continuing his run to the back post where he headed home Gregory van der Wiel's cross.

Lucas played his part in the fourth goal which arrived with a quarter of an hour remaining, as his shot was beaten away by Ahamada and Ibrahimovic arrived to convert the follow-up.

Ibrahimovic was rested for last week-end's 1-0 victory at Rennes but he has now found the net nine times in his last six Ligue 1 appearances.

Lavezzi put the seal on an utterly comprehensive win with just his second of the season on 78 minutes as PSG extended their unbeaten run in Ligue 1 to 22 matches since March. — AFP



PARIS: Paris Saint-Germain's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic controls the ball (L) during the French L1 football match between Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) and Toulouse (TFC) yesterday at the Parc des Princes stadium, in Paris. — AFP

Live			Matches on TV (Local Timings)		
ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE					
Aston Villa v Manchester	16:30	beIN SPORTS 2 HD	Empoli v Juventus	17:00	beIN SPORTS 7 HD
Liverpool v Crystal	19:00	beIN SPORTS 8 HD	Frosinone v Genoa	17:00	beIN SPORTS
Arsenal v Tottenham	19:00	beIN SPORTS 2 HD	Palermo v Verona	17:00	beIN SPORTS
SPANISH LEAGUE					
Malaga v Real Betis	0:05	beIN SPORTS 8 HD	Sassuolo v Carpi	17:00	beIN SPORTS
Bilbao v Espanyol	14:00	beIN SPORTS 3 HD	Napoli v Udinese	20:00	beIN SPORTS 4 HD
Barcelona v Villarreal	18:00	beIN SPORTS 3 HD	Sampdoria v Fiorentina	22:45	beIN SPORTS 4 HD
Atletico v Gijon	20:15	beIN SPORTS 3 HD	GERMAN LEAGUE		
Sevilla v Real Madrid	22:30	beIN SPORTS 3 HD	Dortmund v Schalke	17:30	beIN SPORTS 5 HD
ITALIAN LEAGUE					
Torino v Inter	14:30	beIN SPORTS 10 HD	Augsburg v Werder Bremen	19:30	beIN SPORTS 5 HD
Roma v Lazio	17:00	beIN SPORTS 4 HD	FRENCH LEAGUE		
Marseille v Nice 19:00 beIN SPORTS 6 HD					
Girondins v Monaco 23:00 beIN SPORTS 8 HD					
Lyonnais v Saint Etienne 23:00 beIN SPORTS 6 HD					



CAEN: Caen's French defender Damien Da Silva (2nd L) heads the ball during the French L1 football match between Caen (SM Caen) and Guingamp (EA Guingamp), yesterday, at the Michel d'Ornano stadium, in Caen, northwestern France. — AFP

Sports

India spin
S Africa to
defeat in
first Test



Goal addicts
Bayern thrash
Stuttgart,
Wolfsburg lose



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SHEIKH SALMAN HANDS OVER PRESIDENCY TO SAUDI ARABIA Page 17



MANCHESTER: Manchester United's Spanish midfielder Juan Mata shoots from the penalty spot to score his team's second goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester United and West Bromwich Albion at Old Trafford stadium in Manchester, north west England, yesterday. — AFP

LINGARD LIFTS MAN UTD TO VICTORY OVER WEST BROM



MANCHESTER: Jesse Lingard repaid Manchester United manager Louis van Gaal's faith as his first goal for the club set them up for a 2-0 win over West Bromwich Albion yesterday.

Van Gaal gave Lingard his first league start since the Dutchman's inaugural game in charge at the start of last season, having used his column in the match-day programme to praise the progress being made

by the 22-year-old.

The United manager also claimed that Lingard's first goal would not be far away and he was proved right as the attacking midfielder, a product of United's youth system, struck in the 52nd minute.

Lingard's strike eased the growing frustration around Old Trafford and Juan Mata added a late penalty to seal a win that took United to within a point of Premier League co-leaders Manchester City, Arsenal and Leicester City.

United's impressive defensive record—which has now seen them keep five successive clean sheets—was further enhanced, but again they struggled to create chances. Lingard's goal, an assured right-foot finish from outside the box, remains the only one they have scored from open play in their last four domestic fixtures.

It had taken a late goal from Wayne Rooney in mid-week to end CSKA Moscow's resistance in the Champions League and United were faced with a similar test as West Brom came to defend in numbers.

Albion had won on their previous two visits to Old Trafford, with their 1-0 success in May the last time United had lost at home. That day the visitors had conceded 80 percent of possession and they again stuck to that blueprint as United were allowed to have the ball almost at will.

Evans block

It was rarely in a dangerous area, however, as West Brom, who had conceded in only one of their previous five away games in the league this season, were content to sit deep and try to keep the home side at arm's length.

Only three times in the first half did United manage to gain a clear sight of the visitors' goal, but from the first Mata was unable to curl the ball inside the far post after being played in by Rooney.

The second was self-inflicted as West Brom defender Craig Dawson gave the ball away to Anthony Martial, who released Lingard, only for ex-United defender Jonny Evans to slide in with an excellent block.

Albion goalkeeper Boaz Myhill was finally forced to make his first meaningful save a minute before the break, but it was no more than a routine parry to keep out Martial's rasping shot from the edge of the penalty area. The start of the second half threatened more of the same and the impatience of the United supporters was just starting to show when Lingard got off the mark in impressive style.

Martial's cross was headed clear by Chris Brunt to the England Under-21 international, who showed great composure to take a touch and curl a low shot past Myhill from 22 yards. West Brom's response was not immediate, but after manager Tony Pulis made two substitutions in the 72nd minute and committed more men forward, his side should have equalised.

Dawson delivered a cross from the right that arrived perfectly for Saido Berahino, who scored the winner here two seasons ago, to meet six yards from goal with virtually his first touch after coming off the bench.

But he headed badly wide and United wrapped up victory in stoppage time through Mata's penalty after Gareth McAuley had been sent off for tripping Martial. — AFP

STOKE CITY TIGHTEN SCREW ON MOURINHO



LONDON: Marko Arnautovic returned to haunt Jose Mourinho with a spectacular winner as Stoke City sank Chelsea 1-0 yesterday to plunge the Premier League champions' manager's future into doubt.

Mourinho dubbed Arnautovic "unmanageable" during their time at Inter Milan, but the Austria forward may have had the last laugh with an acrobatic 53rd-minute volley at the Britannia Stadium.

It condemned Chelsea to a third straight league defeat, their seventh in total, and left them in 16th place in the table, heightening the risk that Mourinho, absent from the game due to a stadium ban, will be sacked.

Handed a one-game stadium ban for berating referee Jon Moss at half-time of his side's recent defeat at West Ham United, Mourinho watched the match at a nearby hotel and with the international break due to begin, he may not be given a chance to return to the dug-out.

Chelsea's fans, at least, continue to believe in the club's most successful manager and showed their support by donning Mourinho masks and chanting his name.

In continuity with their mid-week win over Dynamo Kiev, Chelsea produced a lively first-

half display and went close when Diego Costa forced Stoke goalkeeper Jack Butland to save with his legs.

But they fell behind eight minutes into the second half when Chelsea old boy Glen Johnson's right-wing cross was inadvertently helped on by Jon Walters to

Arnautovic, who volleyed in superbly at the far post.

Pedro Rodriguez hit the post and Eden Hazard put a shot inches wide as Chelsea pushed for a leveller, while Loic Remy hurdled Butland late on, but in trying to stay on his feet he lost balance and shot off-target. — AP



STOKE-ON-TRENT: Chelsea's French striker Loic Remy (L) tries to re-gain his balance for a shot during the English Premier League football match between Stoke City and Chelsea at the Britannia Stadium in Stoke-on-Trent, central England yesterday. — AFP

LUKAKU EQUALIZER GIVES EVERTON A POINT



LONDON: Romelu Lukaku continued his remarkable scoring sequence against West Ham United to earn Everton a 1-1 draw in their Premier League tussle at Upton Park yesterday. The Belgium striker made it seven goals in as many games against the east London club after cancelling out Manuel Lanzini's opening goal shortly before half-time. The result kept Slaven Bilic's West Ham in fifth place, but they are now three points below the Champions League berths, while Roberto Martinez's Everton are four points back in eighth place.

West Ham will be sick of the sight of Lukaku, but they could not complain that they had not received prior warning. Lukaku's impressive feat saw him become only the second Everton player, alongside Toffees great Dixie Dean, to score against the same opponent in seven consecutive matches.

Both sides, who are pushing for a coveted Champions League spot, had enjoyed contrasting results on their previous outings. West Ham lost for the first time on the road at Watford, while Everton thumped Sunderland 6-2.

But it was West Ham who looked the more lively early on. Dimitri Payet's surging run and pass saw Victor Moses side-foot just wide after three minutes.

Everton were struggling to find any cohesion. That was summed up when Arouna Kone, fresh from his hat-trick in the rout of Sunderland, wasted a chance in the 18th minute.

James McCarthy's quickly taken free-kick freed Kone, but the Ivorian striker could only screw a presentable opening wide.

West Ham left-back Aaron Cresswell came close to a breakthrough moments later as his shot with the outside of the foot drifted the wrong side of the post.

Payet blow

But the home side did not have to wait too long before Lanzini curled home a sumptuous 30th-minute opener.

Moses's cross was deflected into the path of the on-loan Argentine winger, who bent a sublime strike from the edge of the box around Tim Howard and into the top-right corner.

Everton had been off the pace, but they carved out a 43rd-minute leveller with a move that came like a bolt from the blue. Gerard Deulofeu's through-ball split open the home defence and Lukaku raced clear to round Adrian and slot home.

West Ham suffered a further blow when the influential Payet hobbled off early in the second period after failing to shake off the effects of an earlier challenge by McCarthy.

It meant that Bilic was forced into a minor reshuffle. Lanzini was moved inside and the winger almost helped West Ham regain their lead in the 63rd minute. He swept past Seamus Coleman and his low shot was tipped around the post by Howard. The bad injury news kept on coming for West Ham as striker Valencia was stretched off after an innocuous challenge from Coleman. — AFP

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Govt spending drops
amid low oil prices

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Cityscape exhibition to
focus on property
opportunities in Kuwait

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All-New 2016 Ford
Edge to debut at
Dubai Motorshow

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KUWAIT AIRWAYS WELCOMES AIRBUS A350 XWB

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NEW YORK: A young girl plays inside a store advertising a store closing discount in New York on November 6, 2015. —AFP

US HIRING SURGE RAISES THE SPECTER OF FED RATE HIKE UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS FROM 5.1% TO 5% IN SEPTEMBER

WASHINGTON: US hiring swelled in October by the largest amount all year, and unemployment dropped another notch to 5 percent, increasing the likelihood that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates next month for the first time in a decade.

With Americans spending more on everything from restaurant meals and clothing to new cars, employers added an impressive 271,000 jobs last month. That was a strong rebound from August and September, when turmoil in China and other economies overseas proved a drag on the US job market.

Unemployment declined from 5.1 percent in September and is now at its lowest point since April 2008, just a few months after the Great Recession began.

Even before Friday's report, expectations for a Fed rate increase in December were building. Fed chief Janet Yellen and other top officials said this week that the economy is

generally healthy and a move at next month's meeting is a "live possibility." "This data tips the scales toward a rate hike in December, but more importantly is a sign that our economy may have more punch than we thought," said Tara Sinclair, chief economist for job site Indeed.com.

The Fed cut the short-term rate it controls to a record low of nearly zero in December 2008 to try to stimulate growth during the recession. An increase would eventually raise borrowing costs for mortgages, auto loans and business loans.

The prospect of higher interest rates initially drove down financial markets Thursday, though stock indexes finished mixed. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note surged to 2.33 percent from 2.23 percent, suggesting that investors see a greater likelihood of a rate increase.

After a prolonged period of relatively stag-

nant pay for many Americans, hourly wages climbed a solid 9 cents in October to \$25.20. Average pay is up 2.5 percent in the past year, the largest annual gain since 2009. Strong hiring and pay raises, if they continue, could make it harder for Republicans to mount effective attacks on the Obama administration's economic record and could bolster Democratic prospects in the 2016 elections.

The pay gains should fuel more consumer spending in coming months, which, in turn, could support further hiring.

"These are very strong numbers and likely to continue," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at Northern Trust. "The two summer months that were low now look like the aberration."

Manufacturing employment was flat in October, after two months of job cuts. The strong dollar and faltering growth in China, Europe and Japan have cut into exports of fac-

tory goods. Oil and gas drillers also shed workers as oil prices stayed low. But retailers added nearly 44,000 jobs last month, a sign that they expect a good holiday shopping season. Hotels and restaurants added 41,000, while health care providers hired nearly 57,000.

Higher-paying sectors also gained, notably professional and business services, which include architects, engineers and many IT workers. That sector added 78,000 positions, the most in nearly a year.

Matt Friedman, chief executive of the Wing Zone restaurant chain, said he thinks lower gas prices are encouraging more people to eat out and boosting sales at his company's 93 US sites. Company sales have grown 6 percent this year from 2014.

Wing Zone expects to open 15 stores this year and 19 next year. "People are spending more money," Friedman said. "Fuel prices have a big impact." The company receives plenty of

applications for its hourly jobs and hasn't had to increase pay for those positions to attract applicants, Friedman said.

But it has had to raise pay to fill professional jobs in marketing, training and operations, he said. Pay for those positions has increased about 10 percent in the past two years.

Eric Renninger, vice president of Honest-1 Auto Care, said his 54-shop chain is seeing evidence that cheaper gas is encouraging more travel. "You are seeing people bringing in vehicles in preparation for road trips," he said. The company expects to open five more locations this year.

The economy grew at just a 1.5 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter. Still, Americans boosted their spending at a healthy 3.2 percent annual pace. Economists expect growth to rebound to 2.5 percent or more in the final three months of the year. —AP

BOEING EXPECTS KUWAIT AIRCRAFT SALE DEAL SOON

DUBAI: Boeing, the world's second-largest weapons maker, said yesterday it expects a sale to Kuwait of F/A-18E/F Super Hornets to be finalized soon, but lower oil prices are delaying some weapons purchase programs by Gulf states.

Kuwait was expected to announce an order for 28 of the fighter jets worth over \$3 billion, Reuters reported earlier this year. "There are things that we're waiting on... those things are going to be cleared and we think they're going to be cleared soon," said Paul Oliver, vice-president of international business development in the Middle East and Africa for Boeing's Defense, Space and Security business.

Gulf governments are looking to replenish arms due to regional conflicts but longer-term programs are being postponed as low oil prices shrink state coffers.

"They've put some things on the shelf... they want to be very prudent, but they're focused on needs right now," Oliver said in Dubai ahead of the Dubai Airshow.

Some development programs could



F A 18 Super Hornet

be delayed for about three years due to low oil prices for oil-exporting Gulf states, he said. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's and United Arab Emirates involvement in the Yemen war has driven these countries to expand and speed up their replenishment of arms, along with the rest of Middle East

clients, Oliver said.

"I don't think anybody is looking at any of these things to be over quick," Oliver said. Procurements for "proven, off-the-shelf solutions" have accelerated, Oliver added, including Chinook and Apache helicopters. —Reuters

CBK: ISLAMIC FINANCE CONFERENCE PROMOTES KUWAIT AS FINANCIAL HUB

KUWAIT: The Global Islamic Finance Conference, which is due in Kuwait on November 11, will be a step towards the promotion of Kuwait's position as a global financial hub, the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said yesterday.

Co-hosted by the CBK and IMF and held under the title: "Meeting Global Aspirations", the conference will attract a host of international decision-makers, experts and economists, it said in a press release. Sponsored by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the gathering is part of the CBK's efforts activities towards the development of Kuwait as a financial hub where a group of monetary and financial elites across the world can come together in order to set out a vision for the sustained growth of the Islamic finance sector.

The significance of the conference stems from the large world presence, especially the participation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which is the world's leading economic institution, in addition to the attendance of finance ministers and central bank governors from several countries, it said.

The conferees will mainly discuss Islamic finance which has only recently been on the agenda of world countries, and has become part of their economic activities, the CBK added. Globally, the assets intermediated by the Islamic finance sector reached an estimated \$2.0 trillion currently, and further growth is expected. Although still a small share of global financial assets, its banking segment has become systemic in a dozen countries, with implications for macroeconomic and financial stability.

Islamic finance has the potential for further contributing in at least three dimensions. First, it promises to foster greater finan-

cial inclusion, especially of large underserved Muslim populations. Second, its emphasis on asset-backed financing and risk-sharing feature means that it could provide support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), as well as investment in public infrastructure.

Finally, its risk-sharing features and prohibition of speculation suggest that Islamic finance may, in principle, pose less systemic risk than conventional finance. For this potential to be realized, however, and to allow this industry to develop in a safe and sound manner, a number of challenges will need to be addressed.

The conference will provide an opportunity for a global policy dialogue among high-level policymakers, including governors of central banks and ministers, regulators, conventional and Islamic standard setters, leading private and public sector financial institutions' executives, and academics, for drawing a vision for the sustained growth of Islamic finance industry, and provide a platform for continued work in this area, according to the release.

The one-day conference is designed to encourage broad interaction among delegates. It will comprise four sessions. Besides the plenary session (with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait), three other sessions will explore issues centered round increasing financial inclusion and growth through access to finance; regulation and supervision to foster stability, and developing Sukuk and other long-term Islamic financing for sustainable development. The panel discussions will be conducted as a conversation among panelists, it added. —KUNA

RED FLAGS TO WATCH FOR ON A COVER LETTER IF YOU'RE HIRING

BAYT.COM WEEKLY REPORT

Cover letters are an important supplement to a CV as they bring out the true potential of a candidate. In fact, 44 percent of employers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) say that a cover letter is very important and makes a huge difference in the hiring process, as stated in the Bayt.com 'Modern Job Search in the MENA' poll of November 2013. Cover letters help employers know more about a candidate and are a great way for them to check how candidates express and market themselves. If you're hiring, here are some red flags to watch out for on cover letters from the team at Bayt.com:

1. Writing the wrong company name

Candidates often use templates off the internet which they send to multiple companies. You can catch such candidates by checking the company name mentioned in the cover letter. Wrongly written company names are usually a mistake made by careless, mass-applying candidates. A candidate who is really interested in the position will take the time to research your company and customize their cover letter accordingly.

2. Grammar and typos

The cover letter is a great way for a candidate to market themselves. A letter that

contains grammar mistakes means that the candidate has either not bothered to proof-read, or does not have the proper language requirements for the job. This is a major red flag to look out for.

3. Lack of concrete examples

Most organizations want to hire the best. It's really easy to state experience on a cover letter, and what you should actually look for are examples of achievements or instances where the candidate has made a difference. These instances show that an employee can not only do their job well, but also excel in their role.

4. Talking only about themselves

It would be wise to check if each paragraph in a cover letter starts with "I". If it does, it might mean that your candidate loves talking about themselves without consideration for teamwork - a keyword in today's workplace. You should also check whether the candidate mentions "team", "team player", or "teamwork" anywhere in their letter. Most candidates will have to work in a team, and collaboration skills should clearly reflect in their cover letter.

5. Badmouthing a previous employer

A cover letter provides a window of

opportunities for candidates to shine. It isn't a place for them to be pessimistic, self-deprecating or hateful towards their previous employer. Badmouthing a previous employer or manager provide a great deal of insight into a candidate's true character.

Bayt.com is the #1 job site in the Middle East with more than 40,000 employers and over 22,500,000 registered job seekers from across the Middle East, North Africa and the globe, representing all industries, nationalities and career levels. Post a job or find jobs on www.bayt.com today and access the leading resource for job seekers and employers in the region.

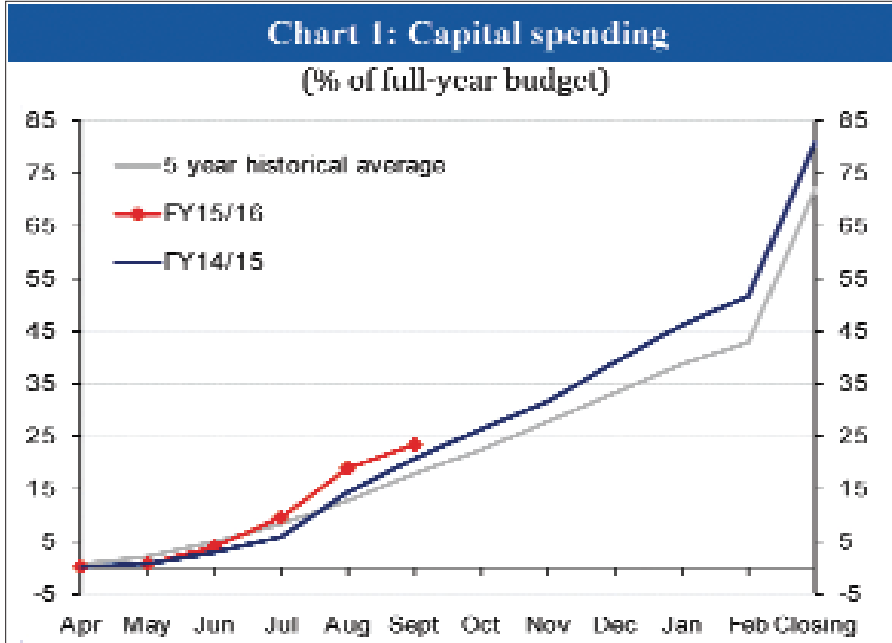
GOVT SPENDING DROPS AMID LOW OIL PRICES

KUWAIT: The interim public finance figures for the first six months of fiscal year 2015/16 (FY15/16) point to a decline in government spending. This was driven primarily by declines in transfers to other government entities and in the cost of subsidies; the latter was essentially an accounting effect thanks to the lower price of fuel. Other components continued to see positive growth, including capital spending. Revenues remain low due to the sustained drop in oil prices from a year ago. The government recorded a preliminary deficit of KD 0.53 billion during the period before the transfer to the Reserve Fund for Future Generations (RFFG). We estimate FY15/16 will close with a deficit of KD 1.6 billion or 4.3 percent of GDP.

As of September, government spending stood at KD 4.8 billion fiscal-year-to-date (fytd); this is 22 percent lower than during the same period last year. However, at 25 percent of the FY15/16 budget, the spending rate has improved and stands well above the five-year average of 19 percent. Actual spending was higher at KD 8.8 billion according to new data being published by the Ministry of Finance on withdrawals made from the government accounts at the Central Bank of Kuwait. This accounting difference is related to delays in reporting expenditures by some ministries.

Current spending, which constitutes the bulk of total spending, came in at KD 4.2 billion fytd. Current spending is driven mainly by the 'miscellaneous expenditures & transfers' chapter, which includes military salaries and transfers to the social security fund. Miscellaneous expenditures & transfers came in at KD 2.5 billion fytd, down 29 percent year-on-year (y/y); goods & services were KD 0.3 billion fytd, down by 56 percent y/y. Wages & salaries stood at KD 1.5 billion fytd, down 2 percent y/y mostly due to basis effects.

NBK ECONOMIC REPORT



Source: Ministry of Finance

Capital spending was KD 0.6 billion fytd in September, up 16 percent y/y. It currently stands at 23 percent of the full-year budget, five percentage points above the five-year average. The government's six month follow up report on the Development Plan projects indicates that capital spending reached 20 percent of its FY15/16 budget. This reflects the government's commitment to the strategic developmental projects. Spending on transportation & equipment

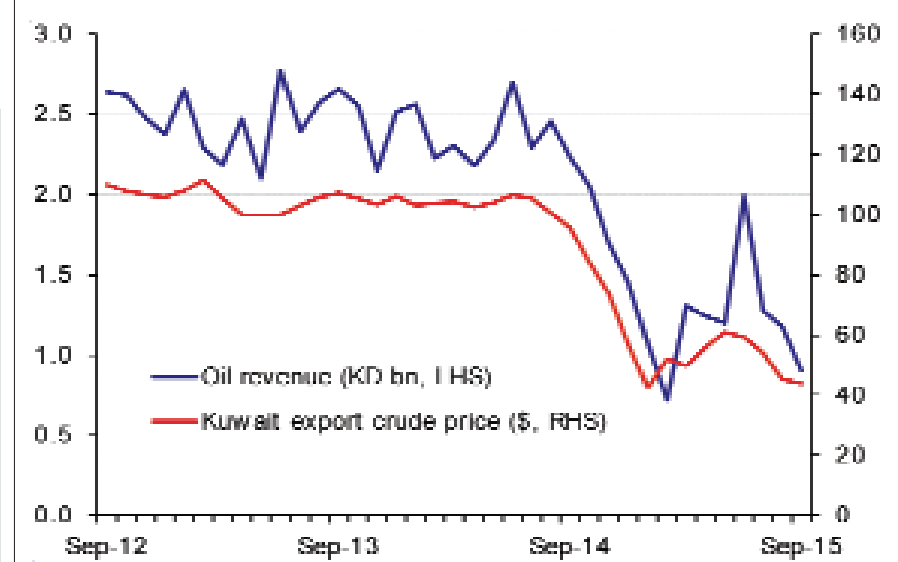
reached KD 58 million compared to only KD 22 million for the same period last year. Spending on projects, maintenance & land purchases, was up by 9 percent y/y.

Oil revenues were almost cut by half on the back of lower crude oil prices and slightly lower oil production. The Kuwait export crude (KEC) price averaged \$43.9 per barrel in September of this year. With oil prices likely to remain relatively subdued, we expect oil revenues to reach KD 14 billion by the end of the fiscal year, surpassing the government's official projections by over 30 percent.

Similarly, non-oil revenues were down 38 percent on lower miscellaneous revenues & fees, which make up a bulk of non-oil revenues. The main reason was the absence of any payments from the UN Compensation Commission (UNCC) this year; the UNCC payments, which are paid by Iraq in compensation for damages from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, were postponed according to a UN decision in December 2014 supported by Kuwait. Excluding the UNCC payment received in June 2014 of around KD 290 million, non-oil revenues this year are down by 8 percent.

The government recorded a preliminary deficit of KD 0.53 billion during the period before the transfer to the RFFG. The interim six month expenditures, which are under-reported, stood at KD 4.8 billion. However, the actual withdrawals from government accounts at the Central Bank of Kuwait, as reported by the Ministry of Finance, stood at KD 8.8 billion as of September. As a result, the reported preliminary surplus of KD 3.6 billion becomes an actual deficit of 0.53 billion during the first half of the fiscal year before the transfer to the RFFG. We

Chart 2: Monthly oil revenues and prices



Source: Ministry of Finance

Total government revenues were KD 8.3 billion in the six months to September, down 45 percent y/y. Both oil and non-oil revenues witnessed significant declines, recording drops of 45 percent and 38 percent y/y, respectively.

estimate FY15/16 will close with a deficit of KD 1.6 billion or 4.3 percent of GDP. Total government spending is projected to decline by 15 percent in FY15/16 while revenues are seen declining by 33 percent.

EU: NO ACCORD YET ON GREEK DEBT PAYMENT

BRUSSELS: Greece stands little chance tomorrow that its euro-zone peers will hand over two billion euros due under a third debt bailout amid differences over the austerity measures demanded in return, EU sources said. "I do not think it will get the green light," one of sources told AFP Friday as officials prepared for a regular euro-zone finance ministers meeting in Brussels.

Greece will likely dominate discussions, as it has done many times during tortuous negotiations over the past five years to keep it afloat and in the 19-nation euro-zone.

Creditors the European Union, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund agreed an 86-billion-euros (\$96 billion) debt rescue in July but set tough conditions requiring Athens to cut spending, raise taxes and modernise the economy. Two earlier bailouts, in 2010 and 2012, totalled 240 billion euros and more than 100 billion more in a private sector debt write-off, but Greece struggled to meet the stringent austerity and reform conditions. EU economic affairs spokeswoman Annika Briedthardt said: "Monday's Eurogroup meeting is an opportunity to take stock of progress."

"Once the assessment is concluded, it will be up to the member states to make a decision on disbursement," Briedthardt said. EU Economic Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici said on Tuesday on a visit to Athens that while there were several issues still to be resolved, he was confident of reaching agreement. "With the spirit of compromise, I believe that we'll find a compromise by the end of the week, in order that the Eurogroup (on Monday) will be a success," Moscovici said. Among the areas still in dispute are creditor demands that Athens implement measures to facilitate home loan foreclosures, so as to help clear up bad debt held by the banks. — AFP

KAZAKH CURRENCY FALLS TO HISTORIC LOW VS DOLLAR

ASTANA: Energy-rich Kazakhstan's national tenge currency plunged to a record low against the dollar Friday as the Central Asian country struggles with low oil prices and the impact of Russia's economic crisis. The tenge dipped to a historic 310 versus the dollar following evening trading on the Kazakh stock exchange, down from 185 against the dollar in August when the national bank abandoned a long-term currency corridor for a free float. Officials in the ex-Soviet country said the tenge's alarming slide was disrupting the preparation of the 2016-18 budget. "Many people thought that adjusting the exchange rate would have a positive impact. There are advantages, but there are more disadvantages," said deputy finance minister Lena Karmazina at a session of the Kazakh legislature's lower house.

"We have a lot of expenses tied to the exchange rate with foreign currencies: international obligations, debt servicing... [imported] medicines, defence capabilities and security."

On Thursday, the tenge dipped 5 percent against the dollar as the central bank vowed to reduce its periodic market interventions, while prospects for the country's key crude oil exports remained gloomy. At the beginning of the week the government dismissed the national bank's governor Kairat Kelimbetov, replacing him with 39-year-old Daniyar Akishev. Kazakhstan's 75-year-old autocrat President Nursultan Nazarbayev promised earlier this year that low oil prices and economic pain in neighbouring Russia would not lead to cuts in social spending. Kazakhstan recorded impressive GDP growth in the decade after the turn of the millennium and is considered an economic leader in the depressed Central Asian region. — AFP



TUNIS: Women harvest olives in the village of Mornag, situated in the locality of Ben Arous, near the Tunisian capital Tunis yesterday. The olive harvest season in Tunisia began in late October. — AFP

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES	
Japanese Yen	2.473
Indian Rupees	4.635
Pakistani Rupees	2.886
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.159
Nepali Rupees	2.904
Singapore Dollar	218.120
Hongkong Dollar	39.290
Bangladesh Taka	3.897
Philippine Peso	6.498
Thai Baht	8.583

GCC COUNTRIES	
Saudi Riyal	81.243
Qatari Riyal	83.688
Omani Riyal	791.320
Bahraini Dinar	809.090
UAE Dirham	82.947

ARAB COUNTRIES	
Egyptian Pound - Cash	39.000
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	37.967
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.422
Tunisian Dinar	153.020
Jordanian Dinar	429.110
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.030
Syrian Lira	2.171
Morocco Dirham	31.231

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	
US Dollar Transfer	304.500
Euro	331.750
Sterling Pound	462.840
Canadian dollar	233.150
Turkish lira	106.450
Swiss Franc	309.140
Australian dollar	220.760
US Dollar Buying	303.300

GOLD	
20 gram	222.00
10 gram	113.70
5 gram	57.53

UAE EXCHANGE CENTRE WLL

CURRENCIES		TELEX TRANSFER PER 1000	
Australian Dollar	206.73		
Canadian Dollar	236.35		
Swiss Franc	310.66		
Euro	335.72		
US Dollar	304.05		
Sterling Pound	471.32		
Japanese Yen	2.55		
Bangladesh Taka	3.891		
Indian Rupee	4.634		
Sri Lankan Rupee	2.159		
Nepali Rupee	2.902		
Pakistani Rupee	2.887		
UAE Dirhams	0.08274		
Bahraini Dinar	0.8080		
Egyptian Pound	0.03778		
Jordanian Dinar	0.4324		
Omani Riyal	0.7895		
Qatari Riyal	0.08383		
Saudi Riyal	0.08104		

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	303.800
Canadian Dollar	234.250
Sterling Pound	469.525
Euro	335.840
Swiss Franc	300.840
Bahrain Dinar	806.320
UAE Dirhams	83.010
Qatari Riyals	91.015

Saudi Riyals	81.740
Jordanian Dinar	428.080
Egyptian Pound	37.724
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.160
Indian Rupees	4.638
Pakistani Rupees	2.878
Bangladesh Taka	3.887
Philippines Peso	6.483
Cyprus pound	578.645
Kenyan Shilling	3.510
Syrian Pound	2.605
Nepalese Rupees	3.895
Malaysian Ringgit	71.750
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	48.415
Thai Bhat	9.520
Turkish Lira	108.260

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
Europe		
British Pound	0.452741	0.461741
Czech Korune	0.004232	0.016232
Danish Krone	0.040313	0.045313
Euro	0.322672	0.330672
Norwegian Krone	0.031649	0.036849
Romanian Leu	0.087234	0.087234
Slovakia	0.009085	0.019085
Swedish Krona	0.031196	0.036196
Swiss Franc	0.296342	0.306542
Turkish Lira	0.101789	0.112089
Australasia		
Australian Dollar	0.223722	0.218004
New Zealand Dollar	0.192727	0.202227
America		
Canadian Dollar	0.237222	0.232222
US Dollars	0.300000	0.304500

US Dollars Mint	0.300500	0.304500
Asia		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003505	0.004105
Chinese Yuan	0.046582	0.050082
Hong Kong Dollar	0.037136	0.039886
Indian Rupee	0.004403	0.004793
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002415	0.002595
Kenyan Shilling	0.003160	0.003160
Korean Won	0.000257	0.000272
Malaysian Ringgit	0.067557	0.073557
Nepalese Rupee	0.002913	0.003083
Pakistan Rupee	0.002774	0.003054
Philippine Peso	0.006429	0.006709
Sierra Leone	0.000067	0.000073
Singapore Dollar	0.212958	0.218958
South African Rand	0.015882	0.024382
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001798	0.002378
Taiwan	0.009264	0.009444
Thai Baht	0.008217	0.008767

Arab		
Bahraini Dinar	0.799422	0.807422
Egyptian Pound	0.037395	0.040225
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000200	0.000260
Jordanian Dinar	0.424918	0.432418
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000152	0.000252
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020624	0.044624
Nigerian Naira	0.001257	0.001892
Omani Riyal	0.783450	0.789130
Qatar Riyal	0.082817	0.084030
Saudi Riyal	0.080457	0.081157
Syrian Pound	0.001289	0.001509
Tunisian Dinar	0.147923	0.155923
Turkish Lira	0.101789	0.112089
UAE Dirhams	0.081814	0.082963
Yemeni Riyal	0.001374	0.001454

CITYSCAPE EXHIBITION TO FOCUS ON PROPERTY OPPORTUNITIES IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT: Kuwait-based investors have always been active investors in global real estate, and as a result the Cityscape Exhibition will have a broad focus on opportunities both in Kuwait and around the world, said Ahmed Zakaria, Exhibition Manager of Cityscape Kuwait, in an interview with Kuwait Times. Excerpts:

Kuwait Times: How do you evaluate the real estate exhibitions' industry in Kuwait? What are they missing? Could this industry reach a higher level in comparison to the regions?
Zakaria: We are very pleased to be present in Kuwait as many of our existing customers for many years have requested for a Cityscape event to be launched in the country. We recognize the importance of the Kuwaiti market, and this year's Cityscape Kuwait reflects that importance as we present the largest real estate exhibition ever held in the country. Cityscape events are recognized as the gold standard for real estate events globally, and Cityscape Kuwait is no different. We are providing a level of quality and participation that is on par with other Cityscape events in the region, and we are sure those that are in attendance will experience something different to what they have in the past.

KT: How do you evaluate the Kuwaiti investments in real estate in general? How is the Kuwaiti investors different from other GCC investors?
Zakaria: Kuwait-based investors have always been active investors in global real estate, and as a result the exhibition will have a broad focus on opportunities both in Kuwait and around the world. The live sessions taking place in the Business Forum and Investment Series have been designed in alignment with the particular interests of Kuwaiti investors. For example, there is a significant emphasis on understanding Islamic finance solutions to match their global investments as well as mapping out the hotspots for both secure and high returns. The Kuwaiti investors are very savvy and are looking to develop a checklist ahead of making their investment; at Cityscape Kuwait we will offer the ultimate solution by producing a world-class exhibition and delivering expert sessions in the live features.

KT: Can you give us a summary about the recent Cityscape exhibitions and markets were held in?

Zakaria: In September alone, we hosted our flagship event - Cityscape Global in Dubai, which is one of the largest real estate events in the world. That was followed by Cityscape Egypt, which is the largest real estate event in Egypt. We have established a strong foothold in several markets in the MENA region including Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, as well as an emerging presence in Asia with shows like Cityscape Korea and Cityscape Malaysia. Next year sees the launch of new events in Turkey and New York. Each one of our existing events is market leading for the locations they serve. They contain elements of their host countries with additional participation from global markets, whilst maintaining the renowned identity of the Cityscape brand as



the most important meeting point for real estate investment and development.

KT: What is the reason behind choosing Emirates as the main destination for your exhibitions?

Zakaria: Our first office in the region was established more than 15 years ago in Dubai, and as a result it developed into our headquarter office for the region. Dubai remains as the largest hub for exhibitions in the region, but

we are continually seeing additional exhibition markets being developed and grown. In many of these markets, we have established offices, and we will continue to do so as we move forward.

KT: How do you evaluate your first time experience with the Kuwaiti market in 2014? And what are your expectations for 2015 version of the exhibition?

Zakaria: Our launch experience in Kuwait was impressive, and as a result we are returning for the 2nd edition with added features. This year we kicked off the Cityscape Kuwait countdown with an exclusive Business Breakfast that was held as a preview to the main event. During the breakfast, we welcomed some of the most senior decision-makers who are shaping the Kuwait real estate and investment market. The Business Breakfast set the tone for the event

KT: Brief us about Cityscape Kuwait

Zakaria: Cityscape Kuwait is a premier international real estate investment and development event which is returning for the second edition on 9-11 December 2015 at Kuwait International Fairgrounds. The exhibition is the latest from the world renowned Cityscape portfolio of events and is set to be the largest real estate event ever to be held in Kuwait. Organized by Informa Exhibitions and Maksab Project Management, and extending over an area of 7000sqm, the exhibition provides local, regional and international participants with a breadth of business and investment opportunities. Cityscape Kuwait provides the opportunity to network, seek out investment and create joint venture partnerships. It brings together investors, developers, home buyers, architects and designers, governmental authorities, key decision makers and senior real estate executives involved in the design and construction of both public and private real estate developments.

KT: What are the number of participants at the exhibition? Countries of participation? Any new distinguished participants?

Zakaria: There are more than 60 exhibitors confirmed to participate this year, of which 66 percent are international companies, from countries such as Turkey, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Cyprus, Cyprus, UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. In addition to these markets, visitors will also have access to properties in UK, Spain, Egypt and many more of the world's most popular locations to live, vacation or invest.

We are delighted that visitors will be able to meet with even more of the world's foremost real estate companies this year, particularly with the new additions of exhibitors such as DAMAC Properties, Dubai Properties, MAS International, Murabahat Real Estate Company, Sharjah Oasis and West Side Istanbul.

KT: In your opinion, what does the real estate exhibitions' industry missing in the Gulf region? How could it be better?

Zakaria: Gulf-based investors are constantly looking for new projects and developments, which motivates us to seek innovative ways to assist our exhibitors in how they engage with



Ahmed Zakaria

the core audience. The tailored information presented in the Business Forum and Investment Series illustrates how we have evolved to cater equally to both the business community and the individual investor. Our content has been developed after significant research with the relevant audience, it is essential to reach out to industry experts.

KT: Do you have any intentions to expand globally? If so, what are the new targeted markets?

Zakaria: We are continually analysing global market trends as well as evaluating the feedback from our current events. This year we launched Cityscape Korea and Cityscape Malaysia as a result of the significant level of interest from both countries at our existing shows. Next year, we are launching into Turkey and New York. Apart from adding new events to our portfolio, we are also observing traction in areas where we are already present in order to target new possibilities for the Cityscape audience.

KT: Tell us about your future plans

Zakaria: We are constantly innovating our existing events to remain current and relevant whilst also looking at what new markets could accommodate a Cityscape event. We do have some things on the horizon and we will share this information in due course.

KUWAIT PRICE INDEX ENDED OCT WITH A MARGINAL GAIN

MARKAZ MONTHLY MARKET REPORT

KUWAIT: Kuwait Financial Centre "Markaz" recently released its Monthly Market Research report. In this report, Markaz examines and analyzes the performance of equity markets in the MENA region as well as the global equity markets for the month of October. MENA markets ended mostly in red during the month of October 2015 although global markets strong gains for the same period. Abu Dhabi (-4.0%) suffered the most, followed by Saudi Arabia (-3.8%), Dubai (-2.5%) and Bahrain (-2.0%). Despite the slight increase in oil prices during October, the overall drop of oil prices continue to strain the MENA markets. The regional markets are also responding to instability in the global economy and governments monetary tightening in response to low oil prices. KSA is contemplating spending cuts and tax increases to manage its fiscal deficit. Egypt (3.1%), Oman (2.4%) and Qatar (1.2%) markets gained in October. Kuwait's price index ended the month of October with a marginal gain of 0.9%. On the contrary the Kuwait weighted index remained stagnant.

Global equities ended the October month with strong gains after a sharp fall in August and September, which was fueled by fears over the global slowdown, with China as the epicenter. Oil prices rose after the U.S. oil rig count fell for a ninth straight week, indicating potentially lower crude

output in coming months in the face of a global supply glut. Subdued worries about slowing Chinese growth, proactive approach of rate cuts by People's Bank of China to stimulate the economy and investor's positive response to U.S. Federal Reserve continued lower interest rates low and the European Central Bank further easing are some of the key reasons that fueled the rally of the Global equity markets in October.

Markaz report added that MENA markets liquidity gained some momentum in October, with volume increasing by 12% and value traded by 14.2%, post the lull market activity. However, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Bahrain are a few exceptions where the trading activity declined. Morocco showed the most improvement with value traded increasing by 33.3% and volume traded increasing by 58%. With the value traded declining by 79% and volume by 68%, Bahrain's market liquidity was worst hit.

The report pointed out that Emirates Telecom (UAE) has benefited from its decision to allow foreign and institutional investors to own its shares from Mid-September and has rallied since then. Despite the drop of 9% in Q3 profits, it managed to be the top gainer (7%) in October, followed by SABIC (KSA) and NCB (KSA) which gained 4.8% and 4.5% respectively. First Gulf Bank (-11.5%), National Bank of Abu Dhabi (-8.6%) and Al Rajhi Bank (-5.9%)

were the top three losers in October. With the top three losers being banks, it is evident that banks in the region are grappling with margin pressures and liquidity issues as the oil producing states face a squeeze on budgets from lower oil prices.

Saudi Arabian Government is actively pursuing several initiatives to keep its fiscal budget deficit in check. Saudi Arabia is considering raising domestic fuel prices; the existing system of subsidies in the kingdom is blamed for waste and surging fuel consumption. Saudi Arabia's government was in talks with local banks to sell them 20 billion riyals (\$5.3 billion) of local currency bonds.

Iran will officially notify producer group Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in December of its plans to raise its crude oil output by 500,000 barrels per day (bpd). Kuwait said there were no calls within OPEC to change the oil group's production policy and that lower output from high-cost producers could support prices in 2016, adding to signs OPEC will keep its strategy of defending market share. Meanwhile, OPEC forecast in a monthly report that demand for its oil in 2016 would be much higher than previously thought as lower prices curb US shale oil and other rival supply sources, reducing a global surplus. US oil drillers removed 16 rigs in the week ended Oct. 30, bringing the total rig count down to 578, the least since June 2010.

MEZZAN HOLDING REPORTS Q3 15 FINANCIAL RESULTS

KUWAIT: Mezzan Holding KSCC, one of the largest manufacturers and distributors of food, beverage, FMCG and pharmaceutical products in the Gulf, today announced the company's financial results for Q3 2015, reporting KD46.3 million in Revenue up 5.6% from Q3 2014, thus bringing its year to date Revenue to KD150.8 million, representing a 10.5% increase on the same period in 2014.

Mezzan Holding CEO, Garry Walsh, said: "Q3 performance was in line with our expectations, where the movement of the Eid holiday from October 2014 to September 2015 was a drag on revenue growth, particularly in our FMCG business. We were pleased to deliver gross margin expansion from last quarter, as we had anticipated, and stronger gross margin than Q3 2014 with most businesses making a positive contribution. We also continued to invest behind our brands and distribution, as we increased our spending in

marketing, running our first ever above-the-line campaigns for the Al Danah brand in Kuwait, and for Khazan and KITCO Kettle Chips in UAE. We lapped some one-time benefits recorded in Q3 2014 (pre-listing), which had a negative impact on net profit growth ratio in the quarter vs. 2014. Despite this, our 9-month performance is in line with expectations with revenue growth of 10.5% and underlying profit growth of 16.5%. We also saw improvement in our Working Capital Days and a reduction in Net Debt vs. Q3 2014.

Our Full Year outlook continues to be High Single Digit / Low Double Digit Revenue growth with some leverage on the net profit line, which is in line with the targets we set at the beginning of the year. We will continue to invest prudently in our brands and infrastructure to ensure we deliver quality products to our customers and consumers, while continuing to maximize shareholder value."

GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-DANAH DAILY DRAWS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank held its Al-Danah daily draws on 1 November 2015 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 25 October - 29 October 2015. The Al-Danah daily draws include draws each and every working day for two prizes of KD1,000 per winner.

The winners were:

(Sunday 25/10): Hanadi Mohammed Hussain Al-Musa, Hussain Waleed Al-Gareeb

(Monday 26/10): Talal Mohammad Al-Saleh, Wafaa Yousef Ali Hussein Jamal

(Tuesday 27/10): Hassain Ahmad Jaha, Ali Abdullhussain Zayart Zadah

(Wednesday 28/10): Fatmah Abdullaheem Mohammed Sadeq, Najwa Abdulwahab Abdulaziz Al-Zawawi

(Thursday 29/10): Anwar Mohammed Faris Khelif Al-Enzy, Noor Jassem Ahmad Al-Reshed Al-Bader

Gulf Bank's Al Danah 2015 draw lineup includes daily draws (2 winners per working day each receive KD1,000). The final Al Danah draw for One Million Dinars will be

held on 7 January 2016. The Al Danah Millionaire will be announced alongside winners of KD250,000 and KD50,000 cash prizes.

Five reasons why the Al Danah account is the Best:

- 1) Kuwait's single biggest yearly cash prize of KD 1 Million
- 2) Kuwait's biggest quarterly cash prizes, up to KD500,000
- 3) Two winners of KD1,000 every working day
- 4) The most opportunities to win (64 draws a year, and up to 532 winners)
- 5) Only Bank that transfers your chances to win from year to year

Open an account and Deposit now to Win Big, Live Big, with Al-Danah 2015.

Al-Danah also offers a number of unique services including: the Al Danah Deposit Only ATM card which helps account holders deposit their money at their convenience; as well as the Al Danah calculator to help customers calculate their chances of becoming an Al Danah winner.



ATUABO: The natural gas processing plant in Atuabo, outside a village on Ghana's remote west coast, shows Ghana's President John Dramani Mahama (C), flanked by George Sipa-Adjah Yankey (R), head of the Ghana National Gas Company, and Minister of Energy and Petroleum Emmanuel Kofi Buah (L), speaking to reporters during his visit. — AFP

VOICES OF CONSUMERS: JOBS REPORT SHOWS INCLINATION TO SPEND

Americans finally feel confident enough in the US economy to splurge.

Friday's jobs report suggested that many of the hefty total of 271,000 positions added in October resulted from consumer spending - and the expectation that solid spending would extend through the holiday shopping season.

People are treating themselves to gourmet hamburgers, expanded wardrobes and new cars. Their spending has offset the global weakness that has hampered the manufacturing sector, jarred the stock market and depressed oil prices.

The economy remains far from fully healed. Yet job growth has generated more confidence and helped power a recovery entering its seventh year.

The government said restaurants and bars employed an additional 42,000 workers last month. Clothing stores added 19,500, auto dealers 5,600.

Roughly half the jobs added came from just three sectors that depend on consumers: Health care; retail; and hospitality and leisure. Overall, the hiring helped push the unemployment rate to a seven-year low of 5 percent. It showed that even the slow rebound from the Great Recession is generating traction after years of subpar growth levels.

In Boston, Michael Leonard is looking to buy a car. "I've got a higher salary and lower expenses up here," said Leonard, of Boston's Back Bay neighborhood, who started a new accounting job in April after moving from Charleston, South Carolina.

He's been buying lunches at restaurants twice a week and going out to dinner about once a week, more than he did in Charleston. And he now plans to upgrade to a nicer vehicle than he

first intended. "I'd be getting used," Leonard said. "Now I'm looking at new." After recently graduating from college, Christiane Kinder found a job managing customer

service in Boston and "more disposable income" faster than she expected.

She doesn't have a car and spends little on transportation, giving her more to spend on clothes and food. "I spend most of my paycheck on T.J. Maxx," said Kinder, a self-described "foodie."

Even as the economy improves, some people are still waiting for their expenses to become more manageable. In cities like Denver and San Francisco, sharply rising housing costs have put the benefits of an improving job market out of reach for many residents.

Chris Harvey, a 32-year-old Denver resident, bemoaned the city's high rents and said his spending habits haven't changed. "The rent - it's going through the roof," Harvey said, smoking a cigarette outside his apartment building a few blocks from the state capital.

Harvey said he's paying \$785 for a studio, and to make ends meet, he's renting part of it to friends who need a place to stay. He doesn't plan to spend any more than usual during the holiday shopping season.

The low oil prices have minimized inflation. But that's hurt some who manage on fixed incomes.

In St. Paul, Minnesota, Lynne Navratil, 64, retired after working for the Ramsey County government. The relative absence of inflation means that Social Security recipients like her are receiving no cost-of-living-adjustment, even as her expenses for rent and health care have increased.

"I do love to eat out a lot, but I'm really having to budget closely in order to make it each month," she said. "It doesn't feel good."

Navratil said she'll be spending less on holiday shopping this year than she usually does "because I can't afford it."

The revival of downtowns around the country has helped boost spending on night life and construction. Demand for new buildings helped raise construction wages 1.5 percent over the past month - an 18 percent annualized increase - to an average of \$25.40 an hour. That compares with an average 0.4 percent month-over-month increase for all rank-and-file US employees.

New Orleans' central business district is full of newly constructed loft apartments and hip restaurants popular with millennials who like being able to walk everywhere.

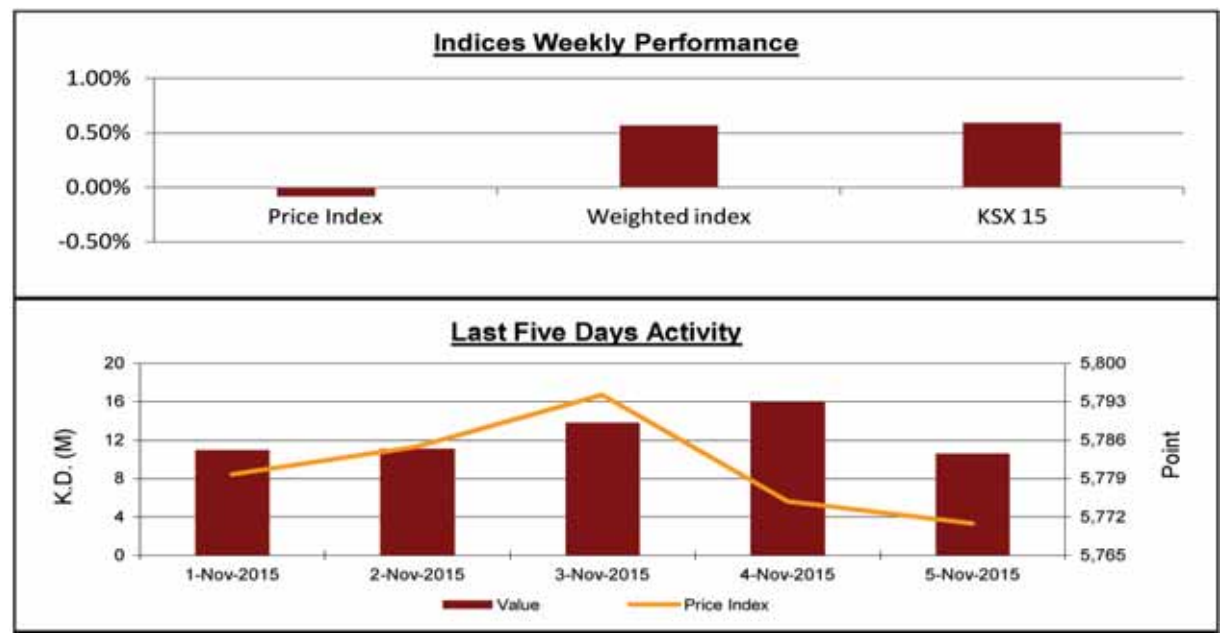
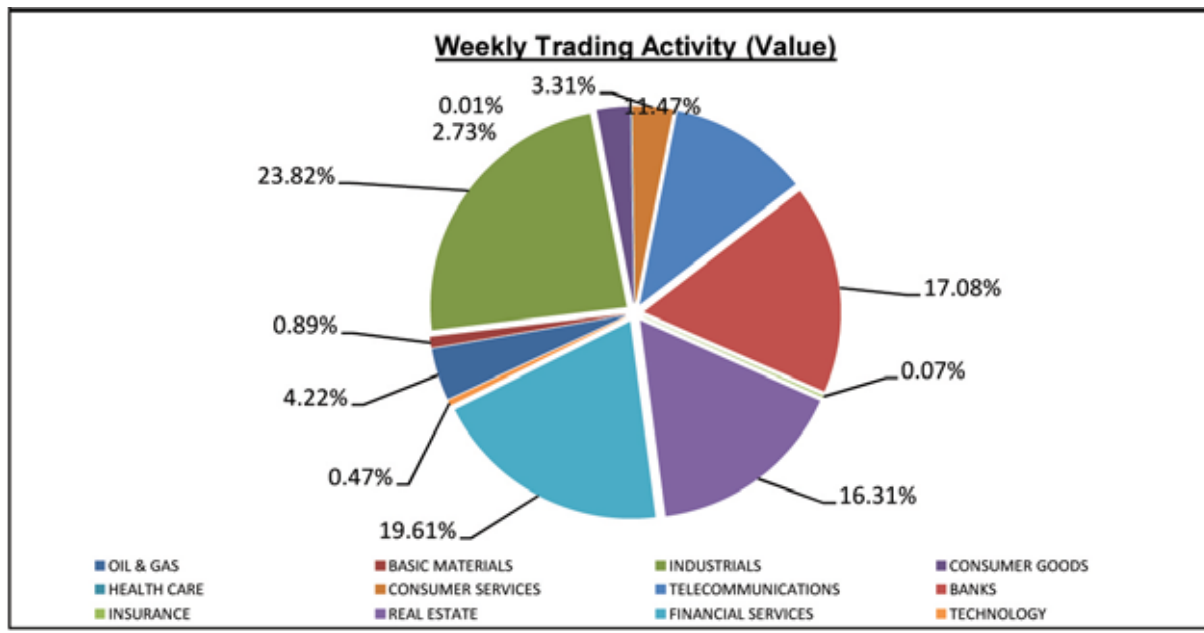
"I'm not the kind of guy who really buys a lot of clothes, but I do eat out a lot," said Todd Jones, a resident of the neighborhood, whose most recent restaurant outing was to the newly opened Company Burger next to his office.

Jones said he hasn't particularly changed his purchasing habits in recent months. But has noticed in his accounting work that his clients are faring better - bringing in more business and, in turn, paying their workers more. Belinda Laws, who works at UBS Financial Services in New Orleans, was waiting outside her office Friday to buy lunch at a Thai food truck.

She credited her improved financial situation in recent years to the fact that her children graduated from college and no longer need her support.

Laws plans to take a trip to New York this holiday season to visit her daughter. She's also noticed that many of her friends and family in recent years have seen their financial situations improve as well.

"It's better today than it was two or three years ago," Laws said. — AP



KUWAIT EQUITIES REMAIN LACKLUSTER

BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

KUWAIT: Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week with mixed performance. The Price Index closed at 5,770.78 points, down by 0.08 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index increased by 0.57 percent after closing at 390.58 points, whereas the KXS-15 Index closed at 929.77 points up by 0.59 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 6.42 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching KD 12.48 million, whereas trading volume average was 151.02 million shares, recording a loss of 3.27 percent.

The stock market indicators closed mixed by the end of the week, as the Weighted Index and KXS-15 Index were able to realize gains supported by the random purchasing operations that included some leading and heavy stocks, while the Price Index went against the current and ended the week with limited losses as a result to the selling operations and the profit collection operations executed on some small-cap stocks.

Moreover, the market witnessed in the first session of the week a positive performance which enabled it to realize limited increase for the three indices, as a result to the active speculative operations that concentrated on the small-cap stocks, among a relative stability to the leading stocks; and despite the limited speculated performance of the market throughout the session, in a downward direction, the end of session trading activity came to push the three indices to close in the green zone. Also, the market indicators were able to end Monday's session with some gains as a result to the collection operations that included some large-cap and small-cap stocks, in light of a very limited increase in the traded liquidity.

MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	755,077,996	780,569,875	-3.27%
Value (K.D)	62,405,275	58,638,275	6.42%
Deals	18,418	17,080	7.83%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)			
Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
25,896,935,937	25,759,478,474	0.53%	-7.45%

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
LOGISTICS	79.00	60.00	19.0	31.67%
GIH	37.00	32.50	4.5	13.85%
MTCC	70.00	63.00	7.0	11.11%
TAM	520.00	470.00	50.0	10.64%
TAHSSILAT	43.00	39.00	4.0	10.26%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
IFAHR	106.00	166.00	-60.0	-36.14%
MARAKEZ	26.50	32.50	-6.0	-18.46%
MENA	26.00	29.50	-3.5	-11.86%
HUMANSOFT	940.00	1,060.00	-120.0	-11.32%
KMEFIC	31.50	35.50	-4.0	-11.27%

On the mid-week session, the market witnessed a mixed closing to the three indices, whereas the Price Index continued its increase in light of the quick speculations and the random purchasing operations that concentrated on the light weighted stocks, whilst the profit collection operations executed on some leading and heavy stocks pushed the Weighted and KXS-15 indices to end the session in the red

KSE INDICES				
		Price Index	Weighted index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,770.78	390.58	929.77
	Previous week	5,775.36	388.37	924.30
	Change (Point)	-4.58	2.21	5.47
	Change (%)	-0.08%	0.57%	0.59%
Annual	Last year	6,535.72	438.88	1,059.95
	Change (Point)	-764.94	-48.30	-130.18
	Change (%)	-11.70%	-11.01%	-12.28%

zone. Furthermore, the market indicators witnessed variance in its closings on Wednesday's and Thursday's sessions also, however with changing positions, as the Price Index declined in both sessions affected by the profit collection operations executed on the stocks of previous gains, which caused it to lose all its gains realized since the beginning of the week, while the Weighted and KXS-15 indices were able to change its direction positively, supported by the purchasing operations executed on the heavy stocks, which enabled it to compensate its losses and end the week in the green zone.

The market cap for Kuwait Stock Exchange reached by the end of last week to KD25.90 billion, increasing by 0.53% compared to its level in a week earlier, which was KD25.76 billion. On the annual level, the market cap for the listed companies in the market recorded decline of 7.45 percent from its value at end of year 2014, where it was KD 27.98 billion.

As far as KSE annual performance, the Price Index ended last week recording 11.70 percent annual loss compared to its closing in 2014, while the Weighted Index decreased by 11.01 percent, and the KXS-15 contracted by 12.28 percent.

Sectors' Indices

Six of KSE's sectors ended last week in the green zone, and six recorded declines. Last week's highest gainer was the Telecommunications sector, achieving 2.38 percent growth rate as its index closed at 576.93 points. Whereas, in the second place, the Oil & Gas sector's index closed at 790.36 points recording 1.09 percent increase. The Financial Services sector came in third as its index achieved 0.67 percent growth, ending the week at 654.03 points.

On the other hand, the Technology sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 2.33 percent to end the week's activity at 849.18 points. The Consumer Services sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 0.64 percent, closing at 987.36 points, followed by the Real Estate sector, as its index closed at 963.17 points at a loss of 0.56 percent. The Consumer Goods sector was the least declined during last week, as its index recorded a weekly loss of 0.20 percent, closing at 1,098.22 point.

Sectors' Activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 238.59 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 31.60 percent of the total market trading volume. The Real Estate sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 29.80 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 225.01 million shares.

On the other hand, the Industries sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around KD 14.87 million or 23.82 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Financial Services sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. KD 12.24 million representing 19.61 percent of the total market trading value. -Prepared by the Studies & Research Department, Bayan Investment Co.

SECTORS' WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY				
Sector	Volume	To Market %	Value	To Market %
OIL & GAS	51,423,201	6.81%	2,635,765	4.22%
BASIC MATERIALS	1,647,145	0.22%	552,884	0.89%
INDUSTRIALS	141,005,030	18.67%	14,865,182	23.82%
CONSUMER GOODS	5,890,030	0.78%	1,704,014	2.73%
HEALTH CARE	62,100	0.01%	7,848	0.01%
CONSUMER SERVICES	20,086,383	2.66%	2,062,949	3.31%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	24,844,860	3.29%	7,159,267	11.47%
BANKS	41,762,606	5.53%	10,660,166	17.08%
INSURANCE	242,985	0.03%	45,246	0.07%
REAL ESTATE	225,009,863	29.80%	10,176,020	16.31%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	238,587,341	31.60%	12,240,190	19.61%
TECHNOLOGY	4,516,452	0.60%	295,743	0.47%

SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE					
Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %	
OIL & GAS	790.36	781.81	1.09%	-25.65%	
BASIC MATERIALS	1,012.13	1,016.59	-0.44%	-10.54%	
INDUSTRIALS	1,075.72	1,079.42	-0.34%	0.50%	
CONSUMER GOODS	1,098.22	1,100.40	-0.20%	-10.41%	
HEALTH CARE	952.98	948.58	0.46%	1.35%	
CONSUMER SERVICES	987.36	993.71	-0.64%	-8.71%	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	576.93	563.52	2.38%	1.14%	
BANKS	934.07	933.88	0.02%	-7.07%	
INSURANCE	1,055.33	1,054.13	0.11%	-10.37%	
REAL ESTATE	963.17	968.58	-0.56%	-14.76%	
FINANCIAL SERVICES	654.03	649.70	0.67%	-21.40%	
TECHNOLOGY	849.18	869.45	-2.33%	-7.32%	

STOCKS END MIXED AS MARKET FACTORS INTEREST RATE HIKE

WALL STREET WEEKLY REPORT

NEW YORK: Stocks had a mixed reaction Friday to the surprisingly strong October jobs report as investors adjusted to the prospect of higher interest rates as early as next month.

While the major indexes, on the surface, had a muted reaction to the jobs numbers, look at the individual parts of the market showed investors were actively reshuffling their portfolios.

Dividend-paying stocks, which are typically bought for their higher-than-average payouts when interest rates and bond yields are low, dropped sharply on Friday. The Dow Jones utility index, a basket of 15 dividend-paying utility stocks, sank 4 percent.

In contrast, bank stocks rose sharply as investors bet that higher interest rates would translate into higher profits, since they may be able to charge more for lending. JPMorgan Chase rose \$2.02, or 3 percent, to \$68.46, Bank of America rose 64 cents, or 3.7 percent, to \$17.95 and Morgan Stanley rose \$1.53, or 4.5 percent, to \$35.41. "You just need to look at those two groups and see that the market is positioning itself for higher interest rates," said Ryan Larson, head of equity trading at RBC Global Asset Management. Wall Street has been in a months-long guessing game about the Federal Reserve, trying to figure out when the policymakers at the nation's central bank will finally raise interest rates. The market turmoil over the summer kept the Fed from raising rates at their September meeting, and policymakers decided to wait yet again at their October meeting to see more signs the US economy was on sure footing.

By nearly every account, the October jobs report gave the Fed exactly what they wanted. The Labor Department said US employers added 271,000 jobs, far more than the most

hopeful of expectations, and the unemployment rate dipped to a fresh seven-year low of 5 percent, from 5.1 percent. The burst of hiring, the most in 10 months, filled jobs across a range of industries.

"This makes it pretty likely the Fed will raise rates in December," said Priscilla Hancock, a

global fixed income strategist for J P Morgan Asset Management.

Fed fund futures, which are securities that bet on which way the Fed will move interest rates, now show roughly a 74 percent chance of the central bank raising rates in December, up from 60 percent on Wednesday and up

from well below 50 percent as recently as late summer. But the size of the predicted interest rate increase remains modest. Investors expect interest rates will go from their current 0-to-0.25 percent levels to 0.5 percent.

"The Fed is still going to be extremely accommodative for investors. A rate hike in

December is removing those emergency measures that the bank put into place during the financial crisis," Hancock said. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 46.90 points, or 0.3 percent, to close at 17,910.33. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell less than a point to 2,099.20 and the Nasdaq composite rose 19.38 points, or 0.4 percent, to close 5,147.12.

The bond market's reaction to the jobs number was far more volatile than the stock market's, with bond prices sinking as investors scaled back their holdings of Treasuries and safer investments.

The benchmark 10-year US Treasury note rose to a yield of 2.32 percent from 2.23 percent on Thursday, a big move for that security. The two-year note jumped to a yield of 0.89 percent, a five-year high for that note, from 0.83 percent the day before.

The data also caused the dollar to rise sharply against its major currency counterparts. The euro fell to \$1.0742, its lowest level in six months, and the dollar rose against the Japanese yen to 123.19.

The stronger dollar caused a selloff in commodities as well. Benchmark crude oil fell 91 cents, or 2 percent, to \$44.29 a barrel and Brent crude, which is used to price international oils, fell 56 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$47.42 a barrel. Gold fell \$16.50, or 1.5 percent, to \$1,087.70 an ounce, silver fell 29 cents, or 2 percent, to \$14.69 an ounce and high-grade copper fell a penny, or 0.6 percent, to \$2.242 a pound.

In other energy products, heating oil rose less than a cent to \$1.49 a gallon, wholesale gasoline futures rose a penny to \$1.37 a gallon and natural gas rose 0.7 cent to \$2.371 per 1,000 cubic feet. —AP



NEW YORK: A Wall Street address carved into the side of a building in New York. Global stock markets were subdued on Friday ahead of a US jobs report that's likely to influence whether the Federal Reserve raises interest rates in December. —AP



Kuwait Airways welcomes Airbus A350 XWB

Rasha Al-Roumi: Revolutionary event in the history of air transportation in Kuwait

The Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) welcomed the Airbus A350 XWB during a prestigious celebration held on November 5, 2015 at the Amiri Airport. This event was attended by popular political and diplomatic personalities, in addition to representatives of Airbus Company, and different media.

This is the first time ever for the Airbus A350 XWB aircraft to land in Kuwait. Some of the attendees of this event had the opportunity to go on an experimental tour onboard of the plane in Kuwait skies in cooperation with Airbus Company, the manufacturer of this unique plane with wide international reputation, which factory is based in Toulouse France.

The event was accompanied with a gathering at the Marina Crescent where huge audience were able to watch the Airbus A350 XWB flying in the sky of Kuwait, and they received valuable souvenirs.

A celebration was held at the Kuwait International Airport on the occasion of Kuwait Airways signing a contract with Airbus to purchase 25 new airplanes; 10 Airbus A350 XWB and 15 Neo A320, which will join the KAC's fleet in 2020, as part of its strategy that aims to bring more comfort, luxury and entertainment for its passengers.

On this occasion, Rasha Al-Roumi, Chairman and Managing Director of KAC welcomed the attendees saying: "This event is a crossroad not only in the history of our Corporation thus in the industry of air transportation in Kuwait in general. This is the first time ever for the Airbus A350 XWB to land in Kuwait. KAC set a long-term strategy of strengthening its leading position between the air carriers in the region and the world. This was behind signing this contract, aiming to inform the Kuwaiti society about this new type of airplane that will join the fleet of KAC."

She added: "Your Trust is our Aim. This is our slogan, and we believe in this slogan and daily work to apply it in reality as part of our dedication to provide the best for our clients, and to present the KAC in the best way representing the real picture of our beloved Kuwait."

"On this occasion we should thank the Airbus, this international company that have carried millions of passengers around the world

onboard of its aircrafts since it was established. We thank them for their cooperation with the KAC and this partnership, which is based on their trust in our services and reputation. Airbus is a leader of the best aircrafts in the world, as well as KAC is among the leaders of the airline companies in the region and the world," she pointed out.

Al-Roumi concluded saying that KAC made great improvements in its fleet focusing on safety and security, in addition to providing high quality maintenance due to its team of best technicians and trained service staff. With announcing the joining of 25 new Airbus planes to our fleet, we open new bright page in the history of Kuwait Airways that appreciates the trust of its clients."

From his side Fouad Attar, Managing Director, Airbus Middle East, said: "Today, we feel very much honored to bring the A350XWB to Kuwait and give aviation experts a preview of Kuwait Airways' future fleet, which start operating in 1954 with the A350XWB at the heart of it. Kuwait is one of the most important markets in the region, and we are proud to present our aircrafts to KAC, our strategic partner, which will

be our best represent. We are proud to hold this experimental tour in the sky of Kuwait."

Regarding the new aircraft he stated: "The A350XWB stands out in its class thanks to its combination of passenger comfort and state of the art technological innovation. What you will experience today is a new dimension of air travel experience".

He also said that this visit is a precursor to the delivery of Kuwait Airlines' first A350 XWB aircraft in 2020. As part of its ongoing fleet expansion and modernization strategy, Kuwait Airlines has ordered a fleet of 10 of the all-new mid-size long range A350 XWB.

The Airbus A350 XWB MSN 2 aircraft visiting Kuwait is fitted with a two class cabin layout with 42 lie-flat business class seats in a four abreast configuration and 210 economy-class 18 inch wide seats set at nine abreast. The aircraft is also fitted with special on-board flight test equipment.

The world's latest generation airliner, the A350 XWB, is the newest member of Airbus' modern, comfortable & efficient wide-body product family. Offering customers a game-changing reduction in fuel-burn, the long-range A350 XWB features the most modern aerodynamic design, carbon fiber fuselage and wings, plus new fuel-efficient Rolls-Royce Trent XWB engines.

Together, these cutting-edge technologies translate into unrivalled levels of operational efficiency, with a 25 per cent reduction in fuel burn and emissions, and significantly lower maintenance costs. For passengers, it brings new levels of in-flight comfort, with an extra-wide cabin offering more personal space in all classes, including 18 inch wide seats as standard in economy class.

"At the end of October, Airbus had recorded a total of 783 firm orders for the A350 XWB from 41 customers worldwide, already making it one of the most successful wide body aircraft ever," he concluded.

Through this contract the Kuwait Airways will provide best services for its clients, and will be in a position allowing it to expand its operations. KAC is currently carrying its passengers to over 40 destinations around the world including Asia, Europe, Africa, and North America.



The plane goes on an experimental stimulation tour in Kuwait's sky



Airbus representative honoring Al-Roumi.





ALL-NEW 2016 FORD EDGE TO DEBUT AT DUBAI MOTORSHOW LOADED WITH MORE TECHNOLOGY, HIGHER LEVELS OF CRAFTSMANSHIP

DUBAI: The all-new Ford Edge makes its regional debut at the Dubai International Motorshow next week, demonstrating what happens when a proven leader gets even better. The original crossover utility vehicle from Ford is loaded with more technology, higher levels of craftsmanship and greatly improved vehicle dynamics.

When launched in late 2006, Edge helped to define the crossover sport utility vehicle segment. With a car-based design, Edge delivered better on-road comfort, fuel efficiency and overall driving dynamics than any truck-based SUV. It was proof a utility vehicle could meet the demanding needs of an everyday commuter.

The 2016 Edge is all-new from wheels to roof, designed to reset the standard in the two-row utility vehicle market. Based on Ford's successful, global midsize vehicle platform, Edge has been reimagined with a stronger, more athletic shape. It has been retooled to meet higher expectations for quality, and reengineered to add more features and technologies for a more rewarding driving experience.

"The original Edge was our first entry into the world of crossover utilities - a technologically advanced vehicle that was the perfect blend of sedan comfort and efficiency with SUV functionality," said Raj Nair, Group Vice President, Global Product Development. "Now, we are building on that success, and building on the emotional appeal of the vehicle by offering more of the technology our customers want in a package that meets the highest expectations for quality and craftsmanship."

With the new Edge, Ford is also building on its utility vehicle leadership around the world. Last year, the company sold a record 1.2 million utility vehicles in markets across the globe - up 38 percent from 2012.

Dynamic all-new body and suspension

The 2016 Edge will deliver the confident, smooth driving experience customers expect from Ford.

"The all-new Edge has been remade in almost every single detail, always keeping in mind the customer, who expects something premium, powerful and special," said Judy Curran, vehicle line director for Ford. "With a structure more rigid than ever and a suspension tuned to the highest global standards, the 2016 Edge is a high-tech utility that delivers a special driving experience customers will feel from their first moments behind the wheel."

Central to the improved driving dynamics is an entirely new body structure and redesigned suspension - front and rear - developed specifically to better isolate road imperfection and absorb noise without compromising handling.

The front-wheel-drive Edge retains a MacPherson-type front suspension, but features an entirely new, sophisticated integral-link independent rear with coil springs and a 23-millimeter antiroll bar. The advanced new system has been tuned to deliver a more dynamic, engaging ride customers will feel

Three new engines

The all-new Edge will feature three engine options, two of which are new powerplants - a standard twin-scroll 2.0-liter EcoBoost(r) four-cylinder and a 2.7-liter EcoBoost V6. A normally aspirated 3.5-liter V6 engine will also be offered. All will be equipped with dual exhaust and a six-speed automatic transmission.

Edge represents the first Ford vehicle to feature standard EcoBoost power.

The twin-scroll 2.0-liter EcoBoost, offering an estimated 245 PS and 372 Nm of torque, is significantly improved over the previous 2.0-

liter, high-pressure direct-injection fuel system for finer fuel atomization.

These upgrades pave the way for an increased compression ratio of 9.7:1, up from 9.3:1, for improved overall fuel efficiency.

On the other side of the engine spectrum is Edge Sport, with an exclusive, all-new 2.7-liter EcoBoost engine that will provide an exceptional combination of power and efficiency. Setting a new standard in world-class powertrain engineering, this twin-turbocharged V6 is one of the world's most advanced engines. The 2.7-liter EcoBoost uses

power and torque of a mid-range V8.

Expected to deliver more than 315PS and 474 Nm of torque, this 2.7-liter EcoBoost will ensure Edge Sport is the highest-performance Edge ever.

The suspension in Edge Sport has front and rear antiroll bars that are 15 percent stiffer than the base model, and unique rear monotube dampers that are larger in diameter. The coil springs are 10 percent stiffer. Overall, with improved damping and control, Edge Sport offers improved road-holding capability, giving the driver more control, sharper steering and greater confidence.

Paddle-activated SelectShift puts driver in control

All three engines are mated to Ford's SelectShift(r) six-speed automatic transmission with paddle-shift activation. Drivers will have the ability to manually select gears via race-inspired paddles on the steering wheel. The paddle-shift system is standard on all models. The SelectShift transmission features two modes of operation - drive and sport. Sport mode offers a more aggressive shift pattern, allowing the engine to rev higher during acceleration, and hold lower gears longer to support spirited, fast-paced sessions.

Unlike many paddle-shift systems, the Edge six-speed automatic is always "live in drive," so the driver won't have to select sport mode to enable operation.

The available all-wheel-drive system for the new Edge is full-time, on-demand and seamless - there are no knobs or switches to activate. An electronically controlled clutch, which can engage faster than a human can blink, transfers power between the front and rear axles, sending up to 100 percent of the power front or back.

New level of technology for better driving

The 2016 Edge will be a technology leader for Ford, with a suite of standard and available technologies designed to improve the driving experience and the level of occupant comfort. Technologies being offered for the first time include enhanced active park assist, side parking sensors and a front camera with washer.

"The new Edge is a rolling showcase of Ford's commitment to developing and offering the latest, most advanced technology in the business," said Curran. "We know our customers have embraced technology - from smartphones to wearable devices that track their health. Technology is part of their lives. We want to make it part of their driving experience as well."



immediately.

Thanks in part to the use of more high-strength steels, the solid body structure of the all-new Edge provides a far better platform for the new suspension to work. Compared to the 2014 Edge, the new model shows a 26 percent increase in stiffness when reacting to bending forces and a 16 percent increase in stiffness when reacting to twisting forces.

This means less noise, vibration and harshness characteristics, giving Edge customers a quieter, more substantial ride. As a result, Edge is well suited for an everyday commute, but ready to attack when the road opens up.

liter EcoBoost. Beyond efficiency advantages, this new engine will also provide more capability. Edge equipped with the 2.0-liter EcoBoost can be specified with newly available all-wheel drive and a towing package capable of hauling a 3,500-pound trailer.

Among a host of changes to the 2.0-liter EcoBoost is a twin-scroll design enabling optimized camshaft timing for improved engine performance and reduced turbo lag. A new, lighter engine block casting along with new aluminum balance shaft assembly shaves six pounds from the engine's gravitational weight. Other changes include lighter pistons; a newly designed, integrated exhaust manifold; and a

the same compacted graphite iron in its cylinder block as is used in the 6.7-liter Power Stroke. This advanced cylinder block allows for a remarkably stiff and compact design that returns exceptionally refined noise, vibration and harshness control. The compacted graphite iron core is mated with a die-cast aluminum engine-block ladder frame and composite oil pan, saving weight by applying advanced materials where they are needed most. The strength of the compacted graphite iron cylinder block allows the 2.7-liter EcoBoost engine to produce impressive power and torque for its size. Compact and efficient, the all-new engine can produce the

WARBA BANK LAUNCHES PARTNERSHIP WITH HONDA ALGHANIM MOTORS

KUWAIT: Warba Bank launched a new exclusive partnership with Honda Alghanim Motors in Kuwait to provide the best financing services to its customers as part of the "Pay Installments with the Price of Cash" campaign. This partnership provides exclusive offers giving Warba customers and everyone wishing to purchase any Honda Car from 2015-2016 models the chance to finance their favorite car at easy installments for a period reaching thirty months without increase on the original cash price in an easy way in full compliance with the rules of Islamic Sharia. Customers will be having the option for extending the installments to different periods.

Warba Bank provides this unique and exclusive offer to its customers in collaboration with Honda Alghanim, so that they can now purchase the Honda car of their choice without the burden of any additional burdens. This comes as part of Warba's continuous

efforts to enhance the customers' banking experience and enable them to manage their daily needs smoothly and easily in Compliance with the rules of the Islamic Sharia.

It is worth mentioning that Warba Bank has recently launched a similar exclusive partnership with Hamad M Al Wazzan & Partners - Ford dealers in Kuwait giving customers the chance to purchase their favorite car from the selective car collection through easy financing for up to three years at the original cash price.

Warba Bank is keen to continue providing comprehensive and innovative banking solutions for Kuwaiti nationals and giving them the chance to acquire what they want without suffering financing burdens and without any additional charges on resale.

Warba Bank aims at enhancing the level of banking services by reaching out to its customers and attracting the biggest segment of Kuwaiti nationals. The Bank continues the "Transfer Your Salary" Campaign which enables the new customer to receive up to KD 150 cash when opening the account and transferring the salary along with offering a wide range of services that provides the customers with enriching banking experience through the Bank's set of ATM and credit cards.

To learn more about the "Pay Installments with the Price of Cash" offer, customers can contact the Call Center at 1825555, visit any of the Bank branches at the said car agents or follow us on social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram) to know about the latest offers and services that the Warba provides or even propose a suggestion.



NEW 2016 FIGO ENTERS MIDEAST MARKET

FORD SETS NEW BENCHMARK FOR COMPACT SEDANS

DUBAI: Ford sets the new benchmark for compact sedans in the Middle East with the introduction of the new 2016 Ford Figo this week across the region.

The compact sedan Figo delights consumers with its inspired design, smart technology, advanced safety features, world-class quality and powerful, efficient engines.

"The new Figo proves that you don't need to sacrifice quality, design or functionality to have an affordable, powerful compact car," said Kalyana Sivagnanam, Vice President - Marketing, Sales and Service at Ford Middle East & Africa. "Figo is the ideal urban mobility vehicle, built to our high global standards, and offering more quality and advanced technologies than one would expect for the money." Figo will be offered in three trim levels: entry-level Ambiente, mid-level Trend and top-of-the-line Titanium. Figo will come in both 4-door or 5-door configurations and offer a choice of a 1.2L or 1.5L petrol engine.

Sophisticated and smart technology

Reflecting the growing need for consumers to stay connected at all times, the Figo features exceptional smart technologies that help customers integrate their car more easily into their digital lives.

MyFord Dock, a first-in-class feature, offers drivers a unique solution for storing, mounting and charging mobile phones, MP3 players and satellite navigation systems, and for integrating these devices into the car's entertainment system. When not in use, the dock can be closed out of sight.

Consumers looking for even greater technological integration can choose a Figo equipped with SYNC(tm), Ford's advanced in-car connectivity system. SYNC allows drivers to control their phone and entertainment hands-free

using simple voice commands.

To encourage responsible driving, the new Figo features Ford's MyKey technology. MyKey lets owners program keys with restricted driving modes that encourage good habits, such as increasing seat belt use, limiting vehicle top speeds and regulating audio volume.

"With MyKey, Figo owners can set sensible restrictions for drivers with less experience," said Sivagnanam. "For instance, they can activate a maximum speed limit, or a persistent seatbelt minder that mutes the audio system volume



and continues to play a chime until front-seat occupants fasten their seatbelts."

Safe and in command

Designed from the ground up to protect occupants in the event of a collision, the Figo features a robust passenger cage created from high-strength steel, and first-in-class standard driver and passenger airbags across the range. Also for the first time in a compact sedan, the Figo offers up to six airbags - including side and curtain airbags - for an extra level of protection in the front and rear compartments.

While on the road, the Figo helps instill confidence with available driver-assist technologies that take the stress

out of driving. When setting off on a steep slope - whether uphill or downhill - the segment-first Hill Launch Assist feature holds the vehicle for up to three seconds as the driver's foot moves from the brake to the accelerator.

During sudden maneuvers, the Electronic Stability Program keeps the driver in command, braking individual wheels as needed to keep the vehicle on course. An Anti-lock Braking System with Electronic Brake Force Distribution also helps drivers to stay in control, preventing wheel lockup and maintaining stability while braking.

Electronic Stability Program keeps the driver in command, braking individual wheels as needed to keep the vehicle on course. An Anti-lock Braking System with Electronic Brake Force Distribution also helps drivers to stay in control, preventing wheel lockup and maintaining stability while braking.

Elegant and efficient design

Complementing the Figo's smart and safe innovations is a striking, elegant design that set it apart from competitors. A bold trapezoidal grille and elongated headlamps give the Figo a substantial yet sporty presence on the road. Chrome highlights and fine details in the headlight design also add an unmistakably premium touch for discerning car buyers looking to make a statement.

Keeping the customers in mind, the design is as functional as it is modern and elegant.

The swept-back lines of the wind-

shield and A-pillars, which help to give the Figo its dynamic appearance, are the result of close to 150 hours of wind-tunnel testing and extensive digital modeling to enhance aerodynamic performance. The result is better fuel efficiency and reduced wind noise.

A speed lip under the front of the car further enhances aerodynamic performance by deflecting air away from the underbody, where components can create significant drag, and the side mirrors have been optimized to minimize drag and reduce wind noise. At the rear, sharp, clean edges on the deck-lid and tail lights help the Figo to slip smoothly through the air, reducing turbulence behind the car to reduce drag.

The aerodynamic design even helps to keep occupants cool, as airflow through the grille is directed to heat exchangers to improve air conditioning performance.

Intelligent interior

The sophisticated and stylish exterior of the Figo is matched by a modern interior that delivers an extraordinary experience for a compact car. Intelligent and careful space management creates a surprisingly roomy cabin emphasizing quality, comfort and convenience.

All occupants will notice exceptional levels of craftsmanship, with colours and materials carefully selected by Ford designers to create a refined and premium environment.

Thanks to a powerful automatic climate control system, passengers can enjoy the interior space in even greater comfort.

The Figo also offers no fewer than 20 smart storage spaces and convenience features to ensure the driver and passengers never need to leave anything behind.

AVAYA MARKS A DECADE AS LEADER IN GARTNER MAGIC QUADRANT FOR CORPORATE TELEPHONY

DUBAI: Avaya, a global leader in business communications systems, software and services, today announced it has reached one full decade as a Leader in Gartner Magic Quadrant for Corporate Telephony with the most recent report.

The 2015 Gartner Magic Quadrant for Corporate Telephony report notes that the "market is evolving from a focus on innovation in proprietary hardware to use of commodity hardware and standards-based software. While most telephony solutions shipping

today are Internet Protocol (IP)-enabled or IP-PBX solutions, the associated endpoints are a mix of time division multiplexing (TDM) and IP."

Avaya has fully embraced these trends by offering telephony as both a fully virtualized solution for customer-preferred servers and in an appliance model on commodity servers optimized for Avaya. In terms of end points, Avaya uniquely offers TDM and IP enabled end-points for H.323 and SIP as well as a comprehensive client for Windows,

Android and iOS devices. When it comes to purchasing new or upgrading systems, Gartner recommends that "decision criteria for corporate telephony platforms should focus on high-availability, scalable solutions, which support Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), desktop and softphone functionality, and the ability to integrate with enterprise IT applications while delivering toll-grade voice quality."

Avaya's standards-based (SIP) telephony software delivers high quality voice

capabilities that can be seamlessly extended to and accessed from desktop phones, softphones and mobile devices. Avaya Aura(r) Communication Manager, the company's flagship telephony and unified communications technology for enterprises, supports some of the world's largest contact centers, global businesses, and highly critical emergency communications operations.

With the acquisition of Esna earlier this year, Avaya now enables workers to

access communications from inside browser-based applications such as Salesforce, Google for Work, Microsoft 365 and others, eliminating the need for them to move in and out of different applications and thus streamlining work streams and display screens. Avaya Engagement Development Platform enables developers to use a simple tool to tightly integrate communications into business processes and contextual data to further streamline workflows and increase productivity.



HELSINKI: These is a computer generated emojis made available by Finland's Foreign Ministry on Wednesday Nov. 4, 2015. Finland is launching a series of 'national emojis' that include people sweating in saunas, classic Nokia phones and heavy metal head-bangers. Petra Theman from the Finnish Foreign Ministry says the emojis will be released as a way to promote the country's image abroad and are based on themes associated with Finland. — AP

AS FACEBOOK GROWS, EXPECT TO SEE MORE ADS ON INSTAGRAM

WORLD'S SECOND-LARGEST DIGITAL AD PLATFORM AFTER GOOGLE

SAN FRANCISCO: If you're starting to notice more ads on Instagram, it's all part of Facebook's plan. Facebook, the world's largest social network, has steadily built its advertising business to become the world's second-largest digital ad platform after Google. Now it's looking at ways to make more money from video ads and from newer services like Instagram, the mobile photo-sharing app that it bought for \$1 billion in 2012.

Instagram recently announced it has over 400 million monthly users, surpassing the 300 million who use the rival social networking site Twitter. While Facebook has been introducing Instagram ads slowly - to avoid irritating users by overloading them with commercial messages - the company said in September that it would allow more kinds of ads, including longer video spots, on the photo-sharing service.

With those new formats, Instagram could produce more than \$250 million in revenue for the current quarter, Evercore ISI analyst Ken Sena estimates. Businesses will spend about \$600 million on Instagram ads this year - and nearly \$1.5 billion in 2016, according to research firm eMarketer.

"When we talk to advertisers and ad agencies, they're very interested in Instagram," said eMarketer analyst Debra Aho Williamson.

One reason: In recent years, there's been a debate over whether teens and young adults are forsaking Facebook in favor of newer, trendier online services. But Williamson said young adults are "very visually focused and pretty heavy users of Instagram."

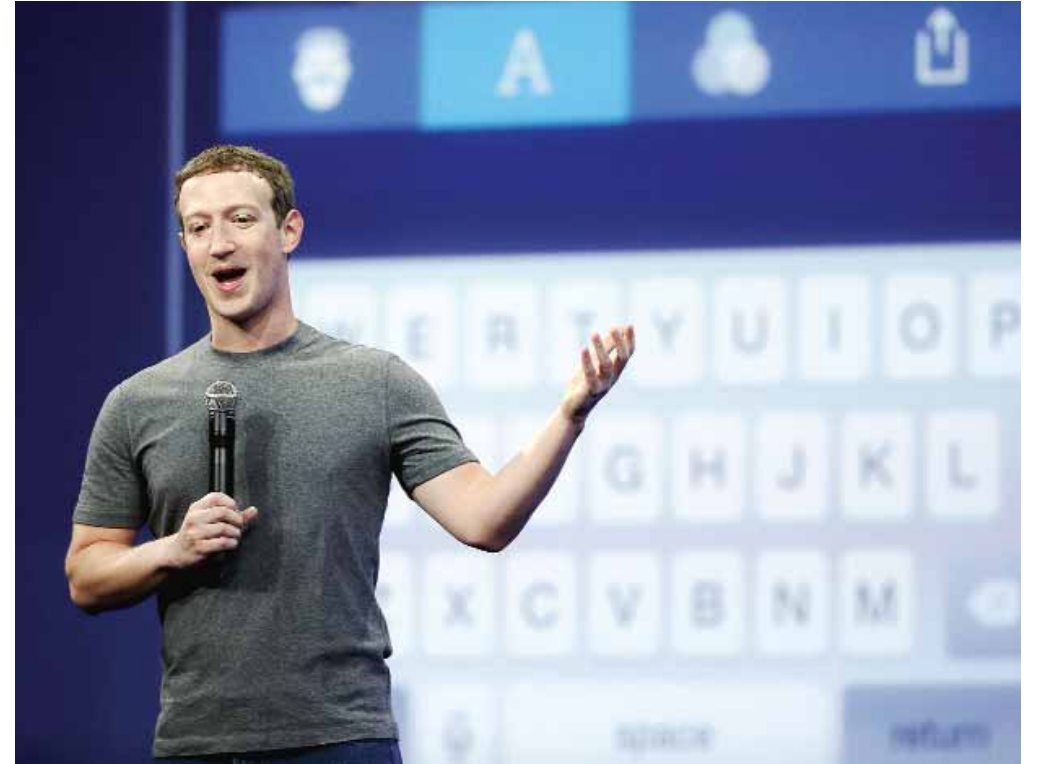
Facebook doesn't disclose how much of its revenue comes from Instagram. The company beat Wall Street estimates on Wednesday by reporting third-quarter net income of \$891 million, on revenue of \$4.5 billion. Profit was up 11 percent, while revenue grew 40 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Ad revenue

More than 1.55 billion people now visit Facebook at least once a month, up 14 percent from a year ago. Daily users increased by 17 percent, to 1.1 billion. As in previous quarters, Facebook said a majority of users are visiting Facebook on mobile devices, and mobile ads contributed 78 percent of the company's ad revenue.

Those results drove Facebook's stock up more than 3.5 percent in late trading, after shares closed Wednesday at \$103.94. Facebook has seen continued growth in revenue and users over the last three years, but the company is growing more slowly as it gets bigger. That's led it to consider new ways of showing advertising.

Facebook is also increasingly introducing new ways for its users to share and watch video on the social network, positioning itself against Google's popular YouTube service. CEO Mark Zuckerberg told analysts Wednesday that Facebook users are now watching



SAN FRANCISCO: In this March 25, 2015, file photo, Mark Zuckerberg talks about the Messenger app during the Facebook F8 Developer Conference in San Francisco. Facebook reports quarterly financial results on Wednesday. — AP

more than 8 billion video clips a day on the site, up from 4 billion in April. (Facebook counts any clip played for at least 3 seconds as a "view.")

Analysts say Facebook has huge, untapped potential in both video and its growing stable of apps and services, many of which operate separately from the main social network. That includes Instagram, the WhatsApp messaging app and Oculus VR, which makes virtual reality gear.

More than 800 million people are now using WhatsApp, the messaging app Facebook bought for \$19 billion in 2014, and another 700 million people use the Messenger service that Facebook developed internally. While the company hasn't spelled out plans to make money from those apps, chief financial officer David Wehner told analysts Wednesday that he's confident "there are going to be opportunities" in the future.

Virtual reality technology

Zuckerberg also cautioned that it will take time for virtual reality technology to gain wide adoption. But chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg stressed

Instagram's more immediate potential during the company's quarterly earnings call.

For advertisers, she boasted, Facebook and Instagram are the "two most important mobile platforms out there." Instagram offers advertisers the same targeting and measurement capabilities they can get with ads on Facebook, she added.

Facebook still handles less advertising than Google, its biggest rival, but its share of global spending on digital ads is growing, according to eMarketer. The firm estimates Facebook's share will be 9.6 percent this year, up from 8 percent last year, while Google's will drop from 32 percent last year to 30.4 percent this year.

Experts caution that Facebook must be careful as it introduces new kinds of advertising, so it doesn't overwhelm or annoy users. The company worked closely with advertisers to make sure the first ads on Instagram "met a high bar" for aesthetics and creativity, Williamson said. Still, she said she's recently seen "a couple of duds." Sandberg acknowledged that concern, telling analysts the company is monitoring the quality of ads closely. — AP

NSA SAYS HOW OFTEN, NOT WHEN, IT DISCLOSES SOFTWARE FLAWS

SAN FRANCISCO: The US National Security Agency, seeking to rebut accusations that it hoards information about vulnerabilities in computer software, thereby leaving US companies open to cyber attacks, said last week that it tells US technology firms about the most serious flaws it finds more than 90 percent of the time.

The re-assurances may be misleading, because the NSA often uses the vulnerabilities to make its own cyber-attacks first, according to current and former US government officials. Only then does NSA disclose them to technology vendors so that they can fix the problems and ship updated programs to customers, the officials said.

At issue is the US policy on so-called "zero-days," the serious software flaws that are of great value to both hackers and spies because no one knows about them. The term zero-day comes from the amount of warning users get to patch their machines protectively; a two-day flaw is less dangerous because it emerges two days after a patch is available.

The best-known use of zero-days was in Stuxnet, the attack virus developed by the NSA and its Israeli counterpart to infiltrate the Iranian nuclear program and sabotage centrifuges that were enriching uranium.

Before its discovery in 2010, Stuxnet took advantage of previously unknown flaws in software from Microsoft Corp and Siemens AG to penetrate the facilities without triggering security programs.

A shadowy but robust market has developed for the buying and selling of zero-days, and as Reuters reported in May 2013, the NSA is the world's top buyer of the flaws. [http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/10/us-usa-cyberweapons-specialreport-idUSBRE9490EL20130510] The NSA also discovers flaws through its own cyber programs, using some to break into computer and telecommunications systems overseas as part of its primary spying mission.

Some zero-days are worth more than others, depending on such factors as the difficulty in finding them and how widespread the targeted software is. While some can be bought for as little as \$50,000, a prominent zero-day broker said this week that he had agreed to pay \$1 million to a team that devised a way to break into a fully updated Apple iPhone. Chaouki Bekrar, of the firm Zerodium, told Reuters the iPhone technique would "likely be sold to U.S. customers only," including government agencies and "very big corporations."

Government officials say there is a natural tension as to whether zero-days should be used for offensive operations or disclosed to tech companies and their customers for defensive purposes.

In the wake of revelations by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden and a Reuters report that detailed how the government paid security firm RSA to include NSA-tainted encryption in its software, [http://www.reuters.com/arti-

cle/2013/12/21/us-usa-security-rsa-idUSBRE9BJ1C220131221] a White House review panel recommended tilting government policy more towards defense. [http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/16/us-cyber-summit-reforms-idUSBREA4F0MX20140516]

President Barack Obama's cybersecurity coordinator, Michael Daniel, then said he had "reinvigorated" the review process that decides what to do about each flaw that comes to government attention. The details of that process remain classified, but interviews show that the changes sharply elevated the role of the Department of Homeland Security, which is responsible for defense and had not previously been at the center of inter-governmental debates on the issue.

After Daniel described the revamped process broadly, the activist Frontier Foundation sued for documents about it under the Freedom of Information Act.

The most significant release in that case came in September, with an undated and partly redacted 13-page memo outlining how agencies should handle knowledge about software vulnerabilities. The memo [https://www.eff.org/document/vulnerabilities-equities-process-redactions] states that the NSA's defensive arm, the Information Assurance Directorate, served as the executive secretary for the process.

HOMELAND SECURITY

A redacted portion of the memo lists the agencies that participated in the process as a matter of course. An unredacted part refers to other agencies that can ask to participate on a case-by-case basis, and the Department of Homeland Security appears in that section, along with the departments of State, Justice, Treasury and Commerce.

Two former White House officials said that the memo referred to the old system, before Daniel reorganized it about a year and a half ago. In an interview, Daniel told Reuters that DHS was a key part of the new system, which is run by the White House's National Security Council. "DHS is at the table in the process I'm running," Daniel said. An NSA spokeswoman referred questions about its policy to the NSC, where a spokesman referred Reuters back to the NSA. The NSA says on its website that it understands the need to use most flaws for defense.

"In the vast majority of cases, responsibly disclosing a newly discovered vulnerability is clearly in the national interest," according to the website. [https://www.nsa.gov/public_info/news_information/2015/ncsam/discovering_solving_sharing_it_solutions.shtml]

"But there are legitimate pros and cons to the decision to disclose vulnerabilities, and the trade-offs between prompt disclosure and withholding knowledge of some vulnerabilities for a limited time can have significant consequences. — Reuters

CHINA TO GO AFTER ONLINE RETAIL SALES IN FIGHT AGAINST FAKES

SHANGHAI: China plans to crackdown on the sale of fake goods online by using cloud computing, big data and tighter rules on user identity in its latest moves to quash counterfeiting.

China has been trying to reign in its counterfeiters, who have copied everything from Apple iPhones to Louis Vuitton handbags, since it joined the World Trade Organization in 2001 and was required to adhere to global standards on intellectual property rights.

The country plans to eradicate intellectual property rights infringement on the internet within 3 years, it said in a posting by China's cabinet on its official website yesterday. China will promote

the use of a "real-name system" on the internet and electronic tags to make it easier to track goods and the identities of offenders, the statement said.

Inter-regional law enforcement will also be improved, it said, with a focus on sharing information amongst Beijing, Tianjin and the Yangtze River Delta, as well as other regions.

In a rare move, China singled out Walt Disney Co for special trademark protection on Thursday.

More than 40 percent of goods sold online in China last year were either counterfeits or of bad quality, the official Xinhua news agency reported earlier this week. — Reuters



This photo courtesy of BlackBerry shows the BlackBerry Priv. The company isn't giving up on BlackBerry 10, but it has released its first Android phone to lure those who want the wide array of apps available on Android, but not BlackBerry. — AP

CHINA STATE-OWNED FIRM TO BUILD \$15BN CHIP PLANT

BEIJING: A state-owned Chinese company said Friday it plans to pour nearly \$15 billion into a giant memory chip factory, as Beijing seeks to create homegrown semiconductor champions to reduce reliance on foreign technology.

Tongfang Guoxin Electronics Co. aims to invest 93.8 billion yuan (\$14.8 billion) in the plant, it said in a filing with the Shenzhen stock exchange.

Tongfang Guoxin is controlled by Tsinghua Holdings Co., the commercial arm of Tsinghua University in Beijing, and ultimately China's education ministry.

China is regularly accused of cyberspying by the West but says it is a victim of hacking, and it has been encouraging research and development of homegrown semiconductor technologies as part of its "national information security strategy."

China needed to overcome "long-time restrictions imposed by the United States, Japan and Europe" over semiconductor materials and equipment, the ministry of industry and information technology said in a statement in June.

In the stock exchange filing, Tongfang Guoxin said: "China will only be able to effectively

guarantee its information security by making its own... integrated circuits."

The company will raise up to 80 billion yuan by selling new shares to eight companies and employees, it said, in what could be one of the world's biggest private placement deals.

Six of the eight corporate buyers in the placement are themselves affiliates of Tsinghua Holdings, according to the statement. Most of the proceeds will go towards the new plant which will take two years to go into trial operations-while 25 percent will be used to acquire firms in the semiconductor industry, it added. — AFP

UN REPORT RAISES CEILING FOR GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTION

STOCKHOLM: The UN's environmental authority has quietly raised its assessment of the level at which global greenhouse gas emissions must peak to avoid dangerous climate change, as governments seek a new accord to fight global warming.

In its first four annual emissions reports in 2010-2013, the United Nations Environment Program said emissions must not exceed 44 billion tons in 2020 for the world to limit global warming to 2 degrees C (3.6 degrees F). But with real-world emissions rising far beyond that level, UNEP has since last year downplayed its focus on 2020 as a make-or-break year for emissions reductions.

In this year's Emissions Gap report, a

summary of which was released Friday, UNEP says the world can still reach the 2-degree target with emissions of 52 billion tons by 2020, which is just slightly below today's level. The new analysis assumes that emissions cuts will drop faster after 2030 than was assumed in previous reports.

UNEP chief scientist Jacqueline McGlade told The Associated Press the earlier assessments weren't wrong, but were based on emissions scenarios that are "no longer realistic." Critics said the change reflects political pressure to show the 2-degree goal is still feasible as governments work on the UN climate agreement that's supposed to be adopted in Paris next month. "The emissions

gap report gives the questionable impression that despite increasing emissions there's always a way to reach the 2C target," said Oliver Geden, of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin.

Becomes unmanageable

The 2-degree target was adopted in UN climate talks in 2010. Two degrees of warming compared with pre-industrial times, is widely seen as a level where climate change becomes unmanageable, with fast-rising sea levels, intensifying droughts and other impacts. Scientists say temperatures have already risen more than 0.8 degrees C (1.4

degrees F) since the industrial revolution, and that the warming is mostly man-made, mainly due to emissions from the burning of fossil fuels.

UNEP now places little emphasis on its earlier view that emissions must peak before 2020. Last year it just said emissions "need to peak soon" and this year's summary didn't even mention a peaking year. Its scenarios assume the world will be able to remove more greenhouse gas from the atmosphere than what is added by human activity in the latter half of the century to make up for overshooting benchmarks earlier, which Geden called a "dubious" concept.

The idea of so-called "negative emissions"

is that humans would plant more emissions-absorbing forests and crops, and deploy expensive technologies that capture emissions from the energy and industry sectors. The UNEP reports are based on scientific assessments by the authoritative Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. IPCC scientist Chris Field said that at some level questions of what peaking year or emissions reductions are feasible aren't really about science. "It is about the priority that the topic is assigned," he said. "With a high enough priority, societies or even the world community can do amazing things. But amazing accomplishments require amazing efforts." — AP



WASHINGTON: President Barack Obama, accompanied by Vice President Joe Biden and Secretary of State John Kerry, announces he's rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline because he does not believe it serves the national interest, Friday Nov 6, 2015, in the Roosevelt Room of the White House. — AP

KEYSTONE SNUBBED: OBAMA AIMS FOR MORE LEVERAGE ON CLIMATE

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY ON THE LINE

WASHINGTON: For years, President Barack Obama chided Republicans and Democrats alike for treating the Keystone XL pipeline as a signal of whether the US would seriously fight global warming. Now that he's killed the project, Obama is holding it up as Exhibit A as he works to lock in his environmental legacy with a powerful international climate accord.

Rejecting Keystone, the proposed 1,779-mile crude oil pipeline from Canada to the US, was the latest in a long and growing list of steps Obama has taken to try to show the US is leading the effort against global warming. Even while Republicans have fought Obama tooth-and-nail at home, he's sought to use those steps to pressure other countries into taking similar action - especially poorer, developing countries that for years have argued that climate change is not their problem.

At the center of Obama's efforts are landmark carbon dioxide emissions limits on US power plants that have been cheered by environmentalists but derided by most energy advocates. Although the rules are proceeding for the time being, they face an uncertain future. Half of the states in the US are suing to try to block them.

"There has been a steady drumbeat of steps the president has taken that are more impactful for climate change, factually, than Keystone," said White House communications director Jen Psaki. "Our view is that we need to continue to lead by example. Is that difficult? Yes, of course it is."

Climate treaty

If the power plant rules falter, Obama would be hard-pressed to secure the 26 percent to 28 percent cut in US emissions that he's pledged as America's commitment to the climate treaty. If the US comes up short, analysts predict, other countries like China will start backing out. Obama is counting on the climate treaty, to

be finalized early next month in Paris, to vault him into a category of his own: the first president to treat climate change as a top-tier issue, and the first to secure the type of commitments from other countries needed to address the problem significantly.

To that end, Obama's many executive steps to reduce greenhouse gases have been designed in part to maximize his leverage when he negotiates overseas. Aside from the power plant rules, Obama has ramped up fuel efficiency standards for cars and trucks, taking aim at one of the biggest sources of greenhouse gases. His administration has also moved to curb emissions from methane, hydrofluorocarbons and other pollutants while providing more federal dollars for renewable energy sources like wind, hydro and solar.

And in the run-up to Paris, Obama struck major climate deals with China, hoping that a commitment by the world's largest polluter to cut emissions would make it impossible for other developing nations like India and Brazil to beg off from making commitments of their own. China, which is still building coal plants to fuel growing power consumption, plans to max out its carbon emissions around 2030, if not sooner.

"To fight climate change effectively, we will need to make thousands of changes across our economy," Michael Brune, the head of the Sierra Club, said in an interview. "We have gone through a period of increased climate denial, but now we're in a place of dramatically increased acceptance of the need to act on climate."

Wrangling over mechanisms

World leaders have been working for years to hash out what they hope will be the most sweeping and powerful pact ever reached on global warming. Although the initial deal will include pledges by countries that extend through 2030, negotiators are wrangling over mechanisms to ensure countries revisit and

ramp up their commitments for the rest of the century.

Yet while prospects for finishing a deal in Paris are high, already there are growing doubts about whether the pact will go far enough to avert the worst effects of climate change, and concerns about its durability. Facing bleak prospects for getting a Republican-controlled Congress to ratify a climate treaty, Obama is pursuing a deal that won't require formal congressional sign-off, a strategy that reflects the challenges many other world leaders face in securing domestic support for tough action on climate.

In rejecting TransCanada's application for Keystone, Obama set aside the litmus test he established in 2013 when he unveiled his second-term climate change agenda with plenty of pomp. Wiping sweat from his brow under the summer sun at Georgetown University, Obama said he'd block the pipeline if it would "significantly exacerbate the problem of carbon pollution."

It wouldn't, Obama's administration concluded, but he nixed it anyway. Casting forward to global climate talks, Obama suggested he'd have less credibility if he approved Keystone - not because it would hasten climate change, but because that's what people think. In documents, his administration cited the "broad perception" that Keystone would carry "dirty" oil.

"America is now a global leader when it comes to taking serious action to fight climate change," Obama said in the Roosevelt Room. "And frankly, approving this project would have undercut that global leadership." Yet Obama's ambitious steps to curb US emissions have been tempered by other moves aimed at bolstering US energy production - to the dismay of environmentalists who believe the US must move quicker to phase out fossil fuels entirely. In addition to loosening the US ban on crude oil exports, Obama has opened up new areas to oil drilling and declined to ban the use of "fracking" to drill for natural gas. — AP

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS ON TOXIC WEST COAST CRABS

CALIFORNIA: A poisonous substance linked to a massive algae bloom off the West Coast has led officials to halt recreational shellfishing from Washington to California and is blamed for sickening dozens of seabirds, seals, whales and other marine life. Here are some key things to know about the problem:

What's going on?

Domoic acid, a naturally occurring neurotoxin, has been found in high levels in a variety of shellfish, which in turn are eaten by predators up the food chain - including humans. Domoic acid poisoning can cause vomiting, seizures and, in severe cases, coma and death. No recent human illnesses have been reported, however.

What's being done about it?

On Thursday, California wildlife authorities closed the year-round rock crab fishery north of the Santa Barbara-Ventura county line and delayed the start of the recreational Dungeness crab season, which was to begin Saturday. There's also a chance the Nov. 15 start of commercial fishing will be pushed back until it's determined the domoic acid in crabs is again at safe levels. Oregon state officials issued an advisory this week for all recreationally caught crab along the state's southern coast, from south of Coos Bay to California. The commercial season there doesn't begin until Dec 1.

Can store-bought shellfish make you sick?

Unlikely. Seafood caught commercially is subject to regular testing. Authorities say there's more concern about shellfish caught by recreational clam-diggers and crabbers. Oregon officials warned people to remove the viscera, or guts, before eating recreationally caught crab meat. Oregon and Washington state also have barred digging for razor clams on ocean beaches.

How will this affect commercial fishing?

The impact could be disastrous, depending on whether and how long fishing is off-limits. The commercial Dungeness crab take from Washington, Oregon and California has been cyclical, ranging from 8 million to 54 million pounds a year. But it remains one of the West Coast's most valuable fisheries, according to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. California's annual take alone is worth an esti-

mated \$60 million, according to state fish and wildlife officials. A delay in commercial catching would come at a bad time for small fishing outfits because they make a lot of their money supplying crabs for Thanksgiving and Christmas tables.

What's causing the high domoic acid levels?

Domoic acid is produced by the plankton species *Pseudo-nitzschia*, which is eaten by shellfish and some fish. The high levels found in shellfish can be traced to a vast algae bloom off the West Coast, which has seen unusually warm ocean temperatures as a result of El Nino, said Jordan Traverso, a spokeswoman at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Such blooms are cyclical, but this summer surveyors aboard a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration research vessel said the bloom was one of the largest ever observed on the West Coast. The ribbon of microscopic algae, up to 40 miles wide and 650 feet deep in places, now stretches from at least California to Alaska.

Is climate change a factor?

Researchers aren't sure if there's a connection but say the algae blooming cycles might be more extreme because of warm-water changes. "There's no question that we're seeing more algal blooms more often, in more places," Pat Glibert, professor at Horn Point Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, said this summer. "When they do occur, they're lasting longer and often over greater geographical areas. We're seeing more events than documented decades ago."

Are other species affected?

Warm-water algae blooms aren't the only problem threatening marine life. A report published late last month in *Science* magazine said the rapid warming of waters off New England is a key factor in the collapse of the region's cod fishery. Warming waters also have been blamed for the collapse of the lobster fishery in Connecticut and Rhode Island. The northern New England lobster population is booming while the southern stock struggles. Warming waters also are blamed for an influx of black sea bass off Maine and New Hampshire that fishermen say prey on lobsters there. — AP



SAN FRANCISCO: Imported Dungeness crabs are displayed for sale at Fisherman's Wharf. — AP

DOCTORS' SUICIDAL THOUGHTS EASED WITH ONLINE THERAPY

CHICAGO: Doctors-in-training face long, stressful hours, sleepless nights and a high risk of depression and suicidal thoughts, but often are too stoic and time-starved to seek help. A study suggests online self-help behavior therapy could be a solution. Suicidal thoughts were much less common in new doctors who had four half-hour online sessions before starting their first year of training, compared with those who got no therapy.

The research involved about 200 medical interns - residents in their first post-graduate year, which is often one of the most intense periods of doctor training. It often involves 80-hour weeks and overnight hospital shifts dealing with multiple medical crises.

An earlier study of 740 interns found that suicidal thoughts increased almost four-fold during the first three months of residency, said Dr Constance Guille of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Her research group led both studies. Sarah Dalechek, a first-year psychiatry resident at that university, said her program requires two month-long rotations of 16-hour overnight shifts in an emergency room. She said she became very depressed but had little time to seek help.

"It's very stressful because you're sleep-deprived, you're not eating right ... you're working back-to-back shifts and you're trying to catch up on sleep but you can't," Dalechek said. She was not involved in the study. Dalechek said she looked into seeing a therapist but would have preferred a web-based

program since it's confidential and requires no appointment. Luckily, her depression subsided when that rotation ended.

Free online programs

Guille said offering web-based therapy routinely to medical residents could be beneficial, if her research results are confirmed in a broader study. The results were published Wednesday in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry*. The study involved interns at Yale University and the University of Southern California. It used a free online program developed at the National Institute for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University in Canberra. Overall, 12 percent of interns who got online therapy said they had thought about suicide during the year, versus 21 percent of the interns who received four weekly emails with information on depression and where to seek help. After accounting for initial group differences that could increase chances for depression and suicidal thoughts, the researchers calculated that interns who got the sessions were 60 percent less likely to have those thoughts than the other group. The online program included sessions about how to put feelings of stress or despair into perspective. For example, a poor test grade or bad performance evaluation might lead to feelings of "I'm not good enough," but the lessons encourage more positive thinking about "how many exams have you passed, to put this failure in a more accurate light," Guille said. — AP

WHITE RHINOS ARRIVE IN ZOO TO BE SURROGATE MOTHERS

SAN DIEGO: The San Diego Zoo has welcomed six southern white rhinos from South Africa in hopes they'll become surrogate mothers for the critically endangered northern white rhino. Zoo officials said Friday that the six

female southern white rhinos arrived to the zoo late Thursday after a 22-hour flight from Johannesburg. They were transported in individual crates and unloaded into fenced yards for a 30-day quarantine. The rhinos are living at the

zoo's new Rhino Rescue Center, built specifically for the six females. They will not be on public display. The rhinos ate normally and slept for a good portion of their long flight, said Steve Metzler, interim associate curator of mammals

at the zoo. Metzler was with the animals during the journey.

"Our priority now is to ensure the rhinos are comfortable and acclimating to their new surroundings," Metzler said in a statement. Zoo researchers are working on developing northern white rhino embryos to be implanted in the six new arrivals, who will serve as surrogate mothers. Just four northern white rhinos are left in the world, including 41-year-old Nola, a female who lives at the San Diego Zoo. The other three live in Kenya.

The subspecies has been decimated by poachers, who kill the rhinos for their horns. The horns are in high demand in parts of Asia where some people claim they have medicinal properties for treating everything from hangovers to cancer. Southern white rhinos almost went extinct at the end of the 19th century, plunging down to only 20 at one point. Decades of conservation efforts gradually brought them back to life. To date, the zoo said 94 southern white rhinos, 68 greater one-horned rhinos and 14 black rhinos have been born at the San Diego Zoo. Researchers are hoping a northern white rhino calf could be born from a San Diego surrogate mother within 10 to 15 years. — AP



ESCONDIDO: In this Dec. 31, 2014, file photo, Nola, a 40-year-old northern white rhino who is only one of five remaining of the species, wanders around her enclosure at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park on a cold winter day. — AP

WHO STATES END OF EBOLA OUTBREAK IN SIERRA LEONE

FREETOWN: The UN health agency said yesterday Ebola-ravaged Sierra Leone had beaten an 18-month outbreak that killed almost 4,000 of its people and plunged the economy into severe recession. "Today, November 7, 2015, the World Health Organization declares the end of the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone," Anders Nordstrom, the UN agency's country representative told a ceremony in the capital Freetown, provoking prolonged cheering from the gathered dignitaries.

The former British colony recorded around half of the cases in an epidemic that has infected 28,600 people across the three hardest-hit West African nations and claimed 11,300 lives since December 2013. Experts agree that the real death toll is almost certainly significantly higher than the official data, which has been skewed by the under-reporting of deaths in many probable Ebola cases.

The announcement represents a hugely significant milestone in UN-backed efforts to wipe out Ebola, leaving neighboring Guinea as the only country still registering cases. With just a handful of cases a week arising in that country in recent months, health campaigners are hopeful the battle with history's worst outbreak is almost won.

Save the Children has sounded the alarm however over the long-term impact on 1.8 million children in Sierra Leone who missed nine months of school, pointing to a "significant spike in adolescent pregnancies."

The crisis took a devastating toll on primary health services and immunization programs, with the deaths of 221 medical staff-five percent of frontline doctors and seven percent of nurses and midwives. A country is considered free of human-to-human transmission once two 21-day incubation periods have passed

since the last known case tested negative for a second time.

'No elaborate celebration'

After some false starts, Sierra Leone's countdown finally began on September 25, three weeks after the WHO had declared neighboring Liberia Ebola-free following 4,800 deaths there. Guinea, where around 2,500 died, still has a handful of cases and Sierra Leone has announced heightened security and health screening at their shared border. Palo Conteh, the head of Sierra Leone's Ebola response, had indicated that there were no plans for "an elaborate celebration" of the country's Ebola-free status.

But a large crowd, numbering in the thousands according to witnesses, took to the streets late Friday to light candles, wave banners, sing and dance in an impromptu celebra-

tion centered around the iconic cotton tree in the downtown area.

After the WHO delivered its formal declaration President Ernest Bai Koroma was expected to voice his gratitude to aid agencies, healthcare professionals and other key workers gathered at the ceremony. "Thank God it is all over and we now live in peace," said Mamie Kabia, 25, a member of one of the expert teams burying highly infectious bodies around the clock at the height of the crisis. The epidemic was first reported in Sierra Leone 18 months ago, when a woman tested positive after contracting the virus at the funeral of a healer who had been treating Ebola patients on the Guinea border.

'I died several times'

At the peak of the outbreak in 2014, Sierra Leone and its neighbors were reporting hun-

dreds of new cases a week, with social order on the brink of collapse. Koroma drew criticism from the international community for a number of lock-downs confining millions to their homes-measures that which were deemed punitive and self-defeating.

While the primary cost of the outbreak has been in human life, the crisis has also wiped out development gains in Sierra Leone, which was devastated by 11 years of civil war ending in 2002. The World Bank estimates that Sierra Leone will lose at least \$1.4 billion in forgone economic growth in 2015 as a result, leading to an "unprecedented" GDP contraction of more than 20 percent. Across the country, Ebola workers recounted their own personal horror stories. "I hated the smell of chlorine. They say you only die once, but I died several times. But it is good it is now over," ambulance driver Ferenka Koroma said. — AFP



MOSCOW: Inna Nosikova exits a mock-up spaceship after an eight-day imitation flight to the moon. — AP

RUSSIAN WOMEN COMPLETE TEST ON SPACE FLIGHT CONFINEMENT

MOSCOW: After emerging from an eight-day space simulation on Friday, the all-female Russian crew said they had missed their loved ones in the experiment more than they missed the comforts of regular life. The six-woman crew climbed into a grounded space capsule last week to imitate a lunar flight and test the effects of confinement and stress that come with space travel.

While Russia's space medicine center in Moscow has conducted similar experiments in the past, including one several years ago in which six males were locked up for 500 days to model a flight to Mars, this is the first time the crew was all female. At least one of the women from the crew hopes to become a cosmonaut in the future.

"Of course I want to go into space," said Inna Novinova. "This was an invaluable experience both in methods and isolation," that come with space flight, she said. Speculation swirled in the Russian media about whether they

would be able to survive without males or cosmetics for a week. The women assured reporters it was possible.

Asked whether she missed the comforts of regular life, such as showering and sweets, while in confinement, crewmember Anna Kusmaul told reporters she was more concerned about her family. "Not knowing what was going on in their lives for eight days bothered me a lot more than not having shampoo, or chocolate," Kusmaul said. The women were not allowed to take their cellphones with them and communicated exclusively with the medicine center's command crew which monitored all of their activities and conversations. "To those who said we'd end up ripping each other's hair out: We didn't even come close to that," Daria Komissarova told the dozens of journalists that greeted the women as they exited the space capsule installed at the Institute of Biomedical Problems, part of the Russian Academy of Sciences. — AP

DAKOTARAPTOR RULED HELL CREEK FORMATION AS LETHAL PREDATOR

SLASHING CLAW WOULD MAKE MINCEMEAT OF PREY

SIoux FALLS: Tyrannosaurus rex may have been known as the big guy around the Hell Creek Formation 66 million years ago, but a newly discovered species of raptor would have roamed nearby as one of the region's most lethal predators.

Dakotaraptor stood 6 feet tall at the hips yet moved like a springy, agile sprinter, reaching 30 to 40 mph and rivaling today's ostrich. But potential prey caught admiring the 17-foot-long creature's grace stood little chance, as the strong-muscled winged Dromaeosaur boasted a vicious 9 1/2-inch-long killing claw that could make mincemeat out of any herbivore caught in its path, said Robert DePalma, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Palm Beach Museum of Natural History. "It had one of the strongest killing strokes in that slashing claw of any raptor known," DePalma said. DePalma and his research team including University of Kansas paleontologists announced the new species in a study published Oct 30 by the University of Kansas Paleontological Institute. Dakotaraptor helps fill a gap in body size distribution between the small bird-like Maniraptora creatures and the giant T rex found in Hell Creek, which spans parts of northwestern South Dakota, southwestern North Dakota, eastern Montana and eastern Wyoming. The newly discovered species roamed the earth alongside T rex, the three-horned Triceratops and the duck-billed Edmontosaurus.

'Turkey from hell'

"Dakotaraptor coexisted with all of our favorites from our childhoods," DePalma said. "We had no idea that such a cool and lethal creature existed right alongside them. And it was in the ground the whole time. It's amazing," Thomas Holtz Jr, a senior vertebrate paleontology lecturer at the University of Maryland, said most of the raptor bones and teeth found in Hell Creek have been from small-form creatures.

"That is what is important about this find," Holtz said. "In fact, it was rather bigger than most of us expected, almost the size of the largest known Dromaeosaurid, the much earlier Utahraptor." Dakotaraptor stands about as tall as Utahraptor, a species discovered in the 1990s in east-central Utah, but the raptors have completely different builds. The stockier Utahraptor, which lived



This undated image provided by Robert DePalma, shows a sketch drawn by DePalma, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Palm Beach Museum of Natural History, which depicts the newly-discovered species of raptor called Dakotaraptor. — AP photos

about 60 million years earlier than Dakotaraptor, was an ambush predator with thicker bones and leg proportions that limited its speed, making it the "beefy bulldog of raptors," DePalma said.

Dakotaraptor did not fly, which makes the presence of quill knobs on its arms so interesting to DePalma and other dinosaur experts. The bumps serve as reinforcement points for long wing feathers, marking the first concrete evidence that large raptors had wings. "It really would have made this like a turkey from hell," he said. The feathers were clearly not just for show, and they could have been used by the dinosaur to intimidate other predators, shield its young or as a tactical method to corral prey. They might also indicate that the species evolved from a lineage that once could fly or was evolving toward flight, DePalma said. Dakotaraptor's leg bones, wing portions, tail vertebrae, teeth and wishbone were unearthed in 2005 from a remote area of badlands in South Dakota's Harding County. — AP



WEST BALM BEACH: In this Oct 29, 2015 photo provided by Robert DePalma, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Palm Beach Museum of Natural History, examines the fierce foot claw of a newly discovered species of raptor called Dakotaraptor.

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Kuwait Times
248 33 199

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ARCHITECTURE, ELEGANCE AND FIVE-STAR SERVICE IN THE HEART OF FREE ZONE AT MOVENPICK HOTEL KUWAIT

A lovely lagoon pool with waterfalls, five restaurants and garden view rooms spaced across two floors in this classic hotel, complement an excellent location in the Kuwait Free Trade Zone.

In the heart of the Kuwait Free Trade Zone, close to Shuwaikh Port and Kuwait Bay is the five-star Movenpick Hotel Kuwait. The classic low-rise hotel features elegant architecture which is highlighted with a number of leisure facilities and wonderful restaurants. Kuwait International Airport is only 10 minutes away and guests staying at Movenpick Hotel Kuwait may take advantage of complimentary airport shuttle transfers.

Hassan Hassanien GM of Movenpick hotel Kuwait said Dining at Movenpick Hotel Kuwait is a taste adventure and guests have the opportunity to sample freshly prepared cuisine at five different restaurants. The international all-day dining restaurant is Bays, which offers wonderful buffet meals on the ground floor with fountain, pool and garden views. Al Dente serves sumptuous Italian cuisine in charming surroundings, while Cuts grills deli-

cious barbecued meat varieties amidst live entertainment in the true spirit of a South American churrascaria.

The Garden Cafe is an atmospheric outdoor venue close to the pool, where guests can unwind with shisha and Lebanese food in private Arabic tents. Movenpick ice cream can be enjoyed at the Tea Lounge, which also features live piano music every night. Light snacks, pastries, infusions and coffees are also served in this sophisticated English-style lounge. For added convenience, 24-hour room service is available.

The hotel's great location is ideal for business travellers who not only have direct access to companies inside the Kuwait Free Trade Zone, but are also just six minutes from Kuwait City and four minutes from Shuwaikh Industrial City. Kuwait University, the Ministry of Health and Al Sabah Hospital are nearby, while Kuwait's largest shopping mall is just 10 minutes away. A complimentary daily shuttle transfers guests to The Avenues Mall, which has 800 stores as well as a variety of dining and entertainment destinations.



KALA-KUWAIT TO HOLD DRAWING AND PAINTING COMPETITION

Kerala 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.

Kindergarten (LKG & UKG), Sub-Junior (Class I-IV), Junior (Class V-VIII) & Senior (Class IX-XII) The competitions will start at 1.30 pm on 13th November 2015 at Indian Camel School, Khaitan and results will be announced on 20th November 2015. The school with highest aggregate points will be awarded with the "Mazhavillu-2015 Trophy". The prize distribution schedule and venue shall be announced later. Online registrations are open at our websites www.kalakuwait.com Participants may please carry the filled form to be handed over in the venue while collecting chest numbers.

LADIES' NIGHT

By Salma Al-Misbah

Enjoy a casual, friendly environment and discuss different aspects of life. Come and enjoy a cup of tea and the company of other ladies living here in Kuwait. This event is free for all ladies. Every Sunday in November @ 5 - 7:30pm (Ladies Only)

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



INDIAN EMBASSY, NCCAL TO HOLD CULTURAL EVENING TODAY

The Embassy of India in coordination with the National Council for Culture Arts and Letters (NCCAL) is organizing a cultural evening of Bhangra Group led by Daljit Singh today at 7 pm at Shamiya Theatre (Opposite Shamiya Cooperative) and tomorrow at 7pm at Indian Embassy auditorium (Diplomatic Enclave). The visit of the group to Kuwait is sponsored by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi.

BHANGRA: Bhangra is a harvest folk dance which is associated with the 'Baisakhi' harvest ceremonies. It has developed through the centuries to form an integral part of the social and cultural life of the community. In the villages of Punjab, the dance is normally performed in the open field under the light of the full moon. The dancers are accompanied by two or

more singers and a drummer with a large drum called the "Dholak. The words of the simple melody are taken from the traditional oral poetry of Punjab. Bhangra is the most popular and vibrant of the community dances of the villages of Punjab.

MALWAI GIDDHA: This is the typical folk dance particularly popular in the region of Malwa and performed by men. This dance is generally performed during collective festivals of the community.

JHOOMAR DANCE: Jhoomar is a distinctive folk dance of Southern Punjab of the pre-partition. Jhoomar is performed in a circle or spinning around the dances make a circle around the drummer and their gestures and movements consist of bending, swinging, spinning, swaying and clapping the accompanying songs. The traditional folk poetry is based on basically feminine romantic

emotions. The dress is mostly white. On stage Jhoomar is usually presented as part of the Bhangra performance.

GIDDHA: The Giddha is a folk dance performed exclusively by women in the villages of Punjab. The dance is performed in the open courtyards of the farmhouses and is characterized by the simplicity and grace of its movements.

JINDUA: Jindua means my life. This dance is based on a popular folk tune and consists of exchanges of words between men and women.

FOLK ORCHESTRA: A presentation of the typical folk instruments of the Punjab is using dancing and singing like Algoza, Tumbi, Tumba, Baghdu, Flute, Chimtta, Kato, Sapp, Dhoiki, Matka, Dhol, Garbha and Bean.

FOLK SINGING: Folk songs like Jindua, Jugni, Mirza, Heer, Tappe, Bollian.

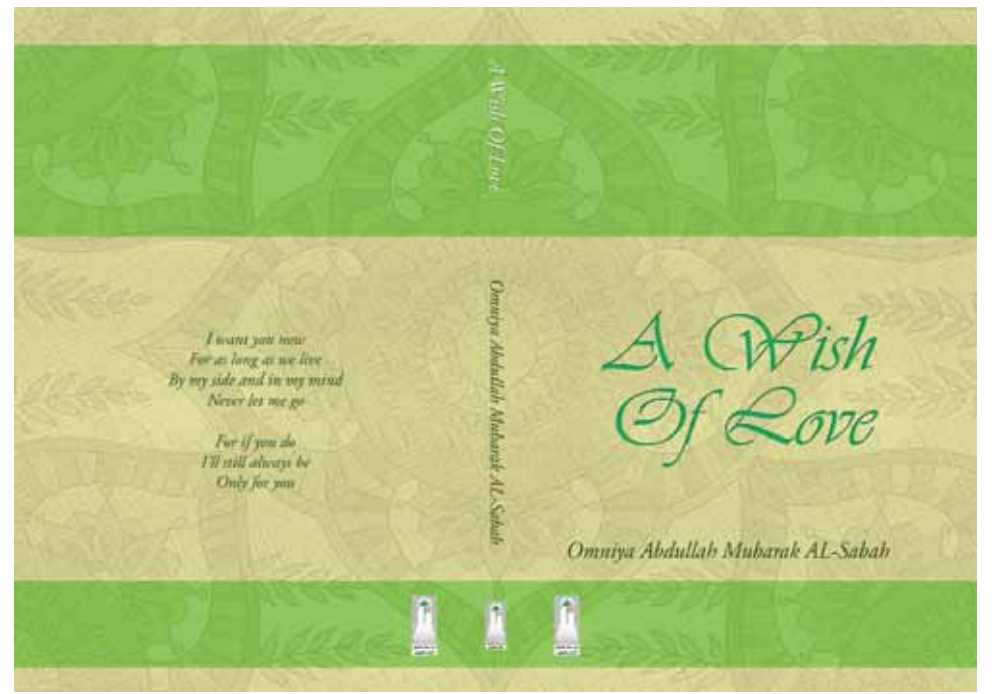


SHEIKHA OMNIYA RELEASES 'A WISH OF LOVE'

'A Wish of Love' is a new publication of beautiful, unique and honest poems by Sheikh Omnia Abdullah Mubarak Al-Sabah. It represents her first foray into poetic writing, as well expressing her attachment to colors. This first edition is written in English and is approximately ninety pages long, consisting of thirty-six poems classified into the following six chapters: love; dreams of love; beyond love; and finally, love for the country. Each poem is accompanied by one of her own vividly-colored expressions of creativity.

Sheikha Omnia's poems are marked by their dreams of and attachment to love in all its forms and details, with the words flowing effortlessly and expressing the pinnacle of emotion. She was not satisfied with only addressing loved ones as her feelings were also directed at life, motherhood and country. Her words of dreams and hopes were released into the world as a flock of doves into the sky. This collection is a journey of the soul's expressions of love from different occasions, hopes, expressions and lessons. In her concluding comment to her readers

she recalls her school friends who are now scattered across the globe and sends this collection of poetry as message of love to them. She also expresses her gratitude to her mother who taught her about love and life, as well as her brothers, sister, sons and everyone who has supported her with this publication and in her life. Sheikha Omnia explained that her first publication is an English as a loving tribute to the language in which she was educated and to accurately convey her message of love to the world in the way that she intended.



The book's cover



AOU ORGANIZES TWO WORKSHOPS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT, FEASIBILITY STUDY PREPARATION

On the sidelines of 'Small and Micro Enterprises in Arab Countries: Reality and Aspirations' conference, which was held during 28-29 October 2015, under the patronage of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, the Arab Open University (AOU) organized two workshops. The first one is entitled 'How to Prepare a Feasibility Economic Study for Small and Micro Enterprises' delivered by Dr Radi Al-Atoom while the second workshop is

called 'Empowerment of Arab women to Manage Small Enterprises'. A number of enterprise owners and representatives of governmental and private institutions and organizations inside and outside Kuwait participated in these workshops. During the first workshop, Dr Atoom addressed a number of themes, such as an introduction to economic feasibility study and its basics in addition to decision-taking and

recommendations. The second workshop addressed the concept of entrepreneurship and challenges that are faced by women's entrepreneurship in addition to motivating factors to Entrepreneurship and support types to empower Arab women to establish and develop their enterprises and how to build institutional abilities for Entrepreneurship development.

TRAK RELEASE WELCOME SONG

Thiruvananthapuram non-resident's association of Kuwait (TRAK) officially releases their welcome song and the Audio CD launching held at Kuwait on Wednesday 4th November, 2015. Smt K S Chitra released the audio cassette, while Master Rohith S Nair received the first cassette. Songs were composed by Chandra Mohan Kannur for which Praveen Attukal has written the lyrics and the song sung by Master Rohith.



ZAIN CONDUCTS INTERNAL BLOOD DRIVE CAMPAIGN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENTRAL BLOOD BANK

Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, recently conducted an internal Blood Drive campaign for employees for the second time this year. The initiative was held at its main headquarters in Shuwaikh and aimed at encouraging employees to donate blood and save lives. This internal campaign, which the company

organizes twice each year, comes in partnership with the Central Blood Bank and falls under the company's Corporate Social Responsibility umbrella with the aim of raising awareness and goodwill amongst employees of the importance of donating life-giving blood. Zain's support of blood drive campaigns

shows its keenness in having a productive role in social and health activities, especially those that contribute with saving numerous amounts of people that are in need of blood, particularly people with rare blood types. Zain strives to contribute to its community through its numerous corporate social responsibility initiatives and is pleased with the success this

particular activity has achieved. Last year, Zain was honored by the Central Blood Bank for its effective and continuous contribution in organizing blood drive campaigns. The honoring came as part of the annual ceremony to celebrate the World Blood Donor Day to shed light on private-sector companies, groups, and individuals who great-

ly contribute to the field of blood donation. Zain is keen to organize internal blood drive campaigns for employees in collaboration with the Central Blood Bank to encourage employees to donate blood and save lives. Zain affirmed that its contribution to organizing internal blood drives falls under its CSR and sustainability strategies.



AL-SADIYAT: ONE OF UAE'S TOP LANDMARKS

Al-Sadiyat island is one of the most important UAE islands, due to the mega projects and investments, executed, or to be executed, on the 27-sq-km island. The development enterprises in the cultural, tourist, housing and entertainment sectors are forecast to finish by 2020. The island is a blend of natural beauty and man-made modern structures and buildings, including branches of the renowned international museums, the Louvre, Jungheim and Zayed National Museum. The Island attracts a large number of visitors. —KUNA



00:20 Night
00:50 Gator Boys
01:45 Call Of The Wildman
02:15 Call Of The Wildman
02:40 Crocodile Feeding Frenzy
03:35 Tanked
04:25 Night
04:50 Night
05:15 Gator Boys
06:02 Treehouse Masters
06:49 Echo And The Elephants Of Amboseli
07:12 Echo And The Elephants Of Amboseli
07:36 Call Of The Wildman
08:00 Call Of The Wildman
08:25 Dogs 101: Specials
09:15 Night
09:40 Night
10:10 Treehouse Masters
11:05 Tanked
12:00 Dogs 101: Specials
12:55 Bondi Vet
13:50 Crocodile Feeding Frenzy
14:45 Night
15:10 Night
15:40 Treehouse Masters
16:35 Tanked
17:30 Echo And The Elephants Of Amboseli
17:55 Echo And The Elephants Of Amboseli
18:25 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster
19:20 Keiko: The Untold Story Of The Star...
20:15 Tanked
21:10 Wild Things With Dominic Monaghan
22:05 Treehouse Masters
23:00 Keiko: The Untold Story Of The Star...
23:55 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster



00:20 Fast N' Loud
01:10 Troy
02:00 Superhuman Science
02:25 Superhuman Science
02:50 The Pop Illusionist
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
10:35 Troy
11:25 Superhuman Science
11:50 Superhuman Science
12:15 The Pop Illusionist
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 Treasure Quest: Snake Island
18:30 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
19:20 Dual Survival
20:10 Garage Gold
20:35 Baggage Battles
21:00 Treasure Quest: Snake Island
21:50 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
22:40 Amish Mafia
23:30 Fire In The Hole



00:40 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
01:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
02:20 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
03:10 Weird Connections
03:35 Weird Connections
04:00 You Have Been Warned
04:48 You Have Been Warned
05:36 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
06:24 You Have Been Warned
07:12 You Have Been Warned
08:00 Weird Or What?
08:50 Weird Or What?
09:40 NASA's Unexplained Files
10:30 NASA's Unexplained Files
11:20 NASA's Unexplained Files
12:10 NASA's Unexplained Files
13:00 NASA's Unexplained Files
13:50 Curiosity: Devil's Triangle
14:40 Curiosity: How Will The World End?
15:30 Curiosity: Can You Live Forever?
16:20 Weird Or What?
17:10 Weird Or What?
18:00 NASA's Unexplained Files

18:50 NASA's Unexplained Files
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21:20 NASA's Unexplained Files
22:10 Curiosity: Devil's Triangle
23:00 Curiosity: How Will The World End?
23:50 Curiosity: Can You Live Forever?



00:00 Violetta
00:45 The Hive
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
03:45 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
04:10 Wolfblood
04:35 Wolfblood
05:00 Violetta
05:45 The Hive
05:50 Mouk
06:00 Lolorock
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 I Didn't Do It
14:00 Dog With A Blog
14:30 H2O: Just Add Water
14:55 Lolorock
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 Keeping Up With The Kardashians
00:55 The Grace Helbig Show
01:25 Kourtney And Khloe Take The Hamptons
02:20 E! News
03:15 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills
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 WAGs
14:05 New Money
14:30 New Money
15:00 Kourtney And Khloe Take The Hamptons
16:00 Kourtney And Khloe Take The Hamptons
17:00 Fashion Bloggers
17:30 Fashion Bloggers
18:00 E! News
19:00 House Of DVF
20:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians
21:00 Dash Dolls
22:00 E! News
23:00 The Soup
23:30 Sex With Brody



00:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
00:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
01:00 Chopped
02:00 Rachael vs. Guy: Celebrity Cook Off
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 Jenny Morris Cooks The Riviera
21:30 Jenny Morris Cooks The Riviera
22:00 Australian Food Adventures With Matt Moran
23:00 Reza's African Kitchen
23:30 Reza's African Kitchen



00:10 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
01:05 Who's Doing The Dishes?
02:00 Emmerdale
02:25 Eggheads
02:55 Coronation Street
03:25 The Jonathan Ross Show
04:20 Lewis
05:15 Take On The Twisters
06:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
07:05 Coronation Street
07:30 The Jonathan Ross Show
08:25 Lewis
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 Lewis
17:25 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime
18:20 Take On The Twisters
19:20 Coronation Street
19:35 Who's Doing The Dishes?
20:30 Lewis
21:25 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime
22:20 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway
23:40 Eggheads



00:30 Last Man Standing
02:30 Man Seeking Woman
04:00 Merry Me
04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
06:00 Community
06:30 T!l Death
07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
08:00 Merry Me
10:30 T!l Death
11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
12:00 Community
12:30 Merry Me
13:30 T!l Death
15:30 Last Man Standing
16:30 Community
17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
18:30 Cristela
19:00 About A Boy
19:30 New Girl
20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
21:00 Last Man Standing
23:00 Man Seeking Woman
23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers



00:00 The Americans
01:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
02:00 The Flash
06:00 The Fosters
07:00 Witches Of East End
08:00 Sleepy Hollow
09:00 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 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
20:00 Covert Affairs
21:00 Blindspot
22:00 Empire
23:00 Mistresses



00:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
03:00 Odyssey
07:00 Emmerdale
07:30 Coronation Street
08:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
10:00 Emmerdale
10:30 Coronation Street
12:00 Odyssey
22:00 Odyssey
23:00 Strike Back



02:00 Combustion
04:00 Days Of Thunder
06:00 Jack The Giant Killer 2013
08:00 Assassin's Bullet
10:00 Mercenaries
12:00 Days Of Thunder
14:00 Batman: Assault On Arkham
16:00 The Day The Earth Stood Still
18:00 Superfast
20:00 Mercenaries
22:00 Getaway



00:00 Combustion-18
02:00 Days Of Thunder-PG15
04:00 Jack The Giant Killer 2013-PG15
06:00 Assassin's Bullet-PG15
08:00 Mercenaries-PG15
10:00 Days Of Thunder-PG15
12:00 Batman: Assault On Arkham-PG15
14:00 The Day The Earth Stood Still-PG15
16:00 Superfast-PG15
18:00 Mercenaries-PG15
20:00 Getaway-PG15
22:00 In The Blood-PG15



00:00 Save The Date
02:00 The Nutty Professor (1996)
04:00 The Love Punch
05:45 Renaissance Man
08:00 Big Fat Liar
10:00 The Love Guide
12:00 The Nutty Professor (1996)
14:00 The Pretty One
16:00 Big Fat Liar
18:00 Napoleon Dynamite
20:00 22 Jump Street
22:00 The Right Kind Of Wrong



01:00 For Greater Glory-PG15
03:30 Fruitvale Station-PG15
05:00 Snitch-PG15
07:00 The Dependables-PG15
09:00 InSight-PG15
11:00 The Dependables-PG15
13:00 Snitch-PG15
15:00 Yellow Rock-PG15
17:00 InSight-PG15
19:00 One Last Look-PG15
21:00 Zulu-PG15
23:00 The Snitch Cartel-18



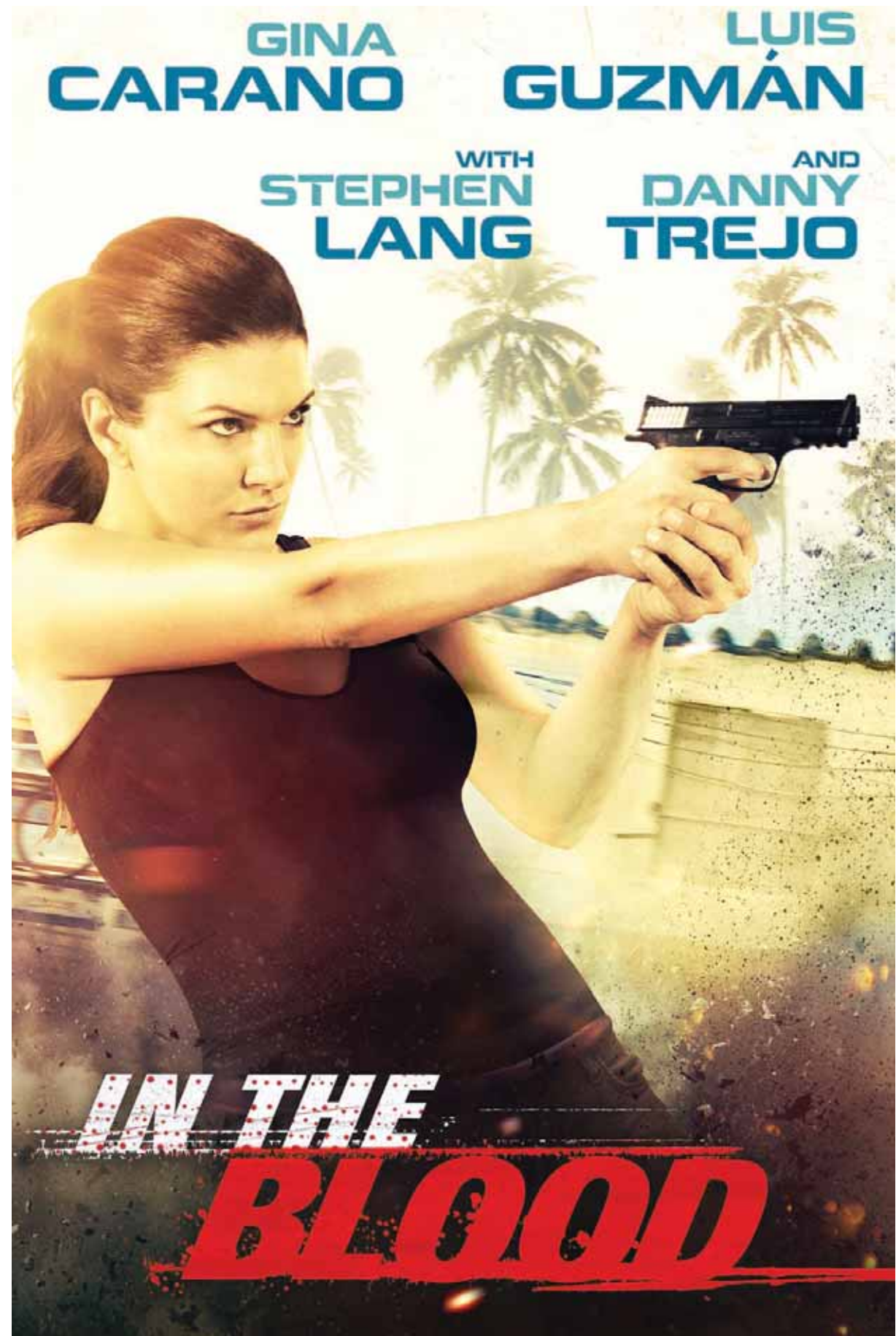
01:00 Won't Back Down
03:00 Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind
05:00 The Nightmare Before Christmas
07:00 Atlas Shrugged Part 2: The Strike
16:00 Sophia Grace And Rosie's Royal Adventure
18:00 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants
20:00 Ernest & Celestine
22:00 Ploddy Police Car On The Case
23:30 Marvel's Doctor Strange



00:00 Lost In The Cloud-18
02:00 No Clue-PG15
04:00 Fatal Instinct-PG15
06:00 Heaven Is For Real-PG
08:00 Recoil-PG15
10:00 40 Days And Nights-PG15
12:00 HairBraised-PG15
14:00 Bully-PG15
16:00 Recoil-PG15
18:00 The Monuments Men-PG15
20:00 Snowpiercer-PG15
22:00 Thanks For Sharing-18



01:00 Dixie And The Zombie Rebellion
02:45 Johnny Test
05:05 Total Drama World Tour
06:00 Vampire Dog
08:00 Cher Ami
10:00 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants



IN THE BLOOD ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

11:30 Oggys & The Cockroaches: The Movie
13:00 Postman Pat: The Movie
14:30 Ploddy Police Car On The Case
16:00 Sophia Grace And Rosie's Royal Adventure
18:00 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants
20:00 Ernest & Celestine
22:00 Ploddy Police Car On The Case
23:30 Marvel's Doctor Strange



00:00 Lost In The Cloud-18
02:00 No Clue-PG15
04:00 Fatal Instinct-PG15
06:00 Heaven Is For Real-PG
08:00 Recoil-PG15
10:00 40 Days And Nights-PG15
12:00 HairBraised-PG15
14:00 Bully-PG15
16:00 Recoil-PG15
18:00 The Monuments Men-PG15
20:00 Snowpiercer-PG15
22:00 Thanks For Sharing-18



03:14 Grojband
03:35 Johnny Test
05:05 Total Drama World Tour
05:27 Total Drama World Tour
05:50 Regular Show
06:00 The Amazing World Of Gumball

07:00 Uncle Grandpa
07:25 Adventure Time
07:50 Teen Titans Go!
08:25 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
09:00 Ben 10 Omniverse
09:45 Regular Show
10:30 Clarence
10:55 Dreamworks Dragons: Riders Of Berk
11:20 Total Drama: Pahkitew Island
11:40 Total Drama: Pahkitew Island
12:05 Johnny Test
12:50 New Steven Universe
13:02 Steven Universe
13:15 Uncle Grandpa
13:40 Regular Show
14:25 Adventure Time
15:10 The Amazing World Of Gumball
16:10 Ben 10: Omniverse
16:20 Ben 10: Omniverse
16:45 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
17:10 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
17:30 Teen Titans Go!
18:20 Regular Show
19:05 The Amazing World Of Gumball
19:51 Adventure Time
20:15 New Steven Universe
20:27 Steven Universe
20:40 Uncle Grandpa
21:50 Ben 10: Omniverse
22:15 Ben 10: Omniverse
22:40 Adventure Time
01:10 Regular Show
01:40 Total Drama: Pahkitew Island
02:03 Total Drama: Pahkitew Island
02:26 Total Drama: Pahkitew Island
02:51 Grojband



03:10 Scorned: Crimes Of Passion
04:00 Blood Relatives
04:45 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
05:10 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
05:50 The Haunted
06:20 Forensic Detectives
07:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
08:00 Nightmare Next Door
08:50 On The Case With Paula Zahn
09:40 Fatal Encounters
10:30 Murder Shift
11:20 Forensic Detectives
12:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
13:00 The Will
13:50 I Almost Got Away With It
14:40 California Investigator
15:05 Nightmare Next Door
15:55 Fatal Encounters
16:45 On The Case With Paula Zahn
17:35 Murder Shift
18:25 I Almost Got Away With It
19:15 Forensic Detectives
20:05 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
20:55 California Investigator
21:20 The Will
22:10 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
22:35 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
23:00 Unraveled
23:50 March To Justice
00:40 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
01:05 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
01:30 The Haunted
02:20 Ghost Lab



03:05 Calimero
03:20 Zou
03:30 Loopdido

03:45 Art Attack
04:10 Henry Hugglemonster
04:20 Calimero
04:35 Zou
04:45 Loopdido
05:00 Art Attack
05:25 Henry Hugglemonster
05:35 Calimero
05:50 Zou
06:00 Loopdido
06:15 Art Attack
06:35 Henry Hugglemonster
06:50 Calimero
07:00 Zou
07:20 Loopdido
07:35 Art Attack
08:00 Calimero
08:10 Zou
08:25 Limon And Oli
08:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
09:05 Sofia The First
09:30 Miles From Tomorrow
10:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
10:30 Doc McStuffins
11:30 Sofia The First
11:30 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
11:55 Miles From Tomorrow
12:25 Doc McStuffins
12:55 Loopdido
13:10 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
13:35 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
14:00 Sofia The First
14:30 Henry Hugglemonster
14:45 Calimero
15:00 Doc McStuffins
15:30 Zou
15:45 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
16:15 Sofia The First
16:45 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
17:10 Aladdin
17:40 Adventures Of The Gummi Bears
18:10 Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers
18:40 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
18:55 Cars Toons
19:00 Miles From Tomorrow
19:30 Sofia The First
19:55 Doc McStuffins
20:15 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
20:45 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
21:35 Sofia The First
22:00 Aladdin
22:30 Adventures Of The Gummi Bears
23:00 Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers
23:30 Lilo & Stich
00:00 Nina Needs To Go
00:05 Henry Hugglemonster
00:20 Calimero
00:35 Zou
00:50 Loopdido
01:05 Art Attack
01:30 Henry Hugglemonster
01:45 Calimero
02:00 Zou
02:15 Loopdido
02:30 Art Attack
02:55 Henry Hugglemonster



03:10 Scorned: Crimes Of Passion
04:00 Blood Relatives
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01:05 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
01:30 The Haunted
02:20 Ghost Lab



03:05 Calimero
03:20 Zou
03:30 Loopdido

11:40 Mighty Med
12:05 Ultimate Spider-Man
12:30 Supa Strikas
13:00 Kickin' It
13:25 Pokemon: XY
13:50 Phineas And Ferb
14:15 Rocket Monkeys
14:40 Boyster
15:10 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
15:35 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero
16:00 Mighty Med
16:25 K.C Undercover
16:55 Supa Strikas
17:20 Lab Rats: Bionic Island
17:45 Kirby Buckets
18:10 Phineas And Ferb
18:40 Kickin' It
19:05 K.C Undercover
19:30 Supa Strikas
19:55 Lab Rats: Bionic Island
20:20 Kirby Buckets
20:50 Kickin' It
21:15 Mighty Med
21:40 Phineas And Ferb
22:05 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero
22:30 Phineas And Ferb
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA



03:45 Caught In The Act
04:40 Ultimate Animal Countdown
05:35 Tiger's Revenge
06:30 Ultimate Animals
07:25 Caught In The Act
08:20 Africa's Wild Kingdom
09:15 Predator CSI
10:10 Monster Fish
11:05 World's Wildest
12:00 Shark Men
12:55 Planet Carnivore
13:50 Ultimate Animals
14:45 Caught In The Act
15:40 Africa's Wild Kingdom
16:35 Caught In The Act
17:30 Monster Fish
18:25 Animals Gone Wild
19:20 Caught In The Act
20:10 Africa's Wild Kingdom
21:00 Caught In The Act
21:50 Monster Fish
22:40 Animals Gone Wild
23:30 Shark Men
00:20 Planet Carnivore
01:10 Ultimate Animals
02:00 Ultimate Predator
02:50 Man-Eater Of The Congo



03:40 The Undateables
04:30 Jon & Kate Plus 8
05:00 Little People, Big World
05:30 Cake Boss
06:00 Say Yes To The Dress
06:25 Bakery Boss
07:15 Toddlers & Tiaras
08:05 Cake Boss
08:30 Cake Boss
08:55 Perfect Look
09:45 Jon & Kate Plus 8
10:10 Little People, Big World
10:35 Sister Wives
11:25 Cake Boss
11:50 Oprah's Master Class
12:40 Bakery Boss
13:30 Say Yes To The Dress: Randy Knows Best
13:55 Say Yes To The Dress: Randy Knows Best
14:20 Cake Boss
14:45 Cake Boss
15:10 Jon & Kate Plus 8
15:35 Little People, Big World



GETAWAY ON OSN MOVIES ACTION

03:05 Calimero
03:20 Zou
03:30 Loopdido



03:05 Calimero
03:20 Zou
03:30 Loopdido

CLASSIFIEDS



KNCC PROGRAMME FROM FRIDAY TO WEDNESDAY (06/11/2015 TO 11/11/2015)

SHARQIA-1 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION EYAL HAREEFA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS EYAL HAREEFA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS PARANORMAL ACTIVITY:	12:45 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
SHARQIA-2 SPECTRE HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:30 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM 9:30 PM 12:30 AM
SHARQIA-3 SPECTRE GOOSEBUMPS GOOSEBUMPS GOOSEBUMPS SPECTRE SPECTRE	1:00 PM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 6:15 PM 8:30 PM 11:30 PM
MUHALAB-1 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS EYAL HAREEFA GOOSEBUMPS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS EYAL HAREEFA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS	12:45 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM
MUHALAB-2 SPECTRE PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	11:30 AM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 8:00 PM 11:00 PM
MUHALAB-3 SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:00 PM 3:00 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM 12:05 AM
FANAR-1 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS GOOSEBUMPS GOOSEBUMPS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS	11:45 AM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 12:05 AM
FANAR-2 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION EYAL HAREEFA EYAL HAREEFA PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM
FANAR-3 THE LAST WITCH HUNTER BURNT SPECTRE SPECTRE BURNT THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	12:00 PM 2:15 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM
FANAR-4 SPECTRE PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:30 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM

SPECTRE SPECTRE FANAR-5 SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	9:30 PM 12:30 AM 11:30 AM 2:30 PM 5:30 PM 8:30 PM 11:30 PM
MARINA-1 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA EYAL HAREEFA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS	1:15 PM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM
MARINA-2 SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:00 PM 3:00 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM 12:05 AM
MARINA-3 GOOSEBUMPS SPECTRE GOOSEBUMPS SPECTRE NO FRI SPECTRE SPECTRE PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 PM 1:00 AM
AVENUES-1 HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA HE NAMED ME MALALA	12:00 PM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 12:05 AM
AVENUES-2 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 EYAL HAREEFA EYAL HAREEFA EYAL HAREEFA EYAL HAREEFA	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM
AVENUES-3 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 SPECTRE SPECTRE THE LAST WITCH HUNTER SPECTRE THE LAST WITCH HUNTER SPECTRE VEDHALAM VEDHALAM THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM 10:00 PM 1:00 AM 12:15 PM 3:15 PM 6:15 PM 9:30 PM 12:45 AM
AVENUES-4 SPECTRE PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	1:15 PM 2:00 PM 4:15 PM 7:15 PM 10:15 PM 1:15 AM
360°-1 SPECTRE	12:00 PM

SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE 360°-2 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	3:00 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM 12:05 AM 11:45 AM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM 9:45 PM 11:45 PM
360°-3 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2 AHWAK AHWAK AHWAK	1:15 PM 3:15 PM 5:15 PM 7:15 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM
AL-KOUT.1 SPECTRE EYAL HAREEFA FRI SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:30 PM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM 9:30 PM 12:30 AM
AL-KOUT.2 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS GOOSEBUMPS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS GOOSEBUMPS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS	12:45 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
AL-KOUT.3 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION SPECTRE EYAL HAREEFA SPECTRE EYAL HAREEFA PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION	12:00 PM 2:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:30 PM 10:30 PM 1:15 AM
BAIRAQ-1 SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE SPECTRE	12:00 PM 3:00 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM 12:05 AM
BAIRAQ-2 JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS HE NAMED ME MALALA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS HE NAMED ME MALALA EYAL HAREEFA JEM AND THE HOLOGRAMS	1:00 PM 3:30 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM
BAIRAQ-3 SPECTRE SPECTRE GOOSEBUMPS SPECTRE SPECTRE PLAZA SPECTRE NOTUE+WED VEDHALAM TUE+WED SPECTRE	11:30 AM 2:30 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 11:00 PM 4:15 PM 7:15 PM 7:15 PM 10:15 PM

SITUATION VACANT

Required domestic cook (Indian preferred) excellent salary, well spoken English language, excellent experience and transferable visa (20). Contact: 99020008. (C 5067) 4-11-2015

CHANGE OF NAME

Sheikh Khader, Indian Passport No. M6101253, change my name to Pathan Khadar Khan. (C 5068) 8-11-2015
I, HOZEFA (old name) holder of Indian Passport No. L1165262, R/o B-241, Saheli Nagar, near Bheruji, Udaipur (Raj.), changed my name to HUZEFA PARSOLA. (C 5066) 3-11-2015

Kuwaiti company works in Reverse Osmosis has immediate vacancy for the following :

- 1- operator with 3 years of experience .
- 2- technician with 3 years of experience.

For interest candidate, kindly send your CV to :
Abdolkarim Dib akdib@ewt.ae
Contact No. : +96599371207

Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is **1889988**



Prayer timings

Fajr:	04:45
Shorook	06:06
Duhr:	11:32
Asr:	14:36
Maghrib:	16:57
Isha:	18:16

Required for a Private American School

- English Teacher *
- AP English Teacher *
- Math Teacher
- Literacy Coordinator *
- French Teacher
- PE Teacher

* Only for Native English speakers
Interested applicants please send cover letter and resume
To: recruitment@abs.edu.kw

FLAT FOR RENT
IN SOUTH SURRA, AL ZAHRA
3 ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, HALL, KITCHEN, MAIDROOM
TEL: 51235168

REQUIRED Tailor and Cutter
Indian or Filipino Nationality
TEL: 97365744

Flight Schedule

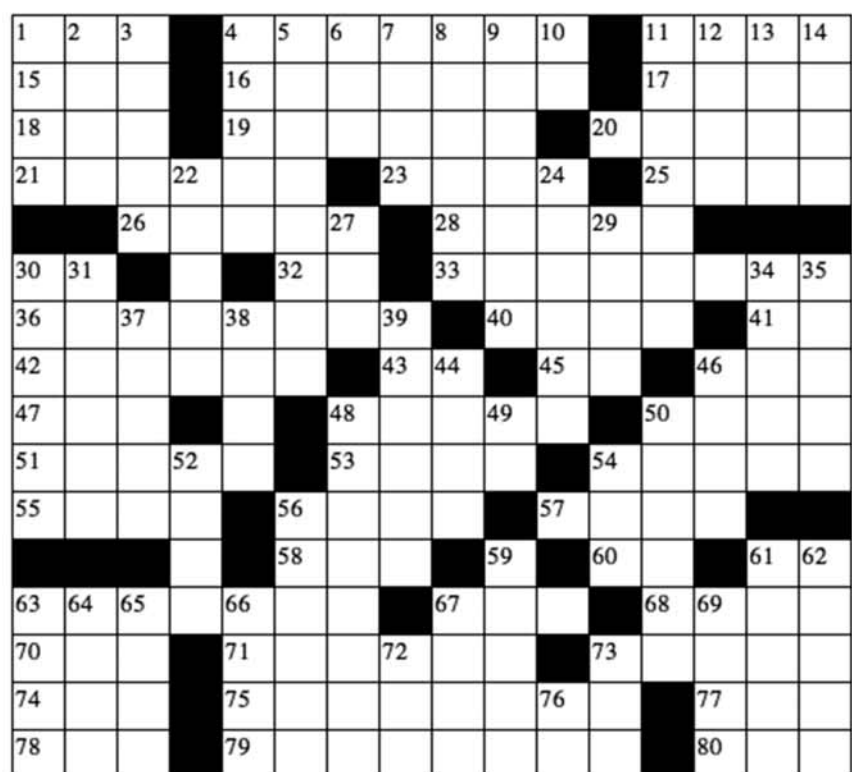
Arrival Flights on Sunday 8/11/2015			Departure Flights on Sunday 8/11/2015				
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
NIA	251	Alexandria	00:15	OMA	648	Muscat	00:05
JZR	239	Amman	00:25	MSC	406	Sharm el-Sheikh	00:05
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	JAD	302	Amman	00:15
JZR	539	Cairo	00:40	FDB	072	Dubai	00:40
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:55
RJA	642	Amman	01:05	UAL	981	IAD	01:10
THY	772	Istanbul	01:05	NIA	152	Cairo	01:15
MSR	614	Cairo	01:20	MSR	615	Cairo	02:20
ETH	3403	Addis Ababa/Riyadh	01:30	THY	773	Istanbul	02:30
DLH	635	Doha	01:35	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:35
PCT	858	Istanbul	02:00	ETH	3403	Addis Ababa	03:05
JZR	555	Alexandria	02:25	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
UAE	853	Dubai	02:30	PGT	859	Istanbul	03:55
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:30	OMA	644	Muscat	03:55
OMA	643	Muscat	02:55	FDB	068	Dubai	04:00
FDB	067	Dubai	03:05	MSR	613	Cairo	04:10
MSR	612	Cairo	03:10	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:15
CEB	7694	Manila	03:15	KKK	6508	Istanbul	04:20
QTR	1076	Doha	03:15	QTR	1077	Doha	05:00
KKK	6507	Istanbul	03:20	LMU	511	Cairo	05:05
THY	1464	Istanbul	03:25	THY	765	Istanbul	05:15
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:25	CEB	7695	Manila	05:20
KAC	544	Cairo	03:35	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	05:45
LMU	510	Cairo	04:05	JZR	560	Sohag	06:10
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	04:45	FDB	070	Dubai	06:30
THY	770	Istanbul	05:55	JZR	164	Dubai	06:55
THY	764	Istanbul	05:55	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:55
QTR	8516	Doha	06:10	RJA	643	Amman	07:05
FDB	5061	Dubai	06:30	THY	771	Istanbul	07:05
BAW	157	London	06:40	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:10
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	07:20	GFA	212	Bahrain	07:15
QTR	1086	Doha	07:40	QTR	8517	Sialkot/Doha	07:40
FDB	053	Dubai	07:45	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	QTR	1087	Doha	08:40
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	BAW	156	London	08:45
KAC	382	Delhi	08:00	SVA	513	Riyadh	08:50
OMA	641	Muscat	08:00	OMA	642	Muscat	08:55
KAC	354	BLR	08:15	KAC	171	Frankfurt	09:05
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:25
KAC	206	Islamabad	08:25	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:40
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	08:30	KAC	117	New York	09:55
UAE	855	Dubai	08:40	KAC	541	Cairo	09:55
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:50	UAE	856	Dubai	09:55
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	KAC	561	Amman	10:00
KAC	362	Colombo	09:00	KAC	501	Beirut	10:00
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	KAC	671	Dubai	10:05
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:20	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:25
QTR	1070	Doha	09:25	JZR	482	Istanbul	10:35
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:40	IRA	664	Shiraz	10:40
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:00	KAC	677	Abu Dhabi/Muscat	10:50
IRC	6507	Shiraz	10:30	QTR	1071	Doha	11:00
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	IRC	529	Ahwaz	11:00
UAE	873	Dubai	11:05	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:25
SYR	341	Damascus	11:25	IRC	6508	Shiraz	11:30
JZR	165	Dubai	11:30	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:20
RJD	135	Abu Dhabi	11:35	KAC	103	London	12:25
AGY	682	Asyut	11:40	SYR	342	Damascus	12:25
MEA	404	Beirut	11:55	UAE	874	Dubai	12:30
SAW	701	Damascus	12:20	RJD	136	Abu Dhabi	12:35
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	AGY	683	Alexandria	12:40
JZR	561	Sohag	12:45	MEA	405	Beirut	12:55

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

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

CROSSWORD 1073



ACROSS

1. A member of the Siouan people inhabiting the valleys of the Platte and Missouri rivers in Nebraska.
4. A collection of Psalms for liturgical use.
11. (football) Of advancing the ball by throwing it.
15. Committee formed by a special-interest group to raise money for their favorite political candidates.
16. Failure of some tissue or organ to develop.
17. A town and port in northwestern Israel in the eastern Mediterranean.
18. The universal time coordinated when an event is received on Earth.
19. Small tree of dry open parts of southern Africa having erect angled branches suggesting candelabra.
20. A British doctorate.
21. Conqueror of Gaul and master of Italy (100-44 BC).
23. A man who courts a woman.
25. Freedom from difficulty or hardship or effort.
26. A bureaucrat who levies taxes.
28. Feeling or showing extreme anger.
30. Being ten more than one hundred ninety.
32. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali metal group.
33. In some classification systems placed in family Cyathaceae.
36. A deceptive maneuver (especially to avoid capture).
40. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
41. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
42. African tree having an exceedingly thick trunk and fruit that resembles a gourd and has an edible pulp called monkey bread.
43. A ductile gray metallic element of the lanthanide series.
45. A brittle silver-white metalloid element that is related to selenium and sulfur.
47. 100 avos equal 1 pataca.
51. A long pointed rod used as a weapon.
53. Bulky grayish-brown eagle with a short wedge-shaped white tail.
55. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers.
57. A vigorous blow.
58. (informal) Of the highest quality.
60. A metric unit of length equal to 1000 meters (or 0.621371 miles).
63. An elaborate representation of scenes from history etc.
68. A fit of shivering.
70. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
71. A B vitamin essential for the normal function of the nervous system and the gastrointestinal tract.
74. (in Scotland or Ireland) A mountain or tall hill.
75. Medium tall celery pine of New Zealand.
77. (slang) A gangster's pistol.
78. A condition (mostly in boys) characterized by behavioral and learning disorders.
79. Internal organs collectively (especially those in the abdominal cavity).
80. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.

DOWN

1. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
2. A village in eastern Ireland (northwest of Dublin).
3. The cardinal number that is the sum of seven and one.
4. Perennial herbs of eastern North America and Asia having aromatic tuberous roots.
5. A cut of pork ribs with much of the meat trimmed off.
6. A white linen liturgical vestment with sleeves.
7. A mountainous landlocked communist state in southeastern Asia.
8. A Formosan language.
9. Parasitic on the digestive epithelium of vertebrates and higher invertebrates.
10. An intensely radioactive metallic element that occurs in minute amounts in uranium ores.
11. The capital of French Polynesia on the northwestern coast of Tahiti.
12. A Loloish language.
13. Narrow wood or metal or plastic runners used for gliding over snow.
14. The general activity of selling.
22. Formerly a term of respect for important white Europeans in colonial India.
24. A wired or starched collar of intricate lace.
27. A mature blood cell that contains hemoglobin to carry oxygen to the bodily tissues.
29. Commonly the lowest molding at the base of a column.
31. Neckwear worn in a slipknot with long ends overlapping vertically in front.
34. A virtually extinct Caucasian language spoken exclusively in Turkey.
35. French revolutionary leader (born in Switzerland) who was a leader in overthrowing the Girondists and was stabbed to death in his bath by Charlotte Corday (1743-1793).
37. Formerly included in genus Cedrela.
38. The front of the head from the forehead to the chin and ear to ear.
39. A card game for 2 players.
44. An inactive volcano in Sicily.
46. Measuring instrument for indicating speed of rotation.
48. A chemical substance that is present at the start of a chemical reaction.
49. That is to say.
50. Dutch navigator who was the first European to discover Tasmania and New Zealand (1603-1659).
52. A member of an Algonquian people living in central Canada.
54. Noisy talk.
56. East Indian tree that puts out aerial shoots that grow down into the soil forming additional trunks.
59. An island of central Hawaii.
61. Wood of a sumac.
62. A long noosed rope used to catch animals.
64. In bed.
65. Port city in northwestern Belgium and industrial center.
66. (prefix) In front of or before in space.
67. African tree with edible yellow fruit resembling mangos.
69. (computer science) A rule stating that the quality of the output is a function of the quality of the input.
72. An emotional response that has been acquired by conditioning.
73. An associate degree in applied science.
76. A metric unit of volume or capacity equal to 100 liters.

Yesterday's Solution

H	T	T	P		T	U	S	S	L	E		A	B	E	D	
O	R	A	L		I	P	E	C	A	C		F	R	A	Y	
B	A	R	A	K	A			A	N	C	Y	L	O	S	E	
O	M	A	N	I		D	A	B	A		O		A	Y	R	
					A	D	M	A	N		I	M	B	E	D	
G	U	A	R	D	E	D				A	B	C		M	U	
A	S	L			S	A	C		L	A	O	C	O	O	N	
N	A	U	S	E	A			A	I	R		M	A	D	E	
E	N	L	I	L		B	I	D	A			K	E	A		
S	C	A	N	D	A	L			O	N	E	N	E	S	S	
H	E	R	B		S	A	F	E			P	A	N	T	Y	
					A	C	K	E	E		A	P	A	R		
L	E	N	D	L			D	O	G	E		C	A	B	G	
A	G	A			A	C	R	O	P	O	R	A		B	A	A
C	G	S			S	P	A	R	E	R	I	B		B	I	B
E	S	T			S	A	M	A	N	A	L	A		E	T	A

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You are extremely appreciative of an old friend who continues to stand by you through thick and thin. You are inclined to tell others how you feel today, but you could be so insistent about expressing your emotions that your sentiment sounds forced. Your attempt at self-disclosure doesn't have to be an elaborate performance; a simple statement of your gratitude is worth so much more than empty praise that rambles on and on. A true heart connection defies explanation, but a warm hug wraps it up nicely.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

It's all too easy to be distracted by your own larger-than-life ideas during these chaotic times. Although you strive to find peace of mind today, you still may overdo an activity that makes you feel good in the present moment. Thankfully, you are not a big fan of knee-jerk reactions or taking major chances. However, current circumstances continue to remind you that all actions have consequences. There's no harm in a little reckless abandon, but practicing moderation is your key to happiness now.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You don't like it when people disagree for no apparent reason. Acting as a peacemaker is one path to smoothing over ruffled feathers, but resolution may seem easier than it actually is. You could have the very best of intentions today, but someone might misconstrue your actions and think you're trying to control them. Rather than changing anyone else's behavior, shift your own attitude instead. Let people know how you feel and then back away to give them time to process their reactions in peace.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

There is so much going on at work that it is nearly impossible to reestablish balance to your daily routine. Fortunately, you can feel a subtle but significant shift in the energy today. Even if you don't yet fully understand where the current trajectory is heading, at least recognize that you can't tie yourself to the status quo any longer. Don't be too calculating as you plan your future or you'll end up outsmarting yourself. Follow the flow; your life is changing and you need to change with it.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Too many things to consider in the active pursuit of a relationship prevent you from making up your mind today. You really don't want anyone else to perceive you as being wishy-washy, so it's easier to withdraw than to try and explain your ambiguity. Ironically, if you share your current dilemma now, your friends might push you to hurry up and decide. Take your time and don't say anything until you arrive at your own conclusions. There's no timetable when it comes to matters of the heart.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Although you attempt to limit your activities today, you could be enticed into participating in someone else's agenda. You might ignore another person's idea at first, but as the plan begins to sound better, you become more tempted to jump on board. Even if you resonate with an innovative concept now, it still may be smarter to say no to another obligation. Focus on your priorities until you have more free time to help out others without compromising your own goals.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

You may be unneringly quiet today, but others can still appreciate what you have to offer now that the reflective Moon is shining in your peaceful sign. Everyone seems to naturally understand that your strengths are reinforced by a spiritual belief that you can't put into words. Thankfully, you don't have to say much at all; your integrity is apparent when your actions are aligned with your heart.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You're a champion at connecting with life's subtle mysteries and you're willing to dig as deep as necessary now to uncover the answers. The Moon's current visit to your 12th House of Privacy could have you slipping back into your past to find the inspiration you need to handle current events. Nevertheless, your realizations may be so entangled with memories that you cannot easily explain them to anyone else. The good news is there's no pressure to share your discoveries until you're good and ready.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Preaching about moderation is one thing, but following through with sensible behavior can be a real challenge now. You are familiar with the concept of emotional detachment, but your feelings are dragging you all over the map today. You might be willing to risk your social stability in order to shift a relationship dynamic in your favor. But seeing interpersonal interactions as a competition is counterproductive to your personal growth. Cooperation is essential when it comes to the game of love.



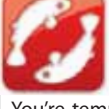
Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Staying on task is easier when waves of optimism give you new hope. However, the notion of getting something for nothing isn't very appealing to you industrious Goats, motivating you to work for what you want. Fortunately, this ambitious strategy will likely bring you the rewards you seek as long as you singularly focus on your goals. The fastest way to reach your destination is to continue steadily on your path without taking any impulsive shortcuts. Aim at a distant star and keep it in sight until success is within your grasp.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

This may be a day of reckoning if your resources are overextended. Unfortunately, you might have reached too far by spending too much energy on a project or buying an expensive item that you didn't even need in the first place. Recent actions are recycled and catch up with you now as you struggle to regain firm footing. Even if you don't immediately see positive results from your efforts to reestablish control, rest assured that your good intentions will eventually have the stabilizing effect you desire.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You're tempted to behave in an overly demanding manner today because you may believe that you deserve more recognition from those you love. Unfortunately, the squeaky wheel doesn't always get the grease first; you could receive a greater reward by practicing patience, instead. You can be quietly aware of your needs without shouting them from the rooftop. Satisfaction is sweeter when others acknowledge you on their own accord.

WORD SEARCH

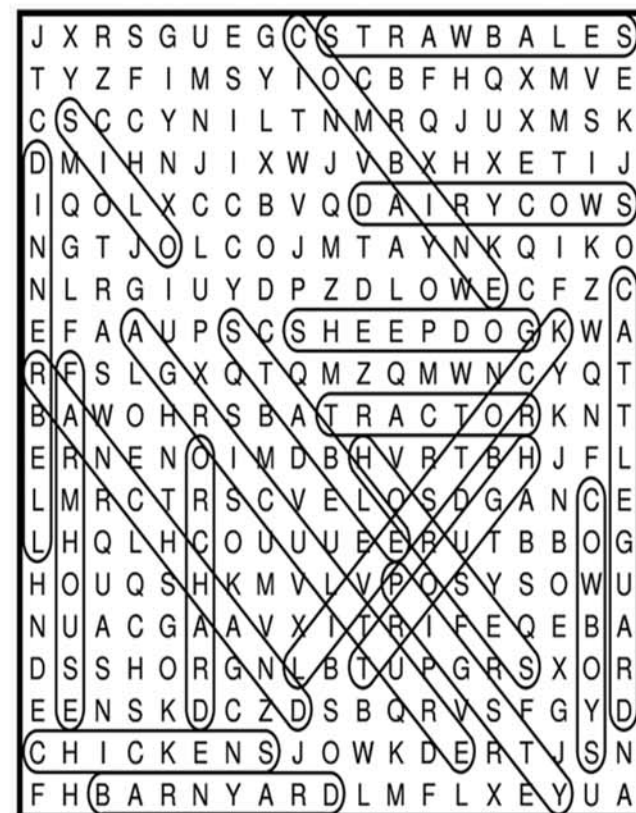
GOLD RUSH WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| ALASKA | CLAIM | NUGGET | SHOVEL |
| AMERICAN RIVER | FORTY-NINERS | PANNING | SIERRA NEVADA |
| ASSAYER | GOLD DUST | PLACER | SLUICE |
| BOOMTOWN | KLONDIKE | PROSPECTOR | SUTTER'S MILL |
| CALIFORNIA | MINERS | RIVERBED | YUKON |

Yesterday Solution

SOLUTION TO FARMS & RANCHES PUZZLE



Daily SuDoku

8						1		
9	1		3	7	6			
7	6		4	8	1			
	7			1	5	2		
		3		6		4		
		6	3	7		9		
			1	4	3	2	8	
		8	7	2			5	4
2								6

Yesterday's Solution

9	6	4	8	5	3	7	2	1
3	8	7	1	2	4	6	9	5
5	2	1	9	7	6	8	4	3
6	7	3	5	9	8	4	1	2
4	9	8	6	1	2	3	5	7
1	5	2	3	4	7	9	8	6
2	1	6	7	8	9	5	3	4
8	3	5	4	6	1	2	7	9
7	4	9	2	3	5	1	6	8

For labor-related inquiries and complaints:
Call MSAL hotline 128

Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khalidiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadisiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322



PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaeel Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khaldiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Luxembourg	00352
Albania	00355	Macau	00853
Algeria	00213	Macedonia	00389
Andorra	00376	Madagascar	00261
Angola	00244	Majorca	0034
Anguilla	001264	Malawi	00265
Antigua	001268	Malaysia	00660
Argentina	0054	Maldives	00960
Armenia	00374	Mali	00223
Australia	0061	Malta	00356
Austria	0043	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Niger	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Toga	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lithuania	00370		

STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



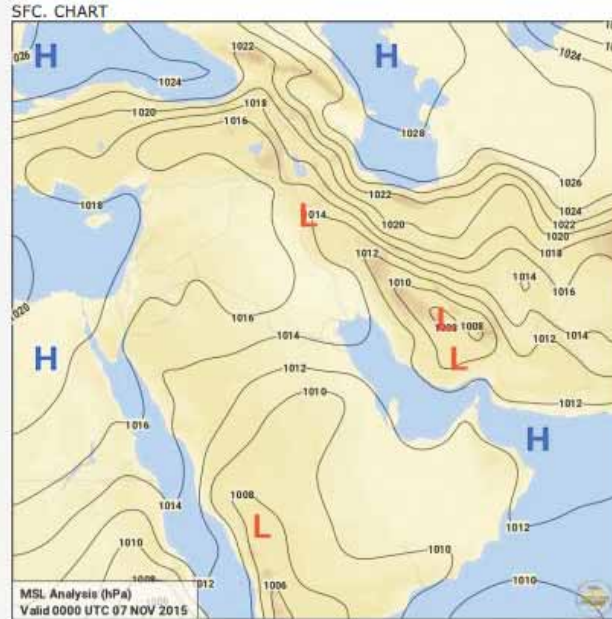
Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630
Fax: (+965) 24348714
www.met.gov.kw

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 07/11/2015-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

MAX Temperature 26 °C

By Day : Partly cloudy with light to moderate freshening gradually at times easterly changing to north easterly wind, with speed of 15 - 40 km/h with a chance for scattered rain that might be thundery at times
By Night : Clouds will decrease gradually with light to moderate freshening gradually at times north westerly to northerly wind, with speed of 15 - 40 km/h with a chance for scattered rain that might be thundery at times



Four-Day Forecast

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	Mostly sunny	partly cloudy + scattered rain	partly cloudy + scattered rain	Mostly sunny
Min Temp °C	19	20	21	19
Max Temp °C	27	25	25	26
Wind Direction	northerly to north westerly	northerly to north westerly	south easterly to light variable	north westerly to northerly
Wind Speed km/h	10 - 30	06 - 26	15 - 40	08 - 26

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

Warnings NO CURRENT WARNINGS

Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C	REC	Max °C	EXP
KUWAIT CITY	23		27	
KUWAIT AIRPORT	24		26	
ABDALLY	20		29	
BUBYAN	22		25	
JAHRA	21		27	
FAILAKA ISLAND	24		25	
SALMIYAH	24		25	
AHMADI	26		26	
JAL ALIYAH	19		25	
QAROH ISLAND	26		27	
UMM AL-MARADEM	27		28	
NUWAISIB	23		27	
WAFRA	22		27	
MANAGISH	21		26	
SALMY	19		26	
MUTRIBA	19		27	

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	29
Min Temp (°C)	21
Max Rel Hum (%)	93
Min Rel Hum (%)	49
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	46 S
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR.	1.08 mm

Sunrise	06:05
Sunset	16:58

Prayer Times

Fajr	04:44
Sunrise	06:05
Zuhr	11:32
Asr	14:36
Sunset	16:58
Isha	18:18



PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabaa	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. Mohammed Al-Daory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
General Practitioners	
Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi	24555050 Ext 123
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24719312
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaazem	22636920
Dr. Kathem Maarafi	25730465
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	25655528
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	24577781
Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rafea	25333501
Urologists	
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	22641534
Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	22639955
Dr. Khaleel Abdallah Al-Awadi	22616660
Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C)	25313120
Dr. Leons Joseph	66703427

Plastic Surgeons	
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doctor	
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatrists	
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr. Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & Obstetricians	
Dr. Adrian arbe	23729596/23729581
Dr. Verginia s. Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami	25343406
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272
Dr. Salem soso	22618787
General Surgeons	
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher	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

Paediatricians	
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
Dr. Snaa Maarouf	25713514
Dr. Pradiip Gujare	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatology	
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
Neurologists	
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologists	
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali	22633135

Endocrinologist	
Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330
Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari	25658888
Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr	25329924
Physiotherapists & VD	
Dr. Deyaa Shehab	25722291
Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees	22666288
Rheumatologists:	
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi	25330060
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
Internist, Chest & Heart	
DR. Mohammed Akkad	24555050 Ext 210
Consultant Cardiologist	
Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555
Inaya German Medical Center	
Te: 2575077	
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Smith 'could change' mind about taking a year off

The 'Writing's On The Wall' hitmaker, who recently announced he is planning to take a break from music in 2016 to focus on his love life, isn't sure how long he will be able to stay away from the recording studio. The 23-year-old singer said: "It's actually a really recent decision. This could change. I change my mind all the time, but I kind of decided a few months ago that I need to have a little bit of a break." Asked why he wants to take a hiatus, the British singer, who is currently single, explained he needs some new inspiration and told 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show': "My music is so personal and I need to live my life. I basically need to kiss some more boys so I can write some songs. "I need to go and make the stories so I can

write about them." Sam underwent surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital Voice Centre to repair his damaged vocal cords last May and was forced to spend weeks in silence. While he made a full recovery from his operation, the Grammy winner is currently battling a throat infection. Sharing his misery with fans via Instagram, he wrote: "Feeling very sorry for myself. Throat Glands are so big. Feel like I have a tennis ball down my throat."

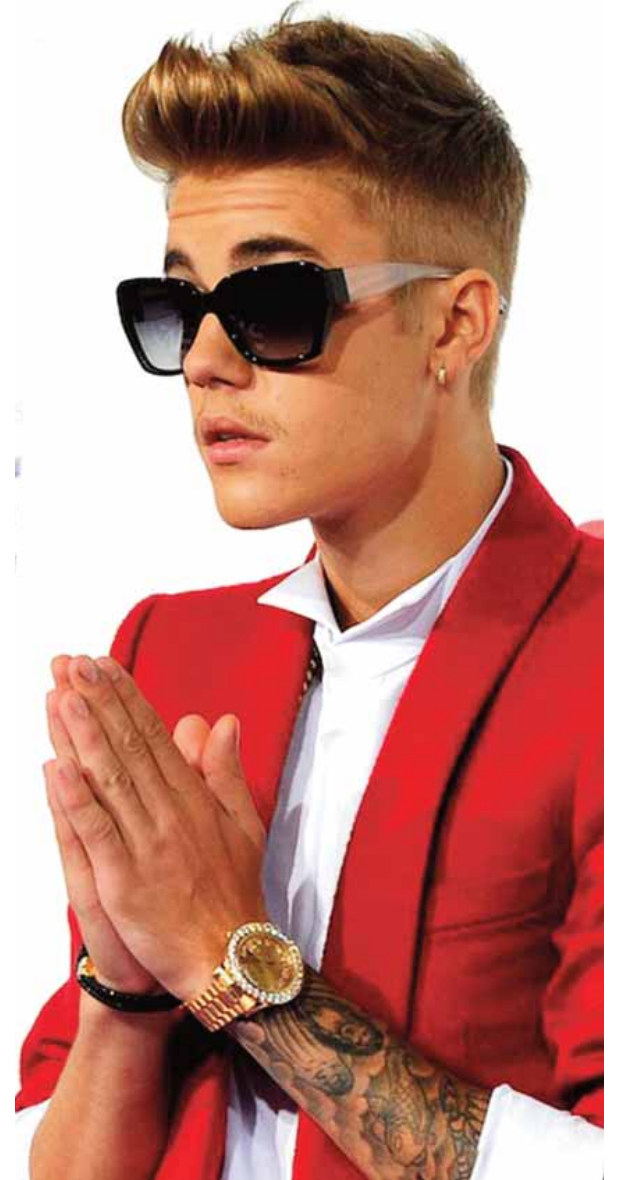
Levine thrilled Shelton is dating Gwen Stefani

The Maroon 5 frontman, who works alongside the new couple on 'The Voice' USA, thinks the 'Used to Love You' hitmaker is a "wonderful person" and couldn't be happier his close pal has embarked on a new romance with the blonde beauty. He said: "They're my friends. Gwen and I have really bonded lately. She's just the coolest, most wonderful person ever." Adam and Blake are very close friends so the trio have been spending a lot more time together recently. He said: "I've been actually really enjoying getting to know Gwen better in the past two months." And the 'Sugar' hitmaker, who partied with the duo at his Halloween party in Los Angeles last week, thinks it's great Gwen, who split from British rocker Gavin Rossdale in August after 13 years of marriage, and Blake, who divorced Miranda Lambert in July, are helping each other to heal and move on. He told 'On Air with Ryan Seacrest': "People don't really realize that they are humans and they have problems just like everybody else. I love my friends, and I support my friends through everything." Gwen, 46, and Blake, 39, were photographed holding hands for the first time at a Country Music Awards after-party in Nashville on Wednesday night just hours after confirming their relationship.



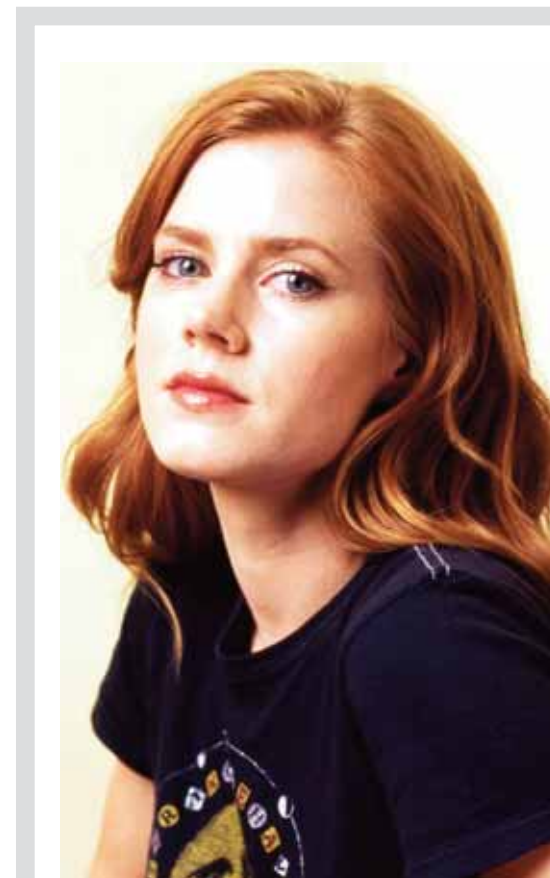
Bieber cried when he watched 'Amy'

The 21-year-old star has admitted he was deeply moved by the 2015 documentary about the late singer Amy Winehouse - who passed away from alcohol poisoning in 2011 aged 27 - and ended up sobbing when he watched it on a recent plane ride. Asked when he last cried, he said: "Probably watching the Amy Winehouse documentary on the way here (to the UK). That got me. You know the ending and that whole movie was just depressing, but man, was she talented. Her voice was incredible." But the 'Sorry' singer previously cried on stage following a performance at the MTV VMAs in August and although some were perplexed as to why he broke down in tears, he confessed it was because he finally felt "accepted". He explained: "It was just a lot man. It was my first time performing on TV for like three years or something and I was really nervous and just wanted it to go well. I got a standing ovation and just to be accepted by my peers felt really nice." And although it caused him to cry, he said he just wants "to make people happy" with his new album 'Purpose'. Speaking on 'Alan Carr: Chatty Man' - which aired on Friday - he said: "I was in kind of a weird place so the music I was making was kind of reflecting that and I just wanted to make music that was going to make people happy and inspire them to switch directions. On this project I worked with a lot of cool people. I worked with Skrillex, Diplo and Kanye and it just kind of shifted in this cool in a different element. I just liked the direction we were going."



Khloe claims her face is 'filler-free'

The 31-year-old reality TV star, who has been the subject of surgical lip and butt enhancement rumors in the past, says she is open to going under the knife in the future, but insists she hasn't "done any plastic surgery" yet. The 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' beauty addressed the speculation in a post entitled "My Face is Filler-Free" on her official website and app, writing: "Let me set the record straight, once and for all: I haven't had any fillers or done any plastic surgery. YET, LOL (Sic)" Khloe credits her "amazing make-up team" for helping her to highlight her best features. She said: "I don't need work on my face just yet because I have an amazing makeup team. Their contour game is so on point that I feel like I get a nose job every single day - and I love it!" But she plans to eventually get non-invasive procedures like Botox to help her preserve her youthful appearance. She said: "I'm going to get fillers eventually - that's the procedure I want to do when it's time - but I don't think I have wrinkles right at this moment." Khloe's younger half-sister Kylie Jenner, 18, admitted she got temporary lip fillers earlier this year, while older sister Kim Kardashian West, 35, had Botox on their family's E! series. Eldest sister Kourtney Kardashian, 36, has previously confessed to getting breast implants, while mother Kris Jenner, 60, has had multiple cosmetic procedures over the years, including a facelift.



Adams didn't want to look like a Hollywood star on her wedding

The 41-year-old actress married artist Darren Le Gallo in a private ceremony in May after 14 years of dating, and now she has revealed she wanted her Marchesa bridal dress to be the opposite of her usual red carpet outfits. She told PEOPLE magazine: "My deal with it is I wanted something I would never wear on the red carpet. I wanted it to be so feminine." Amy absolutely adored her custom gown from her nuptials and she intends to keep it forever. She said: "It's custom! You can't make that into anything, you just put it in a box. I'll share a picture eventually, but I loved it so much. It was so pretty." While the 'American Hustle' actress has won rave reviews for her own fashion choices, she has revealed Cate Blanchett is her own style icon. She explained: "She's like my dream, because she's super elegant and she has the height so she can wear all of these modern designs. Everything she wears has a twist to it, and she just wears it so beautifully." Asked what she outfits she plans to pass on to her five-year-old daughter Aviana in the future, she added: "I have some Oscar dresses ... but for life, my cashmere coats. Or maybe I'll never give them to her."

Chris Martin wants to appear on 'Downton Abbey'

The Coldplay frontman, who is dating 'Peaky Blinders' actress Annabelle Wallis, is a huge fan of the period drama and admits he'd love to make a cameo as a piano tuner on the upcoming Christmas special next month, which will be the show's last ever episode. Asked what TV series he would like to star on if given the chance, the 37-year-old British rocker said: "Downton Abbey! Maybe like a guest piano tuner." Donning his best Yorkshire accent, the 'Magic' hitmaker then quipped: "Oh, regular tuning, sir." When Absolute Radio Breakfast Show host Christian O'Connell said: "Julian Fellowes [the show's creator] might write you into the Christmas special of 'Downton Abbey'" Chris replied: "It's not too late." A string of other celebrities have also previously expressed interest in guest-starring on the show, including Kim Kardashian West, Ted Danson, Taylor Swift and Oscar winning-actress Cate Blanchett, who revealed earlier this year that she'd reached out to producers. The 'Blue Jasmine' star said: "I did have words and I followed up with my agent, no call has yet been received - but I'm seeing the girls [from the show] again today, so I'll get them to put a good word in." Actors who have made brief appearances in the popular drama over the years include Richard E. Grant, Paul Giamatti and Shirley Maclaine.



Lawrence and Hutcherson 'couldn't stop fighting' on set

The 25-year-old star of the science fiction action franchise confessed that she and 23-year-old Josh - who plays her love interest Peeta Mellark - bickered during breaks on set, but it was all good natured. Speaking at a press conference for the sequel Friday Jennifer joked to BANG Showbiz: "Me and Josh couldn't stop fighting. I pulled a book out of my chair and he goes (says in aggressive tone) 'Why do you read so much?' It was like, 'Yeah OK you wanna go outside?'" Jennifer also revealed that despite their close friendship, forged during the making of the four movies, their tougher scenes were "difficult". Jennifer - who walked the red carpet at the premiere of the movie in London's Leicester Square on Thursday evening - shared: "We were wet for 12 hours a day for three weeks ... When we get to the fight, not just the tunnels, all of our

gear was very heavy. We were soaking wet and everything was water logged and so we had an extra 20lbs. It was just so physically exhausting that I don't think anything could compare to that. That was the most difficult in all of the movies, any movie I've ever done." And the screen beauty - who plays heroine Katniss Everdeen - found it hard to shake off her mood. She joked: "I had to do a magazine interview after one of those days and I was in a mood. And I was like, 'I need wine,' and I was drinking wine and just complaining, I don't remember what magazine it is because I have to block it out for my future and mental sanity, but it was the worse interview I've ever given in my life."



Goulding is too 'annoyingly traditional' to propose



The 'Burn' hitmaker is incredibly happy in her relationship with the McBusted bassist and though she can see a long-term future with him, she won't be popping the question because she wants any engagement to happen in the "normal" way. Asked if she'd propose, she said: "Hmmm, no. I'm all about making women do things that blokes should do, but there's a part of me that's annoyingly traditional... You know, my life is so weird that I do want some normal things - things I grew up thinking were normal, like getting married in a white dress in a church and having an after-party. And a hen do - all my best friends in Ibiza or something." Dougie has been teetotal since undergoing

a stint in rehab in 2012 and Ellie insists it is "totally cool" as she no longer drinks to excess either, though she admits she used to. She told Cosmopolitan magazine: "I don't drink to excess, so it's totally cool, but I did have a period where I felt like I did." I was touring with Bruno Mars [in 2013] and I definitely was drinking too much. I was a bit out of control... I wasn't happy." Before finding love with Dougie, the 29-year-old star dated DJ Greg James and producer Skrillex and is still on good terms with both. She said: "I don't let many people into my life, so when I do, it's pretty special. I don't want to let them go that easily."

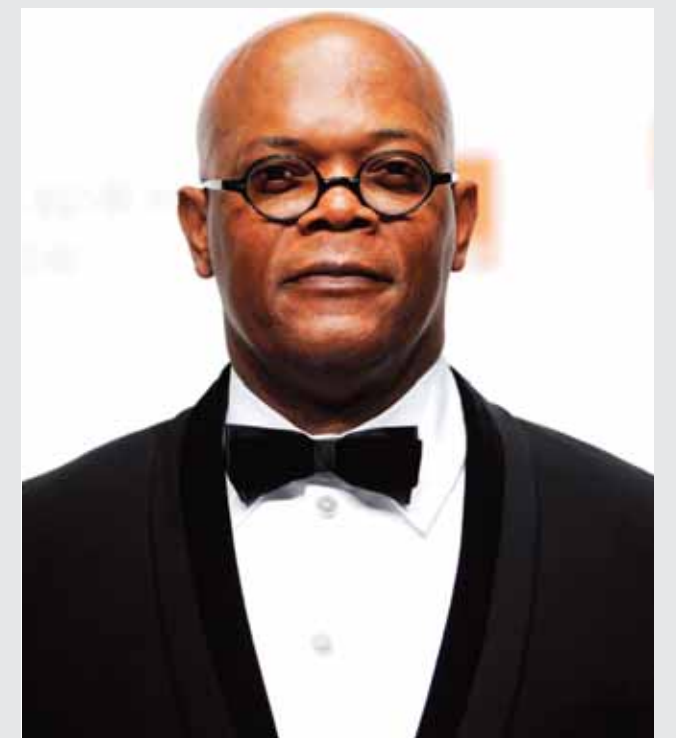
Pitt buys all his employees champagne on their birthdays



The 'By the Sea' actor and his wife Angelina Jolie - who raise six children together - try to look after their staff and reward them for all of their hard work. A source said: "There's the family's main PA/manager, two drivers, security staff, a chef, housekeeper and two cleaners. Angelina also has her own PA and a hair and beauty team for events. Not all the staff travel with them but the five nannies and PAs do. They also tend to travel with a nurse when outside of the US in case anything happens to the children. They try hard to be good to the staff as they work long hours - Brad always buys them huge magnums of champagne for their birthdays and Angelina gets the kids to make them cards." The couple have a team of nannies and specialist tutors to help care for their kids, Maddox, 14, Pax, 11, Zahara, 10, Shiloh, nine, and seven-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne. The source told Closer magazine: "The children are home-schooled, which is easier given how often the family travel. There are four main tutors and Angelina sometimes hires temporary tutors too - all experts in a certain field. She wants the children to learn from the best. There are five nannies and they all have some kind of teaching qualification. To help further educate the children, Angelina insists all the nannies speak at least one different language, including French, Spanish and Cambodian, which reflects Maddox's heritage."

Jackson would have loved to have played James Bond

The 'Hateful Eight' star - who has been linked to the role numerous times - has now admitted he would definitely have taken it on if he were offered it when he was younger and insisted he doesn't know any actors who would turn it down. Asked if he would've played Bond, he said: "Sure yeah, why not? I love Bond movies, I've loved them since I was a kid. Everyone wants to be a double-oh spy." However, since the 66-year-old actor has now ruled himself out, he's instead revealed who he would like to see replace Daniel Craig as the next 007. He told British GQ magazine: "Hmm. Tom Hiddleston? Actually, after we saw him kicking all that ass in 'Kingsman', I think Colin Firth would be a fine Bond." Jackson also rubbished the idea that actors and actresses hate watching themselves on screen. The 'Pulp Fiction' actor added: "That's bulls**t! Actors that say, 'I can't stand to watch myself, well if you can't stand to watch yourself then why do you expect someone to pay \$13.50 to watch you?'"



Brie Larson says she was a painfully shy child

The 'Trainwreck' actress admits she always felt like an outsider and struggled to make friends because she "worried" about being different. The 26-year-old star said: "I was worried about my body and my face and my voice. I felt plagued that I didn't dress or talk the same way as other people. I wasn't interested in the same things." The blonde beauty is garnering Oscar buzz for her portrayal of a kidnapped woman forced to raise her son in captivity in 'Room', but insists she hasn't forgotten what it feels like to be a struggling actress in Hollywood. She said: "I was still very much struggling to make ends meet until like two

years ago. I still don't get recognized anywhere. Most of the time it's 'Did I go to college with you?' 'Nope, not me.' Brie is "super excited" to take on awards season next year, but insists success hasn't changed her. She told PEOPLE: "When I'm sitting in bed watching 'Chopped' - that Brie I know. But I don't know the Brie in sky-high heels on a carpet with a bunch of people screaming at me. I wonder what she's like. Either way, I've got an awesome therapist and an awesome family and two really cool dogs, so I'm good."



Aniston 'not understanding' Theroux's obsession with video games

The 'Leftovers' actor, who married the 46-year-old actress in August, admits she gets "upset" when he spends hours playing 'Call of Duty: Black Ops 3' at their Bel Air home in California. Asked if they play the military science fiction game together, the 44-year-old star said: "Wifey does not play. Wifey is like, 'Where are you?' She still doesn't see it as a social app. Like, I am hanging out with my friends - technically - and she's like, 'No. You are sitting there watching a TV playing a game.' She's not understanding!" But Justin isn't surprised that Jennifer doesn't share his love of gaming. He told E! News: "Well, it looks weird when you walk in and they're just sitting there screaming into a headset and they're killing each other. I'm going to war, and she's not understanding. Then I come back from war and she's upset." But he insists his hobby doesn't really cause any problems between them. He said: "She knows that I love it, so she's very tolerant." The 'Zoolander 2' writer recently confessed he loves being married to the former 'Friends' star. He said: "It's fantastic. Something really does shift in a wonderful way and it refocuses things and in a weird way, it was a long time coming."

Barrymore believes she had a visit from her father's ghost

The 40-year-old actress claims she felt John Barrymore's presence during "a very unique moment" shortly before scattering his ashes at the Joshua Tree National Park in California. The 'Miss You Already' star, who helped care for the late actor at a hospice before his death in 2004, said: "We put his ashes at Joshua Tree. He loved Joshua Tree and I had spent a lot of time with him there whenever I visited. So we took his ashes there and I went to this little motel and I was sleeping until we were all going to wake up and spread the ashes. And I felt a thing and I sat up in my bed and the doorknob of my room opened and the door just opened. And I just sat up in bed and I was like, 'Dad?'" It was a moment where you can have hope about anything being possible, and it was a very unique moment." Drew remembers her father as a "very free" spirit and says he was "very charismatic and odd." She told 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show': "Well, he did [bathe] with lemons and olive oil. He felt the lemons were the cleansing and the olive oil was the moisturising. He was like a human salad." Meanwhile, the star admits she "lied [her] face off" in a bid to land a role in one of her godfather Steven Spielberg's films when she was six. She said: "I lied to him. I lied my face off. I told him I was in a rock-and-roll band. I was a drummer, of course, because drummers are the coolest. And that I was a cook. Pippi Longstocking was my hero so I just felt like girls can do anything, there's no ceiling, and I sold myself and told my little stories." The director eventually recommended she audition for 'E.T.', the film which launched her career.



Close thinks there are too many misconceptions about mental illness

The 68-year-old actress, who co-founded the non-profit Bring Change 2 Mind after her sister Jessie and nephew were diagnosed with bipolar disorder, has blasted the stigma that many people who are mentally ill are also dangerous. Speaking at the WebMD Health Hero Awards, the 'Fatal Attraction' star said one of the biggest misconceptions surrounding the issue "is that people with mental illness are dangerous." She added: "There are so many headlines and so many tragedies that have happened because there is no system in our country that will help those people from falling through the net, from becoming isolated. But [the number of mentally ill people who commit crimes] is a very, very

small percentage, but unfortunately it leads to other people getting hurt and it makes our job a little bit more difficult because it can build up the stigma." But Glenn hopes attitudes are beginning to change. She told PEOPLE.com: "The fact is you are not your illness. You can get help, there is medication, there is a huge revolution in genetic research that will help actually pinpoint genes that are causing these illnesses. Just like cancer, diabetes, or Alzheimer's we have to embrace the fact that [mental illness] is part of the human condition and not condemn people." — Bangshowbiz





A man takes pictures of the BlizzCon sign at the opening ceremony of the convention.



(From left) Chris Hardwick, Duncan Jones, Toby Kebbell, Chris Metzen, Dominic Cooper and Ben Foster speak at the "Warcraft" Press Conference at BlizzCon at the Anaheim Convention Center. — AP photos

'Warcraft' cast unleash film trailer at BlizzCon

The director and cast of "Warcraft" are hammering down on BlizzCon. A trailer for the film adaptation of the long-running interactive fantasy series debuted to thunderous applause Friday at the fan convention. The footage teased the tusk-filled, armor-laden conflict between orcs and humans that has been depicted in the 11-year-old online role-playing game "World of Warcraft" and the original "Warcraft" games from the 1990s.

"Warcraft" filmmaker Duncan Jones introduced the preview on stage at the Anaheim Convention Center with cast members Clancy Brown, Dominic Cooper, Ben Foster, Toby Kebbell, Paul Patton and Daniel Wu. "That was incredible," said Jones back-

stage after the unveiling. "I've been working on this movie for three years and coming to BlizzCon for the past five years. I know this crowd from both sides, so it was fantastic to be able to finally show them in person and release the trailer online for everyone who couldn't be here."

Jones, the filmmaker behind the critical sci-fi successes "Moon" and "Source Code," said he understands winning over the BlizzCon crowd is only half the battle. "We have to convince people who aren't fans of 'Warcraft' that this is a movie that they're going to understand, enjoy and love," said Jones. "I keep telling everyone here that this is an opportunity for those who love 'Warcraft' to communicate to everyone else exactly what it

is they love about 'Warcraft.'"

Despite the game series' 20-year-old history and die-hard fanbase, Foster said he was undaunted when tackling the role of the magical Medivh. He didn't care that "Warcraft" was a game before a film. "It doesn't matter," said Foster. "It's about two sides of a war. There's compassion on both sides. To me, that felt like a worthy way to spend a few months in a very accessible way. If you can use the engine of big dollar Hollywood to talk about both sides of a war, that feels exciting. By the way, nobody did it for free."

Patton, who plays the half-orc, half-human Garona, acknowledged one of the biggest challenges of her part was attempt-

ing to act while wearing pointy ears and tusks. She would take them home to practice. "My son loved it," said Patton. "He would call me orc mommy. I would tape my pointy ears on him and rehearse my lines with the tusks on while cleaning the house or whatever." Activision Blizzard partnered with Legendary Pictures to produce "Warcraft," which is set for release June 10 and will be distributed by Universal Pictures. Jones said he's envisioned with Chris Metzen, Blizzard's chief of story and franchise development, that the film could be the first installment in a film trilogy. — AP



A promotional image from Activision's latest Call of Duty videogame 'Black Ops 3'.

Activision planning 'Call of Duty' film, 'Skylanders' show

Activision Blizzard Inc. is moving deeper into the film and TV business. The video game maker unveiled plans Friday at an investors meeting during the annual BlizzCon fan convention to create and release its own film and TV series.

The first projects from the newly formed Activision Blizzard Studios will be based on the "Call of Duty" military shooter franchise and kid-focused "Skylanders" toy-game series. Activision Blizzard Studios co-president Nick van Dyk noted that the division will be directly involved in the creation, development and marketing of movies and TV series based on Activision Blizzard properties. "We'll have a fraction of the overhead of the typical studio since we're starting with a blank page and building an organization that is right-sized for our intended creative output and for the future of the industry," van Dyk told investors.

The first TV series from Activision Blizzard Studios will be "Skylanders Academy." The computer-generated show is set to debut in 2016 and will feature the voices of Justin Long, Ashley Tisdale and Jonathan Banks. The studio also is working on a "Call of Duty" film series, with the first installment likely ready for

deployment in 2018 or 2019, according to van Dyk.

"Our releases will be consistent with the high adrenaline, bad-(expletive) action that fans expect from this franchise, but we're going to deliver this intellectual property to the broadest movie-going audience," van Dyk said. "This will be tent-pole action-adventure of the widest appeal."

The formation of a devoted studio is similar to Activision rival Ubisoft establishing a film and TV division in 2011. That studio is responsible for the Nickelodeon series "Rabbids Invasion," as well as an "Assassin's Creed" film based on the historical series starring Michael Fassbender, due Dec 21, 2016.

A similar venture didn't work out for Microsoft. After two years, the company closed its Xbox Entertainment Studios in 2014. The division had been tasked with creating series based on such Microsoft game franchises as "Halo," "Forza" and "Gears of War." Activision Blizzard announced earlier this week that it is acquiring "Candy Crush Saga" publisher King Entertainment for \$5.9 billion. — AP

Aziz Ansari on shattering the glass ceiling in 'Master of None'

In Netflix's new original comedy series "Master of None," Aziz Ansari forgoes the eccentric, ethnic stereotype supporting roles he's often handed and makes history by becoming television's first Indian-American male actor to play a romantic lead and be the center of his own show. The "Parks and Recreation" alum stars, writes and directs the semi-autobiographical series about a New York actor who is struggling to find good roles while dealing with sex, the hardships of dating and racism.

"It's really cool," Ansari, 32, told Variety about shattering the glass ceiling at the show's premiere in New York City Thursday evening at the AMC Loews 19th Street East Theater. "I just hope people realize by watching 'Master of None' that the everyman isn't a straight white guy. In most TV shows and in film, when you see the everyman, it's always a straight white guy. In reality, the everyman is everybody. Everybody has an interesting, compelling narrative no matter their background, ethnicity, sexuality, gender. I wanted to represent that perspective in our show."

Ansari co-created and co-wrote the show, which is available to stream on Netflix on Nov 6, with former "Parks" writer Alan Yang. The collaboration between the best friends began over two years ago when Ansari decided to create his own projects due to the lack of substantial work. "I would have never gotten a role like this if I did not come up with it on my own," said Ansari, a South Carolina native. "Normally no one would have sent me a rich script as this. They would have sent me stuff that's versions of things I've done in the past or playing a guy with an Indian accent. It's really hard for minority actors to get roles in Hollywood. I think as more and more creators from diverse backgrounds come together, things can change."

'Very personal show'

The half-hour, 10-episode first season of "Master of None" addresses topics such as gender issues, racism, stereotypes and

growing up as a first-generation American from immigrant families. Yang promises there is no other show like theirs.

"Our show is very personal and shows different perspectives that we haven't seen on TV before," he said. "Part of it is the ambition in the format. We have one episode that lasts for a year. We have an episode that addresses what it's like to be

the screening. "It's really cool and since there are no ratings on Netflix, I feel like we are done and f-everybody, we won!"

Following the screening, cast members Lena Waithe, Noel Wells, Kelvin Yu and Eric Wareheim joined Ansari and Yang at the Top of the Standard Hotel's swanky lounge for drinks and passed hors d'oeuvres that included hamburger sliders, crab spring rolls and mini fish



A screenshot from the Netflix original comedy series 'Master of None'.

Indian or Asian on TV. We haven't seen that in a lot of episodes on other shows. We didn't want the show to be preachy or an op ed. We wanted the show to be fun and entertaining and tell a good story. When people talk in real life, they do talk about sex, race and other issues. So if it comes up, it comes up. It's sort of a tightrope walk. We don't know if we are going to succeed, but we feel like it's worth trying."

The risk is paying off. The show is currently tracking at 100 percent fresh on the Rotten Tomatoes ratings and Ansari and Yang are receiving heaps of praise for their honest and comedic viewpoints on racism, the show's 1970s cinematic aesthetic and its diverse characters. "It's been a crazy week for us seeing all the good reviews," Ansari told the crowd at

tacos. Ansari greeted guests and spent most of the evening enjoying the sweeping Manhattan skyline from his VIP table with his brother, Aniz Ansari, and his parents, who both act in the show. Ansari hired his real-life folks to play his TV parents. "It was fantastic and a very surreal experience to have my parents be in the show," he said.

"My parents have never acted before and now my dad wants to work more and do commercials. He's like, 'We have to find the next project for me.' He's psyched. They know what it's like to be an actor and how tiring it is. They were like, 'Wow, so this is why you don't call us when you get home.'" — Reuters

China's booming movie market is getting younger

Experts on the booming Chinese moviegoing market are advising producers to prepare for profound changes in customer behavior. "The focus of the business is on young people," said Yang Xianghua of streaming service iQiyi.com at Friday's panel at the Fairmount Hotel at the American Film Market. "Sixty percent of ticket sales are now taking place from mobile devices," he added.

The event drew several hundred attendees, with Variety Asia editor Patrick Frater moderating and noting that the Chinese box office will top the US box office in 2017. Film director Jiang Haiyang noted that a recent survey showed the average moviegoer in China is currently 21.8 years old. He added that attendance is being driven by young adults wanting to have a communal experience at theaters—even if it's a poorly reviewed film.

"People will often go to see just how bad it is," Jiang said, evoking major laughs from the audience. The attendance is also driven by younger

Chinese being more interested in visual entertainment rather than in books," he noted. "Going to the movies for them helps fulfill their visual dreams," Jiang said. Xianghua pointed out that much of the growth has come from so-called fourth-tier markets—new cities of less than 1 million: "I grew up in a town of 300,000 that had only one theater, but that's all changed."

William Pfeiffer, CEO of Dragongate Entertainment, pointed out that the jump in the number of cinemas has also been driven by real estate development. "Cinemas are a part of most new projects," he added. Speakers also indicated that they do expect the Chinese government to eventually allow for an increase in the number of US titles, currently at 34 per year and limited to avoid "blackout" periods around local holidays.

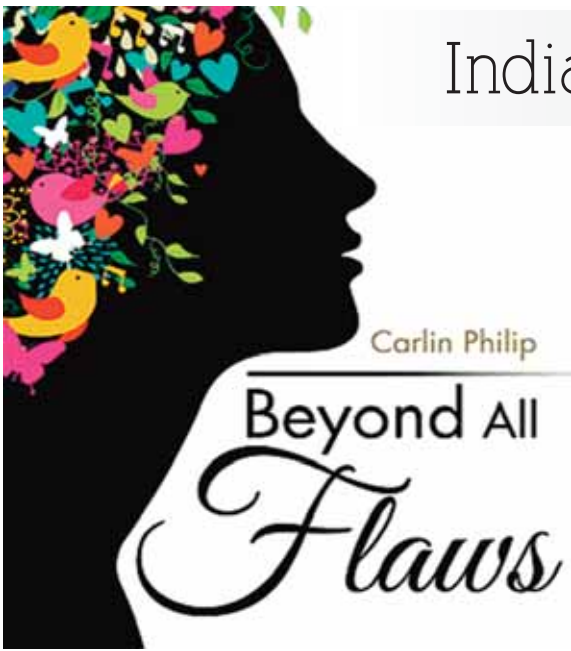
"The Chinese titles are already taking over 60% of the box office," Pfeiffer said. Pfeiffer also said he's optimistic about "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay-Part 2," which opens day and date in China with the rest of the world. "We have high

expectations," he noted. "It's being marketed as the best of the four." "Mockingjay-Part 1" took in \$36 million in China, the second-largest take internationally after \$48 million in the UK. The film is being imported by China Film Group's Import Export Company and will be jointly distributed by China Film Group and Huaxia in conjunction with Lionsgate's promotional partner, Talent International. — Reuters

A Chinese Star Wars fan dressed in costume poses for a photo in front of hundreds of miniature storm trooper figures placed atop the Juyongguan section of the Great Wall of China during a promotional event for the movie "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" outside of Beijing. — AP



'I'm greedy for hope,' says 15-year-old writer



Indian school student publishes new novel 'Beyond All Flaws'

By Sajeev K Peter

It is no small feat that the Indian girl Carlin Philip was able to publish her latest novel at the age of 15. "Beyond All Flaws" is this 11th grader's 13th book though most of her works remained manuscripts. Her novel 'Beyond All Flaws' was released at an impressive function at her school - the Indian Community School, Salmiya, recently.

Carlin started writing at the age of eight. "I'm greedy for hope. I'm greedy to have people view the world in different ways. This what I've always wished for," she comments reflecting on her view of life and its philosophy.

To this young writer, this world appears to be pretty messed up today. "If you think about the world in a holistic view, you can see that the majority of what's highlighted is

violence, grief, loss... It goes on. In my case, to make my peace with this world, I create scenarios in my head, scenarios which assure me that amidst all this chaos, there's still that ray of sunlight that I can wish on. This is why I write," says Carlin explaining as to what motivates and inspires her to write.

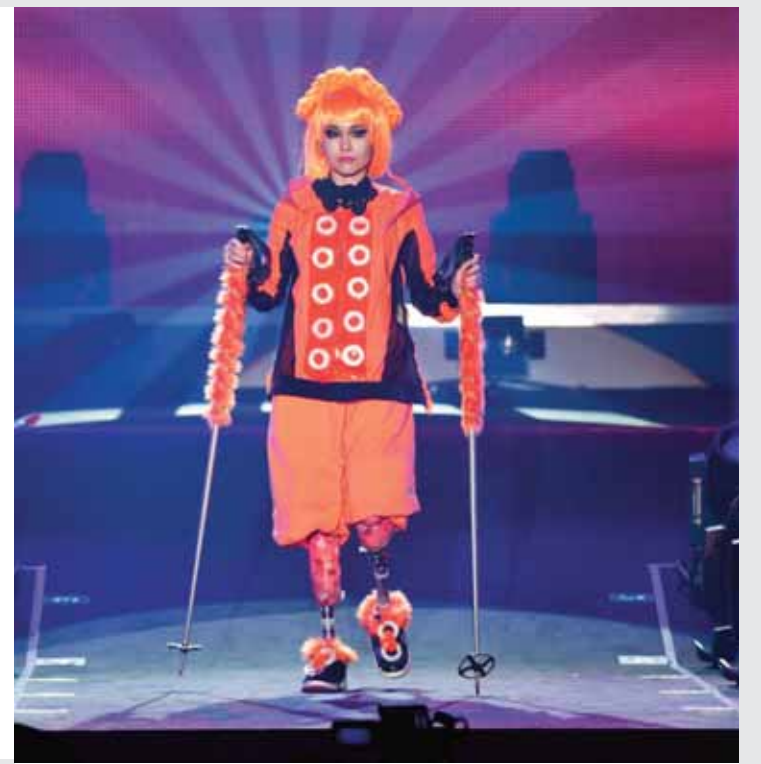
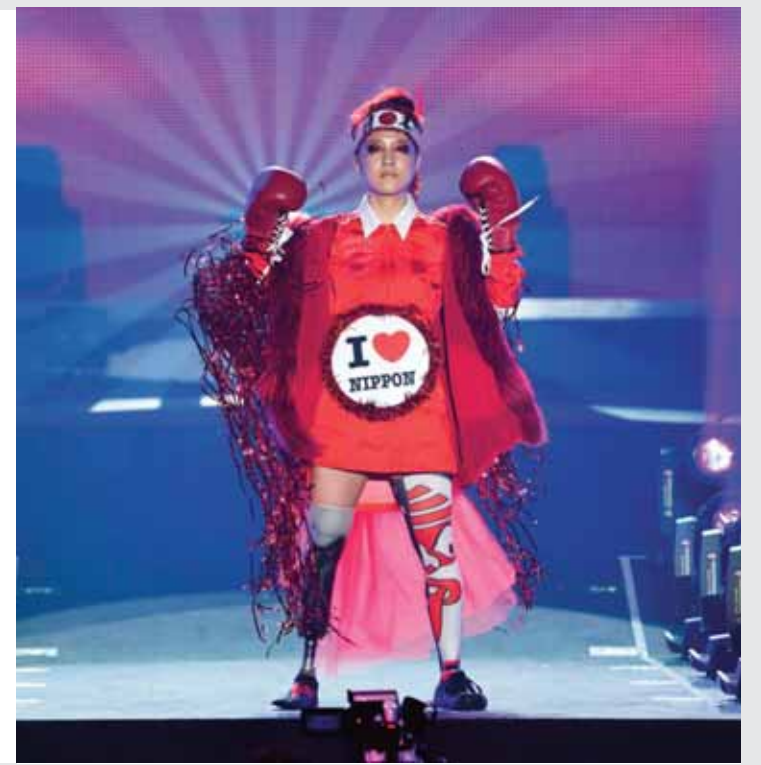
The book tells the story of Adrian O'Connor and Carmen Collins who have been best friends since they were eleven. As they both begin college in California, they are certain they can leave their insecurities and past flaws behind and focus on leading a cheerful life. In the novel, the two friends begin a new chapter in their lives where they learn to embrace their flaws.

"For me, writing is like puppetry. I tug on the strings of characters and make them laugh, cry, live, die because for once I'm in control of fate. I create worlds that are consid-

ered 'impossible to exist'. I create characters that are considered outcasts. I create societies that accept people for the way they are. People's imaginations are places and galaxies that the world is missing out on," Carlin reasons out.

She minced no words while thanking her institution - ICSK - for putting her love for writing in the limelight and Principal Dr V Binumon and teachers for instilling that 'burning desire' in her to write. "I will forever be grateful for this opportunity. I would also like to thank my parents for supporting me to follow my dreams. My friends and classmates who actually make me look forward to school," she says. The book is published by Partridge, the Penguin Random House, Singapore.

Subculture Fashion



Athletes with artificial limbs display the creations designed for physical disabled persons during a fashion show in a subculture event in Tokyo. — AFP photos

Stallone still packs punch with Rocky fans ahead of 'Creed'

There's a scene in "Creed" where the latest brash boxer who challenges the upstart protege of Rocky Balboa barks, "No one cares about Balboa anymore!" Yo, through 40 years of Rocky as an underdog, champion, and aging, widowed fighter, fans sure do care.

Dressed in robes, fedora hats and even boxing boots, the costumed enthusiasts chanting "Rocky! Rocky! Rocky!" on Friday had one more reason to cheer for Philadelphia's favorite fictional son. Sylvester Stallone goes one more round as Balboa in the spinoff "Creed," and he wants the character to tally even more before he joins Adrian, Apollo and Paulie in that great squared circle in the sky. "There's more to go," Stallone said Friday. "I would like to follow this character until eventually he's an angel."

The 69-year-old Stallone, writer of the first "Rocky" that earned 10 Academy Award nominations including best picture, promised more movies based on Balboa and Adonis Creed. Creed is the son of Rocky's heavyweight rival and beach-running friend, Apollo Creed, and the titular character who coaxed Balboa out of retirement and into a trainer's role in the movie set for a Nov 25 release.

Stallone and fellow "Creed" actors Michael B. Jordan and Tessa

Thompson, writer-director Ryan Coogler and producer Irwin Winkler attended a celebration of the movie atop the Philadelphia Museum of Art steps. Mayor Michael Nutter attended a screening Thursday night and said the movie should win an Academy Award for best picture. The "Rocky" series spawned six more movies, and all the films shared a common co-star with Stallone - Philadelphia.

"The movie put Philadelphia literally on the map," Nutter said. Stallone's run through the Italian Market and up the museum's 72 steps in the first movie propped both locations from local landmarks into iconic tourist attractions. A bronze statue of the hard-luck fighter stands at the base of the steps.

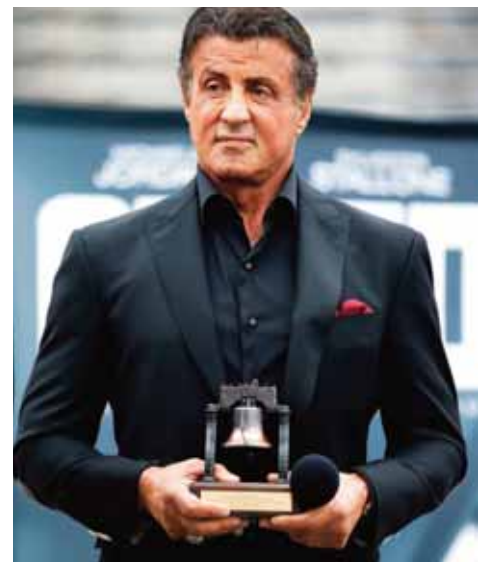
"Creed" opens a more modern Philadelphia to a new generation of fans: Johnny Brenda's, Max's Steaks, Front Street Gym. All take center stage in the new flick and so does newer lingo. "Yo!" makes way for "jawn," a Philly word that can be used to describe anything. When Los Angeles transplant Creed (Jordan) has his first cheesesteak with love interest Bianca (Thompson), she asks for "some peppers on that jawn."

"Jawn this, jawn that," Creed said. "What's that?" Thompson said she spent about two months around Philadelphia to add native

authenticity to her character. "There's no better way to learn how to be a Philly jawn than just spend a lot of time in some Philly jawns," she said. Jordan was immersed for nearly a year in training for a movie that probably has more fight scenes than any of the first six movies.

"Did I get hurt? I took a few real punches, for sure. Thank Sly for that one," said Jordan, who trained with fighters Andre Ward and Gabriel Rosado. "I know, you deserved it," Stallone said, laughing. Rocky has become as much a Philadelphia institution as the Liberty Bell and Stallone is always greeted with a frenzy normally reserved for its real-life sports heroes.

"I started skipping rocks in the Schuylkill River over there when I was 12 years old," said Stallone, who lived Philly as a teen. "So all you kids in the audience there, if you don't think you can make it up these steps of life, which is kind of represented here by this museum, don't you believe that. Because if I can do it, you can do it!" — AP



Actor Sylvester Stallone looks on during the press conference.



Actor Sylvester Stallone waves to fans as he arrives for a press conference promoting his film "Creed" outside the Philadelphia Museum of Art. — AP photos



Sylvester Stallone, from left, Michael B Jordan and Tessa Thompson talk before a press conference promoting their film "Creed".



Fans gather near a press conference where cast members Michael B. Jordan, Sylvester Stallone and Tessa Thompson.



An Indian woman looks at lanterns and lamps from roadside a stall ahead of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights in Hyderabad, India, Friday, Nov 6, 2015. Diwali will be celebrated in most parts of India on Nov 11. — AP

From slum to bookshop, Brazil drug queen turns writer

She started sniffing glue at age six to ease the hunger of life in a Brazilian slum. She got her first revolver when she was 11. Now 54, Raquel de Oliveira, once the first lady of the drug trade in the Rio de Janeiro favelas, has taken up the pen. After a decade in treatment for alcoholism and drug addiction, she has just published her first novel, "Number One." "Literature is the only thing that has kept me standing," says Oliveira, an energetic talker with long dark hair, in an interview with AFP. "Writing gives me pleasure. It takes the place of cocaine. It helps me flee from the pain." In the 1980s Oliveira was the lover of one Naldo, the drug lord of Brazil's biggest favela, La Rocinha, in Rio de Janeiro.

After he was killed in a shootout with police, she became a drug trafficker herself, but was ruined by her own alcohol and cocaine habit. She made it into rehab, discovered poetry, completed high-school studies and university, where she majored in education. She was speaking in the Babilonia favela, during FLUPP, a literary festival for the favelas. "This book is the story of my life," she says.

Prostitutes and priests

She grew up in a shack with a dirt floor that she shared with a father she describes simply as a pedophile. "When I was little, our soda drink was wine mixed with water and sugar. All the children drank it," she recalled. She was not yet six when her father locked her in the shack and abandoned her. She escaped onto the rooftops of the slum, where other children lived and spent their days flying kites and sniffing glue.

When she was nine her grandmother intervened. "She was addicted to roulette and I was a way to raise money." The grandmother sold her to a gambling boss, the so-called "godfather" of various young girls. "He was very friendly and protective. He bought the girls because he thought he was help-



Brazilian Raquel Santos Oliveira, ex-wife of drug dealer Naldo — who was the drug chief of Rocinha shantytown in the 80's — poses at the Chapeu Mangueira - Babilonia favela in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. — AFP photos

ing the families," Oliveira said. "When I got to his house, about three of the girls were pregnant by him."

She escaped being forced into prostitution by a priest of Umbanda, an Afro-Brazilian cult. "This girl will not be a whore," the holy man told the Godfather. "You must adopt her," Oliveira says the gangster listened to the holy man and treated her like a daughter. When she was 11 he gave her a revolver to defend herself against bandits.

Queen of the slums

Her life changed at 25 when she started her three-year

relationship with Naldo. The charismatic king of Rocinha was the first drug dealer to give interviews to newspapers. He brought rifles into the favelas, sparking an arms race with the police. "He was the love of my life. I liked how he loved me and all the things he gave me: Security, affection, compulsive sex," she said.

"It was great to discover all that. I had been married before and it had been shitty." For several years she carried on Naldo's trafficking work by herself in Rocinha, where she still lives. She drank and took cocaine more than ever. "Cocaine was my passion," she says. "It replaced all the sex and love that I'd lost with

my dead husband." In 2005, a friend helped get her back on the rails. Now she plans to get a master's degree in education and publish another novel and two books of poetry. She says she has no regrets. "I managed to face up to everything that happened with dignity," she said. "My life could have been much worse." — AFP



Brazilian Raquel Santos Oliveira, ex-wife of drug dealer Naldo — who was the drug chief of Rocinha shantytown in the 80's — poses with her book 'A numero 1' ('The number 1').

Supermodel Gisele Bundchen launches photo book

Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bundchen has launched a book of over 300 photographs spanning her 20-year career just months after retiring from the catwalk. Fan Marcelo Spencer says he arrived at midnight to be first in line for Friday's debut in Sao Paulo and get his copy of "Gisele" signed by the supermodel, who retired in April. Spencer says Bundchen treated him "very well" and wrote a simple dedication inside: "To Marcelo, handsome, blond, tall and thin. From your diva, Gisele." The Portuguese-language version of "Gisele" sells for either \$500 or \$925 for the deluxe edition. — AP

Brazilian model Gisele Bundchen imitates her own gesture as she shows a page of her book, titled Gisele Bundchen, about her 20-year modeling career, before signing autographs in Sao Paulo, Brazil. — AP



Police union threatens 'surprise' for Tarantino

The executive director of the largest police union in the country is threatening a "surprise" for Quentin Tarantino after the director drew its ire for comments about police brutality. Jim Pasco of the Fraternal Order of Police told the Hollywood Reporter on Thursday that the union has something planned for Tarantino and that "the element of the surprise is the most important element."

"The time and place will come up and we'll try to hurt him the only way that seems to matter to him, and that's economically," said Pasco. He said this event could happen anytime between now and the premiere of "The Hateful Eight," which opens Christmas Day.

Numerous police groups have said they'll boycott the film after Tarantino attended an anti-police brutality rally in October where said he was protesting "murder" and was there to demonstrate that he's "on the side of the murdered." New York Patrolmen's Benevolent Association boss Pat Lynch called Tarantino a "cop-hater." Texas Rep. Ted Poe, a Republican,

called Tarantino's comments "idiotic" and said they "encourage mischief and crimes against peace officers."

Tarantino, who didn't immediately return messages on Pasco's pledge, has defended his remarks and insisted he's not "anti-police." Appearing on MSNBC on Wednesday, Tarantino said that police, by feuding with him, are obscuring "the fact that the citizenry has lost trust in (police)."

"Anybody who acknowledges that there's a problem in law enforcement in this country right now is considered by law enforcement part of the problem - whether that be me, whether that be (New York Mayor) Bill de Blasio, whether that be President Barack Obama," said Tarantino. Messages left with Pasco for further comment on the union's plans were not immediately returned Friday. — AP