

Companies with less than five workers can pay staff in cash



Egypt bids farewell to Nobel winning chemist Zewail



Jailed Pistorius treated in hospital for wrist injuries



Ibrahimovic fires Man Utd to Community Shield win



MPs AGAIN DISCUSS PETROL PRICE HIKE, MULL OPTIONS

LAWMAKERS DEMAND COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC REFORMS



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WORLD BANK HAILS PETROL PRICE HIKE AS 'BOLD MOVE'

KUWAIT: Kuwait's partial deregulation of gasoline prices represents a politically and economically bold move in a country where subsidies are amongst the highest in the world at a per capita level, said Firas Raad, World Bank Country Manager in Kuwait, yesterday. Energy subsidies in Kuwait represent a major burden on public finances with estimates ranging from 1.3 to 5.7 percent of GDP, with the higher estimates taking into account the costs of energy subsidies to public health and the environment, Raad told KUNA.

These significant energy subsidies in Kuwait have resulted in major distortions in the economy, including staggeringly high levels of energy consumption, much higher than those expected, given the demographic and economic growth trends of the country, he said. The adoption of an automatic mechanism by Kuwait should be viewed as the first stage of a transition to a fully liberalized pricing and supply regime. Such a regime has typically been a more effective approach to avoiding subsidies and protecting the budget.

The current environment of low oil prices represents an opportunity to reform energy subsidies with minimal impact on consumers, while generating fiscal savings at a time when fiscal pressures are increasing.

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RIO DE JANEIRO: An overview shows France's Kevin Le Roux serving the ball during the men's qualifying volleyball match between France and Italy at the Maracanazinho stadium yesterday during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. — AFP (Full coverage on Pages 17-20)

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Lawmakers yesterday again called on the government to apply the economic reforms package and not the petrol price hike alone in order to provide protection to citizens. The call came following a meeting by MPs at the speaker's office to study the implications of the price hike and ways to convince the government to take measures to compensate Kuwaiti citizens.

MP Abdullah Maayouf said that a scheduled meeting with the prime minister and the government today has been postponed till the following day because the ministers will be engaged in the weekly Cabinet meeting. MP Ahmad Lari said the government is required to implement economic reform recommendations made by the National Assembly's financial and economic affairs committee in February.

He acknowledged that Kuwait is facing a tough economic situation, but its position is better than other oil-exporting countries, although "we need to be more cautious to prevent the budget deficit from increasing". Lari said it was agreed to hold a meeting between lawmakers this week to discuss the petrol hike decision, which was issued last week and becomes effective from the start of September. He said that among the options to face the impacts of the decision is either to provide citizens with direct compensation or offering them a limited quantity of petrol every month at the current prices. But the lawmaker insisted that the issue of delaying the implementation of the decision is not one of the options.

Maayouf said MPs agree on the general framework to compensate citizens, but there is no agreement on all details, adding that if the government insists on the increase, it must provide aid to citizens.

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ALEPPO: Rebel fighters fire towards positions of regime forces in Ramussa on the southwestern edges of this northern city on Saturday. — AFP

IRAN EXECUTES NUCLEAR SCIENTIST

UAE WARNS YOUTH MAY BE RADICALIZED VIA VIDEO GAMES

DUBAI: Authorities in the United Arab Emirates have warned the public that "criminal groups propagating radical ideologies" could spread violent ideas and rebellious behavior among young people through video gaming. The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) issued the warning in a statement carried by the state news agency WAM late on Saturday. It urged parents to prevent teenagers from establishing relations with strangers through chat channels in games.

Criminal groups "are trying to recruit young people and adolescents through some electronic games", WAM quoted Mohammed Al-Zarooni, the TRA's director for policy and programs, as saying. He said the groups identified weaknesses in their targets through conversations and then exploited them by directing them to commit crimes. In particular, some criminals used war games to encourage the use of weapons.

The TRA did not identify the criminal groups or elaborate on their intentions, and violent crime in the UAE is rare. But in 2013 the UAE jailed dozens of local citizens for plotting to overthrow the government, and it has launched a series of trials against suspected sympathizers of the Muslim Brotherhood. — Reuters

TEHRAN: Iran executed a nuclear scientist who defected to the US and returned to the Islamic Republic under mysterious circumstances a year later, an official said yesterday, acknowledging for the first time that the nation secretly detained, tried and convicted a man authorities once heralded as a hero. Shahram Amiri vanished in 2009 while on a religious pilgrimage to Muslim holy sites in Saudi Arabia, only to reappear a year later in a series of contradictory online videos filmed in the US. He then walked into the Iranian interests section at the Pakistani

Embassy in Washington and demanded to be sent home.

In interviews, Amiri described being kidnapped and held against his will by Saudi and American spies, while US officials said he was to receive millions of dollars for his help in understanding Iran's contested nuclear program. He was hanged the same week as Tehran executed a group of militants, a year after his country agreed to a landmark accord to limit uranium enrichment in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

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SYRIA ARMY REDEPLOYS AFTER REBELS BREAK ALEPPO SIEGE

BEIRUT: Syrian regime forces redeployed yesterday to try to avoid being surrounded in neighborhoods they control in Aleppo, after a rebel alliance said it had broken a three-week government siege. A coalition of rebels and jihadists surged through regime territory on Saturday to open a new route into the northern city's besieged eastern neighborhoods, home to an estimated 250,000 people. The operation triggered celebrations in eastern districts and sparked fears in regime-controlled western areas of the divided city of food and fuel shortages.

Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said the rebel action was one of the most significant setbacks for government forces since the conflict erupted in March 2011. "Despite more than 600 Russian strikes, the regime forces were not able to hold on to their positions," he said. Steadfast regime ally Moscow has provided air support for

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TEHRAN: In this file photo taken on July 15, 2010, Shahram Amiri, an Iranian nuclear scientist, attends a news briefing while holding his son Amir Hossein as he arrives at the Imam Khomeini Airport from the United States. — AP

ERDOGAN STAGES RALLY IN SHOW OF STRENGTH

ISTANBUL: More than a million Turks gathered in Istanbul yesterday for a rally called by President Tayyip Erdogan to denounce a failed coup - a show of strength staged in the face of Western criticism of widespread purges and detentions. The "Democracy and Martyrs' Rally" at the Yenikapi parade ground, built into the sea on the southern edge of Istanbul's peninsula, marks the climax of three weeks of nightly demonstrations by Erdogan's supporters, many wrapped in the red Turkish flag, in squares around the country. Banners read "You are a gift from God, Erdogan" or "Order us to die and we will do it".

But it was also the first time in decades that major opposition parties joined a rally in support of the government in the nation of almost 80 million. "We're here to show that these flags won't come down, the call to prayer won't be silenced, and our country won't be divided," said Haci Mehmet Haliloglu, 46, a civil servant who travelled from the Black Sea town of Ordu for the rally. "This is something way beyond politics, this is either our freedom or death," he said, a large Turkish flag over his shoulder and a matching baseball cap on his head.

The parade ground, built to hold at least a million people, was overflowing, with access roads clogged by crowds. The events were broadcast live on public screens at demonstrations across Turkey's 81 provinces. Erdogan has vowed to rid Turkey of the network of US-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, whose followers in the security forces, judiciary and civil service he accuses of orchestrating the attempted power grab and of plotting to overthrow the state.

Gulen - an ally of Erdogan in the early years after his Islamist-rooted AK Party took power in 2002 - denies the charges and has denounced the coup, which came at a critical time for a NATO "frontline" state facing Islamist militant attacks from across the border in Syria and an insurgency by Kurdish rebels. Since the coup, Turkish authorities have suspended, detained or placed under investigation tens of thousands of people, including soldiers, police, judges, journalists, medics and civil servants, prompting concern among Western allies that Erdogan is using the events to tighten his grip on power.

"The triumph is democracy's, the squares are the people's," said flyers put through doors overnight advertising free bus, ferry and sub-

way transport to yesterday's rally. The slogan adorns banners hung from bridges and buildings across the country. Erdogan, a polarizing figure seen by opponents as intolerant of dissent, has invited the heads of the secularist and nationalist main opposition parties to address the crowds in a display of national unity in defiance of Western criticism.

"The only way to eliminate coups is to revive the founding values of the Republic. These values that make our unity should be spoken out loud at Yenikapi," said Kemal Kilicdaroglu, leader of the secularist opposition CHP, in a tweet ahead of the rally. Turkey's top Muslim cleric and chief rabbi also attended. But the pro-Kurdish HDP, the third-largest party in parliament, was not invited due to its alleged links to Kurdish militants, prompting anger on social media from its supporters.

The brutality of July 15, in which more than 230 people were killed as rogue soldiers commandeered fighter jets, helicopters and tanks, shocked a nation that last saw a violent military power grab in 1980. Even Erdogan's opponents saw his continued leadership as preferable to a

Continued on Page 13



ISTANBUL: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his wife Emine wave to the crowd during a Democracy and Martyrs' Rally yesterday. — AP



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem.

AMIR RECEIVES FM, UN ENVOY

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace First Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed.

During the meeting the Yemeni Envoy expressed gratitude to His Highness the Amir for hosting Yemeni talks, praising His Highness's efforts to end the conflict and achieve security and stability to the Republic of Yemen.

His Highness the Amir stressed on the importance of continuing negotiations between the Yemeni parties to achieve positive results and to maintain security and stability to the Yemeni people. The meeting was also attended by Amiri Diwan Advisor Mohammad Daifallah Sharar.

Earlier, His Highness the Amir received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received Ghanem, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, and Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh. He also hosted Information Minister, Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah. — KUNA



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Information Minister Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah.



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah inaugurates the Najez project. — KUNA photos

MINISTRY SECURES TRANSACTIONS FOR SICK, HANDICAPPED AT HOME

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah inaugurated the 'Najez' project which secures mobile services for the Ministry of Justice. The inauguration took place yesterday at Bayan Palace.

The project is designed to make trans-

actions for the elderly, the sick and citizens of special needs and deliver the services to their houses. His Highness the Premier lauded the project, noting necessity of staying abreast of modern technology and preparing the national cadres to mastermind the advanced technology. — KUNA



KUWAIT'S HOSTING OF INTER-YEMENI TALKS PROVES ROLE IN INT'L SCENE

YEMENI ACTIVISTS BID FAREWELL TO KUWAIT

KUWAIT: Kuwait, proving its leading role in international scene by always calling for peace and extending a helping hand for the needy, hosted inter-Yemeni negotiations which concluded Friday after over 90 days of marathon talks.

UN Secretary General Special Envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, announcing end of talks at a news conference earlier, expressed gratitude for Kuwait and His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for hosting the negotiations and approving to extend them for a week when the original deadline expired. He said Kuwait has proven its keenness on peace and stability in Yemen.

Ahmed said His Highness the Amir's "personal intervention and wise leadership in some moments were key to salvage the consultations" between the Yemeni parties. He said First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah was in close contact with the negotiators to facilitate the talks. He added that Kuwait's hosting of the talks has paved the way for a solid ground for an agreement "we hope to see the light soon" in order to end the conflict in Yemen.

Ahmed said the progress of talks so far was "positive," citing the warring parties' sitting on one negotiating table. He did not rule out the next round of talks, expected within a month, to be held in Kuwait too. "The option that Kuwait hosts the consultation is still on the table," he added. Ahmed said he was confident Kuwait would not hesitate in hosting the next round if it was asked, because it was keen on achieving international peace.

Talks' results

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled held yesterday a luncheon in honor of UN Special Envoy for Yemen and his accompanying delegation. During the formal lunch, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled and the envoy discussed the results of the UN-brokered peace talks, hosted by Kuwait over four months, among the Yemeni parties. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled lauded efforts of the UN envoy in completing the talks aimed to meet aspirations of Yemeni people, represented in maintaining security and stability.

It was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Khaled Al-Jarallah, Foreign Minister Assistant at the Minister's office Ambassador Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Kuwait's Ambassador to Yemen Fahad Al-Mai, Assistant Foreign Minister for the Deputy Foreign Minister's Office Affairs Ambassador Ayham Al-Omar, Ambassador Salem Ghassab Al-Zamanan, Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for the Foreign Minister's Bureau Affairs Ambassador Saleh Salem Al-Loghani and a number of senior officials at the ministry.

'Thank you Kuwait'

Under the hashtag #thankyoukuwait, Yemeni political activists and journalists have bid farewell to Kuwait after the end of the UN-brokered peace talks, which the country has been hosting since last April.

They expressed, via various social media sites on Saturday, their gratitude and appreciation to



KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and the UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed attend a lunch banquet held in the envoy's honor. — KUNA

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, government, and people of Kuwait for hosting the talks between disputed Yemeni parties.

They also thanked Kuwait for its supportive stand to the Yemeni people, and for providing all

facilities and overcoming all difficulties in order to achieve the peace and stability that Yemenis aspire. Hopes are still pending on Yemeni warring parties' commitment to continue their negotiations in the next stage until attaining the desired peace and ending the war. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Minister of the Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah hosted yesterday Dr Mohammad Hassan Al-Attar, adviser of the Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Sciences, accompanied by Dr Bassam Abdulkarim Al-Feili, director of KFAS' development program. — KUNA

COMPANIES WITH LESS THAN 5 WORKERS CAN PAY STAFF IN CASH

UNION DEMANDS PROBE INTO WORKERS' DEATH

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Businessmen who employ less than five workers can pay their salaries in cash without the need to transfer them through banks, according to a new decision issued by the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM). Employers in this case who fail to transfer the salaries of their employees should prepare a record proving that the payments were made on time, said Aseel Al-Mizyed, Spokesperson and Director of Public Relations and Information at PAM. The inspection department will prepare a register of those paying employees their salaries without transferring it to banks, she added.

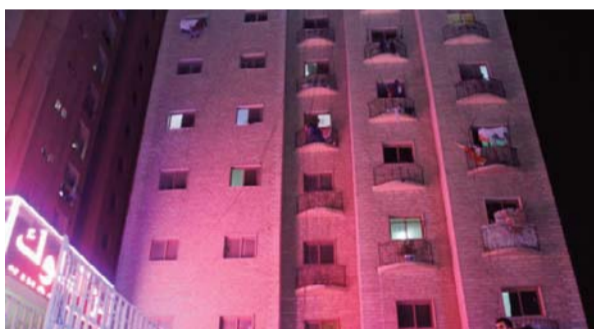
Workers' death
Secretary General of the Ministry of Electricity and Water's (MEW) Workers Union Nawaf Buyabes asked for information about the drowning deaths of contract workers on Saturday at the West Doha station. He demanded an investigation to make sure about the contractor's compliance with safety and security procedures. Buyabes said this incident is not the first of its kind, as there have been many accidents in the past and the fault is that of the companies that are not qualified, along with the existence of grave mistakes and violations. He demanded that all companies provide safety and security requirements in a way

that fits the nature of work they are doing.

Gas prices
Municipal Council member and Farwaniya Committee Chairman Nayef Al-Sour criticized the government's intentions to hike gasoline prices, adding that the simple citizen will be harmed by this unstudied decision. He said Kuwait is among the major oil producers and exporters, and subsidizing fuel is among the priorities that "we have been used to for years." He said this unfair decision must be scrapped, especially that the decision will cause limited income people to lose much.



KUWAIT: Aseel Al-Mizyed, Spokesperson and Director of Public Relations and Information at the Public Authority for Manpower. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat



NO INJURIES IN FARWANIYA FIRE

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Firemen put out a fire that broke out in a store of wedding and celebratory materials in Farwaniya Saturday night. Farwaniya, Ardhiya, and technical rescue responded. The fire was on the first floor, which had cardboard boxes and tables. The fire was put out and no injuries were reported.

Coastguard operations

Coastguardsmen carried out several missions in July, as 24 persons were assisted at mid-sea. The Interior Ministry's Relations and Security Information Department said coastguard patrols assisted 62 vessels, in addition to surfacing a boat and five floating bodies. Seven boats were ordered away from off-limits areas and three from Kuwait territorial waters. Four persons were rescued from drowning and efforts were made to locate five persons missing, while 82 jet-skis were moved away from beaches. Patrols found 17 violations of fish resources, besides carrying out patrols to secure sensitive areas.

Traffic violations

Meanwhile, the traffic department issued 41,100 citations, impounded 1,939 vehicles and six motorcycles, jailed 86 persons and sent 25 persons for deportation for driving without a license. This happened during operations for traffic police last week, the Interior Ministry said in a statement.

KUWAIT ARRESTS MAN SUSPECTED OF FUNDING IS SYMPATHIZERS IN INDIA

KUWAIT: Kuwait authorities have arrested a citizen who allegedly was involved in trying to recruit militants in India in support of the Islamic State (IS). The man was identified, reportedly through the support of Indian intelligence but was arrested in Kuwait.

Named as Abdullah Hadi Abdul Rehman Al-Enezi, the citizen arranged finances for the travel of several Indian nationals from India to Syria, the Times of India has reported. The citizen has reportedly admitted to 'terror financing and recruiting for IS.'

According to the report, four Indians traveled to Syria via Iraq in 2014 with money arranged from Kuwait. One of the suspects, identified as Areeb Majeed was the first IS operative to be arrested by Indian agencies when he was placed under arrest upon his return to India in November 2014. Abdullah Hadi reportedly transferred money to Majeed, who received his number from another person he contacted because he needed money to travel further to Syria from Iraq, the report indicates.

"Officials say that Kuwait has not only arrested Abdullah Hadi but has also verified his links with Islamic terror financing ring," it added.

"[Indian authorities] had approached 11 countries including Kuwait, US, Turkey, Luxemburg, Singapore, Australia, Canada, Afghanistan, Hong Kong, China and others seeking details on contacts, finances, travel details and chats/email conversations of Areeb Majeed and three others," the report reads.



ABK EMPLOYEES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE FIRST AID TRAINING

KUWAIT: Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) recently announced the successful completion of its First Aid Training Session for employees. The session, which was held in the Learning and Development Unit at ABK's Hawally branch, saw two groups of employees receiving training from representatives of the National Campaign for Life Saving, a program initiated by the Ministry of Health. At the end of the training employees who successfully complete and pass will be certified by the American Heart Association. The course focuses on equipping individuals with basic

first aid practices and the necessary responses for emergency cases such as electric shock treatment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and preliminary revival.

ABK believes in preparing employees for any given scenario as part of their well-rounded training at the Bank. Equipping them with essential skills such as first aid ensures that they can meet any reasonable health emergency challenge. For more information about ABK please visit eahli.com or contact an ABK customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 18998999.



KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality carried out a campaign to refurbish signboards and ensure that stores' signs match their licenses. The campaign resulted in issuing 18 citations for non-renewal, having an unlicensed sign and other violations. — By Hanan Al-Saadoun

Legalese

RENTAL LAWS

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

Kuwait's population increased by 100,000 families in the past 10 years, not counting the thousands of people that are coming to Kuwait to work. Therefore, it is no surprise that Arabic newspapers had headlines yesterday about government plans to increase housing units in Kuwait, with an estimated 28,300 units set to house more than 40,000 people being built right now in South Mutlaa.

Until then though, there seem to be many complaints on the rental situation in Kuwait by both Kuwaitis and expats alike. Issues such as hiking up rents without notice, renewal of contracts, maintenance disputes and so on. I have gathered repeated questions by my readers and have answered them in general, hoping that they will help as many people as possible.

Five-year period

Question: I have been living in an apartment for 12 years and I renewed my tenancy agreement with the landlord in 2015. Can the landlord increase the rent before the five-year period is complete?

Fajer: Generally speaking, rent for private or residential (non-commercial) properties can only be increased once every five years. With that said, your landlord can increase the rent if you agree to the proposed increase in rent. This is very tricky. Let me give an example.

Your rent is KD 200 and five years have not passed for you as a tenant in the flat. Your landlord requests an increase to KD 300. You feel pressured. You end up paying him the KD 300. Your payment can be seen as proof that you agree to the proposed increase in rent!

Your landlord can also by law increase the rent before five years, if you are paying 50 percent less than the market price. Let me give another example. You are paying KD 200. Your neighbors are all paying KD 450 for the same apartment. Than your landlord has the right to increase the rent. This can also be tricky, because sometimes it is not so clear if someone is paying 50 percent less than the market price. The court has the final discretion in such matters.

Eviction threat

Question: I am staying in a flat and I think I have an expired contract. My flat rent was KD 200 but it suddenly increased by 60 percent. I have only been living here for a year. The landlord would not agree to provide me with a copy of the new contract. He has threatened me by claiming he will cut off my electricity and water. Recently, he has threatened to evict me from the flat by sending his sons over late at night to create trouble. Yesterday, his sons arrived with an intention to fight! Is this right? What can I do?

Fajer: Generally speaking, I do not give advice on such issues without reviewing contracts and other documents, because what is written is highly important and can make a difference. So assuming your contract has ended, (although it is worth mentioning that rental contracts do renew automatically), your landlord has no right to behave this way. I suggest you start paying the rent at the court, and if he is violent or tries to create trouble again, do not hesitate to contact the police.

Grace period

Question: Please I want to ask a question that is disturbing my mind about rent. I rented a room five months ago for a year and the owner of my flat is telling me to move out. I told him that how can you ask me to move out on the 23rd of the month? How many days or months as grace does the landlord need to give me? And is the grace with payment or without payment of the rent?

Fajer: First of all, your landlord cannot ask you to move out without a reason! There should be a solid reason for him/her to ask you to move out. The only way your landlord can kick you out without a grace period is if you have done any of the following:

- 1) If tenant has not paid rent.
- 2) If the tenant rents out the residency to a third person without permission.
- 3) If the residence is being used for illegal activities.

4) If the building is no longer safe.
Another common reason might be that the building will be demolished or if the building violates any health and safety regulations. The grace period usually is six months. Has your landlord given you a valid reason? If not, then I suggest you pay the rent at the court and not to him directly, and don't leave the building.

15 days

Question: My contract has ended and my landlord is asking me to leave, which I understand, but shouldn't I be entitled to a grace period?

Fajer: Your grace period by law depends on how often you pay rent. If you pay rent monthly, like most of Kuwait, than your grace period is 15 days.

For any legal questions or queries, email ask@fajerthelawyer.com.

MAKESHIFT HOMES TO BE REMOVED IN FOUR YEARS

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Housing Welfare has placed low-cost house project on its priority list, relying on amendments to law 36/2016 that were approved by both legislative and executive branches during Ramadan that lead to several choices for final implementation. If completed, makeshift houses in Sulaibiya and Taima will be removed within four years. Sources said law 45/2007 commits the housing authority to establish a Kuwaiti shareholding company that designs, executes, operates and maintains low-cost homes to replace existing houses in Jahra and Sulaibiya. Sources said that only one company submitted a bid earlier, which made the authority amend the law in cooperation with the National Assembly, allowing the housing care authority to consider several options to carry out the project. The low-cost home project will be built four kilometers south of Salmi Road, 45 km from Kuwait City.



GULF BANK HAILS SUCCESS OF 28TH MEMORIAL JOURNEY FOR PEARL DIVING

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank successfully concluded its platinum sponsorship of the 28th Memorial Journey for Pearl Diving, The journey, which lasted between 28 July - 4 August, is organized each year by the Committee of the Marine Heritage of the Kuwait Sea Sport Club, under the Patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The closing ceremony known as 'Youm Al-Quffal', the traditional Kuwaiti term used to welcome home sailors from long voyages, was held on Thursday, 4 August. The ceremony was attended by Sheikh Salman Al-Homoud Al-Sabah, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, who was representing HH the Amir, along with local dignitaries, ministry representatives, Gulf Bank senior management representatives and friends, families and relatives of the young sailors.

The delegation welcomed back and honored the young Kuwaiti divers and the captains of the dhows, who were upholding the traditional legacy of Kuwait and helping to perpetuate the memory of the long and dangerous journeys Kuwait sailors took to find pearls each year. The sound of traditional



Kuwaiti tunes played by a local folkloric group enchanted the crowds as the divers showcased the pearls and shells they had collected during their trip.

The Pearl Diving Memorial Journey is one of the initiatives that Gulf bank sponsors on an annual basis. The sponsorship forms a key part of Gulf Bank's long-term commitment to preserving the heritage and continuing the traditions of Kuwait's unique past. Recreating a journey each year helps to remind young Kuwaiti generations of the difficulties and challenges faced by their forefathers in earning their living, along with a message urging these generations to uphold the traditions and values their ancestors developed during that time.

Gulf Bank continues to maintain and strengthen its position as an integral part of the Kuwaiti society. The Bank supports and emphasizes the true Kuwaiti identity and the importance of the Kuwaiti traditions and customs, through sponsoring different of social activities and events. For more details about Gulf Bank initiatives, please visit the bank's website www.e-gulfbank.com.



'CITY MICE' PLAY TEACHES CHILDREN EFFECTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING TECHNIQS

KUWAIT: The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters has hosted Saturday evening a performance of 'City Mice' play as a part of the 18th culture festival of children and youngsters. The play, performed by a troupe called Al-Jeel Al-Wa'i, calls for relying on young people and giving them a real chance to contribute to the society development and building.

"It sends a message to friends and families that they are a source of safety and strength and through their unity and cooperation they can

defeat evils and bad people," the play Director Hani Abdulsamad said. It teaches children and youngsters problem-solving technics and inculcates noble values among children from their early age, he added. He noted that the play has snatched the first place in the recently held Arab Festival for Children's Theater. The play relates that the story of a group of mice living in an old house which has been recently sold to a merchant who wants to turn it into a cat shop.

Once they know, they meet to discuss how to

deal with the imminent danger, one of them proposed leaving the house while a young rat advised them to stay and try scare away the new owner through making him believe that the house is full of ghosts.

They approved the second advice and through their cooperation and unity reached their goal. Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Sabah inaugurated the 18th cultural festival for children and youngsters on July 31th. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Scenes from the play. — KUNA

In Brief

SPEAKER VISITS CUBA

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Ambassador to Cuba Bader Al-Awadi has met with president of the foreign affairs committee in the Cuban National Assembly of People's Power Yolanda Ferrera Gomez. Awadi said in a statement yesterday that the meeting was to coordinate preparations for the Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem's visit to the Republic next October. Awadi added that he values the role played by the Cuban National Assembly in enhancing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries in the past years. — KUNA



EQUESTRIAN 'GODFATHER'

KUWAIT: Kuwait has lost the 'godfather of equestrian,' the late Mohammad Hadi Al-Otaibi, said Information Minister Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah. "Kuwait lost a cavalier; who for the last five decades, pledged himself to serve this authentic Arabian sport. The knight has finally dismounted his stallion," Sheikh Salman, also Minister of State for Youth Affairs, said in a statement mourning Otaibi's passing. Along with equestrian, Otaibi's name was linked with camel races, as he founded the Al-Ahmadi Equestrian Club, which contributed to the sport's popularity, the minister noted. — KUNA



EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION

CAIRO: Outgoing head of Kuwait's Culture Bureau in Cairo Dr Farih Al-Enazi underlined the importance of cementing Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations in all domains, especially the educational and cultural ones. In a ceremony held to hand over his responsibilities to the new head of the Bureau Dr Ahmad Al-Mutairi, he lauded the current level of cooperation between the Bureau and the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education. Egyptian officials have been keen on welcoming and helping Kuwaiti students in Egypt, he noted. — KUNA



Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: Fresh shrimp returned to local markets after fishing in international waters opened last week. Shrimping in territorial waters will begin in the middle of the month, which would help drop prices. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



ACADEMICS STRESS IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN EDUCATION



Dr Nadia Al-Oraifan (left) and Dr Saleh Al-Saeed.

AMMAN: Two Kuwaiti academics stressed yesterday the importance of using all available means of communication and Information Technologies in the educational process. This came in remarks after participating in the Fifth Conference for Talent and Excellence Researches on Education and Means of Communication and Information Technology hosted by the University of Jordan.

Dr Nadia Al-Oraifan, General Supervisor of Social Studies at Kuwait's Ministry of Education, stressed the importance of training the teachers on using the social media in the educational process due to its positive impact. She pointed out that the rapid development of information technology in the current era requires a constant educational improvement by using all available means of communication and Information Technologies.

Meanwhile, Dr Saleh Al-Saeed, social studies advisor in Al-Jahra Educational area, said the participation in the conference is a good opportunity to know the reality of education in the Arab region, and to find the best ways and tools to develop the educational process through the use of social media.

The two-day conference tackled education issues and means of communication and Information Technology with regards to the student character, education programs, education for persons with disabilities, innovation, creativity and academic achievement, learning environment and school management and teachers, techniques and methods of educational and psychological counseling among others. — KUNA

ALAFCO ACQUIRES PORTFOLIO OF 9 PASSENGER AIRCRAFT FROM GECAS

KUWAIT: Aviation Lease and Finance Company (ALAFCO) announced yesterday that it has completed the acquisition of a nine-aircraft portfolio from GE Capital Aviation Services (GECAS). Kuwait-based ALAFCO said in a statement that the portfolio comprises of highly attractive Airbus and Boeing aircraft already on long-term lease to well-established airlines in Asia, with three of the airlines joining ALAFCO as new customers.

ALAFCO added that it's keen on serving the needs of its new customers Lion Air, Juneyao Airlines and Citilink, as well as expanding its existing relationship with Nok Air. Lion Air is Indonesia's largest privately-run airline and one of the largest low-cost carriers in the Southeast Asia region, while Juneyao Airlines is part of a major privately owned Chinese group.

Thai Airways International-Thailand's flag carrier owns the largest stake in Nok Air, while Citilink is the low-cost subsidiary of the national carrier of Indonesia (Garuda Indonesia). ALAFCO also mentioned that the acquisition is in line with its growth strategy, which includes the acquisition of aircraft with lease attached from other lessors, as well as sale and lease-back transactions with airlines.

Additionally, ALAFCO has contracted with Boeing and Airbus to acquire 117 new technology aircraft to be delivered between 2017 and 2021. ALAFCO aims to have a fleet of more than 100 aircraft by the end of the decade. The statement pointed out that the customers and aircraft involved in this transaction



include Lion Air (2x B737-800), Juneyao Airlines (2x A321-200), Citilink (3x A320-200) and Nok Air (2x B737-800). ALAFCO is a global aircraft leasing company which is headquartered in Kuwait. Its main activities include aircraft operating leases, sale and lease-backs and aircraft lease management. Its portfolio consists of 62 Airbus and Boeing aircraft comprising of A320, B737 and B777 aircraft which are leased to 19 airlines in 13 countries across the world, and it also invests in new technology aircraft and has a firm order of 117 aircraft comprising of 85 A320neo, 12 A350-900XWB, and 20 B737max aircraft. — KUNA

PAY TO UNVEIL FIVE-YEAR YOUTH STRATEGY THURSDAY

KUWAIT: Director General of the Public Authority for Youth (PAY) Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi announced yesterday that the authority would organize a ceremony Thursday to



Director General of the Public Authority for Youth (PAY) Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi

launch its strategy for the coming five years. He expressed gratitude to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for his sponsorship of the event to be held at Abdullah Al-Jaber Theater in the campus of Kuwait University. His Highness the Amir's patronage reflects his great care and support for youth and their issues, he noted.

Mutairi unveiled that the strategy would translate His Highness the Amir's directives for building the capacity, supporting and empowering youth as well as for creating a conducive environment for their success, creativity and innovation. The multi-faceted strategy aims to harness the skills of Kuwaiti youth, both males and females, and to help them find new and creative solutions to overcome challenges imposed by the rapidly changing world, he said. — KUNA

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Crime

Report

TERROR SUSPECT LINKED TO IS FIGHTER IN LIBYA

KUWAIT: A security source gave details about a Filipina maid who was arrested on Friday, and who had pledged allegiance to the so-called Islamic State (IS). The source said the link between the woman and the terrorist organization is her husband, who is fighting with IS in Sirte in Libya. The Filipina was monitored through the Internet, using a laptop she brought from her country. The source said her husband enlisted her with the group and sent her to Kuwait, and she communicated with him in secret and provided him with the required information. The source said there was no prior knowledge about the Filipina; rather her arrest came as part of efforts to protect the country and following accounts linked with the extremist organization. He said the Filipina was monitored as soon as she contacted accounts related to IS that are known to state security. He added the Filipina contacted IS while at her sponsor's house, who hired her through a domestic help office. The source denied that her sponsor or the office that brought her had any knowledge of her joining IS, as investigations have proved.

Three brothers arrested with drugs

Three brothers ended up at the Drugs Control General Department (DCGD) with 92 Captagon pills and seven heroin joints. A police patrol noticed a car with three persons inside attempting to hide. The car was stopped and the three, all brothers, seemed to be abnormal because of drugs use. They were sent to the DCGD.

Fugitive caught

A Syrian man who was arrested with 70 homebrewed liquor bottles in Mahboula was found wanted to serve a two-year jail sentence. A security source said a patrol in Mahboula spotted the man in a car and stopped him, and bottles of locally-made liquor were found. He also was found wanted to serve the jail sentence. He was sent to concerned authorities.

Work mishap

An expatriate fell to his death at the clean fuel refinery in Fahaheel. Policemen went to the scene and found the Pakistani on the ground, who died after falling from a building under construction. The body was recovered by the coroner. Investigations are underway to make sure no foul play is involved.

Crackdown

Farwaniya Security Director Brig Saleh Al-Enezi launched a security campaign in Jleeb and Farwaniya, resulting in the arrest of 72 expats in brothels and a gambling den. Twenty-two expats, including 14 women, were found in violation of residency law, while an expat attempted to escape, leading to the discovery of a gambling den. Meanwhile, 41 expats (men and women) were arrested in brothels and were sent for deportation. Separately, an Asian man was arrested and was found to be intoxicated, with 60 bottles in his car. He was sent to concerned authorities.

One hurt in fight

Passersby told police a fight between two men was taking place in Maidan Hawally, so police went and broke up the fight. The two are citizens and were friends before they had financial differences, and one of them stabbed the other. The injured man was taken to Mubarak Hospital and the other was detained on attempted murder charges. —Al-Rai and Al-Anbaa

News

in brief

Fuel price increase to be delayed till year's end?

KUWAIT: A meeting today between members of the parliament and cabinet could end with a decision to delay increasing fuel prices until the end of the year, Annahar reported yesterday quoting parliamentary sources. The postponement allows the parliament's economic affairs committee to review the government's studies for increasing fuel prices, as well as discuss the decision's possible negative impacts and work on alternative mechanisms to provide financial support for Kuwaiti citizens, the sources said. — Annahar

Female judges inevitable

KUWAIT: There is no prohibition on appointing female citizens as judges in Kuwait. Head of the Supreme Judicial Council Yousuf Al-Mataw'a said, adding that this will likely become a reality after the performance of women hired as prosecutors is evaluated. Furthermore, Mataw'a added that hiring more female prosecutors is currently put on hold pending the evaluation of the performance of the current prosecutors. —Al-Qabas

E-media law violators

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Information will send 'field inspectors' to detect violations to the e-media law which went into effect recently, Head of the Electronic Publishing Department Lafi Al-Subaia said. Any website or online publication method will not be allowed to cover conferences, seminars or any other public events unless they are licensed under the e-media law, he added. —Al-Jarida

Kuwait helps Saudi

KUWAIT: Kuwait provided Saudi Arabia with 365 megawatts through the GCC power grid on Saturday, after the kingdom lost 3,600 of its production capacity. Saudi Arabia had requested assistance from Kuwait after power frequency dropped to 49.8 hertz due to, and Kuwait offered to help by providing electricity for three hours, sources said. —Al-Jarida



القلم

Al-Qabas

THE PAKISTANI MAN AND THE OLD LADY

By Ahmad Al-Sarraf

It was a sunny day in Central Park in New York, when a ferocious dog attacked a girl. A man rescued her from the dog, using a pen as a weapon, killing the dog in the process. Meanwhile, a photojournalist who passed by took pictures of what happened, then approached the man and thanked him for risking his life to rescue the girl from the savage dog. He asked him to take his picture, telling him that his image and a caption about his heroic action will appear on the front page of the paper, and the headline will be: "New York hero risks life and rescues little girl from savage dog."

The man smiled and said, "But I am not from New York." The journalist said no problem, we will change the headline to be "American risks life to rescue girl from rabid dog." The man said, "But I am not an American. I am from Pakistan." The photojournalist said the headline will then be "Muslim from Pakistan attacks American dog and kills it with sharp object".

This is the way Muslims have become, not only in America, but rather around the world, as their image is linked with terrorism, and even their good deeds mean nothing. At the end of June, in Dearborn Heights in Michigan, a woman fainted while driving her car. When a shop owner and a mechanic noticed the car was moving slowly and ran a red light, they ran to it and succeeded in stopping the car.

The two broke one of the back windows and saved the

woman from death. An eyewitness told TV that he saw how the woman was unconscious and white foam was coming out of her mouth, and how "Tariq Al-Gharabally, who was repairing a car nearby, rushed to her along with the shop owner to help the woman", and Tariq said he would do the same to rescue any person. The regretful thing is that what this Kuwaiti citizen did went by without receiving the attention of many within the craziness that our societies are going through domestically and abroad!

A priest stood at the end of Sunday prayers and asked his parishioners: What is the percentage of those who forgive the sins of their enemies? The hands of 80 percent of those who were present were raised, so he repeated the question with a stronger tone, so all hands were raised, except for one old lady. The priest looked at her and asked: Are not you ready to forgive your enemies? She answered with a smile on her face: I do not have enemies.

The priest was astonished, and said this is extraordinary! How old are you? She said 98 years. The priest said this is wonderful - 98 years and you do not have enemies. Why don't you come forward and tell us the secret. How can a woman this old not have enemies, so the lady walked slowly towards the podium, and all were holding their breath waiting to hear what she would say. When she reached the podium, she looked around and said: I lived longer - they all died! —Translated by Kuwait Times



FOREIGN ADMINISTRATION FOR JABER HOSPITAL POSSIBLE

KUWAIT: The Jaber Hospital will either be run by a foreign administration under the government's supervision, or through partnership between local and foreign companies, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, State Minister for Planning and Development Hind Al-Subaia said. The cabinet has assigned the Kuwait Investment Authority to study the most viable option in terms of providing the best quality medical service to citizens, Subaia added.

Jaber Hospital, which is slated to open later this year, is considered the largest hospital in the Middle East with a total of 1,168 beds. The hospital also has three helipads, a parking lot with a 5,000 car capacity in addition to 50 ambulances. It also has a protective

shelter. The hospital covers an area of 220 meters squared with a construction area reaching 725 meters squared.

Health Minister Dr Ali Al-Obaidi had described the hospital as an integrated health center. It has five towers of patients rooms at a height of nine floors and each tower can be expanded in the future. He added that the hospital has eight entrances, 150 elevators, a catastrophe center which is considered the first of its kind in Kuwait in addition to a medical mall that is one kilometer long, containing various shops and resting areas for patients and visitors. The Minister had earlier indicated that treatment at the hospital would be offered exclusively to Kuwaiti citizens. —Al-Jarida

RIHAM, MUSHRIF COMPANIES SIGN \$1 MILLION DEAL FOR JCB CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY

11 JCB CONSTRUCTION MACHINES DELIVERED

KUWAIT: Riham General Trading and Contracting Company W L L, a Fouad Al Ghanim and Sons company and sole distributor for genuine JCB construction equipment, power generation products, spare parts and services in Kuwait, has signed a \$1 million deal with Mushrif Trading and Contracting, covering the delivery of machinery and full operational and servicing requirements.

The deal includes the delivery of 11 JCB construction machines, including five JCB 455 ZX Wheel Loaders, two JCB 3CX Backhoe Loaders, and four JCB R135 HD Skid Steers, all of which will be utilized by Mushrif Trading and Contracting Company across its ongoing projects in Kuwait. Riham General Trading and Contracting Company W.L.L will also provide Mushrif with full operational and service requirements, as well as certified operator training for the same construction equipment.

"Our partnership with Mushrif Trading and Contracting Company is a key mile-

stone for both companies," David Peterson General Manager said. "Riham General Trading and Contracting Company W.L.L has been a trusted partner of construction firms throughout Kuwait who trust our product quality and professionalism. The new deal with Mushrif Trading further strengthens our support of key projects and developments within Kuwait."

Heavy equipment

Riham General Trading and Contracting Company W L L provides heavy equipment such as excavators, wheel loading shovels, telescopic handlers, and backhoes, along with a wide array of machine attachments and a full range of power products with generators from 15KVA -3000KVA. Through its after sales team, the company also offers its clients on site operational flexibility together with full service, repair, diagnostic and troubleshooting services.

"The quality and reliability of the equipment we use is paramount for each and



every project that Mushrif is involved in, and working with Riham General Trading and Contracting Company W L L offered us this guarantee along with an excellent after sales team providing us with the support that we need," John Dunne, OSSD Plant Director, Mushrif Trading and

Contracting Company said. Mushrif is a leading Kuwait-based company with operations in civil construction and infrastructure; oil and gas; treatment plants and pumping stations; buildings; and facilities operation and maintenance. It is currently involved in construction

works to improve the flow of traffic at Al Bidda Roundabout, and operating and maintaining the Al-Jahra Pumping Station and the Kabd Wastewater Treatment Plant in Kuwait. Previous projects included the Marine Science Centre at Kuwait University and Abu Dhabi's landmark Central Market.





Clinton's 'Moscow Spring' ended as Putin returned to power

HUNGER A WEAPON OF WAR IN SYRIA, YEMEN, NIGERIA



OTISFIELD, Maine: In this Aug 4, 2016 photo, teens leave an all-camp meeting at the Seeds of Peace camp. — AP

PEACE CAMP SHIFTS AIM TO DIVIDED US

SEEDS OF PEACE BRINGS TOGETHER TEENS FROM WARRING COUNTRIES

OTISFIELD, Maine: The nation's divide has become bad enough that a camp created to help Arab and Israeli teens find common ground is putting an emphasis on hatred and violence in the US. Officials at Seeds of Peace, a lakeside camp in the woods of Maine, thought things were bad when they made their decision to hold the special pilot program. Then came racial discord over police shootings and divisive political rhetoric.

"People are coming to the realization that this stuff doesn't just happen all over the other side of the world. It's happening here," said 17-year-old camper Matt Suslovic of Portland. Executive Director Leslie Lewin said the goal is to tackle deep-seated racism, anti-refugee and anti-Muslim sentiment, socio-economic issues, gender discrimination and LGBT issues through the sharing of personal stories and discussion.

That sounds like a tall order. But camp officials say their formula of dialogue has worked since 1993, when Seeds of Peace first brought together Israeli and Palestinian teens. The 67-acre camp has expanded its reach over the years, bringing in teenagers from other trouble spots such as Afghanistan, India, Bosnia and Pakistan. The special session that began last week features teens from all religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds from Los Angeles, New York and Chicago. Also participating are teens from Maine and Syracuse, New York, who've been coming to the camp for years. The formula is the same: Each day, campers spend 110 minutes in dialogue sessions, where they share their stories, listen to fellow campers and try to understand each other. In their free time, they share in traditional sum-

mer camp activities like boating, swimming, games, drama, art and music. Tim Wilson, who's been with Seeds of Peace since the beginning, encourages campers to bite their tongues and listen to what others have to say. "My father told me, 'God gave you two ears and one mouth for a reason,'" he said in an oft-repeated phrase at camp.

It can be a bit disorienting at first. The lush greenery and cool lake is just as foreign to big-city teenagers as it is for teenagers coming from the 120-degree heat of a Middle Eastern summer. Kejuan Smith, 15, of Chicago, found himself plucked from his dangerous neighborhood and plopped in the woods where he was serenaded by coyotes on his first night. Most teens leave feeling empowered - and wanting to return.

Salat Ali, whose parents are Somali, said he quickly learned upon his arrival in Syracuse from a refugee camp at age 11 that things weren't going to be perfect. He lived in a poor neighborhood, and others constantly picked fights with him. But he found his voice at Seeds of Peace, and he's returned as a counselor. "I used to feel like I was by myself. Now people have my back. This is my renaissance," said Ali, now 22 and attending college. "This is exactly the feeling I was looking for. These are the friends I wanted. These people make me feel like my family."

Trang Nguyen, 15, also of Syracuse, said she remains optimistic despite episodes of hatred and the divisive rhetoric of the presidential campaign. "If it can happen here on a small scale, then it's possible on a larger scale," she said. "There are a lot of messed up things, but it can change. This is living proof." — AP

TRUMP CLAIMS CLINTON NOT FIT TO BE PRESIDENT

WINDHAM, New Hampshire: Republican Donald Trump questioned Democrat Hillary Clinton's fitness to be president Saturday night, saying "she's got problems" and that Americans "don't want someone who's going to short-circuit". Trump told a crowd of supporters that he's not sure the former first lady and secretary of state is up to the job. "Honestly, I don't think she's all there," Trump said at a rally in a steamy gymnasium.

Clinton this week said that she "may have short-circuited" when she claimed that FBI Director James Comey said "my answers were truthful and what I've said is consistent with what I have told the American people" about her use of a private email server during her tenure in the State Department. She had made the claim in an interview with Fox News. Comey told Congress that investigators had "no basis to conclude she lied to the FBI." But he has also questioned the accuracy of some of the public statements she's made about the issue.

Clinton's statement drew rebuke from fact checkers as well as Trump, who earlier Saturday tweeted that, "Anybody whose mind 'SHORT CIRCUITS' is not fit to be our president! Look up the word 'BRAINWASHED'." Trump

spoke the day after he ended a standoff with House Speaker Paul Ryan and endorsed his re-election bid. The presidential nominee's decision to withhold his support had underscored the deep divide that remains between Trump and much of the Republican Party.

On Saturday, he didn't mention Ryan or other Republicans with whom he has feuded and kept his barbs focused on Clinton and President Barack Obama, as fellow Republicans had urged him to do. Trump claimed that Islamic State militants were watching the election closely and "salivating" at the prospect of a second Clinton White House. "Remember, ISIS is looking, folks. They dream of Hillary Clinton," he said.

In response, the Clinton campaign issued a statement saying, "It's unfortunate that Trump's only method of dealing with his own disastrous week is to lash out with more absurd personal attacks." Trump's mention of Clinton was met with frequent chants of "lock her up" and other insults from the crowd. When Trump declared that Clinton was "a liar" and "a horrible, horrible human being" who wasn't fit to serve in the White House, one man in the crowd started barking like a dog. — AP

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IS HITS US-BACKED SYRIAN REBEL BASE NEAR IRAQ BORDER

BEIRUT: Islamic State suicide bombers yesterday attacked a military base for US-backed fighters near the Syrian-Iraqi border, leaving several dead before blowing themselves up, rebel sources and the militants said yesterday. They said the dawn attack on the heavily defended military camp near the Syrian Al-Tanf border crossing with Iraq involved at least one explosive-laden vehicle that rammed the gate of the base which was set up by the fledgling, Pentagon-trained New Syria Army. Another rebel said the militants were not able to storm the heavily fortified

camp where large sand barriers have been erected to prevent such incursions and attacks in an area where the militants operate with hit and run attacks.

"It's a well-defended camp and they tried to storm it but the suicide vehicle was targeted and hit," said Said Seif Al-Qalamoni, a rebel familiar with operating in the same area. He added that there were at least one dead and several wounded. Qalamoni said jets from the US-led coalition against Islamic State shortly after struck at several vehicles believed to be driven by the

militants in the sparsely populated desert area. Amaq, a news agency affiliated to Islamic State, said two suicide bombers had attacked the camp and detonated an explosive-laden car before storming the compound and detonating their suicide vests.

The New Syria Army was formed around 18 months ago using insurgents driven from eastern Syria at the height of Islamic State's rapid expansion in 2014. Diplomats and rebel sources say US special forces are training hundreds of fighters from the group in camps in Jordan. The Tanf

crossing, which was captured from Islamic State militants last year, is a 240 km (150 miles) drive from Syria's ancient city of Palmyra, also known as Tadmur.

Scores of Islamic State militants moved south into southern Syria and the Tanf area after they were driven out of Palmyra in central Syria this year. The militants, who control a swathe of territory spreading from Iraq into central Syria, still control the Al-Bukamal Syria-Iraq border crossing near Deir Al-Zour. The New Syria Army, with the backing of Western special forces and US-led air

strikes, launched an attack last June from the Tanf base on Al-Bukamal northeast of Tanf.

But the operation, which aimed to capture the town and cut supply lines for the group between Syria and Iraq, failed after rebels were encircled on the approaches of the town after the jihadists mounted a counter-attack. The New Syria Army's base in Tanf has been hit twice previously by Russian air strikes, even after the US military used emergency channels to ask Moscow to stop after the first strike, US officials say. —Reuters

PALESTINIAN DENIES FUNNELING CHARITY MONEY TO HAMAS

GAZA: A Palestinian representative of US-based Christian charity World Vision denies Israeli allegations that he funneled millions of dollars in aid money to the Islamist militant group Hamas, his lawyer said yesterday. Mohammad El Halabi, World Vision's manager of operations in the Gaza Strip, was arrested by Israel on June 15 while crossing into the enclave, which is under the de facto rule of Hamas, a group on the Israeli and US terrorism blacklists.

Briefing reporters on Thursday, a senior Israeli security official said Halabi, who has run the group's Gaza operations since 2010, had been under surveillance. The Israeli official said Halabi confessed to siphoning off some \$7.2 million a year, about 60 percent of World Vision's Gaza funding, to pay Hamas fighters, buy arms, pay for other activities and build fortifications. "Mohammad (El Halabi) denies all

these accusations. He denied it all," Jerusalem-based lawyer Mohammad Mahmoud, who was assigned to represent El Halabi by the charity group, told Reuters by phone yesterday.

Mahmoud said he met his client during a court session last week, and these were his first comments made publicly. World Vision had already said it was "shocked" by Israel's allegations, and while it had no reason to believe them to be true, it would review the evidence. Hamas has denied any connection to Halabi. After the case was made public, Australia suspended aid to World Vision.

The US State Department, according to one official, is concerned by the allegations and following the investigation closely. Yesterday, dozens of Palestinians who used to benefit from World Vision aid in Gaza rallied in solidarity with Halabi, demanding his release. —Reuters



SYRIA: File photo shows Syrians unload boxes after a 48-truck convoy from the ICRC, SARC and UN entered the Syrian rebel-held town of Talbiseh, a besieged area in northern rural Homs. —AFP



JERUSALEM: Palestinian women hold pictures of prisoners during a protest demanding better detention conditions for Palestinians who are imprisoned in Israeli jails, in front of the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in East Jerusalem yesterday. Families of prisoners continued to protest a day after more than 300 Palestinian prisoners reportedly halted a hunger strike after Israel prison authorities agreed to end 'humiliating' body searches and return recently transferred prisoners. The banner in the background shows Bilal Kayeh, a prisoner who has reportedly been fasting for almost two months over his detention without trial. — AFP

HUNGER A WEAPON OF WAR IN SYRIA, YEMEN, NIGERIA

'AS A RESULT, WARS ARE FED, NOT PEOPLE'

PARIS: While grain silos in many Western countries may overflow this winter, tens of millions of people risk going without food as hunger is being used more than ever as a weapon of war. More than 50 million people living in 17 conflict-ridden countries are in "severe food insecurity", two UN agencies warned recently. The protracted conflicts in Yemen and Syria place those two nations at the top of the list established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Program (WFP). In Yemen, 14 million people—over half the population—are now considered to be facing a food crisis or emergency. Meanwhile in Syria, 8.7 million people or 37 percent of the pre-conflict population, "need urgent food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance", in particular aid to farmers, said the agencies.

The same goes for parts of northeastern Nigeria, which has borne the brunt of an insurgency by Boko Haram islamists since 2009, and where the aid group Doctors Without Borders estimates half a million people face a humanitarian catastrophe. Thousands of hungry people forced from their homes by fighting there had to wait until the end of July to receive their first food aid.

Syria wheat harvest halved

Meanwhile, most of the world's top wheat producers are enjoying bumper crops, pushing prices down on global commodity markets and benefiting countries like Egypt that are dependent upon imports. But for countries gripped by conflict, importing food is logistically difficult if not impossible and at prices out of the reach of most of the population which have lost their livelihoods. Maintaining local agricultural production, even traditional small-scale farms, thus often becomes critically important for reducing hunger while helping keep down the number of refugees, said the head of the FAO's emergency unit, Dominique Burgeon. "It is clear that agriculture plays an important role in the resilience of populations faced with the shock of war," he told AFP in a telephone interview.

In certain parts of Syria this year people who have been displaced from other regions are helping till the fields and take in the harvest. Even so, that hasn't saved the agricultural sector, on which four-fifths of the rural population



SANAA: This file photo shows Yemeni men carrying food aid provided by the World Food Program (WFP) to help families affected by the ongoing conflict between loyalist forces and Huthi rebels, in the Yemeni capital Sanaa. —AFP

depends, from collapse. "In Syria, all the industrial chicken farms have been destroyed, which affects the poorest people as chicken was the most affordable source of protein," said Burgeon. The FAO estimates that only 1.9 million tons of wheat will be harvested this year in Syria, less than half of the 4 million tons it produced before the war. Nevertheless, it has had difficulties in persuading donor nations to reach into their pockets to fund purchases of seeds, fertilizers and tools for Syrian farmers.

More farming = less migration

"We want to show the impact of food security on the stabilization of the population," said Burgeon, expressing his disappointment that the appeal for \$86 million of funds has so far received only a tenth of that sum. In June, Pope Francis condemned the fact it is often more difficult to deliver humanitarian aid than to obtain

weapons. "It makes no difference where arms come from; they circulate with brazen and virtually absolute freedom in many parts of the world," said the pontiff during a visit to the WFP's headquarters. "As a result, wars are fed, not people." But the farm aid needs to be adapted to weather conditions in target countries.

Burgeon warned that despite the best of intentions certain non-governmental organizations risked doing harm by importing seeds not appropriate for the local climate, which would "set the country back years". Farmers in Syria are already finding it impossible to obtain seeds developed by local agronomists due to the war, which has forced the closure of the nation's seed bank. Syria has become the first nation to make a withdrawal at the world's seed bank buried in a mountain off the Svalbard islands in the Arctic Ocean to replace destroyed local seeds. —AFP

PROTESTERS CLASH WITH POLICE NEAR IRAQ OIL SITE

ZUBAIR, Iraq: Hundreds of Iraqis from the southern district of Zubair clashed with security forces yesterday when they attempted to block a road leading to oil fields during a protest. Police held dozens of demonstrators following the incident, which did not lead to any injuries among the protesters nor the security forces, an AFP correspondent reported. Zubair lies near the country's main port city of Basra, 450 kilometers (280 miles) southeast of Baghdad. The protesters tried to block access to some oil fields in the area to press their demand for jobs in the sector, which is the backbone of the nation's economy. Exports from Iraq's southern oil fields topped 3.2 million barrels last month. The country is the world's fourth producer and

holds the world's fifth-largest reserves.

"Zubair's oil is being stolen by thieves" the protesters chanted. "It's our oil, we have a right to it," was another of their slogans. "I graduated in computer engineering five years ago and I still haven't found a job," said one of the demonstrators, Ahmed Hassan Al-Tamimi. "Most of the youth in Zubair is unemployed. Even when the oil companies are hiring, they bring people from other provinces and nobody cares about our area because we don't belong to any party and have no connections," he said. Despite its oil wealth, the Basra region suffers from poor services and was at the heart of the protest movement sparked last summer by exasperation over the lack of electricity and water. —AFP



Women and children eat on the floor in an overcrowded space at Dibaga camp for internally displaced civilians yesterday. — AP

BOMBER KILLS FIVE SOLDIERS IN YEMEN

ADEN: A suicide bomber rammed his vehicle into a large group of army reinforcements in south Yemen yesterday, killing five soldiers, military officials said. Another seven soldiers were wounded in the attack targeting troops who had been sent from the main southern city of Aden to Lahj province to fight jihadists, the sources said. A military official said it was unclear whether the attack had been carried out by Al-Qaeda or the Islamic State group, both of which have gained ground in the south and claimed

deadly anti-government assaults in the past.

The bombing came hours after clashes between troops and jihadists in Lahj, the military officials told AFP, adding that Saudi-led coalition jets also took part in the fighting. Also yesterday, suspected members of Al-Qaeda shot dead an army colonel in nearby Abyan province, a military source said.

The gunmen on a motorbike opened fire at Colonel Abdullah Shamba, killing him immediately before driving off, the official said.

Shamba headed a local anti-Al-Qaeda militia in Abyan.

Late on Saturday, coalition jets attacked Al-Qaeda positions in Abyan's provincial capital of Zinjibar and in the nearby town of Jaar, military sources said. Government forces backed by the Arab coalition began an all-out offensive in March against jihadists in south Yemen, recapturing main cities they had held. But they later retreated from Zinjibar after Al-Qaeda militants struck back. Jihadists have exploited the

power vacuum created by the conflict between the government and Huthi rebels and their allies to expand their presence in south and southeast Yemen.

The Arab coalition which backs the Yemeni government against pro-Iran rebels has also turned its sights on the jihadists, and the United States has pressed its drone war against them. Washington considers the Yemen-based Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP, to be the extremist network's deadliest franchise. — AFP



NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA: In this April 20, 2016 file photo, Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane arrives for a pretrial hearing in her grand jury leak case at the Montgomery County courthouse. —AP

TERM ABOUT OVER, PENNSYLVANIA'S TOP PROSECUTOR GOES ON TRIAL

PHILADELPHIA: Pennsylvania's attorney general goes on trial yesterday in a perjury and obstruction case that comes at the end of a tumultuous four years in office marked by petty feuds, a pornographic email scandal and political intrigue.

Kathleen Kane remains on the job even though she lost her law license over her felony arrest. An ethics board accused her of "egregious conduct" amid criminal charges she leaked grand jury material to a newspaper to embarrass enemies and then lied about it under oath.

The state Supreme Court voted to strip Kane of the law license, a move she attacked given that two justices were forced to step down as part of her crusade to our state employees who traded offensive, racist and sometimes pornographic emails. Dozens of people in her office were also fired or disciplined.

Old boys network

Kane, 50, has said she won't give up fighting what she calls the "old boys network" in state government, but she did not seek re-election this year, and her term expires in January. She was the first woman or Democrat elected to the \$159,000-a-year job. "You can arrest me two times, you can arrest me 10 times. I'm sure this isn't the end of the game," Kane said after prosecutors added more charges to the case. "But I will not stop until the truth comes out, and I will not stop until the system operates the way it's supposed to."

Kane has hired prominent lawyers to

defend her: First, Bill Clinton confidante Lanny Davis and now, New York mob lawyer Gerald Shargel. Several former top aides are set to testify against her. The trial judge won't let the defense wade into the porn email probe.

Jury selection in Kane's trial starts Monday in suburban Philadelphia, where she appeared before a grand jury investigating the leak of 2009 grand jury information about a former NAACP official. The official was never charged with wrongdoing.

Kane's attorneys have argued that she only authorized the release of nonsecret information relating to who was charged - and who wasn't - by her predecessors. And she denied that she was sworn to secrecy about those prior investigations, according to the arrest warrant. "I was a stay-at-home mom at the time. ... None of us were sworn into that grand jury," she testified, according to the affidavit.

However, prosecutors said they found a signed oath to the contrary during a search of her Harrisburg offices. Kane is charged with perjury, a felony, for allegedly lying to the grand jury, and eight misdemeanor counts that include obstruction, official oppression, conspiracy and false swearing.

Her driver, Patrick "Rocco" Reese, was convicted of contempt of court last year after a judge said he illegally snooped through emails about the special grand jury investigation of his boss. Reese is the former police chief in Dunmore, near Kane's hometown of Scranton. —AP

CLINTON'S 'MOSCOW SPRING' ENDED AS PUTIN RETURNED

WRANGLES LED TO MIXED RESULTS

WASHINGTON: As secretary of state, Hillary Clinton basked in a diplomatic "Moscow Spring," seizing on Vladimir Putin's break from the presidency to help seal a nuclear arms-control treaty and secure Russia's acquiescence to a NATO-led military intervention in Libya. But when Putin returned to the top job, things changed.

Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee, has vowed to stand up to Putin if elected, drawing on her four years of ups and downs as the public face of President Barack Obama's first-term "reset" with Russia. By comparison, her Republican opponent, Donald Trump, has rung alarm bells in Washington and Europe with his overtures to the authoritarian Russian leader. But Clinton's wrangles with Russia led to mixed results. And her fortunes dipped dramatically after Putin replaced Dmitry Medvedev as president in May 2012.

Just weeks later, Russia outmaneuvered her in negotiations over a complicated Syria peace plan, dealing her what was arguably her worst diplomatic defeat. While Clinton hailed it as a triumph, the war only escalated. And while her aides still insist she came out on top, the blueprint effectively gave Syria's Moscow-backed president, Bashar Assad, a veto over any transition government, hampering all mediation efforts still.

"There is no doubt that when Putin came back in and said he was going to be president, that did change the relationship," Clinton said in a Democratic debate last year. "We have to stand up to his bullying and specifically, in Syria it is important."

Clinton's history with Russia is significant given the surprising role Russia has played in the US presidential campaign. Clinton and her supporters say she would be far tougher on Moscow than Trump, whose unusual foreign policy statements include musings about NATO's relevance and suggestions that he could accept Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea region. Russia's reported hacking of Democratic Party email accounts also has led to charges that Putin's intelligence services are meddling in the election, and Trump aided that perception by publicly encouraging Russia to find and release more of her emails.

Clinton's first encounters in Russian diplomacy began on much more hopeful note. Meeting Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in 2009, Clinton initiated the effort to repair years of bitter relations, punctuated by a Russian war with neighboring Georgia a year earlier. Offering a large red reset button, Clinton outlined a broad agenda of cooperation.

Dividends

The new policy paid dividends. With Putin focused on domestic matters during a four-year stint as prime minister, Medvedev opened up a new corridor for US forces and materiel heading

to Afghanistan. The two nations sealed their most ambitious arms control pact in a generation. Washington and Moscow united on new Iran sanctions. Years of trade negotiations culminated in Russia's entry into the World Trade Organization. But it was perhaps Clinton's unlikely diplomatic breakthrough that began the downward spiral: Libya. As America's European allies sought a military intervention against Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi, Clinton played the role of skeptic, refusing to jump aboard. When she finally did, it proved critical in persuading Russia to abstain. The rebels overthrew Gadhafi five months later.

Returning as president in May 2012, Putin was

ance, the Russians balked. Faced with stalemate, the U.S. and Russia arrived at a formula for a new government comprised of individuals chosen by the "mutual consent" of Assad and the opposition.

Syria

Although Clinton claimed credit for the June 30, 2012, compromise in Geneva, it appeared to be Russia's objective all along. Assad is still president. Clinton has acknowledged her frustration with an increasingly hostile Russia on Syria and other matters as her time in office wound down. In her final months, Russia ordered the end of all U.S. Agency for International Development pro-



VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA: In this Sept. 8, 2012 pool-file photo, Russian President Vladimir Putin meets with then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. —AP

Immediately confronted with Syria's Libya-like escalation from Arab Spring protests to full-scale civil war. He played his cards differently than Medvedev, hinting to Obama that he could drop his support for the Syrian leader while shielding Assad from any UN pressure or foreign action that might chase him from power. Seeking Russia's cooperation, Obama and Clinton avoided any talk that might threaten Russian equities in Syria, including a large naval base there. Their message was clear: The US wouldn't try to pull a future post-Assad government out of Moscow's orbit.

It didn't matter. When the UN proposed a peace plan that involved ushering Assad out of power and included penalties for noncompli-

grams in the country. It approved a new law constraining the work of Russian and foreign non-governmental organizations. It banned U.S. adoptions of Russian children.

In December 2012, Clinton accused Putin of trying to "re-Sovietize" its region. And just before leaving, she wrote a memo to Obama urging him to finally suspend a reset that ended once and for all with Russia's military incursions in Ukraine and annexation of Crimea in 2014 - well after Clinton had left government. "Strength and resolve were the only language Putin would understand," Clinton wrote in her memoir "Hard Choices," published shortly afterward. It's a lesson she could say she learned firsthand. —AP

CONVICTED OF MURDER AS A TEEN, MAN NOW HAS SHOT AT FREEDOM

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA:

Johnny Small was just 15 when police came to arrest him in 1988 - so young he assumed he was in trouble for a curfew violation. Instead, police charged him with first-degree murder of a woman who owned a tropical-fish store - a place Small says he'd never even visited. He was convicted and sentenced to life behind bars, mainly on the testimony of co-defendant - a friend who once lived with Small's family. That man, David Bollinger, has since recanted. Bollinger says he testified only because prosecutors promised his charged would be dropped in exchange, and threatened the death penalty if he didn't cooperate.

Now, at 43, Small has a chance at freedom. A hearing is scheduled to

support outright dismissal of the case. "He's doing what he thinks is right, what he knows is right," said Small, adding that he hasn't communicated with Bollinger since his former friend testified. "And I'm happy for that. But am I going to jump for joy? No. Because he should have."

If released

If Small is released, he'll be in a world that he's seen only on television. Before prison, he listened to music on cassette tapes. He's never used a cellphone or Facebook. He has driven a car, but not legally, he said, breaking into one of his few smiles during the interview.

He's made no big plans if he's released other than seeking therapy, leaving Wilmington and getting a job. Defense attorney Chris

support outright dismissal of the case.

A record number of people falsely convicted of crimes - 149 - were exonerated in 2015, according to the National Registry of Exonerations. The registry is a project of the University of Michigan Law School and has documented more than 1,850 such cases in the U.S.

Bollinger called the N.C. Center on Actual Innocence in 2012, saying his testimony was false. Small's defense motion lays out other discrepancies, including problems with the Crimestoppers call that lead police to Small and Bollinger.

At trial, Bollinger testified that he had no deal with prosecutors. After the state Court of Appeals upheld Small's conviction in 1991, the charge against Bollinger was dropped. Bollinger's attorney declined to comment to The Associated Press.

Small says he doesn't blame Bollinger anymore. "I just let it go because it was hurting me more than it was doing anything," Small said. "I was hurting myself. Carrying around all that hate, what's it going to do? It's going to destroy you."

Tropical Paradise owner Dreher was 32 when she died of a single gunshot wound to the head. The AP reached her brother, Mark Alan Smith, who declined to comment. Her husband, David Dreher, couldn't be reached. Reports at the time of Dreher's death said police believed robbery was the motive - \$173 was missing from the register - but her purse and jewelry were left behind.

Margie Hilburn, 95, who lives across the street from David Dreher, remembers Pam Dreher as "a lovely person ... and it broke David's heart when he found out that somebody killed her." Small has endured his own losses while imprisoned. His mother died in February, and Small attended her funeral with two correctional officers. "It's hard enough living here day by day, knowing she's gone," he said, holding back tears. "So I can only imagine what Mrs. Dreher's family is going through." —AP



WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA: A silk lily and frayed purple ribbon decorate the grave of Pam Dreher at Oleander Memorial Gardens. —AP

begin Monday for Small, who has always maintained his innocence. The judge could vacate the conviction, order a new trial or uphold the conviction. Small "has spent his entire adult life and part of his childhood in prison for a crime he did not commit," a defense motion says. Now, he's grateful his one-time friend, Bollinger, came forward, even though it took decades, he told The Associated Press in an interview at New Hanover County

Mumma is hopeful Small will go free - no physical evidence tied him to the death of Pam Dreher at her fish shop - and she says in court filings there's "absolutely no remaining evidence of guilt in the case."

Prosecutors declined to comment, but in response to defense motions say the latest evidence "does little other than discredit or impeach witness testimony, making it insufficient to support a claim for a new trial and certainly does not

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PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA: President Jacob Zuma, attends the declaration announcement of the municipal elections on Saturday. —AP

OPPOSITION SEEKS PARTNERS AFTER S AFRICA POLL SUCCESS

JOHANNESBURG: South Africa's main opposition Democratic Alliance said yesterday that it was seeking coalition partners to run major cities including the capital and business centre Johannesburg after defeating the ruling ANC in local polls. "Informal discussions (have) started. We are now in the process of setting up meetings," DA lawmaker James Selfe told AFP without indicating who the party was talking to.

"We have a lot of experience in coalitions and I'm confident it will work out," said Selfe. The DA, led by Mmusi Maimane, topped the poll in municipal elections in the capital Pretoria, taking 93 seats out of 214 to 89 for the African National Congress, which suffered its worst result since the end of white-minority rule 22 years ago, falling below 60 percent of the vote for the first time. Maimane on Saturday described the results as "a tipping point for the people of South Africa," while ANC deputy leader Cyril Ramaphosa, Zuma's vice-president, said the party would heed the electorate's message.

With no party securing an absolute majority, the two main parties are set to talk to radical leftist Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). Led by populist Julius Malema, formerly of the ANC, the group says it is open to a role in a coalition—"except with the ANC." Despite that initial public stance, the Sunday Times newspaper reported that the ANC and the EFF were in fact in talks in Pretoria, where the EFF garnered 25 seats. Although a link-up between the latter two parties would appear politically more logical than between the EFF and the centre right DA, it would have to rise above two years of harsh criticism by

Malema of President Jacob Zuma.

Following the ANC's poor showing, Zuma's position as head of state is now in question, even though his mandate still has three years to run, the poll having been widely seen as a referendum on his scandal-ridden leadership.

Saturday, independent political analyst Daniel Silke told AFP he saw a DA tie-up with EFF as difficult. "I don't think EFF is the best coalition partner for DA as they are diametrically opposed on every issue-it could be unstable," Silke said.

'No ideological barrier'

Selfe said, however, it was feasible. "With EFF we are equally keen to provide good quality services for the people and particularly for the poorest of the poor. There's no ideological barrier with EFF on this," he insisted. There is uncertainty in the business capital Johannesburg, where the ANC also lost its majority in Johannesburg, as it did in Pretoria and also, humiliatingly, in Port Elizabeth, officially known as "Nelson Mandela Bay" after the late former ANC leader and president.

The ANC did top the poll in Johannesburg but it missed a majority by 15 seats while the EFF captured 30. In Port Elizabeth, the DA requires four seats in order to be able to govern, but should be able to receive sufficient support from several smaller parties. Although at the national level ANC remains the nation's top party, it saw its support plunge to 59.3 percent nationwide, a drop of eight points from 2011. The parties now have two weeks to form coalitions and elect new municipal councils. —AFP

SPAIN: 500 MORE EVACUATED DUE TO LA PALMA FOREST FIRE

MADRID: Spanish authorities have evacuated 500 more residents in the path of a five-day-old forest fire on the Atlantic island of La Palma.

The regional government for the Canary Islands archipelago says the evacuation of two neighborhoods in the town of Villa de Mazo took place yesterday morning shortly after midnight as the fire spread through the hilly terrain.

The latest evacuation comes only hours after authorities said some of the 2,500 residents previously evacuated could return to their homes. The blaze has claimed the life of one forest worker and destroyed

around 4,000 hectares (9,900 acres) of forest on the volcanic island off the northwest coast of Africa.

An unnamed 27-year-old German man admitted to police Friday that he had started the fire accidentally by burning some of his soiled toilet paper. Spanish media say he has been charged with grave negligence and was denied bail after a judicial hearing Saturday while police continue their investigation. Some 350 firefighters, supported by four planes and eight helicopters dumping water, are battling the fire but strong winds and high temperatures are complicating their efforts. —AP



CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN: In this image made from video on Saturday, Aug. 6, 2016, a forest fire rages in La Palma. —AP

TERROR PROBE OPENED OVER ATTACK ON BELGIAN POLICE

INVESTIGATION HAS STARTED

BRUSSELS: Belgium yesterday opened a terrorism probe into a machete assault that wounded two policewomen, in what appeared to be the latest in a string of jihadist attacks in Europe. "We have been informed by federal prosecutors that an investigation has started for attempted terrorist murder... given certain elements (in the case)," Prime Minister Charles Michel told reporters. Michel, who saluted the courage of the police victims, was referring to the attacker's cry of "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest) during the assault in front of a police station.

No information was given about the identity of the attacker, who had been shot and killed by police, at the press conference in Brussels which followed a meeting of Belgium's security services. Saturday afternoon's attack outside the main police station in the city of Charleroi, around 60 kilometers south of Brussels, left one of the policewomen with "deep wounds to the face" while the other was slightly injured, Belga news agency said.

Charleroi police said the attacker was killed while the two victims were out of danger. Police spokesman David Quinaux told broadcaster RTL-TVI the assailant had "taken a machete out of a sports bag he was carrying and dealt very violent blows to the faces of the two policewomen."

Belgium has been on high alert since suicide bombers struck Brussels airport and a metro station near the European Union's institutions on March 22, killing 32 people.

Those attacks were claimed by the Islamic State (IS) jihadist group, which controls large areas of territory in Iraq and Syria and has claimed numerous terror strikes in Europe over the last year.

'Cool heads'

Belgium's unit for terror threat analysis coordination said it would keep the alert level unchanged at level three on a scale of four, meaning an attack is viewed as "possible and likely."

With regard to attacks specifically on police

the unit maintained a level two threat requiring "particular vigilance." Michel meanwhile saluted "the exceptional courage of the policewomen who suffered this serious attack" and "did what they had to and doubtless thereby prevented an even greater tragedy.

"We maintain cool heads and blood," added the premier, who said unspecified measures would be taken to bolster security for police while noting that Belgium was confronting a similar threat to that faced by its European neighbors. —AFP



CHARLEROI, WALLONIA, BELGIUM: Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel (L) and Charleroi's mayor Paul Magnette (R) arrive at the hospital Notre-Dame in Charleroi, yesterday where the injured policewoman is staying a day after a machete-wielding man wounded two policewomen in a jihadist attack in Charleroi before being shot dead. —AFP

SMUGGLING SURGES IN GREECE AS MIGRANT FRUSTRATIONS GROW

IDOMENI: With Turkey in crisis and Europe's borders closed, smugglers in northern Greece are expecting a profitable summer. Greek police say traffickers are using increasingly sophisticated methods - motorcycle spotters, maps of border surveillance "blind spots," and even police informants - to move out refugees who have been stuck in this Greek border town for months.

Higher smuggling fees and steadily worsening odds of success have done little to dent the determination of migrants like Sorah Rahimi. The 22-year-old psychology student traveled from Afghanistan with his mother who is in poor health - and is an ideal target for smuggling rings that are re-emerging in the region. He agreed to pay traffickers 2,500 euros (\$2,750) to travel from Greece's northern border with Macedonia to Sweden, but only made it a few miles before being spotted by police and turned back. "We need to get to Sweden. Our whole family is there. We no longer have anything in Afghanistan," Rahimi told the AP before being taken to a migrant shelter in northern Greece.

Borders shut

Tens of thousands of migrants have been stuck on their journey north across Europe. Governments across the continent slammed their borders shut in March to avoid a repeat of the mass migration in 2015, when more than a million refugees and migrants arrived, triggering a string of political upheavals.

The trip north has become increasingly risky and time-consuming. Rahimi spent three months at the port of Piraeus, near Athens, before traveling north by train.

Last month's attempted coup in Turkey, followed by a draconian government crackdown there on perceived government opponents, has added to the uncertainty. Traffickers in Greece have re-appeared in greater numbers since the government cleared a massive makeshift camp at Idomeni on the Greek-Macedonian border in late May, according to officials from the country's border guard, national police and security division interviewed by the AP.

In a recent operation, police arrested 29 alleged members of two trafficking rings in northern Greece. One gang had received information from a Greek police officer on gaps in the night vision camera network on the Greek-Turkish border.

Police said the smugglers brought some 600 migrants into Greece from Turkey over several months and helped them reach other countries, using a fleet of taxis, scout vehicles, prepaid "burner" cellphones, and a system of code words that included: "dogs" for police, "garbage trucks" for police cars, and "cement blocks," "fish," or "kebabs" when referring to the migrants themselves. "At least six (Greek) taxi drivers were

involved in the smuggling rings, charging a regular fare while knowingly participating in the illegal activity," the Greek Police's Brig. George Pantelakos said. "Every transfer assisted by scouts on motorcycle, in an effort to avoid detection." Other suspects were from Syria, Iraq, Armenia, Albania and Kazakhstan. Five police officers have also been arrested in Macedonia, accused of helping smugglers north of the Greek border. In Greece alone, more than 57,000 migrants are stranded, most staying at about 60 government-run camps around the country. The European Union's law enforcement agency Europol analyzed data from anti-smuggling operations over the first six months of 2016. It found fees charged last year by traffickers for the entire trip from Syria and other warzones to the EU are now often set as the rate for crossing a single border. Migrants are also more likely to be held up for months and become vulnerable to exploitation. "Last year, the trips were sometimes completed in one to two weeks; now a journey can last for months," the agency said. "While in 2015, 0.2 percent of migrants declared that they had to work to pay back smugglers, this rose to 5 percent in 2016."

Peaked

When the numbers peaked in late March, 14,000 people were camped out at Idomeni. Now all that remains there are aluminum posts used for emergency lighting. Sunflowers have appeared in fields that a few weeks ago were packed with tents. But the migration problem

has not been resolved. Dozens of migrants are still hiding in cornfields, under bridges and in forests near Idomeni. Since the refugee camp was cleared, between 50 and 100 migrants a day are spotted trying to cross the border and being turned back, according to police estimates.

Some are found hidden in vans, buses, cars or trains. Others try their luck on foot, looking for gaps in the razor-wire border fence along river banks and mountain trails. Lina Siopi, a 44-year-old from Idomeni, owns a coffee shop outside the village railway station and says migrants are routinely found hidden in freight cars and detained. "We see it all the time. In the latest incident... a family was hiding under a sheet of tarp (in a freight carriage). I don't know where they were from: a couple with two sons," she said. In Thessaloniki, Greece's second largest city, one hour's drive south of the Macedonian border, smugglers brazenly negotiate terms with migrants camped out at parks near the city's main train station. They have the upper hand, since most migrants have already been in the country for several months. Afghan refugee Fatima Davoodi has agreed on a price already and is waiting for smugglers to pick up her, her husband and two sons, aged six and 10. "I can't tell you the sum. We want to make it to Finland and will pay the (full) amount when we get there," said Davoodi, a 32-year-old from Mazar-i-Sharif in northern Afghanistan. "I'm ready to leave for the border. We know it'll be tough. But if you don't believe you'll make it, you won't," she declared. —AP

RELATIVE OF CHARLIE HEBDO KILLER ARRESTED

PARIS: A relative of one of the jihadist killers of journalists at French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo has been arrested in Turkey on his way to Syria, a judicial source said yesterday. Mourad Hamyd, brother-in-law of Cherif Kouachi who was behind the January 2015 attack in Paris that killed 12, was detained in Turkey last month on suspicion of seeking to enter Syria, the source said.

Hamyd, wrongly identified on social media in the aftermath of the attack as being one of three Charlie Hebdo killers, was denied entry to Turkey and sent to a detention centre in Bulgaria on July 28, the source added in confirming a French media report.

The source said French anti-terrorist investigators are preparing a European arrest warrant for Hamyd, whose sister was Cherif Kouachi's wife. Kouachi carried out the

Charlie Hebdo killings with his brother Said. Hamyd came under initial suspicion of acting as "a brothers' getaway driver and he was briefly detained before being released without charge.

He later told AFP in an interview he was shocked by the killings, which he described as "a horrible crime" and described himself as a normal student living with his parents. He added he barely had any contact with Cherif Kouachi.

According to a July tally by French Prime Minister Manuel Valls, France is home to more than 2,100 people-French nationals or foreigners-known to have links to Syrian and Iraqi Islamist groups.

Valls added that 203 of them who have spent time in those countries have returned to France. —AFP

ZAMBIAN OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS ELECTION WILL NOT BE FREE AND FAIR

LUSAKA: Zambia's main opposition leader has accused the government of using repressive laws to restrict his election campaign and said violence by supporters of the ruling Patriotic Front (PF) would prevent Thursday's polls from being free and fair.

However, the African Union (AU) observer mission said political parties in Zambia were still able to conduct their campaign activities without major disruption despite some incidences of violence. Zambia holds presidential and

parliamentary elections on Aug. 11. President Edgar Lungu faces a strong challenge from opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema after last year's neck-and-neck race.

Lungu has been in power in the southern African nation since winning election in January 2015 following the death of his predecessor, Michael Sata, in October 2014. "Only yesterday, the president cancelled two of my rallies in Eastern province. Why would he not want us to campaign the way he is cam-

paigned?" Hichilema, one of Zambia's wealthiest businessmen and known locally as "HH," told Reuters.

"Also the violence that is obtaining in the country does not lend the conditions suitable for a free, fair and credible election," he said in an interview. Zambia's electoral commission on July 9 suspended campaigning for 10 days in two areas, including the capital Lusaka, due to escalating political violence.

Despite the unfavorable conditions, Hichilema urged his supporters not to

be intimidated and to turn out in large numbers, saying it was still possible to win the elections. "Zambians must not fear, the fear is being created so that they don't vote," he said.

The leader of the AU observer mission, former Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan, said violence had decreased following the 10-day suspension of campaigning. He said both the ruling party and opposition had accused each other of violence.

"There are these fears but we still

believe that the elections can be conducted in a manner that will be satisfactory," Jonathan said when asked about concerns that the elections would not be free and fair.

He said candidates in Thursday's elections must be ready to accept any result. "Nobody must just assume that I must win the elections. Work hard to win the election, accept the results of the election and ensure peace in Zambia because you are interested in the people," Jonathan said. —Reuters

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BANGKOK: Thailand's Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha leaves after casting his vote in a referendum on a new constitution at a polling station yesterday. —AP

VICTORY FOR GENERALS AS THAIS VOTE FOR JUNTA CHARTER

BANGKOK: Thailand voted yesterday to approve a new constitution drawn up by the ruling junta, preliminary results showed, in a major victory for the army and a blow to the stuttering pro-democracy movement.

Partial results released by the Election Commission late yesterday showed 62 percent of voters had approved the charter, with 90 percent of votes counted so far. Authorities estimated a subdued turnout at around 55 percent of Thailand's 50.2 million registered voters, after a poll run-up that saw independent campaigning and open debate barred.

Yesterday's referendum was the first time Thais have been able to go to the polls since army chief turned Prime Minister Prayut Chan-O-Cha toppled the elected government of Yingluck Shinawatra in 2014. The military says its new constitution will curb endemic political corruption and bring stability after the dizzying merry-go-round of recent years.

Critics say it aims to neuter civilian politicians and tighten the grip of the military and its allies in the royalist elite-over the country. The kingdom is split after a decade of political turmoil that has damaged growth, seen democracy shunted aside and left scores dead in rival street protests.

The preliminary results starkly illustrate the kingdom's bitter geographic divide. Only the impoverished and rural northeast—a region that has voted in droves for successive governments turfed out by the army—and the deep south-hit by a Muslim insurgency-voted against the charter.

Jatuporn Prompan, leader of the anti-junta Red Shirt movement, which is strongest in the northeast, hit out at the result. "I want to tell Prayut that your victory is nothing to be proud of as your opponents had no chance to fight," he told reporters, referring to the ban on campaigning before the vote. "I am still convinced that power will return to the people some day," he added. However millions voted in favour of the military's charter, especially in the capital and the south.

Coup leader casts vote

Thailand has a long history of turbulence. The military has successfully seized power 12 times since the end of absolute monarchy in 1932 and this constitution will be the kingdom's 20th. But the latest

chapter in the political crisis—dubbed the "lost decade"—has been particularly painful.

Since a 2006 coup toppled Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Yingluck's billionaire brother who is now in self-exile, power has flipped between elected governments linked to him and rule by the army and its establishment supporters.

Shinawatra parties have won all general elections since 2001, scooping up votes of the rural poor and urban working class with policies promising greater wealth and opportunity.

Their success has riled the military and its political friends who accuse the clan of debasing the country with graft and nepotism and have hit back through coups and the courts. The tension has been compounded by the frail health of 88-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej, as elites jostle ahead of the transition.

After casting his own vote in Bangkok junta leader Prayut urged people to vote, adding: "This is democracy so all eligible voters please come out."

Prayut banned open debate on the contentious charter and scores of people have been arrested under a special law to curb opposition. The most divisive clauses call for a junta-appointed senate—including six seats reserved for military commanders—to check elected lawmakers and increased powers for courts, which are already accused of political bias. Another clause makes it easy to begin impeachment proceedings.

Junta opponents believe the charter will further warp democracy. They fear the appointed senate will straitjacket elected politicians while a new proportional representation voting system could produce weak coalition governments.

"The coup makers tore up the old constitution and robbed us of our rights, promoting themselves to control the government," No voter Ohm Kontaogan, 35, told AFP in Bangkok. It is a "robber's constitution," he added.

At one Bangkok polling station an activist was arrested for deliberately spoiling his ballot paper. Video footage showed the man wearing a "No Coup" t-shirt and shouting "Down with dictatorship, long live democracy". Prayut had promised to hold elections in the summer of 2017, whether or not the charter was passed. But his previous election date promises have slipped. —AFP

BANGLADESH ISSUES ARREST WARRANTS OVER KILLING OF JAPANESE CITIZEN

DHAKA: A court in Bangladesh issued warrants yesterday for the arrest of four suspected members of a banned group, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), in connection with the killing of a Japanese citizen last year, a prosecutor said.

Kunio Hoshi, 65, was gunned down in October by masked men on a motorcycle while on his way to visit a grass farm project in the northern district of Rangpur, less than a week after an Italian aid worker had been killed in a similar way in Dhaka's diplomatic quarter.

The court issued the arrest warrants after deciding to press ahead with proceedings against four other suspected members of the outlawed group, public prosecutor Nayan Noor Rahman told

reporters. Police believe that the group, which has pledged allegiance to Islamic State, carried out a July 1 attack on a cafe in which 22 people were killed, mostly foreigners, before security forces ended a 12-hour siege, killing five gunmen.

Islamic State and al Qaeda have claimed a series of killings of liberals and members of religious minorities in Bangladesh in the past year.

Islamic State also claimed responsibility for the cafe attack but the government has dismissed suggestions the group has a presence in Bangladesh. While authorities blame the violence on domestic militants, security experts say the scale and sophistication of the cafe attack suggested links to a trans-national network. —Reuters

AFGHAN GENERAL BANS PAKISTANI RUPEE IN SOUTHERN PROVINCE

DOLLARS COULD BE NEXT

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan: A senior Afghan police official regarded as one of the country's most powerful men has banned the use of the Pakistani currency in the key southern province of Kandahar. The police chief of Kandahar, Gen. Abdul Raziq, said he has declared the use of the Pakistani rupee in business transactions a crime. But he says he hasn't yet decided on the punishment.

The rupee has been widely used in Afghanistan's eastern and southern provinces bordering Pakistan. The Iranian currency is used in the western border provinces. "I'm not against business, but I don't want any other currency to be used in our country, especially the Pakistan and Iranian currencies," Raziq told The Associated Press Sunday.

Raziq's ban came into effect last week. Traders said it had an immediate effect, with the Afghani strengthening in recent days. "This is very good news, as people have been confused about what currency they should use and keep," said Kandahar tribal elder and businessman, Ahmad Shah Khan.

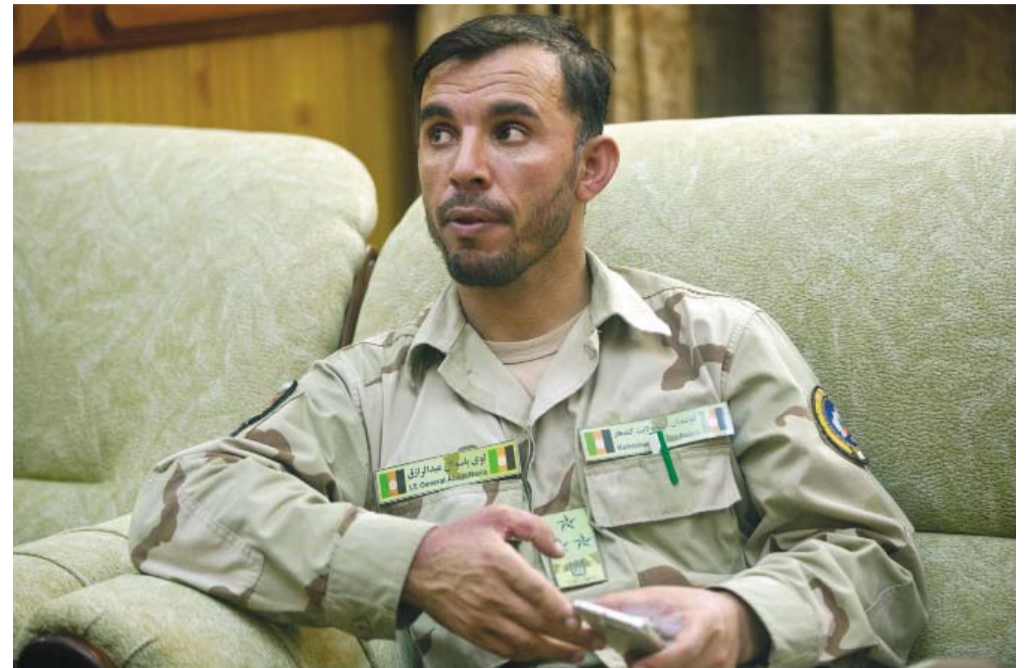
He said the Afghani had strengthened to 560 for 1,000 Pakistani rupees, from 630 per 1,000 before the ban. The official Central Bank exchange rate Sunday was 622 per 1,000. The Afghani has also strengthened against the dollar, from 68 to 65 since the ban was introduced, traders said. The official rate is currently 67.5 afghanis to the dollar.

Azrakhs Hafzi, the head of the international relations committee of the Afghan Chamber of Commerce welcomed Raziq's decision and urged officials nationwide to adopt the ban of foreign currencies.

Use of US dollar

The use of the US dollar in transactions elsewhere in the country, including the capital Kabul, should also be banned, Hafzi said. "The central bank almost every week buys Afghanis in the market in order to maintain the stability of the Afghan currency but if we used only the Afghan currency all over the country there would be no need," he said.

Raziq's move coincides with a cooling of rela-



KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN: Gen. Abdul Raziq, Kandahar police chief, speaks during an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday. —AP

tions between Afghanistan and Pakistan following the breakdown of a peace process initiated last year by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and the apparent failure by Pakistani authorities to move against Taliban leaders believed by Kabul to enjoy refuge over the border.

Taliban leaders moved into Pakistan when the US invaded in 2001, ending their brutal five-year rule of Afghanistan. They are widely believed to live under Pakistan's protection and to direct their war against Kabul, now in its 15th year, from cities including Quetta and Peshawar.

Raziq said the currency ban is in retaliation against Pakistan's protection of the Taliban, a charge Pakistan denies. "Pakistan is not only using bombs against us, they use every other tactic they can to destroy us - and that includes our businessmen," he said. Pakistani authorities have held up Afghan goods, including fresh produce, at border points until the fruit and vegeta-

bles rotted, Raziq said. There are signs that Afghanistan is starting to look elsewhere for imported products as a way of pressuring Pakistani authorities into complying with Afghan demands that they force the Taliban into talks to end the war.

Wheat imports - which totaled 2.4 million tons last year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture - have traditionally come from Pakistan. But an increase in the customs duty charged by Afghan authorities has cut imports from Pakistan, with the business now going to Central Asian states. Hafzi said the value of imports from Pakistan had fallen by \$700 million since the start of the current financial year in January. Afghanistan is in the depths of an economic crisis, with gross domestic product growth close to zero and the government's plans for boosting growth and creating jobs stalled by its inability to improve the security situation. —AP

AFTER SHOCK, JAPAN WARMS UP TO EMPEROR'S POSSIBLE ABDICATION

TOKYO: Japanese will tune in to Emperor Akihito's rare video message today following reports that he would abdicate in the next few years, which initially came as shock but was welcomed by many as a deserved rest for the 82-year-old beloved monarch.

In the pre-recorded message, Akihito will talk about his duties as a "symbol emperor" as stipulated by the constitution, palace officials said. He will most likely avoid the explicit expression of abdication, which would involve political and legal procedures that he is not allowed to discuss.

Akihito still works, though his aides have shifted some of his duties to Crown Prince Naruhito - the elder of his two sons and most likely successor. Yet, Akihito has referred to his old age in recent years, admitting to making small mistakes at ceremonies. During the Aug. 15, 2015, anniversary of the end of World War II, Akihito started reading a statement when he was supposed to observe a moment of silence. After the initial surprise, the public warmly welcomed the reported abdication plan, saying the hard-working emperor deserves to enjoy his long-overdue retirement. Lifting the abdication ban, a practice inherited from the prewar constitution, would also bring the imperial family closer to the public. "Changing that will reflect the reality of Japanese society first of all, the way that almost all people here feel about working and life and career building," said Robert Campbell, a University of Tokyo professor and expert on Japanese history and culture.



TOKYO: In this Dec. 23, 2014 file photo, Japan's Emperor Akihito, third from left, accompanied by his wife Empress Michiko, fourth from right, and their family members, wave to well-wishers as they appear on the balcony of the Imperial Palace to mark the emperor's 81th birthday. —AP

Given too much work

According to a nationwide telephone survey by Kyodo News agency this month, nearly 90 percent of the respondents said Akihito is given too much work, while more than 85 percent said an abdication should be legalized as an option to Akihito and his successors. Akihito has reportedly told palace officials and his families that he doesn't wish to cling to his title with drastically reduced responsibility or by arranging a substitute, and his two sons have accepted the idea. The quiet discussion reportedly started about five years ago, around the time he had health problems - he was hospitalized for bronchitis in 2011, and had heart bypass surgery in 2012.

Palace officials quickly denied the report, because the emperor is not supposed to say anything that would cause a change to the existing system, including his constitutional status.

Experts and media have speculated that Akihito will seek to abdicate while he is still in good health so he can monitor Naruhito, who is seen not quite ready for succession. "If he does decide to abdicate, I believe that one of the reasons may be that he wants to oversee the change in reign ... in peaceful and successful way," Campbell said. Akihito ascended to the throne in 1989 after the death of his father, Hirohito, who was considered a deity until Japan's defeat in the

World War II, fought in the name of the emperor.

Akihito brought the cloistered imperial family closer to the public and broke with other traditions, including his marriage to a commoner. He has repeatedly said he respects Japan's postwar pacifist constitution and is committed to his status as the symbol and the unity of the people, not the sovereign. Some speculate that Akihito's abdication may be an attempt to put a break on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's plan to rewrite the constitution. Abe and his ultra-conservative supporters want to scrap a part of the war-renouncing article and upgrade the emperor to the sovereign again. —AP

PHILIPPINE LEADER LINKS 150 JUDGES, POLITICIANS TO DRUGS

MANILA: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte publicly linked more than 150 judges, mayors, lawmakers, police and military personnel to illegal drugs yesterday, ordering them to surrender for investigation as he ratcheted up his bloody war against what he calls a "pandemic." Duterte promptly relieved members of the military and police he named from their current posts and ordered government security personnel to be withdrawn from politicians he identified in a nationally televised speech. He also ordered gun licenses of those named revoked.

"All military and police who are attached to these people, I'm giving you 24 hours to report to your mother unit or I will whack you. I'll dismiss you from the service," Duterte said in the speech at a military camp in southern Davao city.

He said that the list of politicians, judges and law enforcers given to him by the military and police might or might not be true, but that he had a duty to disclose to the public how the drug problem had become so pervasive. "There is no due process in my mouth," Duterte said. "You can't stop me and I'm not afraid even if you say that I can end up in jail." The list of names, which Duterte said included some friends, has been validated by authorities but did not contain details of the officials' alleged

involvement to the drug trade or offer any evidence. Some names were incomplete, while others had no rank or government position.

Judges and generals

They included eight judges, as well as five retired and current generals. The rest were mostly town mayors and police officers. One retired general, Vicente Loot, has been previously named in public by Duterte and has denied any wrongdoing. "It's a pandemic," said Duterte, a former mayor of Davao, where he built a reputation for his crime-busting style that allegedly involved extrajudicial killings.

Duterte's latest salvo ups the ante in his war on drugs, which has already left more than 400 suspected dealers and pushers dead and more than 4,400 arrested in more than a month since he took office. Nearly 600,000 people have surrendered to authorities, hoping to avoid getting killed.

The crackdown has been one of the biggest and bloodiest in the Philippines' recent history and has alarmed human rights groups and the dominant Roman Catholic Church. But Duterte has dismissed their concerns and has openly threatened to kill crime suspects, assuring law enforcers that he would defend them if they face lawsuits while battling criminality.



QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES: In this July 1, 2016, file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures during the "Assumption of Command" of new Police Chief, Director General Ronald Dela Rosa at Camp Crame, Philippine National Police headquarters. —AP

Church leader Archbishop Socrates Villegas issued a statement, read in churches Sunday in his northern district, expressing deep concerns over the killings of drugs suspects and lamenting a lack of widespread outrage over the deaths. "Is not humanity going down to the dregs when blood-thirsty humans encourage the killers and ask for more blood?" Villegas said. "Will you kill me again and again on social media for saying this?"

Vice President Leni Robredo, who is on a trip to the U.S., said media can do a lot to help raise awareness on the need to stop the killings. "There have been a few voices already out there against extrajudicial killings, but I think that public outcry is not there yet," Robredo said. "I think all of us should do our share in making sure that this has to stop."

Duterte also attended the wake of four soldiers who were killed in two clashes with communist rebels last week in the gold-mining town of Monkayo in southern Compostela Valley. Three of the soldiers were killed by a land mine blast, the military said.

Duterte criticized the rebels for using land mines, which have also killed civilians. He warned that if anyone else dies from a rebel land mine attack, he would call off peace talks that are scheduled to start Aug. 20 in Norway. —AP

SYRIA ARMY REDEPLOYS AFTER REBELS BREAK...

Continued from Page 1

forces loyal to President Bashar Al-Assad since Sept 20. Official media denied that the siege had been broken but implicitly admitted that regime forces were on the defensive and that pro-government areas were facing shortages in the country's ravaged second city. State television said yesterday: "Our forces have redeployed after absorbing the attack of thousands of mercenaries, and the army has found a new route to allow food and gas in." "The army has found an alternative way to move food and fuel supplies" into western Aleppo, it said. The Observatory reported intermittent air strikes and clashes yesterday on the city's southern edges, where rebels overran buildings in a military academy the previous day.

Rebel units on Saturday pushed northeast into the Ramussa district where they linked up with other insurgents who had fought from inside the city. Footage posted by rebels showed their fighters embracing and celebrating the end of the government siege, in place since July 17. Yesterday, rebel forces brought seven pick-up trucks full of fruit and vegetables into eastern districts of Aleppo to be distributed to local markets, an opposition fighter said. Video footage seen by AFP showed crates of plums, tomatoes, watermelons and vegetables lined up along a road. An AFP journalist said hungry residents quickly bought up the supplies.

The Observatory's Abdel Rahman said the route into eastern districts is open only to fighters. "Not a single civilian has left the eastern districts because the road is too dangerous and not secured," he said. The rebel advance now puts the estimated 1.2 million people in government-held districts under opposition encirclement, he added. "The western districts of Aleppo are now besieged. There

are no safe routes for civilians in government-held districts to use to get into or out of the city," he told AFP.

Families in western neighborhoods have meanwhile rushed to stock up on food and water in preparation for a siege. "Unfortunately, after the road was cut, the price of a loaf of bread immediately shot up from 200 to 800 Syrian pounds," said Walaa Hariri, a 48-year-old mother of three from the Furqan district. "I sent my sons to school but they are all nervous, and the teachers replaced their regular lessons with courses on what to do if there is shelling," she said. A man aged 37 who declined to be identified said he has "faith in the army, but I can't help being scared." "Food is already getting more expensive and the coming days risk being very difficult," he added.

The battle for Aleppo is among the fiercest so far in Syria's chaotic multi-front war, which has killed more than 280,000 people. Rebel and regime forces have fought to control the provincial capital since mid-2012, transforming Syria's former economic powerhouse into a divided, bombed-out city. SANA said 10 civilians were killed on Saturday in rebel shelling of two government-held districts, and the Britain-based Observatory reported the death of a girl in opposition fire yesterday.

Pope Francis yesterday denounced the "unacceptable" number of civilian victims in Aleppo, mentioning in particular the number of children killed in the conflict. The Observatory said at least 130 civilians have been killed since the opposition alliance launched its offensive on southern Aleppo on July 31. More than 700 fighters from both sides were killed in the onslaught, most of them rebels because of the regime's air superiority, it said. Syria's conflict erupted in March 2011 with protests against Assad's rule but has since evolved into a brutal war that has drawn in world powers. — AFP



ISTANBUL: People wave Turkish national flags as they gather in Yenikapi yesterday during a rally against the failed military coup on July 15. — AFP

ERDOGAN STAGES RALLY IN SHOW OF STRENGTH

Continued from Page 1

successful coup renewing the cycle of military interventions that dogged Turkey in the second half of the 20th century.

Secularists and nationalists who oppose Erdogan also loathe the Gulen's followers, used by Erdogan in years past to undermine the power of secularist generals suspicious of his ruling AK Party's Islamist ideals. They have so far been limited in their criticism of purges of alleged Gulenists, though they have raised questions about the pace and scale of the detentions. "Erdogan has been brutal and unfair to us in the past, but I believe he has now understood the real importance of the republic's values," said Ilhan Girit, 44, a musician and CHP supporter, carrying a flag of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of the modern secular republic.

A convoy of nationalists on motorbikes passed as he spoke. Such solidarity may not last. There are already opposition concerns that the restructuring of the military lacks parliamentary oversight and is going too far, with thousands of soldiers discharged, including around 40 percent of generals. Erdogan said this week he had initially misread the intentions of Gulen, whose network was once close to the AKP, and asked: "May my people and God forgive me." "He is such a big leader that he can admit his mistake. No president has ever

apologized to his people before," said Gurkan Cendeli, 21, a student from the southern city of Adana. "Ready for your order, commander-in-chief," read the slogan on his T-shirt.

The extent of the purges in Turkey, which has NATO's second largest armed forces and aspires to membership of the European Union, has drawn criticism in the West. In comments published yesterday, the leader of Germany's liberal Free Democrats said he saw parallels between Erdogan's behavior and the aftermath of the Reichstag fire in 1933, portrayed by the Nazis as a Communist plot against the government and used by Adolf Hitler to justify massively curtailing civil liberties.

Turkish officials have angrily rejected suggestions that the purges are out of proportion, accusing Western critics of failing to grasp the magnitude of the threat to the Turkish state and of being more concerned about the rights of coup plotters than the brutality of the events themselves. Amid the cooling of ties with the West, Erdogan is due to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin tomorrow in St Petersburg for talks intended to end a period of tension after Turkey downed a Russian fighter jet near the Syrian border last November. "At the talks with my friend Vladimir, I believe, a new page in bilateral relations will be opened. Our countries have a lot to do together," Erdogan told the TASS news agency in an interview published yesterday. — Reuters

MPS AGAIN DISCUSS PETROL PRICE HIKE, MULL...

Continued from Page 1

He however declined to say what measures lawmakers might take if the government refuses to compensate citizens for the rise, saying this will be decided when it happens.

MP Yousef Al-Zalzalah said that during the discussion

of the issue of raising petrol prices at the financial committee, it was agreed with the government that if the petrol price is raised, the government will automatically provide support to citizens. He said that by raising the prices and not providing compensation, the government has committed a mistake, which should be rectified.

IRAN EXECUTES NUCLEAR SCIENTIST

Continued from Page 1

Speaking to journalists yesterday, Iranian judiciary spokesman Gholamhosein Mohseni Ejehi said Amiri was convicted of spying charges in a death-sentence case upheld by an appeals court. "This person who had access to the country's secret and classified information had been linked to our hostile and No. 1 enemy, America, the Great Satan" Ejehi said. "He provided the enemy with vital and secret information of the country." Ejehi did not explain why authorities never announced Amiri's conviction, though he said Amiri had access to lawyers.

News about Amiri, born in 1977, has been scant since his return to Iran. Last year, his father Asgar Amiri told the BBC's Farsi-language service that his son had been held at a secret site. Ejehi said Amiri's family mistakenly believed he only received a 10-year prison sentence. On Tuesday, Iran announced it had executed a number of criminals, describing them mainly as militants from the country's Kurdish minority. Then, an obituary notice for Amiri circulated in his hometown of Kermanshah, a city some 500 km southwest of Tehran, according to the Iranian pro-reform daily newspaper Shargh.

Manoto, a private satellite television channel based in London believed to be run by those who back Iran's ousted shah, first reported Saturday that Amiri had been executed. BBC Farsi also quoted Amiri's mother saying her son's neck bore ligature marks suggesting he had been hanged by the state. AP could not immediately reach Amiri's family.

Amiri's disappearance came amid a concerted Western effort to thwart Iran's nuclear program under the government of hardline President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The Stuxnet computer virus, widely believed to be a joint US-Israeli creation, had begun disrupting thousands of centrifuges at a uranium enrichment facility in Iran. The US also actively recruited nuclear scientists to defect, while a series of bombings suspected to be carried out but never acknowledged by Israel killed others.

In June 2010, a shaky online video emerged of Amiri saying he had been kidnapped by American and Saudi agents and was in Tucson, Arizona. A short time later, he appeared in a professionally shot online video near a chess set, saying he wanted to earn a doctorate in America and return to Iran if an "opportunity of safe travel" presented

itself. His wife and son remained behind in Iran. "I have not done any activity against my homeland," he said. But soon, another clip by him contradicted that and then he appeared at the Pakistani Embassy.

Hillary Clinton, then-US secretary of state, stressed Amiri had been in America "of his own free will." "He is free to go," she said. US officials at the time told the AP that Amiri was paid \$5 million to offer the CIA information about Iran's nuclear program, though he left the country without the money. They said Amiri, who ran a radiation detection program in Iran, travelled to the US and stayed there for months under his own free will. Analysts abroad suggested Iranian authorities may have threatened Amiri's family back in Iran, forcing him to return.

But when he returned to Iran and was welcomed with flowers by government officials, Amiri said Saudi and American officials had kidnapped him while he visited the Saudi holy city of Madinah. He also said Israeli agents were present at his interrogations and that CIA officers offered him \$50 million to remain in America. "I was under the harshest mental and physical torture," he said.

Amiri's case indirectly found its way back into the spotlight in the US last year with the release of State Department emails sent and received by Clinton, now the Democratic presidential candidate. The release of those emails came amid criticism of Clinton's use of a private account and server that has persisted into her campaign against Republican candidate Donald Trump. An email forwarded to Clinton by senior adviser Jake Sullivan on July 5, 2010 - just nine days before Amiri returned to Tehran - appears to reference the scientist.

"We have a diplomatic, 'psychological' issue, not a legal one. Our friend has to be given a way out," the email by Richard Morningstar, a former State Department special envoy for Eurasian energy, read. "Our person won't be able to do anything anyway. If he has to leave so be it." Another email, sent by Sullivan on July 12, 2010, appears to obliquely refer to the scientist just hours before his appearance at the Pakistani Embassy became widely known. "The gentleman ... has apparently gone to his country's interests section because he is unhappy with how much time it has taken to facilitate his departure," Sullivan wrote. "This could lead to problematic news stories in the next 24 hours." — AP

WORLD BANK HAILS PETROL PRICE HIKE...

Continued from Page 1

The decision to remove subsidies is also strategically aligned with Kuwait's vision to further diversify the economy and enhance its competitiveness. In the medium and long run, subsidy reforms are expected to encourage a move towards more labor-intensive industries, which in turn is expected to result in greater job creation for Kuwaiti nationals.

The impact of higher retail transport fuel prices depends on the short and long-run responsiveness of consumers to price shocks, he said. International experience shows that consumption of transport fuel is less responsive to price increases than other consumer items such as electricity. While rising retail prices will increase the cost of running a car, Kuwait remains relatively cheap compared to markets in Europe. On a per liter basis, the new retail gasoline price is still less than half of the cost of gasoline in Europe and is still the lowest in the GCC countries. Accordingly, car ownership and use may still increase at least in the short run, Raad added.

International experience suggests that the impact of transport fuel subsidy reforms is more effective when undertaken in conjunction with complementary policies which Kuwait is also actively pursuing. Such policies include the strengthening of public transport which benefits all segments of the population especially the more vulnerable. It also improves economic effi-

ciency by reducing congestion and air pollution.

Last but not least, energy subsidy reforms provide a significant opportunity to reform the energy sector and remove inefficiencies along the entire value chain. The high subsidies that have been maintained over many years have created substantial distortions in the energy sector driving extensive use of crude oil in electricity generation whereas natural gas would be technically more efficient. It has also driven the inefficient use of consumer appliances particularly air conditioning which in turn has fueled the growth in electricity demand.

The best approach for Kuwait to reform the energy sector is to target efficiency gains through a mix of supply and demand-side policies and broader reforms to promote renewable energy. The new fuel pricing policy will be in effect as of 1-9-2016 in line with the policies adopted in the GCC countries. The new prices include octane-91 petrol jumping to 85 fils per liter, octane-95 going up to 105 fils per liter and ultra-premium rising to 165 fils per liter.

Kuwait is the last GCC state to embark on "restructuring the fuel prices", however the new ones remain the lowest among the council countries, as well as globally. Meanwhile, the Cabinet has tasked a special commission to reexamine state subsidies and the fuel prices every three months, to be in harmony with global rates. — KUNA



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P.O.Box 1301 Safat, 13014 Kuwait.
E MAIL: info@kuwaittimes.net
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NEW THAI CONSTITUTION ...

ACAPULCO SURFERS SEEK TO ESCAPE CRIME WAVE

By Laurent Thomet

Luis Rey Hernandez feels safe and happy when he's on his surfboard, riding waves off the shores of Acapulco. But when he's not inside the barrel of a wave, the 17-year-old surfer has to navigate the rough streets of the resort city on Mexico's Pacific coast. Luis Rey, a rising star who became national champion in the under-18 category in June and is known as "The King", has heard shootouts. He once saw a body lying on the street.

"The violence in Acapulco is very bad. The government, the president - they do nothing. We're going down the wrong path because we hear gunshots, (we see) dead people," Luis Rey said as he stood with his surfboard on the sandy Revolcadero beach after catching some waves. "You're always afraid to leave your house," said the fit teenager, whose black hair has reddish locks from sun exposure. "At sea, I'm not afraid. I feel happy there."

Acapulco is famous for its cliff divers, who wow visitors with daring drops into the ocean. But surfing has gained popularity among youths in neighborhoods worn down by poverty and merciless drug violence that have turned the city into Mexico's murder capital.

Surfing on Car Frames

Javier Hernandez Castanon, the 58-year-old president of the Guerrero State Surfing Association, said "gringos" brought the sport to Acapulco in the 1960s, at a time when the city was popular among Hollywood stars. "Since we didn't have surfboards, we started surfing on car (tire) inner tubes, and then on wood trunks. The boards began to arrive in the 1970s," said Hernandez, who is known as "La Charra" and is Luis Rey's uncle. The surf association had 50 registered members in Acapulco in the 1960s, growing to more than 200 in the 1990s and over 700 today.

But the veteran surfer said the crime wave "affects surfing because violence is unfortunately attracting every youth". "We need support to attract young people to surf, something different," Hernandez said. Three of his four children migrated to Chicago 12 years ago after they were threatened by a gang demanding a tax on their beach gear rental business. Two cartels are fighting over local drug sales in the city. More than 1,300 people have been murdered since 2015, including three on the beach this year.

Jose Manuel Trujillo, a local star known as "Yuco," said that without surfing, he may have been dragged into the gang underworld like some of his friends in his district of Tres Palos. Three of his friends were killed in their teens. "They are young people who lack education and poverty takes them down that path, the easiest one," said Trujillo, 29. "Thanks to surfing, I stayed away from that path." Wearing a hat from his sponsor, energy drink maker Monster, and sporting a smile dotted with braces, Trujillo now tours the world, sells his own T-shirt brand on the beach or the internet, and even got a role in the Hollywood shark thriller "The Shallows" starring Blake Lively.

Fleeing Acapulco

"Yuco" and "The King," who is his brother-in-law, participated at the Vans Surf Open Acapulco competition in mid-July, an international event that attracted some 100 surfers from around the world. But event director Gustavo Duccini said some surfers stayed away after the US State Department issued a travel warning in April that barred US government employees from visiting the city. "It's exaggerated but it has repercussions," said Duccini.

Luis Rey finished second in the junior category behind Oaxaca state's Jhony Corzo at the competition. The Mexican Surfing Federation calls them "the two best youths in the country." Luis Rey wants to surf his way out of town. "I'd like to live in another country that's calmer, where one can go out for a walk," said Luis Rey, who has surfed since age nine. "There are good waves in Hawaii. There's almost no violence." While he's sponsored by Vans, the skater shoe company, getting money to compete abroad is still a struggle for a teenager whose father earns a living by renting out a jetski and other gear at the beach. Other budding and accomplished surfers from Acapulco face similar financial hurdles. A child's surfboard can cost at least \$240 at a local shop. — AFP

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WAR TOURISM: ADVENTURE OR RECKLESS HEDONISM?

By Anne Chaon

Thousands of people are fleeing the conflict roiling Afghanistan, but American backpacker John Milton recently made the reverse journey to the war-ravaged country - for a holiday. Armed with little more than travel guidebooks and an unflinching spirit of adventure, hardy bands of "war tourists" such as Milton visit Afghanistan's pristine mountains and medieval ruins every year, ignoring warnings of kidnappings and bombings. A Taliban attack on Thursday on a group of American and European tourists in western Herat province, which left some of them wounded, has brought into sharp focus such global thrill-seekers who imperil their lives to vacation in war zones. "Visiting conflict zones and off-the-beaten-path destinations is so much more rewarding than the usual global tourist destinations," said Milton, a 46-year-old former investment banker, who visited Afghanistan in June and has also vacationed in Somalia and North Korea. "(My) family and friends think I am a fool to take such risks but... if you are not willing to risk the unusual, then you will have to settle for the ordinary. I just don't want to die without having any scars!"

In Thursday's attack a tourist bus carrying eight Britons, three Americans and one German national came under Taliban fire as it was being escorted through a volatile district in Herat by the Afghan army. The attack, which left seven people wounded including the Afghan minibus driver, prompted scorn on social media, with many questioning why the tourists were travelling overland at a time when most Western embassies warn their citizens against all travel in the country.

The owner of Hinterland Travel, a Britain-based adventure travel agency which reportedly organized the tour, was also said to be among the injured and was pilloried for what was widely perceived as recklessness. He was not reachable for comment.

'Worth the Risk'

But warzone tourism is hardly limited to Afghanistan. In 2013, Japanese trucker Toshifumi Fujimoto, bored with his humdrum job, jaunted through the war-torn Syrian city of Aleppo, telling AFP that his previous adventures had taken him through Yemen among other Middle East hotspots. Such tourists are the exception rather than the norm, said James Willcox, founder of another England-based adventure travel operator Untamed Borders, which organizes trips to Afghanistan, Somalia and Somaliland. "One of the main reasons people come on our trips... is to (see) coun-

tries for the multi-faceted, complex places they are. We do not choose destinations because they are dangerous," Willcox told AFP. "Very few would come because of bragging rights in my opinion. Most people are not impressed by someone having visited Afghanistan." Afghanistan is endowed with stunning landscapes and archaeological sites, but many are located in areas plagued by insurgency. But a few areas are safely reachable by air. The ancient city of Bamiyan, famous for empty hillside niches that once sheltered giant Buddha statues that were blown up by the Taliban, is one of them. The central province, a landscape of russet-hued cliffs, was once a caravan stop along the fabled Silk Road and is currently at the center of Afghan efforts to boost tourism revenue.

The northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, famous for its blue-tiled mosque and Panjshir Valley, known for its snow-capped peaks and precious stones, are some other relatively peaceful areas. "Yes, (Afghanistan) is a risky destina-

tion but it's a calculated risk," said Milton. "If done properly then the risks can be mitigated quite well and the rewards greatly outweigh the risks - access to a country and culture that not many people get to experience."

As Thursday's attack overshadowed the tourism sector, the culture ministry said the industry was vital for Afghanistan's future. "Afghanistan desperately needs foreign tourists," ministry spokesman Haroon Hakimi told AFP, adding that 20,000 foreigners visited Kabul last year. "The economy is in shambles and this is an important source of revenue." Jonny Blair, a 36-year-old Irish backpacker, said he was undaunted by the violence. "My lasting memory of Afghanistan was playing football with children by the Buddha monastery in Samangan (north-eastern Afghanistan) (and) a night out drinking tea and smoking shisha (water pipe) in Mazari-Sharif," he told AFP. "It's totally worth the risk." — AFP



This photograph received from Irish tourist Jonny Blair on Saturday shows Blair (center right) drinking tea and smoking shisha with three Afghan companions in Mazar-i-Sharif during his travels in Afghanistan. — AFP

PYONGYANG CAFE, A KIM ALLY ON SPANISH COAST

By Daniel Bosque

North Korea may be isolated in the international community but it now has a modest ally on the Spanish coast - the Pyongyang Cafe, a small bar founded to support Kim Jong-Un's strongman rule. Located in the Mediterranean city of Tarragona where Roman ruins vie for attention, the establishment sports a huge North Korean flag behind the bar, where tea typical from the country and Asian beers are served. Socialist propaganda posters brought all the way from Pyongyang adorn the walls of the modern bar, and in a corner stands a bookshelf full of works by leaders of the Kim dynasty that has ruled North Korea since 1948, translated into Spanish.

"North Korea is the world's big unknown," says Alejandro Cao de Benos, founder of the bar that opened mid-July and also president of the Korean Friendship Association, which has delegates in more than 30 countries and is officially recognized by Pyongyang. While North Korean restaurants complete with traditional food and dancing have popped up across Asia, the 41-year-old says this is the only such Western establishment. A restaurant opened in Amsterdam in 2012, but closed several months later. "We want to break with all the myths, manipulation. And as not many people can go to Korea, because it's complicated and far, they can come to our cafe," says Cao de Benos.

Defending Kim's Regime
Appointed special delegate for international cultural relations by Pyongyang in 2002, Cao de Benos is the only Westerner to occupy a post in the North Korean regime, even if it is merely honorary. A staunch communist, his interest in the country peaked after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and he came to know some North Korean families in Madrid. He started travelling to the country, and says his interest for North Korea eventually "turned into my

passion". As such, Cao de Benos regularly appears in the media to defend a country long criticized for its human rights violations and nuclear tests. In a 2014 report, the United Nations highlighted a long list of crimes committed in North Korea - extermination, slavery, torture, rape, forced abortions, political persecution, disappearances among others.

Angel Gonzalo, spokesman for Amnesty International, says the situation in the country is "distressing". "People are com-

pletely at the mercy of what Kim Jong-Un decides for them," he says. "It's difficult to find a right that is not being violated." Not so, counters Cao de Benos. "Access to food, a home or work is much more widespread in North Korea than in any other capitalist country," he says. "Those are the real human rights in which we believe."

He claims that Pyongyang is the victim of defamation for not following Western doctrines or obeying the United States, and dismisses critical reports - whose authors are not allowed into the country - for being based solely on refugee testimonies. But Sokeel Park of Liberty in North Korea, an association that helps North Korean refugees in Seoul, says these are genuine. "We have thousands or tens of thousands of people describing the same picture of the country," he says.

Cultural Center

Nevertheless, the mysterious country sparks interest in an otherwise open, globalized world. Cao de Benos says his association counts some 17,000 members and the bar has been welcoming around 35 people a day on average in its first opening days. He aspires to make it a cultural center complete with talks on gastronomy and tradition, film screenings or lectures. But its first event - a talk on tourism - attracted just 10 people. "Lots of people think that you can't travel to North Korea and that's not true," Sergio Guijo, director of the Spain-based agency Travel Corea, told the attendees. — AFP



Special delegate for North Korea's Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, Alejandro Cao de Benos poses in his bar iPyongyang Cafe, dedicated to friends of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea on July 30, 2016 in Tarragona.—AFP

HORTON, SUN IN STORM OVER 'CHEATS' REMARKS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Tensions flared between Olympic champion Mack Horton and China's Sun Yang in the moments after their tightly-fought men's 400 metre freestyle final, as the Australian confirmed reports that he had earlier described his rival as a "drug cheat". Horton, who defeated London champion Sun on Saturday, confirmed remarks he had made to the Australian Associated Press (AAP) about tensions between the two during training. "I used the word 'drug cheats' because he tested positive," he told reporters about the report that was published before Saturday's final. Sun, sitting next to Horton at the media conference, served a three-month ban in 2014 after testing positive for a banned stimulant. He said China's sports programmes were clean. "On the competition stage, every athlete deserves to be respected and there's no need to use these sort of cheap tricks to affect each other," the 24-year-old Sun added. Sun, who broke down in tears while talking to reporters after the race and became red-eyed again after the press conference, has suffered a number of setbacks since he won two gold medals at the London Games in 2012. — Reuters



HARRISON, PACE ENTER PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

CANTON: Brilliant moves and brutal strength. Marvin Harrison epitomized the first, Orlando Pace exemplified the second. Together, they entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday. Harrison, the record-setting wide receiver for the Colts, and Pace, a powerful offensive force at left tackle for the Rams, were the first members of the eight-man class of 2016 inducted into the hall. Harrison's 143 receptions in 2002 are an NFL record. He retired in 2008 with 1,102 catches, now third behind Jerry Rice and Tony Gonzalez. He had eight consecutive seasons with at least 1,100 yards receiving for Indianapolis, and won a Super Bowl in February 2007. His receptions, 14,608 yards and 128 touchdowns are all Colts franchise records. He topped the 100-catch mark four straight times as Peyton Manning's prime target. He came full circle on Saturday. "I worked extremely hard to get to this point," said the Colts' first-round draft choice in 1996. "I played my first NFL game right on this very field." Harrison made eight Pro Bowls, was a three-time All-Pro, and missed only 18 games in 13 NFL seasons. —AP

BERGER IN LEAD AT TRAVELERS

LOS ANGELES: Daniel Berger is in a familiar spot after firing an eight-under 62 for a three-shot lead after the third round of the Travelers Championship on Saturday. The last time the 2015 PGA Tour rookie of the year held a 54-hole lead by three shots was in June when he went on to win the St. Jude Classic for his first victory on the US Tour. On Saturday, Berger rolled in nine birdies to take sole possession of the lead at 15-under 195 at the River Highlands golf course in Cromwell, Connecticut. "It'll be a lot easier stepping up on the tee box having a PGA Tour win under my belt than if I didn't," said Berger. Berger made three consecutive birdies beginning at No. 11 and seven in a nine-hole stretch. His only blemish was a bogey on the fourth hole. He even had a chance at a 15-foot birdie putt on No. 18 but missed. "It was just a great day," Berger said. "I feel like the group really got off to a hot start on the back nine, and we just kind of carried it into the last hole." Berger's threesome included South Africa's Tyrone Van Aswegen (65) and Russell Henley (65), who along with Scotland's Russell Knox (64) are tied for second. Patrick Rodgers (66) is five strokes adrift in fifth place. Brooks Koepka (64) and England's Paul Casey (66) are six shots back and tied for sixth. —AFP



OAKLAND: Ben Zobrist #18 of the Chicago Cubs is tagged out at home plate by Stephen Vogt #21 of the Oakland Athletics during the second inning at the Oakland Coliseum on Saturday in Oakland, California. — AFP

ARRIETA GOES 8 INNINGS AS CUBS BEAT A'S 4-0

OAKLAND: Right-hander Jake Arrieta pitched eight shutout innings and ended his three-game losing streak as the Chicago Cubs defeated the Oakland A's. Arrieta (13-5) allowed three hits, struck out four and walked one, winning for the first time since June 27 against Cincinnati. Arrieta, the reigning National League Cy Young Award winner, was 0-3 with a 4.88 ERA in his previous five starts after going 12-2 with a 2.10 ERA in his first 16. Ben Zobrist went 2-for-5 and drove in two runs for the Cubs.

DODGERS 3, RED SOX 0

Ross Stripling worked five shutout innings and the Los Angeles Dodgers' bullpen did the rest in Los Angeles' win. A.J. Ellis, Corey Seager and Adrian Gonzalez each drove in a run for the Dodgers. Stripling (3-3) struck out four and walked one while allowing four hits. He threw 75 pitches (49 strikes) before manager Dave Roberts lifted him in the bottom of the fifth for pinch hitter Chris Taylor. Relievers Grant Dayton and Joe Blanton combined for three scoreless frames before Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 33rd save.

INDIANS 5, YANKEES 2

Corey Kluber threw eight strong innings for Cleveland, and Andrew Miller earned his 10th save—his first since the Indians acquired him from the Yankees last Sunday—with a one-hit ninth. Kluber (11-8) allowed two runs—both in the second inning—on five hits and one walk while striking out eight.

RAYS 7, TWINS 3

Rays pitcher Chris Archer, with one win in his past 10 starts, held the Twins to three hits in six innings. Archer struck out seven batters to give him 168 for the season, moving ahead of Detroit's Justin Verlander for the American League lead.

ROYALS 4, BLUE JAYS 2

Danny Duffy won his seventh straight decision and Eric Hosmer delivered a clutch two-run single in the fifth inning to pace Kansas City's win. Duffy (8-1) limited the Blue Jays to two runs and five hits over 6-2/3 innings, while striking out six and walking two. Toronto's Devon Travis opened the game with a home run for the second straight day. The Blue Jays made it 2-0 in the top of the fifth on Travis' RBI single. The Royals forged ahead in the bottom of the

inning with three runs, the big hit being Hosmer's two-run single.

WHITE SOX 4, ORIOLES 2

The White Sox broke a tie with runs in the seventh and eighth innings and made them stand up. After scoring a run on Omar Narvaez's RBI single in the seventh to lead 3-2, Adam Eaton led off the eighth with his ninth home run to give closer David Robertson a two-run lead in the ninth. Robertson picked up his 27th save to reward Nate Jones with a win for pitching 1-1/3 scoreless innings of relief.

PIRATES 5, REDS 3

Ivan Nova was impressive in his Pittsburgh debut, surrendering three runs through seven innings in his first start since being acquired from the New York Yankees. Starling Marte led Pittsburgh's offense by going 2-for-4 with two RBIs, and Andrew McCutchen, John Jaso and Francisco Cervelli each added an RBI. Brandon Phillips hit two home runs off Nova.

RANGERS 3, ASTROS 2

Jonathan Lucroy belted two home runs to support a relief corps that produced 5-1/3 strong innings in the Rangers' victory. Lucroy smacked his 15th and 16th homers on the season in the sixth and eighth innings. Rangers starter Lucas Harrell yielded just one run but gave up five hits and five walks in his 3-2/3 innings of work.

BRAVES 13, CARDINALS 5

Braves starter Roberto Hernandez won his first major-league game in more than a year with the help of four homers by his teammates. Ender Inciarte and Matt Kemp had two-run homers, and Freddie Freeman and Adonis Garcia had three-run shots for Atlanta, which used a six-run ninth to put the game away. Hernandez lasted five-plus innings, giving up six hits and three runs with a walk and four strikeouts.

TIGERS 6, METS 5

Miguel Cabrera drove in three runs with a double and a single to reach 74 RBIs and the streaking Tigers won for the 10th time in their last 11 games. New York took advantage of two Detroit errors to cut a three-run deficit to 6-5 in the seventh. Francisco Rodriguez posted his 32nd save of the season with a run-free ninth.

GIANTS 7, NATIONALS 1

Eduardo Nunez went 4-for-5 with two triples and a double and scored three times and Brandon Belt had three hits and drove in two runs as the Giants beat Stephen Strasburg. Nunez, acquired in a trade with the Minnesota Twins on July 28, entered the game hitless in his previous 16 at-bats. He tripled and scored in the fourth and fifth and tied a career high for hits in a game. Giants starter Matt Cain (4-6) went five innings plus one batter and gave up zero runs on five hits with three walks and four strikeouts. Strasburg (15-2) lost for the second time in his last four starts after allowing four runs and eight hits while striking out eight in 4-2/3 innings—his shortest outing of the season.

ROCKIES 12, MARLINS 6

Charlie Blackmon had four hits, including a homer, and four RBIs as the Rockies parlayed a seven-run sixth inning into a victory. Miami's Ichiro Suzuki, pinch-hitting in the eighth, chopped a bouncer and beat the throw of third baseman Nolan Arenado for his 2,999th career hit, ending an 0-for-11 drought with his single. Ichiro batted in the ninth against Scott Oberg, and he hit a high bouncer that Oberg jumped and grabbed. The ball slipped out of his glove and Oberg slipped as he retrieved and threw with a knee on the ground just in time.

BREWERS 15, DIAMONDBACKS 6

Milwaukee's Ryan Braun hit two homers and tied a franchise record with seven RBIs and Keon Broxton had five hits in the Brewers' victory. Braun hit three-run homers in the sixth and seventh innings to give the Brewers a 9-0 lead. He had a sacrifice fly in the first inning and a single in a six-run ninth. Broxton had four singles and a double and two RBIs, and Jonathan Villar had four hits and two RBIs for the Brewers.

PADRES 9, PHILLIES 7

Christian Bethancourt hit a three-run double in the first inning and Yangervis Solarte drove in another three runs on a pair of singles to lead San Diego. The Padres scored four runs in the first off Phillies right-hander Jake Thompson, who was making his major-league debut. Thompson allowed six runs in 4-1/3 innings to take the loss. Left-handed Padres reliever Buddy

Baumann retired all five hitters he faced, with three via strikeouts, to get his first major-league win.

MARINERS 8, ANGELS 6

Former Angel Shawn O'Malley hit a three-run homer that gave Seattle its first lead as the Mariners rallied from a big early deficit to beat Los Angeles. O'Malley, who made his major league debut with the Angels in 2014 but was released after the season, hit his second home run of the sea-

son to put the Mariners ahead 8-6. Mike Trout belted a first-inning homer that gave Los Angeles a 3-0 lead for the second straight game. The Angels led 5-1 in the third inning and were clinging to a 6-4 lead when reliever Jose Valdez came on in the seventh and promptly walked three of the four batters he faced. After Seattle's Leonys Martin cut the Los Angeles lead to 6-5 with a bases-loaded sacrifice fly, O'Malley took Angels reliever Deolis Guerra deep to right field. — Reuters

MLB Results/Standings

Cleveland 5, NY Yankees 2; LA Dodgers 3, Boston 0; Chicago Cubs 4, Oakland 0; Tampa Bay 7, Minnesota 3; Pittsburgh 5, Cincinnati 3; San Francisco 7, Washington 1; Detroit 6, NY Mets 5; Chicago White Sox 4, Baltimore 2; Texas 3, Houston 2; Atlanta 13, St. Louis 5; Kansas City 4, Toronto 2; Colorado 12, Miami 6; San Diego 9, Philadelphia 7.

American League				National League				
Eastern Division		Western Division		Eastern Division		Central Division		
W	L	PCT	GB	W	L	PCT	GB	
Baltimore	62	47	.569	-	Washington	65	45	.591
Toronto	63	48	.568	-	Miami	58	52	.527
Boston	60	49	.550	2	NY Mets	56	54	.509
NY Yankees	55	55	.500	7.5	Philadelphia	51	61	.455
Tampa Bay	45	64	.413	17	Atlanta	40	70	.364
Central Division				Central Division				
Cleveland	62	46	.574	-	Chicago Cubs	68	41	.624
Detroit	61	49	.555	2	St. Louis	58	52	.527
Chicago White Sox	53	57	.482	10	Pittsburgh	55	53	.509
Kansas City	52	58	.473	11	Milwaukee	49	59	.454
Minnesota	44	66	.400	19	Cincinnati	44	65	.404
Western Division				Western Division				
Texas	64	47	.577	-	San Francisco	63	47	.573
Houston	57	53	.518	6.5	LA Dodgers	61	49	.555
Seattle	56	53	.514	7	Colorado	55	55	.500
LA Angels	49	61	.445	14.5	San Diego	48	62	.436
Oakland	48	62	.436	15.5	Arizona	44	66	.400

KUWAIT HOCKEY TEAM WINS DESERT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

KUWAIT: Kuwait national team yesterday won the Desert hockey tournament after defeating "American Army team" 15-0.

Chairman of Winter Games Clubs Fehaid Al-Ajmi told KUNA that the tournament which included three US Army teams as well as the Kuwaiti team, aimed to enhance the capabilities and skills of the Kuwaiti players, as well as strengthening relations between the two countries.

He praised the continuing support of the Public Authority of Sports by sponsor-

ing this event, as well as facilitating the participation of the teams in foreign leagues.

For his part, Director of the teams in the Winter Games Club Yousef Al-Kandari praised the tournament and the professional performance of players, adding that such meetings help players gain important experience through their contact with other teams. The tournament included three US Army teams as well as the Kuwaiti national team, held in ice skating ring of the Kuwait Touristic Enterprises Company. —KUNA

PISTORIUS INJURED IN PRISON FALL, TREATED IN HOSPITAL

JOHANNESBURG: South African athlete and convicted murderer Oscar Pistorius has returned to his cell after being treated in hospital for injuries from a fall, prison officials said yesterday, as his brother denied claims he had deliberately hurt himself.

Pistorius, sentenced to six years in jail for murdering his girlfriend, "had to be detained Saturday afternoon at the hospital after falling off his bed," prison services spokesman Singabakho Nxumalo said, adding: "He's back in our care now."

But a South African newspaper reported that the double-amputee sprinter, the only athlete to have competed in both Paralympic and Olympic races, was treated for cuts on his wrists.

According to City Press, citing another inmate at the prison, Pistorius had to go to hospital after deliberately harming himself. "Two warders with knowledge of the hospital section said blades were subsequently found in Pistorius's cell during a search yesterday afternoon," the newspaper said. It also said a security guard at Kalafong Hospital in Pretoria where Pistorius was taken said the 29-year-old "had bad cuts on his wrists and the doctors kept wrapping bandages around them."

'UNTRUE AND SENSATIONAL'
Pistorius's brother Carl however rejected what he called "sensational" media reports. "We have just seen Oscar

and he is doing well," Carl Pistorius said on Twitter yesterday. "I know that there are reports saying that he had tried to injure himself they are completely untrue and sensational. He slipped in his cell and injured himself, nothing serious."

When asked about the report of cut wrists, Nxumalo said he couldn't "discuss details on a particular offender's personal conditions in the public domain."

Pistorius was convicted of shooting dead his partner Reeva Steenkamp, a model and law graduate, in the early hours of Valentine's Day in 2013, saying he mistook her for a burglar when he fired four times through the door of his bedroom toilet.

Pistorius, who pleaded not guilty at

his trial in 2014, has always denied killing Steenkamp in a rage, saying he was trying to protect her.

The Paralympian gold medallist known as the "Blade Runner" for the carbon fibre prosthetics he wore to compete was previously a role model for disabled people worldwide.

He is now "broke and broken" according to his lawyer, alone in a cell in the medical wing of the Kgosi Mampuru II prison in Pretoria, where he has been serving out his six-year sentence due to his handicap.

But the high-profile legal proceedings also exposed a darker side of the star athlete: offering glimpses of a dangerously volatile man with a penchant for

guns, beautiful women and fast cars.

After first being found guilty of culpable homicide, equivalent to manslaughter, an appeal court upgraded his conviction to murder in December last year.

South African prosecutors have called his sentence "shockingly too lenient" and said last month they would seek to appeal against it.

At his sentencing, High Court judge Thokozile Masipa had listed mitigating factors for giving him less than half the minimum 15-year term for murder, including the athlete's claim he believed he was shooting an intruder.

"He cannot be at peace. I'm of the view that a long term of imprisonment will not serve justice," Masipa said. —AFP



BULAWAYO: New Zealand captain Kane Williamson lifts his bat in celebration of his century during the second day of the second test in a series of two matches between Zimbabwe and New Zealand at the Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo yesterday. — AFP

ZIMBABWE DIG IN AFTER KIWIS POST HUGE TOTAL

BULAWAYO: Zimbabwe's top order finally showed some backbone yesterday but the hosts were nevertheless facing an uphill battle in the second Test after New Zealand posted an enormous total on day two at Queens Sports Club.

After spending the better part of two days in the field as New Zealand racked up 582 for four declared, Zimbabwe responded with a dogged stand between openers Tino Mawoyo and Chamu Chibhabha to go to stumps on 55 without loss. It was a much improved start for the hosts, who slumped to 36 for four and 17 for four during an innings defeat in the first Test, and gave them some confidence after their bowlers had proved ineffective on a docile pitch. Zimbabwe endured a tough first day in the field as New Zealand put on 329 for two, and their fortunes with the ball on the second day were little better. Although they dismissed both Kane Williamson and Henry Nicholls in the opening session, Williamson had already reached three figures to become the first New Zealand batsman to score centuries against all of the other nine Test nations.

A day shy of his 26th birthday, he was also the youngest of the 13 Test batsmen to achieve the feat, and did it in fewer Tests than anyone else. The New Zealand captain did, however, depart in a soft fashion when he guided a wide delivery from Mike Chinouya straight to gully to fall for 113. Nicholls scored just 15 before he misjudged the length of a Graeme Cremer

delivery and was trapped lbw whilst trying to sweep.

SELFLESS WATLING

Although that gave Zimbabwe some respite, it also brought Ross Taylor and BJ Watling together and the pair picked up where they had left off in the first Test, when they compiled a 253-run partnership. On Sunday they added an unbroken 193 for the fifth wicket, with Taylor backing up the 173 not out that he scored in the first Test with an unbeaten 124. Watling was 83 not out when New Zealand went to tea, but turned down an offer from Williamson to join Taylor and Tom Latham on the list of New Zealanders with centuries in both Tests, allowing the captain to declare instead. "I think it was more important to give ourselves the time to bowl," said Watling. "We had enough runs on the board and we knew it was going to be hard work to take 20 wickets." That proved to be the case when Zimbabwe's openers shut up shop in the first part of their reply, scoring just 20 runs from the first 19 overs as they successfully saw off the new ball. That allowed them to open up in the last 10 overs of the day, with Chibhabha moving to 31 and Mawoyo reaching stumps on 20. "We're going to come up with some plans overnight and hopefully come out and pick up a few wickets early tomorrow," said Watling. "The wicket is lower and slower than it was in the first Test, and we're going to have to play the long game." — AFP

SCOREBOARD

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe: Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the second Test between Zimbabwe and New Zealand yesterday:

New Zealand first innings		Zimbabwe first innings	
M. Guptill lbw b Tiripano	87	T. Mawoyo not out	20
T. Latham c and b Williams	136	C. Chibhabha not out	31
K. Williamson c Ervine b Chinouya	113	Extras (4b)	4
R. Taylor not out	124	Total (for 0 wks, 30 overs)	55
H. Nicholls lbw b Cremer	15	Still to bat: Craig Ervine, Sean Williams, Sikandar Raza Butt, Prince Masvaure, Peter Moor, Graeme Cremer, Donald Tiripano, John Nyumbu, Mike Chinouya.	
BJ Watling not out	83	Bowling: Southee 9-8-4-0, Boult 5-3-6-0, Santner 7-1-28-0, Wagner 5-2-8-0, Sodhi 4-2-5-0.	
Extras (12b, 3lb, 1w, 8nb)	24		
Total (4 wks dec, 150 overs)	582		
Fall of wickets: 1-169 (Guptill), 2-329 (Latham), 3-369 (Williamson), 4-389 (Nicholls).			
Did not bat: Mitchell Santner, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee, Neil Wagner, Trent Boult.			
Bowling: Tiripano 25-4-102-1, Chinouya 22-6-64-1,			

POGBA RECORD DEAL SET FOR GREEN LIGHT SUBJECT TO MEDICAL

LONDON: France midfielder Paul Pogba's world record transfer to Manchester United from Italian champions Juventus is poised to go ahead subject to him passing a medical, the clubs confirmed yesterday. The long-running saga suddenly took a huge step forward when Juventus announced they had granted permission for the 23-year-old to undergo the medical at a club he left four years ago for a pittance. The move is also subject to Pogba agreeing his personal terms with the club. "Yes, Pogba has been authorised to undergo a medical in Manchester," a Juventus spokesman told AFP.

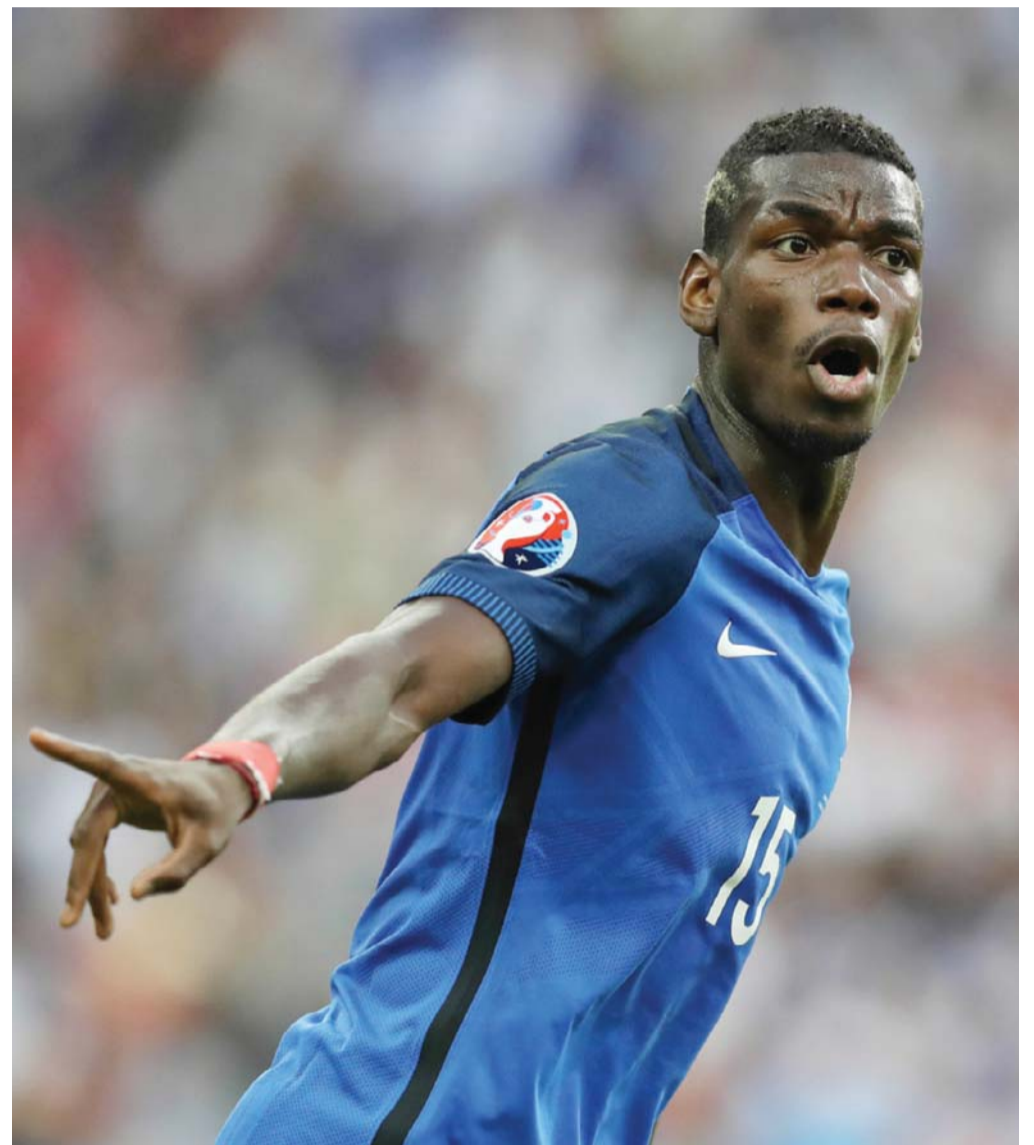
United confirmed the news with a short statement on their club website. "Paul Pogba has been granted permission to have a medical in order to finalise his transfer from Juventus to Manchester United," it read. United manager Jose Mourinho, who is on the verge of securing the fourth of his four transfer targets in the close season, said he would not talk about it until after United's clash with champions Leicester City in the Community Shield at Wembley later on Sunday.

Pogba, who was part of the France side that lost to Portugal in the Euro 2016 final last month, tweeted rather enigmatically: "When too many people talk nobody understands-talk very soon". Early signs that a deal was imminent came when Pogba didn't travel with the Juventus squad to London for a 3-2 friendly win against West Ham United yesterday.

Media reports said the French international had already arrived in Manchester. The fee for the transfer is expected to exceed £100 million (\$130.4 million, 117.7 million euros) for a player who was able to leave United for just £800,000 in 2012 and of whom United icon Alex Ferguson, then the manager, said at the time had shown no respect to the club. Pogba, who enjoyed a successful time at Juventus winning four Serie A titles and reaching the 2015 Champions League final, has been courted by United for quite some time although it is really only in this close season they have persisted.

However, initially they faced reported competition from European champions Real Madrid, a move Pogba was rumoured to prefer so he could link up with coach Zinedine Zidane.

However, Real, never ones to shirk paying huge money for stars like Gareth Bale and Cristiano Ronaldo in recent years, didn't pursue the player, leaving Pogba's options to either moving to United or remaining with Juventus. A reported initial £86 million bid was rejected by Juventus. Pogba went on holiday to the United



France's midfielder Paul Pogba.

States after the Euro final defeat leaving his powerful agent Mino Raiola to sort a deal out but matters had still not been resolved by the time he returned. Mourinho, though, hinted strongly last week that Pogba would become a United player although he added he wanted everything signed off by August 14 when they open their Premier League campaign against Bournemouth. The huge fee has drawn criticism and raised eyebrows from some of Mourinho's rivals such as old sparring partner Arsene

Wenger and Liverpool's Jurgen Klopp.

Mourinho gave them short shrift remarking their comments were not "ethical". Pogba's arrival would secure the four signings Mourinho had set his sights on when he replaced Louis van Gaal at the end of last season. Pogba will join young Ivorian defender Eric Bailly, Armenian international Henrik Mkhitaryan and veteran Swedish striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic in arriving at Old Trafford this summer. Mkhitaryan and Ibrahimovic are both also represented by Raiola. —AFP

ALEX RODRIGUEZ TO PLAY FINAL MAJOR LEAGUE GAME NEXT FRIDAY

NEW YORK: Alex Rodriguez will play his final major league game next Friday with the New York Yankees and then become a special adviser and instructor with the team.

Rodriguez and the club made the announcement before yesterday's home game against Cleveland. "This is a tough day. I love this game and I love this team," he said, often choking up. "And today I'm saying goodbye."

A-Rod will play against Tampa Bay at Yankee Stadium on Friday night before ending his career as one of the most prolific and polarizing figures in baseball history. The 41-year-old designated hitter, a three-time AL MVP and 14-time All-Star, is hitting .204 this season with nine home runs and 29 RBIs in 216 at-bats. His worsening slump finally relegated him to the bench for most of the past month, with Rodriguez getting only one start and seven at-bats in 14 games since July 22 - he wasn't in the starting lineup Sunday against the Indians.

With Brett Gardner, Brian McCann and his teammates in attendance at a packed news conference, Rodriguez said he was thankful he'd get a few more at-bats in front of family and friends. "We all want to keep playing forever," Rodriguez said. "But it doesn't work that way." When the fourth-place Yankees (55-55) traded veterans Aroldis Chapman, Andrew Miller, Carlos Beltran and Ivan Nova leading up to last Monday's trade deadline, they made it clear they were turning toward a youth movement.

Rodriguez has 696 home runs and trails only Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755) and Babe Ruth (714) on the all-time list. After Rodriguez's last game, he will be unconditionally released by the club and he'll back home to Florida. He said he thought his off-the-field duties would begin at spring training next year in Tampa.

Rodriguez has a \$20 million salary this year and is owed \$20 million more in 2017, the final season of a \$275 million, 10-year contract that was the baseball's largest when he signed it. He'll get that full amount.

LEADER AND MENTOR

"After spending several days discussing this plan with Alex, I am pleased that he will remain a

part of our organization moving forward and transition into a role in which I know he can flourish," Yankees Managing General Partner Hal Steinbrenner said in a statement.

Said Yankees general manager Brian Cashman: "He's always been a leader and mentor." Earlier this week, Rodriguez talked about his future without detailing what it would entail. "No matter what happens, I'm at peace with myself," Rodriguez said Tuesday.

"I think I can contribute. I think I can help out



Alex Rodriguez

in the clubhouse," he added, "but if not, I have two beautiful daughters waiting for me in Miami." On Friday, the Yankees called a news conference with 36-year-old first baseman Mark Teixeira, who announced he will retire at the end of the season.

Rodriguez helped the Yankees win the 2009 World Series but had been in repeated controversy since he arrived ahead of the 2004 season in a trade with Texas.

He won his second and third AL MVP awards with the Yankees but has been a pariah for some

since his 2009 admission he used performance-enhancing drugs while with Texas earlier in his career. Starting in 2008, Rodriguez made six trips to the disabled list in six seasons for a strained right quadriceps (2008), right hip surgery (2009), a strained left calf (2010), right knee surgery (2011), a broken left hand (2012) and left hip surgery (2013).

Major League Baseball suspended him on Aug. 5, 2013, for the remainder of that season and all of 2014 for violations of baseball's drug and labor contract caused by use and possession of numerous prohibited performance-enhancing substances and attempting to cover up his violations.

BEEN TO HELL AND BACK

In his remarks yesterday, Rodriguez said he's "been to hell and back." Rodriguez returned from hip surgery and played while appealing the suspension, and the following January an arbitrator cut the penalty to all of the 2014 season.

"He's always had some ups and downs, but he's always gotten back up," Cashman said. A-Rod made a successful return last year, when the Yankees made him a fulltime DH, but his offense slid late in the season and hit .224 from Sept. 1 on. That left him with a .250 average for the year with 33 homers and 86 RBIs.

His slump continued at the start of this season when he hit .185 with four homers and eight RBIs in April and .130 with two homers and six RBIs in May, when he was on the disabled list from May 4-26 because of a strained right hamstring. His average rose to .267 with two homers and 13 RBIs in June before dropping again.

Rodriguez started his big league career with Seattle in 1994 and signed a \$252 million, 10-year contract with Texas before the 2001 season, the largest agreement in baseball history. When the Rangers decided to trade him, a proposed deal to Boston fell through before the trade to New York. He agreed to shift from shortstop to third base as part of the trade to the Yankees, who already had Derek Jeter at shortstop.

A-Rod opted out of the contract after the 2007 season, became a free agent and signed the \$275 million deal with the Yankees. — AP



GYMNASTICS

WEIGHTLIFTING

TANASAN TAKES FIRST GOLD FOR THAILAND

RIO DE JANEIRO: Russia's Olympic ban and China's ruthless selection policy helped pave the way for Thailand's Sopita Tanasan win the first weightlifting gold medal of the Rio Games in the women's 48kg on Saturday.

Tanasan, daughter of an international boxer, became Thailand's fourth gold medalist in women's weightlifting with a total of 200kg. China had the favourite for the contest in Hou Zhihui, who lifted 210kg in her national championships in April, but, being allowed to enter only four lifter overall, sent her home from their pre-Games training camp in Sao Paulo last week when they decided they had a better chance in the heaviest category, +75kg.

Hou injured her knee in July but thought she had recovered enough to compete. Wang Guoxin, head coach of China's women's team, opted instead to send for Meng Suping. He said the decision was influenced by Russia's ban from Rio for "bringing the sport into disrepute" with their doping record.

Once that ban was confirmed last week it meant the hot favourite in the +75kg, Tatiana Kashirina, would not compete.

"Yes, Kashirina's absence did give us a big opportunity to win in that division, because only Meng and Kashirina have the ability to lift over 300kg in total," said Wang. Meng arrived in Rio today on Saturday.

Tanasan, 21, won by 8kg from Indonesia's Sri Wahyuni Agustiani. In third place was Japan's Hiromi Miyake, the 2012 silver medalist who was competing in her fourth Games.

"When asked if she would try for a fifth time in her home country at Tokyo 2020 she said, 'I want to enjoy this medal now and I will think about that when I return home.'"

Another of Sopatan's strongest rivals, Vietnam's Thi Huyen Vuong, failed to register a total after three failures in the snatch. Margarita Yelissejeva, of Kazakhstan, who finished fifth, had plenty of support in the crowd at the Riocentro arena but not behind the scenes within the sport.

The International Weightlifting Federation voted in June to ban Kazakhstan and Belarus from the Games, along with Russia, because of their positive doping cases in retested samples from 2008 and 2012. The ban was subject to the International Olympic Committee completing the legal processing of those tests before the entry deadline, and that did not happen. Both nations have teams of eight lifters in Rio, while Russia was excluded on evidence from the McLaren Report into state-sponsored doping. — Reuters



RIO DE JANEIRO: Sopita Tanasan of Thailand waves to her fans from the podium after receiving the gold medal in the medal ceremony of the women's weightlifting 48kg competition during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games at the Riocentro Pavilion in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Saturday. —AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Japan's Kohei Uchimura falls while competing in the qualifying for the men's horizontal bar event of the Artistic Gymnastics at the Olympic Arena during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP

UCHIMURA FALL CAPS HORROR SHOW FROM JAPAN

RIO DE JANEIRO: Dethroning champions China is the number one target for Japan at the Rio Olympics but after a day of falls and botched landings in men's qualifying on Saturday, Kohei Uchimura and his team mates were left with sore bodies and bruised egos.

Uchimura suffered the most spectacular of falls from the horizontal bar-an apparatus on which he is the world champion — as he lost his grip following a release-and-catch manoeuvre and landed on his back with a thud.

The glaring errors on every apparatus barring the floor exercise by the reigning Japanese world champions meant their total of 269.294 was surpassed by China (270.461), the United States (270.405) and Russia (269.612).

London Games bronze medalists Britain, jubilant hosts Brazil—who were fielding a full team in the men's Olympic competition for the first time—Ukraine and Germany also qualified for today's team final. Japan's woes were put in context when Frenchman Samir Ait Said and German gymnast Andreas Toba provided a painful reminder of just how dangerous gymnastics can be. Ait Said suffered a broken leg that was left dangling from below his knee following a crash landing from the vault and had to be taken out of the arena on a stretcher.

Toba may have suffered an injury to his anterior cruciate ligament following a fall from a tumbling run on the floor exercise. Incredibly he went on to perform on the pommel horse but as he limped off that apparatus, with his arms around his team mates, it was clear his Rio adventure was over.

"I cried like a little kid," Toba told reporters. "The injury on my knee is big, but the emotional injury is way bigger. A first diagnosis said it is the ACL."

While Japan lived to fight another day, Uchimura lost his chance to be in the running for the horizontal bar gold as his score of 14.300 left him well outside the top eight scores needed to reach the apparatus final. That mishap did not stop him from reaching the all around final, where he will be bidding to become the first gymnast since compatriot Sawao Kato in 1972 to win successive Olympic titles in the event that tests skills across six apparatus.

Japan can now forget about Saturday's horror show since none of the scores will be carried through to Monday's team final but they cannot afford a repeat performance if they want to end China's eight-year reign as Olympic champions.

"What happened today can only make me stronger," Uchimura, who finished second in the all around standings behind Ukrainian Oleg Verniaiev and also made the cut for the floor final, told reporters. "I need to repress my feelings so I can perform better at the next competition." While in qualifying four competitors from each country compete on each apparatus with only the top three scores counting towards the total, in the final each nation will put forward three athletes and all three scores will count.

Since 1994, Chinese men have won 10 of 12 world championship team titles and three of the last four Olympic golds on offer. The team that were toppled from their perch by Japan at last year's world championships will be eager to prove on Monday that they have recovered from their bronze medal finish in Glasgow. —Reuters

TEARS AND CHEERS AS ZANETTI, HYPOLITO SHINE

RIO DE JANEIRO: There was plenty of chest thumping and free flowing tears on Saturday as Olympic champion Arthur Zanetti and his band of Brazilian brothers produced the performance of their lives to reach the men's team gymnastics final on their Games debut.

A nation that had never fielded a full team at the Olympics before Saturday showed what the fans had been missing as they fuelled a carnival atmosphere in the arena with their pumped up celebrations each time they nailed a routine.

As Brazil's first and only Olympic gymnastics champion, rings specialist Zanetti spent the last four years being a poster boy for the Rio Games and he was the man everyone wanted to see on Saturday.

In his only performance of the day, he maintained straight bodylines as he lifted himself into a succession of strength moves—such as the inverted cross, the Maltese manoeuvre and the

handstand-in a routine packed with high difficulty.

It was just a shame that his performance was in front of rows and rows of empty red seats as barely three thousand fans had been able to gain entry into the 13,200-capacity arena by the time he mounted the rings with the chants of "Zanetti, Zanetti, Zanetti" ringing in his ears.

Many fans were left fuming because by the time they had been allowed in, Zanetti was done for the day. "I don't believe it. It's absurd, ridiculous. What I most wanted to see was Zanetti on the rings," Natalia Carvalho told Reuters after discovering she was too late to see him despite sprinting into the venue once she had cleared security.

"It's a lack of respect for the fans who bought tickets. It's a shame."

Liliane Oliveira, from Minas Gerais State, added: "It lacked organisation, there were only two entrances to all arenas of the Olympic Park and the security check was taking too long.

They should have prepared better for this." While Zanetti qualified for the rings final after earning Brazil's highest score of the day with 15.533, Diego Hypolito showed there was still plenty of explosive tumblers left in his 30-year-old body as the 2005 and 2007 floor world champion produced a performance that earned him 15.500.

He will get a chance to battle it out for a medal on the floor exercise after making the eight-man cut for the final. "I started crying because I had worked for 12 years for this moment," said Hypolito, who earned the loudest cheers of the day after making amends for falling flat on his face in London.

"After two Olympic failures, it is very difficult to show your face again at the Olympic Games. Today, my soul was cleansed." — Reuters

INJURED FRENCH GYMNAST SAID UNDERGOES SURGERY

RIO DE JANEIRO: Injured French gymnast Samir Ait Said is back on his feet. Sort of. A day after gruesomely breaking his leg while vaulting during men's Olympic preliminaries, Said posted a Facebook video from his hospital bed thanking people for the outpouring of support and pledging to return to the sport eventually.

Said underwent surgery on Saturday night to repair the tibia he fractured while trying to land on vault. The image of his leg bent grotesquely at a nearly 90 degree angle went viral immediately. Said praised his French teammates, some of whom managed to qualify for event finals later this week despite being visibly rattled after watching Said leave the Rio Olympic Arena on a stretcher. "I'm behind all my pals," Said said. "They managed to keep their act together after my fall. That must have been really difficult. They were real warriors. So come on boys, be strong, I'm with you."

Said plans to return to the arena as a spectator and has not ruled out making a run at the 2020 games in Tokyo. "Believe me the adventure of Tokyo

2020 is still possible," he said. "And as soon as I'm back on my feet I'll be back

in training and searching for that Olympic gold." — AP



RIO DE JANEIRO: An overview shows France's Samir Ait Said being stretchered off after being injured while competing in the qualifying for the men's vault event of the Artistic Gymnastics at the Olympic Arena during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP

ARCHERY

SOUTH KOREA RESTORE ORDER WITH MEN'S TEAM GOLD

RIO DE JANEIRO: South Korea's archers routed the United States to win the men's team gold at the Rio Olympics on Saturday and restore a dynasty broken by the Americans at London four years ago.

The peerless trio of Kim Woo-jin, Ku Bonchan and Lee Seung-yun roared to a 6-0 win on a baking hot day at the Sambodromo, clinching South Korea's fifth team title and fourth in the last five Olympics.

"I've been waiting for this moment, to get gold, for four years," beaming world champion

Kim, who fired a 72-arrow world record during Friday's ranking round, told reporters.

"We trusted each other, and it happened. It just happened."

The US team, who ended the South Koreans' run of three titles in the London semifinals, were left with a second successive silver after the Koreans closed out the match in style with a run of perfect scores.

Australia celebrated their first archery medal in 12 years by defeating China for the bronze.

All three Olympic debutants, Kim, Ku and Lee, showed no sign of rookie nerves as they trampled over Netherlands and Australia before saving their best for the gold medal-decider. Cheered by a rowdy Korean contingent in the terraces, the trio threw down the gauntlet in the opening set, hitting the innermost gold circle six times in succession to score the maximum 60 points.

More than a statement, the opening salvo was a winding blow for the more seasoned US team of three-time Olympian Brady Ellison,

Jake Kaminski and Zach Garrett. They shot well in response but could manage only 57 points for the set and from there the pattern of the match was fixed.

The Korean onslaught was relentless. The 23-year-old Ku took the perfect score of 10 points with all six of his arrows, and missed only once.

Standing on the podium in the middle of a team of world champions, Ku kissed his medal and beamed, while Lee wiped a tear from his cheek during their national anthem.

The team sealed South Korea's 20th archery gold medal from 37 Olympic titles contested since the sport returned in its modern format in 1972. With its professional teams and punishing training regimes, the depth of Korean archery is unmatched and the nation will be disappointed if it fails to sweep all four titles at Rio. "There really wasn't anything we could have controlled," Kaminski, who lost the London final against Italy with Ellison, said resignedly. "I definitely feel we left it all out there." — Reuters



TENNIS



RIO DE JANEIRO: Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns a ball during the doubles match he and Nenad Zimonjic play against Croatia's Marin Cilic and Marin Draganja in the men's tennis competition at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Saturday. — AP



JUDO

BRAZIL'S PAIN, ARGENTINA'S GAIN AS PARETO WINS GOLD

JANEIRO: Paula Pareto became Argentina's first woman Olympic gold medal winner in the judo as Brazilian Sarah Menezes' dream of delivering the hosts first medal was ended by injury. Pareto saw off South Korea's Jeong Bo-Kyeong in the 48kg final to add to the bronze medal she won in Beijing eight years ago. Defending champion Menezes ended in the Olympic hospital with a dislocated shoulder. "It is great for women's sport (in Argentina)," said Pareto after her win. "If you enjoy what you do that is the key. I am glad to be an example of what you can do with hard work."

Pareto also became Argentina's first judo gold medalist. "I have dreamed of this for so long and I am very happy for the support I received from the fans," she added after celebrating wildly in front of a sizeable Argentine support at the Carioca Arena in Rio's Olympic park. "It is something incredible. I would never have thought I would do something like this. "It is something that will mark my career and the rest of my life." For 2012 champion Menezes, the dream of retaining her title on home soil was dashed when she was beaten by Cuban Dayaris Mestre Alvarez in the quarter-finals.

Menezes still had a shot at the podium through the repechages, but suffered a dislocated elbow in her clash with Urantsetseg Munkhbat of Mongolia. "She has been taken to the hospital at the Olympic village," confirmed Manoela Penna, spokesperson for the Brazilian judo federation. Japan's Ami Kondo and Otgontsetseg Galbadrakh of Kazakhstan took the two bronze medals.

Pareto struggled early in the final and the contest even had to be briefly halted as she received treatment when she took an unintentional blow to the face from Jeong. However, the 30-year-old battled back to land a waza-ari and defended her advantage to add Olympic gold to the world championship she won last year. "I didn't think of the medals I had won before, but I thought about all the effort and everything I have fought for (to get here)," added Pareto. "I am especially proud to be able to attract attention to a sport that is not well known in Argentina." —AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Gold medal winner Argentina's Paula Pareto, second from left, poses with silver medal winner Jeong Bok-yeong, left, from South Korea and bronze medallists Japan's Ami Kondo, second from right, and Kazakhstan's Otgontsetseg Galbadrakh, right, after the women's 48-kg judo-competition at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Saturday. — AP

MUDRANOV PREDICTS MORE GOLD FOR RUSSIA

RIO DE JANEIRO: Beslan Mudranov won Russia's first gold medal at the Rio Games in judo on Saturday and fired a warning shot that his country had plenty more to prove.

Mudranov's victory comes two days after Russia's judo team was officially cleared to participate in the Olympics after his country escaped a blanket ban over its doping record. "There has been a lot of psychological pressure that our country Russia has been subject to. Here, to win a gold medal on the very first day, of course it means a lot for my country," Mudranov told reporters through an interpreter.

"Of course, our country will prove to everyone that we can win the gold, I'm pretty confident that this is not the last gold medal we have won," he said.

Mudranov's gold in the men's -60kg follows his compatriot Arsen Galstyan's triumph in the same weight class in London four years ago.

In a tense duel with Kazakhstan's Yeldos Smetov that went into "golden score" extra time, Mudranov threw Smetov to score a match-ending waza-ari and earn his first Olympic medal. Japan's Naohisa Takato and Diyorbek Urozboev of Uzbekistan took bronze.

The World Anti-Doping Agency had called for a total ban on Russian athletes in Rio in response to the independent McLaren report that found evidence of state-sponsored doping by Russian athletes at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

Mudranov said such a ban would not have been right. "The president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), he should realise that it would be unjust for the athletes who have spent their entire life preparing for the competition - for some of them it would probably be the only Olympic Games in their life," he said. Mudranov added that there had been some nerves amongst the judo team on the day of the IOC announcement but overall they had been confident they would be allowed to compete. "We came here prepared and no one broke down under this psychological pressure," he said. — Reuters

NISHIKORI EASES IN RIO, RADWANSKA CRASHES

RIO DE JANEIRO: Japanese fourth seed Kei Nishikori reached the Olympic tennis second round Saturday but jet-lagged Agnieszka Radwanska crashed out, completing her miserable and exhausting first week in Rio.

Nishikori, a quarter-finalist in 2012, breezed past Spanish left-hander Albert Ramos-Vinolas, 6-2, 6-4, in just 79 minutes. Ramos-Vinolas, who made the French Open quarter-finals this year, realised it was not to be his day in the second game of the second set. Nishikori allowed his racquet to fly from his hand on service but he scrambled to retrieve it before unleashing a winner past the bemused Spaniard.

"Usually I would give up the point when I lose the racquet but not this time," said Nishikori, who arrived in Rio having finished runner-up to world number one Novak Djokovic in Toronto last week.

"I saw that I had a chance to win the point, so I hung in there." Nishikori next plays Australia's John Millman, who became the first player to clinch a "double

bagel" — 6-0, 6-0 — in Games history.

The 27-year-old Millman swept past Ricardas Berankis in just 50 minutes, making it a miserable summer for the Lithuanian. At Wimbledon, Berankis was knocked out in the first round by Britain's world number 772 Marcus Willis, a club professional. "I'm not really sure that's sunk in," said Millman. "To be put in the record books is ridiculous."

AGA CRASHES OUT

Fourth seeded Radwanska slumped to a 6-4, 7-5 loss against China's world number 63 Zheng Saisai as afternoon temperatures rocketed to 32 degrees.

The Polish star only arrived in Rio on Wednesday night after having to fly from Montreal, where she competed last week, to New York to Lisbon and then to Rio.

In all, she was on the move for 55 hours and covered around 14,000 kilometres.

"I spent three days in an airport so that was not the best preparation. I could have used more practice," said former

Wimbledon runner-up Radwanska.

Zheng's win was the second top victory of the day for China after national number one Zhang Shuai saved three match points to beat Swiss 12th seed Timea Bacsinszky, 6-7 (4/7), 6-4, 7-6 (9/7).

Zheng said she realised that Radwanska had been struggling. "She didn't play her best tennis. I know she arrived late so I am really lucky," said Zheng.

TSONGA HANGS ON

Men's fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga overcame a scare from Tunisia's Malek Jaziri to triumph 4-6, 7-5, 6-3. Jaziri, on a career high of 58 in the world, served for the match at 5-4 in the second set.

Tsonga, the world number nine, made the quarter-finals of the London Olympics in 2012. "I was very concerned because I was thinking this may be my last Olympic Games," said Tsonga, a four-time Grand Slam semi-finalist.

Japan's Taro Daniel, ranked at 117, defeated US 14th seed Jack Sock, 6-4, 6-4.

The 23-year-old New York-born, Spain-based Daniel next faces Britain's Kyle Edmund. Sock said he had been ill in Rio, with a local doctor telling him he was suffering from "walking pneumonia".

Meanwhile, 43-year-old Leander Paes's seventh Olympics ended quickly when he and Indian partner Rohan Bopanna lost 6-4, 7-6 (8/6) to Lukas Kubot and Marcin Matkowski of Poland.

The evergreen Paes was a singles bronze medalist at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. He shrugged off the controversy surrounding his Rio selection after it was claimed Bopanna preferred to play with Saketh Myneni. "It had no effect on us. We gave it everything we had and fought hard," said Paes. Later today, fifth seeded Venus Williams, the 2000 champion in Sydney, starts against Belgium's Kirsten Flipkens.

At 36, Williams is the oldest player in the women's draw in Rio. Defending champions Andy Murray and Serena Williams as well as Djokovic and 2008 champion Rafael Nadal all start their campaigns. — AFP

VENUS WILLIAMS KNOCKED OUT IN RIO GAMES UPSET

RIO DE JANEIRO: Former Olympic champion Venus Williams was eliminated in the first round at the Rio Games on Saturday after Belgian underdog Kirsten Flipkens mounted a spirited fight back to cause the biggest upset of the opening day.

Another notable casualty on the first day of competition was former world No. 1 Ana Ivanovic, who surged ahead in the first set against world No. 12 Carla Suarez Navarro but lost 2-6 6-1 6-2 after two error-strewn sets.

With US Secretary of State John Kerry and gymnastics gold medal favourite Simone Biles looking on, seven-times grand slam winner Williams won the first set but became frustrated as the match wore on, losing 4-6 6-3 7-6(5) to the world number 62. Flipkens collapsed on to the court after winning the final set tie-breaker and the rowdy Brazilian crowd serenaded her with chants of "ole, ole, ole".

Flipkens later thanked the "amazing" Brazilian crowd for helping her pull off one of the biggest wins of her career. "To beat Venus Williams on the centre court, one of the biggest champions in our history, that (gave me)

goosebumps all over the place," she told reporters.

The loss will not be the end of the competition for 2000 Sydney Games champion Williams, however, as the 36-year-old is bidding to win her fourth doubles gold medal with sister Serena. Former French Open winner Ivanovic rued letting her chances slip away.

"I had a chance to come back in the third set but every time I came close to pegging her back, I missed the opportunity," said the world No. 26.

Ivanovic's match, like all the others on centre court, was played in a stadium that was more than half empty, something likely to disappoint organisers.

But the size of crowds did not bother Japan's Kei Nishikori, who opened the men's singles tennis tournament on centre court by knocking out Spain's Albert Ramos-Viôolas with ease, winning 6-2 6-4 in two sets.

Some players said conditions were tricky due to soaring

temperatures and a strong breeze drifting across from the ocean. "Here it's very difficult to play because it's fairly open, there is constantly some kind of wind," said Croatia's Marin Cilic, who beat Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov 6-1 6-4. One player who thrived in the Rio sun was Australia's John Millman, who became the first Olympian to win a men's singles match without losing a game.

Millman's "double-bagel" 6-0, 6-0 victory came against Lithuania's Ricardas Berankis. The Australian, who has battled back to fitness after several shoulder surgeries that threatened his career, took part in Friday's late-night opening ceremony, which many Olympians competing early on Saturday skipped. "That was a really stirring moment for me. It's hard to explain the emotions I got walking into that stadium, and obviously that carried over to today," said the 27-year-old. —Reuters

MEDALS TABLE

Olympic Games medals table at the end of day one of competition in Rio de Janeiro.

	G	S	B	Total
Australia	2	0	1	3
Hungary	2	0	0	2
U.S.	1	4	0	5
South Korea	1	1	0	2
Japan	1	0	4	5
Argentina	1	0	0	1
Belgium	1	0	0	1
Russia	1	0	0	1
Thailand	1	0	0	1
Vietnam	1	0	0	1
China	0	2	3	5
Italy	0	1	1	2
Kazakhstan	0	1	1	2
Indonesia	0	1	0	1
Denmark	0	1	0	1
Brazil	0	1	0	1
Poland	0	0	1	1
Uzbekistan	0	0	1	1
Spain	0	0	1	1
Canada	0	0	1	1



RIO DE JANEIRO: Belgium's Kirsten Flipkens reacts after winning a point during her women's first round singles tennis match against USA's Venus Williams at the Olympic Tennis Centre of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP



BASKETBALL



SHOOTING

MODEST VINH MAKES HISTORY FOR VIETNAM

RIO DE JANEIRO: Hoang Xuan Vinh may have just ended Vietnam's six-decade wait for a first Olympic gold medal on Saturday but he wasn't about to make a song and dance about his historic feat. The 41-year-old military officer finally struck the Olympic bullseye for Vietnam to deny Brazil an opening day title at the Rio Games. Vinh fell into the arms of his coaches after his near-perfect final shot in the men's 10m air pistol.

He duelled with Sao Paulo-born Felipe Almeida Wu who had taken the lead after the penultimate round. The Vietnamese history-maker claimed the title with a total points haul of 202.5. Crowd favourite Wu, almost 20 years his junior, took silver only .3 adrift. If Vinh was feeling as proud as punch at finally ending a quest for his country that first began in Helsinki in 1952, he wasn't about to show it. "I'm very lucky, it's the first gold medal in Vietnam's history, I feel very lucky, thank you everybody," he said at a press conference. "Making this gold medal is a life memory, never forget this. Because (it is the) first time making a gold medal for Vietnam." Wu, Brazil's first Olympic shooting medallist since 1920, praised his uplifting home support and said he hoped his performance would boost his sport's popularity in football-mad Brazil.

On winning the 2016 hosts' first medal of these Games, he added: "There are no words to describe how happy I am. We work very hard, and everything is worth the pain. Pain on my shoulder, pain in my back, but I will forget about all this pain now."

"It is just perfect. I hope that the sport of shooting becomes more popular in Brazil. I don't know how, but I hope people get interested for this sport and start to practise, and I think that is a good thing, to win a medal. I hope it will be good for shooting."

'Try, try, try'

Bronze went to Pang Wei, while South Korean defending champion Jin Jongoh trailed in fifth.

Jin had his head in his hands walking off after failing to replicate his heroics at London 2012.

He also won 50m pistol gold four years ago and will be hoping to turn around his form when he defends that title later in the competition. The first of the eight finalists to be knocked out was the Nepalese-born Indian Jitu Rai.

Russia's representative Vladimir Gontcharov was next for the chop, followed by Italy's Giuseppe Giordano, Jin, and Juray Tuzinsky. That left the stage clear for the three-cornered climax. Pang's exit setting up a tense face off between the two military men. Wu had his partisan fans leaping out of their seats when he hit the front, but Vinh fired his 20th and final shot true and straight to nail it in the style of a worthy successor to Jin. Vinh recounted: "The Brazilian shooter was very fast and stronger, but I think only 'try, try, try'. On the last shot I don't think gold or silver. I think only try." —AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Athletes compete during the women's 10-meter air pistol qualification at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, yesterday. — AP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Canada's Megan Lukan, top, attacks during the women's rugby sevens match against Britain at the Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, yesterday. — AP



RIO DE JANEIRO: An overview shows USA's centre DeMarcus Cousins (R) fighting for the ball with China's forward Zou Yuchen during a Men's round Group A basketball match between China and USA at the Carioca Arena 1 in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. — AFP

US ROMP PAST CHINA 119-62 IN OLYMPIC BASKETBALL OPENER

RIO DE JANEIRO: Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump may fret about the United States' trade imbalance with China but on the basketball court it is all one way business, as it was again on Saturday as the US opened the Olympic tournament with 119-62 thrashing. China (0-6) has never beaten the US on Olympic hardwood and there was not the faintest hint that this was going to be the evening that drought would end, even when Ding Yanyuhang scored the first points on a pair of free throws. That was the high point for China, the last and only time they would lead, as the US clinically rolled to a 59-30 halftime advantage, leaving a flat atmosphere inside the packed Carioca Arena.

Bored fans quickly resorted to entertaining themselves by doing the wave while the biggest buzz of the night was generated by a halftime show of rope jumping acrobats. This U.S. squad may be more "B Team" than "Dream Team" with many top players, including four-time National Basketball Association most valuable player LeBron James and twice reigning MVP Stephen Curry, deciding to stay home but there has been no noticeable drop in skill or quality. Every player on the US roster got on the score sheet in the opener with four getting into double figures led by Kevin Durant with 25. "I thought China played really hard, they have a lot of young players and they are getting better and we were good," said US coach Mike Krzyzewski. "We're older and more talented and we played really hard and shared the ball. "The Olympics are different, they're big, for 10 of the guys it is their first Olympics, it's different, it's new. "I don't know if they were nervous as excited. "They know from being in the opening ceremonies last night this is a huge stage."

Going for a third straight gold, the victory extended the US Games winning streak to 18-0, dating back to the bronze medal game of the 2004 Athens Olympics. Outside of Olympic competition, the U.S. is on a 68-game unbeaten run (45 straight wins in FIBA and FIBA Americas competitions, and 23 consecutive wins in exhibition games) that goes back to 2006.

The last time the China and the US clashed on the Olympic stage was 2008 in Beijing in an intriguing matchup played in front of a standing room only crowd that included US President George W. Bush and an estimated one billion television viewers. The US won that game 101-70 victory and has been even more dominant since.

More recently, the two teams met in a pair of exhibition games in the run in to Rio with Team USA winning by 50 and 49 points.

The 57-point margin of victory in Saturday opener was the biggest since a 133-70 result at the 1996 Atlanta Games. The result was not unexpected for a young Chinese team. "This result was already kind of expected before the game even started," said China coach Wang Zhelin. "Our target before the game was to try to get things better. "It is a precious opportunity for our team to improve our tactics. We have played Team USA three times this summer and this is a very good opportunity for us to learn." — Reuters

BOGUT FIGHTS THROUGH INJURY TO POWER AUSTRALIA

RIO DE JANEIRO: Andrew Bogut refused to allow his NBA Finals injury to dash his Olympic dreams, and the big man powered Australia past France in the Rio basketball opener despite a heavily taped left knee. The new Dallas Maverick had 18 points on a series of alley-oop dunks as he repeatedly got behind the French defence for an 87-66 win on Saturday.

Bogut, 31, helped Golden State win their first NBA title in 40 years in 2015 and reel off a record 73 regular-season victories this year before falling one game shy of repeating.

He was crucially knocked out in game five with left-knee bone bruises, and a grueling rehab ensued.

But Bogut, who missed London 2012 due to injury, was not to be denied. "All I thought about was that I was not going to have it taken away from me. If I'm ready to

go, I'm going, if I'm not, we pull the plug," he said. Bogut, who has caused a stir in Rio for his strident criticism of the conditions in the athlete's village, hit nine of 10 shots and dominated inside as Australia jumped ahead off France early in the Group A clash. "I didn't think I was going to have the impact that I did," Bogut admitted. "But I felt good out there and I caused some easy baskets early on that got my confidence rolling."

With Patty Mills of the NBA's San Antonio Spurs scoring 21, the win got the Australians off to a positive start in a competition the USA is once again heavily favoured to win.

NO SPARK FROM PARKER

Matthew Dellavedova, a member of this year's NBA champion Cleveland Cavaliers, now playing for Milwaukee,

added 10 assists while Aron Baynes had 14 points and a game-high eight rebounds.

France's star guard Tony Parker-Mills's Spurs team-mate-led his homeland with 18 points, all but two of those coming in a late first-half spurt that pulled the French to within three at half-time.

But the French never found a rhythm as the Aussies steadily pulled away, with Bogut slamming down two quick dunks to cap a 10-0 run early in the fourth quarter that put them up by 19.

Addressing the controversy over his Twitter comments on the athlete's village problems, Bogut apologised if he offended his Brazilian hosts.

"I apologise to the people of Brazil. I never intended it to be a shot at them," he said. "It's more a shot at the IOC to get out of the penthouse suites they are staying in and get things rolling a bit better." —AFP



SOCCER

MARTA STARS FOR FIVE-STAR BRAZIL

RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazil striker Marta laughed off comparisons with Neymar on Saturday after she scored twice in Brazil's 5-1 victory over Sweden at the Rio Olympics. With the home fans chanting 'Marta is better than Neymar', five-times World Player of the Year Marta led her side to their second consecutive win in front of 43,000 fans in Rio de Janeiro.

Barcelona forward Neymar carries the hopes of the home nation on his shoulders in the men's competition as they seek to win Olympic gold for the first time, while Marta will be no less key to Brazil's chances of success in the women's tournament. "We know Neymar is our best player right now and he is fantastic, we support him and he supports us but we'll leave the comparison to the fans," Marta said. "We have Marta, we have Neymar, we have Cristiane, we're all Brazilian." While Brazil's men failed to impress in a laboured 0-0 draw against South Africa on Thursday, home fans delighted in the football played by the women's team, who outclassed Sweden despite being two places below them in the world rankings. Brazil, ranked eighth in the world, opened the scoring through Beatriz after 21 minutes when she ran through on goal, outmuscled a defender and poked the ball home. Sweden had a goal disallowed shortly after then fell 2-0 behind in 24 minutes when Marta crossed the ball along the six-yard box and Cristiane's clever flick took a deflection on its way to the net.

Marta got the third from the penalty spot just seconds before half time and then scored Brazil's fourth with 10 minutes remaining when she slotted home from eight yards after playing a fortunate one-two off a Swedish defender. Beatriz got her second in the 86th minute when she creat-

ed a yard of space in the box and curled the ball into the far corner of the net.

Lotta Schelin got a consolation goal for the Swedes with two minutes remaining.

The only blip for Brazil, who have scored eight in two games after beating China 3-0, was seeing Cristiane carried off with a thigh injury after 66 minutes.

While Brazil have already sewed up a

place in the next round, Marta said they would not hold back against South Africa in their next group game.

"This means we are calmer but we can't let that influence us and relax," she said. "We were delighted that we had the same performance as in the first game and that is our challenge, to keep that going all the way to the final." — Reuters



RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazil's Cristiane, center, runs with the ball past Sweden's Caroline Seger, left, and Lisa Dahlkvist, third from left, during a group E match of the women's Olympic football tournament between Sweden and Brazil at the Rio Olympic Stadium in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, Saturday. — AP

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RIO DE JANEIRO: Gold medalist Hungary's Katinka Hosszu, center, silver medalist United States' Maya DiRado, right, and bronze medalist Spain's Mireia Belmonte Garcia stand together after the women's 400-meter individual medley during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics, Saturday, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. — AP

GOLDEN START FOR AUSTRALIA ON DAY OF RECORDS



RIO DE JANEIRO: Hungary's Katinka Hosszu ended her long wait for Olympic victory and Australia captured two gold medals in an exhilarating first day of swimming competition that saw three world records smashed in Rio on Saturday.

Hosszu, five times a world champion but without a medal from three previous Olympics, demolished the world record by 2.07 seconds in the final of the women's 400 metres individual medley. Australia's women retained their Olympic title by winning the 4x100m

freestyle relay in world record time, with sisters Bronte and Cate Campbell swimming the last two stages to overhaul the United States, despite the efforts of Katie Ledecky on the anchor leg. Mack Horton's victory in the men's 400 freestyle also meant Australia had already doubled their gold medal tally from a disappointing showing four years ago.

The day's record spree began with Britain's Adam Peaty, who broke his own world mark of 57.92 in the heats of the 100 breaststroke when he clocked 57.55. Tipped to become the first British man to win an Olympic gold since 1988, he then swam 57.62 in the semi-finals.

FIRST HONOURS TO JAPAN

In the first of four evening finals, Japan's Kosuke Hagino won the men's 400m individual medley, the gru-

elling discipline that combines butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle. Hagino, the bronze medallist in 2012, won with a time of four minutes, 6.05 seconds to end a U.S. stranglehold on the event dating back to 1996.

Chase Kalisz of the United States, who had been fastest in the heats, finished second and Japan's Daiya Seto took the bronze. In the men's 400 freestyle, Australia's Horton edged out defending champion Sun Yang of China and Italy's Gabriele Detti, pulling ahead in the final quarter after shadowing Britain's James Guy and Conor Dwyer of the US for much of the race. Hosszu then grabbed the spotlight with a stunning victory in the 400 individual medley.

Having suffered a nightmare Olympics in London, where she started as a hot medal prospect but came away empty-handed, she led from start to finish and

stormed down the final length with the crowd roaring her on to the record.

"It's just crazy that I've been able to swim two seconds faster than anyone ever, ever did. It's just crazy," said the Hungarian, who will also contest the 200 IM, 200 butterfly and 100 and 200 backstroke.

In the women's relay, the Australians led off with Emma McKeon while Brittany Elmslie swam the second leg before Bronte Campbell overhauled the Americans and handed over to sister Cate, who touched in three minutes, 30.65 seconds, beating the previous world record of 3:30.98 they set in Glasgow in 2014.

"Definitely my favourite race ever," said Cate Campbell. "In an Olympic final with my sister and two girls I have known since I was 12, 13 years old - and a gold and a world record." — Reuters



LONDON: Manchester United's Wayne Rooney holds the trophy after Manchester won the Community Shield soccer match against Leicester City, at Wembley stadium in London, yesterday. — AP

IBRAHIMOVIC GIVES MOURINHO FIRST TROPHY AT MAN UNITED

LONDON: Zlatan Ibrahimovic's winner ensured that Jose Mourinho's reign at Manchester United got off to a winning start as the FA Cup holders beat champions Leicester City 2-1 in England's Community Shield season curtain-raiser at Wembley yesterday.

Ibrahimovic leapt above Leicester captain Wes Morgan in the 83rd minute to head Antonio Valencia's cross beyond Kasper Schmeichel, marking his official debut with a decisive contribution.

Jamie Vardy had earlier equalised after capitalising on a hideous lapse from Marouane Fellaini following Jesse Lingard's superb solo opener in the 31st minute.

United, who confirmed in an official statement before the match that Juventus have given midfielder Paul Pogba permission to have a medical with the club, started brightly, with Wayne Rooney

and Ibrahimovic forming a lively forward pairing.

Another new signing, Eric Bailly, made an encouraging start, although he was regularly tested by Vardy, who displayed the same tenacity and directness that characterised his excellent performances last term.

Leicester threatened on the break, and Vardy's fine interplay with Shinji Okazaki resulted in the latter sending a lofted shot just wide of David De Gea's goal in the 18th minute. Okazaki was denied by the crossbar a minute later when he met Marc Albrighton's corner with a powerful header as the champions served a warning of their offensive threat. However, it was Lingard who opened the scoring after the half-hour mark.

The forward, whose sublime volley settled the FA Cup final against Crystal Palace in May, picked the ball up inside the Leicester half and slalomed

past a quartet of attempted blocks before firing a low shot beyond Schmeichel. The pace and movement of Leicester's half-time substitute Ahmed Musa unsettled United and Vardy equalised soon after the break, latching on to a blind backpass from Fellaini before rounding De Gea and finishing emphatically into an empty net in the 52nd minute.

Schmeichel was forced out of his area to snuff out a pair of United attacks as Mourinho's side pushed for a winner, while Musa missed the chance to become an instant hero at his new club when he sent an effort onto the roof of the net. Ultimately, it was Ibrahimovic who made the difference. Having vowed to win a trophy in his first match with United, he duly did so by rising to meet Valencia's cross and deliver the first silverware of the Mourinho era. — Reuters

ZHANG GIVES CHINA ANOTHER WOMEN'S AIR PISTOL GOLD



SHOOTING

RIO DE JANEIRO: China's bid for shooting gold came up short on the opening day of the Rio Olympics and was not looking good yesterday's day two after a two-time defending gold medalist failed to qualify.

Zhang Mengxue gladly picked up the slack, continuing China's dominance in women's 10-meter air pistol. Zhang overcame some early jitters in the finals with some big scores on Sunday, earning China's fourth air pistol gold in the past five Games.

"I remember a coach told me once, the only person who could destroy me was myself," Zhang said through an interpreter. "So I just did my utmost to be myself today."

China has dominated the air rifle and pistol shooting events at the Olympics, earning nine gold medals since the 2000 Sydney Games.

The Chinese came up short of gold the first day in Rio, finishing with a silver and a pair of bronze medals. China's bid for gold in women's air pistol seemed to take a big hit when Guo Wenjun, the two-time defending champion, struggled in qualifying and finished 30th.

Zhang qualified sixth for the eight-person elimination finals and opened with three straight 9s with a field that seemed to struggle with nerves early. She steadied herself with a 10.8 on her fifth shot and took the lead after eight shots. Zhang stretched her lead as the competition continued and all but locked up gold with a perfect 10.9 in the penultimate round. She finished with 199.4 points in the 20-round final, putting her 2.3 ahead of Russia's Vitalina Batsarashkina.

"Before the last shot, I knew I was in

an advantage, but I wanted to concentrate," Zhang said. "So I did my utmost on the last shot." All three medals went to first-time Olympians after Anna Korakaki captured bronze to become the first Greek woman to earn an Olympic medal in shooting.

"I'm really excited that I'm the first woman through all these years to win an Olympic medal," said Korakaki, who had 177.7 points through 18 rounds. — AP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Gold medal winner China's Zhang Mengxue celebrates on the podium during the medal ceremony for the women's 10m air pistol shooting event at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games at the Olympic Shooting Centre in Rio de Janeiro yesterday. — AFP



'Pride of Africa' tries to stop a disastrous fall

BLADEGLIDER BRINGS CUTTING-EDGE INTELLIGENT MOBILITY TO LIFE



An aerial view shows the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine on April 26, 2006. From the air, one can see the damaged reactor encased in cement and steel, image left, put in place after the 1986 explosion to cut down on radiation leaking into the environment. —AP

UKRAINE SEES SOLAR AS CHERNOBYL'S FUTURE

\$1 BILLION NEEDED TO FULFILL ITS FIRST STAGE

KIEV: Imagine one of the largest solar farms ever at the site of the world's worst man-made nuclear disaster that struck Chernobyl in modern-day Ukraine and sowed panic across Europe. That is the grand vision of Ukrainian Environment Minister Ostap Semerak, backed up by big-time investors such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

The Chernobyl catastrophe of April 1986 left thousands dead or dying and created a contaminated no-man's land in northern Ukraine in which only a few hundred elderly people still cling on to their homes. The 30-kilometre-wide "exclusion zone" surrounding the stricken station is primarily covered in forests and filled with radiation levels that make most foods produced there unsafe. But Ukraine believes there are also around 6,000 hectares of open land

that can be filled with solar panels that may one day produce about as much energy as Chernobyl's ill-fated reactor number four did in its time.

The EBRD has already said it was willing to support the project as long as Ukraine attracted the \$1 billion (1.1 billion Euros) needed to fulfill its first stage. "A fairly large number of various companies across the world are interested," Semerak told AFP. "I think that, in case of successful negotiations, this project could be launched in full next year."

Baby steps

Ukraine is keen to break its dependence on energy giant Russia in the wake of a 2014 pro-EU revolution that was followed by the Kremlin's annexation of Crimea and the outbreak of a pro-Moscow insurgency in the coun-

try's east that has claimed more than 9,500 lives. About 50 percent of the former Soviet republic's energy is still produced by its remaining nuclear stations. Thermal power generation makes up for much of the rest.

Official statistics show solar panels accounting for less than one percent of the energy consumed in Ukraine. The very first stage of the project should see Ukraine partner up with two private foreign firms to build a few small solar plants that generate about six megawatts of power by the end of this year. That is still just a tiny fraction of the 4,000 megawatts pumped out by Chernobyl in its Soviet-era heydays.

Semerak thinks investors will be drawn by existing electricity lines and a professional personnel that is working on cleaning up the remainders of the Chernobyl station and installing a giant dome around it

to keep the atmosphere safe.

Semerak adds that purchasing land required for the solar farm is remarkably cheap because it is unsafe for farming and has little other use. "The radiation level have dropped immeasurably over the past 30 years," Semerak said in a telephone interview. "Of course, this territory still cannot be used for farming," he said. "But it is suitable for innovative and scientific project." Semerak added that the project's success would create other possibilities for what is considered one of the most unhealthy parts of Europe that would see Chernobyl become an "innovation zone".

Investment risks

Yet questions remain about whether Semerak's plan is actually feasible. Foreign investors view Ukraine with a great deal of cau-

tion because of the separatist conflict and its tensions with Russia as well as corruption that has permeated both the government in Kiev and the regions.

"I think this project will require a great deal of money," Dmytro Lukomsky of the Rentechno solar station construction firm told AFP. "If we find the investors, the prospects are fairly good. And if we do not-the chances of things working out are small." Energy expert Oleksiy Khabatyuk noted that Ukraine only this year crawled out of a two-year recession and the prospects for future growth were minimal because of endless political upheaval and tensions with Russia. "The instability that we see in our economy, in our political life and the military threat-none of these things stimulate the attraction of investments," Khabatyuk said. "The overall investment climate is not attractive." —AFP

SAUDI PETCHEM INDUSTRY MARGINS BENEFIT FROM OIL

DUBAI: Second-quarter earnings in Saudi Arabia's petrochemical industry beat expectations as producers reaped the benefits of volatile oil prices, but companies look unlikely to be as lucky in the second half of this year. Combined net profits of the kingdom's 14 listed petrochemical firms, announced over the past couple of weeks, fell by a fifth from a year earlier to 6.8 billion riyals (\$1.8 billion) in the April-June period, but they beat the forecasts of analysts, who had on average expected a 40 percent plunge.

Two firms posted profits while analysts had predicted losses. Saudi Kayan, an affiliate of Saudi Basic Industries (SABIC), swung to a net profit of 91.0 million riyals (\$24.3 million), ending a run of five straight quarterly losses and exceeding analysts' average estimate of a loss of 184.2 million riyals. That was good news for Saudi Arabia's stock market, where petrochemical firms account for about a quarter of the bourse's capitalization of \$385 billion.

To a large degree, however, profit margins were inflated by fortunate timing in the way oil and feedstock prices moved during the period - a pattern which may not be repeated. "Higher spreads pushed up margins, which exceeded expectations, but this is not sustainable as oil prices

have started to decline," said Mohammad Al-Shammasi, chief investment officer of Riyadh-based Derayah Financial. Saudi Arabia's petrochemical sector is under pressure from two sides. In foreign markets, it faces weak petrochemical prices and competition; combined revenues dropped 16 percent in the second quarter, in line with analysts' forecasts.

Huge budget deficit

Meanwhile, costs are rising at home after the government, grappling with a huge budget deficit due to low oil prices, cut feedstock, fuel and electric power subsidies in its 2016 budget. More subsidy cuts are expected in coming years, further reducing Saudi firms' cost advantage over foreign rivals. So far, however, oil price moves have worked to the firms' advantage. In the first quarter of 2016, when many companies bought feedstock, Brent crude oil was around \$30-35 a barrel, keeping feedstock prices low.

A rebound of oil prices, to a range of \$40-50 in the second quarter, let firms sell products made with this feedstock at fat profit margins. National Industrialization Co swung to a quarterly profit after five straight quarters of losses because of high spreads across propane-derived products. Saudi propane prices rose 7.4 percent in

the second quarter compared to the first quarter but prices of polypropylene, the end-product, increased about 13.5 percent, Aljazira Capital said.

The biggest firm, SABIC, reported a 23.2 percent drop in second-quarter profit to 4.74 billion riyals, but came ahead of analysts' forecast of 3.92 billion riyals. Producers took advantage of favorable spreads by operating their facilities close to, and in some cases beyond, full capacity in the second quarter, said Jassim Al-Jubran, analyst at Aljazira Capital.

But the profitable divergence between feedstock and petrochemical product prices will only continue if oil prices keep rising steadily in the months to come. Analysts said such an uptrend looked unlikely in the coming months. In fact, Brent has been trending lower since early June, and now stands at around \$45 compared to \$50 at mid-year. "A stabilization in oil prices will adjust margins and bring them back down again," said Iyad Ghulam, head of research at NCB Capital. Santhosh Balakrishnan, equity analyst at Riyadh Capital, said: "Barring any event that will swing oil violently in either direction, I think petrochemical earnings are set to fall for full-year 2016," though he added the drop was unlikely to be as sharp as the fall of three-fifths seen in 2015. —Reuters

GULF STARTS WEEK ON STRONG FOOTING, EGYPT SLIPS BACK

MIDEAST STOCKS

DUBAI: Strength in international equities markets at the end of last week helped lift share prices in the Gulf on Sunday with markets most exposed to foreign capital inflows outperforming, while Egypt slipped on profit-taking. Dubai's index climbed 1.1 percent. Four-fifths of the traded shares advanced, with companies which have not yet reported quarterly earnings attracting the most volume. Builder Arabtec climbed 3.4 percent and amusement park developer Dubai Parks and Resorts added 1.7 percent.

Blue chips helped push Qatar's index up 1.0 percent with Vodafone Qatar advancing 2.4 percent. Petrochemical conglomerate Industries Qatar, which reported strong earnings late last week, jumped 3.9 percent. Abu Dhabi's index edged up 0.4 percent as local traders bought small and mid-cap stocks. Insurer Methaq Takaful Insurance jumped 8.1 percent in heavy trade and Abu Dhabi National Energy rose 2.0 percent. In Saudi Arabia the equities index rose 0.7 percent as all 14 petrochemical stocks advanced; heavyweight Saudi Basic Industries added 0.6 percent.

Nama Chemicals, a small petrochemical producer, added 3.3 percent after it announced its board had recommended a 30 percent share capital increase through a rights issue valued at 400 million riyals (\$106.7 million). The company said proceeds would be used to finance the production of new specialty chemicals. Large-cap companies in other sectors also gained with telecommunications operator Etihad Etisalat (Mobily) climbing 4.1 percent and retailer Jarir Marketing advancing 4.3 percent.

Egypt

Cairo's main index fell 0.4 percent, ending three sessions of gains that had taken the benchmark to a 13-month high on Thursday. Losers outnumbered gainers 13 to 12 as foreign funds were net sell-

ers of Egyptian shares, bourse data showed. Telecommunications operator Global Telecom Holding lost 3.3 percent.

Some second-tier stocks seen as laggards rose sharply, however, with GB Auto surging 5.7 percent. Oriental Weavers, which had jumped 10.0 percent on Thursday after it announced a five-year plan to boost production capacity across all product lines, climbed a further 6.9 percent. On Thursday Egypt said it was making good progress in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on a loan program, and expected parliament to pass a long-awaited value-added tax by early September. "As Cairo inches closer to inking a deal with the IMF, the stock market will continue to be supported," said Wafiq Dawood, portfolio manager at Cairo-based Compass Capital. —Reuters

GOLD PRICES DROP SHARPLY

KUWAIT: Gold prices fell sharply on Friday after announcing US labor market's data which had also an impact on the US Dollar and global markets, said a Kuwaiti expert yesterday. Despite the release of the data that created 255,000 jobs in the US labor market and stabilized unemployment rate by 9.4 percent, it led to a rise in the exchange rate of US Dollar, Rajab Hamed, CEO of Sabayik Al-Kuwait Company, told KUNA in an interview.

There is an inverse relationship between the US Dollar and gold prices; a rise in the former leads to a decline in the latter and vice versa, he said, noting that gold prices dropped from USD 1,365 per ounce to USD 1335 as a result of releasing the data. He pointed out that the gold prices stabled at USD 1,335 per ounce as a result of increased demand for US Dollar as a decline in gold increases purchases. —KUNA

UK CONSIDERING PLAN TO PAY HOMES AFFECTED BY FRACKING

LONDON: Some tax proceeds from shale gas developments in Britain could be given directly to residents, Prime Minister Theresa May said yesterday, in a bid to help clear the path for an industry hampered for years by local opposition to fracking. Britain is estimated to have substantial amounts of shale gas trapped in underground rocks yet fracking applications have struggled to find approval from local communities, concerned about noise and environmental impacts.

Last year, then finance minister George Osborne said the government would create a shale wealth fund that would

receive up to 10 percent of tax revenue from shale gas developments for investments in communities affected by the projects. May, who took over as prime minister last month after Britain's June 23 vote to leave the European Union, said she wanted to look at the option of this money being paid directly to residents rather than to local authorities.

"The government I lead will be always be driven by the interests of the many, ordinary families for whom life is harder than many people in politics realize," May said in a statement yesterday, ahead of the launch of a consultation on the fund.

"This announcement is an example of putting those principles into action. It's about making sure people personally benefit from economic decisions that are taken, not just councils, and putting them back in control over their lives."

The government said the new fund could deliver up to 10 million pounds per eligible community. It did not say how much each household could receive, but local media reported it could be as much as 13,000 pounds in some areas. Only one shale gas well near Blackpool, in Lancashire, has so far been fracked in Britain but was later abandoned when

some of the work undertaken triggered an earth tremor. That resulted in an 18-month ban on the hydraulic fracturing - or "fracking" - technology used to extract gas from shale rock.

In May, Third Energy received the first planning approval for a shale gas fracking well since 2011. It says it will start hydraulic fracturing at its Kirby Misperton site in North Yorkshire in northeast England before the end of the year. Last year, competitor Cuadrilla Resources had two permits rejected by officials in Lancashire. Cuadrilla has appealed against the decision and the

government has since changed the rules to have the ultimate say in shale gas related application.

The British pound's weakness since the Brexit vote has made it more expensive to import gas, helping the case for shale gas which had been hurt in the past by weak oil prices and by opposition to planning approval from local campaigners. May, who last month delayed a decision to approve the building of Britain's first nuclear power plant in decades, has stressed the importance of secure energy supplies, which shale advocates say is one of their industry's strengths. —Reuters

UK TIES WITH CHINA AT RISK OVER NUCLEAR PLANT DEAL

DELAY FOR APPROVAL FOR HINKLEY POINT GROWS DISCORD

LONDON: Britain's decision to delay final approval for the Hinkley Point nuclear power plant risks cooling relations with economic powerhouse China under new prime minister Theresa May, analysts say. May's predecessor David Cameron, who quit after the June referendum vote to leave the European Union, made strong ties with Beijing central to his economic policy.

During a state visit last year,

was planned for July 29, the day after the other player in the deal, French energy giant EDF, finally approved the project which had deeply divided its top management as critics fear it could bankrupt the French utility.

However, the French government, which owns 85 percent of EDF, has been doggedly determined to get Hinkley Point approved as it sees the project as crucial for the long-term viability of France's nuclear industry. But

have created a bit of a problem," Professor Kerry Brown, director of the Lau China Institute at King's College London, told AFP. "The more of a sense that we're open for business at the moment, the better."

National security fears

Chinese state media reacted to the delay by saying it "adds uncertainties to the 'Golden Era' of China-UK ties." Beijing "cannot tolerate" any accusation that its

nesses into IT systems, "which will allow them to shut down Britain's energy production at will." "No amount of trade and investment should justify allowing a hostile state easy access to the country's critical national infrastructure," he added in a Conservative Home blog last year.

There are also questions over whether the project represents value for money and its environmental credentials. The British press has welcomed the delay. The Observer newspaper said in an editorial that, while the move had "ruffled diplomatic feathers", it was "the right decision" given the financial and security risks. The Independent said it thought Sino-British relations would remain positive but that "we would be wise not to be over-reliant on anyone to keep our lights on".

'Costly, unnecessary risk'

Howard Wheeldon, a defence and strategic analyst with his own consultancy, predicted the delay "probably marks the end of the scheme as we have come to know it." "We just cannot afford to take such a massive, costly and given that it will only supply seven percent of the UK's electricity needs-unnecessary risk," he said. Analyst Brown noted that while Beijing could be understanding of an "initial cautiousness" under a new British administration, that would likely change if the project is scrapped. "They would read this all as a sign that the UK-China relations have become cautious again, going back to the default which is just to be a bit wary of each other," he said. The prime minister's official spokeswoman insisted the government would "continue to seek a strong relationship with China" and needed a "reliable and secure energy supply". But with May's government shaking off much of Cameron's economic legacy-signaling a less hardline approach to austerity and introducing a new industrial strategy-the options look wide open. —AFP



LONDON: The Hinkley Point C nuclear power station site undergoes construction near Bridgwater, England. —AFP

Britain rolled out the red carpet for Chinese President Xi Jinping as it sought to attract investment to its austerity-hit economy. Cameron said Britain would be China's "best partner in the West" as they signed £40 billion (47 billion euros, \$53 billion) of deals, including Beijing taking a £6 billion stake in Hinkley Point, Britain's first new nuclear plant in a generation. A ceremony to sign the £18 billion Hinkley Point deal

Britain's new leader May, who took power on July 13, had already decided to delay the final decision on the project, which is now expected in September. There are questions over whether the delay could jeopardize ties between Britain and China, the world's second biggest economy, at a time when London will need to build strong trade links post-Brexit. "They (the British government)

investment would threaten British national security, the official Xinhua news agency said. While it is still unclear whether May, a former home secretary, will scrap or approve the project, her joint chief of staff has previously made his skepticism clear.

Nick Timothy wrote it was "baffling" that Britain had welcomed investment by state-owned Chinese companies given fears they could build weak-

UNIVERSITIES TO BOOST STIPENDS AHEAD OF GRAD UNIONS RULING

NEW YORK: Several private universities are boosting stipends and benefits ahead of a federal ruling that could clear the way for graduate students to form unions. To some grad students, it's an attempt to persuade them that they don't need collective bargaining to get a raise. Union backers say pay hikes are nice but what they want most is more control over their work as teaching and research assistants.

Right to organize

"The message isn't that graduate students need more money," said Ben Cohen, who studies biomedical engineering at Cornell University, which recently raised stipends by 2 percent and increased child-care subsidies for graduate students. "The message is that graduate students deserve to have a voice in their representation," he said. Thousands of graduate students at public universities are already unionized, but New York University is the only private university in the US where graduate students now have union representation. That could change in the months ahead. The NLRB, which ruled in 2000 that grad students had a right to collective bargaining only to reverse itself in 2004, has been revisiting the issue yet again in cases involving Columbia University and the New School, both in New York City.

Both pro- and anti-union forces say they expect the current board, appointed by

President Barack Obama, to again declare that grad students have a right to organize. A ruling is expected before Obama leaves office. Last month, Columbia announced it would raise the standard nine-month graduate stipend of \$26,286 by 17 percent over the next four years. That came after the university acted last May to increase child-care subsidies and paid parental leave. Among other universities that have increased pay and benefits for graduate students, the University of Chicago announced a \$2,000 graduate student stipend increase over two years last December. Brown University raised stipends and added money for dental coverage and travel to conferences.

Brian Carlson, a Massachusetts-based law lawyer who represents educational institutions, said the increases in pay and benefits are likely intended to dissuade graduate students from unionizing. "When graduate students are happy they are less likely to be receptive to calls to organize," Carlson said. University administrators argue that graduate students are not employees, even though they help teach and conduct research.

The other seven Ivy League institutions plus Stanford and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology filed a brief with the NLRB on Feb 29 supporting Columbia against the union effort. They warned that allowing graduate students to unionize would represent "an inappro-

propriate intrusion into long protected areas of academic freedom and autonomy." Unionization of grad students, they warned, also has the potential "to transform the collaborative model of graduate education to one of conflict and tension."

Labor organizers at Columbia, where grad students have been considering an affiliation with the United Auto Workers union, have both celebrated the recent boost in pay and benefits, and characterized them as an attempt at appeasement. Olga Brudastova, a Columbia graduate student in civil engineering, called the four-year raise package "a classic tactic for an anti-union campaign, so that at the end of the day they are able to say, 'Oh, we are doing everything for you, even for the future, not just for now.'" A Columbia spokesman declined to comment.

Ian Bradley-Perrin, who is studying for a PhD in the history of public health at Columbia, said that in addition to increasing pay and benefits, university officials began last spring to invite small groups of graduate students to lunch meetings where a negative view of unions was presented. "At one point the dean said there was no successful student union in the country," Bradley-Perrin said. The UAW is also seeking to represent graduate students at Harvard University, where President Drew Faust has spoken out against the union drive. —AP



HOUSTON: In this Thursday, Oct 8, 2015, file photo, Southwest Airlines CEO Gary Kelly speaks during a preview of the new international concourse at Houston Hobby Airport. —AP

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES TELLS UNIONS CEO IS STAYING

DALLAS: Directors of Southwest Airlines Co say the CEO is staying put even if union leaders want to get rid of him. Late Friday, the airline released a letter in which directors said they were unanimous in supporting CEO Gary Kelly. The board cited a long list of achievements since Kelly became CEO in 2004. It said the unions' call for his removal was without merit and reckless,

and there was no guarantee that unions would like new management any better. This week four union leaders, frustrated over the lack of agreement on new labor contracts, had called for Kelly and Chief Operating Officer Mike Van de Ven to be replaced after a technology outage caused the airline to cancel more than 2,000 flights. —AP



MUNICH: This file photo taken on November 18, 2010 shows a Boeing airplane of the German airliner Air Berlin starting from the Franz-Josef-Strauss airport in Munich, southern Germany, on November 18, 2010. The German airliner announced the creation during this year of a business class on its flights in Germany and Europe. —AFP

FORMER BELL LABS SITE SEEKS TO INSPIRE NEW INVENTORS

TRENTON: The 2 million-square-foot building where Bell Labs scientists helped launch modern cellular networks before it became one of the country's largest vacant office buildings is drawing companies with the lure of working at a complex surrounded by technological history. A water tower in the shape of a transistor, which the company's scientists created in 1947 as part of their continuing mission to improve and expand communications, stands over the Bell Works complex in Holmdel, near the site where the Big Bang theory of the universe was proven.

With that history, the developer who acquired the building in 2013 after it sat vacant for seven years is hoping to lure tech entrepreneurs and others to the glass and steel structure originally designed by Eero Saarinen, who also designed St Louis' Gateway Arch. Somerset Development President Ralph Zucker envisions the office space as a "metropolitan" anchored by tech companies that are joined by retail, entertainment, health care and nearby homes. "It's an attractive building with an incredible history that was a cradle of many innovations," said Zucker.

Aside from the allure of being surrounded by history, the state's Economic Development Authority also offered millions in tax credits to companies considering moving to the complex. Bell Works is about 60 percent full after last month's lease signing by human resources software provider iCIMS as the anchor tenant. iCIMS received a 10-year, \$38 million tax credit. Other tenants include the software company WorkWave, data storage startup Symbolic IO and cloud-based communications services designer Acacia Communications. Plans also call for Toll Brothers to develop up to 40 single-family homes and 185 age-restricted townhomes, as well as a field house for sports.

'Farm town to corporate destination'

Mayor Eric Hinds said the redevelopment will build on the work of the past, which itself transformed Holmdel from "a farm town into a corporate destination." Bell Labs began in 1925 when AT&T and Western Electric consolidated engineering departments to solve the problems of a new telecommunications network, said Bell Labs archivist Ed Eckert. "It gathered a unique variety of research areas in one company," said Eckert. "The scientists were really good at looking at the big problem and coming up with a solution and improving on it." The company operated out of offices throughout the New York area and scientists worked to link the nation by phone. The next step was bridging the Atlantic Ocean. Needing to conduct experiments away from radio static generated in the city, the company acquired land in Holmdel, about 45 miles from New York. It was there in 1932 that Karl Jansky, who was studying how to expand overseas calls, discovered radio astronomy by bouncing radio signals off the Milky Way.

The mission to expand and improve telecommunications continued and researchers looked toward space when they developed the Telstar satellite communications system. It was also during the 1960s, Bell Labs scientists created the Unix computer still used today. The company has 14 Nobel Prize winners, including Steven Chu, who developed methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light when he worked in Holmdel. Bell Labs' radio telephone division moved into the Holmdel research lab complex in 1962. It was put up for sale in 2006 and the breakup of AT&T in 1984 meant Bell Labs went through several evolutions. Despite perceptions, it never went away. Today, it is known as Nokia Bell Labs in Murray Hill, New Jersey. President Marcus Weldon said the mission to invent the future of communications remains the same. "The names of the labs have changed," said Weldon. "But as we enter the network, we take on pre-eminence importance." —AP



NISSAN BLADEGLIDER BRINGS CUTTING-EDGE INTELLIGENT MOBILITY TO LIFE

RIO DE JANEIRO: Nissan Motor Co, Ltd unveiled the working prototype of its futuristic BladeGlider vehicle, combining zero-emissions with high-performance in a revolutionary sports car design. The vehicles, developed from concept cars first shown at the Tokyo Auto Show in 2013, have arrived in Brazil to symbolize future technologies that will combine Intelligent Mobility, environmentally-friendly impact and sports-car driving capabilities.

Carlos Ghosn, President and Chief Executive Officer, Nissan Motor Co, Ltd., said: "These prototypes epitomize Nissan's drive to expand its Intelligent Mobility philosophy, where driving pleasure combines with environmental responsibility. Nissan believes that enthusiasts should look forward to a zero emission future and BladeGlider is a perfect demonstration of that. It's the electric vehicle for car-lovers."

The debut of the BladeGlider prototypes

forms part of Nissan's ongoing commitment to the development of zero-emission vehicles and new automotive technologies including autonomous drive systems and connectivity. Nissan already sells the world's highest-volume zero-emission car, the LEAF, and is pioneering Intelligent Mobility systems that will be deployed in a range of vehicles over coming years. With the BladeGlider, Nissan's vision was for an agile, efficient EV that would provide new dimensions of driving fun and excitement - a car that would 'glide', thanks to the near-silent performance of its electric powertrain and aerodynamic shape.

After two years of work on design, engineering and development, Nissan BladeGlider has evolved further into an exciting, real-life study into the potential of advanced EV performance. BladeGlider epitomizes Intelligent Mobility, a philosophy to make its cars more exciting by redefining how they are driven, powered and integrated into society. The

demonstration models feature an advanced chassis configuration with a narrow front track and wider rear track for optimum aerodynamic efficiency and handling stability. High-waisted, rear-hinged dihedral doors provide a dramatic entry and exit to the cabin. The open roof of BladeGlider is reinforced with an integrated roll-over protection structure, providing the exhilaration of an open-topped race car with the safety of a coupe.

Wheel-mounted controls for BladeGlider's systems feed into an advanced display showing speed, state of battery charge, regeneration mode and torque map. Flanking the central display are two screens, with the images of rear-view cameras mounted just behind the front wheels. An alternative to door-mounted mirrors, this dual screen design improves the aerodynamic efficiency of BladeGlider. The driver sits in arrowhead formation slightly in front of two passengers, who enjoy extended legroom. The view for all

occupants is panoramic, thanks to the seamless cockpit windscreen.

Power is 100 percent electric, with exceptional powertrain performance delivered by Nissan's technical partner for the BladeGlider project, UK-based Williams Advanced Engineering. Maximum speed of the demonstration models is in excess of 190km/h*, with 0-100km/h taking less than 5 seconds*. The rear wheels' drive is provided by two 130kW electric motors - one for each wheel. The system features torque vectoring, controlling the torque delivered to the driven wheels, improving the handling even further. With torque vectoring, if the car starts to understeer, it automatically sends more torque to the outside wheel to restore the handling balance.

Designed to add to the driving experience rather than govern it, the torque vectoring systems has three settings: off, agile and drift mode. Power is supplied by a high performance five module lithium-ion 220kW battery.

Bespoke cooling systems have been developed for both the battery and the motors. The interior of the BladeGlider reflects the vehicles' sporting intentions, with 4 point safety harnesses for each occupant. The seats offer exceptional support to sides and legs of the driver and passengers. The seats are trimmed in a highly tactile blend of fabric and epoxy resin coating, resulting in a tough and grippy material that has the effect of comfortably adhering occupants securely in place.

There are two color trims - Cyber Green and Stealth Orange. These colors are used for the upper portions of the seat back, and framed with a silver reflective material to create an eye-catching, sporty look. The base of the seats are in black, patterned material, with a band of green and orange trim framing the cushion. Two BladeGliders will be presented in Rio de Janeiro in August. One will be on static display in Rio while the second will be offering dynamic rides to media and VIPs.

TAKAUD TO HOST FIRST MIDDLE EAST PENSIONS CONFERENCE IN BAHRAIN

MANAMA: Under the patronage of the Central Bank of Bahrain, TAKAUD, the specialist provider of savings, investment and pension solutions for the MENA region, is bringing together government and financial services industry leaders concerned with the development of a robust pension provision for citizens and expatriate workers throughout the region. The inaugural Middle East Pensions Conference will be held in Bahrain at the Four Seasons Hotel on October 18, 2016.

The Conference is expected to attract a large number of delegates from government pension administrations, pension funds, asset management firms, actuaries, law firms, custodians, trust providers and financial services professionals. It is also of interest to executives and senior specialists in human resources, compensation and benefits and staff running employee savings schemes.

The goal of the conference is to raise awareness and initiate action to bring the Middle East to the standard of developed countries, with pensions encompassing three sectors: the government sector providing the first layer of pension provision to citizens; the corporate sector providing a second layer of workplace pension savings to employees; and individuals themselves providing a third layer of personal savings to augment their standard of living in retirement. Not only is this three-pillar pension format in line with the World Bank's recommendations for an integrated pension infrastructure, but it

also ensures a more secure and sustainable pension planning for individuals.

While GCC countries are already highly developed with respect to government pension benefits for citizens, the inaugural pensions conference will address current challenges, and the advantages of enhancing pension savings benefits provided by corporations. Studies by several global employee benefits specialists



Luc Metivier - CEO of TAKAUD

show that pension benefits are highly effective in promoting employee retention and loyalty; hence enhancing productivity levels.

The conference will examine the benefits of factoring in a pension benefit to the employee value proposition. It will also look at the existing expertise, systems, specialist firms, products and collaborations that could potentially build a home-grown solution that expands the regional pension industry and address local needs.

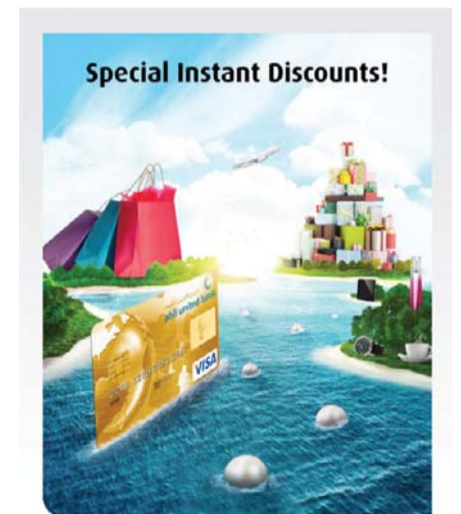
Development of the pension sector is critical for more than individuals. TAKAUD estimates that pension assets in the GCC can reach a value of USD \$1.9 trillion if retirement savings among individuals and corporations grow to the average levels now seen in other countries. While such growth would benefit people living and working in the region, it also represents an outstanding opportunity for the regional financial services industry. TAKAUD's Chief Executive Officer, Luc Metivier said, "The prospect of a secure retirement is essential to the well-being of individuals and families. To develop a culture supportive of retirement savings, we need concerted actions by the government, corporate and financial services sectors. With appropriate regulatory and statutory standards, technology systems and options for asset diversification, this region can match international standards and provide exceptional security to our valued workforce."

AUB LAUNCHES INSTANT PEARLS DISCOUNT PROGRAM

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank announced the launch of its instant Pearls discount program for the Bank's credit card and prepaid card holders. The program provides a wide range of valuable instant discounts for the Bank's customers that cover multiple sectors and is in line with customer needs. The new program reflects the Bank's desire to develop and deliver new products and services.

Through the new instant Pearls discount program, customers will receive up to 50% discount on goods and services when using their Ahli United Bank credit cards and prepaid cards across a select array of establishments participating in this program. These include over 100 renowned brands across hotels and hospitality, restaurants, cafes, travel agencies, medical centers and hospitals, dental clinics, pharmacies, fitness centers, fashion and sports brands, cosmetics and fragrances, retail stores, car rentals as well as services for the home. The new instant Pearls discount program delivers real value for the Bank's credit card and prepaid card holders who will receive discounts and rewards without being tied to a specific limit on purchases from major retailers across Kuwait.

Moreover, AUB continues to offer a broad array of competitive benefits to its customers. The Bank successfully launched its travel rewards program "Pearl Awards", which is offered to AUB's credit card holders, and who receive 3 pearl points against every 1 KD spent in any of the establishments participating in the discounts pro-



ahli united bank

gram around the world. These points can be converted to air miles and used at Kuwait Airways, Qatar Airways or Gulf Air. Customers may also receive free travel and medical insurance during emergencies anywhere around the world when using their Ahli United Bank credit cards to purchase their airline tickets.

BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF YAWMI ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Burgan Bank announced the names of the lucky winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a prize of KD 5,000. The lucky winners for the daily draws took home a cash-prize of KD 5,000 each, and they are:

1. Fajer Sabah Salem Al Shareefi
2. Ahmad Saad Mohammad Al Sahlawi
3. Katabjiwala Salma Saifuddin
4. Yousuf Hasan Jawad Mohammad Qarashi
5. Hamad Faraj Hussain Al Fadhel

In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also offers a Quarterly Draw with more chances to win higher rewards, entitling one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers Daily and quarterly Draws, the Quarterly Draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of

KD 500 in their account for 2 months prior to draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account, will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500



and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws. Burgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances of becoming a winner. The more customers deposit, the higher the chances they receive of winning.

For more information on opening a Yawmi account or about the new quarterly draw, customers are urged to visit their nearest Burgan Bank branch and receive all the details, or simply call the bank's Call Center at 1804080 where customer service representatives will be delighted to assist with any questions on the Yawmi account or any of the bank's products and services. Customers can also log on to Burgan Bank's www.burgan.com for further information.

Amazing news from Al-Tijari...

Al-Najma account gives you the biggest daily prize in Kuwait!



AL TIJARI ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF AL NAJMA ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait held the Al Najma Account daily draw on 7th August, 2016. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Mr Saquer Al Manaie. The winners of the Al Najma Daily Draw are:-

- 1) Sayedali Yaqoub Sayedali Ghareeb KD 7000/-
- 2) Musedali Subah Mohamed Lafta KD 7000/-

- 3) Ali Abdullah AlGhathban KD 7000/-
- 4) Asma Mohammad Baitar KD 7000/-
- 5) Asim Murtaza Bhutto KD 7000/-

Al Najma awards are now brighter and bigger than ever. With the revamped Al Najma account, all your dreams will be turned to reality. On top of offering the highest daily prize in Kuwait for KD 7,000, now our Mega prize draws got bigger to reach KD 250,000.

MENA 'OFFICE OF THE FUTURE' VISION IS CLOSER THAN EVER: CANON REPORT

DUBAI: Organizations in the MENA region are taking steps to embrace the 'Office of the Future' concept, revolutionizing how their employees work and operate. This is evident in the Office Insights 2016 report released by Canon which states that 63% of organizations in the MENA region see value in the ability to print remotely from a smartphone, tablet or laptop.



Hendrik Verbrugghe, Marketing Director, Canon Middle East

The findings reveal that the combination of rapidly advancing technology, the growth of cloud-based services and an increased ability to work remotely have unlocked opportunities for greater working efficiency and empowerment in high-growth markets across the region.

Canon's Office Insights 2016 report studies information management and technology's role in how it is managed. The study leverages findings from business decision-makers and end-users across Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, the Middle East and Africa. Decision makers were asked to discuss and expand on the topics of remote printing, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), digital spend and automation.

"It's clear that businesses across regional markets are being empowered by innovative technology, and

are welcoming futuristic ways of working to drive growth," says Hendrik Verbrugghe, Marketing Director, Canon Middle East and Canon Central and North Africa. "However, it is not without its set of challenges and therefore it is crucial we address concerns and provide the right level of guidance for each unique market, to ensure businesses are making informed and beneficial technology investments."

Of the countries surveyed, the most technologically advanced markets were the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia, all of which were most likely to increase spending on office technologies over the next three years with 27% saying they will spend more on printing, copying and scanning software and device.

New printing technologies are being particularly welcomed by business leaders in the region. Ease of use and convenience has boosted the use of multi-functional devices (MFDs), which in turn has increased productivity - with Saudi Arabia being one of the countries most likely to see further growth as a result. Business leaders were most likely to believe that basic printers will soon lose out to MFDs, and that they'll use the devices a lot more in three years' time.

Moreover, faster internet speeds make it more likely for business leaders in the countries to drive the adoption of cloud services and wireless document sharing and remote printing, especially in the UAE. The appetite and interest for BYOD style of working is also strongest in Saudi Arabia (62%). Working remotely is common practice, with respondents rating tablets as 'critical' devices - particularly those brought into the workplace and 47% of all businesses are keen to allow BYOD to access the company's corporate network. However, security concerns are limiting BYOD progress in the UAE and Morocco, says the report.

TOP DESIGNERS BACK APPLE IN SAMSUNG PATENT APPEAL

WASHINGTON: More than 100 global design professionals on Thursday offered support to Apple in its long-running patent design battle with Samsung, now before the US Supreme Court. The group, which includes US fashion designer Calvin Klein, Nicolas Ghesquiere of the French group Louis Vuitton and renowned German industrial designer Dieter Rams joined an amicus brief supporting Apple's contention that Samsung's \$548 million penalty for infringing on a design patent should stand.

The case is expected to result in a landmark decision on whether total profits from an unlawfully copied design should be assessed as a penalty, in the first major design patent case at the top US court in over a century. The amicus brief filed on behalf of design professionals, researchers and academics said they have no financial interest in the case but argue on the basis of "fundamental principles of visual design." They cite precedents like the Coca-Cola bottle, which is an integral part of the value of the product, according to the brief.

"The history of industrial design and the experience of America's most profitable industries demonstrate that a product's visual design becomes the product itself in the mind of consumers," they argued. "It is the design of a successful product that embodies the consumer's understanding of and desire to own and interact with it." Other signatories of the brief include Bentley Motors designer Stefan Hans Sielaff, Terence Conran of Conran Holdings and fashion designer Alexander Wang.

Clash with tech firms

The arguments run counter to those offered by many in the technology industry,

who claim that upholding the award will only encourage frivolous suits filed by "patent trolls" that make no products. A brief filed earlier this year by Google, Facebook, eBay, Dell, Hewlett-Packard Enterprise and others said allowing the award to stand "will lead to absurd results and have a devastating impact on companies... that spend billions of dollars annually on research and development for complex technological products and their components."

The tech firms argued that awarding a design patent holder the total profit from an infringer's product when the design covers only a relatively minor portion of the product "is out of proportion with the significance of the design and out of touch with economic realities." A California jury ruled that Samsung had infringed on the US firm's patent for the iPhone, including for its design, in smartphones made by the South Korean giant.

The Supreme Court in February agreed to hear the case, opening the door to reducing the hundreds of millions of dollars in damages owed in the blockbuster patent case between the world's biggest smartphone makers. The justices will not reconsider Samsung's guilt, but will look at whether the penalty was excessive for copyright infringement of certain electronic components.

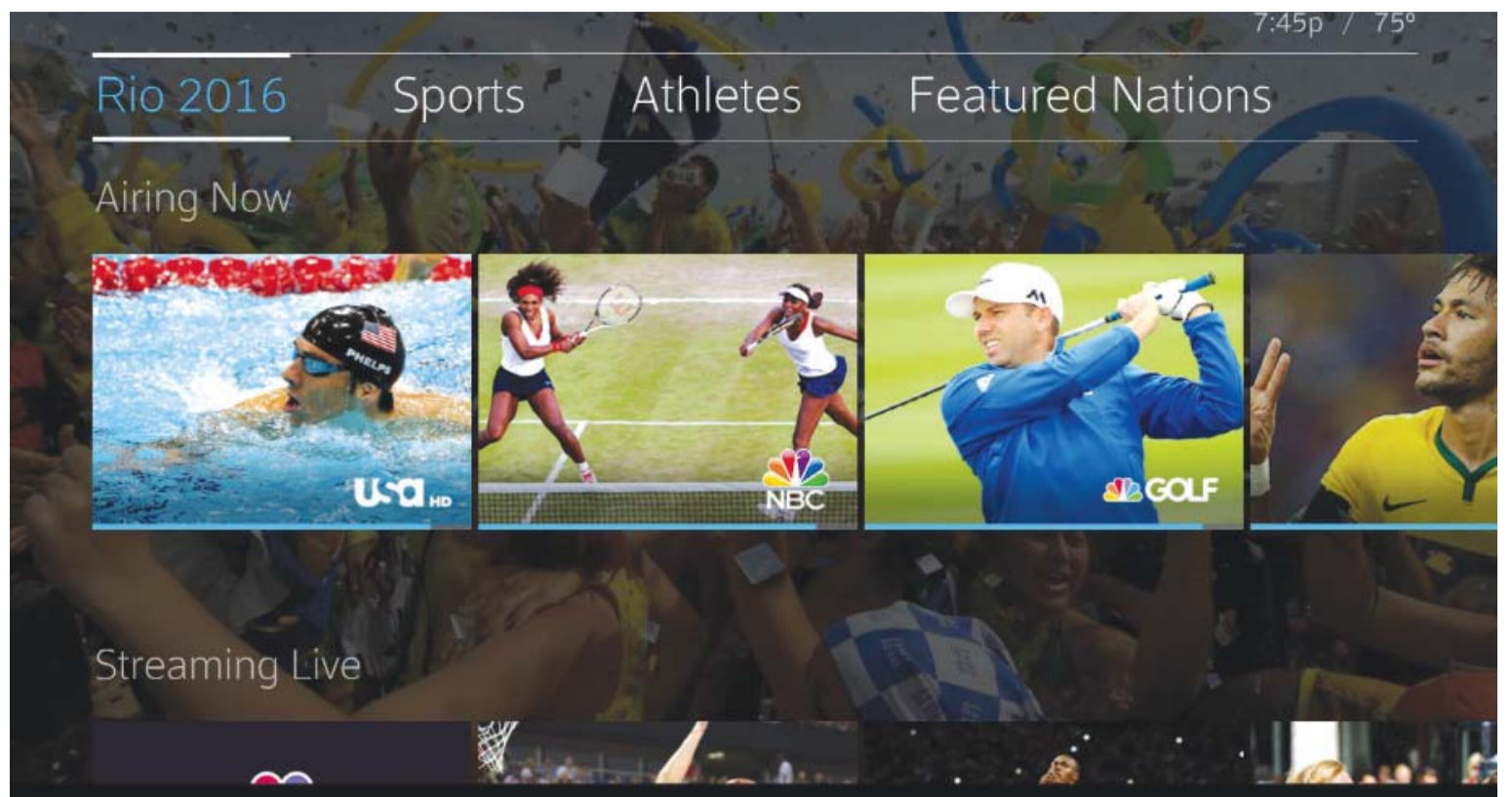
Samsung last year agreed to pay Apple some \$548 million, pending the outcome of the appeal. But Samsung argued that \$399 million of the penalty was excessive because it was based on the premise that "Apple was entitled to those entire profits no matter how little the patented design features contributed to the value of Samsung's phones," according to the appeal brief. — AP

JUST A BURP: INTRIGUING HINTS OF PHYSICS PARTICLE EVAPORATE

WASHINGTON: Eight months after raising hopes that they may have found an intriguing new particle that cannot be explained by the existing main physics theory, disappointed scientists are saying: Never mind. It was just a statistical burp, not a breakthrough, researchers reported Friday. "Basically we see nothing," said Tiziano Camporesi, a chief scientific spokesman at the European Center for Nuclear Research. Early unconfirmed readings of a new particle in December by physicists at the center, called CERN, set the physics world abuzz. Scientists there had discovered the Higgs boson or "God particle" in 2012, and two new readings from the Large Hadron Collider made it seem as though they may have found a revolutionary new particle. In the months that followed, scientists pored over more data from high-speed atom crashes while theorists tried to figure out what it all means. But the new data ruled out any particle existing at the energy level they had been looking at. At a Chicago physics conference, Dave Charlton, another CERN chief scientific spokesman, said the additional data showed that what they had seen earlier was just a random "statistical fluke." California Institute of Technology physicist Sean Carroll, who wasn't part of the CERN team, said: "It's a shame there wasn't a particle there, but there aren't any big ideas that would rise or fall on it being there." — AP



GENEVA: In this March 22, 2007 file photo, the magnet core of the world's largest superconducting solenoid magnet (CMS, Compact Muon Solenoid) at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)'s Large Hadron Collider (LHC) particle accelerator. — AP



This July 2016 image provided by Comcast Corp shows a X1 Olympics demo captured in Philadelphia.

OLYMPICS OFFER A SHOWCASE FOR VR TECH, PAYMENTS RING

DAZZLING NEW TECHNOLOGY TO BE DISPLAYED

RIO DE JANEIRO: Besides dazzling feats of athleticism, dazzling new technologies will be on display at the Olympics. About 217 million viewers in the US alone tuned in to the London Olympics four years ago, making it the most watched TV event in history. The television audience is expected to increase for the Rio Olympics, which formally opened on Friday. Others will tune in online or watch the games in person in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. That makes the Olympics an excellent showcase for new and emerging technologies. Such brands as Visa and Samsung are taking the opportunity to show off their wares.

VISA'S PAYMENT RING

Visa, a 30-year Olympics sponsor, is running the payment systems at the Olympics. Visa is equipping about 4,000 payment terminals at souvenir shops, concession stands and other Olympic venues with a wireless technology called near-field-communication, or NFC. It's the technology that powers mobile-payment services such as Apple Pay, Google Pay and Samsung Pay, though only Samsung's has launched in Brazil. Visa is giving payments rings to 59 athletes to wear on their fingers. With a tap on an NFC payment terminal, they can charge their Visa accounts. Giving the ring to Olympic athletes like swimmer Missy Franklin and decathlete Ashton Eaton lets Visa test the technology, while garnering buzz as athletes tweet about them and wear them around the Olympic village.

SAMSUNG'S SPECIAL EDITION GALAXY

Samsung, another Olympic sponsor, is delivering a special Olympic Games edition of its Galaxy S7 Edge phone to 12,500 Olympians. The phone is branded with the Olympic rings and has Olympics-themed wallpapers loaded on the device. The company also made 2,016 of the Olympic phones for the public to buy in selected countries, including Brazil, the US and South Korea. One feature Samsung expects to make a splash: The phones will come with a flag app, which athletes will be encouraged to hold up as they walk together by country during Friday's opening ceremonies. "They can use the entire screen of the S7 to become a flag," said Pio Schunker, Samsung's global head of brand inte-



NEW YORK: This June 2, 2016 photo shows a Visa payment ring near a payment terminal. — AP
grated marketing. "They will be waving the national flag through the S7."

NBC GETS INTO VR, GETTY GOES 360

Expect to see virtual-reality content, along with 360-degree video and images. NBC, which has television and online rights in the US, plans 85 hours of VR coverage through the NBC Sports app on Samsung's Gear VR headset. VR events will include opening and closing ceremonies, men's basketball, gymnastics and track and field. They will typically be shown on a one-day delay.

Getty, the Olympics' official photography agency, launched a virtual-reality division in June to focus on 360-degree images. Getty shot some 360-degree images at the London Olympics in 2012 as the technology was emerging. This time in Rio, every Getty photographer will have a 360-degree camera. "We are only on the cusp of what will be a tectonic plate shift in VR," Getty CEO Dawn Airey said. Meanwhile, Facebook's Oculus VR business, which developed the technology behind Gear VR, plans to showcase more than 400 360-degree images from various photographers. It will be available

HIGH-TECH COVERAGE

NBC owner Comcast Corp. is showcasing its X1 set-top box, giving its customers a way to search for live coverage and replays by country, athlete and sport. It's also integrating voice search into the system. Viewers, for instance, can get the latest medal count by speaking, "How is the USA doing?" The company is also offering a way to zip to gold-medal event highlights and restart events that have already begun.

The high-tech coverage makes use of the box's connection to the internet and increasing presence in Comcast subscriber homes. Comcast says about 40 percent of its 22.4 million video customers have X1. Comcast is aiming to reach 50 percent by the end of the year. The X1 innovation is one way Comcast is trying to help viewers sort through some 6,000 hours of Olympics coverage on television and online. If it boosts audiences for the Olympics, it'll also help Comcast recoup some of the \$4.4 billion that NBC paid for the US broadcast rights over six years. — AP

CISCO UNVEILS DATA CENTER INNOVATIONS TO ACCELERATE HYBRID CLOUD DEPLOYMENTS

KUWAIT CITY: Cisco yesterday announced data center technology innovations in three key areas: networking, hyperconverged infrastructure, and hybrid cloud orchestration which will enable application-centric hybrid cloud deployments. Cisco continues to lead data center innovation with SDN-ready Nexus switches that deliver cloud scale 10/25/40/50/100Gbps, with up to 10 times performance improvement at industry leading price points. The new switching platforms provide the scale, telemetry, security, and performance needed for distributed containers and microservices, as well as the lossless traffic needed for IP storage and hyperconverged infrastructure. The new switches give Cisco customers a two-year innovation advantage over competitive technology.

Cisco also unveiled Cisco HyperFlex(tm) Systems, built on Cisco's industry-leading UCS compute platform, which brings a new architectural approach to hyperconverged infrastructure. Cisco HyperFlex Systems simplify policy-based automation across network, compute and storage for the widest set of enterprise applications. Cisco HyperFlex surpasses first generation hyperconverged solutions, which were severely limited in terms of the performance, flexibility, and operational simplicity required by today's IT environment of microservices, containers, new applications and clouds. This expands Cisco's portfolio of complete software-defined infrastructure - from compute with



Shadi Salama, Channel Leader - Middle East Theatre

UCS, network with ACI and SDN solutions, to now HyperFlex for storage. Earlier this year, Cisco announced its intent to acquire CliQr Technologies Inc. The CliQr CloudCenter platform will provide customers with comprehensive yet simplified, application-centric orchestration for private, hybrid and public clouds.

CliQr provides customers with a single, intuitive platform that helps customers manage the entire application lifecycle across hybrid IT environments, whether simple or complex. The CliQr platform ties business applications to heterogeneous data center infrastructure, running across bare-metal, containers and virtualized environments. These announcements are the first of many hardware and software innovations Cisco plans to bring to market in 2016. The goal is to help

customers achieve highly secure, simplified, scalable and cost-effective data centers that keep pace with the speed of business, and accelerate adoption of hybrid cloud environments.

Cisco HyperFlex(tm) Systems

Based on Cisco's award winning UCS technology, Cisco HyperFlex(tm) Systems represent the next generation in hyperconverged infrastructure with a leap in technology that delivers the industry's first complete end-to-end hyperconverged solution. The HyperFlex portfolio extends Cisco's UCS and converged infrastructure businesses, which together have over 50,000 customers worldwide. The HyperFlex series makes an ideal platform for customers deploying enterprise applications in their data centers, and for remote and branch offices where hyperconverged infrastructure is expected to become a multi-billion industry over the next three to four years.

The new Nexus 9000 switches deliver:

- Industry leading performance for 100Gbps, with 25 percent more non-blocking performance, at 50 percent the cost of comparable solutions, plus greater reliability and lower power
- Real time network telemetry at 100Gbps wire rate, enabling network security with pervasive NetFlow and fabric wide troubleshooting
- The ability to scale up to 10

times in IP addresses and end points at cloud scale, and support over a million containers per rack.

- Unique cloud services with adaptive capacity and congestion control, allowing customers to support lossless traffic for IP storage, hyperconverged and converged infrastructure on a single unified fabric that enables application completion times 50 percent faster than traditional competitive platforms.

- Future-proofing with cloud economics for the transition to hyperconverged infrastructure and applications based on microservices and containers

Automation with Cisco Nexus Fabric Manager

The new Cisco Nexus Fabric Manager automates the complete fabric lifecycle management with a simple point-and-click web interface, and offers automated configuration snapshots and rollbacks. Nexus Fabric Manager builds and self-manages a VXLAN-based fabric, dynamically configuring switches based on simplified user-based actions. A IT manager can fully deploy a VXLAN-based fabric in just three steps, complete with zero touch provisioning, and can upgrade all fabric switches to a new software release in only four mouse clicks. Cisco's hardware and software innovations will help IT organizations to accelerate the adoption of the hybrid cloud environments that will fulfill their business needs today and into the future.

AS ZIKA FEARS ESCALATE, LAWMAKERS POINT FINGERS FROM AFAR

'ZIKA IS RISKY FOR BUSINESS TOO'

WASHINGTON: As Zika escalates into a public health crisis and the number of mosquito-transmitted cases grows, Republicans and Democrats are pointing fingers over the failure by Congress to commit federal dollars to fight the virus. President Barack Obama on Thursday sought to pressure congressional Republicans over the issue, encouraging voters to "call your members of Congress and tell them to do their job." "The money that we need to fight Zika is rapidly running out. The situation is getting critical," Obama said at a news conference.

Yet lawmakers left Washington in mid-July for a seven-week recess without approving any of the \$1.9 billion that Obama requested in February to develop a vaccine and control the mosquitoes that carry the virus. Abortion politics played a central role in the impasse. Republicans angered Democrats by adding a

provision to a \$1.1 billion take-it-or-leave-it measure that would have blocked Planned Parenthood clinics in Puerto Rico from receiving money. House Speaker Paul Ryan, writing in USA Today on Thursday, did not mention that provision in blaming Democrats for blocking the legislation. Their obstruction, according to Ryan, R-Wis, is "a blatant ploy in an election year."

Also Thursday, 47 Senate Democrats called on Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to reconvene Congress and immediately address the Zika threat. They faulted GOP leaders for allowing "poison pill special-interest priorities" into the bill. But McConnell has signaled he is in no rush to return. Writing in the Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader on Monday, he criticized Democrats for balking at passing the bill. He said they'll get another chance after Labor Day when

Congress is back in session. Some important points to know about the issue:

Zika money being spent 'aggressively, prudently'

Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell warned lawmakers on Wednesday that her Zika budget is running out quickly. Without more money soon, she said, the "nation's ability to effectively respond to Zika will be impaired." Burwell's letter sought to counter Republicans who've criticized the Obama administration for not using several hundred million dollars already in the budget for Zika prevention. The money was initially allotted for fighting Ebola but was redirected to address Zika. Sen Marco Rubio, R-Fla., said Tuesday that there's no excuse for not spending money that Congress has provided. "Why are they holding that money back?" he asked.

Burwell said her agency is committed to using "scarce federal dollars aggressively and prudently." The Centers for Disease Control received the bulk of the \$374 million "re-purposed" for Zika domestic response efforts, she said, and it will exhaust the remainder of the money by Sept 30. Money for vaccine development will run out even sooner, she said. The second phase of clinical trials would be delayed as a result, and Americans would have to wait longer for a vaccine, according to Burwell. "Now that the United States is in the height of mosquito season and with the progress in developing a Zika vaccine, the need for additional resources is critical," Burwell wrote.

Don't expect Congress to interrupt its recess

Sen Bill Nelson, D-Fla., said Congress does not have to interrupt its break to pass the bill. Republicans quickly dismissed his proposal. Nelson's state has become the epicenter for Zika in the US. At least 15 people are reported to be infected with the virus in Miami's Wynwood arts district. These are believed to be the first mosquito-transmitted cases in the mainland United States. Nelson said in a letter Tuesday to McConnell that the Senate could pass a bill through a procedure known as a pro forma session that requires the presence of only a few senators.

But even Nelson is not optimistic that will happen, and he took a jab at McConnell, predicting the Senate would move swiftly if a transmitted Zika case was reported in Kentucky. Don Stewart, McConnell's spokesman, said Nelson's proposal was not plausible unless Democrats were willing to end their filibuster of a Zika bill the House has passed. Otherwise, the Senate would be only approving an earlier version of the legislation that Obama could not sign into law, Stewart said.

Zika is a looming economic development problem too, according to Rubio. Many Florida businesses depend heavily on tourism and the state's economy could be hurt if potential visitors decide to stay away, he said. "I can foresee now when people that are planning to come to Florida, to go fishing perhaps, will decide to cancel their trip because they're worried about mosquitoes and they're worried about Zika," Rubio said. White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Wednesday that it's up to Congress to pass the legislation so that more can be done. "They left on a seven-week recess a day early, at the height of mosquito season and basically told the American people, 'good luck,'" Earnest said. —AP



WASHINGTON: Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. —AP photos



WASHINGTON: File photo shows Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues Chairman Sen Marco Rubio, R-Fla.

ZIKA-HIT MIAMI NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE: FLORIDA GOVERNOR

WASHINGTON: A trendy Miami neighborhood at the epicenter of the first US outbreak of the Zika virus is safe to visit, Florida Governor Rick Scott said yesterday. "We are doing a very good job of working to get rid of the mosquitoes," he said on NBC's Meet the Press. "We have been able to reduce the area that we had a concern about by 10 blocks on Friday." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) yesterday issued an unusual domestic travel warning for a one-mile section north of downtown Miami where mosquitoes have spread the virus to 16 people.

In particular, it advised women who are pregnant to avoid travel to the area, a popular arts and restaurant district known as Wynwood, or consult their doctor if they live there. The virus can cause microcephaly, a severe birth defect in which babies are born with abnormally small heads and permanent brain damage. Scott said he had visited the neighborhood on Thursday and it was "absolutely" safe. "We're making sure everybody pregnant has the opportunity to get an assessment and test if they want it," he said. "And we're keeping everybody informed. What we're doing is working."

He said he had asked the CDC for 10,000 additional Zika prevention kits, which contain mosquito repellent, condoms and tabs to treat standing water. "We still need the federal government to show up, the president and Congress have to work together and this is an international issue, not just a Florida issue," he said. President Barack Obama asked Congress in February to allocate \$1.9 billion for the fight against Zika, but was met with resistance by Republican lawmakers who said the funds should instead be moved from coffers previously reserved for fighting the Ebola outbreak. —AFP

DOCTORS SHOULD OFFER WOMEN BIRTH CONTROL RIGHT AFTER BABIES ARRIVE

WASHINGTON: Women should have the chance to get long-acting birth control like intrauterine devices (IUDs) before they leave the hospital with a new baby, a leading group of US obstetricians recommends. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has long advocated that women have access to IUDs and contraceptive implants along with other birth control options.

But this is the first time ACOG has explicitly recommended that women having babies in the hospital get the opportunity to receive IUDs and implants before they go home. The advantage of this approach is that it may help avoid pregnancies spaced too close together that carry a risk of serious complications for both mothers and babies. "Immediate postpartum long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) has been shown to be a convenient and effective option for

women desiring postpartum birth control," said Dr. Ann Borders of the University of Chicago, who helped draft the ACOG recommendations.

"Providing effective contraception before a woman goes home from the hospital eliminates significant barriers" many women face after they've had a baby, Borders added by email. This is the first US State to Make Birth Control Available Over-the-Counter. For example, she said, "Women may lose insurance post-delivery, miss their postpartum follow up visit, their postpartum care site may not offer LARC placement or may require pre-approval or more than one visit for placement." In the US, almost half of pregnancies are unplanned.

While many women plan to resume or start birth control after having a baby, up to 40% don't go to the follow-up appointment that's needed to

get a prescription for pills or an implant or IUD, according to ACOG. One of the biggest barriers to women receiving IUDs or implants right after delivery is financial. Insurance typically pays a lump sum for labor and delivery, without giving doctors or hospitals money to cover the cost of providing long-acting contraception during the hospital stay, said Dr. Michelle Moniz of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

If doctors instead give women IUDs or implants at a follow-up appointment in an outpatient setting several weeks later, then they do get paid by the insurance companies, Moniz, who wasn't involved in the ACOG recommendations, said by email. Supreme Court Will Hear Faith-Based Objections to Obamacare Birth Control "It's not offered by most maternity care settings because it's not reimbursed by most payers," Moniz said.

This is gradually changing, Moniz said. Medicaid, the government health insurance program for the poor, pays for roughly half of US births and covers IUDs and implants right after delivery in at least 20 states. Contraceptive implants are flexible plastic rods about the size of a matchstick that are inserted under the skin in the upper arm. They can be used to prevent pregnancy for several years. IUDs are T-shaped devices about the size of a quarter that are inserted into the uterus. The devices can be used for several years; they prevent pregnancy by stopping sperm from reaching the egg. While placing an IUD immediately after birth carries a slightly increased risk that it may loosen and fall out, the risks of other complications, such as infections, are small and similar to the odds of side effects from an IUD placed later in the doctor's office. —Reuters



MIAMI: A view of the outdoor business The Wynwood Yard that has been closed since last Aug 2, due to the cases of Zika in the area in the Wynwood area of Miami. —AP photos

FLORIDA OFFICIALS GO INTO DAMAGE-CONTROL MODE OVER ZIKA

TAMPA, Florida: Thank goodness it's the slow season in Florida. At least that's what officials and representatives of the state's multibillion-dollar tourism industry are thinking in the wake of the news that 16 people have been infected with Zika in a small, trendy neighborhood in Miami. The outbreak has sent another chill through the Sunshine State's all-important tourism industry just weeks after the Orlando nightclub massacre and the killing of a 2-year-old boy by an alligator at nearby Walt Disney World.

Florida officials have gone into damage-control mode, with Gov. Rick Scott insisting, "We have a safe state!" during a tour of the Zika hot zone in Miami's Wynwood district. Tourism is Florida's biggest industry. Visitors spent some \$89 billion here last year. And Disney is America's No. 1 tourist attraction. Outside of a few business owners in the affected square-mile neighborhood, however, Zika appears to have done little damage to tourism so far.

"We have not had anyone cancel a trip to Florida because of Zika," said Jenny Cagle, vice president of Elm Grove Travel in Wisconsin. "It's definitely a conversation. People are talking about it." Demetra Prattas, vice president of Turon Travel, a New York-based company that books art tours and trips, including the annual Art Basel festival that includes events in Wynwood, said: "I don't think it's a factor in deciding where to go. We've had no cancellations."

The governor has been on something of a statewide Zika tour, meeting with county health officials and business owners in Miami and along the Interstate 4 corridor that runs through Orlando. He said tourists should use caution and not worry about mosquitoes, adding that Florida knows how to prepare for crises because of its hurricanes. "We will make sure all the tourists feel comfortable coming to Florida," he said Thursday in Wynwood, site of the first mosquito-transmitted cases of Zika on record in the continental US. "We've got to continue to support these businesses because, why? They have employees and those employees need their jobs."

Consult the doctor

He said the state is doing everything it can to test people, spray against mosquitoes, get rid of the standing water in which they breed, and encourage people to use insect repellent. The Visit Orlando tourism board issued a statement noting that no locally acquired cases of Zika have been reported in the Orlando area, which is over 200 miles from Miami. The board gave assurances that "safety is the top priority for our region." The next few months will be crucial, said Henry Hartevelt, founder of the San Francisco-based Atmosphere Research Group, a travel-industry watcher.

"If Florida is able to address this efficiently and quickly and be able to pronounce with confidence that they've been able to eradicate, there won't be long-term consequences," he said. "If Zika remains a long-term challenge, it's possible some potential tourists might think twice." Federal health officials have warned pregnant women to avoid Wynwood because the virus can cause severe birth defects, including stunted heads. England's public health agency is advising mothers-to-be to postpone non-essential trips to Florida.

US experts say expectant mothers planning a visit to the state should consult with their doctor. For the most part, theme park visitors should be fine, said North Carolina State University entomologist Michael Reiskind, because the mosquito species most likely to spread the disease is less prevalent in Orlando and the theme parks are likely to spend heavily on insect control. Kathy Torian, a spokeswoman for Visit Florida, the state's tourism arm, said anecdotally there were minimal cancellations in the wake of the Orlando shootings and the Disney alligator attack. In 2015, 106.3 million people visited Florida, a record number. Some tourists are shrugging off the dangers. "I feel very safe in Orlando. The recent tragedies and even the Zika concerns have not deterred me in any way from enjoying my vacation," said a vacationing Tam Fuller, of Atlanta. "I keep my kids close to me at all times and stay aware of my surroundings, so I never feel unsafe." —AP



MIAMI: A tour bus makes a stop in front of the Wynwood Walls in the Wynwood area of Miami.

PATIENTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA CAUSE ETHICS HEADACHE FOR DOCTORS

As more and more sick patients are going online and using social media to search for answers about their health, it's raising a lot of thorny ethical questions for doctors. "The internet and ready access to vast amounts of information are now permanent aspects of how we live our lives, including how we think about and deal with our health problems," Dr Chris Feudtner, director of medical ethics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, said by email. Social media in particular can affect how patients interact with doctors and what type of care they expect, Feudtner and colleagues write in an article about ethics in the journal Pediatrics.

"Clinicians should ask about what patients and families have read on the Internet, and then work through that information thoughtfully, as sometimes Internet information is not helpful and sometimes it is helpful," Feudtner said. "Doing this takes time and effort, yet trust is built with time and effort." To explore the ethical challenges posed by patients' virtual lives, Feudtner and examined a fictional case blending elements of several recent real-life situations.

In this hypothetical case, the parents of a 10-year-old boy hospitalized with cancer started a blog. Doctors, nurses and other

hospital staff were among the 1,000 subscribers to his blog. A year after his hospital stay ended, the boy relapsed, and his parents launched an online petition seeking access to an experimental cancer treatment that was only available through clinical trials. No trials were accepting new patients. The petition draws 60,000 supporters in just 48 hours, and news crews descend on the hospital.

Web-based resources

Aside from the obvious pressure this puts on one team of clinicians at one hospital to help one very sick child, this situation raises broader ethical issues about how treatment decisions should be made. Fairness issues arise because not all families have the same access to social media or skill at using online communities to advocate for the care they want to receive, doctors argue in the article. Hospitals and other healthcare institutions need to have policies in place to handle situations when patients' social media posts go viral and take steps to respond proactively. Clinicians need to know they will be supported for providing appropriate care even when this clashes with what patients and families advocate for on social media. —AP

FAMILIES AND DOCTORS WHO CARE FOR TRANS KIDS GET HELP AT CONFERENCE

SEATTLE: At the annual Gender Odyssey conference this week in Seattle, parents and healthcare providers who care for transgender and gender-nonconforming children are receiving a crash course on a world often left unexplored. Gender Odyssey began 15 years ago in Seattle as a collection of people discussing transgender and gender-nonconforming issues, but it has since ballooned to include programming specifically for families and healthcare providers. This week, more than 1,200 attendees are expected. "I wanted us to come together and give and take," said Aidan Key, who founded the conference.

The goal of the professional programming is to advance medical standards and guidelines. Meanwhile, the family programming focuses on parents' and children's experiences, and their future.

Parents "feel like they're having to advocate for their children in an arena they never thought they'd have to navigate," Key told Reuters Health.

"At the very least, what I want them to know is that their child can have a fantastic future," said Key. "I want them to be able to leave and have a connection that will help sustain them throughout the year." After not finding the right fit among a few support groups, Evelyn Montanez, a mother and teacher from Redmond, Washington, came to Gender Odyssey in 2015 at the suggestion of a family member. This year at Gender Odyssey, Montanez said she'll be paying special attention to sessions about medical care and insurance as her son, who is transgender, enters college.

"It's an incredible safe space to talk about our experiences and a space to

share positive things," said Montanez. "Last year was positively overwhelming," she said. "There was so much information I was learning. All the workshops were amazing, but what stood out to me was the student panel - the kids. It was really good for me as a mom to see where the kids are at different stages." There are no national estimates of the number of transgender or gender diverse youth in the US, but The Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law says about 1.4 million US adults identify as transgender.

Communities and families

This year, medical professionals attending Gender Odyssey are offered sessions on barriers to care for transgender and gender-nonconforming youth, talking to young children about

gender, and hormone use among gender diverse youths. Medical school curricula currently devote only about five hours to issues affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, said Dr Aron Janssen, who is clinical director of the gender and sexuality service at NYU Langone Medical Center in New York City.

"As physicians at least we have an ethical responsibility to treat the patients who come through our doors," said Janssen. "It's not an excuse to say you haven't been trained." Janssen said healthcare providers, parents and children can all benefit from conferences like Gender Odyssey, but for those who can't attend, online resources are available. He usually recommends Gender Spectrum and TransYouth Family Allies.

According to Key, one of the most

powerful and consistent benefits for children and families is meeting other people with similar backgrounds. "You can immediately find kinship and find someone who understands your experience," he said. Montanez said her goal this year is to exchange phone numbers and email addresses with two families at the conference who live outside the Seattle area. "I think now that I'm going to be an empty nester, I want to be more involved with communities and families," she told Reuters Health. "I think it's important to hear they're not alone and they have friends going through the same thing." Every person develops a gender identity, Janssen said, and that identity doesn't always align with what is typically portrayed in the media and online. "There is beauty in that diversity," he said. —Reuters



LONDON: In this file photo, a new Routemaster double-decker bus arrives at Victoria bus station in London. —AP

LONDON TO OFFER ALERTS ON AIR QUALITY AT BUS STOPS

LONDON: Londoners will soon be able to get air quality reports when they check whether their bus is about to arrive. Mayor Sadiq Khan has ordered that 2,500 bus stop information signs display air quality alerts on high pollution days.

Some 140 dot-matrix message boards on roads leading to London will also display the information, along with instructions for drivers to switch off their engines

while stuck in traffic to reduce emissions. Electronic update signs at subway stations will also display information on air quality. The initiative, which begins Aug 15, is part of Khan's crusade to clean up the air in the British capital. After taking office earlier this year, the mayor commissioned a survey showing that nearly 80 percent of those who responded were interested in receiving pollution data. —AP

SOUTH CAROLINA GIRL EXPOSED TO BRAIN-EATING AMOEBA FACES BLEAK ODDS

CHARLESTON, South Carolina: Girl exposed to brain-eating amoeba faces bleak odds: An 11-year-old South Carolina girl has irreparable brain damage after contracting a rare, often-fatal infection caused by an amoeba from a river where she was swimming, according to a Facebook page set up on her behalf.

The girl, identified by local media as Hannah Collins of Beaufort, is believed to have been exposed to the brain-eating amoeba on July 24 in Charleston County's Edisto River, the state health department said this week.

She is being treated at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. A post Thursday night on the "Prayers for Hannah Katherine" Facebook page said the

hospital had done everything it could for the girl. "We have all been waiting and praying for a miracle," the post said. "We are now waiting for her to join the angels in heaven."

Representatives of the Medical University of South Carolina and the state Department of Health and Environmental Control would not release information on the patient on Friday. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed this week that a South Carolina resident had been exposed to the Naegleria fowleri organism, which is found in warm freshwater and triggers an infection that destroys brain tissue. The fatality rate for an infected person is more than 97 percent, according to the CDC. —Reuters

EGYPT BIDS FAREWELL TO NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING CHEMIST

CAIRO: Nobel prize-winning Egyptian-American chemist Ahmed Zewail was given a state funeral with military honors yesterday in Cairo attended by Egypt's president and top officials. Zewail, who served as a science and technology advisor to US President Barack Obama, died on Tuesday in the United States aged 70. A naturalised US citizen, Zewail won the Nobel prize for chemistry in 1999 for his groundbreaking work in the study of chemical reactions in extremely short timescales. Egypt organized two high-profile processions to bid Zewail farewell yesterday before he was laid to rest.

President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, Al-Azhar's Grand Imam Ahmed Al-Tayeb, Defense Minister Sedki Sobhi and Egyptian-British surgeon Sir Magdi Yacoub attended one procession at a military complex. Live footage on state television showed the scientist's coffin shrouded in an Egyptian flag and drawn by horses on a carriage flanked by men in military uniform. The mourners marched inside the military complex in eastern Cairo to funeral music from a military band. Mourners including Prime Minister Sherif Ismail, Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry and the defense minister then presented their condolences to Zewail's family.

The coffin was then transported by ambulance to the second procession from a university he founded at the Zewail City of Science and Technology. Zewail was later buried in a family plot inside an Islamic-style tomb which his spokesman, Sherif Fouad, said he had bought just six months ago "as if he knew his time was nearing its end". Family members, friends, fans and journalists were present at the burial when the body wrapped in a white cloth was lowered into the tomb. Zewail was among four Egyptians to win a Nobel prize and the country's first scientist to do so.

'Global citizen'

Former Egyptian president Anwar Sadat shared the peace prize in 1978 with the late Israeli prime

minister Menachem Begin for reaching a historic peace deal between their two countries. Novelist Naguib Mahfouz won the 1988 Nobel prize for literature. Mohamed ElBaradei, then director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, received the 2005 peace prize for his efforts to promote the safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy. Zewail's work showed that it is possible using a laser technique to study in slow motion how atoms in a molecule move during a chemical reaction. According to the Nobel Prize website, Zewail's work led to the birth of the research area called femtochemistry, "which enables us to understand why certain chemical reactions take place but not others".

His discoveries offered scientists greater insight into chemical and pharmacological processes with implications across a range of disciplines including human health, electronics and high precision machinery. In 2009 Zewail was appointed to Obama's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, and later that year he was named the first US



CAIRO: This file photo taken on September 11, 2012 shows US-Egyptian Nobel prize-winning scientist Ahmed Zewail addressing members of the constitution committee at the Shura council in Cairo. —AFP photos

science envoy to the Middle East. Until his death Zewail—who was married with four children—worked at the California Institute of Technology. Caltech president Thomas Rosenbaum described Zewail as a "quintessential scholar

and global citizen". Zewail was a member of several prestigious scientific institutions, including the National Academy of Sciences and the US American Academy of Art and Sciences. He was also a fellow of London's Royal Society. —AFP



CAIRO: Egyptians take pictures with their phones as the coffin of Nobel prize-winning Egyptian-American chemist Ahmed Zewail is carried out of an ambulance at the Sixth of October cemetery for the last part of his funeral procession.

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times
248 33 199

Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem
فهد علي المخيزيم

استشاري أطفال
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM

Al-Jabriya - Block 1A - St. 1 - Mazaya Building - 15th Floor - Clinic B - Tel.: 22269369 - Fax: 22269368

LANDMARK GROUP BECOMES FIRST COMPANY IN MIDDLE EAST TO ADOPT FACEBOOK AT WORK

LAUNCHES ENTERPRISE VERSION OF FACEBOOK TO 10,000 EMPLOYEES

Landmark Group, the Middle East-based retail and hospitality conglomerate, launched Facebook at Work to 10,000 employees across 11 countries. The move is expected to encourage collaboration and help employees communicate more efficiently in real-time, using rich, two-way communication.

Facebook at Work allows Landmark employees to connect easily with each other across departments and geographies, both from their desktop computers and from their mobile devices, using best-in-class Android and iPhone apps.

"Facebook at Work is a simple way for colleagues to communicate and share across time zones and global offices," said Julien Codorniu, director, Facebook at Work. "We're excited for Landmark to realize the benefits of Facebook at Work, with increased productivity and collaboration across 10,000 employees in 11 countries."

Vipen Sethi, CEO, Landmark Group shared, "We are pleased to announce that Landmark Group has chosen Facebook at Work to connect Landmarkers across the Middle East and India. For a large and diverse company like ours, Facebook at Work is an ideal solution for our employees to connect and collaborate faster and more efficiently across teams and regions".

The decision to select Facebook at Work as the Group's official internal collaboration platform and team communication and collaboration tool was influenced by several factors. One important consideration was that employees were already familiar with Facebook, and use it in their everyday lives. This meant that adopting the enterprise version would require little or no training. Key features of Facebook at Work include Instant Messaging, Groups, News Feed, free HD video & audio calling, Search, Events and Polls - all of which can be used by Landmarkers to improve the quality and speed of their day-to-day interactions and team efforts with colleagues.

Savitari Jagtiani, Business Head E-Commerce, Landmark Group said, "Facebook at Work allows our colleagues to connect, collaborate and engage in real-time, across geographies and makes us a dramatically more dynamic organization. We are also the world's first major retailer to do so, and believe the greater interconnectedness will only drive our efforts forward. This is the enterprise collaboration platform we've been looking for".

Facebook at Work was piloted in the organization for over six months, and during this time the Landmark team created and refined an administrative strategy to ensure



that the platform serves the company's user and business goals.

Employees' personal and professional profiles at Facebook at Work are kept completely separate, with dedicated mobile apps for 'Work' and 'Work Chat'. The data shared on

Facebook at Work is accessible only to the eligible members of the Landmark community. HR management systems were also integrated to ensure that the on-boarding of new joiners is a seamless process.

Based on the rapid acceptance and posi-

tive feedback from the Group's employee base, Facebook at Work is quickly becoming an important platform for greater productivity and better team communication across the board.



AL-THURAYA CITY ANNOUNCES RAFFLE DRAW

Holiday Inn Kuwait Al-Thuraya City is delighted to announce details of the upcoming raffle draw following the hotel's summer promotion. Kuwaiti nationals and locals staying at the Holiday Inn during the months of June and July were entitled to raffle coupons for the draw of a Discovery Sport 2016. There were a total of

1,000 coupons associated with this promotion. The winner of the draw will be announced on 15th August 2016, at 11:00 am, in Al-Thuraya City's Auditorium and in the presence of a joint committee from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Interior.



POWER OF INDIAN WOMEN GROUP LAUNCHED DURING FAREWELL LUNCHEON

Dr Gargi Jain, wife of Indian Ambassador to Kuwait, hosted a farewell luncheon for Catherine Silliman, wife of American Ambassador to Kuwait who recently ended his tenure in Kuwait. Attending the event were prominent ladies of the Indian community including Najida Reaven, Mamta Kalra, Mandira Malhotra, Charu Batra, Seema

Goel, Alka Kumar, Gauri Tyagi, Wadhawan, Usha Suri, and Amrita Kabra, and Manuden Golder, wife of Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) of Indian Embassy. The occasion also marked the beginning of PIW (Power of Indian Women group), which aims to encourage meaningful service and interaction within ladies of the Indian community.

BEC REACHES 40TH BRANCH MILESTONE

Bahrain Exchange Company W.L.L. (BEC), one of Kuwait's leading worldwide money transfer and foreign exchange companies, yesterday announced the expansion of its retail network with the opening of its 40th branch, located in Murgab.

The opening of the new Murgab branch, BEC's 3rd outlet in the area, represents a key milestone for BEC, who have increased their network in Kuwait by 14 percent in the past 18 months. The new Murgab branch is situated near the Al-Ghannam Complex on Al-Hilal Street and will be open from 9am to 9pm every day, offering highly competitive rates on currency exchange and BEC's full suite of money transfer services including cash pick-up and credit to account through EzRemit and MoneyGram.

To mark the milestone opening, BEC gave away 500 gifts to the first 500 customers who transacted at the branch. Commenting on the milestone celebration and the inauguration of the branch Mr. Mathews Varghese, General Manager of BEC said, "I am honored to officially declare our 40th branch is now open for business. This is a great landmark for BEC and we are very proud of the extensive branch network we have built across Kuwait. As part of our growth strategy we endeavor to expand our network even further in the coming months, opening additional conveniently located branches across the country to accommodate the needs of our loyal customers."

BEC currently has 40 branches conveniently located all across Kuwait and specializes in sending money around the globe safely and quickly to over 46,000 locations in 30 countries through its own money transfer product - EzRemit. Its global reach is extended to over 200 countries through its partnership with MoneyGram an international remittance company.



WRITERS' FORUM MEETS INDIAN AMBASSADOR

Officials of the Writers' Forum, Kuwait paid a visit to His Excellency, the Ambassador of India, Sunil Jain to invite him as the Chief Guest for the forthcoming event of the Writers' Forum Multi-lingual Kavi Sammelan / Mushaira on August 15, 2016.

President of the Forum, Umesh Sharma presented the invitation and requested the Ambassador to grace the occasion as Chief Guest along with Dr Gargi Jain which he accepted. During the meeting, Sunil Jain was apprised of the uniqueness of this function and the WFK. Sharma

underlined the significance of the WFK as a symbol of 'Unity in Diversity' and a step to foster 'National Integration'.

Those who attended the meeting were:
Umesh Sharma - President
Dr Wasim Siddiqui - Vice President
Sunil Sonsi - Joint Secretary
Syed Qamar Minto - Executive Member
Afroz Alam - Anchor of the event



Award-winning Australian Chef Peter Kuruvita. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



CELEBRITY CHEF KURUVITA CREATES TEA TWIST RECIPES

INSPIRING PEOPLE TO GO BEYOND TYPICAL CUP OF JOY

Tea Lounge (t-Lounge), the world renowned producer-owned tea brand hosted the award-winning Australian Chef, restaurateur and culinary author, Peter Kuruvita for an inspiring session on tea gastronomy. The event, held at Dilmah signature t-Lounge located at Avenues Mall, The Mall area saw the attendance of media, top food influencers and special invitees.

To celebrate the revolution in tea in the field of innovative cuisine and gastronomy, Peter crafted five tea-inspired dishes; Tea Marshmallows, Rose with French Vanilla Doughnuts, First Ceylon Souchong Chicken Wrap, Dilmah Earl Grey Infused Chocolate Truffle and Italian Almond Lamb Kebab. Each of the recipes showcases Peter's creativity and inspiration in giv-

ing cuisine a new twist using Dilmah tea and taking flavors to new heights with a variety of exciting tea gastronomy suited for any occasion and moment.

Premium quality

Speaking at the event, Peter explained the value of different teas when creating tea-infused dishes. "Every tea and herbal infusion has a different offering. And to get the most out of each tea, you need to understand the unique brewing needs. Similarly, Dilmah Tea presents premium quality and custom tea blends that are able to please a variety of palettes of the finest gourmet tea, presenting tea as an essential in food, drink and life," he said.

Peter has worked with Dilmah Tea in an ambassadorial role for many years, cre-

atively contributing to the concept of tea gastronomy and adjudging the annual worldwide event, the Real High Tea Challenge by Dilmah. The brand also supports Peter throughout his culinary adventure in Sri Lanka and utilises his expertise in developing the concept of tea gastronomy, and in creating a trend of tea-inspired cuisine in the global food scene.

Dilmah's t-tK or 'Tea Kitsch' enthusiasts and fans can now savor not only tea gastronomy but also the upscale lifestyle locally at the t-Lounge. t-tK is a centuries old Sri Lankan tea making tradition where black tea is brewed strong, combined with condensed milk and 'pulled' by pouring the mixture from one stainless steel jug to another.

Inspiring appreciation

Designed with the concept of inspiring appreciation of the finest Ceylon tea experience, the t-Lounge experience includes fine tea, served hot, chilled, sparkling or in tantalizing mocktails or shooters. Guests can also find specialty tea mixes such as Dilmah's Jade Butterfly Handmade White Tea, Naturally Minty Ceylon Pekoe, Minty Oolong and Cinnamon Orange Chilled Tea. These teas are offered with delightful casual, comfort food, some of which are prepared with tea as an ingredient or paired with specific teas.

In addition, Dilmah's t-Lounge not only offers casual visitors an upscale and elegant gourmet experience, but also caters to tea enthusiasts. Tea aficionados will be

delighted with the availability of the much sought after limited edition Seasonal Flush and Single Estate teas, perfect for gifting or any special occasion. In addition, the t-Lounge in collaboration with the Dilmah School of Tea will host dedicated tea education and tasting events.

Dilmah's tea is unique in its taste that is picked, perfected, packed and branded at source, direct to consumers. First started as a family business brand, Dilmah preserves their commitment towards the quality of its tea collections. Dilmah currently has a total of nine branded t-Lounges around the world namely in Kuwait, China, India, Sri Lanka, Poland and Malaysia.



CLASSIFIEDS



KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (04/08/2016 TO 10/08/2016)

Programme	Time	Programme	Time	Programme	Time
SHARQIA-1 MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA THE CONJURING 2	12:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM 9:30 PM 12:30 AM	THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	JASON BOURNE AVENUES-2 TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS -3D-4DX SUICIDE SQUAD -3D-4DX THE LEGEND OF TARZAN -3D-4DX SUICIDE SQUAD -3D-4DX SUICIDE SQUAD -3D-4DX	11:30 PM 12:15 PM 12:15 PM 5:15 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
SHARQIA-2 SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD -3D THE LEGEND OF TARZAN SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD	12:00 PM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM 7:15 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM	FANAR-3 NERVE FINDING DORY SULTAN- HINDI NERVE NERVE MIN 30 SANA	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:30 PM	AVENUES-3 NERVE NERVE NERVE NERVE NERVE NERVE	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 2:30 PM 6:15 PM 8:30 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM
SHARQIA-3 THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE LEGEND OF TARZAN JASON BOURNE THE LEGEND OF TARZAN ABU SHANAB THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	1:00 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	FANAR-4 SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:15 AM	AVENUES-4 THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE LEGEND OF TARZAN MIN 30 SANA Special Show "SUICIDE SQUAD" MIN 30 SANA Special Show "SUICIDE SQUAD" MIN 30 SANA	12:00 PM 2:15 PM 5:00 PM 5:00 PM 8:00 PM 8:00 PM 11:00 PM
MUHALAB-1 MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA ABU SHANAB MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA	1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 12:15 AM	FANAR-5 THE CONJURING 2 NERVE THE CONJURING 2 JASON BOURNE THE CONJURING 2 NERVE	12:15 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 8:00 PM 10:30 PM 1:15 AM	360° 1 SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD	12:15 PM 2:15 PM 2:45 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
MUHALAB-2 THE LEGEND OF TARZAN ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE CONJURING 2 THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	12:30 PM 2:45 PM 5:00 PM 7:15 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM	MARINA-1 THE LEGEND OF TARZAN FINDING DORY THE LEGEND OF TARZAN ABU SHANAB JASON BOURNE THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	1:00 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	360° 2 TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI THE CONJURING 2	12:00 PM 12:00 PM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM 8:15 PM 11:30 PM
MUHALAB-3 SUICIDE SQUAD -3D SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD -3D THE LEGEND OF TARZAN SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	MARINA-2 SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD THE CONJURING 2 SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD	11:45 AM 2:15 PM 4:45 PM 7:30 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM	360° 3 ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS FINDING DORY ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS FINDING DORY ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM
FANAR-1 MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA ABU SHANAB	1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 PM 1:00 AM	MARINA-3 MIN 30 SANA THE LEGEND OF TARZAN ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA MIN 30 SANA	12:45 PM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM 12:05 AM	AL-KOUT.1 SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD SUICIDE SQUAD	12:00 PM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM
FANAR-2 ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS THE LEGEND OF TARZAN ALICE THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM	AVENUES-1 JASON BOURNE JASON BOURNE THE CONJURING 2 JASON BOURNE	12:30 PM 3:15 PM 6:00 PM 8:45 PM	AJIAL.1 KASABA -Malayalam KASABA -Malayalam	4:00 PM 6:45 PM

URGENTLY REQUIRE

Female Office Lady
with Transferable Residence
(Article No. 18)

Interested candidates please email your CV to
irene.padavu@horizonfcb.com or call 2226 7373

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Challa Nagarjuna, holder of Indian Passport No: H4746507 resident of D.No. 3/153-A, Vallur, Kadapa Dist, A.P. India, has been converted to Islam, in future I will be known as Shaik Abdulla. (C 5198) 7-8-2016

Garden, Royepettai, Chennai - 14, India. Have changed my name from Mukil Arasan in future, I will be known as Abdul Rahman. (C 5197)

SITUATION WANTED

I, **Linguntla Babu S/o Late Venkataiah**, holder of Indian Passport No: K9653001, have changed my name to M.N. Reddaiah Naidu S/o Late Venkataiah. Address: Mudrapalle (Vi & Po), Penagalur (Mandal), Kadapa (Dist), AP. 5-8-2016

Accountant - Indian, experienced having extensive knowledge in handling all kinds of accounts (including system establishment and management) right from JV to finalization and management reporting more than 20 years in the field now seeking full time or part time assignment with transferable iqama. Contact: 97934610 rasheedpni@hotmail.com (C 5199) 7-8-2016

I, **Mukil Arasan**, holder of Indian Passport No: G9180281, resident at No: 19, R.O.B. main street, Hall

EMERGENCY 112

PRAYER TIMINGS

Fajr: 03:45
Shorook 05:12
Duhr: 11:54
Asr: 15:29
Maghrib: 18:35
Isha: 19:59



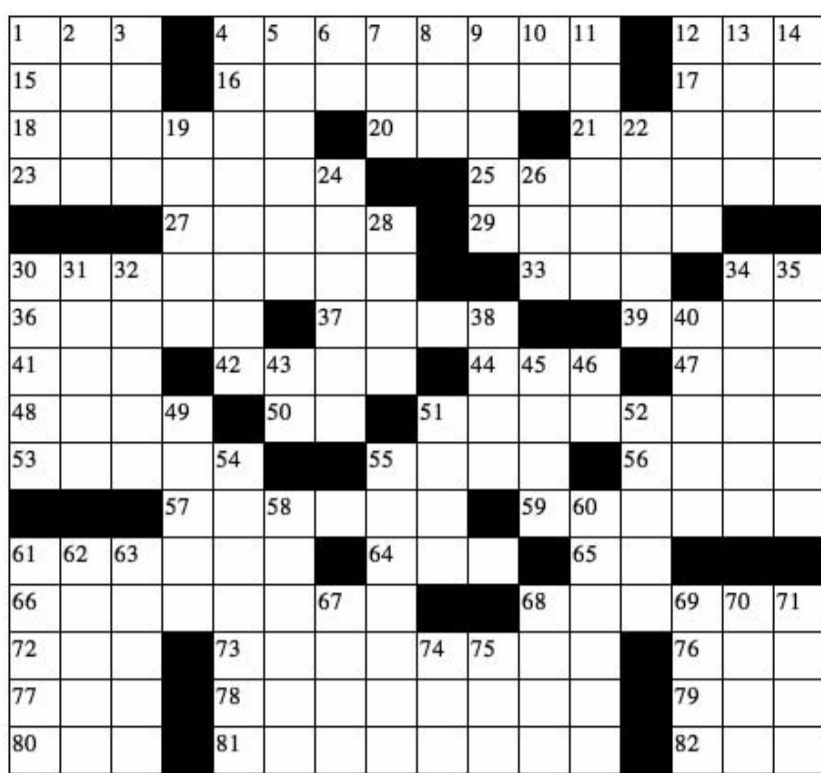
Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Monday 8/8/2016				Departure Flights on Monday 8/8/2016			
Airlines	Fit	Route	Time	Airlines	Fit	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	AIC	982	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30
FDK	803	Damascus	00:35	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	PIA	206	Lahore	00:40
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	FDK	804	Damascus	01:35
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
YYY	5555	Bahrain	01:50	THY	769	Istanbul	03:45
FEG	933	Sohag	05:00	KAC	188	Manila	03:55
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	RJA	645	Amman	03:55
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	OMA	644	Muscat	04:05
JZR	555	Alexandria	06:15	FDB	068	Dubai	04:05
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15
BAW	157	London	06:40	KKK	6505	Istanbul	04:20
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	CEB	019	Manila	04:50
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	JZR	560	Sohag	05:00
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	RJA	643	Amman	06:25
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	QTR	1087	Doha	06:30
ETD	919	Abu Dhabi	08:20	THY	771	Istanbul	06:45
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	GFA	5062	Dubai	07:55
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	BAW	156	London	08:25
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
IRA	667	Esfahan	09:15	KAC	173	Munich	08:35
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50
JAV	621	Amman	09:25	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30
CCE	345	Sohag	10:00	JZR	534	Cairo	09:30
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	JZR	482	Istanbul	09:40
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
AXB	890	Mangalore/Bahrain	10:55	JZR	562	Sohag	09:50
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	IRA	666	Esfahan	10:15
FDK	801	Damascus	12:15	ETD	920	Abu Dhabi	10:20
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	JAV	622	Amman	10:25
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40
FEG	953	Asyut	12:55	KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	CCE	346	Sohag	11:10
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:00	KAC	561	Amman	11:20
KAC	672	Dubai	14:00	KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	KAC	741	Dammam	11:35
FDB	057	Dubai	14:20	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35
GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20	AXB	890	Mangalore	11:55
SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	MEA	405	Beirut	12:00
KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
				KAC	103	London	12:10

CROSSWORD 1336



ACROSS

1. A religious belief of African origin involving witchcraft and sorcery.
4. A flask that holds spirits.
12. A dissolute man in fashionable society.
15. A number of sheets of paper fastened together along one edge.
16. Outer membrane covering an axon.
17. (informal) Of the highest quality.
18. Romanian violinist and composer (1881-1955).
20. (Hawaiian) A small guitar having four strings.
21. A city of central China.
23. Ctenophore having short tentacles.
25. A large shallow lake in western Hungary.
27. Power to control.
29. A popular island resort in the Netherlands Antilles.
30. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (trade name Clinoril).
33. The cry made by sheep.
36. Appeal or request earnestly.
37. Horny plate covering and protecting part of the dorsal surface of the digits.
39. Not easy.
41. The 7th letter of the Greek alphabet.
42. According to the Old Testament he was a pagan king of Israel and husband of Jezebel (9th century BC).
44. Take in solid food.
47. A large cask especially one holding a volume equivalent to 2 butts or 252 gals.
48. Any of several related languages of the Celts in Ireland and Scotland.
50. A very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropic forms.
53. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
56. A large genus of dicotyledonous trees and shrubs of the family Aquifoliaceae that have small flowers and berries (including hollies).
57. English writer who published a translation of romances about King Arthur taken from French and other sources (died in 1471).
59. A port city in southwestern Turkey on the Gulf of Antalya.
61. (Mexican) Corn and cornmeal dough stuffed with a meat mixture then wrapped in corn husks and steamed.
64. The sense organ for hearing and equilibrium.
65. A heavy brittle metallic element of the platinum group.
66. Bake in an oven.
72. An association of countries in the western hemisphere.
73. A genus of Portunidae.
76. A plant hormone promoting elongation of stems and roots.
77. A branch of the Tai languages.
78. Refer to another person for decision or judgment.
79. Government agency created in 1974 to license and regulate nuclear power plants.
80. Ancient Hebrew unit of liquid measure = 1.5 gallons.
81. Chiefly tropical or xerophytic woody plants.
82. East Indian tree bearing a profusion of intense vermilion velvet-textured blooms and yielding a yellow dye.

DOWN

1. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
2. Something causing misery or death.
3. In the Roman calendar.
4. A large estate in Spanish-speaking coun-

TRIES.

5. Ticks having a hard shield on the back and mouth parts that project from the head.
6. A radioactive metallic element that is similar to tellurium and bismuth.
7. An acute febrile highly contagious viral disease.
8. The basic unit of money in Albania.
9. Naked freshwater or marine or parasitic protozoa that form temporary pseudopods for feeding and locomotion.
10. A gray lustrous metallic element of the rare earth group.
11. Coffee-flavored liqueur made in Mexico.
12. An Indian side dish of yogurt and chopped cucumbers and spices.
13. The United Nations agency concerned with civil aviation.
14. English Quaker who founded the colony of Pennsylvania (1644-1718).
19. Any of a number of tiny parallel grooves such as.
22. A region of Malaysia in northeastern Borneo.
24. A genus of tropical American plants have sword-shaped leaves and a fleshy compound fruits composed of the fruits of several flowers (such as pineapples).
26. Someone who engages in arbitrage (who purchases securities in one market for immediate resale in another in the hope of profiting from the price differential).
28. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
31. (used of opinions and actions) Far beyond the norm.
32. Restraint consisting of a rope (or light chain) used to restrain an animal.
34. A sultanate in northwestern Borneo.
35. An accessory or adjoining anatomical parts or appendages (especially of the embryo).
38. (archaic or Scottish) Faithful and true.
40. An island consisting of a circular coral reef surrounding a lagoon.
43. (astronomy) The angular distance of a celestial point measured westward along the celestial equator from the zenith crossing.
45. Type genus of the family Arcidae.
46. A light strong gray lustrous corrosion-resistant metallic element used in strong light-weight alloys (as for airplane parts).
49. Swedish oceanographer who recognized the role of the Coriolis effect on ocean currents (1874-1954).
51. Common Indian weaverbird.
52. A crown-like jewelled headdress worn by women on formal occasions.
54. A city and port in northern Jutland.
55. A small tree.
58. A substance used to produce fermentation in dough or a liquid.
60. A character used in printing to indicate a cross reference or footnote.
62. A genus of Indridae.
63. An elementary particle responsible for the forces in the atomic nucleus.
67. Informal terms for money.
68. An elaborate party (often outdoors).
69. Swedish soprano who toured the United States under the management of P. T. Barnum (1820-1887).
70. A village in eastern Ireland (northwest of Dublin).
71. Noisy talk.
74. One of the most common of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.
75. A close friend who accompanies his buddies in their activities.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Your friends, partners and relationships mean a lot to you. They are a primary source of strength and you always look to them for mutual support and encouragement. You are indeed a social being and will no doubt weave this fact into your lifestyle. You are above all, a natural go-between or mediator between the generations. It may be your turn to check on a senior member of your family. Consider checking on this person before shopping for him or her. This way you will be gathering the most needed items. A family gathering later today will get your attention and you may be called upon to help others see two sides of any question. You have a strong and positive effect on your friends and family. Early this evening you could plant onions.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You appreciate tradition and can be quite happy when others do not try to change your surroundings that old chair is perfect where it sits. You are very methodical and practical when it comes to balancing the matters of home, family and career-often at the expense of your social life. However, today close relationships take on importance. You and family members may enjoy a meal away from home with lots of time for chatter. Feeling cared for and needed is comfortable and you love to create an atmosphere of camaraderie. When everyone has a home of his or her own, you may want to continue this tradition once every week. There is conversation along this line today. You decide to complete a few things on your to-do list later this afternoon.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You can expect a little extra support from those around you. You may feel that you are in touch and in harmony with others and that the lines of communication are open. The support you need is there for whatever you would like to accomplish, or not accomplish, today. If you promised someone you would teach him or her about fishing or about golf... This is the time. You could find that you are appreciated for your feelings and your ability to share your day. The love and respect is present because of your attitude and concern for others. You hate routines and love the outdoors, travel and sports. This is considered a lucky time for you and you make plans for future get-togethers with your family and friends. A homemade ice cream contest may be planned.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Many lines of communication are opened and you gain more recognition as a result. Your love of simplicity is good for politics too. It brings out the truth and a sense of honesty in a group. You are freedom loving and at times, independent. This is a creative period for you, a time to take a chance, a time to be appreciated and admired. You can really get your ideas across to others. You will be reminded of a resolution about diet and nutrition at this time. Romance and other things that tug at the heartstrings come your way as a new cycle begins. A child or lover may come to mean everything. You are happy in austere settings and enjoy getting back to the basics. Religion, truth and the world of philosophy and ideas are of interest today.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You find new ways to serve others and you have brilliant insights into diet, health, ecology, conservation, etc. There is talk of new ideas and new ways to make a living. You are economy savvy, always able to salvage and redeem anything. Even though this is a day away from work you seem to relax best by working. This is a time of much energy and drive, perfect for starting something out or becoming involved in your hobby. Very physical too-exercise may be in order. Remember that although the sun is very important to your mental health, your physical shell needs protection from prolonged heat and sunlight. There is a chance to have a special time with someone you love this evening. This is a happy time to celebrate.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Your inner resources and emotions are accentuated this Monday. You can expect a sense of support and goodwill from those around you for whatever you would like to achieve. You are in a planning mood and are very clearheaded and able to view all the alternative paths. Go ahead and make those decisions. You can see the road ahead and will make the right choices. There is an interest and ability in athletics, exercise, working with the physical body and the out-of-doors, which should be life-long. Another form of this could be in training or coaching others. This is what you may find yourself doing in the afternoon. Romance is your trademark and this evening you may come up with some fascinating ideas in how to add some extra spice to your romancing.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

There are talents expressed today to ground and make spiritual ideas a practical matter-bringing them down to earth and into everyday life. You have great discipline when it comes to working with spirituality and unity-whatever binds or links all of us together. There is smooth progress ahead of you today and all opposition, if any, seems to have melted away. You would be able to teach others through your own experiences. You grasp the principles that bind things together, the essentials of practical religion-a down-to-earth mysticism. Provided you do not spend it all on the fancy things that catch your eye, this can be a financially favorable period. This is a great time to reflect and understand your situation-just how you feel you are progressing in your life.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

The world is a sacred place to you and you have an absolute commitment to spiritual ideas. Intuition is a fact of life and you most often display your sensitive, kind and gentle side. You are a romantic, with a tender heart. You always work for a real future, doing what has to be done. You love all that is musical and artistic. You are sensitive to all that is psychic and you enjoy real faith. You may decide to dive in to one of your hobbies and could even decide to do some reading or writing, perhaps a short story. Obtaining and exchanging information is of emotional significance for you. Becoming involved with neighbors or siblings satisfies a deep emotional need. Communicating feelings in a clear manner is important now.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 18)

Someone that speaks a foreign language may come to your attention this morning. You will be able to help them in some way that others will not. Perhaps your helpfulness will be most appreciated as you help teach the meaning of driving symbols or smooth out a misunderstanding from some slang phrase. You find it easy to work with the emotions and feelings of others and with great imagination. You enjoy working with groups of people as well. You are in a great mood of self-enjoyment. You may see value in or feel love for an older person or someone in authority-perhaps some neighbor. This is a great time to be with friends or a loved one. You have a built-in sense of what others want and can come up with just the right image.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

A new piece of furniture or something else that needs assembly will have your attention this morning. If you have instructions, you can do anything! You are exacting when it comes to getting down to the basics. This tendency for perfection may continue as you enjoy other people's art expression this afternoon. Your taste in art and appreciation in general are heightened. An art exhibit or presentation, perhaps a collection of some sort, has fascinated you and this is where your interests may be much of this day. Purchasing some item that will be increasing in value is profitable. This evening is a great time to have some deep discussions with a loved one. This private time and interest in each other create a wonderful bonding.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

If necessary, this is the time to make amends. Making peace with the past and meditating on things unseen become important to you now. Someone needs your attention and you may be able to guide others in some caregiving concern. Do not be afraid to speak your mind. You work with understanding in areas of the mind that are the most personal or private: in-depth psychology. You tend to be radical when it comes to self-analysis, which means healthcare, food and mental health, etc. Serving and caring for yourself and others are primary sources of inner growth and changes for the next few years. A burning zeal for the ideal world and your need to be included in a group of likeminded souls are major factors in your makeup.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You create ways to ground yourself and gain a focus this morning. Your sense of direction and guidance are the key to understanding you at any in-depth level. If you and your loved one have been together a long time-you will find a new type of communication between you. Perhaps a couple of walkie-talkies while out bird watching would be the new fun activity. Some good creative thinking may help you form a few ideas and goals that you can write down and form in a letter or a poem or perhaps a to-do list. When the weather is too hot to stay outside you and your mate may decide an early movie or a bookstore is the perfect place to be for a timeout from your outdoor fun. You may sharpen your wits with some interesting reading.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Smells Fishy 1

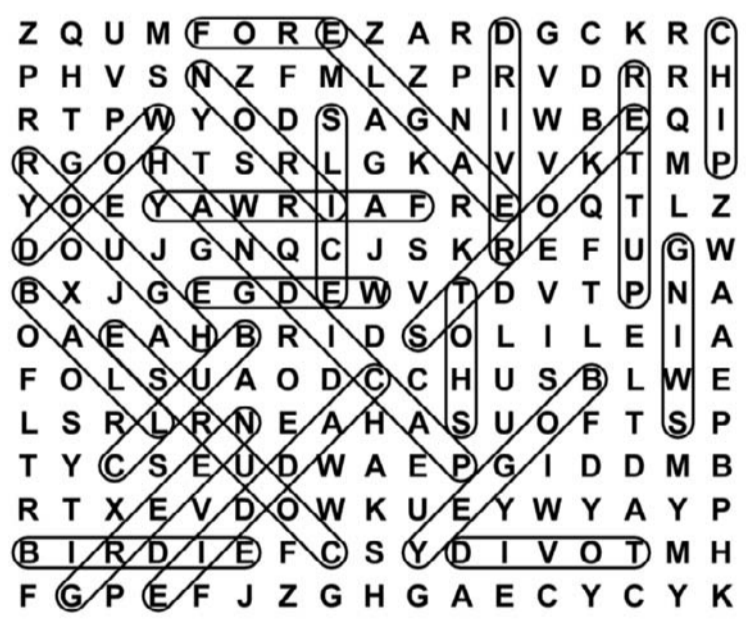
Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.



- | | | |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| CARP | OCTOPUS | SHARK |
| CATFISH | OYSTER | SHRIMP |
| CRAB | PERCH | SQUID |
| GUPPY | PICKEREL | STARFISH |
| HALIBUT | PIKE | STURGEON |
| HERRING | PIRANHA | SWORDFISH |
| LOBSTER | PLANKTON | TROUT |
| MARLIN | SEAWEED | |

Yesterday's Solution

Golf - Solution

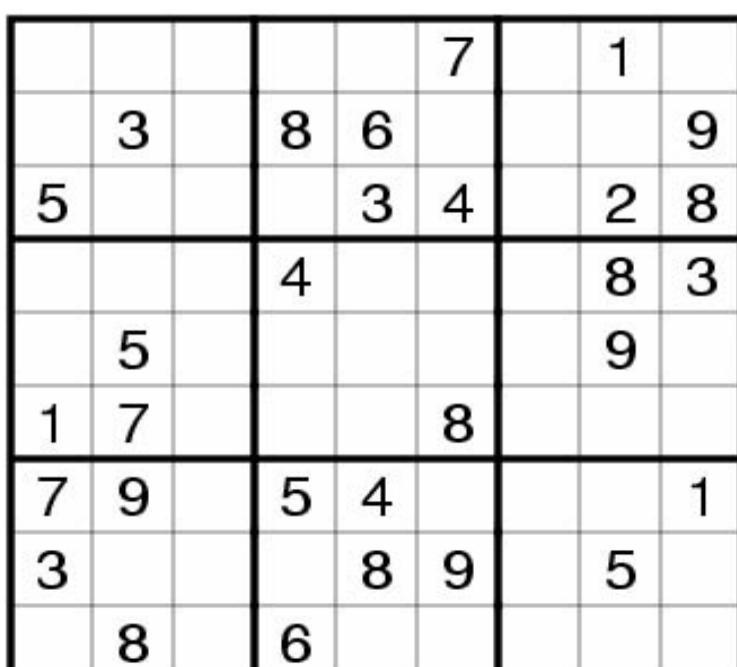


- | | | |
|--------|----------|--------|
| BALL | DRIVER | ROUGH |
| BIRDIE | EAGLE | SHOT |
| BOGEY | FAIRWAY | SLICE |
| CADDIE | FORE | STROKE |
| CHIP | GREEN | SWING |
| CLUB | HANDICAP | WEDGE |
| COURSE | IRON | WOOD |
| DIVOT | PUTTER | |

Yesterday's Solution



Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



For labor-related inquiries and complaints: Call MSAL hotline 128

Hospitals

Table with 2 columns: Hospital Name and Phone Number. Includes Sabah Hospital, Amiri Hospital, Maternity Hospital, Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital, Chest Hospital, Farwaniya Hospital, Adan Hospital, Ibn Sina Hospital, Al-Razi Hospital, and Physiotherapy Hospital.

Clinics

Table with 2 columns: Clinic Name and Phone Number. Includes Kaizen center, Rawda, Adaliya, Khaldiya, Kaifan, Shamiya, Shuwaikh, Abdullah Salem, Nuzha, Industrial Shuwaikh, Qadsiya, Dasmah, Bneid Al-Gar, Shaab, Qibla, Ayoun Al-Qibla, Mirqab, Sharq, Salmiya, Jabriya, Maidan Hawally, Bayan, Mishref, W Hawally, Sabah, Jahra, New Jahra, West Jahra, South Jahra, North Jahra, North Jleeb, Ardhiya, Firdous, Omariya, N Khaitan, and Fintas.



PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

Table with 4 columns: GOVERNORATE, PHARMACY, ADDRESS, and PHONE. Lists pharmacies in Ahmadi, Jahra, Capital, Farwaniya, and Hawally.

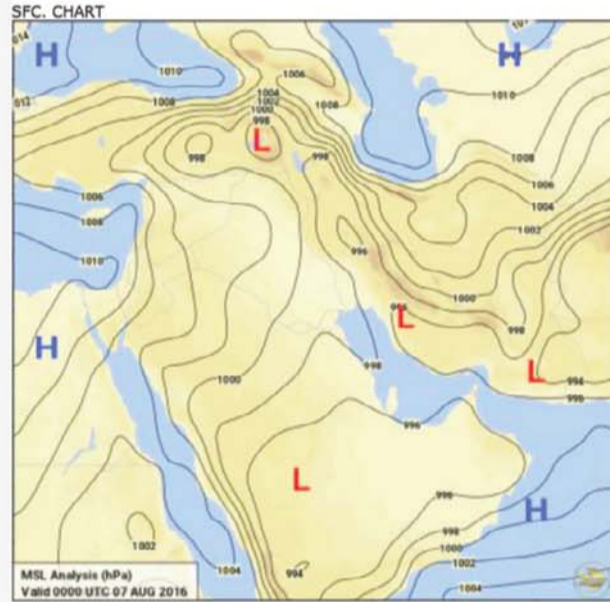
STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Max Temperature 49 °C. Issued 07/08/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr. By Day: Very hot with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 15 - 38 km/h. By Night: Relatively hot with light to moderate freshening gradually at times north westerly wind, with speed of 15 - 40 km/h.



Four-Day Forecast

Table with 5 columns: Day (Monday to Thursday) and weather details including Expected Weather, Min Temp, Max Temp, Wind Direction, and Wind Speed.

Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

Kuwait Forecast

Table with 3 columns: Station, MIN °C REC, and Max °C EXP. Lists stations like KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT AIRPORT, ABDALY, BUBYAN, etc.

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Table with 2 columns: Metric and Value. Includes Max Temp (50), Min Temp (29), Max Rel Hum (44), etc.

Prayer Times

Table with 2 columns: Prayer Name and Time. Includes Fajr (03:45), Sunrise (05:12), Zuhr (11:54), Asr (15:29), Sunset (18:36), Isha (20:00).

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Large table listing international calls with columns for Country, Area Code, and Phone Number. Includes Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Anguilla, Antiga, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bermuda, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Burkina, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Cayman Islands, Central African, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Cyprus (Northern), Czech Republic, Denmark, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, England (UK), Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Falkland Islands, Faroe Islands, Fiji, Finland, France, French Guiana, French Polynesia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guam, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Holland (Netherlands), Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Ibiza (Spain), Iceland, India, Indian Ocean, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macau, Macedonia, Madagascar, Majorca, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Martinique, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montserrat, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar (Burma), Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigar, Nigeria, Niue, Norfolk Island, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Helena, Saint Kitts, Saint Lucia, Saint Pierre, Saint Vincent, Samoa US, Samoa West, San Marino, Sao Tome, Saudi Arabia, Scotland (UK), Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Serbia, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tokelau, Trinidad, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Virgin Islands UK, Virgin Islands US, Wales (UK), Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.



PRIVATE CLINICS

Table listing Ophthalmologists, General Practitioners, Urologists, and Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) specialists.

Table listing Plastic Surgeons, Family Doctor, Psychiatrists, Gynaecologists & Obstetricians, Internists, Chest & Heart, General Surgeons, and Internists, Chest & Heart.

Table listing Paediatricians, Dermatologists, Dentists, Neurologists, and Gastrologists.

Table listing Endocrinologist, Physiotherapists & VD, Rheumatologists, Internist, Chest & Heart, and Consultant Cardiologist.

Table listing contact information for Psychologists, Soor Center, Kaizen center, Noor Clinic, and William Schuilenberg, RPC.

Kristen Stewart hates being a celebrity

The 26-year-old beauty - who shot into the limelight in 2008 when she starred as Isabella 'Bella' Swan in the popular franchise 'Twilight' - is desperately trying to carve out a career as a director but has admitted she still loves acting - although she doesn't like the things that come with it. She explained: "When I'm making a movie or developing something, I really do forget about 'celebrity' and that I have some responsibility to interact with the public on what is for me a very personal level, but for them not personal at all. It's an entirely imbalanced relationship." However, the blonde beauty may not like the consequences that come with her high-profile career but she has admitted her work has saved her on more than one occasion. She said: "I have a really strong sense of identity when I'm



working. If I'm having a bad day, or something existential or hormonal... if anything brings me down, I'm lucky if I have to go to work that day. And that could be anything." And, although she'd like to shed her identity for a day, Kristen believes she would be desperate to get in the public eye if she wasn't famous. She explained to ELLE magazine: "Maybe I'd be more confident. Maybe I'd have a public Instagram and be obsessed with how many followers I had, as I'd need all the attention. "I'd be one of those people talking really loudly in restaurants. I'd need to perform. Actors want to be looked at. I am the antithesis of that when I'm in public. Then I'm like, 'Please everyone, I don't want to exist.' But there is still a strong desire in me to be seen. It's so weird."



Meghan Trainor has a crush on Niall Horan

The 'All About that Bass' hitmaker has admitted she's developed a soft spot for the One Direction hunk because he was the only member of the boy band - comprised also of Harry Styles, Liam Payne and Louis Tomlinson - who stopped to speak to her when they rubbed shoulders at an event. She explained: "One Direction, give me the blonde one! He's a gentleman. All the other boys walked by and he came up to me and I got swept off my feet by his Irish charm. I like normal people. I like, funny, normal, nice people." And the 22-year-old heartthrob isn't the only man Meghan has got her eye on as she also wouldn't turn down Ed Sheeran if he asked to take her out on a date because she likes

down to earth men. She said: "I like guys that are really nice, a gentleman. If you can chill with my bros and my family, you are in. I just got to look for older men who already have their stuff together. I wouldn't reject Ed Sheeran. I'd love to be his date to prom." Meanwhile, the 22-year-old beauty hasn't had the best of luck on the dating front but is hoping she'll eventually find her "soul mate" when she's not looking for him. She explained to We Love Pop magazine: "I haven't had a relationship since I was 18. I just haven't met the right guy. My mum was 19 and my dad was 40 when they met and they're still together so she found her soul mate younger and he found his a bit older. I have no idea when I'll find mine."



Princess Beatrice and long-term boyfriend Dave Clark split

Princess Beatrice has reportedly split from her long-term boyfriend Dave Clark. The duo have been dating for a decade but the British royal is said to have called time on their relationship following make-or-break talks over whether they should get married. A source explained: "After ten years together, Beatrice and Dave had to wonder why they were not married. They talked it through and decided to take time apart to reflect on the future. They remain friends and the decision to break up was mutual." The 27-year-old Princess is reported to have been disappointed that Dave, 32, never asked her to marry him after she moved to the US to be with him. However, the Princess' mother, Sarah Ferguson, is said to be shocked by the news. An insider told the Mail on Sunday newspaper: "Sarah considers Dave to be part of the family. She is very sad it didn't work out. They have been together longer than many marriages last." But after the duo agreed that marriage was not a likely prospect in the near future, they



decided to terminate their relationship altogether. The source shared: "Beatrice has become a lot more assertive and confident recently. She gave Dave an ultimatum, but it backfired because he did not ask her to marry him. They both agreed that with no marriage in their future, it was time to go separate ways."



Beckham and Moretz offered 'their own reality show'

Brooklyn Beckham and Chloe Moretz have been offered their own reality show. The couple are reportedly the subject of a bidding war between US networks who are "desperate" to sign them up for a documentary millions, and are willing to pay "millions" to persuade them to lay bare their lives on screen. A source said "American networks are desperate to sign them up. "MTV and E! are both interested, apparently. "They're prepared to offer them millions - they think it would be TV gold. Brooklyn is from one of the most famous families in the world and Chloe is a Hollywood star... "TV execs have been following their romance for a while and timing for a show is perfect. They have legions of fans desperate to find out what their life together is like behind closed doors." However, the couple's families are unconvinced by the plan,

with 17-year-old Brooklyn's mother, fashion designer Victoria Beckham, particularly opposed to the idea, especially because of the criticism she received from her own 2007 show 'Victoria Beckham: Coming to America'. A source told heat magazine: "Neither of Brooklyn's parents are happy but it's Victoria who is particularly resistant. "She thinks Brooklyn is too young. He understands their concerns but it has caused quite a lot of tension because he likes the idea of using his celebrity status for a project "But until he's 18 next March, he has to get his mum and dad's permission to do any TV show. "Victoria remembers being described as vapid and self-indulgent after her show and she wants to protect her kids from that kind of scrutiny. Reality TV is not the kind of exposure they want. It could be damaging for brand Beckham."



Delevingne was losing her 'mind' making 'Suicide Squad'

Cara Delevingne felt like she was losing her 'mind' while making 'Suicide Squad'. The 23-year-old actress, who stars as Enchantress in the much-anticipated new comic book movie, has revealed she fantasized about killing people in "demonic" moments during filming. She explained: "I tried to imagine the darkest thing for a long time, like seeing people crumble and their skin melt in front of me or making people implode and trying to use my imagination in dark ways. "I remember seeing a guy behind a bar cutting up a cucumber then seeing him cut all the way up his hand and I thought, 'I'm losing my mind! "Is this going to stick? Am I going to have to be sent in and locked away? "I don't like being by myself anyway but it was more scary when I was acting out the role. "I didn't like going home and being alone with these thoughts. "When I was in the outfit, I was far more demonic than I'm shown on screen, my character definitely felt evil and living in that was very emotional. "I studied addiction, desperation, that void. It was draining, desperate, exhilarating and maddening." Asked whether she could ever be as evil as her on-screen character, Cara told The Sun on Sunday newspaper: "I'd rob a bank if I could get away with it. I would kill." Meanwhile, Cara revealed she took inspiration for the film from her own childhood, when she was obsessed with witchcraft. She explained: "I've always been a big fan of witches so I knew a bit about that in the magic sense of it. I thought of her as a demon. "It was more about finding the evil in myself and finding the demon and the darkest parts of myself, why people do things and want to destroy the world and, most of all, have no heart. Or if they did, why did they lose it all? What happened to them?"

Lohan 'scared' of ex fiancé

Lindsay Lohan is "scared" of her ex-fiance Egor Tarabasov. The 'Mean Girls' actress recently split from the Russian businessman amid claims he has been unfaithful towards her and a photograph has since emerged showing the duo fighting on a beach on the Greek island of Mykonos, where they travelled last month to mark Lindsay's 30th birthday. Lindsay has accused Egor of being abusive towards her, saying: "I realize now you can't stay in a relationship just for love. "No woman can be hit and stay with that person if that person isn't prepared to say sorry." The dramatic scuffle occurred following an argument in a black 4x4, during which Lindsay hurled Egor's phone out of the window. The flame-haired actress is reluctant to go into detail about the incident but suggested Egor's judgment was clouded by alcohol. She told the Mail on Sunday newspaper: "Egor drank too much and he went crazy." The duo had another fight on the balcony of the flat they shared in Knightsbridge, London, which was filmed by a neighbor. During that incident, Lindsay accused Egor of assaulting her, shouting: "Please, please. He just strangled me. He almost killed me." The police were subsequently called to the scene but no-one was charged. Reflecting on the balcony incident, Lindsay said: "Egor and I had been out for dinner. We danced, it was fun. "When we got home I went to bed

and Egor went out. A few hours later he came back and when I woke up he was standing over me. He wasn't himself, he was being very aggressive and he attacked me." The pair have not seen each other since, but Lindsay admits to feeling unsafe. She explained: "I've kept quiet for so long but now I'm scared of what Egor might do to me and to himself. "It's not the first time. That's the problem. But this time, someone saw. I didn't call anyone, I've dealt with enough police in LA. I just left the house and went to the Connaught [Hotel] for the night. "I contacted my good friend [Israeli socialite] Hofti Golan who was in St Tropez. She said, 'Get on a plane, come and meet me,' so I did. I needed some time for myself. "I've spent the past week fishing on my friend Marco Mavilla's yacht with his lovely family in Sardinia." Despite this, Lindsay has contacted Egor in recent days and suggested the two could still reconcile their differences. She shared: "I need closure. I genuinely fell in love with him but he broke my trust and made me feel unsafe. "I know I'm not an angel but I've tried to fix things. It's down to him now. I had suggested we go for couples' counseling but there comes a time when I have to put myself first, my family, and also think about my career which I've worked so hard for. I also don't want to let my fans down by not being the strong woman I have become."

Mel B is to star on the Australian 'X Factor'

Mel B is reportedly set to star on the Australian 'X Factor'. The 41-year-old singer, who is currently on the panel of 'America's Got Talent', is poised to become the fourth judge on 'The X Factor', meaning she will appear onscreen alongside Iggy Azalea, Adam Lambert and Guy Sebastian. The imminent move is seen as a sign that Mel has a long-term future working with music mogul Simon Cowell. A source told The Sun yesterday: "Mel is a real favorite with Simon. He loves her straight-talking attitude." Mel previously served as a judge on the Australian version of 'The X Factor' from 2011 to 2012, and on the British version in 2014. The rumor comes shortly after Mel, Geri Horner and Emma Bunton hinted at a possible Spice Girls reunion. The trio are reportedly keen to reunite in order to mark the 20th anniversary of their debut single 'Wannabe'. They all appeared in a video in which they thanked the fans for their loyal support over the past two decades and hinted at some possible reunion concerts. However, Mel has been tight-lipped about the specific details of the supposed comeback. She said: "You know what? All will be revealed very, very soon. "We have a few interesting things that we will be sharing with everybody, or the people that want to know. It's gonna be very interesting." However, it appears that any possible reunion will not involve Mel C and Victoria Beckham, both of whom are said to be opposed to the idea.





Angelina Jolie to teach at Georgetown University

Angelina Jolie is set to take up a teaching position at Georgetown University. It was previously announced that the 41-year-old actress and human rights campaigner has joined the London School of Economics as a visiting professor and now Us Weekly reports that she "will do the same guest spot at LSE's sister school, Georgetown. No details about her position at Georgetown have been revealed but Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security Ambassador Melanne Verwee held talks with the actress in May. She said: "I was pleased to meet with Angelina Jolie during my recent trip to London on ways we at Georgetown University can continue the collaboration between our sister programs on both sides of the Atlantic. We look forward to welcoming Angelina and former foreign secretary Hague to Georgetown in the future." At LSE Angelina will give a series of lectures to students of the new one-year MSc course on women, peace and security, which will run from the beginning of the 2017 academic

year. Angelina - who helped to launch the MSc last year with Britain's former foreign secretary, William Hague - said: "I am very encouraged by the creation of this master's program. I hope other academic institutions will follow this example, as it is vital that we broaden the discussion on how to advance women's rights and end impunity for crimes that disproportionately affect women, such as sexual violence in conflict. I am looking forward to teaching and to learning from the students as well as to sharing my own experiences of working alongside governments and the United Nations." According to the LSE, the course is intended to "develop strategies to promote gender equality and enhance women's economic, social and political participation and security". Visiting professors including Angelina and Mr. Hague will give lectures, participate in workshops and undertake their own research. An LSE spokeswoman said they will teach "as often as their schedules, and their commitment as agreed with the director, will allow".

Kevin Hart is set to tie the knot today

Kevin has told The Insider with Yahoo: "August 8, I'm tying the knot." However, Kevin did not reveal where the wedding will take place. Kevin - who was married to Torrei Hart from 2003 to 2011 - previously spoke about settling down with Eniko, joking he was ready to "lock this love up in a box". He said: "That's right ladies. I've got to put this chocolate in the freezer." "So if you wanted a piece, you better take that want and put it in your pocket, because you ain't gonna get it, because it's happening. I'm going to lock this love up in a box." The star also revealed that he has left all of the wedding planning up to Kevin



explained: "To be honest with you, I don't know what the hell is going on. I told her, 'Do what you want to do, and just come back to me with a finished product.' "She has a number, if she goes above this number it's not happening. That's all I did, I gave her a budget." Kevin announced he had proposed to Eniko on her 30th birthday on his Instagram account. He used the social media site to post a picture of himself standing in front of his longtime girlfriend, who was proudly displaying an engagement ring with a huge smile on her face. He captioned the photograph: "She said YEEEESSSSSS..... #Happy #MyRib #ILoveHer (sic)"



Brady explains why he missed Bundchen's runway return

Tom Brady didn't travel to Brazil for the Olympics with his wife Gisele Bündchen because he is at training camp. The 39-year-old NFL star is extremely proud of his wife, who walked the runway at the Opening Ceremony in Rio de Janeiro on Friday but admitted a few weeks before the Games that he was unsure if he would be able to make it. In a just-released interview, Tom told PEOPLE: "For me, [the Olympics] are right in the middle of training camp so I need to talk my coach out of a couple days. I haven't asked them so, we'll see!" The New England Patriots quarterback also spoke of 36-year-old Gisele's love for her native country and insisted she would not miss the Olympics for anything. He said: "She loves the country. She has never forgotten where she's come from. She's such a great role model. Obviously she's my wife, so I'm biased, but I think she is someone that represents her country. I think she stayed really true to her roots. If you came to our house, you'd think we'd been living in Brazil. Everyone around speaks Portuguese. Which I wish I'd learned more at this point. "We come from very similar families and backgrounds. I think family is so important for the both of us. Now that we have kids, I think so much is focused how are kids are and raising them the right way and being the kind of parents that we want to be for them. We both had great parents growing up. We had great examples of husband and wife. It's a constant communication. We've been together for a long time now. I found a great life partner." Tom and Gisele, who have been married for seven years, have children Benjamin, five, and Vivian, three, together, while he also has son John, eight, with former partner Bridget Moynahan.



Kylie Jenner got a \$200,000 Maybach from Tyga

Tygga gave Kylie Jenner a \$200,000 car for her 19th birthday. The 26-year-old rapper presented his girlfriend with a Mercedes-Maybach ahead of her birthday next week. Kylie posted a short video featuring the car on Snapchat and said: "Happy early birthday to me. Yay! I love you, T." She added a picture of the interior and wrote: "Almost too boss for me." Tyga previously admitted he had some difficulty trying to decide on a gift for his girlfriend. He said: "It's really just about what you feel. How do you get someone that has everything, you know?" Tyga's present came just days after Kylie treated herself to a new luxury custom-made Land Rover. The "Keeping Up With the Kardashians" star splashed out on the SUV, which features flat screen TVs, two-tone leather seats and glows purple in the dark from the inside. Taking to her Snapchat to share a video tour of her new wheels, she said: "My new car, this is one of a kind. I got a

little excited and treated myself for my birthday. How amazing is this white and maroon interior. "The car glows purple inside in the dark." The motor also features black tinted windows, maroon seats and steering wheel, as well as drinks holders and trays. She captioned the video: "One of kind. Happy birthday to me." It's not the first time Kylie has shown off her cars to her fans on social media. In November, she boasted about four of her luxury vehicles, including a Range Rover Autobiography, Mercedes-Benz Wagon and Rolls-Royce Ghost. Her fleet also included a white Ferrari 482 Italia, worth \$320,000, given to her by Tyga for her 18th birthday. Kylie hasn't always had great luck when it comes to cars though as she and Tyga were involved in a car crash in October when his \$320,000 Rolls Royce was hit from behind by another vehicle. The incident occurred in Los Angeles after he had performed at nightclub 10AOK.

Kim Kardashian West: People thought I faked my son

The 35-year-old reality TV star rarely posts about her seven-month-old son on social media and claims her reluctance to do so made some people think he didn't exist. Speaking at the BlogHer conference in Los Angeles, Kim said: "If you don't share something, it's like it doesn't exist. "I wasn't posting about my son because I want him to go to the park like every normal human being. But some people thought I had a full fake baby because I wasn't posting." And Kim also insisted that she and her sister Kourtney Kardashian are adamant that their children are not used in plotlines on their reality TV show. She said: "I'm protective of my life with my kids. You might see them on the 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' a bit, but not real stories. "Selfishly, I am lucky



they can be in the other room while I'm filming. Kourtney and I don't have stories about our children. That is one thing I don't share." And Kim wants her children to have "as normal a life as possible". The star - who is married to rapper Kanye West - said: "I hope they learn to understand they can do anything they want to do and to always be kind. You can't underestimate kindness. "I hope they are outspoken and follow their truths. I hope they see no one is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes. You can get through anything. "As long as you surround yourself with family and friends and try not to make the same mistake twice. Learn from your mistakes and grow from that."

Michael Lohan: Egor is 'a piece of garbage'

Michael Lohan says Egor Tarabasov is "a piece of garbage". The 56-year-old father of Lindsay Lohan is furious after video and pictures emerged of the pair having a violent physical altercation on a beach in Greece and Michael wants to confront Egor directly. He told RadarOnline: "I think he's a piece of garbage and he's a coward." "I welcome the opportunity for him to sit down with me face to face. But he isn't worth going to jail for." Michael previously vowed to put Egor in hospital, claiming that Lindsay, 30, told him the Russian millionaire hit her. Michael said: "Lindsay said that he hit her. I can't wait to get my hands on this guy, I literally cannot wait to be face to face with this kid. I am going to jail and he is going to the hospital. "All I have to say is he better not show up here. If he is in the United States and I find out where he is, there is going to be a



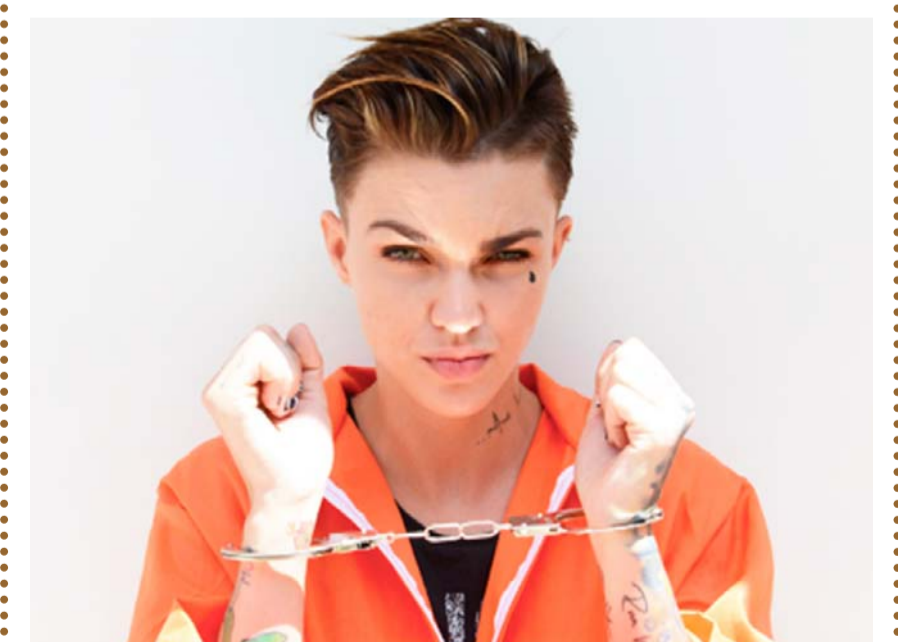
problem." Although Egor, 23, threw Lindsay, a lavish 30th birthday party in Greece last month, Michael claims Lindsay actually paid for the bash and has accused Egor of taking advantage of her. Speaking to HollywoodLife.com, Michael said: "Lindsay paid for her own birthday party. Egor has been taking advantage of Lindsay, there is no question whatsoever. He didn't even pay the last month's rent. He is full of c**p, a con man." Meanwhile, Lindsay's mother recently insisted the actress is not pregnant, even though Lindsay sparked speculation she is expecting a baby after tweeting a photo of herself with a fake baby bump from her 2009 film 'Labour Pains', and writing: "I am pregnant". Lindsay's tweet came after another furious bust-up with Egor and Dina told TMZ that the star was distraught after their argument and "overreacted".



Tara Reid has slammed Jenny McCarthy

Tara walked out of her interview on Jenny's Sirius XM show last month when the star asked her questions about 'Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars' and whether she would get more plastic surgery, instead of talking about her movie 'Sharknado' and Tara is still annoyed. She told Hollywood Today Live: "We never even had beef, so I don't know where that came from. I think she actually purposefully did that to get ratings. Why else do that? It didn't make any sense. It wasn't like there's history there, because I've never met her. "Something like that is so silly. We're here to talk about 'Sharknado' and to go into stuff that has nothing to do with something else and keep going and going and going. And they're saying like, 'Come on guys, let's be happy and talk about 'Sharknado' and it didn't end that way. I was like, 'Good for you, Jenny. At least now

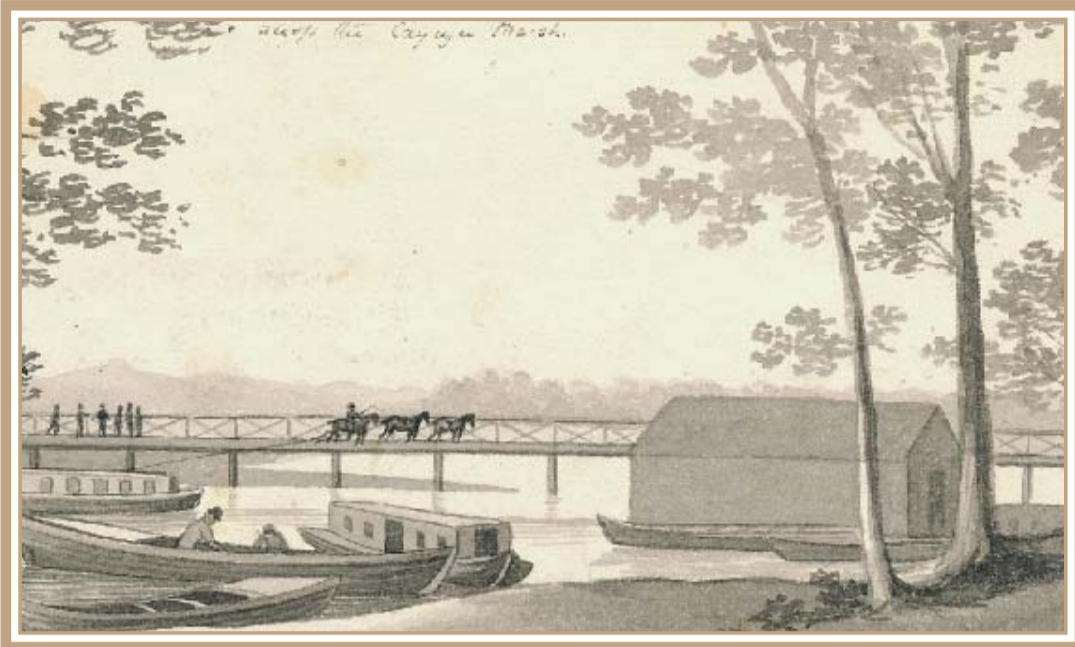
people know you have a show." And Tara, 40, insists she won't be returning to Jenny's show. She said: "I definitely don't think I'll be going on her radio show anytime soon." Meanwhile, Tara recently revealed she Tara Reid doesn't trust her boyfriend Dean May, who she is starring in 'Marriage Boot Camp: Reality Stars' with. She said: "The moments on the camera are ... lights and, like, trying to be a star. ... I don't trust him - I don't know what he's going to say and do. Obviously, he has some master plan, which I don't have." Tara also told her co-star Toya Wright that the club promoter has been acting differently than she expected him to. She said: "When the show's on, he's trying to cause tension and look cool and make me look stupid. I never knew we were competing for this. I would have never done this."



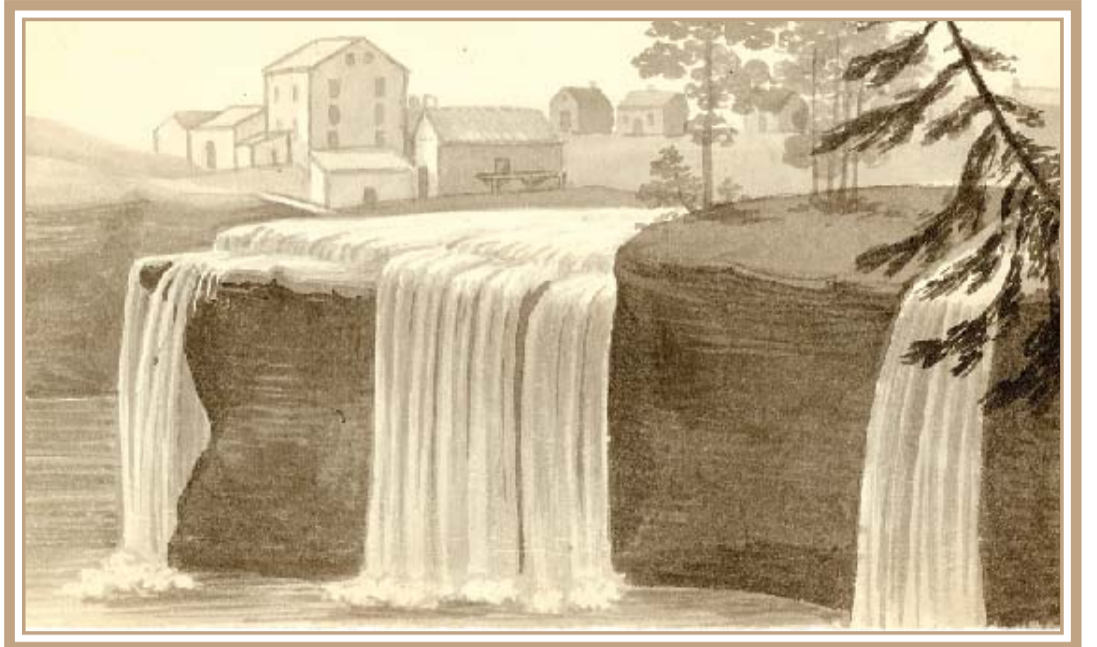
Ruby Rose lashes out at haters

Ruby Rose has lashed out after she was forced to cancel two shows due to tonsillitis. The 'Orange Is The New Black' star took ill during a break in Ibiza with pals and has been told by doctors not to fly but Ruby got annoyed when fans questioned her illness. She wrote: "It's upsetting to see people questioning me getting tonsillitis ... And cancelling 2 of 15 shows in a month..Off the back of filming a movie. "But I don't party, I've not been to one club except when playing here and I've had a 3 day vacation with childhood friends I flew out. ... Where we slept, watched movies and went to the beach. I don't drink as everyone knows, I'm run down and got tonsillitis its that simple. X "Lastly, I trained hard for 3 films and continue to train hard,

more than ever in my life.. I'm fit (well before I got sick). That's all. "I don't care what "people think" but I wanted to clear it up for the fans. however you should know me by now. Off socials again while I rest (sic)." Ruby originally shared a message on Instagram to announce her tonsillitis, writing: "Tonsillitis and unable to fly because of the pain it's causing my ears :(means no more shows and I have to stay put before returning home :(sorry guys. I didn't even know you could get tonsillitis after like, 16 (sic)." And when one fan questioned why she wasn't at Brighton Pride in the UK, she quoted the tweet and wrote: "Announced yesterday. - Have tonsillitis and it's also causing extreme ear pain and I've been advised I can't fly (sic)." — Bang Showbiz



In these 1825 drawings provided by the University of Michigan's William L. Clements Library, a sketches of sections of the Erie Canal by Episcopal minister John Henry Hopkins is shown. —AP photos



Erie Canal trip touts waterway's history, early depictions

In the fall of 1825, John Henry Hopkins traveled from Buffalo to Albany on the Erie Canal just days after the 363-mile waterway had opened. Along the way, the Episcopal minister from Pennsylvania drew scenes of what was then considered a marvel of modern engineering. This month, the co-founder of a Vermont history museum is traveling by tugboat on the canal, stopping at about 30 communities over the next six weeks as he discusses the waterway's impact on the nation's growth in the 19th century and hands out prints of Hopkins' artwork, many of them never published and rarely seen by the general public.

"He left us an incredible series of images of the communities, of the canal, that fill in a tremendous amount of information," Cohn said in a telephone interview from aboard the CL Churchill, a 52-year-old wooden tugboat owned by the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Vergennes.

Starting this weekend, Cohn and his fellow crewmembers will visit communities along the canal as far west as Rochester, giving public talks about the waterway and presenting copies of Hopkins' artwork to local museums and historical societies. Cohn was meeting Friday with state Canal Corp. officials to iron out the details of his itinerary, which will be posted on the museum and canal agency's websites starting early next week.

The voyage is aimed at bringing attention to next year's 200th anniversary of the beginning of construction of the Erie Canal, with events planned each year through

2025, according to Canal Corp. spokesman Shane Mahar. The waterway was officially opened in October 1825 by Gov. DeWitt Clinton, who traveled on the canal by boat from Buffalo to Albany, then on to Manhattan. Once there, he dumped a cask of Lake Erie water into New York Harbor to

signify the "wedding of the waters" linking the Great Lakes to the East Coast.

Around that time the Irish-born Hopkins, then a 32-year-old newly ordained clergyman from Pittsburgh, began his own voyage by canal boat from Buffalo to Albany, eventually headed for Manhattan to attend a religious



In this 1825 watercolor painting provided by the University of Michigan's William L. Clements Library, a section of the Erie Canal by Episcopal minister John Henry Hopkins is shown.



conference. A talented artist and architectural illustrator, he created 37 watercolor and pencil sketches of canal scenes. They include a rendition of the Genesee River falls at Rochester and the elevated towpath built over the Cayuga swamp in central New York. The 1,300-foot-long timber structure was replaced by an aqueduct in the 1840s.

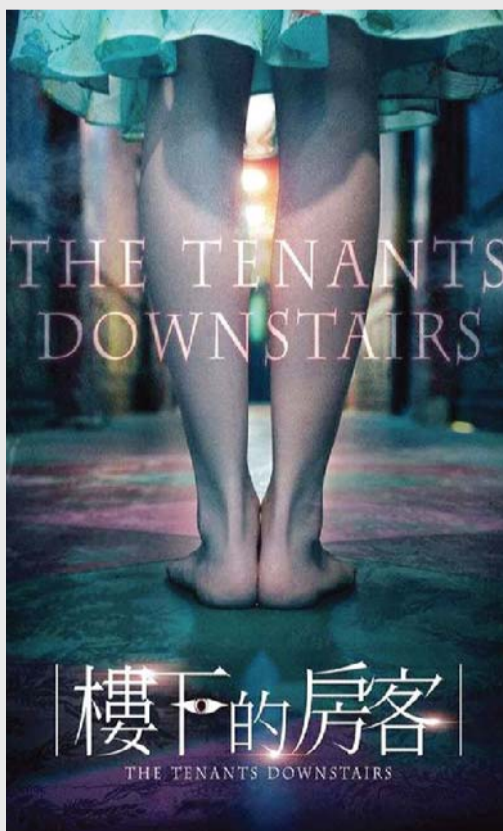
"It's a priceless document as well as a wonderful painting," Cohn said. He came across the Hopkins collection last year while doing research at William L. Clements Library at the

University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. One Erie Canal expert said he was "blown away" when Cohn showed him prints of the Hopkins drawings, considered some of the earliest images of the waterway before the invention of photography in the late 1830s. "We don't have a lot of images of the very first version of the Erie Canal," said Duncan Hay, historian for the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. "Finding drawings tucked away in a manuscript collection in another part of the country is pretty exciting." — AP

Film review

'The Tenants Downstairs'

Adapted from electronic eavesdropping to playing sick and deadly jokes in "The Tenants Downstairs," a lusciously photographed and wildly uneven cavalcade of grotesque comedy, torture porn and all-round depravity. Based on the novel by popular Taiwanese author Giddens Ko and starring Hong Kong exploitation mainstay Simon Yam ("Dr. Lamb") as the malevolent manipulator, this procession of perversity will likely struggle to attract general audiences but does possess cult and remake potential. Festivals seeking glossy gross-outs will get their money's worth here. "Tenants" commences its lease in Taiwan cinemas on August 12.



"Tenants" marks the directing debut of Adam Tsuei, a former music industry bigwig whose credits as producer include hit adaptations of Ko's novels "You are the Apple of My Eye" (2010) and "Cafe. Waiting. Love" (2014). The difference between those fluffy romantic comedies and this social horror movie could not be more pronounced. The major difference between Ko's novel and his screenplay is the introduction of a conventional interrogation-and-flashback format. Before his dreadful deeds are shown, the unnamed and unrepentant landlord (Yam) tells a police detective (Kai Fung) to prepare for "a story out of your imagination."

Installed surveillance equipment

That's about it for traditional narrative. What follows is a parade of increasingly kinky sequences that make good on the landlord's promise but provide little insight into his background or motives.

With no sympathetic characters emerging anywhere else, many viewers will be hard pressed to feel much besides shock as the freak show unfolds. Ko's screenplay omits the novel's description of how the landlord acquired the building and installed surveillance equipment to satisfy his voyeuristic impulses. Here, he's simply a grungy middle-aged guy who shows up at a decrepit building with a set of keys and finds it already wired up with cameras and monitors.

In an unexplained flash, the place is fully renovated and occupied by tenants specifically selected for what the landlord considers to be socially deviant qualities and strong entertainment potential. The tenants are an interesting bunch. Kuo Li (Lee Kang-shen) and Linghu (Bernard Tan) are a gay couple attempting to hide their relationship. Divorced gym instructor Chang (Chuang Kai-hsun) is a ball of pent-up rage. Depressed single father Wang (Phil Yan) harbors incestuous desire for his young daughter (Angel Ho). Li Xing is terrific as Miss Chen, an office worker with a high sex drive. Boyan (Yan Sheng-yu) is a video game-addicted student whose only other pastime is onanism.

'Love interest'

If there's a "love interest" here it's Yingru (Ivy Shao, excellent), a beautiful young woman whose apartment is stacked with ominously heavy suitcases, and whose bathtub contains an unfortunate young man being subjected to the vilest torture. After discovering Yingru's secret and forming a bond with her, the landlord starts orchestrating events aimed at bringing out the very worst in everyone and pushing them to commit unspeakable acts.

At this point the film goes into overdrive, with mixed results. On the amusing side, the landlord drugs Boyan and moves his naked body all over town, making the geeky guy believe he's achieved his dream of teleportation. But the tone is overwhelmingly and oppressively sadistic as hapless victims succumb to mental meltdowns and indulge in atrocious behavior including rape, murder, and amateur surgery. Yam's full-blooded performance shows yet again why he's one of Chinese-language cinema's most dependable portrayals of oddballs and psychos. Supporting performances are spot-on right down the line. Production designer Kei Tsutsuji and cinematographer Jimmy Yu have a field day with the layout and atmosphere inside Yingru's chamber of horrors, which would be a cover story in the glossy home decor magazine from hell. — Reuters

New movie to explore bizarre hunt for the Boston Strangler

It took a half-century for DNA sleuthing to finger Albert DeSalvo as the Boston Strangler. Now a new movie is revisiting one of America's most notorious serial killer cases and the bizarre involvement of a man who claimed psychic powers to help police investigate. "Stranglehold" will tell the story of the Boston Strangler Task Force - a special unit assembled by the Massachusetts attorney general's office to capture the man behind nearly a dozen unsolved murders of women between 1962 and 1964.

Director Barry L. Levy grew up hearing



In this Feb 25, 1967 black and white file photo, self-confessed Boston Strangler Albert DeSalvo is taken into custody after his capture north of Boston in Lynn, Mass.

about the Strangler as a child in suburban Newton and Natick. A news article about Peter Hurkos, the enigmatic Dutch-born psychic who helped investigators search for clues, rekindled his interest. "The Strangler was that story that, when you were a kid, everyone heard," Levy told The Associated Press. "Ever since I knew I wanted to be a director, I knew this is what I wanted to do." It's the latest in a series of film projects focusing on high-profile Boston crimes. Last year's "Black Mass" told the story of notorious gangster James "Whitey" Bulger. Mark Wahlberg's "Patriots Day," about the Boston Marathon bombings, opens Dec. 21 in Boston and nationwide in January; and a 2017 release is planned for "Stronger," with Jake Gyllenhaal playing marathon bombing victim Jeff Bauman.

DeSalvo, a factory worker imprisoned on unrelated charges, admitted to killing 11 women in the Boston area during that period, but he later recanted and was never charged with the murders. He was stabbed to death in prison in 1973, and his role wasn't clear until 2013, when DNA tests confirmed he killed Mary Sullivan - the last of the victims - and likely was responsible for the deaths of the other victims. The Strangler's victims, who ranged in age from 19 to 67, were sexually



In this Feb 26, 1967 black and white file photo, the crowd jeers self-confessed Boston Strangler Albert DeSalvo, lower left, as he is led outside the Lynn, Mass. police station. — AP photos

assaulted and killed - crimes that terrorized the region and grabbed national headlines.

Casting is underway for "Stranglehold," which marks Levy's directorial debut. Levy was a screenwriter on 2008's "Vantage Point," about an attempt to assassinate the U.S. president in Spain, and 2013's "Paranoia," a corporate espionage thriller. Levy isn't divulging many details, but Hurkos - who claimed he became psychic in 1941 after falling from a ladder and suffering a brain injury - figures prominently in the script. Hurkos' contribu-

tions to the investigation were dubious at best: At one point he was arrested for impersonating a police detective and harassing a potential witness. Levy said he hopes to film in Boston as early as this winter to give the movie the grit and authenticity it needs. Los Angeles-based Broken Road Productions is producing the film. A release date hasn't been set. Despite the DNA testing that closed the case, victims' families still wonder if DeSalvo really committed all the murders or whether there were copycats. — AP

Will Smith showing different side of Mideast on promo tour

Will Smith is in the Middle East to promote the movie "Suicide Squad," but he says it's also a chance to counter an increasingly anti-Muslim climate surrounding the US presidential race. Smith, who plays the sharpshooter Deadshot in the film, says he's having fun and sharing pictures of his time in Dubai, showing that "Hey, it doesn't look like they hate me, does it?" He told reporters Sunday the elections brought many issues to the surface, and that ultimately it's for the best.

"As painful as it is to hear Donald Trump talk and as embarrassing as it is as an American to hear him talk, I think it's good," Smith said. "We get to know who people are and now we get to cleanse it out of our country." — AP



Will Smith speaks at a press conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates yesterday. — AP

Malaysia's dying art: Traditional kite-making in peril



Kitemaker Shafie Jusoh launching a traditional 'wau bulan' kite.



This picture shows kitemaker Shafie Jusoh making final touches on a traditional 'wau bulan' kite at his studio in Pantai Cahaya Bulan on the outskirts of Kota Bharu, peninsular Malaysia's northeastern Kelantan state. — AFP photos

Shafie Jusoh loves traditional Malaysian kites so much that he can't get a good night's rest unless he's been working on them daily. "I need to make kites every day, if not I can't sleep," the 69-year-old said. He began making them when he was a young boy, skipping classes to entertain his flights of fancy. "If you don't do it every day, you will lose the technique," he added. Shafie is among a diminishing group of Malaysian master kitemakers who have dedicated their lives to breathing life into the ancient craft.

A colorful giant two-meter kite with extended wings greets visitors at the entrance of Shafie's dark and dusty studio in a sleepy village in Kelantan state. "I made this kite 30 years ago. You need 25 men to fly it," the self-taught kite-maker quipped proudly as he showed a faded photo of it soaring in the air. A wooden table at his studio is lined with several awards from government agencies for his efforts promoting Malaysia's kites, a national symbol, worldwide. He recalled one particular visit to Paris many years ago, where he had brought over 30 Malaysian kites to an exhibition and all were sold quickly. "To the foreigners, the kites are just so unique and they love it" he said.

Passion and patience

The early morning rays stream through a rickety green window, dancing on the thick



Kitemaker Shafie Jusoh inspecting the bamboo frame of a traditional 'wau bulan' kite being crafter at his studio in Pantai Cahaya Bulan.

veins on his arm as he flips and turns his knife, cutting a spiny bamboo stick to perfection. After thinning out several bamboo sticks, he bends and ties them with strings to form the main kite frame. Separately, using a small knife, he cuts out intricate floral designs on an assort-

ment of coloured paper. These are painstakingly pasted onto tracing paper which is then glued to the main bamboo frame. The kite is then left indoors for a day to let the glue dry.

A ribbon is attached tightly to two ends of the kites and this produces a loud "swoosh"



Kitemaker Shafie Jusoh, preparing the bamboo frame for a traditional "wau bulan" kite at his studio in Pantai Cahaya Bulan.

sound when the kite makes sharp turns in the sky. The entire process can take between two weeks to three months depending on the size and the intricate nature of the kite. "You need both the passion and the patience to make kites," Shafie explained. There are several kinds of Malaysian kites, with various shapes based on stingrays, cats and peacocks. There is also a kite called "wau jala budi" where its curvy shape, some believe, is inspired by the outline of a woman's body.

But the "wau bulan" or moon kite with its lower tip resembling a crescent, an Islamic symbol, is the most popular in Kelantan. It takes around a week or two to produce a small moon kite and is sold for around 400 to 500 ringgit, said Shafie. Some moon kites though

can be as high as three metres. The bigger models can cost as much as 9,000 ringgit. The "wau bulan" is also the inspiration behind the Malaysia Airlines logo.

Dwindling interest

Many of Shafie's customers are keen kite flyers but some also purchase his designs as decorative pieces for their homes. As he has built up such a reputation for his artistic pieces, his studio is also a popular pit-stop for international tour groups from Europe and North America visiting Kelantan. He enlists his wife Wan Enbong Wan Deraman to help when there are large orders. The state's annual kite festival causes a surge in demand, with many local students buying his pieces. "My students like these traditional kites because of the historical knowledge and art involved," one teacher told AFP.

While the people of Kelantan, known for its crafts, still love such Malaysian kites, interest is waning. There are fears the ancient skills, passed from one generation to the next, will die out. "It takes many, many years to master the craft and the situation in Kelantan and elsewhere in Malaysia is that there are very few craftsmen who still have the traditional knowledge," said Pauline Fan, creative director of Pusaka, an organization that works to document and protect traditional Malay arts. She warned: "It's intricate and hard and most young people don't have the patience to do it...once the masters and the knowledge are gone, it will be difficult to get it back." As for Shafie, he has no plans to retire any time soon and hopes there is still time for him to pass on his knowledge and skills to others. He said: "Some students, even a few outside of Kelantan, have come to ask me to teach them." — AFP

The Basque beret, from peasant cap to 'emblem of France'

The beret has come a long way since its humble beginnings as the headgear of choice for pelota players in the Basque country, becoming a must-have accessory as far afield as China.

The jaunty topper preferred by Che Guevara and Pablo Picasso added a saucy touch to Monica Lewinsky's look in a famous photo of her getting a hug from then president Bill Clinton at a 1996 White House event. In Oloron-Sainte-Marie, France's "Basque Beret Capital", one company, the House of Laulhere, lays claim to being the oldest producer of the flat cap, turning them out for nearly 200 years.

The beret will never go out of fashion, says commercial director Mark Saunders. "The image of the Frenchman with a baguette under the arm and a beret on his head is obsolete only in the minds of the French," says the 47-year-old Irishman. "Overseas, the beret is the emblem of France, synonymous with luxury and fashion," he says, noting that Monaco's Princess Charlene donned a Laulhere beret for her first public appearance after the birth of her twin girls two years ago.

Laulhere is now one of the last firms to produce berets that are 100 percent made in France. "Just 30 years ago in this region there were 22 beret factories," Saunders says in flu-

ent French tinged with an Irish brogue. A few new manufacturers have sprung up recently in nearby Bearn, including some that simply put the finishing touches on berets that they buy wholesale, he notes.

"We are not the last French maker but the last historic maker of the French beret," Saunders says with a twinkle in his eye. Laulhere has a counterpart in the Spanish Basque country just over the border, Boinas Elosegui, in the town of Tolosa in the shadow of the Pyrenees. Founded in 1858, it is the only Spanish company to make fine quality Basque berets. Like Laulhere, at Boinas Elosegui almost the entire process from weave to finish is carried out by hand using pure virgin merino wool. Laulhere's unique know-how earned the company the coveted national distinctions of Living Heritage Enterprise and Guaranteed Origin France in 2012.

'Top secret' equipment

"One of the secrets is the felting, in which the berets are washed for between five and seven hours with water from the river Gave," Saunders said. "The minerals in the Gave water give the Laulhere berets their feel, which you cannot achieve with tap water." The firm was on the edge of bankruptcy in 2012 when it was bought by the Cargo holding company

grouping around 15 small businesses in southwestern France. Now, with a staff of 45 producing 200,000 berets per year and a turnover of 2.9 million euros (\$3.2 million) in 2015, the company has three main markets.

The traditional "Heritage" beret makes up 35 percent of its output; another 30 percent goes to military clients in France and around the world, with the rest going to haute-cou-



ture thanks to the fashion trend set by designers such as Dolce & Gabbana, John Galiano, Louis Vuitton and Ralph Lauren. ? It is also the official supplier of France's rugby team.

Nearly a third of its production is for export, with clients in around 20 countries including Japan, China and the United States. The process involves 10 main stages using purpose-built "top-secret" equipment. The knitting is now mechanized, but all the other stages are performed by hand-including felting, dyeing, shaping, shaving, finishing and garnishing. The basic beret costs 25 euros (\$28), while luxury models can be priced at as much as 1,400 euros. — AFP



These file photos taken in Oloron Sainte-Marie, in the French Basque area, southwestern France, shows employees working on a beret at Laulhere factory. — AFP



Lifestyle

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People dance in a pool as they attend the Arenal Sound music festival held on Burriana beach. Arenal Sound Festival is a 5 days music festival attended by around 240,000 people on the east coast of Spain between Valencia and Castellon. — AFP

Red, white, blue and flashy: USA's Opening Ceremony gear

When Team USA lines up for the opening ceremony of the Rio Olympics on Friday night, the team will don custom-fitted Polo Ralph Lauren ensembles saturated with the red, white and blue of the American flag. It was a uniform months in the making. Each American athlete trekked to the George R. Brown convention center in Houston for what's called team processing. It's a 12-day affair where more than 700 athletes and staff are fitted for the Olympics.

The athletes are given their opening and closing ceremony looks as well as a collection of Polo clothing to wear while at the games. A large ballroom of the convention center is transformed into a Polo showroom where mannequins display the closing ceremony looks, the Polo logo is everywhere and the Olympic rings also grace the walls as trendy music pumps through the space. There's a large room where racks upon racks of clothing sits waiting to grace one of these athletes, and boxes of shoes piled at least seven feet high await their owners.

There's one side for the men and another for the women where each athlete tries on his or her clothing. It is there that they can consult with one of two stylists about the looks and where 16 tailors pull, fold and pin the clothing to make sure everything fits perfectly. Clothing that needs alterations is then taken to a room where about a dozen people wait to make the changes and have them back to the athletes within three hours. Fencers and sisters

Kelley and Courtney Hurley had some fun standing on a podium and working on their modeling poses after donning the gear. The pair was impressed with the look.

"They fit nicely. I'm super impressed," said Kelley, a bronze medalist in 2012. "I like them more than the last ones. In London we had like long skirts that were kind of awkward to wear. With these, these are slick. I'm going to wear these all the time. I'm actually going to wear them in real life." The star of the opening ceremony outfits is undoubtedly the expertly tailored deep navy blazers with gold buttons that feature the US Olympic team logo and a white embroidered Polo pony.

Electroluminescent panels

The back of the jacket features "USA" in large block letters in the same white as the pony. The jackets will be paired with selvedge white denim jeans that are inscribed with the words "Faster, Higher, Stronger" on the inside of the waistband and are also detailed with red and blue stitching on the cuff. A classic striped T-shirt will be worn underneath the jacket and the look is completed with red, white and blue boat shoes, striped cotton bracelets and navy grosgrain belts.

When superstar swimmer Michael Phelps takes his spot in the parade as the country's flag bearer, his jacket will be on another level. To note the honor of being chosen as the flag bearer, Ralph Lauren added some special touch to his jacket. His jacket will feature elec-

tro-luminescent panels to illuminate the US Olympic team symbol and the lettering on the back of his jacket. "It's an honor that is deserving of special commemoration, and this year,



Olympic fencers Courtney Hurley, left, and Kelly Hurley model the opening ceremony fashions by Polo Ralph Lauren at the United States Olympic Committee processing station in Houston.



In this July 25, 2016 photo, Olympic closing ceremony fashions by Polo Ralph Lauren are displayed at the United States Olympic Committee processing station in Houston. — AP photos

we wanted to celebrate and illuminate - literally - that honor by designing this revolutionary jacket," said David Lauren, Ralph Lauren's executive vice president of global advertising, marketing and communications. The closing cere-

mony outfits maintain the same aesthetic as the opening ones, but are a bit more casual. They feature a button-down shirt in red, white or blue featuring the pony logo, a striped T-shirt and white chino shorts. — AP

Teen unaware of fame after dino pouch graces White House

The autistic youth who designed a dinosaur-print pouch which the wife of Singapore's prime minister took to the White House has little idea how much of a celebrity he has become since pictures of it went viral. Sales of the \$11 blue-and-white pouch have soared since Ho Ching was photographed carrying it during husband Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's official visit to the United States. Ho bought the purse last weekend at a fundraising event for the Autism Resource Centre (ARC) in Singapore, for which she is an advisory.

The dinosaur motif was designed by See Toh Sheng Jie, 19, who attends the Pathlight school for students with autism run by the ARC. Photos of Ho holding the pouch on the White House lawn sparked huge demand, with Pathlight saying its stock of 200 sold out within a day and it was now on backorder with a two-month wait. Ho, also one of Asia's most powerful business-

women, garnered praise on social media for her unusual choice of accessory. "So good of Mrs Lee to use it at such a high profile occasion! Great job ADP artist Sheng Jie!" wrote Facebook user Su Yeo. Another user, Leong Geok Hoon, called it a "world class fashion of the heart" while others noted that while Ho could have chosen any other designer, she went with one from a cause she supports. "It gave such a great mileage for the artists on our Artist Development Program and The Art Faculty merchandise," Pathlight principal Linda Kho told AFP.

See Toh's family has also been overwhelmed with media attention but for the autistic teenager, the son of a taxi driver with a love for dinosaurs and beetles, it makes little difference. When AFP visited the family's suburban government-built housing flat, he nonchalantly sat at a table in the living room drawing his favorite dinosaurs and watching tele-

vision. He has filled countless notebooks and folders with his drawings, his parents said.

"When the school first told us that Ms Ho Ching brought Sheng Jie's pouch

to the White House, we thought it was a joke," said See Toh's father, Jason. When shown a picture of Ho with the bag bearing his design, See Toh was delighted, his parents added. "He is not very



Nineteen-year-old Singaporean youth See Toh Sheng Jie works on a dinosaur drawing at his home in Singapore.



This file photo taken on August 2, 2016 shows First Lady Michelle Obama arriving with Ho Ching, wife of Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, for a State Arrival ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, DC.

communicative but when we once gave him a dinosaur toy during a tantrum, he calmed down.

That's when we knew he liked dinosaurs," the elder See Toh told AFP. The youth has an encyclopedic knowledge of dinosaurs and must watch every

dinosaur movie he comes across. He also makes intricate dinosaur toys from polymer clay, filling an entire display cabinet in the family's flat. "We'll just let him do what he likes because you can't force him to draw when he doesn't want," Wendy See Toh said. — AFP