THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

THULQADA 12, 1437 AH

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016

Palestinian wedding season can hit the wallet hard



Farah defends 10,000m gold, Phelps signs off with 23 golds







CHAMPION DEEHANI ARRIVES HOME TO HERO'S WELCOME

32° Min **Max** 48° **High Tide** 08:29 & 22:59 **Low Tide**

02:33 & 16:33

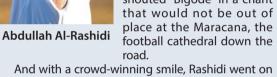
SHOOTER DEDICATES GOLD MEDAL TO KUWAIT'S LEADERS, PEOPLE

MUSTACHE! RASHIDI WINS FANS' HEARTS

RIO DE JANEIRO: From the beginning of the men's skeet semifinal on Saturday, there was something about Abdullah Al-Rashidi that grabbed the Brazilian fans. Maybe it was his age, the oldest of the competitors at 52. Maybe it was the fact that the Kuwaiti was competing under the Olympic flag, his country hav-

ing been banned from competition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

For Brazilian spectator Daniel Grillo, it was simply his "bigode", Portuguese for mustache. "He looks so exotic with that mustache," said Grillo, a 24-year-old student. With scores of other Brazilians in the stands, he shouted "Bigode" in a chant that would not be out of place at the Maracana, the football cathedral down the



to win the bronze in skeet, his first medal in six Olympic Games. "I feel like I am from Brazil and not Kuwait," said a grateful Rashidi, who is also a falconer. "Thank you Brazil!" He thought it was a funny nickname, especially since his mustache used to be much bigger and is now just a finger-wide graying strip above his mouth.

Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: Olympic gold medalist Fehaid Al-Deehani is welcomed by officials and well-wishers at Kuwait airport's VIP lounge yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat (More photos on Page 20)

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

www.kuwaittimes.net

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti champion shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani arrived in Kuwait vesterday to a hero's welcome, with many officials and a large crowd greeting him enthusiastically at the airport's VIP lounge. Deehani won the gold medal in the double trap event of the Rio 2016 Olympics on Wednesday.

"This achievement is for the sake of Kuwait and we were able to get the world on our side," said Deehani, dedicating his win to HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince, HH the Prime Minister and the Kuwait people, seeing how happy they are over his victory. He said the medal is the best answer to those who kept the Kuwait flag away from the award ceremonies, adding that everyone was calling him "Fehaid the Kuwaiti". This medal, he added, would carry the name of Kuwait. "I was not representing the Olympic Committee; rather I represented Kuwait," the proud army officer said, adding he hoped to win again at the Tokyo Olympics four vears from now.

At the airport, many children wore t-shirts emblazoned with Deehani's image. His family was ecstatic too. "I thank Allah for the success of my son and his winning the gold medal, as this is what he hoped for and my prayers are with him wherever he goes," his father said.

Information Minister and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said HH the Amir, the government and people appreciate the achievements of Deehani and fellow shooter Abdullah Al-Rashidi. Sheikh Salman added that everyone is proud of their success, especially since the shooting federation has notched up many achievements during the past years. Rashidi won bronze in the men's skeet event on

Sheikh Salman added that despite Kuwait's suspension by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other difficulties, Deehani, Rashidi and all participants at the Rio Olympics had Kuwait's name paramount, wishing Kuwaiti sport prosperity in the future.

COASTGUARDS ARREST 10 IRANIAN INFILTRATORS



KUWAIT: Alleged Iranian infiltrators are seen after they were arrested by the Kuwaiti coastguard. — Mol

KUWAIT: Kuwait said yesterday its coastguard detained 10 Iranian "infiltrators", but an Iranian official described them as fishermen and denied they were detained for violating the border. One of the Iranian men was wounded after refusing coastguard orders to surrender, the Interior Ministry said in a statement published by the state-run Kuwait News Agency. The ministry released a photo on its website showing nine of the men on their knees with their hands behind their backs.

The infiltrators were spotted on the coastquards' radars off Abul Hasaniyah, and they chased the Iranians till they reached the shore, where the Iranian captain told the officers that the passengers had descended, the statement added.

Gulf countries have long accused Iran of meddling in regional affairs, primarily in Bahrain and Yemen. Iran's semi-official Fars news agency quoted Ali Hajatpour, deputy chief of Bushehr province's coast guard in

southern Iran, as saying Iranian fisherman were detained in Kuwait because of a "quarrel". He was quoted Saturday as saying the dispute happened on Kuwaiti soil and that "their detention was not related to a border violation".

Iran's ambassador to Kuwait, Alireza Enayati, told Iranian state television yesterday the embassy is trying to clarify the fate of the detainees and determine their identities. "We hope to settle the case quickly" through mutual cooperation, he said. An appeals court in Kuwait recently upheld the death sentence for a citizen on charges of communicating with Iran and the Lebanese group Hezbollah to commit "hostile actions" against the country. The case also includes an Iranian national tried in absentia and sentenced to death. Kuwait recalled its ambassador to Tehran in January after a mob there ransacked the Saudi Embassy in protest against the kingdom's execution of a prominent Saudi cleric. — Agencies

News

in brief

Kuwait is not borrowing money: Finance Ministry

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Finance yesterday denied reports claiming that Kuwait had borrowed \$55 billion from domestic and external markets. These reports are totally false and baseless, the ministry said in a statement, adding that it was crafting a scheme and allotting funds for public debt bonds for the year, according to its strategy and developments in the oil market. It called on the media to avoid publishing inaccurate reports that are detrimental to the national economy and

fencer Muhammad

Bronze for hijabi US

RIO DE JANEIRO: Fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad came to the Rio Games determined to show the world that Muslim-American women could compete in elite sports. And the 30-year-old from New Jersey, the first US Olympian to wear a hijab - a headscarf worn by Muslim women - during competition, came away with a bronze medal on Saturday in the women's lbtihaj Muhammad



team sabre event. The four-woman US team beat Italy 45-30 to seal third place and the first women's medal in fencing for the Americans in Rio. "This has been a long journey for us," said Muhammad. "This is six years in the making. I'll never forget this moment."

Sudan floods kill 100, destroy entire villages

KASALA, Sudan: Thousands of houses have been

destroyed and several villages submerged after flooding triggered by torrential rainfall killed 100 people across Sudan, officials and an AFP photographer said yesterday. Thousands of people in the impoverished eastern state of Kasala bordering Eritrea fled their homes after the river Gash burst its banks, flooding entire villages inhabited by farmers. Many people were sheltering in makeshift grass huts on hilltops, after floodwaters also cut off the main highway between east Sudan and the capital Khartoum. Villagers braved waisthigh water as they looked for food, drinking water and medicines amid a shortage of supplies. Many people, mostly children, were seen drinking muddy rainwater. Twenty-five people died in Kasala itself and around 8,000 houses have been destroyed since heavy rains lashed the state two weeks ago, the Sudanese Red Crescent Society said yesterday. At least 100 people were killed nationwide, it said.

BOKO HARAM VIDEO SHOWS CHIBOK GIRLS

KANO, Nigeria: Boko Haram yesterday released a new video purportedly showing some of the Nigerian schoolgirls kidnapped from Chibok more than two years ago, and called for its detained fighters to be freed. The government said it was in touch with those claiming to be behind the undated video, which shows groups of girls in Islamic dress standing or sitting around a masked man armed with an assault rifle.

The film was issued just days after embattled Boko Haram head Abubakar Shekau denied claims he had been replaced as the leader of the Nigeriabased jihadist group. The mass kidnapping of 276 schoolgirls from Chibok in April 2014 provoked global outrage and brought unprecedented attention to Boko Haram and its bloody quest to create a fundamentalist state in northeastern Nigeria.

Continued on Page 13



This video grab taken from a video released by Boko Haram yesterday shows what is claimed to be one of the group's fighters at an undisclosed location standing in front of girls allegedly kidnapped from Chibok in April 2014. — AFP

IMAM, ASSISTANT GUNNED DOWN NEAR NY MOSQUE

NEW YORK: A gunman shot and killed a New York imam and his assistant near their mosque in the borough of Queens during a brazen attack in broad daylight Saturday. Imam Maulana Akonjee, 55, and his assistant, 64-year-old Thara Uddin, were shot just before 2 pm in the Ozone Park neighborhood, police said. The attack reportedly took place after the two, dressed in traditional Muslim garb, left the Al-Furgan Jame Masjid mosque following Saturday afternoon prayers. The motive is unknown and no arrests have been made, the authorities said.

"There is nothing in the preliminary investigation to indicate that they were targeted because of their faith," police told journalists. However, Muslim community representatives pointed to growing Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment fueled by a series of deadly attacks in the United States and abroad as well as hostile statements by Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, including his proposal for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the country.

The suspected gunman approached the two men from behind at the corner of Liberty Avenue and 79th Street. Witnesses then saw him fleeing the scene with a gun, police said, adding that surveillance video appeared to show a



Imam Akonjee

man wearing shorts and a dark polo shirt. A sketch of the suspect released early Sunday showed a dark-haired, bearded man wearing glasses. Police said witnesses described him as having a medium complexion.

Police said that Akonjee was carrying more than \$1,000, but that the attacker did not take the money. Both victims were taken to nearby Jamaica Hospital with gunshot wounds and were pronounced dead there. The suspect was still at large Sunday morning and the

investigation is ongoing, police said. Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Governor of Basra Majed Al-Nasrawi. —Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets Governor of Basra Majed Al-Nasrawi.

AMIR RECEIVES GOVERNOR OF BASRA

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Muhanna and Kuwait's Consul in Basra Ambassador Yousef Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Seif Palace Governor of Basra Majed Al-Nasrawi and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Amiri diwan advisor Mohammed Dhaifallah Sharar. Nasrawi later met with His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Minister of the Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. The meetings were attended by Capital Governor Thabit Mohammad Al-

Ashour Al-Sabbagh.

Earlier yesterday, His Highness the Amir received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, First Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Acting National Assembly Speaker MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received His

Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, Tamimi, Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah.

He also hosted Minister of Information and 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

AMIR CONGRATULATES SHOOTER ON WINNING BRONZE MEDAL

Rashidi awarded KD 3,000 monthly allowance for four years

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday a cable of congratulations to Kuwaiti shooter Abdullah Al-Turqi Al-Rashidi, congratulating him for winning the bronze medal in the men's skeet at the Rio De Janeiro summer Olympic Games.

His Highness hailed this distinguished Kuwaiti accomplishment which has proven capabilities of the Kuwaiti youth in achieving such outstanding sport achievements, wishing him all the best in representing Kuwait at the regional and international arenas. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem sent similar cables.

Award

Meanwhile, Deputy Director General of the Public Authority for Sports Dr Humoud

Fleitah congratulated Rashidi on the bronze medal, and announced that the "well-deserved achievement entitles Rashidi to an award worth KD 3,000 per month for four years as per the regulations of the professionalism statutes."

"The award is meant to encourage the sportspeople to assert themselves internationally," he said. "The public authority for sports, its board of directors and director general spare no effort in translating into action the instructions of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah to honor and encourage the skilled sportspeople and athletes." He voiced hope that the Kuwaiti youth will be able to make more achievements in the coming sports events.

Separately, Minister of Information and

Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah on Sunday affirmed that Rashidi's accomplishment in Rio de Janeiro proved anew that the young citizens are quite able to overcome hardships such as those facing the national

Despite the challenges facing the Kuwaiti sports and the cessation of participation in international tournaments under Kuwait Flag, the sons of Kuwait manifested resolve and took part in the games in Rio de Janeiro, though under the Olympic flag, to manifest to the world the Kuwaiti athletes' capacity to represent their country and lift its image high, the minister said. The leaders of Kuwait are proud of their sons upon whom "we depend for brandishing the national flag," he said.

Dedication

the bronze medal to the people of Kuwait citizens. —KUNA

who have backed him throughout his sports life. Rashidi in a statement added that he was dedicating the win to the political leadership, namely His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

He deeply cherished the unlimited support granted to him by Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah and the Director General of the Public Authority for Sports Sheikh Ahmad Al-Mansour Al-Sabah. Rashidi had earned the bronze medal, beating the Ukrainian foe, Mykola Milchev. On Wednesday, the Kuwaiti champion Fehaid Al-Deehani won the gold medal in the double-trap competition, drawing much applause In the meantime, Rashidi dedicated from Kuwait's top leaders and ordinary

AMIR CONGRATULATES **VETERAN SINGER ON** SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations Saturday to singer Abdulaziz Al-Mufarrej on the successful operation he underwent in the United States, and his safe return to

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem also congratulated Mufarrej on the successful surgery.

Meanwhile, Minister of Information and State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah congratulated Mufarrej on the successful surgery, praying to Allah the Almighty to perpetuate long lasting health and wellness on him.

He added that the state would spare no effort in caring for its artists and singers in all spheres in interpretation of the directives of the supreme political leadership represented by His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister. —KUNA

KUWAIT'S ENVOY TO **ITALY HOLDS BANQUET** IN HONOR OF DEEHANI

ROME: Kuwait Embassy in Rome celebrated Olympic goldmedalist shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani on his way back to Kuwait. Kuwait Embassy in Italy said yesterday that Kuwaiti Ambassador to Italy Sheikh Ali Khaled Al-Sabah held a banquet in honor of the Kuwaiti champion and the national Archery team to celebrate the occasion of his unprecedented winning of a gold medal in men's double trap competition of the 2016 summer Olympics in Rio de Janero, Brazil.

The Kuwaiti ambassador praised the achievement of Deehani and described his accomplishment as a significant mark in the history of Kuwaiti sports, adding that this was achieved through the great courage and distinctive performance assumed by the marksman.

Meanwhile, Deehani expressed his gratitude for the initiative of the Kuwaiti diplomat, thanking him and the members of the embassy for their graciousness. He also thanked God Almighty first, for being able to achieve this unique achievement, extending his thanks to Kuwait for investing in him and his fellow shooters through the Public Authority for Sports. Deehani dedicated the win to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince, His Highness the Prime Minister, and all Kuwaiti people. —KUNA

SHEIKH SALMAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO FORMER INFO MINISTER

KUWAIT: Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-



Sheikh Salman Al-**Humoud Al-Sabah**

Sabah paid tribute yesterday to former Minister of Information Mohammad Al-Sanousi's contributions to the development of national television. Sanousi handed Sheikh Salman a

copy of a book that chronicles the personalities and events that helped propel Kuwaiti television to prominence, said a statement by the Ministry of Information. Moreover,

Sheikh Salman cited the book, entitled 'Al-Sanousi.. Kuwaiti Television History and Tales (1961-1985),' as an integral source that illustrates just how far the media sector in the country has come. —KUNA







KUWAIT: Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait Ghulam Dastagir hoists Pakistan's flag during a ceremony to celebrate the country's 70th independence Day anniversary yesterday. (Right) People celebrate during the event. (Center)—Photos by Joseph Shagra

KUWAIT, PAKISTAN SHARE DEEP TIES: AMBASSADOR

KUWAIT: Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait Ghulam Dastagir hailed the strong Kuwaiti-Pakistani ties in the fields of economy, politics, culture and military. Pakistan is offering training courses for Kuwaiti marine and air force as part of the prominent mili-

tary cooperation between the two sides, Dastagir said on the sidelines of a ceremony to hoist the Pakistani flag in celebration of the country's 70th independence Day anniversary yesterday. In the same context, he recalled the recent meeting

between Pakistani Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah in Kuwait, where Aman offered a deal on buying fighter jets.

Meanwhile, the ambassador noted that eco-

nomic cooperation is growing, adding that the day when the country was declared an inde-Pakistan is the number one importer of Kuwaiti diesel, while it is also one of the top exporters of Halal meat to Kuwait. Pakistan celebrates its Independence Day on 14 August to commemorate

pendent nation away from the British rule in 1947, as the first Pakistani leader and founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah began his leadership of the



Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait Ghulam Dastagir







Legalese

PASSPORTS

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

wrote about passport issues four years ago when I first started my legal writing career and although as a lawyer I feel I have covered all legal points, I am constantly getting emails of concern from expat employees because their passports were taken away from them and they were made to believe that it is the right thing to do! So I apologize that I am writing about this topic repeatedly, but I want to make things clear to the expat population in Kuwait that is getting confused by the untruths that their employers are telling them.

I understand that companies invest a lot in employees, from airplane tickets to training and workshop fees and so on. Therefore they want to make sure that their employees stay in the country and work for them, and if the employee decides to leave before the end of their contract, the employer can ask to get compensated for their loss.

Keeping passport

Question: Do I get to keep my passport with me or should I have to hand it over to the HR depart-

Fajer: You get to keep your passport no matter what the situation is. Logically, your passport is your national ID. It also has your visa, therefore you should keep it on you at all times. HR have no right to ask for your passport. In fact it is clearly stated in Article 1 of ministerial resolution number 143/A/2010: "It is prohibited for private sector employers and oil sector employers to hold travel documents of their employees."

Article 2 goes on to mention a punishment from the new labor law, Article 141: "In the event where the violator does not remedy the violation within the specified period, he shall be subject to a fine of not less than KD 100 and not more than KD 200 for each of the workers who are involved in the violation. In the event of recurrence within three years from the date of the final judgment, the punishment shall be doubled."This means that your company can initially get fined KD 100-200 for keeping your passport.

The only time that your HR department should ask for your passport is if they needed it to do paperwork and even then they should be clear and it should not take long.

Legal action

Question: What legal action can I take against my employers if they are refusing to hand over my passport?

Fajer: You can file a complaint at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor asking for your passport. The process is simple, but you can always hire a lawyer to file the complaint for you. This may cause the HR department or your employer to be aggressive towards you. I am saying this from experience - I have seen employees go through a rough time and be treated badly because they asked for their right to keep their passports. It's really sad to see that employees still treat their workers this way, even though the Kuwaiti government has rewritten many resolutions in order to give the employees more rights.

Leaving the country

Question: If I do have my passport with me and decide to leave the country, even though I do not have permission to do so, what legal actions can be taken against me?

Fajer: If you leave on the weekend or on your off days, then it is fine, but you should inform your employer. If you leave not wanting to come back and work for your company, then just keep in mind that they can file a case against you, or an absconding case (a criminal case) and ban you from entering

I apologize again for repeating my topics but it is really disappointing to read the emails that I receive on a daily basis from employees who are not being treated well. They are not getting some of their fundamental rights, like keeping their personal national IDs with them and as I have said, the Kuwaiti government has introduced regulations that punish such offenders, but it seems that it is not enough.

Therefore I think there should be stricter regulations, maybe extreme regulations, in order to stop offenders. If you read the emails that I get you would get the sense that it has become a norm to treat expat employees this way! I know that this is not the case, and it all depends on the company's policies or the HR department and those working in HR who might be expats themselves, but I ask you all to work with kindness and to treat people well. I hope the above helps.

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

THREE CONTRACTS SOON TO BOOST ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION BY 2019

Cop killer's case adjourned to Oct 16

By A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Electricity and Water will sign three major contacts for projects that will increase production by 1,250 megawatts by 2019. The first project is the south Zour station, which is in addition to the current project with a capacity of 250 MW, while the second and third will be in Subbiya, the first with a capacity of 750 MW and the other 250 MW. The official said the ministry is satisfied that its new projects will serve Kuwait for 10 to 15 years and cover consumption requirements, especially with the emergence of new areas. The current daily production rate exceeds 15,000 MW, while the consumption broke the 13,000 MW barrier for the first time this year.

Seven transformers

er to their homes will be resolved soon, after speaking with Minister of Electricity and Water Ahmad Al-Jassar. He said the minister promised him that seven transformers will be installed to cover 133 homes in Sabahiya.

Case adjourned

The criminal court adjourned the trial of a suspect charged with running over police officers during National Day celebrations until October 16, as it awaits a psychiatric report. The defense lawyer demanded that his client be examined by psychiatric doctors to make sure about his mental status. The suspects' actions had left one policeman dead and several others injured.

No bonuses

The Health Ministry found it strange that doctors, In other news, MP Ahmad Al-Azmi assured owners of employees and technicians are talking about a decision to new plots in Sabahiya that the problems of delivering pow- grand a KD 300 bonus to every outstanding employee,

adding that there is no such decision, and there is no item in its budget for such rewards. It said that the outstanding jobs reports are something else - they are annual and a decision is made to pay the bonuses after making sure all conditions are met.

Fake degrees

The national campaign for fighting fake and forged certificates said it is keen on the quality of education and interests of education establishments. The campaign asked His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah to decide on those with degrees from the American University in Athens, which has been dealt with final cassation court rulings, and a very clear report was made with recommendations to be implemented at once. But it rued that procedures by the ministry of higher education are very slow, making "our children victims of a very dangerous institutional failure."

WOMAN KILLED IN AIRPORT ROAD ACCIDENT

Bv Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: A woman died after she was hit by a vehicle on the Airport Road yesterday. The woman was attempting to cross the road opposite to Industrial Shuwaikh when a vehicle came by and hit her, according to eyewitnesses. Paramedics arrived to the scene shortly after the accident was reported, but discovered that the victim had already succumbed to her injuries. Her body was left for the coroner. Meanwhile, police apprehended the driver of the car that was involved in the accident for questioning. Separately, a second year student at Saad Al-Abdullah Academy was involved in a collision on Fifth Ring Road near the Avenues mall, and lost his leg as a result.

No injuries in fires

Fire broke out in a Farwaniya building,



KUWAIT: The victim's body lying on the street following the accident.

so Farwaniya, Ardhiya and technical rescue centers responded. The fire was in a sixthfloor apartment. Firemen divided into teams of evacuation, operation and firefighting as the building had people in it. Firemen contained the fire and kept it from spreading. No injuries were reported. Meanwhile, a house caught fire in Mahboula with Mangaf, Fahaheel, and Um Al-Haiman centers responding. The fire was in a makeshift building covering an area of 250 sq m. The house was evacuated and fire was kept from spreading. No injuries

Gambling den closed

Kuwait Municipality's emergency team in Ahmadi raided a gambling den, which was closed through an administrative order.



Damage seen inside a Farwaniya building's apartment after a fire there was extinguished.



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah meets US Marine Corps Forces Central Command (MCFCC) Lieutenant General William Beydler. —KUNA

DEFENSE MINISTER, US MILITARY OFFICIAL DISCUSS COMMON ISSUES

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah discussed yesterday with US Marine Corps Forces Central Command (MCFCC) Lieutenant General William Beydler, issues of mutual concern.

During the meeting, Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah underscored the depth of ties

between Kuwait and the US, as both nations seek to enhance bilateral relations, a statement issued by the Ministry of Defense noted. Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Mohammad Al-Kheder, Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Abdullah Al-Nawaf Al-Sabah and other military officials attended the meeting. —KUNA







SCORES ARRESTED IN NUGRA CRACKDOWN

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By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Assistant Interior

Ministry Undersecretary for Special Security Maj Gen Mahmoud Al-Dousary and Jahra Security Director General Maj Gen Ali Madhi supervised a security campaign in Nugra on Saturday. The campaign resulted in checking the IDs of 1,200 persons, as well as arresting a person wanted over a felony, 11 wanted for civil cases, 52 absconding persons, 60 persons without IDs and eight with expired residencies. Meanwhile, several persons were arrested with drugs and 350 traffic violations were issued. Six vehicles were impounded.

FEATURES

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UN COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE PUBLISHES FINDINGS ON KUWAIT

OBSERVATIONS ON THE THIRD PERIODIC REPORT

GENEVA: The UN Committee against Torture has published in paragraphs 10, 11 and 17 of its previous concluding its findings on the countries it examined during its latest session from 25 July to 12 August : Kuwait, Honduras, Burundi and Mongolia.

The findings cover positive aspects of how the respective State is implementing the Convention against Torture, Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and also main matters of concern and recommendations.

Members of the CAT are independent human rights experts drawn from around the world, who serve in their personal capacity and not as representatives of States parties. The Committee's concluding observations are an independent assessment of States' compliance with their human rights obligations under the treaty.

Concluding observations on the third periodic report of Kuwait

1. The Committee against Torture considered the third periodic report of Kuwait (CAT/C/KWT/3) at its 1433rd and 1435th meetings (see CAT/C/SR. I433 and CAT/C/SR. I435), held on 25 and 26 July 2016, and adopted the present concluding observations at its 1451st and 1453rd meetings, held on 8 and 9 August 2016.

A. Introduction

2. The Committee appreciates the report submitted by the State party at the date at which it was due and in accordance with the simplified reporting procedure. It welcomes the dialogue with the State party's delegation, the information on new legal developments provided in the introductory statement of the head of the delegation and the oral replies provided.

B. Positive aspects

3. The Committee notes the accession by the State party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on 22 August 2013.

4. The Committee welcomes the State party's initiatives

observations with regard to, respectively:

(a) The establishment of a n independent complaint mechanism of investigation into allegations of torture;

(b) The number of complaints filed against public officials on torture and ill-treatment and the outcome of related proceedings; and

(c) Questions concerning the application of death

Definition and criminalization of torture

7. The Committee remains concerned at the continued absence in the Criminal Code of the State party of a distinct crime of torture based on the definition in article 1 of the Convention, including its mental and psychological aspects. It is concerned that torture is still considered as a misdemeanor, offence or common assault in domestic penal legislation and that the current maximum penalty for torture is only five years and is therefore not commensurate with the gravity of this crime (arts. 1 and 4).

8. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation (A/53/44, para.230 and CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 7) that the crime of torture, which includes all elements contained in article 1 of the Convention, including its mental and psychological aspects, should be incorporated into the penal domestic law as a distinct crime. It draws the State party's attention to paragraph 11 of its general comment No. 2 (2007) on the implementation of article 2 by States parties, which underscores the preventive effect of having the crime of torture defined as an offence in its own right.

The State party should revise its national legislation to ensure that acts of torture are offences under criminal law and that they are punishable by penalties commensurate with the gravity of this crime, as required by article 4, paragraph 2, of the Convention and promised by its delegation during the consideration of the previous response to terrorist activities as well as in relation to peaceful protests by human rights defenders and members of minorities. It is further concerned that such practices are often not sufficiently investigated and sanctioned by relevant authorities (arts. 12 and 16)

13. The State party should:

(a) Publicly condemn the use of torture and ill-treatment with the clear message by the highest State authority that it will not be tolerated and that those responsible will be held to account;

(b) Carry out prompt, impartial, thorough and effective investigations into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, including the excessive use of force, by police and security officials, ensure that those suspected of committing such acts are immediately suspended from their duties for the duration of the investigation and, if charged and found guilty, are penally prosecuted;

(c) Ensure that peaceful demonstrations are not repressed by unnecessary excessive use of force and even

Reporting acts of torture and witness protection

14. The Committee is concerned at consistent reports that victims of and witnesses to torture have been reluctant to report cases out of fear of harassment and reprisals from the perpetrators and lack of protection and even administrative deportation in the case of foreign residents. It is also concerned at the reluctance of medical personnel who examine the victims to indicate findings of torture on their medical certificate for fear of intimidation or reprisals. It is further concerned that the doctors in the Forensic Division are part of the General Department of Criminal Evidence which is under the Ministry of the Interior and at their reported superficial and summary medical examinations. Finally, it is concerned that complaints relating to torture and ill-treatment perpetrated by police and security forces are considered by the General

Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules). Finally it should guarantee in practice that all pre trials persons are brought before a judge within a reasonable period of time.

Coerced confessions

19. The Committee is concerned at consistent reports of widespread practice by police officers of extracting confessions under both physical and psychological torture as well as ill-treatment in police stations and investigation centers, including the General Department of Criminal Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the State Security Agency, in violation of article 159 of the Criminal Code. It is further concerned that coerced confessions have been accepted by courts even after medical examinations have confirmed signs of torture and that courts have refused in practice requests for independent medical examinations from the alleged victims (art. 15).

20. The State party should:

(a) Take immediate and effective measures to guarantee that coerced confessions are inadmissible in any proceedings, except when invoked against a person accused of torture;

(b) Review cases of convictions based solely on confessions, since many of these may have been based on statements obtained through torture or ill-treatment and, as appropriate, provide prompt and impartial investigations and take appropriate remedial measures;

(c) Ensure that persons convicted on the basis of coerced confessions resulted from torture and ill-treatment are afforded a new and fair trial and adequate

(d) Ensure that law enforcement officials, investigators, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, doctors and any other staff who work with detainees receive training on how to detect and investigate cases in which confessions are obtained under torture in accordance with the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Protocol);

(e) Ensure that officials who extract such confessions, including persons liable under the principle of command responsibility, are brought to justice, prosecuted and punished accordingly;

(f) Provide the Committee with information on the results of the review to be made under (b) and whether any officials have been prosecuted and punished for extracting such confessions.

Conditions of detention

21. The Committee is concerned at consistent reports that certain places of deprivation of liberty, including the so-called "Talha" Centre for Deportation and the Central Prison Complex near Kuwait City, have poor material conditions such as inadequate sanitation and medical care, insufficient ventilation and daily light, lack of possibility to exercise, dilapidated and old infrastructure, and that certain detention facilities are overcrowded. It is also concerned at reports that minors are not separated from adults in police stations and that male guards in police stations may be guarding female detainees after their arrest. The Committee is also concerned at the provisions in article 48 of the Criminal Code which stipulate that detainees who face the death penalty should not mix with other detainees, which could give rise to cell isolation practices, including solitary confinement, that violate the provisions of the Convention (arts. 2, 11 and 16)

22. The State party should:

(a) Take urgent measures to improve the material conditions in all places where persons are deprived of their liberty and reduce overcrowding with a view to ensuring full compliance with international standards enshrined in the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela

(b) Ensure that minors are not held with adults in police stations and that arrested women and girls are guarded only by female guards in all places of detention, including police stations;

(c) Ensure that detainees facing the death penalty are not subjected to solitary confinement and isolation and inform the Committee about specific detention conditions which are imposed on those prisoners, ensuring that they

are in line with the Mandela Rules; (d) Ensure that detained persons can complain about their conditions of detention to an independent complaints mechanism;

(e) Ensure that independent international and domestic bodies, including the Diwan (the national human rights institution) carry out unannounced visits to all places where persons are deprived of their liberty and ensure that their reports and recommendations are ade-

quately followed up by the relevant authorities; (f) Place the penitentiary system under the authority of the Ministry of Justice instead of the authority of the Ministry of the Interior.

Punishments in places of detention

23. While taking note of the remarks made by the delegation of the State party, the Committee is concerned at reports that the Prisons Act provides for disciplinary measures for misconduct of prisoners such as the use of iron rods for handcuffing or binding of feet "for no more than a month", which constitute violations of the Convention. It is also concerned at the reported existence of extremely small disciplinary cells, some of which were previously used as toilets (arts. 2 and 16).

24. The State party should amend article 58 of the Prison Act of 1962 in order to put an immediate end to all disciplinary measures in which restraints to movement may amount to torture or ill-treatment of prisoners.

Imposition of the death penalty 25. The Committee is concerned at the interruption of

the de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty that was in force since 2007, and at the execution of nine persons since 2011. It remains concerned at the exceedingly wide number of offences for which the death penalty is imposed such as those relating to perjury or "forced perjury" and drug-related crimes, which do not meet the threshold of most serious crimes. (arts 2 and 16).

26. The State party should:

(a) As a matter of urgency, reinstate a de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty.

(b) The Committee invites the State party to follow the current international trend and consider revising its legis-



to revise its legislation in areas of relevance to the Convention, including:

(a) The adoption of Act No. 3 amending the Code of Criminal Procedure enshrined in Act No. 17 of 1960, relating, inter alia, to remand in custody and the enjoyment of fundamental legal safeguards by persons deprived of their liberty, in 2012;

(b) The adoption of Act No. 109 providing for the establishment of the Public Authority for Manpower, in 2013; (c) The adoption of the Trafficking in Persons and

Smuggling of Migrants Act No. 91, in 2013; (d) The adoption of the Domestic Workers Law No. 68 giving domestic workers enforceable labor rights, in 2015; (e) The adoption of Law No. 67 on the establishment of a national human rights institution (Diwan Huquq Al

(f) The adoption of the Rights of the Child Act No. 21, which provides, inter alia, for the protection of children from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, in 2015.

5. The Committee also welcomes the initiatives of the State party to amend its policies, programs and administrative measures to give effect to the Convention, including:

(a) Issuance of the Council of Ministers Decision No. 409 regarding civil, social and humanitarian benefits accorded to the Kuwaiti Bedoons, referred to as "illegal residents" in the State party's report, in 2011; (b) Issuance of Ministerial Decision No. 201/Ain,

which criminalizes forced labor, in 2011; (c) Establishment by Ministerial Decree No. 116 of the

Supreme National Committee under the chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of Health to lay the foundations and plans required to protect children from ill-treatment and

(d) Establishment of a large-capacity shelter for domestic workers who flee abusive employers, in 2014;

(e) Promulgation of Ministerial Decision No. 127 on the recommendation of the Supreme National Committee that prescribes the establishment of a mechanism for reporting suspected cases of child abuse and neglect, in

(f) Establishment of the Department of Community Policing at the Ministry of the Interior.

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

Pending follow-up issues from the previous reporting cycle 6. The Committee regrets the absence of information requested by the Committee on follow-up issues contained report of Kuwait in May 2011 (CAT/C/SR. 989, paragraphs

Fundamental legal safeguards

9. The Committee is concerned that detained persons do not enjoy, in practice, all the fundamental legal safeguards from the very outset of their deprivation of liberty, in particular after arrest by police. It is also concerned at reports that contacting a lawyer and contacting a family member may be mutually exclusive (arts. 2, paragraph 1).

The Committee is also concerned at the absence of information about measures to guarantee, in Kuwait, the absolute prohibition of torture in all its legal and other provisions against terrorism, including the new draft-law on terrorism offences, in conformity with Article 2, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Convention.

10. The State party should take effective measures to guarantee that all detained persons are afforded in practice all the fundamental legal safeguards from the outset of their deprivation of liberty, in accordance with international standards, including:

(a) To be informed about the charges against them and about their rights, both orally and in writing, in a language that they understand, and to sign a paper confirming that they have understood the information provided to them;

(b) To have their detention recorded in a register immediately after arrest;

(c) To notify a family member or any other person of their own choice of their detention immediately after apprehension and, in parallel, to being able to contact a lawyer without the permission of the investigator and

(d) To have immediate access to an independent medical examination, free of charge or by a doctor of their own choice at their own charge, and to have the doctor's findings brought to the attention of the competent authority;

11. In addition, the State party should include in its legal and other provisions against terrorism a clear statement that torture is absolutely prohibited in all circumstances and could not be invoked as a justification of a superior order.

Torture and ill-treatment

12. The Committee is concerned at consistent reports of torture and ill-treatment in particular during prolonged detention of persons by police and security forces, in Department of Monitoring and Inspection, which is part of the Ministry of the Interior and therefore prevents an independent examination of such complaints (arts. 2, 12, 13, 14

15. The State party should: (a) Provide comprehensive information to victims of torture and their families regarding the laws available to them to lodge a complaint; and guarantee their protection and the protection of witnesses,

(b) Ensure adequate protection of health professionals documenting torture and ill-treatment from intimidation, retaliation and other forms of reprisals, including by ensuring that they are not hierarchically subordinated to the head of the detention facility or other security organs;

(c) Ensure that independent health professionals outside the Forensic Division are able to examine victims promptly, and to maintain the confidentiality of medical records;

(d) Ensure the independence of the General Department of Criminal Evidence and the Forensic Division by removing these institutions from supervision by the Ministry of the Interior;

(e) Ensure that complaints about torture are made to an independent body and not to persons who are within the same organization as the alleged perpetrators of such acts.

Arrest and pre-trial detention

16. The Committee is concerned at information concerning a proposed amendment which would have been submitted to the National Assembly on 3 July 2016, at the request of the Minister of the Interior, reversing the amendment made to article 60 of the Code of Criminal Procedure by Act No. 3 of 2012, which reduced the initial period of arrested persons in police custody from four days before being brought before a judge within 48 hours. It is concerned that arrested persons could be held in police custody up to I 0 days upon a written order of the investigator before being presented before a judge.

17. The Committee is also concerned at consistent reports that some pre-trial detainees have not been brought before a judge for more than six months (art. 2).

18. The State party should ensure that persons who are arrested on criminal charges are brought before a judge within 48 hours, as provided for in Act No. 3 of 2012 amending article 60 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Furthermore it should consider alternatives to imprisonment, in keeping with the United Nations

lation with a view to abolishing the death penalty and commuting death sentences to prison sentences. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 17) that the State party consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Domestic and gender-based violence

27. The Committee is concerned that domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape, does not constitute a specific crime in the Criminal Code. It is also concerned that despite numerous and consistent reports of violence against women, the number of cases reported through existing mechanisms to the relevant authorities remains very low. The Committee is also concerned at the mitigating circumstances and exculpatory provisions set out in article 197 of the Criminal Code regarding socalled "honor" crimes when they are voluntarily carried out by a husband against his wife who has committed adultery and are extended to other male members of her family, while such mitigating circumstances are not granted to women. (arts. 2, 12, 13, 14 and 16).

28. The Committee:

(a) Reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 23 (a)) that the State party enact, as a matter of urgency legislation to prevent, combat and criminalize domestic and gender-based violence, including sexual violence and marital rape, as specific criminal offences in its Criminal Code, with appropriate sanctions;

(b) Encourages the State party to establish an effective and independent complaints mechanism for victims of domestic violence;

(c) Calls on the State party to ensure that all allegations of domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape, are registered by the police and are promptly, impartially, effectively and thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators prosecuted and punished;

(d) Invites the State party to annul or abrogate without further delay any mitigating and exculpatory provisions in the Criminal Code concerning so-called "honor" crimes and promptly take measures to end impunity for so-called "honor" crimes:

(e) Reiterates its recommendation (Ibid, para. 23 (b)) and urges the State party to carry out research and data collection on the extent of domestic violence, and provide the Committee with statistical data on complaints, prosecutions and sentences;

(f) Reiterates its recommendation (Ibid, para. 23 (c)) that the State party conduct broad awareness campaigns about the need to prevent and eradicate domestic and gender-based violence, including its causes, dimensions and measures to detect and prevent it, for officials such as judges, law officers, law enforcement agents and welfare workers who are in direct contact with victims, as well as for the population at large;

(g) Calls on the State party to ensure that victims of domestic and gender-based violence benefit from protection and have access to medical and legal services, including psychosocial counseling, to redress, including rehabilitation, as well as to safe and adequately funded shelters and to a free permanent State-funded helpline.

Foreign workers

29. While taking note of the adoption of the Domestic Workers Law No. 68 in 2015 and that a few persons have been prosecuted and found guilty in this connection, the Committee is concerned at:

(a) Reports of exploitation, of ill-treatment and torture against individuals, and other abuse of numerous foreign workers from various countries by their employers, in particular female domestic workers, who work under the sponsorship system and the legal provisions regulating it and which includes long working hours without rest, deprivation of food, threats, physical or sexual abuse, restriction of movement such as confinement to and kidnapping in the workplace, confiscation of passports and other personal documents and non-payment of wages, which may amount to forced labor and resemble slavery.

(b) The alleged inhuman conditions of some 4,000 workers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) who have allegedly been sent for forced labor on construction projects in the state party, working from 14 to 16 hours per day, receiving only 10 or 20 per cent of their salary and being in poor health due to lack of adequate

(c) The lack of mechanisms for foreign workers, in particular those who do not speak Arabic, to report cases of abuse:

(d) The low number of prosecutions of abusive employ-

ers and lack of redress and compensation provided to workers who have suffered abuse (art.16).

30. The State party should:

(a) Vigorously implement and enforce the Domestic Workers Law No. 68, by carrying out labor inspections, reporting and, if charges are warranted, promptly prosecuting cases of abuse by employers and bring those responsible to justice;

(b) Urgently reform the sponsorship system to ensure that foreign workers, and in particular female domestic workers, are not subjected to the risk of abuses in violation of the Convention;

(c) Provide legal protection to foreign workers, including female domestic workers, against exploitation, ill-treatment and abuse;

(d) Ensure that foreign workers, and in particular female domestic workers, have access to a helpline in a language they understand and to shelters as well as the possibility to have access to justice, including to lodge complaints against those responsible and have access to justice;

(e) Provide redress to victims of abuse, including legal, medical and psychological aid as well as rehabilitation and financial compensation;

(f) Provide updated information on the foreign workers, including on their nationalities, on whether regular inspections of their working conditions are conducted and whether their working conditions are humane. In addition provide information on the workers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), the conditions in which they work, whether they are provided with adequate food and health care and whether they receive their full salary.

Trafficking in human beings

31. While welcoming the adoption of the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Act No. 91 in 2013 and Decision 1454 of the Council of Ministers to establish a national strategy to combat trafficking in persons, the Committee is concerned that the State party remains a destination for human trafficking for purposes of forced labor and sexual exploitation. It is also concerned at the low number of sentences sanctioning perpetrators of acts of human trafficking (arts. 2, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 16).

32. The State party should:

(a) Vigorously implement international and domestic anti-trafficking legislation, including by allocating sufficient funds and developing a national strategy to combat

(b) Take effective measures to prevent and eradicate human trafficking, including by conducting national prevention campaigns about the criminal nature of such acts, and provide specialized training to public officials on identifying victims and on investigating, prosecuting and sanctioning perpetrators;

(c) Promptly, effectively and impartially investigate the crime of trafficking in persons and related practices; prosecute and punish perpetrators in accordance with the gravity of the crime;

(d) Increase the protection of and provide redress to victims of trafficking, including legal, medical and psychological aid and rehabilitation, as well as adequate shelters and assistance in reporting incidents of trafficking to the police, including by establishing a round-the-clock hotline

(e) Enhance international cooperation with regard to preventing and punishing trafficking; and prevent the return of trafficked persons to their countries of origin where there are substantial grounds to believe that they would be in danger of torture;

(f) Provide the Committee with comprehensive disaggregated data on the number of investigations, prosecutions and sentences handed down to perpetrators of human trafficking, and on the provision of effective redress to the victims. The description of sentences on the subject and their motivations would be particularly

Non-refoulement

33. While taking note that article 46 of the Constitution of the State party prohibits refoulement, the Committee is concerned at the absence of national laws and administrative regulations governing the status of asylum-seekers and refugees, which may result in superficial and summary examinations of protection claims and lead to an arbitraly implementation of the prohibition of non-refoulement. It is concerned at the detention of persons awaiting repatriation or resettlement who lack a valid residence permit and the lack of information on whether the risks of torture in countries to which persons would be returned are sufficiently examined. It is particularly concerned at the

practice of administrative deportations of persons if required in the public interest or if the public order is threatened which are carried out without judicial supervision under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior and against which no recourse or appeal is available (arts. 2, 3, 11 and l6).

34. The State party should:

(a) Ensure that no person is expelled, returned or extradited to a country where there are substantial grounds for believing that he/she would be in danger of being subjected to torture;

(b) Establish a legal and institutional framework regulating asylum in accordance with international standards in order to ensure its compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and examine each case individually.

(c) in particular, ensure that foreign residents complaining that they have been tortured in their country of origin are not subjected to administrative deportation.

Situation of "bedoon" persons

35. While welcoming the Council of Ministers Decision regarding civil, social and humanitarian benefits to the Kuwaiti "bedoon" and taking note of the decision by the

Parliament to accord Kuwaiti nationality to 4,000 such persons each year, the Committee remains concerned at the situation of at least 100,000 "bedoon" termed "illegal residents" in the State party who lack legal recognition and are reported to continue to be the victims of various types of discrimination and ill-treatment. (arts. 2 and 16).

36. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 26) that the State party should enact specific legislation in order to protect "bedoon" people. It should adopt adequate legal measures to guarantee the right of every child to nationality, to facilitate the registration of "bedoon" and their non-discriminatory access to their fundamental rights, including access to justice and to social services.

Independence of the judiciary

37. While noting that the independence of the judiciary is guaranteed by article 163 of the Constitution, the Committee is concerned that judges are appointed by the Supreme Judicial Council which, in turn, is appointed by the executive. It is also concerned about the independence of foreign judges owing to the lack of security of tenure since their judicial appointment is reviewed at short intervals and since their contracts are of short duration (art. 2)

38. The state party should take measures to guarantee the full independence, autonomy and impartiality of the judiciary in the performance of its functions, and review the regime of appointment, promotion and dismissal of judges in line with the relevant international standards, including the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary (endorsed by General Assembly resolutions 40/32 of 29 November 1985 and 40/146 of 13 December 1985). It should also ensure the security of tenure of foreign judges.

National human rights institution

39. While welcoming t11e adoption of Law No. 67 regarding the establishment of a national human rights institution (Diwan Huquq Al-Insan) in July 2015, the Committee is concerned at reports that the Diwan is not fully independent since it is supposed to be under the supervision of the Council of Ministers (art. 2).

40. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 27) that the State party ensure the independence of the national human rights institution (Diwan Hugug Al-Insan) in full compliance with the Principles relating to the Status of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (the Paris Principles). It should enable the Diwan to effectively monitor and inspect all places of detention by making regular and unannounced visits, it should publish the reports with its findings.

41. While taking note of the training provided to law enforcement, security and prison personnel as well as of the workshops organized by the Department of Forensic Medicine, the Committee is concerned that insufficient specific training is provided on the provisions of the Convention and the absolute prohibition of torture. It is also concerned that medical professionals do not receive sufficient training on the Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Protocol) (art. 10)

42. The State party should: (a) Ensure that training and educational programs for

law enforcement, security and prison personnel cover the provisions of the Convention and the absolute prohibition of torture as well as professional techniques, including on the need to respect the principles of necessity and proportionality during police and security interventions;

(b) Ensure that judges and judicial personnel are aware of the provisions of the Convention;

(c) Ensure that the Istanbul Protocol is made an essential part of the training for all medical professionals and other public officials involved in the detention or imprisonment of persons, as well as to personnel involved in the investigation and documentation of tor-

(d) Develop and implement specific methodologies to assess the effectiveness and impact of training and educational programs provided to law enforcement and other public officials regarding the provisions of the Convention on the reduction of the number of cases of torture.

Redress, including compensation and rehabilitation

43. While noting article 11 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act No. 17/1960) which stipulates that legal system affords every person the opportunity to seek reparation for damage caused by an offence through

courts, the Committee remains concerned at the continued absence of a specific program to implement the rights of victims of torture and ill-treatment to receive adequate repatriation and compensation. It is also concerned that only one case of moral and financial compensation has been cited during the period under review and at the absence of information on any on-going reparation programmes (art. 14).

44. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 21) that victims of torture and illtreatment should have an enforceable right to redress, including fair and adequate compensation and rehabilitation. The State party should provide information on the number of requests for redress and compensation measures, the number granted by courts, as well as on the amounts ordered and provided in each case. In addition, the State party should provide information on any reparation programs, including treatment of trauma and other forms of rehabilitation provided to victims of torture and ill-treatment during the period under review.

Follow-up procedure

45. The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 12 August 2017, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations on a public statement by the highest State authority condemning the use of torture and ill-treatment, on conditions of detention, the urgent reinstatement of the de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty, and on the situation of foreign workers (see paras.13 (a), 22, 26 (a) and 30)). In the same context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.

Other issues

46. The Committee recommends that the State party consider withdrawing its reservation to article 20 of the Convention as envisaged by its delegation during the consideration of its previous report, in May 2011 (CAT/C/SR.989, paragraphs 7 and 68).

47. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 31) that the State party consider making the declarations envisaged under articles 21 and 22 of the Convention.

48. The Committee reiterates its recommendation (CAT/C/KWT/C0/2, para. 29) that the State party consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

49. The Committee invites the State party to ratify the core United Nations human rights treaties to which it is not yet party, namely, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as well as the two Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

50. The Committee invites also the State party to ratify the Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

KUWAIT SUCCEEDS IN HARVESTING JOJOBA PLANT

KUWAIT: Director of Agricultural Guidance PAAAFR has succeeded in its attempt to at the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resourses (PAAAFR) Eng Ghanim Al-Sanad said yesterday that



harvest the Jojoba plant in Kuwait. Sanad said in a statement that this success was a result of annual strategic planning, researching, and experimenting with different plants to see how they will thrive in Kuwait's hot dry climate.

The Jojoba is a desert plant that grows from 60 centimeters to four meters tall and bears seeds rich with oil. The Jojoba plant can thrive in a hot and cold climate, on little water, and does not succumb to pests and diseases. The plant's remains are used as fodder, which is hay or straw, used to fatten livestock since the Jojoba plant is 40 to 60 percent oil. Sanad also said that the Jojoba plant can be used in cosmetic products, treat animal wounds, fertilize soil, and serve as cheap bio fuel, which helps lubricate the friction in machinery and prevents rusting. — KUNA







Interior Minister visits injured officers

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah visited yesterday Lieutenant Colonel Abdul Aziz Al-Awadhi who is undergoing treatment at Al-Amiri Hospital. The visit occurred after officer Al-Awadhi was stabbed by a suspect whom he stopped at Al-Rawda area earlier, Security Media Department of the Ministry of Interior said in a press statement.

Minister Mohammad Al-Khaled also visited Major Hamad Al-Humoud in Al-Babtain Center for Burns, where he is receiving treatment after he was attacked by the same person, biting Humoud's right ear while he was interrogating him.

The Mol statement quoted Minister Mohammad Al-Khaled as saying that Kuwait always looks after its sons and will never hold back anything needed "to our devoted personnel who won't hold back any effort needed to maintain the country's security."

He was accompanied by Interior Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for criminal security Major General Abdulhameed Al-Awadhi, Director of Criminal Security Department at the Interior Ministry Major General Mahmoud Al-Tabakh, Director of Security Media Department Brigadier Adel Al-Hashash and a number of the ministry's security officials.

Local dallies reported yesterday that a citizen on drugs stabbed a lieutenant colonel in the chest and bit the ear of a major at Rawda police station, and they were taken to Amiri and Babtain hospitals. Awadhi was going home when he was stopped by a person who asked him, "What are you doing here?" Awadhi felt the man was not normal and asked him for his ID, so he told him he will bring it from the car. Awadhi meanwhile called for backup, then the suspect surprised him by stabbing him in the right side of his chest. He was caught by police, and they found drugs on him, while Awadhi was rushed to Amiri Hospital. At the police station, the suspect jumped on Humoud and bit his earlobe off. He was taken to Babtain Hospital. The suspect was charged with

assault and drugs use.

Alghanim Electronics

Service Center

ANNOUNCEMENT

All Alghanim Electronics customers who have left their electronic appliances for the purpose of repair service on or before 30/04/2016 are kindly requested to collect them within two weeks from this notice date.

Last date to collect your products is 31/08/2016.

If these products are not collected before the above date, Alghanim Electronics reserves the right to dispose of these products.

Crime

Report

MAN HURT IN FIGHT

KUWAIT: A fight took place in Messila and shooting was heard. Police received a call about the fight, and when they arrived at the scene, they found a man with an injured leg. He was taken to hospital. Meanwhile, detectives are gathering information about the suspect who escaped. Separately, a fight between eight women took place in a Salmiya cafe and ended at the police station. It was all laughs and shisha smoking before things turned into screams and insults, then a fight. People there stopped a police patrol, which called for backup. All eight women were taken to Salmiya police and their guardians were called. The differences were resolved and undertakings were given.

Indecent acts

Five persons including a girl in a parked car ended up at the police station, after they were reportedly engaged in indecent acts. The suspects denied any wrongdoing and said they were heading to a cafe, and what delayed them was an issue they were discussing. Police took them to the station and lodged a case against them.

Cross-dresser arrested

Patrons of a cafe did not imagine when they called police about a couple engaged in indecent acts that who they thought was a woman was actually a cross-dresser. A security source said police received a call from patrons of a Salmiya cafe about a man and a woman acting indecently, so a patrol went to the cafe, and everyone was shocked to discover that whom they thought was a woman was actually a male. Both were arrested and taken to the police station.

Man saved

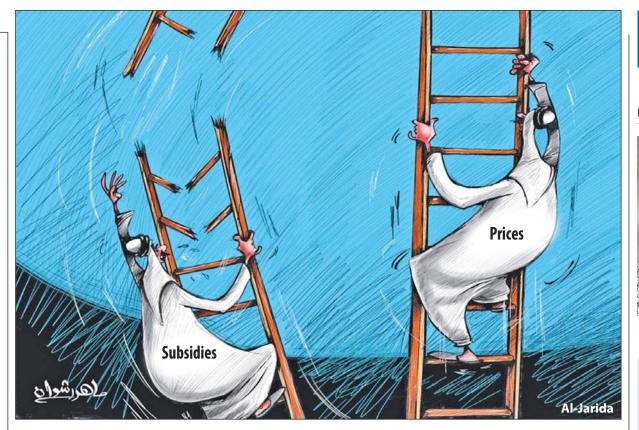
Citizens and expatriates rescued a Kuwaiti man who was swept by waters when he was swimming near Mangaf. The citizen was swimming when waters swept him away and he started calling for help. Citizens and expats called police, but did not wait and swam towards him and were able to bring him back. The citizen was taken to Adan Hospital for checks.

Heated argument

A fight between a citizen and his stepmother ended up at Qairawan police station, where she claimed he caused the fight. He answered that she is the one who started creating problems. The fight was the result of old problems that kept accumulating, and an argument that occurred on Friday that evolved into beatings and verbal exchanges, and both rushed to the police station and exchanged charges. Police are working on the case.

Drugged driver detained

Policemen arrested a citizen in his 30s who was driving recklessly in Farwaniya under the influence of drugs. He also had bags of shabu and heroin. The arrest was made during a routine patrol in Farwaniya. The suspect was sent to concerned authorities. —Al-Qabas



الانياء

Al-Anbaa

By Nermin Al-Houti

WHERE ARE OUR CHILDREN?

• When we go to many government bodies, especially officials' offices, we find that the front offices of their offices are "not Kuwaiti", and the question is: Are not there any honorable staff in our country? What is wrong with our children?

• Our children are at home, depending on Allah and labor allowances, while others are frozen in their jobs, then suddenly we see contracts signed abroad, one as an advisor, and the other a director. What is going on? Where is the talk of Minister Anas Al-Saleh, when he said he will halt expat contracts to make job opportunities for Kuwaitis in the government? We want to understand what is going on.

• You go to malls and see creatures that we do not know whether they are girls or boys. Things are confusing - where is the interior ministry from these creatures who we do not recognize their features or types. We lament the old days when policemen used to gather them in a bus and shave their heads. A message from us to the interior ministry lions - to be strict with these creatures to preserve the future of our children.

• The executive and legislative authorities must hasten the conscription law and restore the military curricula to our schools, so we do not say our children are last!

• We find that some of the sensitive jobs are run

by other nationalities, and the question is repeated for the millionth time - does not Kuwait have those who can occupy those posts?

• Yesterday it was shabu, today Captagon, and we do not know what the future is hiding for our children. First we thank policemen for their efforts to fight and prevent entry of these poisons for our children, but the question remains for two parties. First the family - where is their supervision of their children? The other is the education ministry - where is the role of the school and instilling values in our children?

• We used to hear about a father beating his children, and it was considered an odd situation. But now what we hear and see what fathers are doing with children is only a warning bell that rings through the society, that there is a grave defect and must be corrected to protect our children.

• Your excellency the information minister, it is preferred to have the foreign and domestic information front be comprised of children of the country.

A final word: "There will come a day when we cannot rescue this country. History says that nations that kept silent about corruption that gnawed it and entered its institutions, collapsed."

—Dr Ahmad Al-Rubei —Translated by Kuwait Times

News

in brief

1,023 employers prosecuted

KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Manpower referred 1,023 employers' files for investigations on charges of violating labor regulations since the



Subaih said. They include 325 cases of failure to provide jobs for workers recruited from abroad, a method often used to facilitate human trafficking. Meanwhile, Subaih said that the latest registered total number of expatriate workers in the private sector reached 1,640,808, including 549,321 Indians, 448,141 Egyptians, 152,331 Bangladeshis, and 83,465 Filipinos. —Al-Anbaa

beginning of this year, Minister of

Social Affairs and Labor Hind Al-

Hind Al-Subaih

Travel ban orders

KUWAIT: The total number of people in Kuwait who faced travel ban orders in the past three years reached 239,911, including 55,480 this year alone. Travel ban orders is considered an effective method to guarantee debts' payment, a government official said. —Al-Qabas

11,000 to retirement

KUWAIT: A total of 10,908 public sector employees are eligible for retirement after passing the maximum service limit of 30 years in office. They make up 3.7 percent of the total number of labor forces in state department. Furthermore, they include 7,322 Kuwaitis and 3,586 expatriates. —Al-Qabas

Treatment in South Korea

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Health begins sending Kuwaiti patients for treatment in South Korea starting from next week. They will receive treatment in five certified hospitals, including Asan Medical Center, Seoul National University Hospital, Samsung Medical Center, Seoul St Mary's Hospital and the Yonsei Severance Hospital. This step comes following an agreement signed between the governments of Kuwait and South Korea during His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah's visit to the Asian nation last May. —Al-Anbaa

Anticorruption cases

KUWAIT: Local authorities are expected to begin receiving complaints reporting corruption cases next month or in October, government sources said. The cabinet's legal committee has almost finished reviewing the executive list of the anticorruption law before referring it to the cabinet to be promulgated via a decree, the sources added. —Al-Anbaa





OOREDOO'S CEO AND GENERAL MANAGER MEETS SIXTH GENERATION OF PROTÉGÉS

INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER TO SHARE EXPERIENCES



KUWAIT: In line with its sponsorship and support to the Protégés program, Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of international Ooredoo Group, recently hosted the sixth generation of the Protégés at its headquarters, where the 25 students met with Ooredoo Kuwait's CEO and General Manager, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani.

The friendly get-together, which came in alignment with Ooredoo's platinum sponsorship of the Protégés this season, gave the students an opportunity to engage with Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani, who spoke about his experience in the business field and overcoming obstacles to achieve success. The meeting also included a brief introduction to Ooredoo's different departments and

the function of each one of them.

Commenting on this meeting, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani said: "We take great pride in our sponsorship of Protégés; an effective and life changing program that allows youth to gain essential and practical skills and knowledge that will allow them to grow with a stronger sense of direction. Moreover, youth have long been a key element of our Corporate Social Responsibility strategy and by taking part in this initiative we are given the chance to directly contribute to the development of our youth's skills and know-how, and in turn their future as decision makers and the leaders of tomorrow's Kuwait".

Ooredoo Kuwait has also played an active role in supporting Protégés

activities, which include the lecture presented by Professor Fathi Al-Khamisi's on the revolutionary work of the Egyptian musician Sayed Darwish, and the introductory session that was held with the main mentors for this season of Protégés.

The Protégés program was launched in 2010, with the objective to mentor youth between the age of 16 and 24 by local iconic figures in different fields. The program aims to reinforce the social and personal skills of youth, develop their self-awareness and improve their critical and creative thinking. The program includes workshops, projects and open discussion circles. This year's program was kicked off early July and will continue for 6 weeks.







KUWAIT: Interior Ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Education and Training Affairs Major General Sheikh Faisal Nawaf Al-Sabah met yesterday applicants accepted to enroll in the jurisdiction officers and policewomen courses.

International

Trump goes on tear against media but ignores Clinton

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016



Ragged Libya struggles to ramp up oil exports

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In this frame grab from video provided by the Russian Defense Ministry Press Service, Russian long range bomber Tu-22M3 flies during a strike above an undisclosed location in Syria yesterday. — AP

WARPLANES POUND REBEL-HELD ALEPPO

CIVILIAN DEATH TOLLS MOUNT AS OFFENSIVE CONTINUES

BEIRUT: Syrian and Russian warplanes have launched a wave of air strikes in northern Syria, killing dozens in areas held by a rebel alliance battling to take control of second city Aleppo. The air strikes, which began Saturday and were continuing yesterday, killed 45 civilians in and around Aleppo and 22 more in neighboring Idlib province, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The raids came as the Faylaq al-Sham Islamist faction, which is part of the rebel alliance, said it had launched a new offensive to take the Zahra regime-held district on Aleppo's western outskirts. The Islamist group said a "military operation... to liberate Zahra has started".

The Britain-based Observatory and opposition fighters said a car bomb went off in the district yesterday, but did not mention casualties. The monitoring group said the air strikes were targeting areas held by the Army of Conquest, an alliance of rebel, Islamist and jihadist forces that has mounted a major offensive to seize Aleppo. "The intensification of the strikes in Idlib is due to the fact that this province is the main source of fighters for the Army of Conquest," said Observatory head Rami Abdel Rahman.

An AFP correspondent in rebel-held eastern Aleppo said the strikes were especially intense around the southern district of Ramuses, seized by rebels earlier this month in a major setback for forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad. Nine other civilians were killed in rebel shelling of regime-held western Aleppo Saturday, the Observatory said. Aleppo, Syria's former economic hub and a focal point of its five-year civil war, has been divided between a rebel-held east and regime-controlled west since mid-2012.

Intensifying battle

Fighting for the city has intensified this summer, after regime troops seized control of the last supply route into rebel-held areas in mid-July. After a nearly three-week siege, rebel forces took Ramussa on August 6, linking up with opposition-held neighborhoods. Emboldened by the win, the Army of Conquest announced an ambitious bid to capture all of Aleppo, which if successful would be the biggest opposition victory yet in Syria's conflict. The increased fighting has raised concerns for the estimated 1.5 million civilians still in Aleppo, including some 250,000

in rebel-held areas.

The United Nations has called for regular 48-hour pauses in the fighting to allow aid into the city, which has suffered from severe shortages of food, water and medical supplies. Russia launched air strikes last September in support of Assad, helping the regime to consolidate its hold on loyal areas and regain some territory. The defense ministry in Moscow said yesterday six long-range bombers from Russia had struck around Deir Ezzor, a stronghold of the Islamic State group in Syria. IS controls large parts of Deir Ezzor city and most of the oil-rich eastern province of the same name-part of the swathes of territory in Syria and lean that the group science in pid-2014.

Iraq that the group seized in mid-2014.

The ministry said the Russian Tupolev bombers carried out raids to the southwest, east and northeast of the city, wiping out two command posts, six arms depots, IS vehicles and "a large number of fighters". IS emerged amid the chaos of Syria's conflict, a complex and multi-front war that has killed more than 290,000 and displaced millions since beginning with anti-regime protests in March 2011.

beginning with anti-regime protests in March 2011. A US-led coalition is also battling IS in Syria and Iraq, with air strikes and backing for the Syrian Democratic Forces, an Arab-Kurdish militia alliance, which Friday took full control of the strategic city of Manbij after an IS retreat. The jihadists took some 2,000 civilians as they fled to serve as human shields. Hundreds were released on Saturday but the SDF said the fate of many remained unclear. Kurdish television showed footage of jubilant civilians in Manbij, including smiling mothers who had shed their veils and men who had lived for weeks under a shaving ban cutting their beards.

their beards.

In rare good news, a 10-year-old girl who was shot in the besieged town of Madaya was evacuated to a Damascus hospital where she was in a stable condition, the Observatory and a security source said. Ghina Quwayder's leg was shattered when she was shot by a government sniper at a checkpoint in the southwestern town earlier this month while buying medicine for her mother, Amnesty International said. The rights group had launched a campaign urging help for the girl. The Syrian Red Crescent was able to bring Ghina and her mother Sahar to Damascus after midnight yesterday. — AFP

RIO SAFE? EXPLAIN THAT TO RESIDENTS

RIO DE JANEIRO: The Rio authorities promised total safety during the Olympics, but for Mauricio Lima da Silva, a 19-year-old street vendor, it doesn't feel that way. Never mind the occasional, highly publicized muggings of foreigners along Copacabana beach and other Olympic hot spots flooded by police. Just a few miles away in a favela, or slum, called Complexo da Mare, da Silva and thousands of other people live under the rule of drug traffickers-and

the security forces are nowhere to be seen.

Some 85,000 police and soldiers-double the number used in London 2012 — have been deployed for the Rio Olympics. But they patrol areas frequented by tourists and athletes, while swaths of Rio, often close by, continue to be shaken by deadly, little-reported violence. Da Silva, who came to Rio two years ago from the country's impoverished northeast in search of a better life, says the Olympics 'doesn't interest met.' He has to worry about surviving stray bullets and clashes between drug traffickers and police. "Here you go out of your house and don't know if you'll come back," he said. "You're always scared. It's almost like a prison." Pushing a cart of soft drinks through the huge, cramped favela, da Silva has a simple rule. "When the police come I don't go outside. I don't work," he said. "When there's police, there's a risk of shooting."

Last Wednesday, three officers from the elite National Force who stumbled into the Mare favela after getting lost were met with automatic weapons fire, fatally injuring one of them. Locals seemed more angry at the police than sympathetic. "The police don't have rules. They come in here to aggress us," said Jansen, 56, the owner of a small cafe near where the shooting took place. "They look at us all as suspects because we're from a favela, but as you can see, I'm a working man."

Traffickers, on the other hand, "have rules," added Jansen, who did not want to give his full name. "You have to know the right people, be respectful to them and then life in the favela is not a problem." Despite the recent police shooting and a blitz-style raid the next day by more elite forces, the Mare appeared practically abandoned by the authorities. One access road to the favela was unmanned, while another was guarded by only three police officers parked well out of the way and apparently napping. At a third, several soldiers with rifles sheltered from the sun under a tree. They made no attempt to monitor passing vehicles, let alone venture down the street. Recalling a full-scale occupation of the Mare by the army in 2014-2015, followed by a total retreat, one of the soldiers lamented: "The bandits came back." — AFP



KURDISH FORCES PUSH TO CAPTURE MOSUL FROM IS

launched a fresh attack on Islamic State (IS) forces early yesterday as part of a campaign to capture Mosul, the militants' de facto capital in Iraq, Kurdish officials said. The advance began after heavy shelling and air strikes by a United States-led coalition against IS forces, a Reuters correspondent reported from Wardak, 30 km southeast of Mosul. The militants fought back, firing mortars at the advancing troops and detonating at least two car bombs. Clouds of black smoke rose from the area and dozens of civilians

WARDAK: Kurdish Peshmerga forces fled in the direction of the Peshmerga lines, brandishing white flags.

A Peshmerga commander said 11 villages had been taken from the ultrahardline Sunni militants as the troops headed to Gwer, the target of the operation, 40 km southeast of Mosul. Repairing the bridge that the militants destroyed in Gwer would allow the Peshmerga to open a new front around Mosul. The bridge crosses the Grand Zab river that flows into the Tigris. The Iraqi army and the Peshmerga forces of the Kurdish self-rule region are gradually taking up positions around Mosul,

400 km (250 miles) north of Baghdad. It advance from the south. In July it capwas from Mosul's Grand Mosque in 2014 that Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared a "caliphate" spanning regions of Iraq and Syria.

Urban center

Mosul is the largest urban centre under the militants' control, and had a pre-war population of nearly 2 million. Its fall would mark the effective defeat of Islamic State in Iraq, according to Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi, who has said he aims to retake the city this year. The Iraqi army is trying to

tured the Qayyara airfield, 60 km south of Mosul, which will serve as the main staging post for the expected offensive. The Peshmerga operation yesterday "is one of many shaping operations that will also increase pressure on ISIL in and around Mosul," said the Kurdistan Regional Security Council in a statement, using another acronym to refer to IS.

The preparation for the offensive on Mosul "is approaching the final phase," Brett McGurk, the US envoy to the coalition fighting the militant group, said in Baghdad on Thursday. He said the planning included humanitarian considerations.

Once the fighting intensifies around Mosul, up to one million people could be driven from their homes in northern Iraq, posing "a massive humanitarian problem", the International Committee of the Red Cross said last month. More than 3.4 million people have already been forced by conflict to leave their homes across Iraq, taking refuge in areas under control of the government or in the Kurdish region. — Reuters



KOT DISTRICT: Afghan police pose for a photograph with an Islamic State flag after an operation. — AP

AFGHAN OFFICIALS: IS EXPANDS PRESENCE IN RESTIVE SOUTH

Fleeing Pakistani insurgents infiltrating in high numbers

KANDAHAR: The Islamic State group, which has been building a presence in Afghanistan for more than a year, has established a recruitment and training camp in a restive southern province bordering Pakistan, Afghan officials said. Last year, hundreds of insurgents fled to Afghanistan from neighboring Pakistan, where the military launched a campaign to clear militants from the lawless tribal regions in the country's north.

Among them were members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, who joined forces with local Taleban fighters to attack northern Afghan cities such as Kunduz, which was briefly overrun in September. The Pakistani military campaign also caused around 400 families loyal to the Islamic State group to flee to Afghanistan, Afghan authorities said. The families, many of them Arabs and Chechens, settled in the southern province of Zabul, in the district of Khak-e-Afghan, a former Taleban stronghold with a history of militant violence that has made it a nogo area for Afghan security forces.

Expensive properties

The long-term intentions of the IS lovalists in Khak-e-Afghan were initially unclear. Locals said they kept to themselves but appeared wealthy, purchasing expensive properties and never bargaining down prices in the bazaar. Now officials say the IS operatives have established a headquarters in the district, and are actively recruiting and training locals to join the group as gunmen. "They have a lot of money. People here are very poor, and that makes them very easy targets for these foreigners," said Atta Mohammad Haqbayan, the director of Zabul's provincial council. He said that he asked central authorities in Kabul for help to drive the IS operatives out of the province -"but no one is listening to us."

In late July, the Afghan military launched an offensive against IS in the east of the country, backed by US forces and air strikes. This week, the US Department of Defense confirmed that the leader of IS in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Hafiz Saeed, was killed some weeks ago in an American drone strike in the eastern province of Nangarhar. US military officials have said that there are between 1,500 and 3,000 IS-linked militants in the eastern region, most of them former operatives for the Afghan and Pakistani Taleban groups. They have direct links with the leadership of IS in Iraq and Syria, and for some months earlier this year held control over a number of districts near the Pakistan border.

The commander of American and NATO forces in Afghanistan, US Gen John Nicholson, has said that dozens of IS commanders and hundreds of fighters have been killed since the Afghan military declared its offensive in late July. He said many insurgents were now fleeing to the south of the country. It was unclear if they were escaping to Zabul. Afghan officials in Zabul say their requests for military action against IS in the south have gone unanswered. US officials insist there is no substantial evidence to suggest that the Islamic State group is active in Zabul.

Fierce fighting

IS drew attention to its presence in Zabul last November, when the militants kidnapped and killed seven people from the ethnic Hazara group as fierce fighting raged between IS and local Taleban militants. The killing sparked widespread anger among the Hazara community, a Shiite Muslim group that has long faced discrimination, who organized a mass march to the presidential palace in Kabul. Zabul's provincial police chief, Mirwais Noorzai, said the IS operatives in Khak-e-Afghan are well-equipped with satellite communications technology. They have set up camps for training new recruits, he said.

Haqbayan, the provincial council director, said local authorities "have proof they are linked with and are in constant contact with Daesh in Iraq and that they receive funding from them." He used an Arabic acronym to refer to the Islamic State group. "They directly communicate with Daesh leaders and they are now spending a lot of money on building up the group," Hagbayan told The Associated Press. "It's time to take control of the situation and get rid of them. But if the government doesn't pay attention to them, then they will start fighting. And once they start fighting it could prove very difficult for our forces to defeat them."

The spokesman for US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, Brig. Gen. Charles Cleveland, said no evidence had been seen by US military intelligence to support the reports of an Islamic State presence in Zabul, despite the accounts of Afghan officials. Using the name the group goes by in Afghanistan, IS-Khorasan - a reference to a broad region of Central Asia that once included parts of Afghanistan - Cleveland told AP: "We believe IS-K is still primarily in two districts of southern Nangarhar, with a very small presence in Kunar province" on the eastern border. IS had said that it aims to overrun the region formerly known as Khorasan, starting from a base in Nangarhar and then moving north toward Central Asia. — AP

RAGGED LIBYA STRUGGLES TO RAMP UP OIL EXPORTS

TRIPOLI: Jihadist attacks and political struggles are thwarting attempts by Libya's unity government to revive an oil industry seen as vital for the economy of the impoverished North African country. Five years since the fall of dictator Moamer Kadhafi, Libya's rival governments and militias are in a bitter struggle for control of crude exports. The political turmoil, coupled with Islamic State (IS) group attacks on oil facilities, has brought shipments to a near-

Despite having Africa's largest oil reserves, estimated at around 48 billion barrels, Libya has only managed to export a few tankers of crude in recent months. On August 1, the Tripoli-based National Oil Company (NOC) announced that it was preparing to restart regular exports of crude. But analysts doubt Libyan oil will be gushing back to world markets just yet. "Opening the ports allows the NOC to start to undertake repairs, but that will still take time," said Scott Modell, an analyst at energy consultancy Rapidan Group. "One announcement about potentially opening ports that are not fully functional is not going to turn around the overall trajectory of the political process," he added.

Since 2010, the country's production has plummeted from 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) to just 300,000 bpd. Libya now has the smallest production of any member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The 2014 collapse in oil prices was a further blow. Industry sources say Libya's exports this year will earn it just a tenth of the estimated \$45-50 billion (40-45 billion euros) it took in 2010. That is a disaster in a country where the government depends on oil exports for nearly all of its revenue.

Struggle for control

Libya's Tripoli-based Government of National Accord (GNA) faces major obstacles as it tries to revive the sector. For a start, the NOC is split into two rival branches-one loyal to the GNA and the other based in Benghazi and loyal to a rival government. Meanwhile, all of the country's export terminals in Libya's eastern "oil crescent" are controlled by the Petroleum Facilities Guard (PFG), a militia set up to protect them. They include the two key export terminals of Ras Lanuf and Al-Sidra, 650 kilometers east of the capital, which

are together capable of handling 700,000 bpd. But they were shut down in January after storage tanks were set on fire during attacks by IS.

The jihadists have taken advantage of the turmoil to establish a presence in Libya, but now appear close to losing their stronghold in Sirte which lies between Tripoli and the oil crescent.

PFG leader Ibrahim Al-Jadhran also regularly defies both of Libya's rival governments. "The blockage costs Libya \$30 million (27 million euros) a day," Mustafa Sanalla, chairman of the Tripoli-based branch of the NOC which supports the unity government, said in April. At the end of July, the GNA announced that it had reached an agreement with Jadhran to reopen the Ras Lanuf and Al-Sidra export terminals. The NOC said the unity government had agreed to pay salaries to the oil installation guards and provide them with schools and hospitals.

East-west rivalry

That agreement underlined the bitter struggle between the GNA and a rival administration based in Libya's far east that refuses to recognize the unity government. It controls much of the east through part of the Libyan army led by General Khalifa Haftar, and runs a rival NOC out of Benghazi. After the GNA's agreement with Jadhran, Haftar's forces told AFP they would bomb tankers approaching the Libyan coast without the Benghazi NOC's permission. It also moved troops towards the Zueitina terminal, another major facility on the oil crescent. But the Petroleum Facilities Guard said it was prepared to fight. "We will not let them control the ports," said spokesman Ali Al-Hassi. The standoff appears to have stalled an agreement, announced on July 3, to unify the

Germany, Spain, the United States, France, Italy and Britain have called for all the country's oil installations to be immediately handed over to the GNA.A Libyan oil industry veteran, who did not want to be named, said the country could only restore oil exports if there was "a strong unified government and a single military force". "As long as there are still ongoing political and power struggles... the resumption of full oil production and exports can never be achieved." — AFP



SIRTE: Members of Libyan pro-government forces hold a position as they fight to clear the Islamic State group (IS) from its main Libyan stronghold of Sirte. — AFP

PALESTINIAN SEEKS FREEDOM IN 3RD MONTH OF HUNGER STRIKE

RAMALLAH, West Bank: A Palestinian detainee who has been on a hunger strike for two months to press for his release is determined to continue despite deteriorating health, his family and an advocacy group said. Bilal Kayed, 34, began the fast June 14, after Israel ordered him held for six months without charges, immediately following completion of a 14and-a-half-year prison term, his relatives said. The family has mixed feelings, wanting him to go free but fearing for his health.

"We can only support him" in his strike, his 41-year-old sister, Soha Hussein, said Saturday at the family home in the village of Assira al-Shamaliya. "So we say, 'go on, but stay alive and come home." Israel's Prison Service said yesterday that Kayed is being monitored by medical staff and has undergone hospital checkups. The advocacy group Addameer said representatives visited Kayed last week at Barzilai Hospital in the Israeli city of Ashkelon. Kaved is shackled to his bed and suffers from severe pain. blurred vision, numbness, hair loss

and yellowness and peeling of the skin, the group said.

Despite his deteriorating health, Kayed is in high spirits and "has vowed to continue his hunger strike until he is freed," the group said. Kayed was arrested in 2001, at the height of an armed Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank. Kayed, a Palestinian policeman at the time, was convicted of shooting at Israeli troops. A protest tent outside the family home in the West Bank was decorated with posters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a small PLO faction which

has carried out attacks on Israelis. Hussein said her brother had hoped to get engaged after his anticipated June release. She said he had spent his prison term learning English, French and Hebrew, and had taught fellow inmates. Hana Herbst, a Prison Service spokeswoman, said 93 Palestinian prisoners have begun a hunger strike to show solidarity with Kayed. At the end of April, Israel was holding close to 6,300 Palestinians in security-related cases, including some 700 in administrative detention, without trial or charges. The Israeli rights group B'Tselem says Israel is violating international

humanitarian law with its largescale application of what is meant to be, at most, an emergency measure used sparingly.



NABLUS: In this Saturday, Aug. 13, 2016 photo, Palestinian woman walks in front of a tent set up in solidarity with Bilal Kayed, 34, in front of his family home in the village of Assira al-Shamaliya near the West Bank city. — AP

TURK MOSQUE GROUP IN GERMANY TAKES A STEP BACK FROM ANKARA

FRANKFURT: A key Turkish religious of funding to train and pay preachers. "In organization in Germany said yesterday it would further distance itself from Ankara after politicians and media raised concerns of foreign influence. Mosque federation Ditib "is and will remain politically neutral", spokesman Zekeriya Altug told Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung (FAS) newspaper. "Apart from the imams supplied by the Diyanet (Turkey's religious affairs agency), there is no financial support from the Turkish

state or the Diyanet," he said. Some media and politicians have raised fears of divided loyalties among Germany's roughly three-million-strong Turkish population-and suggested Ditib's imams could be relaying political messages from the Turkish government. Ditib hosts imams trained in Turkey and paid by Diyanet-most of whom are unfamiliar with German culture and may not even speak the language-at its 900 mosques and Islamic associations.

Altug's comments were more conciliatory than a statement released by Ditib on August 8 in which the group rejected all criticism based on fears of foreign control of its imams. The spokesman said Ditib would look for alternative sources

10 years, at least half our imams will be socialized in Germany" thanks to a Ditibfunded program to send German-born imams for training in Turkey, he said. Supporters of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan demonstrated in Cologne and other cities following a failed putsch in July, stoking concerns that internal Turkish tensions could be exported to Germany. Erdogan complained bitterly to the German government that he had not been allowed to address the crowds in Cologne by video link.

In an interview with the Bild am Sonntag weekly, Berlin mayor Michael Mueller said Turkish officials had asked whether he would be prepared to act against schools belonging to the Gulen religious movement. Erdogan accuses US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen, a former ally, of orchestrating the July 15 coup attempt. Mueller said he had "made it very clear that Turkish conflicts cannot be carried out on our soil". Meanwhile, the state of Lower Saxony has delayed an agreement to recognise Ditib as its official Muslim civil society organization in the wake of the coup attempt and Erdogan's harsh response. — AFP

Unprecedented floods kill at least 3 in southern US

NEW YORK: Torrential rains have caused record flooding in parts of the southern United States, officials said on Saturday, with US media reporting at least three deaths. Flooding in southeast Louisiana and southern Mississippi shut down roads, cutting off at least one town as an area of low pressure slowly moved west along the Gulf Coast. Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency, calling the flooding "unprecedented." "We have record levels of flooding along rivers and creeks," he told reporters during a news conference, urging residents who have been advised to evacuate to leave their homes.

Emergency services were transporting residents by high-water vehicles, boats and aircraft, he said. More than 1,000 residents had been evacuated in Louisiana, the authorities said. The floods killed at least three people on Friday, media reported.

Among them, a man in the Louisiana town of Zachary, near the capital Baton Rouge, drowned trying to escape flood waters, local television station WAFB reported. "We were walking out and he slipped and fell," his roommate Vernon Drummond told the station. "He went under the water. We tried to save him, but we couldn't." The area recorded 10 to 15 inches (25.4 to 38.1 cm) of rain, David Roth, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, told AFP. Another 10 inches were expected in parts of Louisiana over the next two days. "Even for them it's very unusual," Roth said.

One of worst storms 'ever'

Layton Ricks, president of Livingston parish in the Baton Rouge area, told reporters that "we're experiencing one of the worst storm events we've ever had, with flash flooding." Roads that had never

flooded were under water, he said, adding that the backlog of people waiting to be rescued. The National Weather Service reported Saturday afternoon that the storming had "resulted in catastrophic flash flooding across Louisiana," and was continuing to produce very heavy rainfall. The threat of heavy rain would expand westward with "at least a slight risk of flash flooding tonight over a large area from the southern plains to the mid-Mississippi/Ohio valleys and even the Northeast," the National Weather Service said. Showers and thunderstorms would continue into today and tomorrow, it predicted.

Entergy Louisiana said more than 11,700 customers were affected by power outages as of Saturday evening. On the East Coast, meanwhile, millions of American residents were sweating through a heat wave amid extreme weather warnings in New York, Philadelphia, and Washington. The combination of heat and humidity would make it feel as hot as 110 degrees Fahrenheit (43 degrees Celsius) in those cities. Temperatures would be 5 to 15 degrees above average on Sunday across much of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, the National Weather Service said.

Authorities warned of heat-related health problems, especially for the elderly and those with chronic health problems, and for people who work outdoors. Americans were advised to stay inside and use air conditioning where possible, check on vulnerable friends and neighbors, drink plenty of fluids, and not leave children or pets unattended in vehicles. Overall, the heat wave stretched from southwest Ohio to western Virginia and Washington, and north through Philadelphia, New York and Boston, the National Weather Service's Roth said. — AFP

CLINTON GOES ON OFFENSE TO WIN OVER RIVAL GOP

WASHINGTON: Hillary Clinton is seizing opportunities presented by a volatile presidential race to expand her base of support heading into the fall, seeking to position the Democratic Party for a sweeping victorv in November. As Donald Trump struggles through a second week of self-inflicted blunders, the Democratic nominee's campaign has started to push into Republican territory by courting some of the party's core supporters and expanding her campaign's operations into traditionally Republican states. "The map favors us and, in a way, the dynamics right now favor us," said Joel Benenson, Clinton's senior strategist. "The more places you can make them play defense, the better off we are."

Throughout his presidential bid, Trump has used controversy to draw attention back to his campaign. It's a strategy that initially worried some Clinton aides, who feared he would drown out their candidate's general-election message. But with three months until Election Day, Clinton aides say they see more advantages than liabilities as Trump continues to venture into the politically unimaginable. Critics slammed Trump this week for appearing to suggest that gun-rights supporters could shoot Clinton to prevent her from appointing federal judges as president, and he drew criticism for standing by a false claim that President Barack Obama founded the Islamic State. Clinton, too, faced her own bad headlines this week, with the release of a new batch of State

New questions, same answers Department emails that renewed ques-

tions about whether Clinton used her government post to benefit the Clinton foundation. Democratic strategists have long argued the party could win the White House with Obama's political coalition, the group of minority, young and female voters who twice boosted him to victory. They see the additional support Clinton is finding among independent and Republican voters as the frosting on their electoral cake. "You care very deeply about the 270th electoral vote, but there are also important reasons to care about winning big," said Geoff Garin, a pollster for Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign who now advises the pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA Action.

Clinton aides say she's taking nothing for granted, noting the US remains a politically divided country. Yet Clinton is undoubtedly beginning to cast her gaze beyond the Democratic base. "I am humbled and moved by the Republicans who are willing to stand up and say that Donald Trump doesn't represent their values," she said at a rally in Iowa this week. "We may not agree on everything, but this is not a normal election and I will work hard over the next three months to earn the support of anyone willing to put our country first."

Republican defections

On Wednesday, following two weeks of high-profile Republican defections, her campaign launched an official effort to target GOP voters, telling party officials in Arizona and Georgia they plan to make a six-figure investment in field operations in both states. The next day, Clinton published a column in Salt Lake City's Deseret News titled "What I have in common with Utah leaders - religious freedom and the Constitution." While the state has not backed a Democrat for president since Lyndon Johnson in 1964, Trump himself acknowledged Thursday he is "having a tremendous problem in Utah."

And on Friday, she attempted to undercut Trump's business record by releasing her 2015 tax returns. Trump has broken with decades of presidential candidates by refusing to make his filings public. He says they're under audit by the Internal Revenue Service and that he'll release them only



PHILADELPHIA: In this July 28, 2016 file photo, Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and her running mate Democratic vice presidential nominee Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va, celebrate in a sea of falling balloons during the final day of the Democratic National Convention. — AP



FAIRFIELD: Republican Presidential candidate Donald Trump acknowledges the high temperature after addressing supporters. — AP

TRUMP GOES ON TEAR AGAINST MEDIA BUT IGNORES CLINTON

CALLS CRITICIZING PRESS 'DISGUSTING' FOR WEEK OF DISTRACTIONS

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump's campaign yesterday went on a new tear against the media, blaming the "disgusting" press for a week of distractions at a time when Republicans have urged him - again - to focus on Democratic rival Hillary Clinton. Trump will get another chance to reset his campaign today when he is expected to lay out his plan for defeating what running mate Mike Pence yesterday called, "radical Islamic terrorism" with "real specifics" on how to make the

United States safer.

But Trump set up that address with extensive new complaints about the latest disastrous week of coverage and reports of campaign chaos. Not to blame, Trump suggested, were his own remarks that gun rights supporters could "do something" if Hillary Clinton becomes president and appoints liberal judges, or his repeated insistence on the falsehood that President Barack "Obama founded ISIS." "If the disgusting and corrupt media covered me honestly and didn't put false meaning into the words I say, I would be beating Hillary by 20 percent," he tweeted before noon. That tweet was followed by: "My rallies are not covered properly by the media. They never discuss the real message and never show crowd size or enthusiasm."

It was the latest in a series of implicit acknowledgements by the Republican presidential nominee that he is not winning and in fact could be headed for a big loss to Clinton on Election Day in less than three months. Signs were popping up across the political landscape that Trump's year-plus flirtation with presidential politics was in danger of not advancing much

Gaffe-by-gaffe, additional Republicans have me forward to say they're not supporting riis bid, with Carlos Gutierrez, secretary of commerce under President George W. Bush, announcing his support for Clinton yesterday. Meanwhile, GOP leaders in Washington and in the most competitive states have begun openly contemplating turning their backs on their party's presidential nominee and putting their money and effort instead behind the party's House and Senate candidates.

Trump missteps

Frustratingly for Republicans, Trump's missteps have overshadowed difficult news for Clinton: The new release of 44 previously-unreleased email exchanges Clinton had while at the State Department. They became public on Tuesday and showed her interacting with lobbyists, political and Clinton Foundation donors and business interests while serving as secretary of state. The New York Times yesterday catalogued a culture of crisis inside the Trump campaign. That set off Trump on a Twitter rant yesterday morning. He called the report "fiction" and reiterated that he is not about to change what he sees as a winning campaign formula. "I am who I am," he tweeted.

Given that, Trump's allies set out yesterday to bat down bad publicity and warn people not to write Trump off. Sen Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., warned that the "campaign is not over" and described Trump as still being in transition from the bulldog who beat 16 rivals in the GOP primary to a general election candidate who communicates differently to a wider electorate what he wants to do differently than Clinton. "He's got to wrestle in his own heart, how does he communicate who he is, what he believes, the change he thinks he can bring to America, why what he's doing is fulfilling the desires of the American people," Sessions said on ABC's "This Week."

Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort criticized the news media for not focusing on what otherwise would have been a substantive week of dueling economic speeches from Trump and Clinton. He said Trump is continuing to raise millions of dollars while traveling to key battleground states - Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida and remains personally "very connected" to the operations of his campaign. "You could have covered what he was saying, or you could try and take an aside and take the Clinton narrative and play it out. And you chose to do that instead," Manafort said on CNN. Pence said on "Fox News Sunday" that he remains proud to be Trump's running mate and advised: "Stay tuned, it's very early in this campaign. This coming Monday, you're going to see a vision for confronting radical Islamic terrorism." — AP

Volunteers clean up violence ON MILWAUKEE'S NORTH SIDE

MILWAUKEE: Volunteers swept and picked up a warning cry. Where do we go from here? Where debris yesterday in a north Milwaukee neighborhood that was rocked by hours of late night violent unrest sparked by a police officer's shooting of a man fleeing a traffic stop. Up to three dozen people swept up glass and filled trash bags with rocks, bricks and bottles at an intersection where a BP gas station burned to the ground, a traffic light was bent and bus shelters were shoved to the ground Saturday night. One volunteer picked up a bullet casing and handed it to police. Darlene Rose, 31, said she understands the anger that fueled the violence, but that it doesn't help. "I feel like if you're going to make a difference, it's got to be an organized difference," Rose said. "The people that came and looted, you're not going to see them here today."

The event that triggered the violence was the Saturday afternoon shooting by a police officer of a man authorities said was armed and who fled a traffic stop. It wasn't clear if the man aimed the gun at officers. Authorities have not released the names or races of the man who was killed nor the officer who shot him. Three protesters were arrested, and one officer was injured by a thrown brick. At a late night news conference at which city leaders appealed for calm, Mayor Tom Barrett said the man was hit twice, in the chest and arm.

The protesters were largely black, and Alderman Khalif Rainey - who represents the district - said early yesterday that the city's black residents are "tired of living under this oppression." Nearly 40 percent of Milwaukee's 600,000 residents are black, and heavily concentrated on the north side. "Now this is

do we go as a community from here?" Rainey said at the news conference with Barrett. The anger at shootings by Milwaukee police is not new, and comes as tension between black communities and law enforcement has ramped up across the nation, resulting in protests and the recent killings of officers in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Dallas.

Civil right charges

Milwaukee was beset by protests and calls for police reform after an officer fatally shot Dontre Hamilton, a mentally ill black man, in 2014. In December, the Justice Department announced it would work with Milwaukee police on reforms. Chief Ed Flynn had asked for what's known as a collaborative reform process after the federal government said it wouldn't pursue criminal civil rights charges against the officer. Critics said the department should have submitted to a review of its patterns and practices, as was conducted in Ferguson, Missouri, after the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown, who was black, by a white police officer in 2014.

The state is investigating the latest shooting in Milwaukee. Barrett said the officer was wearing a body camera. Barrett said police stopped the 23year-old man who died for "suspicious activity." Police said he was carrying a gun that had been stolen in a March burglary in suburban Waukesha. "This stop took place because two officers ... saw suspicious activity," the mayor said. "There were 23 rounds in that gun that that officer was staring at. I want to make sure we don't lose any police officers in this community, either." Around 100 protesters massed at 44th Street and Auer Avenue between 8 and 9 pm, surging against a line of 20 to 30 officers. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported that officers got in their cars to leave at one point and some in the crowd started smashing a squad car's windows. Another police car was set on fire. The newspaper reported that one of its reporters was shoved to the ground and punched.

Around 11 pm, police with shields and helmets moved slowly into the intersection, telling a crowd of about 50 people to disperse. Some threw rocks and debris at police, who held up their shields. People in the crowd also threw objects at a business a half-block from the intersection. A nearby traffic light was bent over and bus shelters overturned. A bank, a gas station, an auto parts store and a beauty supplies shop were burned in the violence. Firefighters held back from the gas station blaze because of gunshots.

Police said the man who was shot had an arrest record. The 24-year-old officer who shot the man has been placed on administrative duty. The officer has been with the Milwaukee department six years, three as an officer. Just blocks away from the riots, two people were shot and killed Friday and Saturday, bringing to five the number of people who died in shootings in the city during a ninehour stretch. "As everyone knows, this was a very, very violent 24 hours in the city of Milwaukee," Assistant Chief Bill Jessup told the Journal Sentinel. "Our officers are out here taking risks on behalf of the community and making split-second decisions." — AP



MILWAUKEE: Volunteers sweep and pick up debris in a north Milwaukee neighborhood that was rocked by hours of late night violent unrest sparked by a police officer's shooting of a man fleeing a traffic stop. — AP

FORMER REFUGEES LOOK TO US ELECTION WITH SENSE OF DUTY

NEW YORK: The path to the voting booth hasn't been easy for Hatoumata Tounkara, but the former West African refugee says she couldn't have picked a better election to cast her first ballot. As a newly natural-ized American citizen, she's one of thousands of former refugees and asylum-seekers who will be voting in a US election for the first time this November. "This election is very special to me," Tounkara said. "This can show my daughter that she can become anything she wants in her life, because back home, women just cook and take care of the men."
At 23, Tounkara fled her home in Mali

after rejecting an arranged marriage. She made her way to the United States via Gambia in 2008. It took two years for the US to grant her asylum, and then she waited six more for a chance to take the citizen-ship test. The road to citizenship is full of challenges for those fleeing oppression and war back home. Many have witnessed the consequences of autocratic rule and civil strife. They've spent years navigating the bureaucracy to get to the U.S. and, eventually, to become a citizen. There are those who believe they hold a personal stake in this election, with immigration becoming a central issue.

As a Muslim, Tounkara says she is put off by some of Donald Trump's rhetoric and will vote for Hillary Clinton. But voting against Trump isn't what is motivating her to vote, said Tounkara, now 31. "If you don't vote, nobody will hear your voice," she said. The US government doesn't keep statistics on how many of the over 700,000 immi-grants naturalized each year are former refugees or how many of those new citizens register to vote.

Excited and eager

Over the past decade, about 150,000 refugees or asylum-seekers on average were granted lawful permanent resident status per year. About 60 percent of all green cardholders eventually become citizens, according to the Pew Research

Center. While most eligible refugees are excited and eager to participate in democracy, there are many hurdles to active involvement, said Ramla Sahid, executive director of the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans, a San Diego nonprofit group that promotes civic

engagement.
Endless paperwork, fees reaching almost \$2,000, in-person interviews, fingerprinting, a written 100-question civics test, an English test, and lots of waiting. And still, there are no guarantees. Green card-holders must live in the US for five years before they can become a citizen. Bandana Rai, 57, who fled Nepal during a 10-year civil war that ended in 2006, said her appreciation of the vote is enhanced by what she went through to become a citi

zen. "You have to really want it," Rai said.

Arbey Hamadi, who was born in a camp for Somalian refugees in Kenya, became a US citizen automatically as a teenager when her parents were naturalized in 2012. She is excited to participate in her first elec tion this fall at age 20 - partly because her opposition to Trump, who has proposed a temporary ban on foreign Muslims from entering the US. "As a Muslim, I think we have to stand shoulder to shoulder so that we can amplify our voices and stand against hate," she said. In areas where there are large concentrations of refugees, they are learning that they can serve as a legiti-

mate political force.

In Minneapolis this past week, Ilhan Omar, a former refugee from Somalia, defeated another Somali refugee, Mohamud Noor, as well as 44-year-incumbent for the Democratic nomination for a seat in the state Legislature. She is now poised to become the nation's first Somali-American state lawmaker. Noor, who was naturalized in 2005, said in Somalia there were no elections. "When you come to a place that you really want to be in, you cherish those democratic ideals that you get to participate in by being a citizen," he



NEW YORK: Hatoumata Tounkara, who came to the US as a refugee from Mali, waves a tiny American flag as she prepares to receive her naturalization certificate after a tiny American flag as she prepares to receive her naturalization certificate after being sworn in as US citizen by Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, left, dur-ing a naturalization ceremony on World Refugee Day in Central Park. — AP

LIBYA FORCES PRESS ASSAULT ON IS POSITIONS IN SIRTE

SIRTE: Libyan pro-government forces pressed an advance against the Islamic State group in the coastal city of Sirte yesterday as they battled jihadists holed up in waterfront residential areas. In May, forces loyal to the unity govern-ment began an offensive to retake the Mediterranean city and home town of slain dictator Moamer Kadhafi, which IS seized in June last year. The offensive came amid growing concern that jihadists would use Sirte, where they had set up centers to train militants, as a springboard for attacks on European shores hundreds of kilometers away.

One June 9, pro-government forces entered Sirte and more than two months later pushed the jihadists from key positions including their headquarters at the Ouagadougou conference centre, a sprawling compound near the city centre. AFP correspondents who toured the city on Saturday said loyalist forces were pressing their advance, month that targeted IS holdouts in the city. The forces fired machineguns mounted on pick-up trucks and light weapons at IS targets in the distance as they tried to advance towards an area known as "residential district three" facing the Mediterranean, the correspondents said. Yesterday, the spokesman for the forces, General Mohamad Ghassri, told AFP that both residential districts near the waterfront were "currently battle zones". Pro-government forces "have entered district number two" which could fall under their control later yesterday, he said. "IS has only control over one sector, residential district one in the heart of downtown Sirte," he said. "From a military point of view, the battle (for Sirte) is over," he said, adding that "victory" would be announced soon. Earlier the forces loyal to the UN-backed Government of National Accord said in a statement that their fighters had seized buildings on the outskirts of district two and were chasing the lihadists.

> **Eyes on Rome** Mustafa al-Fagih, one of the com

manders of the loyalist forces, told AFP that the jihadists fled after their head-quarters fell on Wednesday. The "enemy forces collapsed" in the face of the loyalist advance, he said.

"We will advance on... areas where the enemy is still deployed in the com-ing days, God willing." The taking of the Ouagadougou centre, where Kadhafi once hosted Arab and African summits as well as European leaders, was the first in a string of blistering losses sus-tained by the jihadists this week. A statement by the loyalist forces on Saturday said they had seized a radio station near the centre which the jihadists used to broadcast propaganda, describing its capture as "important". They also drove jihadists out of the University of Sirte which they had used as a key defensive position, they said. Yesterday, pro-government fight-ers could be seen removing jihadist graffiti from the walls Ouagadougou centre. "The o will endure and expand," read one slogan at the centre's main entrance, before it was removed.

A trail of destruction has hit the once grandiose centre, with windows shattered, ceilings caved in and bullet strikes on its walls. Outside, a group of pro-government fighters flashed victory signs and pointed to a banner left behind by the jihadists that read: "We are fighting in Libya but our eyes are on Rome." Libya's former colonial power Italy lies a mere 300 kilometers across the Mediterranean from Sirte.

On Thursday, Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi faced criticism at home for reportedly sending special forces to Libya to help the anti-IS fight without approval from parliament. Renzi's centre-left government has refused to confirm or deny reports that dozens of spe cial forces have been deployed to help with de-mining and training pro-GNA forces. More than 300 pro-government fighters have been killed and 1,800 wounded since May in the battle for Sirte, medics have said. The jihadists have not revealed their losses. —AFP



SALEZ: The train stands near the station after a man attacked other passengers aboard the train. — AP

'NO INDICATION' OF TERRORISM IN LETHAL SWISS TRAIN ATTACK

'The question of motive remains'

GENEVA: Swiss police said yesterday there was no indication a stabbing and fire attack on a passenger train was an act of terror, as a female vicother people were hurt in Saturday's assault in eastern Switzerland, including a six-year-old girl who was seriously injured. "The question of motive remains," police in the Saint Gallen region said in a statement. "To date there is no indication this beautiful to the saint Gallen region said in a statement. "To date there is no indication this latest accordingly provided the saint Gallen region." tion this was a terrorist or politically-motivated act." While no motives have been ruled out, the police statement should calm some of the speculation circulating since Saturday's attack, which followed several violent, often deadly assaults in Europe, many of which were claimed by the Islamic State group. "Terrorism is not our main theory," police spokesman Bruno Metzger told AFP, adding that "other motives" figured far higher, although he would not say what they were. A 27-year-old Swiss national used flammable liquid to start a fire on a moving train in eastern Switzerland at about 2:20 pm before stabbing

The incident took place on the line between Buchs and Sennwald near Salez station, not far

from the eastern border with Liechtenstein and Austria. Dozens of people were on the train at the time, police said. Pictures published by Swiss media yesterday showed burned-out seats by a blackened window, the seats covered with ash and the upholstery burnt to a crisp, while on the platform was a pool of blood.

Acted alone

Police said images of the attack had been caught on surveillance footage, allowing them to determine that the man had acted alone. The footage, which was not immediately made pub-lic, showed the man, who was carrying a knife pouring out flammable liquid and setting it alight, police said. A 34-year-old woman and the assailant died in hospital yesterday, police said. The injured, who included two men aged 17 and 50, two women aged 17 and 43 and a six-year-old girl, suffered burns and stab wounds. One of the women and the child were in serious condition, police said. The woman who died had been doused with a large amount of the flammable liquid, leading to speculation she might have been the target. But Metzger said he could not confirm that, and another police spokesman Hanspeter Kruesi told AFP it did not appear the attack was directed at a single person. He said it was unclear if the attacker, who did not have a criminal record, knew any of the victims.

Pulled out burning attacker One of those injured was not a passenger, but a man on the platform at Salez station, where the train stopped when the smoke detec-tor went off. He was hurt after rushing in to pull the attacker-who was on fire-from the train. police said. "His intervention probably prevented worse," Kruesi told the Blick daily. Police did not provide any details on the identities or nationali ties of the victims. They had not been able ques-tion the attacker before his death but have searched his home, located in a canton neighbor ing Saint Gallen. Some 90 rescue workers took part in Saturday's operation, including police, firefighters, ambulances and three rescue helicopters, police said. Saint Gallen prosecutors have opened a criminal investigation into the attack and sealed off the affected carriage, which is being examined by forensics teams. — AFP

MOTHERS FIND OVER 28 BURIAL SITES IN MEXICO

VERACRUZ: Mothers in east Mexico searching for missing loved ones said Saturday they have found a total of 28 clandestine gravesites with remains of some 40 bodies in the gang-ravaged state of Veracruz. The women, who launched their own search for missing loved ones after growing tired of waiting for authorities to do so, have found all of the graves since August 1. The area, located north of the port of Veracruz, "is a great cemetery of crime" that is used "like a camp to kill people who have been kidnapped," Lucia de los Angeles Diaz Genao, one of the mothers, told journalists.

She said she finds it hard to believe that "these things happened in Veracruz without the complicity of authorities."
Saturday's new total doubles the previous
August 10 count of 14 graves. Local authorities did not respond to an AFP request for comment. The discovered remains have been exhumed and delivered to forensic police. "We hope to be able to know these victims' identities in about three months," Diaz Genao said. She noted that the mothers, who have banded together in a group they call El Solecito, are uncertain of the exact number of buried individuals, as many bodies were found in collective graves. The far covered a small land plot of about 10 hectares (25 acres).

Veracruz is the scene of a deadly turf struggle between two violent drug cartels: the Zetas and the Jalisco Nueva Generacion. Both gangs seek to monopolize drug trafficking routes to the United States, and often kidnap and extort locals as well as immigrants from Central America. Both criminal groups have buried their victims for years in clandestine graves, which have prolifer ated recently. Since the government launched a militarized war on drug trafficking in December 2006, a surge in vio lence has claimed the lives of more than 166,000 people with more than 27,000 reported disappearances, according to official figures.

One of the most shocking cases involved the disappearance in January of five youths, one of them a minor, who were picked up by police and turned over to drug traffickers and allegedly murdered, their remains incinerated and ground up in a mill. The government sta tistics do not specify how many of those violent deaths and disappearances are linked to drug trafficking. — AFP



RALEIGH: People rush from one of the exits of Crabtree Valley Mall. — AP

MALL CHAOS: SHOPPERS REPORT SHOTS, DID GUNFIRE HAPPEN?

RALEIGH: Police are investigating reports of gunfire that sent shoppers inside a busy North Carolina mall running in fear or hiding inside stores, with authorities saying they haven't confirmed what actually happened. Pandemonium erupted Saturday afternoon and after several shoppers said they heard what sounded like gunfire inside Crabtree Valley Mall. But police found no gunshot victim or shell casings from spent bullets, Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown told reporters at a late-afternoon news conference

While some people reported seeing a gun, "no one has reported that we had a gun fired, so we are looking at all possibilities," Deck-Brown said. Video posted on social media sites shows dozens of people running toward mall exit doors as numerous screams were heard. Outside the mall, where people gathered afterward, a police officer got on the loudspeaker of a fire truck and said there was no one shot in the mall. Witnesses described chaos after reports of shots.

Eight people ranging in age from 10 to 70 were transported to hospitals for treatment of injuries suffered as they rushed to leave the mall, the police chief said. None of those injuries appeared to be life-threatening. The shopping complex in an affluent area of Raleigh was put on lockdown while helicopters buzzed overhead and numerous law enforcement vehicles swarmed the shopping area. Footage from a news helicopter showed shoppers filing out of the mall with their hands over their heads as police took control of the scene.

Shots from the food court

Raleigh police said they initially responded at 2:30 pm to reports that shots had been fired. John Riggleman and Kristin Warring said in an interview that they were heading to a video game store when they heard shots coming from the food court. They quickly ran into the store with dozens of others. Police told them they could leave the store at about 3 pm. Riggleman said they were inside the video game store for about a half-hour. When they finally were allowed to leave, they passed about 10 officers or SWAT team members moving the other way with guns drawn. "They had guns up, kind of covering us as we were run-ning out. And then there were more back toward the exit kind of telling people where to go," Riggleman said.

Another person said he saw an argument between two men in the food court that led to about four shots being fired. Antonio Richardson told The Associated Press that he saw two men who appeared to be in their early 20s arguing and that one of them began shooting. In the late afternoon heat, scores of people gathered outside the mall, waiting for news of what happened, police permission to retrieve their cars, or to collect other belongings left behind during their rush for the doors. Zoe Hanks, 12, was at a hairdresser inside the mall, having the hair around her shoulders lightened, when word of an emergency came. She left with chemicals still in her hair and a towel around her neck. She said she knew it was time to go when "all the people were running." — AP



LUSAKA: Zambians queue to cast their votes at a polling station. — AP

ZAMBIA OPPOSITION LEADER ANGERED BY RESULTS DELAY

LUSAKA: Zambia's opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema yesterday blasted the national election commission for slow progress in releasing results from this week's closely-fought presidential vote. Hichilema, the leader of the United Party for National Development (UPND) who has alleged fraud in Thursday's vote, demanded to speak to the commission's chairman at its headquarters where the ballots are being counted, but he was blocked by police. So far results from only 69 out of 156 constituencies have been released. The electoral commission had initially indicated that results would be announced within 48 hours of the close of voting, and no explanation has been

"Why are they taking this long?" asked Hichilema, a wealthy businessman who is making his fifth bid for the presidency. Lungu is currently slightly ahead on 699,960 votes-with his victories including the capital Lusaka-with Hichilema close behind on 644,132. The other seven presidential candidates are far behind. Copper-rich Zambia is usually known for its relative stability, but the run-up to the vote was marked by weeks of clashes between supporters of the UPND and President Edgar Lungu's Patriotic Front (PF).

Lungu took power only last year when he beat Hichilema by less than 28,000 votes in a snap election following the death in office of

president Michael Sata. PF spokesman Frank Bwalya dismissed Hichilema's visit to the vote-counting centre as a publicity stunt. "By going to the commission he wanted to force the police to arrest him," said Bwalya. He blamed Hichilema's party for the delays, saying they had raised numerous complaints with the electoral commission. "They have declared themselves the winners," he said. When asked about the delays, Lungu's spokesman Amos Chanda said in a statement that the president was allowing the authorities "necessary room

Hichilema on Friday alleged that authorities were colluding with Lungu's party over the results. The 54-year-old said when he voted that he would accept the election result if it was "free, fair and transparent". Known as "HH", Hichilema has major investments in ranching, property and healthcare in Zambia. Lungu's short term in office has been marked by the falling price of copper, the country's key export, with inflation rising to over 20 percent. Recent constitutional changes require the winner to secure more than 50 percent of the vote, meaning a run-off is possible should neither Lungu nor Hichilema secure a majority in the first round. The presidential, parliamentary and local election also included a constitutional referendum on amending the bill of rights. — AFP

SOME 30 CIVILIANS KILLED IN TROUBLED EAST CONGO

GOMA, DR Congo: At least 30 civilians have been killed in an area of eastern Democratic Republic of Congo that has been shaken by violence since 2014, the army said yesterday. Suspected rebels of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a partly Islamist armed group of Ugandan origin, killed "about 30 people" in the town of Beni on Saturday night, army spokesman Mak Hazukay told AFP. "We have just found their bodies."

The victims were found in the Rwangoma neighborhood on the outskirts of Beni, Hazukay said, adding: "The search for the bodies continues." He said ADF rebels had "bypassed" army positions "to come and massacre the population in revenge" for military operations in the area. Gilbert Kambale, a local civil society leader, said the attack took place between 7.00 pm and 11.00 pm on Saturday evening and that there were "already 35 bodies" in the morgue at Beni hospital. The latest bloodshed provoked an angry protest, bringing around a hundred people onto the streets shouting anti-government slogans and demanding security.

The slaughter took place three days after DR Congo's President Joseph Kabila visited the region, promising to do everything in his power to bring peace and security. Beni lies in North Kivu, a province that has seen a long spate of attacks that the government and United Nations blame on the ADF. The Beni area in particular has seen numerous massacres since October 2014 that have in total left more than 600 civilians dead.

'Slaughter us like goats'

During the day, around a hundred angry protesters carrying the body of one of the victims gathered in the town, shouting angry slogans against Kabila and his government, witnesses said. Local human rights activists Jackson Kasereka said residents in the north of the town were "burning tyres" in the streets in protest over the killings and in anger at the authorities. "The police have just taken the body off us but we will continue to protest. It's not normal that they slaughter us like goats," said demonstrator Georges Kamate, who drives a motorbike taxi. "Our government is incapable of keeping us safe!" shouted another demonstrator. Kambale said there was a lot of anger over the government's apparent inability to restore security to the area.

"It's worrying because the president of the republic came here and then we were massacred," he said. "There is a blatant lack of security, (the authorities) are not capable of keeping the population safe, that is why these people have come into the street," he explained. Contacted by AFP, Beni mayor Edmond Masumbuko had no immediate comment, saying he was tied up "in a security meeting".

Copious rights abuses

Beni and the surrounding area have been badly hit by violence over the past two years, suffering a series of massacres which the Congolese government and the UN's mission in DR Congo, MONUS-CO, have blamed on the ADF. But in March, that allegation was recently questioned in a report published by the Congro Research Group at New York University which looked into the massacres around Beni, and claimed that soldiers from the regular army had also participated in the killings. The government rejected the claims and said the ADF was "definitely" responsible for the massacres. — AFP



30 girls working at "maid cafes" took part in the annual summer event. —AFP

ITALY WARNED ABOUT

ROME: Libyan authorities have warned Italy about an Islamic State cell based in the Milan area with links to one of the jihadist group's battle-hardened veterans, Italian media reported yesterday. The existence of the network was reportedly revealed by documents seized by Libyan agents after government forces took over an IS headquarters in the city of Sirte earlier this week. The Italy-based militants were said to be associates of Abu Nassim, 47, a Tunisian who lived in Italy for most of his 20s and subsequently fought in Afghanistan and Syria, before becoming an IS commander in Libya.

The reports came as concerns grow that IS fighters dispersed from Sirte could cross the Mediterranean on migrant boats and mount "lone wolf" terror attacks on Italian territory. Security services have been put on a state of high alert for the peak holiday season and Interior Minister Angelino Alfano has stepped up expulsions of suspected jihadist sympathizers. Late on Saturday, Alfano said he had ordered the deportation of Hosni Hachemi Ben Hassem, a Tunisian imam based in a mosque at Andria in Puglia.

The 49-year-old imam had been cleared of charges of recruiting jihadists but Alfano expelled him anyway on the basis of suspected incitement to racial hatred. The cleric is the ninth imam to be kicked out since the start of 2015 under a 'zero tolerance' approach to Islamist militancy which Alfano says has reduced the risk of a terror attack on Italian soil. The centre-right minister has signed a total of 109 expulsion orders since the start of last year, 43 of them in 2016, he said in a statement. — AFP

PERU PROTESTS AGAINST GENDER **VIOLENCE DRAW MASS CROWDS**

LIMA: Some 50,000 people marched Saturday in Peru's capital and other cities, police said, to protest rampant violence against women in a highly conservative society. The country recorded 95 murders of women last year. An additional 54 have taken place this year, together with 118 attempts, according to official figures. Roughly a third of the victims had complained about their aggressors before the attacks, a government

human rights unit says. One woman was disfigured when her husband threw a brick at her in recent days, while others were savagely beaten by their partners. Shirley Pajuelo's husband, the father of their six children, threw a brick that hit her eye because he said the meal she had served had too much garlic. Another three women died last week in Peru from domestic violence. President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski joined thousands of demonstrators in Lima marching in support of the "Ni una menos" (Not One Less) movement. They held banners and posters condemning gender violence and gender-based killings.

Peru ranks third in the world-behind just Bangladesh and Ethiopia-in the number of women aged 15 to 49 who are victims of domestic sexual violence, according to the World Health Organization. Kuczynski urged Peruvians on Twitter to "reject all acts of inequality and masochistic violence." Seventy-four percent of people in Lima consider Peruvian society to be masochistic, according to polls released Saturday, which also found that 53 percent said a woman dressed in a mini-skirt is responsible if she gets raped. — AFP

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON INDIA'S 70TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

our Independence, I extend warm greetings to all my brothers and sisters in the country and abroad.

As we celebrate our seventieth Independence Day, I respectfully bow to the heroes of our independence struggle - known and unknown - who fought, suffered and sacrificed their lives to win freedom for us. Mahatma Gandhi's luminous leadership finally made the British Quit India in 1947. When we gained independence in 1947, nobody believed that India will survive as a democracy. Yet, seven decades later, one and a quarter billion Indians with all their diversity have proved those forecasts wrong. The strong edifice of democracy built by our founding fathers on the four pillars of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity has withstood several threats from both within and without and has grown from strength to strength.

This is for the fifth time that I speak to you on the eve of Independence Day. In the past four years, I have seen with some satisfaction a stable and progressive democracy in full play with peaceful transfer of power from one party to another, from one government to another, and from one generation to another. Notwithstanding the different hues of political thought, I have seen the ruling party and the opposition coming together in pursuit of national agenda of development, unity, integrity and security of the nation. In the just-concluded session of Parliament, the passage of the Constitution Amendment Bill for the introduction of GST amidst non-partisan and quality parliamentary deliberations is reason enough to celebrate our democratic maturity.

In these four years, I also saw with, some disquiet, forces of divisiveness and intolerance trying to raise their ugly head. Attacks on weaker sections that militate against our national ethos are aberrations that need to be dealt with firmly. The collective wisdom of our society and our polity gives me the confidence that such forces will remain marginalized and India's remarkable growth story will continue uninterrupted.

The safety and security that we provide to our women and children determines the well-

being of the state and society. Every incident of violence against a woman or a child inflicts a wound on the soul of the civilization. We cannot call ourselves a civilized society if we fail in this duty. Democracy is more than a periodic exercise of choices to elect the government. The great tree of liberty requires constant nourishment through the institutions of democracy. Disruptions, obstructionism and un-mindful pursuit of a divisive political agenda by groups and individuals lead to nothing but institutional travesty and Constitutional subversion. Polarizing debates only deepen the fault lines in public discourse.

Our Constitution is not only a political or legal document but also an emotional, cultural and social contract. My distinguished predecessor Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan had said on the eve of Independence Day fifty years ago and I quote: "We have adopted a democratic Constitution. It helps us to maintain our individuality in the face of mounting pressures for standardized thinking and acting...... Democratic Assemblies serve as safety valves for social tensions and prevent dangerous explosions. In an effective democracy, its members should be willing to accept law and lawful authority. No man, no group can be his or its own law giver" (unquote).

The Constitution has clearly defined the duties and responsibilities of every organ of the state. It has established the ancient Indian ethos of "Maryada" as far as Authorities and Institutions of State power are concerned. The spirit of the Constitution has to be upheld by adherence to this "Maryada" by the func-

tionaries in the discharge of their duties. One unique feature that has held India together is our respect for each other's cultures, values and beliefs. The very essence of plurality lies in cherishing our heterogeneity and valuing our diversity. In the networked environment of today, a caring society can only be developed by harmonizing religion with modern science. Swami Vivekananda had once observed and I quote: "What is needed is a fellow-feeling between the different types of religion, seeing that they all stand or fall together, a fellow-feeling which springs from mutual respect, and not the condescending, patronizing, niggardly expression of goodwill" (unquote).

It is true, as was pointed out in a famous speech made on this very day 69 years ago by Pandit Nehru that in a nation's history, moments come when we step out from the old to the new, when the soul of a nation finds utterance. But it is also important to realize that such moments are not strokes of luck that come upon us by surprise. A nation can and must strive to create such a moment. We must take destiny in our own hands to build the India of our dreams. Backed by strong political will, we have to create a future which will economically empower six hundred million youth, build a digital India, a start-up India, and a skilled India. As we build an India of hundreds of smart cities, towns and villages, we must ensure that they are humane, hi-tech and happy places leading to the creation of a technology-driven but compassionate society. We should promote and reinforce a scientific temper by questioning our beliefs which are not compatible with scientific way of thinking. We must learn to chal-

n the eve of sixty-ninth anniversary of lenge the status quo and refuse to accept inefficiency and slipshod work. In a competitive environment, a sense of immediacy and some impatience is a necessary virtue.

India will grow, only when all of India grows. The excluded ones have to be included in the development process. The hurt and the alienated have to be brought back into the mainstream. In this age of technological advance, machines are being pitted against men. The only way to survive this is to acquire knowledge and skills, and learn to innovate. Inclusive innovations linked to the aspirations of our people can benefit a wide spectrum of society as well as preserve our diversity. We as a nation must nurture creativity, science and technology. Here, our schools and institutions of higher learning have a special responsibili-

We often celebrate the achievements of our ancient past but it would be wrong to rest on our laurels. It is much more important to look to the future. It is time to join hands to cooperate, innovate and advance. India has had remarkable growth in recent times, often growing above eight percent per annum over the last decade. International agencies have acknowledged India's status as the fastest growing major economy in the world and recognized major improvements in indices of ease of doing business and logistics performance. The start-up movement and the innovative spirit of our young entrepreneurs have also attracted international attention. We must build on our strengths so that, this lead can be sustained and furthered. A normal monsoon this year gives us reason to cheer, unlike the past two years when below normal rains created agrarian distress. The fact that

> despite two consecutive drought years, inflation has remained below 6 percent and agricultural output has been stable, is a testimony to our nation's resilience, and to how far we have progressed since Independence.

> Our foreign policy has shown considerable dynamism in recent times. We have reinvigorated our ners of Africa and Asia Pacific. We are in the relationships based on shared values and mutual



stepping back on our "neighbourhood first policy". Close bonds of history, culture, civilization and geography provide the people of South Asia with an extraordinary opportunity to carve out a common destiny and to march together towards prosperity. This opportunity must be seized without delay. India's focus in foreign policy will remain on peaceful co-existence and harnessing technology and resources for its economic development. Recent initiatives have enhanced energy security, promoted food security, and created international partnerships to take our flagship development programmes forward.

The world has witnessed a spate of terror activities having their roots in radicalization of people on the basis of religion. These forces apart from killing innocent people in the name of religion also threaten to disturb geopolitical divides, which could prove disastrous for world peace. The inhuman, mindless and barbaric modus operandi of such groups have been visible in France, Belgium, United States, Nigeria, Kenya and closer home in Afghanistan and Bangladesh recently. These forces now pose a danger to the entire comity of nations. The world will have to fight them unconditionally and in one voice.

For all the challenges that we see in front of ourselves I have a great belief in our innate and inherent capacity as an ancient country whose soul and jijivisha- the will to live and excel can never be suppressed. Various forces external as well as internal have tried to smother this soul of India over millennia but every time this soul has emerged more powerful and more glorious having neutralized, assimilated and incorporated every challenge

India through its unique civilizational contribution has repeatedly conveyed the message of peace and harmony to the trouble-torn world. In 1970, historian Arnold Toynbee had the following to say about India's role in contemporary history. I quote: "Today, we are still living in this transitional chapter of the world's history, but it is already becoming clear that a chapter which had a Western beginning, will have to have an Indian ending, if it is not to end in the self-destruction of the human race" (unquote). Toynbee further went on to say that at the cross roads of human history, the only way of salvation of mankind is the Indian way. On this occasion, I convey my special greetings and gratitude to the members of our armed forces, paramilitary and internal security forces who are at the fore front of guarding and preserving the Unity, Integrity and Security of our motherland.

In the end, I would once again invoke the Upanishads as I had invoked in my first address on the eve of Independence Day four years ago. For this invocation shall live forever, as will Mother India:

"May God Protect us; May God Nourish us; May we Work Together with Vigour and Energy; May our Studies be Brilliant; May there be no Hostility amongst us; May there be Peace Peace Peace."



TOKYO: Wearing maid and special characters costumes, girls who work in Akihabara geek culture district splash water at Kanda Shrine to cool the precinct in Tokyo yesterday. Some

IS CELL, EXPELS IMAM

Top China official slams foreign influence on Tibetan Buddhism

BEIJING: A senior Chinese official has eign influence on Tibetan Buddhism," in a called on Tibetans to resist foreign influence on their Buddhist religion, state media said yesterday, in the latest comments apparently targeting exiled spiritual leader the Dalai Lama. Yu Zhengsheng, one of the ruling Communist party's seven most powerful officials, told locals to "firmly resist for-

visit to the Himalayan region, the official Xinhua news agency said. The report did not elaborate on the alleged foreign

"We should guide and support representative Tibetan Buddhist figures to use the leading principles of the core socialist values to explain doctrine, and promote the adaption of Buddhism to socialist society," Yu added in comments at the Galden Jampaling Monastery on Saturday. Beijing says its troops "peacefully liberated" Tibet in 1951 and insists it has since brought development to a previously backward region where serfs were exploited. But many Tibetans accuse officials of repressing their reli-

gion and eroding their culture, adding that natural resources are exploited to benefit China's ethnic Han majority at the expense of the environment.

Yu's other remarks stressed the importance of economic development and the construction of electric power lines. More than 140 Tibetans have set themselves on fire since 2009 in protest against Beijing's rule, according to tallies from rights groups. Most have died. Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama fled to India after a failed uprising in 1959, but is still deeply revered by many Tibetans in China. Beijing accuses the Nobel Peace Prize laureate of being a "wolf in monk's robes" who seeks Tibetan independence through "spiritual terrorism". — AFP



MANILA: Protesters hold umbrellas with an anti-Marcos slogan during a demonstration at a park against plans to honor the late dictator

MASS PROTEST IN PHILIPPINES FOR DICTATOR'S HERO BURIAL

DUTERTE REMAINS STEADFAST AGAINST OPPOSITION

MANILA: Hundreds of Filipinos rallied in stormy weather yesterday against President Rodrigo Duterte's approval of dictator Ferdinand Marcos' burial in a heroes' cemetery, but he remained steadfast on his decision despite growing opposition. Police said about 1,500 protesters carrying a large streamer that read "Marcos not a hero" braved the rains, wind and mud at Manila's seaside Rizal Park to call on Duterte to reconsider his decision. They launched a signature campaign to try to stop the burial, tentatively set for next month.

Loretta Ann Rosales, who formerly headed the government's Commission on Human Rights, said she was tortured, electrocuted and molested with thousands of other detained leftwing activists under Marcos during a dark era in Philippine history that clearly shows why the brutal leader did not deserve to be accorded any state honors. "Is that not enough evidence? ... Is Marcos a hero?" Rosales asked, with the crowd velling back: "No!" Sen Risa Hontiveros, who joined the protest, said she has filed a Senate resolution opposing a hero's burial for Marcos, adding that Duterte should not commit "this atrocious mistake" of bestowing honors to the former dictator.

"Marcos went down in history as an unrepentant enemy of our heroes," Hontiveros said. "To honor the man a hero and bury his remains in a place reserved for the brave and martyred is an inimitable political abomination." Burying a dictator accused of massive rights violations and plunder at the heroes' cemetery has long been an emotional and divisive issue in the country, where Marcos was ousted by a "people power" revolt in 1986. He was flown to Hawaii, where he lived with his wife and children in exile until and died in 1989. His remains were later returned to his northern Philippine hometown and displayed in a glass coffin. His wife, Imelda, and two of three children gradually regained political influence after being elected to public office. Duterte, who was sworn in as president in June, argues that Marcos is qualified to be buried at the military-run cemetery as a former soldier and president. He has disclosed that he once voted for Marcos and that his late father, a politician, served in Marcos's Cabinet.

Duterte's communications secretary, Martin Andanar, said vesterday that the president's position "remains firm," arguing that military rules allow Marcos to be buried at the hollowed cemetery as a former president and soldier. A group of ex-political detainees and rights victims under Marcos called Selda said in a statement it plans to ask the Supreme Court to stop what it calls "grave injustice" to thousands of human rights victims. Communist guerrillas, who are set to restart peace talks with Duterte's government this month, condemned his move for its "extreme insensitivity." "Duterte is virtually deleting Marcos' bloody record as a military despot and the fascist violence, human rights violation, corruption and economic hardships he made the Filipino people suffer through 14 years of dictatorship," the rebels said in a statement.

Drug killings

In other news, The Philippines has vowed to investigate reports of a wave of extrajudicial killings, the government said yesterday, after Washington warned military aid to its Asian ally was dependent on respect for human rights. According to media reports, nearly a thousand people have been killed since President Rodrigo Duterte won a landslide election victory in May largely on a pledge to kill tens of thousands of

criminals. The US embassy warned the Duterte government on Friday that millions of dollars of military aid alloted to the Philippines was tied to adherence to the rule of law, due process and respect for human rights. "We are concerned by reports regarding extrajudicial killings of individuals suspected to have been involved in drug activity in the Philippines," it said. "We strongly urge the Philippines to ensure its law enforcement efforts are consistent with its human rights obligations," the embassy added.

A Philippine foreign department statement sent to AFP yesterday said that it took note of US views on the issue, adding Manila was focused on the eradication of drugs in society. "Nevertheless, while pursuing this objective, the Philippine government is committed to the rule of law, and the protection of human rights for all." It added: "We do not condone any unlawful killings and Philippine authorities have been instructed to immediately look into these incidents and bring the perpetrators to justice."

Philippine police said Friday they had killed 550 drug suspects while arresting nearly 8,000 others since after the May election. However, ABS-CBN, the country's largest broadcaster, said more than 400 other people have been killed since then by shadowy assassins who leave cardboard signs beside their victims accusing them of narcotics crimes. Police said that while it was investigating these other killings, no suspects had been arrested. — Agencies

THAI POLICE FORCE KNOW WHO IS BEHIND BOMBINGS: SPOKESMAN

BANGKOK: Thai authorities know who was behind a wave of bombings that rocked tourist destinations and killed four people, a police spokesman said yesterday, though officials remained tight-lipped on the details of their probe. At least two men have been held for questioning over the blasts in Hua Hin a resort town struck by four of the bombs-and a third was arrested over a suspected arson attack in a separate province, police said. "Our investigation is progressing. We know who was behind it," deputy national police spokesman Piyapan Pingmuang told AFP, declining to provide further details on those detained or a possible motive. A junta spokesman confirmed that multiple people have been questioned but stressed it was too early to identify them as suspects. "It's just asking questions. They will not be treated as suspects unless the questioning procedure is done and any of them are found to have violated laws. Then legal action may be taken against them," said Colonel Winthai Suvaree. At least 11 bombs and a series of suspected arson attacks ripped across seven southern provinces on Thursday and Friday, killing four locals and wounding more than 30 people, including European tourists visiting the country's famed beaches. Some analysts suggest it was the work of Muslim rebels waging a long-running insurgency in Thailand's southern tip. Thai officials have dismissed that theory and also ruled out international terrorist groups, insisting the bombings were acts of "local sabotage".

"We believe (the bombers) are still in Thailand," deputy national police chief Ponsapat Pongcharoen told reporters yesterday. No one has claimed responsibility for the blasts, which are seen as an affront to a military government that prides itself on having brought some stability to Thailand since its 2014 coup. The kingdom has been battered by decade of political unrest, driven by a bitter power struggle between the military-allied elite and populist forces loyal to the ousted democratically elected government.

Rounds of mass protests organized by the rival camps have been marred by streetside gunfights and grenade attacks. But the violence has not matched the coordinated nature of the latest bombings or targeted tourist towns. Analysts say the style of last week's bombs mirrors those

used by separatists in the far south. If the rebels are to blame, it would mark an unprecedented escalation of a 12-year revolt so far confined largely to the border region. The attacks came only days after the junta won a referendum vote on a controversial new charter it drafted. The document, which critics say will make Thailand less democratic, was approved by 61 percent of voters but rejected in the north and northeast-strongholds of the ousted government-and in the three insurgency-torn southern provinces.

Stalled talks

Thailand's shadowy southern rebellion has left more than 6,500 people dead since it erupted in 2004. But the violence rarely makes international headlines or affects Thais outside the conflict zone, a Muslimmajority region annexed more than a century ago. Analysts say the rebels are frustrated over stalled negotiations with the military government.

"It looks like the work of (the insurgents), judging from their kind of arms... it was not aimed to create mass casualties, so that's very similar to the far south," Don Pathan, a security analyst and expert on the insurgency, said of last week's bombings. But he said the junta would be loath to admit a major expansion of the conflict, since it would signal a significant "policy failure in the south". A leader of the "Red Shirts"-the grassroots movement supportive of the ousted government and hostile to the junta-expressed concern yesterday his network would be fingered for the attacks. "We have been made victims for things we did not do several times before," Jatuporn Prompan said in a video posted on Facebook.

The Red Shirts, who hail chiefly from the poor and rural northeast, are fiercely loyal to the powerful Shinawatra family, whose repeated election victories have been undone by two coups and a series of judicial rulings in the past decade. Their political network has come under heavy surveillance by the military since the 2014 coup. The bombings in top tourist destinations, including the island of Phuket, threaten a vital source of income for tropical Thailand. The sector accounts for at least 10 percent of an economy the military government has struggled to revive. — AFP



BANGKOK: Thai soldiers in vintage uniforms perform drills at the Grand Palace. — AFP

THOUSANDS FLEE PHILIPPINE RAINS

killed in the Philippines and tens of thousands have fled from floods caused by days of unrelenting rain,

MANILA: Five people have been rescuers said yesterday. Civil over the coming days as more defense officials warned residents than 24,000 people sought refuge of Manila and nearby provinces to expect more heavy seasonal rain

in schools and government buildings. "We are expecting more low-



SAN MATEO: Residents are housed in a temporary evacuation center as heavy southwest monsoon rains inundate low-lying areas. — AP

lying areas to experience flooding, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council spokeswoman Romina Marasigan told AFP. "Those who are already in evacuation centres should stay there until the weather improves,"

she added. Those evacuated include nearly 9,000 Manila residents displaced by flooding from the Marikina River on Saturday. The council said three Manila slum residents were crushed to death Saturday by walls that collapsed in the floods.

A man drowned crossing a swift-flowing river on the central island of Panay on Wednesday, it said, while the authorities retrieved a body from a Manila canal on Friday-the cause of death is under investigation.

A fisherman went missing at sea off the central island of Marinduque on Monday, while a man was injured by falling rocks at a highway east of Manila on Friday, it said. In all, more than 70,000 people have had their houses swamped by floodwaters, the council said, though the majority of residents have remained at home. The western section of the Philippines has been swamped by heavy rain over the past week, forcing the cancellation of some domestic commercial flights and the suspension of

JAPAN TO DEVELOP MISSILE AS TENSIONS WITH CHINA MOUNT

TOKYO: Japan will develop a new land-tosea missile as part of plans to beef up its defense of remote southern islands, as tensions with China increase over the disputed territory, a report said yesterday. The two countries are locked in a longrunning dispute over the uninhabited islets known as the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China.

The report comes after repeated protests by Japanese foreign ministry officials over what Tokyo calls "intrusions" by Chinese ships in the territorial and contiguous waters of the rocky islands. Tokyo plans to deploy the weapon, which reportedly will have a range of 300 kilometers on islands such as Miyako in Okinawa prefecture, the top-selling Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper said, without citing sources. The range will cover the disputed island chain, the Yomiuri said, adding that the deployment is expected by 2023.

Officials at the Defense Ministry could not be reached for comment. "In light of China's repeated acts of provocation around the Senkaku islands, Japan aims to increase deterrence with improved longrange strike capability," the newspaper stated. The missile will be developed by Japan and will use solid fuel, the Yomiuri said, referring to the technology that allows for weapon's long-term storage and capacity to be launched at short notice. Japan also protested in June after it said a Chinese navy frigate sailed close to territorial waters near the islands for the first time. Tensions over the islands have been a frequent irritant and strained bilateral relations, though tensions had markedly relaxed over the past two years as the countries held talks. — AFP





Two children play in front of a fountain at Palaisplatz square in Dresden, Germany on Saturday. — AP

ONE MONTH AFTER COUP BID, TURKEY TRANSFORMED

ISTANBUL: With a thorough shake-up of its armed forces, a reassessment of foreign policy and the biggest purge in its modern history, Turkey has undergone a transformation in the month since the July 15 coup bid. On the surface, street life has returned to its normal bustle in Istanbul and Ankara, where terrified residents witnessed bombings by fighter jets and tanks driving amok in the streets on the night of the attempted putsch.

At a Strategic Crossroads

But the huge red Turkish flags hanging from public buildings, billboards hailing the coup's defeat and pictures in metro stations of the "martyrs" killed are all reminders that life is not the same as it was before the events which began at around 1900 GMT on July 15. The plotters, whom Ankara says were directed by the mysterious US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen, sought to oust President Recep Tayyip Erdogan from power and impose a military regime. Instead, they were arrested en-masse, giving the president a chance to drive through some of the most significant changes in this country of 79 million since the foundation in 1923 of the modern Turkish Republic out of the ruins of the Ottoman Empire.

The authorities say the coup was driven by rogue Gulen loyalists within the military, which has been a pillar of the Republic since its foundation, and almost one half of its contingent of generals have since been detained and fired. Erdogan has moved to bring the general staff and other military departments directly under his control and that of his government in a historic "civilianization" of an institution that had previously ousted governments three times by means of a coup.

"A revolutionary civilianization process has been spearheaded by the government with the aim of further decreasing the scope of the military in politics and society," Metin Gurcan and Megan Gisclon wrote in a paper for the Istanbul Policy Centre (IPC). They said the authorities could now choose between continuing the reforms in a democratic way or subduing the military without consultation. "A strategic turning point is now before Turkey." So far untouched by the shake-up is the powerful National Intelligence Agency (MIT), which has faced vehement criticism for failing to warn Erdogan about the coup. But the government has vowed it will also undergo restructuring.

'Test to Rebuild'The scale of the general crackdown after the coup

has prompted accusations from the West of a witch-hunt. But Turkish officials say it points to the extent to which Gulen had penetrated all state institutions. Over 76,000 people have been dismissed from their jobs, mostly in the education sector where Gulen's influence was greatest and a total of over 35,000 people detained. Ankara has swatted back the criticism of the West, angrily accusing it of failing to show solidarity in Turkey's time of need and with pro-government media speculating that the United States even had a hand in the plot.

Washington and Ankara could be heading for a collision course over Gulen, whom Turkey wants to see extradited from his secluded compound in Pennsylvania in a potentially fraught process. Meanwhile, Turkey's bid to join the EU that dates back to the 1960s is enduring its worst crisis in years as controversy simmers over the crackdown that prompted Austria to break a years-long taboo and call for accession talks to be stopped. "The failed coup wasn't in any way a test that the EU or US failed...The 'test' is for Turkey to rebuild itself as best it can," said Marc Pierini, a former EU ambassador to Ankara and visiting scholar at Carnegie Europe. "Westbashing won't help Turkey return to normalcy. It will just complicate matters."

Erdogan's popularity has surged in opinion polls and he has brought two opposition parties into talks on constitutional reforms - but has excluded the main Kurdish political force whom he accuses of links to militants.

'Reset with Russia'

The pro-Western tilt of Turkey - a NATO member since 1952 - has been the cornerstone of its foreign policy ever since it troubled the Allies by staying neutral for almost all of World War II. In late June, Turkey moved to overcome a months-long diplomatic crisis caused by the shooting-down of a Russian war plane, and Erdogan's first foreign visit after the coup was to meet President Vladimir Putin, raising fears that Ankara could be re-orientating its stance.

The Turkish leader, who had earlier castigated the West's response to the coup, thanked Putin for expressing support so quickly and declared cooperation on key projects like a Black Sea gas pipeline was back on track. "In contrast to Western leaders, Putin is using the occasion to reset Russian-Turkish relations," said Kemal Kirisci of the Brookings Institution. But he said that with 44 percent of Turkish exports going to the EU in 2014 and 4 percent to Russia, the "bloc is still Turkey's economic lifeline." — AFP

BOKO HARAM VIDEO SHOWS CHIBOK GIRLS

Continued from Page 1

A man wearing camouflage gear in the video called on the government to release Boko Haram fighters in exchange for the girls.

"They should immediately release our brethren in their custody," the man said, warning that if the prisoners are not released the government will never be able to rescue the girls. "They should know that their children are still in our hands," he said in the film posted on YouTube that appears to show some women injured after an air strike. While President Muhammadu Buhari has said the group is "technically defeated", his government has struggled to find the girls, an enduring political embarrassment that highlights Boko Haram's continued presence in the region.

The video was attributed to the original Boko Haram

name, not the new Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), suggesting it was released by Shekau's faction, although it is not known when or where it was filmed. "There are a number of the girls, about 40 of them, that have been married," said the man in the 11-minute video. "Some of them have died as a result of aerial bombardment." A girl speaking in the Chibok dialect chokes back tears as she describes an air strike by Nigerian armed forces. In the background, several girls look visibly distressed and dab their eyes. One is hold-

ing a small baby.

"This focuses on using the girls as a bargaining chip,"
Ryan Cummings, director at intelligence firm Signal
Risk, told AFP. "The video shows that the war effort is
hurting the operations of the group," he said. "It does
have a sense of almost desperation from Boko Haram."
The Nigerian government said it is in contact with those

claiming to be behind the video but was acting cautiously given the leadership split. "Since this is not the first time we have been contacted over the issue, we want to be doubly sure that those we are in touch with are who they claim to be," Information Minister Lai Mohammed said in a statement.

Last week, the shadowy Shekau appeared in a video vowing to fight on, shrugging off an apparent split after he was said to have been replaced by Islamic Statebacked rival Abu Musab Al-Barnawi. Barnawi has criticized Shekau's indiscriminate and brutal leadership in Nigeria that has seen Boko Haram fighters kill thousands of people in mosques and markets and raze entire cities. In March 2015, Shekau pledged allegiance to the Islamic State and changed Boko Haram's name to ISWAP, prompting fears the Nigerian insurgency would be bolstered by its connection to the global jihadists.

However, there have been few signs that Boko Haram has benefited from the alliance, as the Nigerian military recaptures territory once controlled by the insurgents. Over the past year, the military has announced the rescue of hundreds of people, most of

them women and children, who were kidnapped by Boko Haram. But the missing Chibok girls were not among them, despite several unconfirmed sightings.

In the hours that followed the 2014 mass kidnap, dozens of girls managed to escape. Of the 219 still missing, just one was found, Amina Ali, in May this year near the Sambisa Forest area of Borno state, a known Boko Haram hideout. Abubakar Abdullahi, a spokesman for the Bring Back Our Girls movement, told AFP that one of the girls had been identified in what he described as a "heartbreaking" video. "One of our members has recognized a girl. We are still in the process of confirming a few of the girls," Abdullahi said. "We've always believed they will be back, but it's also painful," he said, criticizing the government for being unable to rescue the girls. "The frustration will always be there. We failed them on so many instances."

Boko Haram has been blamed for some 20,000 deaths and displacing more than 2.6 million people since it launched a brutal insurgency in Nigeria in 2009 that has since spread into several neighboring countries.—AFP

MUSTACHE! RASHIDI WINS FANS' HEARTS

Continued from Page 1

Without a national uniform, Rashidi wore an Arsenal jersey for the competition, prompting the question of whether he was a supporter of the English Premier League football club. "I don't know, I just bought it," he said. Like his compatriot Fehaid Al-Deehani, who won gold in the men's double trap event this week, he was sad that Kuwait's flag did not go up the pole. "Anybody who doesn't see his flag, he dies," said Rashidi. "I need my flag, this is better for me. But what can I do? Maybe after a gold and bronze we can compete again with our flag, inshallah (god willing)," added Rashidi.

The IOC suspended Kuwait in Oct 2015, accusing the government of interference in its national Olympic Committee. Grillo did not even know that Kuwait was banned from the Games, forcing Rashidi to compete under the Olympic flag. "That's really cool that he won then, I am so happy for him," said Grillo.

Rashidi, who trains falcons when he's not shooting, has a long shooting history. Rashidi's Olympic debut came at the 1996 Atlanta Games and Rio was his sixth time on sport's biggest stage. A three-time world champion, he had never earned an Olympic medal, though; Rio was his first final. Rashidi tied as the top qualifier in Rio and became an instant fan favorite once the finals begin

ne finals begin. The capacity crowd, most of it Brazilian, latched on to the underdog in the Arsenal jersey and cheered wildly when he was introduced and with every target he shattered. Rashidi played up to the adulation, waving his arms and pumping his fists to their cheers during introductions, spurring the fans even more. Rashidi ended the semifinals in a three-way tie with Denmark's Jesper Hansen and Stefan Nilsson, forcing a shoot-off for a spot in the bronze medal match. He shot last in the threesome and the crowd knew he had a chance to move on after Hansen and Nilsson each missed one, screaming and waving flags before the Kuwaiti's turn

waving flags before the Kuwaiti's turn.

Playing the showman again, he raised his gun in the air and flashed a thumb's up as the cheers continued. An official at Rashidi's station tried to urge the Kuwaiti shooter to take his turn, but he shrugged and pointed at the crowd as if to say, "What am I supposed to do?" He hit both shots, setting off another round of cheers and a shot at the bronze against Ukraine's Mikola Milchev. Rashidi was perfect in the bronze medal match. He raised his arms in the air, dropped to his knees and kissed the ground. He rose and threw his hat in the air as the crowd chanted in Portuguese: "Ole, ole, ole, Mustache!" "We like his mustache, so we start to chant," one Brazilian fan said.

The man with the mustache soaked in the adulation, again raising his arms after receiving his bronze medal as another chant about his facial hair rang out across the Olympic Shooting Centre. "I am happy. I don't know why they help me, but thank you," Rashidi said.— Agencies

IMAM, ASSISTANT GUNNED DOWN NEAR NY...

Continued from Page 1

The working-class area where the victims were killed, on the border between Queens and Brooklyn, is home to many Muslim families from Bangladesh

to many Muslim families from Bangladesh.

"The NYPD is looking at all angles of this crime, including the hate crime (angle)," Sarah Sayeed of the New York mayor's office said. However, Muslim community representatives condemned what they see as a toxic climate of hatred. "Please, read my lips. This is a hate crime, no matter which way you look at it," Kobir Chowdhury, who heads the nearby Masjid Al-Aman mosque in Brooklyn, said. "It's hate against humanity, it's hate against Muslims, these are Islamophobes who are causing these kind of troubles." Hundreds of local residents rallied near the crime scene chanting, "We want justice!"

During a vigil outside the Al-Furqan Jame Masjid mosque, the faithful prayed, heads bent and palms facing the sky. "Imagine your father gunned down for no reason, and then let that feeling, let that motivate you to come out of your silence," Afaf Nasher, director of the New York chapter of the Council on American-Islamic

Relations (CAIR), said at a tense news conference in front of the mosque. "When we stay silent we allow crimes to continue to occur," she said. "So every single one of us shares in this responsibility. And let's not forget the victims who are essential to all of this."

Imam Akonjee had moved to the United States from Bangladesh two years ago, US media reported. "He would not hurt a fly," his nephew Rahi Majid, told the New York Daily News. "You would watch him come down the street and watch the peace he brings." US Representative Nydia Velazquez tweeted that she was "horrified" by the shooting.

"All NYers must stand united in condemning acts like these," she said. The neighborhood's city council representative Eric Ulrich tweeted that he stood "in strong solidarity with all Muslim New Yorkers tonight as we mourn the killings". "When a religious leader is killed in broad daylight on the streets of Queens, we must come together as a community and demand justice!" he wrote. Last year, hate crimes against Muslims and mosques across the country tripled following extremist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, California, the New York Times reported.— AFP



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> > **Focus**

POSTCARD FROM ITALY: LOVELY NOW. STORMS ON HORIZON

By Angus MacKinnon

n a sign of how good a summer it has been in Italy, coastguards are threatening holidaymakers with fines for bagging beach spots by parking deckchairs and towels overnight. From Sicily to Venice, the "novacancies" signs are up and sunlounger spaces are thin on the sand as the country's holiday resorts operate at full capacity in the busiest week of the year. Prime Minister Matteo Renzi must wish the same could be said for the rest of his country's flagging economy.

Weighed down by sluggish domestic demand and a bad debt-laden banking sector's inability to finance investment, the eurozone's third biggest economy ground to a standstill in the second quarter of 2016. That was bad news for Renzi, who has staked his political future on a constitutional reform referendum scheduled for November and has to produce a 2017 budget by mid-October.

The 41-year-old former mayor of Florence admitted last week it was a mistake to make the referendum personal, by vowing to quit if voters reject his proposed reforms of parliament and the electoral system. The vote is shaping up as a referendum on Renzi's two and a half years in office and polls suggest it will be a close-run thing.

The 'Maximum Possible'

Analysts say Renzi needs a budget that will get voters back on side and his ministers began outlining his plans this weekend. Economic Development Minister Carlo Calenda indicated Rome plans to ignore EU guidance on the country's budget deficit by unveiling an expansionary package. Data published on Friday showed the Italian economy failed to grow between the first and second quarters of this year. That means the government will now have to reduce forecasts of growth of 1.2 percent for this year and 1.4 percent in 2017, with knock-on effects on its deficit reduction plans.

"I can't hide the fact that the room for manoeuvre is tight," Calenda said, revealing talks with Brussels on how to stimulate investment were already under way. Calenda implied the 2017 budget deficit will be allowed to run higher than previously planned, possibly up to the three percent of GDP ceiling enshrined in the eurozone's rules. The Commission has set Italy a deficit target of 1.8 percent for 2017 - an adjustment it says is necessary to reverse the upward trend in the country's huge debt, which hit a record of just under € 2.25 trillion (\$2.51 trillion) in June. "We have already obtained a lot of flexibility. We intend to ask for more, the maximum possible, but always within the rules," Calenda said.

'Better Devil You Know'

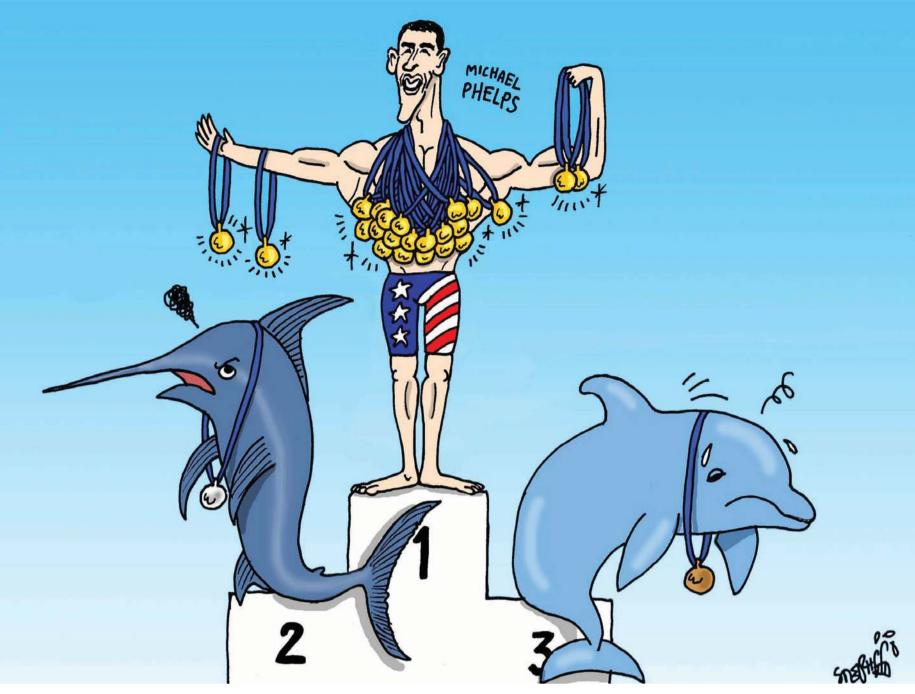
Renzi has already floated elements of a possible reflationary package. These include pension increases for the poorest pensioners and an anti-poverty program funded from the 500 million euros of annual savings projected to arise from one of the cornerstones of constitutional reform: The abolition of the lavishly financed Senate. Infrastructure minister Graziano Delrio said Sunday the government is planning to hit the ground running in September by initiating, restarting or refinancing a string of major public works.

The plans include an acceleration of the construction of a new Brenner rail tunnel between Italy and Austria, linking Genoa's port to the high-speed rail network and a cross country high-speed train link between Naples and Bari, as well as several motorway projects. Economic daily II Sole 24 Ore said the envisaged measures would have a short-term cost of four billion euros.

Renzi has also mooted bringing forward income-tax cuts planned for 2018 to next year in a bid to appease voters frustrated by years of falling real incomes. A senior EU official familiar with Italy's negotiations told AFP that Renzi would be able to twist arms in Brussels because of concern about the implications of him possibly losing the referendum and acting on his pledge to step down. "Better the devil you know! If Renzi goes, who knows who will replace him," the official said on condition of anonymity.

A Renzi departure would be expected to lead to early elections which, current polls suggest, could be topped by the populist and increasingly popular Five Star Movement. The movement founded by comedian Beppe Grillo officially supports a referendum on an 'Italexit' from the eurozone. Although it has played down that commitment of late, the prospect of it coming to power would send fresh shockwaves across Europe after the Brexit vote. —AFP

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THE GOLD, AGONY AND CONTENTMENT OF PHELPS

By Rebecca Bryan

ichael Phelps' past and present converged at the Rio Olympics in a last explosion of gold for a swimming icon who showed he is more than a "medal machine". After amassing 22 medals, 18 of them gold, in four prior campaigns, Phelps delivered an epic ending to his Olympic saga in Rio de Janeiro, powering to five gold medals and one silver in seven days. He leaves Rio with 28 medals to his name, 23 of them gold. No other athlete in any sport comes close. In a departure from Games past, Phelps' fifth Olympics offered a glimpse not only of a sporting great relentless in pursuit of success but also of a man buoyed by warm relationships heading purposefully into a post-swimming life.

That was not a picture presented before by Phelps, not as a young striver in his first Olympics at 15 in Sydney in 2000, not in Athens in 2004 where he arrived working his way up into the heavyweights alongside Ian Thorpe and Pieter van den Hoogenband.

Haunted Star

It certainly wasn't the Phelps of 2008 in Beijing, when the unprecedented achievement of eight gold medals at a single Games required an isolating determination and focus. London 2012 was supposed to provide the fond farewell. And it wasn't until after the fact that Phelps lifted the curtain to reveal the anger and unhappiness of those Games, when he wanted nothing more than to be done with swimming. Despite four gold medals and two silvers, Phelps was "haunted" by knowing he failed to prepare as he could have and particularly stung by the loss of the 200m butterfly title he surrendered

Phelps said he had felt himself "starting to crack" with emotion as he went to the Rio pool Saturday where he played a decisive role in his final relay victory. "This is how I wanted to finish my career. I've lived a dream come true. Being able to cap it off with these Games is just the perfect way to finish," said the 31-year-old. Rio, according Phelps' coach of 20 years Bob Bowman, was the swimmer's chance to fashion the ending he deserved. "He mentions it all the time that he wants to go out on his own terms - on good terms, not 'Let's get out of here," Bowman said.

But a comeback launched in 2014 ground to a halt within months when Phelps' personal demons caught up with him in a Maryland tunnel. He was clocked driving 84 mph (135 km/h) in a 45 mph zone while under the influence of alcohol. The incident launched Phelps on

in personal trauma and addiction treatment.

Reconnection There Phelps, who after his parents' divorce was

brought up by his mother, Debbie, reconnected with his estranged father. That renewed relationship has taken on even greater resonance since Phelps became a father. Fiancee Nicole Johnson gave birth to their son, Boomer, in May, Johnson and Boomer were front and center in Rio, Phelps sealing the celebration of his longed for 200m fly victory with a tender kiss for the baby

boy as the Olympic crowd roared. It was the kind of expansive public demonstration the old Phelps rarely allowed himself, just as the old Phelps wouldn't have let himself get too emotional on the 200m medley medal stand, knowing he had a 100m butterfly semi coming up. "That was nice to see. actually." said Bowman, adding that in the past he would have counseled Phelps not to bask in the moment but to "build the fire up in you while you're hearing the national anthem". "He's usually like a machine on those," Bowman said, invoking a word often used in connection with Phelps.

Bowman has called Phelps a "motivation machine" spurred to action by the slightest snub, and the sheer number of his triumphs have earned him the reputation of a "medal machine". Bowman, however, said each one of those golds was the product of sweat and stress. "Every one of those was hard," Bowman said. "Maybe the very first one was the easiest one. After that they've all been super-hard."

Bowman, who first detected the determination he cites as Phelps' greatest asset when he began coaching the 11year-old swimmer, has lived through some stormy times with Phelos. He watched as Phelps fought through youthful scandals including his first drink-driving charge at 19 and a tabloid ruckus over a picture of Phelps with a marijuana pipe in 2009. Their relationship hit rock bottom as London approached, but Bowman said Phelps

a "brutal" personal journey that included a stay at a facility specializing in Rio is really changed. Phelps soaked up aspects of the Olympic experience he previously ignored - serving as a captain on the US team for the first time, carrying the US flag at the opening ceremony he had never

before attended.

Loving it Then he dived in and did what Michael Phelps does, helping the US to gold in the 4x100m and 4x200m freestyle relays, avenging his 2012 200m fly loss to le Clos and notching his fourth straight 200m individual medley title. Even his lone silver - to Singapore sensation Joseph Schooling in the 100m fly - carried a whiff of the extraordinary: It was a rare three-way tie with le Clos and Phelps' longtime Hungarian rival Laszlo Cseh. "I think he wants to wrap it up knowing that he gave everything and prepared well did it the right way," Bowman said. "And he loves it." His success in the pool - far from assured when the Games began, begs the question, "how do you not come back?" "I just don't see it happening," Bowman said. "I think he's in such a good place personally he doesn't need it. "I think he's got a lot to do, I think he has a plan for what he's going to do with his life, and he's just in a good

place." —AFP

PORSCHE TRAINING PRIZE FOR LUCKY FEW REFUGEES

By Estelle Peard

mmar Alkhouli "dreamed of owning a Porsche" when he lived in Syria, but he never imagined that he would one day get training from the German automobile giant to help build its luxury cars. Aged just 19, Ammar was one of 13 asylum seekers to be offered a place on a refugee integration scheme launched by the Stuttgart-based company in March this year, in response to the massive influx of refugees to Germany in 2015.

Porsche wanted to "show the welcoming German culture and allow people to establish themselves as well and as quickly as possible," technical training director Norbert Goeggerle explains. In this first year there were around 100 candidates for the five-month course, which offered German language, history and culture classes and coaching through the bureaucracy as well as instruction on business and technical

Participants, hailing from Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Syria and aged between 16 and 38, were each paid a monthly stipend of Ä250 (\$280). Now Ammar has secured a three-year apprenticeship as a mechatronics technician, a job where "you can dismantle and reassemble the engine," he explains, his eyes gleaming with excitement.

When he arrived in Germany two years earlier, it was far from a given that Ammar would make such progress. He didn't speak a single word of Goethe's language - a far cry from the confident sentences he now produces with a slight accent. "I fled for Germany because the situation in Syria is very bad, you can't live well there," he said. "My German friends tell me I was lucky to be at Porsche and that I had to make the most of it," he added.

Porsche, a subsidiary of car behemoth





Ammar Alkhouli, a 19-year-old refugee from Syria, works on a Porsche 911 Carrera S (left), while Zaryab Imran, an 18-year-old refugee from Pakistan, glues a piece of leather in the saddlery (right) at the training center of Porsche AG in Stuttgart, southwestern Germany, on July 27, 2016. —AFP

Volkswagen and a synonym for German engineering excellence, is a sought-after employer even among Germans. The firm is well-known for paying workers generous annual bonuses - which this year amounted to more than Ä8,000 per person.

'Punctual and Reliable'

Most of the refugees spoke very little German at the beginning of their five-month course. But training director Goeggerle was impressed by their "extremely strong motivation". "We explained to them that the idea wasn't to offer them a job at Porsche, but they said to themselves, 'If I give it my all, it might work out, and we noticed that. They were always punctual and very reliable," he said.

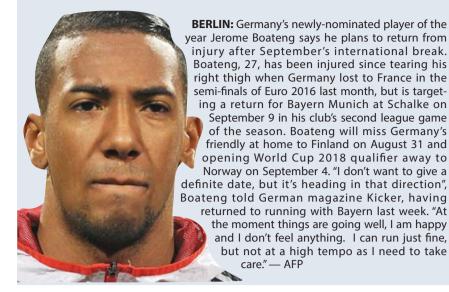
Another participant, Zaryab Imran, 18, had never heard of the carmaker when she arrived in Germany in April 2015. "I wasn't safe in Pakistan," she explains in more hesitant German. But she has secured a further training place at Porsche, heading for an apprenticeship, after she showed an interest in the cars' leather-upholstered interiors. In fact, most of the 13 participants will stay at Porsche for multidisciplinary training, apprenticeships or even a full job offer on the produc-

While Porsche isn't short of applicants, German business is well aware that over the long term the refugees could be a boon to the country's economy. Many business leaders welcomed 2015's influx as a potential source of new labor, at a time when Europe's biggest economy is struggling with an ageing population that is resulting in shortages of skilled labor in critical sectors like automobiles.

But refugees won't be a quick fix, as it will in most cases take years of education and training to prepare them for work in a German factory. Many large- and medium-sized business have launched initiatives to try and smooth refugees' paths onto the labor market. They've often found themselves blocked by complex bureaucracy, language barriers or the candidates' lack of qualifications. —AFP



JEROME BOATENG PLANS SEPTEMBER COMEBACK



POWER SURGE AT GOLF AS ROSE, STENSON TEE OFF

RIO DE JANEIRO: Ireland's Seamus Power birdied five of the first six holes yesterday to charge into medal contention as British leader Justin Rose teed off in the final round of the Rio Olympic men's golf tournament. Power, whose longest birdie putt was a 14-footer at the fourth, earned a Rio spot only after countrymen Rory McIlroy, Graeme McDowell and Shane Lowry turned down the chance to play in Rio. But he appeared ready to make the most of his chance as he reached six under for the tournament, level for fourth but still three shots out of a medal spot. Rose, the 2013 US Open champion, was on 12-under 201 for 54 holes in quest of the first Olympic golf title in 112 years with fifth-ranked Henrik Stenson of Sweden only one stroke adrift. The 36-year-old Englishman teed off alongside Stenson, who won last month's British Open for his first major crown, and 90th-ranked Australian Marcus Fraser, who was on nine under. Fraser only became an Olympian after four countrymen, including top-ranked Jason Day, decided to skip Rio. Sharing fourth alongside Power were American Bubba Watson, Argentina's Emiliano Grillo and Sweden's David Lingmerth. — AFP

RIO KO LEAVES SUPER HEAVY BOXER OUT COLD

RIO DE JANEIRO: Super-heavyweight Efe Ajagba left his opponent sprawled on the floor and initially unconscious Saturday after the Nigerian big man delivered the most emphatic knockout of the Rio Olympic boxing. Trinidad and Tobago's Nigel Paul was toppled by a devastating right hook in the first round that left him out cold for a few seconds, as doctors and officials clambered through the ropes and rushed to his motionless body in the centre of the ring. Relief however coursed throughout the 9,000-seat arena when Paul, 27, began to gingerly climb to his feet and staggered back to his corner with support, where he slumped in his stool. He earned the biggest cheer of the night when it was apparent that he had recovered enough to stand in the ring for the official declaration signalling that his Olympics had come to a savage end. — AFP

CUBS' 11-GAME WIN STREAK ENDS, GRICHUK SLAM PROPELS CARDINALS

CHICAGO: Randal Grichuk hit a grand slam to cap a six-run burst in the eighth inning and the St Louis Cardinals stopped the Cubs' 11-game winning streak, beating Chicago 8-4 on Saturday. After a run-scoring wild pitch and a bases-loaded walk with two outs in the eighth put the Cardinals ahead 4-2, Grichuk connected. Brandon Moss and Jedd Gyorko also homered for St. Louis. Addison Russell hit his 14th homer for the NL Central-leading Cubs. Alex Reves (1-0) pitched three scoreless innings of relief to get the win. St. Louis starter Luke Weaver gave up two runs on four hits in his major league debut. The 22 year-old was lifted for a pinch hitter after four innings and 85 pitches. Carl Edwards Jr. (0-1) allowed five runs while getting only two outs. Chicago starter Kyle Hendricks struck out 12, matching a career best, in seven innings. He gave up five hits, including two homers. His ERA rose slightly from 2.17 to 2.19.

YANKEES 8, RAYS 4

Tyler Austin and Aaron Judge became the first teammates to hit home runs in the first at-bats of their major league debuts in the same game, sparking New York past Tampa Bay. And New York's 24-year-old newbies did it back-to-back in a five-pitch span during the second inning. Called up before the game as part of a youth movement that led to Alex Rodriguez's release, Austin batted seventh and sliced a 2-2 fastball from Matt Andriese (6-4) to the opposite field. The 331-foot drive down the right-field line landed in the first row over the short porch, about 3 feet fair. Judge drove a 1-2 changeup 446 feet off the railing above a sports bar in center field and into the netting above Monument Park. Aaron Hicks hit a three-run homer in fifth for a 6-3 lead, and Starlin Castro and Didi Gregorius also went deep. Brad Miller homered twice for Tampa Bay, a three-run drive and a solo shot off Masahiro Tanaka (9-4).

INDIANS 5, ANGELS 1

Rookie Mike Clevinger took a no-hitter into the sixth inning to get his first major league win and Cleveland one-hit Los Angeles. Andrelton Simmons got Los Angeles' only hit on a grounder with two outs in the sixth. Shortstop Francisco Lindor got his glove on the ball while ranging to his right, but it bounced into left field for a single. Clevinger (1-1) was removed after that to a standing ovation. The right-hander allowed one run, struck out three, walked four and threw 91 pitches. Clevinger was drafted by the Angels in 2011 and traded to the Indians three years later for reliever Vinnie Pestano. Matt Shoemaker (6-13) allowed five runs in six innings for the Angels, who have dropped nine straight, their longest losing streak since 1999.

GIANTS 6, ORIOLES 2

Madison Bumgarner snapped a five-start winless streak with seven shutout innings, Denard Span had four RBIs and San Francisco beat Baltimore. Bumgarner (11-7) had lost five of his previous seven decisions. He allowed just three hits, struck out eight and allowed three walks. The victory kept the Giants alone atop the NL West, a game ahead of Los Angeles. The Orioles fell out of first place in the AL East, a half-game behind Toronto. Span sparked the Giants with two-run singles in the second and sixth innings. Both came with two outs. Santiago Casilla faced one batter to get his 27th save. Kevin Gausman (3-10) was the loser.

DODGERS 8, PIRATES 4

Joc Pederson homered and Los Angeles had 17 hits and a pair of successful challenges in victory over Pittsburgh. Pederson had his 17th homer, a two-run shot and finished with three hits. Corey Seager also three hits and an RBI, and Los Angeles overcame a 3-1 deficit by scoring in each of the first six innings. Jung Ho Kang hit his 12th home run for the Pirates. After Dodgers starter Brandon McCarthy was forced from the game in the second inning with right hip stiffness, Josh Fields, Julio Urias (3-2), Joe Blanton, Pedro Baez, Josh Ravin and Kenley Jansen combined to hold Pittsburgh to one run over 7 1/3 innings. Jansen got his 35th save. Gerrit Cole (7-8) gave up 12 hits and six runs in 4 1/3 innings.

PHILLIES 6, ROCKIES 3

Maikel Franco hit a three-run homer, then was in the middle of a testy exchange that led to the benches clearing and a pair of ejections in Philadelphia's victory over Colorado. On a hot, humid evening with a gametime temperature of 93 degrees and a heat index of 105, tempers flared in the fourth inning. Rockies starter Tyler Anderson (4-4) plunked Franco on the leg with his first pitch. Franco, who homered in his previous at-bat, stayed at home plate and stared out at Anderson while players from both teams



CHICAGO: Randal Grichuk #15 of the St Louis Cardinals follows the flight of his grand slam home run in the 8th inning against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field on Saturday in Chicago, Illinois. — AFP

barked at each other. Anderson moved toward Franco and appeared to tell him to go to first base and that he didn't hit him intentionally. No punches were thrown but both Anderson and Rockies manager Walt Weiss were ejected by plate umpire Eric Cooper. Anderson had to be restrained while walking angrily back to the dugout. Philadelphia's Cesar Hernandez had two hits to extend his on-base streak to 20 games. Daniel Descalso and Tony Wolters homered for Colorado, and Carlos Gonzalez extended his major league-leading hitting streak to 19 games. Jerad Eickhoff (8-12) was the winner, and Jeanmar Gomez finished for his 30th save.

METS 3, PADRES 2, 11 INNINGS

Wilmer Flores drove in the winning run when rookie second baseman Ryan Schimpf made a wild throw to plate in the 11th inning, and New York brushed off two stunning homers to beat San Diego. Just called up from the minors, Gabriel Ynoa (1-0) pitched a perfect inning to win his major league debut after Jacob deGrom gave the Mets a dominant start. Flores finished with three hits, and the defending NL champions (58-58) won for only the fourth time in their last 17 home games. Yangervis Solarte and Wil Myers each hit a tying homer for the Padres. Myers connected off All-Star closer Jeurys Familia with two outs in the ninth. Neil Walker singled against Brandon Maurer (0-3) leading off the 11th and alertly hustled to third with one out on James Loney's soft single to left field as the Padres, caught

in a defensive shift, scrambled to cover the bag. With the infield playing halfway, Flores hit a grounder over the mound that was fielded in front of second base by Schimpf. Rather than try for an inning-ending double play, Schimpf fired home and his throw sailed well wide as Walker slid in safely.

BLUE JAYS 4, ASTROS 2

Russell Martin hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the sixth inning, Aaron Sanchez pitched seven innings to help Toronto end Houston's winning streak at four. Sanchez (12-2) survived a shaky first inning to win for the first time since July 25 against San Diego. Jason Grilli pitched the eighth and Roberto Osuna finished for his 26th save. Josh Donaldson homered off Collin McHugh (7-10) in the first, his 28th of the season. Toronto has won seven of nine meetings with the Astros this season. Houston's Jose Altuve had two hits, a double and a triple, giving him 997 for his career. Altuve has reached safely in 43 straight road games.

NATIONALS 7, BRAVES 6

Daniel Murphy hit a two-run homer and drove in four runs, rookie Reynaldo Lopez pitched seven innings for his first major league win and Washington beat Atlanta. Trea Turner had three hits, including a homer and one of Washington's three triples. Ben Revere had the other two and drove in a run for the NL East leaders. The Nationals played their fifth straight game without injured right field-

er Bryce Harper and first without former closer Jonathan Papelbon, who was released before the game to make room on the roster for Lopez (1-1). The right-handed Lopez allowed one run and five hits. Mark Melancon got the final three outs for his 33rd save. Rob Whalen (1-1) was the loser.

TWINS 5, ROYALS 3

Brian Dozier hit his 25th home run of the season and the 100th of his career, leading Tyler Duffey and Minnesota past Kansas City. Dozier has 17 homers since June 25, most in the majors over that span. He also doubled and scored twice to held the Twins end a four-game losing streak. Robbie Grossman also homered. For the second time this season, the Twins homered three times off Royals starter Dillon Gee (4-6). Eddie Rosario's two-run shot in the fifth inning put the Twins ahead 4-1. Dozier followed him with a towering drive deep into the second deck in left. Duffey (8-8) won for the third time in three starts this month. Ryan Pressly pitched a scoreless eighth, and Brandon Kintzler finished for the save.

WHITE SOX 8, MARLINS 7

Dioner Navarro scored the go-ahead run on a strikeout, capping a bizarre eighth-inning comeback in Chicago's comeback victory over Miami. The White Sox blew an early 4-0 lead and trailed 7-6 to start the eighth. They rallied against Kyle Barraclough (6-3) with the help of a walk, two wild pitches and Justin Morneau's first pinch-hit of the year, a double. After Morneau tied it, the Sox had runners at the corners with two out. Melky Cabrera took a weak swing at a 2-2 pitch in the dirt, but the ball skipped away from catcher J.T. — AP

MLB results/standings

NY Yankees 8, Tampa Bay 4; Toronto 4, Houston 2; St. Louis 8, Chicago Cubs 4; LA Dodgers 8, Pittsburgh 4; Washington 7, Atlanta 6; Philadelphia 6, Colorado 3; Boston 6, Arizona 3; Chicago White Sox 8, Miami 7; Cincinnati 11, Milwaukee 5; Minnesota 5, Kansas City 3; Cleveland 5, LA Angels 1; NY Mets 3, San Diego 2 (11 innings); Detroit 2, Texas 0; San Francisco 6, Baltimore 2; Seattle 4, Oakland 3.

		n League Division		
	W	L	PCT	GB
Toronto	66	51	.564	-
Baltimore	65	51	.560	0.5
Boston	63	52	.548	2
NY Yankees	60	56	.517	5.5
Tampa Bay	46	69	.400	19
		Division		
Cleveland	66	48	.579	-
Detroit	62	54	.534	5
Chicago White Sox	56	60	.483	11
Kansas City	56	60	.483	11
Minnesota	47	70	.402	20.5
V		Division		
Texas	69	49	.585	-
Seattle	61	54	.530	6.5
Houston	61	56	.521	7.5
Oakland	52	65	.444	16.5
LA Angels	49	67	.422	19
		l League		
_		Division		
Washington	68	47	.591	-
Miami	60	56	.517	8.5
NY Mets	58	58	.500	10.5
Philadelphia	55	63	.466	14.5
Atlanta	44	73	.376	25
		Division		
Chicago Cubs	73	42	.635	-
St. Louis	61	56	.521	13
Pittsburgh	58	56	.509	14.5
Milwaukee	51	64	.443	22
Cincinnati	48	67	.417	25
		Division		
San Francisco	66	50	.569	-
LA Dodgers	65	51	.560	1
Colorado	56	61	.479	10.5
San Diego	50	66	.431	16
Arizona	48	68	.414	18

XEROX CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE 2016

JOHANNESBURG: The Els Club Copperleaf, Johannesburg, will host the sixth qualifying round of the Xerox Corporate Golf Challenge on Thursday, 18th August. This is the 19th consecutive year that this tournament is being conducted, and South Africa is the only country outside the Arabian Gulf countries to host a full-field invitational qualifying round

In this qualifier, invited golfers from across Johannesburg (South Africa) will form two-player teams and challenge the Ernie Els designed, 7,999 yard course, for a berth in the 2-day grand finals to be played later this year in Ajman, United Arab Emirates.

Head of Marketing for Xerox Middle East & Africa Region, Pui-ChiLi, said "We are happy to be back in South Africa for another year and bring the Xerox Corporate Golf Challenge to avid golfers from across Johannesburg. Securing a berth at the grand final is proving to be a mark of pride for our region's golfers, and we're looking forward

to seeing some great golf during this qualifier." The Els Club Copperleaf features an 18-hole championship course with an enormous driving range and putting green offering guaranteed five-star golfing experience, along with the ideal way to golf competitions with landscaped recreational areas.

New on-course competition this year is the King of Pars, sponsored by deVere Acuma. The teams that perform best on Pars 3, 4 and 5 win prizes as well as entry into the 'Golden Ticket' draw, which will bring a wild-card entry into the 2016 Grand Final.

This years' Xerox Corporate Golf Challenge is supported by the Emirate of Ajman, as 2016 host city, and destination partners include the Ajman Palace, Ajman Kempinski, and Ajman Saray. Fairmont Ajman hotels and Ajman's Al Zorah Golf Club are venue sponsor for the 2016 Grand Final. Other sponsors of the tournament include deVere Acuma, Chrysler, and Select Property.







NO 31 TOYOTA PRIUS APR GT WINS ROUND 4 OF 2016

AUTOBACS SUPER GT300 SERIES

KUWAIT: The No 31 TOYOTA PRIUS apr GT made it a memorable outing with a first place finish in Round 4 of the 2016 AUTOBACS SUPER GT (GT300 class). Driven by Koki Saga and Yuichi Nakayama, the No. 31 car had its first win of the season in a competitive race. The No. 25 VivaC 86 MC driven by Takeshi Tsuchiya and Takamitsu Matsui took second place to make it two podium finishes for Tovota. The race took place recently at the Sportsland SUGO in Miyagi prefecture, Japan.

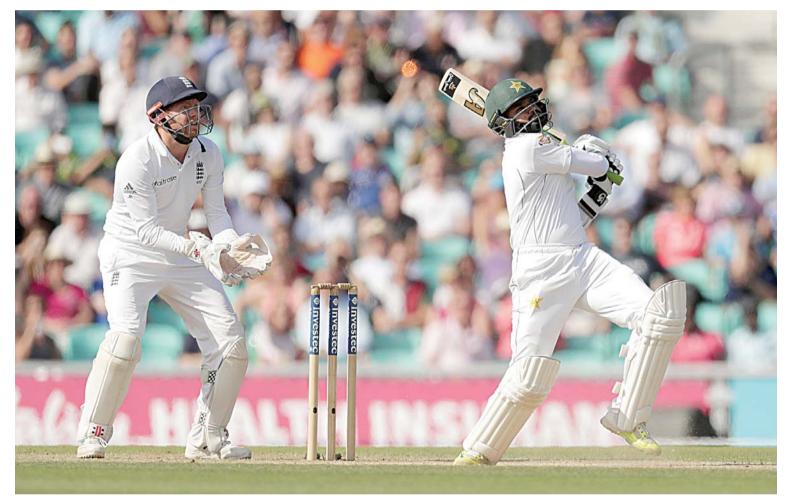
At the start of the race, the No. 25 VivaC 86 MC (Takeshi Tsuchiya) was in pole position with the No. 31 TOYOTA PRIUS apr GT (Koki Saga) in third place. The No. 25 VivaC 86 MC maintained its lead till the 25th lap where it lost its lead. The Toyota cars bided their time during the rest of the race till the 61st lap, when Nakayama in car No. 31 took advantage of an opportunity and managed to get into the lead. After that, the leading car No. 31 continued to maintain a gap of three seconds over car No. 25 now in second place.

In lap 71 however, there was a car crash and the red flag came out to stop the race for safety reasons. The race was officially ended with six laps remaining. According to the regulation, the final finishing order was decided by the running order on the lap prior to the red flag. With this, the No. 31 TOYOTA PRIUS apr GT got its first win of the season. Round 5 of the 2016 championship now takes place in Fuji on August 6-7,

According to Takayuki Yoshitsugu, Chief Representative, Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, Toyota Motor Corporation, "in the competitive environment of motorsports, the No. 31 TOYOTA PRIUS apr GT Toyota Prius showed its versatility and racing credentials with a superb win followed by the No. 25 VivaC 86 MC Toyota 86. I would like to congratulate the teams for their excellent performance."

He added: "Toyota places a lot of emphasis on participation in motorsports for the insights it generates while testing the cars in such demanding conditions. This in turn helps to develop ever better cars for our customers. We sincerely appreciate the support of our customers for our motorsports activities."





LONDON: Pakistan's Azhar Ali hits a six for the winning runs during day four of the Fourth Test match against England at The Oval in London, vesterday. —AP

PAKISTAN WIN 4TH TEST TO DRAW ENGLAND SERIES

LONDON: Yasir Shah took five wickets as Pakistan marked the country's Independence Day with a 10wicket win over England in the fourth Test at The Oval yesterday.

Victory saw Pakistan end the four-match series all square at 2-2 on an Oval ground where they won their first Test match in England back in 1954. England, 88 for four overnight, were dismissed for 253 in their second innings, with Shah taking five for 71 in 29 overs after Jonny Bairstow top-scored with 81.

That left Pakistan needing just 40 to win after excellent hundreds by man-of-the-match Younis Khan (218) and Asad Shafig (109) had helped them compile a commanding first-innings total of 542. Azhar

Ali (30 not out) ended the match by hitting Moeen Ali for a straight six as Pakistan finished on 42 without

Sami Aslam was 12 not out as Pakistan bounced back from their 141-run defeat in the third Test at Edgbaston in style. Pakistan remain third in the world Test rankings but, following this win, could rise to number one if results in Sri Lanka and the West Indies go their way.

England resumed in trouble at 88 for four, 126 runs adrift, after Shah had ripped through the top order with three for 15 late on Saturday. Gary Ballance was four not out and Jonny Bairstow 14 not out. Ballance though was out for 17 when, playing carelessly away

from his body, he was caught

behind off Sohail Khan. New batsman Moeen Ali had frustrated Pakistan with a firstinnings 108 and shared a partnership of 93 with Bairstow. But Ali fell for 32 when he went back defensively to Shah and got a thin edge which wicket-keeper Sarfraz Ahmed held at the second attempt to end a stand of 65.

England were 194 for six at lunch, still 20 behind, with Bairstow 70 not out.

DOUBLE STRIKE

But they lost two wickets in two balls soon afterwards to be 209 for eight. Chris Woakes, backing up too far and deceived as Bairstow set

off, was run out for a duck by bowler Wahab Riaz's direct hit on the non-striker's stumps. Next ball, Bairstow chipped Riaz straight to Azhar in the covers to end a 127ball innings featuring eight fours.

Bairstow has now scored 992 Test runs in 2016 and is in sight of breaking Zimbabwe great Andy Flower's record for most Test runs scored by a wicket-keeper in a calendar year of 1,045 set in 2000. Shah, who took 10 wickets during Pakistan's 75-run win in the first Test across London at Lord's, enjoyed further success in the capital when Stuart Broad (five) reverse swept-him straight to Younis at first slip-an extraordinary shot given England's position.

But with Riaz removed from the attack by the umpires for running on the pitch, England's last-wicket pair of Finn and James Anderson added 32 before Anderson was Ibw, sweeping, to debutant off-spinner Iftikhar Ahmed. England then saw fast bowler Finn leave the field injured after pulling up just two balls into the second over of Pakistan's chase with what appeared to be a hamstring injury.

This was Pakistan's first Test series in England since the controversial 2010 tour, which saw then captain Salman Butt and pace bowlers Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Amir handed five-year bans and jail terms for deliberately bowling no-balls in a spot-fixing scandal during that year's Lord's

Pakistan now travel to Ireland for two one-day internationals next week before returning to England for five ODIs and a Twenty20. —AFP

KOHLI JOY AS INDIA ROUT W INDIES TO WIN SERIES

ST LUCIA: India crushed West Indies at the third test in St Lucia on Saturday, clinching the series and prompting captain Virat Kohli to say his team were going from "strength to strength".

The touring side won by 237 runs on the fifth and final day after bowling out West Indies for 108, the second lowest score by the hosts against India in the Caribbean.

The victory gave Kohli's men an unassailable 2-0 lead in the four-match series and ended a streak of six consecutive series defeats outside Asia. Paceman Mohammed Shami was the chief destroyer with three for 15 while spinner Ravindra Jadeja and fast bowler Ishant Sharma took two wickets apiece.

"The credit goes to the whole squad, the way they have responded to the challenges," Kohli said at the presentation ceremony. "We always aim to win matches, win series, especially away from India, and this has been a very good start."

The West Indies collapse was dismal apart from an assured 59 by number three Darren Bravo. India had not won or drawn a series outside the subcontinent since their triumph in West Indies in 2011. They have now won three straight series in

the Caribbean after losing seven of their first eight. The touring side won the third test despite losing a day to rain at the Darren Sammy Stadium in Gros Islet. Anil Kumble took over as coach in June on a mission to improve the team's miserable form away from the sub-continent.

A 2-1 series victory in Sri Lanka last August was a promising sign but sceptics wondered if India could replicate that display on a different conti-

POSITIVE CULTURE

Man of the match Ravichandran Ashwin said a positive squad culture was an integral part of their success. "Honesty is one thing that is really prevalent in this group," said all-rounder Ashwin who scored a first innings century.

"Nobody is worried about speaking their mind which is a very important thing in a team culture." Defeat represented yet another setback for the Windies who have drawn two and lost eight of their last 10 tests, Captain Jason Holder had few complaints about the bowling but acknowledged

major problems with his team's batting. "The guys need to dig a little deeper," he said. "You can't win test matches unless you put runs on the board. "We've got to be a little more patient, put a bigger price on our wickets. I can't put my finger on exactly how I'm going to fix it."

Viv Richards, one of the Caribbean's all-time batting greats, said the fourth test starting on Thursday could be crucial for several players.

"They will be humiliated in my opinion," he added. "There are a lot of guys in there who are fighting for their careers." —Reuters

SCOREBOARD

ST LUCIA: Scoreboard at close of play on the fifth and final day in the third Test between West Indies and India on Saturday in Gros Islet, St Lucia.

Saha 104, L. Rahul 50) West Indies 1st innings 225 (K. Brathwaite 64; B. Kumar 5-33) India 2nd innings (Overnight: 157-3) L. Rahul c K. Brathwaite b Cummins S. Dhawan Ibw b Chase 26 V. Kohli Ibw b Cummins A. Rahane not out 78 Ro. Sharma lbw b Cummins W. Saha c Dowrich b Cummins 16

R. Jadeja c Samuels b Cummins R. Ashwin c K. Brathwaite b Cummins Extras (b-1 lb-2 nb-6) Total (for 7 wickets declared, 48 overs) 217 Fall of wickets: 1-49 L. Rahul, 2-58 V. Kohli, 3-72 S. Dhawan, 4-157 Ro. Sharma, 5-181 W. Saha, 6-213 R.Jadeja, 7-217 R. Ashwin Did not bat: I. Sharma, M. Shami, B. Kumar

Bowling: S. Gabriel 3-0-19-0 (nb-1), A. Joseph 4-0-23-0 (nb-2), M. Cummins 11-1-48-6 (nb-3), J. Holder 9-1-50-0, R. Chase 11-1-41-1, K. Brathwaite 10-1-33-0.

India 1st innings 353 (R. Ashwin 118, W. West Indies 2nd innings (Target: 346 runs) K. Brathwaite Ibw b B. Kumar L. Johnson c Ro. Sharma b Shami 0 59 Da. Bravo c I. Sharma b Shami M. Samuels b I. Sharma 12 R. Chase b I. Sharma 10 J. Blackwood st Saha b Jadeja S. Dowrich c Kohli b Shami J. Holder run out (, R. Ashwin) A. Joseph c Shami b R. Ashwin M. Cummins not out S. Gabriel c B. Kumar b Jadeia 11 Extras (lb-2 nb-1) Total (all out, 47.3 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-4 L. Johnson, 2-4 K. Brathwaite, 3-35 M. Samuels, 4-64 R. Chase, 5-68 J. Blackwood, 6-84 S. Dowrich, 7-88 J. Holder, 8-95 Da. Bravo, 9-95 A. Joseph, 10-

> Bowling: B. Kumar 12-6-13-1, M. Shami 11-2-15-3, I. Sharma 7-0-30-2 (nb-1), R. Ashwin 12-2-28-1, R. Jadeja 5.3-1-20-2. Result: India won by 237 runs

SCOREBOARD

LONDON: Completed scoreboard on the fourth day of the fourth Test between England and Pakistan at The Oval

7

12

39

0

17

81

32

4

5

16

17

England 1st Innings 328 (M Ali 108, J Bairstow 55; Total (all out, 79.2 overs, 351 mins) Sohail Khan 5-68)

Pakistan 1st Innings 542 (Younis Khan 218, Asad Shafiq 109; C Woakes 3-82,

S Finn 3-110) England 2nd Innings (overnight: 88-4) A. Cook c Iftikhar Ahmed b Wahab Riaz

A. Hales Ibw b Yasir Shah J. Root lbw b Yasir Shah J. Vince c Misbah-ul-Haq b Yasir Shah

G. Ballance c Sarfraz Ahmed b Sohail Khan

J. Bairstow c Azhar Ali b Wahab Riaz M. Ali c Sarfraz Ahmed b Yasir Shah C. Woakes run out (Wahab Riaz)

S. Broad c Younis Khan b Yasir Shah S. Finn not out

Extras (b8, lb10, nb5)

J. Anderson Ibw b Iftikhar Ahmed

Fall of wickets: 1-14 (Cook), 2-49 (Hales), 3-55 (Vince), 4-74 (Root), 5-128 (Ballance), 6-193 (Ali), 7-209 (Woakes) 8-

209 (Bairstow), 9-221 (Broad), 10-253 (Anderson) Bowling: Amir 21.4-7-65-0; Sohail 15-2-50-1; Riaz 11.2-1-48-2 (5nb); Shah 29-4-71-5; Iftikhar 2.2-1-1-1

Pakistan 2nd Innings (target: 40)

12 Sami Aslam not out Azhar Ali not out 30 Extras (0 wkts, 13.1 overs, 43 mins) Did not bat: Asad Shafiq, Younis Khan, Misbah-ul-Haq,

Iftikhar Ahmed, Sarfraz Ahmed (wkt), Yasir Shah, Wahab Riaz,

Mohammad Amir, Sohail Khan Bowling: Woakes 4-0-11-0; Finn 0.2-0-0-0; Ali 5.5-0-30-0;

Result: Pakistan won by 10 wickets.

MARSH, SMITH KEEP **AUSTRALIA AFLOAT**

108 S. Gabriel

COLOMBO: Half-centuries from skipper Steven Smith and Shaun Marsh kept Australia in the hunt after Dinesh Chandimal's ton for Sri Lanka dominated yesterday's play in the third and final Test. Australia, who lost opener David Warner early, were 141 for one at stumps on the second day in Colombo and trailing the hosts by 214 in the first innings. Dhananjaya de Silva, who scored his maiden Test century on Saturday, struck again with the ball to claim the crucial wicket of Warner for 11. But Smith, who was on 61 at stumps, soon took charge along with Marsh who finished the day on 64.

The pair used their feet to good effect against the Sri Lankan spinners as they combined the right mix of caution and aggression. Smith's 108-ball stay was laced with five boundaries and a six. Marsh, who was drafted into the XI for his Asia experience, struck 10 fours. However Chandimal, who started Sunday on 64, was the hero of the day after his dogged 132 helped Sri Lanka post a challenging 355. Chandimal's overnight partner de Silva advanced from 116 to 129

before falling in the first hour, but not before the pair had rescued the innings with a 211-run partnership.

Their sixth-wicket stand lifted Sri Lanka from a precarious 26 for five to a position of strength. Chandimal, who recorded his seventh Test century, put together another crucial 73-run partnership with Rangana Herath, who made a brave 33 before retiring hurt. The two batted well even after a brief rain spell in the afternoon session, frustrating the Australian bowlers. Sri Lanka's cause was also helped by some poor fielding by the visitors.

Chandimal and Herath were both dropped by Smith. Shaun Marsh had dropped de Silva at short cover on the opening day when he was on 104.

Pace spearhead Mitchell Starc took 5-63, becoming the first Australian bowler to take three five-fors in a series in Sri Lanka. Starc had wreaked havoc along with Nathan Lyon on Saturday to reduce Sri Lanka to 26 for five. Top-ranked Australia, who have already lost the first two Tests, are desperate to avoid a series whitewash —AFP

GUARDIOLA GIVES HART AND TOURE MAN CITY HOPE

MANCHESTER: Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said the door was not closed for club stalwarts like Joe Hart and Yaya Toure despite dropping them for his first Premier League game.

Guardiola picked Willy Caballero in goal for Saturday's narrow 2-1 win over Sunderland instead of Hart, whose future at the club is in doubt, while Toure did not even make the match-day squad.

France internationals Eliaquim Mangala and Samir Nasri, meanwhile, were omitted from the squad for City's Champions League play-off match at Steaua Bucharest on Tuesday, the latter over concerns about his weight. But Guardiola said: "I don't have any complaints about these names. Yaya trained really, really good.

"Sami arrived a little bit... but the last one week, two weeks, he's training amaz-

ing, so I'm really impressed about the quality of Sami.

"Mangala, you know better than me how professional he is. But at the end I have a squad and I decide what I see. I have to create a team spirit. It's not about

"I decide for this line-up today. That doesn't mean in the future they are not going to play. In Barcelona, in (Bayern) Munich, it was difficult to repeat a line-up.

"I'm a guy so I take decisions. I'm not afraid about that. What I feel, I do it. Today in the world, people are afraid to take decisions. I like to take (them).

"It's not that Joe cannot play or Yaya or Sami or Mangala. But today I decide for that, for many reasons." Guardiola is reported to be interested in signing German goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen from Barcelona.

But he said the decision to bench Hart was purely down to the fact Caballero had spent more time working on build-up play with centre-backs John Stones, who made his debut, and Aleksandar Kolarov.

City prevailed courtesy of an 87thminute own goal by Sunderland debutant Paddy McNair, who had only been on the pitch for four minutes. Sergio Aguero put City ahead with an early penalty, but the hosts failed to make their dominance count and Jermain Defoe equalised with 19 minutes remaining.

'GUT-WRENCHING'

Asked what he had learnt about the Premier League, Guardiola said: "I realise how difficult it is, definitely. "We are not safe until the referee says, 'OK, go home.' Long ball, free-kick, long ball, throw-in, ball in the box, tall guy, second ball...

"I can imagine the last five minutes in an away game. That's why you have to create more chances."

David Moyes, who was taking charge of Sunderland for the first time in a competitive match, described the outcome as 'gut-wrenching".

Sunderland's defence was impressively marshalled by Ivorian centre-back Lamine Kone, who was the subject of an unsuccessful bid from Everton.

He reportedly tabled a transfer request earlier this week, but Moyes said that Kone had no knowledge of a statement that had been attributed to him by British

"I expect him to stay. Strangely enough, when I pulled the boy (aside) yesterday, he didn't know anything about his statement," Moyes said.

"The boy was great. He was great

today, he was great yesterday. We've told him that on September 1, we'll look to do a contract if that was what was said. "We also told him that we've had an offer from Everton as well. So we've not hidden everything."

Despite the result, Moyes took heart from his team's doggedness and urged his players to build on the momentum they generated during their escape from relegation last season under his predecessor, Sam Allardyce.

"We need to play at that level of intensity. But I want us to have more of the ball," said the former Manchester United manager. "I want us to give the crowd something to shout about. But more importantly, I need to build on what happened last year with Sam. They avoided relegation, we've now got to keep the momentum going."—AFP

COUTINHO FIRES LIVERPOOL TO THRILLING ARSENAL WIN



LONDON: Philippe Coutinho's double inspired Liverpool to come from behind and beat Arsenal 4-3 in an action-packed clash of Premier League heavyweights at the Emirates Stadium yesterday. After seeing a penalty saved by Simon Mignolet, Theo Walcott put Arsenal ahead, only for Coutinho to reply with a picture-perfect free-kick in first-half injury time.

Goals early in the second half from Adam Lallana, Coutinho and Sadio Mane put Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool 4-1 up, but efforts from Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Calum Chambers made for a nervy finish.

It was only Liverpool's second win at Arsenal in 21 attempts and put an early dent in Arsene Wenger's hopes of leading the London club to a first league title since

The Frenchman, who celebrates his 20th anniversary as Arsenal manager in October, has now seen his team beaten at home in their opening league game three times in four years. Klopp, starting his first full season as Liverpool manager, celebrated each of the visitors' goals with trademark abandon, but he will have been concerned by an injury that forced Coutinho off.

Injuries to Per Mertesacker and Gabriel, plus Laurent Koscielny's lack of match fitness, forced Wenger to deploy 21-year-old Chambers and 20-year-old new boy Rob Holding at centre-back.

Liverpool, meanwhile, boasted some 63 million pounds (\$81.5 million, 73 million euros) of new players in Mane, Georginio Wijnaldum and Ragnar Klavan. But after some untidy opening exchanges, Arsenal were first to impose themselves on the game.

amsey, playing in a number 10 role, had a couple of sights of goal, jabbing a shot straight at visiting goalkeeper Mignolet and then lifting an ambitious lob well over the bar.

Liverpool left-back Alberto Moreno was proving a typically chaotic presence and on the half-hour his untidy, full-blooded challenge on Walcott gifted Arsenal a penalty.

Walcott took the spot-kick himself and saw Mignolet plunge to his right to push it

MANE'S KLOPP PIGGYBACK

But barely a minute later the England forward atoned as Alex Iwobi's pass caught Moreno out of position and Walcott clipped a low shot inside the left-hand

Stung, Liverpool responded, Wijnaldum seeing a side-foot effort saved by Petr Cech, and in first-half stoppage time Coutinho netted the equaliser in memorable fashion.

Having won a free-kick by going down a little easily under pressure from Holding, the Brazilian took charge of the set-piece himself, curling an exquisite 25-yard shot right into the top-left corner. It had been an evenly balanced first half, but within 18 minutes of kick-off in the second Liverpool had the game in the bag thanks to three delightful goals.

Four minutes in, Coutinho sent Wijnaldum scampering towards the byline on the left with a stabbed first-time pass.

The former Newcastle United midfielder cut inside and lifted a cross to the back post, where Lallana chested the ball down before steering it past the outrushing

Seven minutes later, an attack from the opposite flank produced the same result, Nathanie Clyne crossing from the right and Coutinho darting in at the near post to volley home.

Mane opened his Liverpool account in the 63rd minute with a splendid goal, driving down the right and slipping between Chambers and Nacho Monreal before hammering a left-foot shot past Mignolet.

The Senegal international celebrated by leaping onto Klopp's back. There were boos from the home fans, but a minute later substitute Oxlade-Chamberlain gave them hope by cutting in from the left and beating Cech via a deflection off Dejan Lovren.

Wenger gave new signing Granit Xhaka his debut as a replacement for Mohamed Elneny, while Coutinho came off after injuring himself as he chased a through ball, with Emre Can coming on.

Chambers further reduced the arrears with a 75th-minute header from Santi Cazorla's free-kick, but Liverpool held on to secure a breathless win. —AFP



BOURNEMOUTH: Manchester United's Zlatan Ibrahimovic, left, and Bournemouth's Harry Arter challenge for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Bournemouth and Manchester United at Vitality Stadium in Bournemouth, England, yesterday. —AP

OURINHO'S UNITED OFF TO FLYING START



BOURNEMOUTH: Manchester United made a flying start to the Jose Mourinho era as goals from Juan Mata, Wayne Rooney and Zlatan Ibrahimovic sealed a 3-1 win in their Premier League opener at Bournemouth yesterday.

Mourinho is desperate to restore his tarnished reputation after being sacked by Chelsea last season and the United manager enjoyed an encouraging return to the touchline in his first league match since a December defeat at Leicester triggered his exit from Stamford

In the absence of Paul Pogba, their world record signing, United eased to victory after Mata punished a horrible mistake by Bournemouth defender Simon Francis just before half-time and Rooney added the second after the interval.

That set the stage for the latest memorable moment in Ibrahimovic's glittering career as the Swedish forward netted with a fine strike to mark his Premier League debut in the same goalscoring style he celebrated his maiden appearances in Serie A, La Liga, Ligue 1 and the Champions League.

After a lackadaisical first half, United moved smoothly through the gears once Mata opened the scoring and, although Adam Smith got one back for Bournemouth, Mourinho will hope to build on the momentum from this result as he eyes a title challenge.

Bournemouth were United's opponents when they concluded a frustrating league campaign last season, but whereas the staid atmosphere at Old Trafford that day reflected the drab nature of Louis van Gaal's reign, there was a whiff of revolution in the air on the genteel south coast as Mourinho's reign got underway.

Mourinho has wasted little time stamping his authority on an underachieving squad and, although world record signing Pogba was serving a one-man ban incurred at Juventus last season, the United boss paraded new signings Ibrahimovic and Eric Bailly.

Ibrahimovic started as United's central striker with Rooney behind him and the wide roles filled by Anthony Martial and Mata, who featured despite the Spaniard's touchline spat with Mourinho when he was substituted having only just come on in last weekend's Community Shield win over Leicester.

Mourinho's men took 23 minutes to muster a shot and even then Martial's effort from the left side of the penalty area flew well wide of Artur Boruc's goal.

DISASTROUS

But United finally pieced together an incisive attack when Ander Herrera picked out Antonio Valencia and the right-back crossed to Mata, who set up Rooney for a low shot straight at

Apart from a few nice moments from

debut after joining from Liverpool, this was sop-

orific stuff in the sunshine. Out of nowhere, United were gifted the breakthrough five minutes before half-time after

a disastrous mistake by Francis. Mata scampered after Herrera's long pass and Francis responded with a panicked and underhit backpass that the Spaniard seized on.

Boruc was able to save Mata's first shot, yet United's luck was in as the ball hit Francis, rebounding in Mata's path for the winger to tap into the empty net.

Ibrahimovic had been anonymous in the first half, but he came to life after the interval, unfurling a typically extravagant volleyed backheel that sent Rooney clear for a shot saved by Boruc. United were forcing the issue more now and

Rooney deservedly doubled their lead with a close-range header after Valencia's cross was miscued into his path by Martial.

Ibrahimovic, who arrived on a free transfer from Paris Saint Germain in the close-season, capped United's period of dominance with the goal of the day in the 64th minute.

After scoring the winner in the Community Shield with a towering header, Ibrahimovic showed he can do damage on the ground as well as he lashed a 25-yard strike past Boruc, prompting a jubilant celebration from Mourinho on the touchline. Smith reduced the deficit in the 69th minute

when the right-back lashed home from inside the area, but it was too late to spoil Mourinho's

Emirates Stadium in London, Sunday Aug. 14, 2016. —AP SCHWEINSTEIGER'S MAN UTD EXILE BAFFLES NEUER

LONDON: Liverpool's Sadio Mane, right, scores a goal during the English

Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Liverpool at the

BERLIN: Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer changing room and has trained with the says he is baffled as to why Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho has demoted World Cup winner Bastian Schweinsteiger and banished him from United's senior squad. "I can't understand it. Bastian is a super player and an important figure with a lot of experience, who is very important for the team," Bayern Munich's goalkeeper Neuer told German daily Die Welt yesterday. "Therefore I can't comprehend the decision at all." The 32-year-old Schweinsteiger joined United a year ago from Bayern Munich after being signed by ex-United boss Louis van Gaal. But 12 months on and after an injuryhit first season, the ex-Germany captain has been demoted to United's reserves by new manager Mourinho, who has made it clear the German has little future at Old Trafford, which bemuses his ex-Bayern team-mate

Earlier this month, Schweinsteiger was told to clear his locker in the first-team it hard to imagine his compatriot continu-

reserves ever since. The arrival of France's defensive midfielder Paul Pogba from Juventus has done little to boost Schweinsteiger's chances of playing his way into Mourinho's good books.

Despite speculation over his future, Schweinsteiger tweeted a good luck message to his Man Utd team-mates before Premier League clash at Bournemouth and has recently posted a string of positive updates. The Germany international has a United contract until June 2018, but after marrying tennis star Anna Ivanovic in August, he must be weighing up his playing

And ex-Germany international Dietmar Hamann says Mourinho has made it clear Schweinsteiger's Old Trafford days are Hamann believes numbered. Schweinsteiger should have been treated with more respect by Mourinho, but finds

ing his career in the English top flight. "From a sporting point of view, one can understand why he's been dropped," Hamann

told Bild on Saturday. "But questions can be asked about the way all this has gone down. "Schweinsteiger has to ask himself whether he gave his all for his club last season. "When you're injured, maybe it's not the

smartest move to walk around at whatever tennis tournament. "I'd be amazed if he still had a future in England." —AFP



ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE 22:00

Chelsea V West Ham United belN SPORTS 1 HD

belN SPORTS 11 HD EN



GELSENKIRCHEN: Schalke's Klaas-Jan Huntelaar, second left, challenges for the ball with Athletic Bilbao's Aritz Aduriz, second right, during the test match between FC Schalke 04 and Athletic Bilbao in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, yesterday. —AP



ARGENTINA WINS BRAZIL CLASH, SPAIN STAYS ALIVE



SWIMMING

Britain enjoys best medal haul in century

RIO DE JANEIRO: Britain came to the Olympics with high hopes and ended the swimming competition in the pool on Saturday with the country's best medal haul in more than a century and a determination to make even bigger waves in Tokyo in four years' time.

The combination of 100 metres breaststroke champion Adam Peaty, 200 freestyle world champion James Guy, Chris Walker-Hebborn and Duncan Scott took Britain to a silver medal in the 4x100 medley. Only the US men, with Michael Phelps winning his 23rd Olympic gold in what the great American has vowed will be the last race of his career, were faster.

Britain's total of six medals in the pool-three each for the men and women-was their best performance since they won seven medals at the London Games of 1908. They also won six in 1912, but had only one gold, two silver and three bronze.

In Rio they won a gold and five silvers. World record holder Peaty did his split in a phenomenal 56.59 seconds, faster than the world record of 57.13 he swam in the individual event last Sunday. Only the leadoff leg can be considered for world records in relays. "Hopefully that's a message to the rest of the world in four years time, where James and Duncan will be a lot more mature, a lot more muscle, and hopefully if Chris decides to go on he'll be a lot faster," said Peaty, 21.

"We're looking at a very good relay coming together." In London four years ago, the British team won only three medals-one 200 breaststroke silver for Michael Jamieson and Rebecca Adlington's two bronzes in the 400 and 800 freestyle.

Guy agreed a new generation had paved the way for much more future success. "We're 21, 20 and 19," he said of the relay team. "The Americans are quite a bit older than us. We're still young, growing lads. We've got so much more to work on.

"We're a small country but up and coming. I think this is the best Olympics we've ever had." Peaty set the tone by smashing the world record with his first swim on his debut on the opening Saturday and then becoming the first male British swimmer to win an Olympic title since Adrian Moorhouse at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Jazz Carlin then won 400 and 800 freestyle silvers, beaten only by the incredible US champion Katie Ledecky, and Siobhan-Marie O'Connor took silver in the women's 200 individual medley.

The men's relay team also took silver in the 4x200 freestyle, with Scott and Guy also in that final line-up. "We came second tonight and it was a great race," said Guy. "And there's so much more to work on for what we've got to do. "Tokyo's going to be the one, I think." — Reuters



GRUMPY DISCUS CHAMP HARTING SAYS 'SORRY'

RIO DE JANEIRO: Newly-crowned Olympic discus champion Christoph Harting has apologised for his antics on the podium and refusal to give interviews after his shock win at the Rio de Janeiro Games. Germany's Harting, whose older brother and defending Olympic champion Robert failed to qualify for the finals due to a strained back, threw a personal best of 68.37 metres on his sixth and final attempt in Rio. But he was heavily criticised for whistling on the podium when the German national anthem was played and then cut a grumpy figure in the press conference. The 25-year-old, who refused to give interviews before his Rio win, said the euphoria of his first major title had gone to his head. "To anyone who's toes I trod on: I am sorry, that wasn't my intention," Harting told German broadcaster

"I didn't give any interviews this year, at all, so my first thought was 'stay fair and keep on not giving interviews'. "Obviously, things had changed a bit and I only realised that after the event. "It was silly, but in a situation like that, one is ridden with endorphins and things were more exaggerated than were intended." Harting had been an irritated figure in the press conference, snapping at a reporter who mispronounced his brother's name, then admitted he doesn't "like answering questions" and insisted "I'm an athlete, not a PR man". Harting's podium and press conference antics drew criticism from the president of the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB) Alfons Hoermann:

"In my view, that was not ideal, but I am sure he didn't mean it that way". And Germany's Chef de Mission Michael Vesper was equally unimpressed: "what he did at the awards ceremony wasn't good, because he is a member of our team and an ambassador for our country".

And Germany's injured ex-European long-jump champion Sebastian Bayer says he was ashamed of Harting's antics. "Gold in the discus is really super cool!!!," Bayer rote on Twitter. "But I am sitting in Germany, in front of the television, ashamed of this behaviour."

There is a strained relationship between the Harting brothers, but elder brother Robert was pleased for his younger sibling's success, which he had to watch from the stands.

"Hey little brother, the generation switch has started. I am extremely pleased for you," the 31-year-old Robert wrote on Twitter. — AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Argentina snatched a thrilling 111-107 double-overtime win against Brazil amid fears of fan violence, as Spain kept its Rio Games basketball hopes alive by crushing Lithuania.

Dozens of armed security personnel were deployed for the afternoon game between Argentina and the Olympic hosts, with tensions high following previous unruly spectator behaviour in Rio.

Team captains Marcelinho Huertas of Brazil and Luis Scola of Argentina met at half-court before tip-off, addressing the crowd in a bid to nip excess passions in the bud.

"We are South American brothers, and we ask everybody to support us in the spirt of the Olympics and in a civil manner," Huertas said to cheers. Decades of football rivalry spice any Argentine-Brazil matchup, but no incidents were reported.

Argentina dealt a blow to Brazil's tournament hopes, with forward Andres Nocioni scoring 37 points and guard Facundo Campazzo getting 13 of his 33 in extra time.

Nocioni sank a clutch three-pointer with four seconds in regulation to stun the deafening, mostly Brazilian, crowd and force overtime at 85-85.

Campazzo's fast-break lay-up with 36 seconds left in the first overtime, one of several penetrating drives, tied it again at 95-95 to trigger another overtime.

'BASKETBALL PARTY'

Argentina gained the lead and held on to ensure a quarter-finals berth by going to 3-1 in Group B.

After losing its first two games by a combined three points, 2008 and 2012 silver medallist Spain routed Lithuania 109-59. Desperate to avoid elimination, Spain's Olympic veterans jumped early on previously unbeaten Lithuania, who had less to play for.

NBA star centre Pau Gasol led Spain with 23 points, going 5-for-5 from three-point range. Spain will try to clinch a



RIO DE JANEIRO: Argentina's Manu Ginobili drives to the basket past Brazil's Marcelinho Huertas, right, during a basketball game at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Saturday. — AP

medal-round berth with a win Monday over tough Argentina, which in turn will fight to ensure it wins Group B and avoids the USA in the knockout phase.

The USA, in Group A, has not lost an Olympic game since 2004 and is heavily favoured to repeat. "We have to beat Argentina if we want to be in the next round, and it's going to be like a final for us," said Spain guard Ricky Rubio.

Argentina jumped out to an early 11-point lead over Brazil on 21 first-half points by Nocioni, but Brazil had the crowd roaring as it stormed back to take a 52-44 halftime lead.

But Argentina has four veterans from

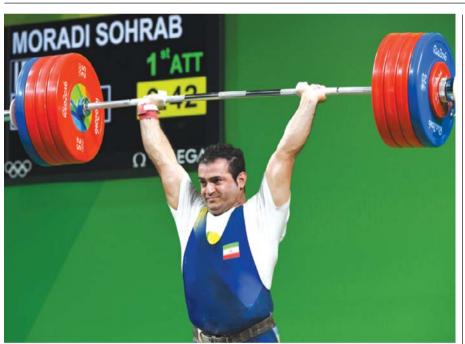
its 2004 Athens gold-medal winning side including Nocioni, Brooklyn Nets forward Scola, and four-time NBA champ Manu Ginobili, and they refused to buckle.

Brazil face Nigeria next, needing a win and some help. "We know that we have to keep our heads up and depend on other teams to lose a couple of games," said Brazil guard Leandro Barbosa.

"But we still believe that we can qualify for the second round." Nigeria aided Brazil's cause somewhat in Saturday's late game, using 17 three-pointers to overwhelm Croatia 90-76. Argentina and Brazil had met before Saturday's game to discuss how to address their rabid fans. "We all need to scream, jump, celebrate, cry if they want to, whatever they want to do. But in a civilised matter that we respect," Scola told reporters. "We wanted to have a big basketball party, and it was."

Brazilians and Argentines brawled earlier at the Rio tennis venue, and Brazil fans at the Olympic stadium have taunted their rivals with chants referencing legendary Argentine footballer Diego Maradona's cocaine use.

Brazil's only basketball win so far, a last-gasp escape over Spain, was marred by ugly taunting of Gasol by Brazilian fans. — AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Iran's Sohrab Moradi competes during the men's weightlifting 94kg event at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP

WEIGHTLIFTERS DEFEND SPORT UNDER DOPING CLOUD



RIO DE JANEIRO: Despite a constant stream of doping bans in weightlifting, a pair of Olympic medalists defended their sport's integrity. Sohrab Moradi of Iran won the gold medal Saturday in the men's 94-kilogram category, followed by Vadzim Straltsou of Belarus and Aurimas Didzbalis of Lithuania.

Didzbalis, who served a ban between 2012 and 2014 for steroid use, said he wanted the focus to be on the superhuman achievements of the lifters, not chemical assistance. "We can lift very big weights, while ordinary people wouldn't even be able to move it or even think about it," Didzbalis said. "There are always haters but I cannot do anything about it. It's just the way it is."

Moradi has also served a two-year doping ban, while Straltsou's Belarus team was almost banned from the Olympics entirely over repeated doping cases.

Asked if the sport's doping image devalued the Olympic competition, Moradi said: "No, I don't accept your idea." Moradi won Iran's second weightlifting gold medal of the Rio de Janeiro Games with 182 kilograms in the snatch and 221 kilos from his first clean and jerk lift for a total of 403 kilos.

The field was depleted after Polish brothers Adrian and Tomasz Zielinski both failed doping tests in the days before the event. Adrian Zielinski was 2012 gold medalist in the 85kg class, while Tomasz is the reigning European champion.

There were also no Russians taking part because their entire team was banned for bringing the sport into disrepute with repeated doping cases. Also missing was Kazakhstan's Ilya Ilyin, the defending Olympic champion and world-record holder at 94kg, who failed retests of his samples from his 2008 and 2012 Olympic wins though he had moved up a class ahead of the Rio Games.

While a minority of competitors in Rio have expressed anger at drug cheats, Moradi said he felt sorry for those who were caught and served bans.

"I'm very sad and also I love Ilya," he said.
"I'd like Ilya to be here and also the two
Polish people." Moradi said his ban for
methadone use was caused by a mistake
over a painkiller, rather than intent to
enhance his performance, and the gold
medal was the result of hard work during
enforced isolation because of the ban.

"I was training very hard in my house. Some people were laughing at me ... Some people said, 'Why are you training?'" the Iranian said. "I had a goal and trained very hard."

Moradi is the third weightlifting gold medalist of the Rio Olympics to have previously served a doping ban, after Nijat Rahimov of Kazakhstan in the men's 77kg and Sukanya Srisurat of Thailand in the women's 58kg.

Of the 45 medalists in weightlifting from 2012, at least 20 have failed doping tests at some point in their careers, according to the International Weightlifting Federation. As many as 12 medals could be reallocated due to retesting of samples from the London Games. That includes the gold, silver and bronze from the women's 75kg division. — AP

AMERICAN MEN ADVANCE TO BEACH VOLLEYBALL QUARTERS



RIO DE JANEIRO: Americans Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena received their reward for cruising through pool play and the first round of the Olympic beach volleyball elimination stage: A quarterfinal matchup with the world champions on their home sand.

The US men remained unbeaten at the Copacabana venue on Saturday night with a 21-14, 21-15 victory over Austria. That lined them up with Brazil's Alison and Bruno, who arrived in Rio as the No. 1 seed.

"We wanted to play Brazil in Brazil, preferably in the final," said Dalhausser, the 2008 gold medalist. "We got our wish, just a little early. Hopefully we can come away with the win."

Dalhausser and Lucena won all three pool play matches, but Alison and Bruno stumbled in the group stage and lost to Austria's Clemens Doppler and Alexander Horst. That dropped the Brazilians to second in their pool and led to an unlucky draw for the Americans - one of the other favorites to win the gold medal.

The teams have split their four head-tohead matchups on the international tour, with the Brazilians winning a pair of finals in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Long Beach, California. The Americans won in Hamburg in a match that Dalhausser said was the best they have played.

"It will be the toughest test for us," said the 2008 Olympic gold medalist.

The Brazilian crowd taunted the Americans by shouting "Zika" at them whenever they served, apparently in response to comments from some Americans - notably women's soccer goalie Hope Solo - expressing concern over the mosquito-borne virus or mocking the host nation for the outbreak.

Dalhausser and Lucena were not among those making the comments. Dalhausser said if he had known what the crowd was saying he would have played along; he then pretended to spray himself with bug spray in the mix zone.

In the previous match Saturday night, Australia rallied after losing the first set to beat Poland and advance to a quarterfinal matchup with American women Kerri Walsh Jennings and April Ross.

The American women are 4-0 in their career against Australians Taliqua Clancy and Louise Bawden, who beat Poland 15-21, 21-16, 15-11. In Saturday's other quarterfinals, the Dutch team of Alexander Brouwer and Robert Meeuwsen advanced to a matchup with countrymen Reinder Nummerdor and Christiaan Varenhorst. It will be the third time in the beach volleyball tournament that a team has faced its compatriots. "That's the way it is in beach volleyball," Brouwer said. "Sometimes you beat each other." - AP



RIO DE JANEIRO: The last finisher Cambodia's Nary Ly waves as she runs toward the finish line of the Women's Marathon during the athletics event at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games at Sambodromo in Rio de Janeiro yesterday. — AP



OVER AND OUT FOR PHELPS WITH 23 GOLD



TENNIS

TEARFUL PUIG WINS PUERTO RICO'S FIRST EVER GOLD

RIO DE JANEIRO: Monica Puig won Puerto Rico's first ever Olympic gold medal on Saturday when she defeated Germany's Angelique Kerber 6-4, 4-6, 6-1 in the women's tennis singles final.

The 22-year-old Florida-based Puig defied her ranking of 34 to get the better of the world number two and Australian Open champion on the back of a sizzling 54 winners.

Puig, who also knocked out French Open champion Garbine Muguruza in the quarter-finals, is the first woman from the Caribbean island to win a medal of

Before her golden breakthrough, Puerto Rico had won just eight Olympic medals, two silver and six bronze. Six of that total had come in boxing.

Victory for Puig came in a dramatic seventh game of the final set when she saved six break points before taking gold on a fourth match point when a Kerber forehand sailed wide.

"Oh my God," she screamed before breaking down in floods of tears and parading her national flag around centre court. "It's amazing. My country appreciates this and I give this victory to them. The way I did it, I wouldn't want it any other way," said Puig who has lived in Florida for most of her life.

There was a lot of relief and tension. The ball which went out seemed to be moving really, really slowly. I wished it had sped up a bit more."

"I got better as the tournament went on, got stronger and faster. The crowd kept telling me, 'yes, you can', 'yes, you can' and I told myself 'yes, I can', 'yes, I can. "I can't believe what I have achieved. It's one of my biggest dreams."

BACK INJURY

Kerber had cruised into the final without dropping a set as the second seed aimed to emulate Steffi Graf who was Germany's last champion at the 1988.

However, her perfect record in Rio ended when Puig grabbed the first set against a suddenly lacklustre looking German who required treatment on a back injury between sets.

Her medical timeout worked wonders as she broke in the first game of the second set.

Puig retrieved the damage in the eighth game but she faltered when she had the chance to serve for a 5-4 lead. Kerber, 28, levelled the final in the 10th game but needed four set points to get the job done.

That set the foundation for the thrilling decider where Puig raced into a 5-0 lead before having to suffer for her place in history during a marathon seventh game.

"She deserved to win," said Kerber, a Wimbledon finalist last month. "It's not the medal I wanted but it's still a silver. She was hitting everything, she played a great match. "It's still a special feeling. I am having the best year of my career." On Friday, after beating two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova in the semi-finals, Puig had vowed to win gold and bring some light relief to Puerto Rico.

The US territory is buried under some \$70 billion in debt. There is also a growing concern over the Zika virus, which has spread quickly through the island.

In July, US health officials reported that as many as 50 pregnant women per day have been infected, raising the risk of birth defects.

Before London in 2012, all of the island's Olympic medals had come in boxing. Four years ago, Jaime Espinal won a wrestling silver while 400m hurdler Javier Culson took home a bronze.

Meanwhile, Kvitova won the bronze medal playoff by defeating American seventh seed Madison Keys 7-5, 2-6, 6-2.

In an untidy clash, the two women hit a combined 87 unforced errors while Keys's challenge was undone by only converting two of her 10 break points. —AFP



RIO DE JANEIRO: Puerto Rico's Monica Puig reacts after winning her women's singles final tennis match against Germany's Angelique Kerber at the Olympic Tennis Centre of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP



SWIMMING

RIO DE JANEIRO: Michael Phelps brought the curtain down on one of sport's most storied careers with a dynamite relay swim to give himself 23 Olympic gold medals and declared it a perfect finale.

The American, far and away the most decorated athlete in Olympic history, finished with five golds and a silver in Rio after signing off in dramatic style, coming to the rescue in the 4x100m medley final.

Turning back the clock in his fifth and final Games, Phelps produced a blistering third leg of butterfly to restore his team's lead and tee up victory after Britain's Adam Peaty had threatened to gatecrash his party. "Getting off the bus and walking to the pool tonight, I pretty much felt myself starting to crack," confessed Phelps.

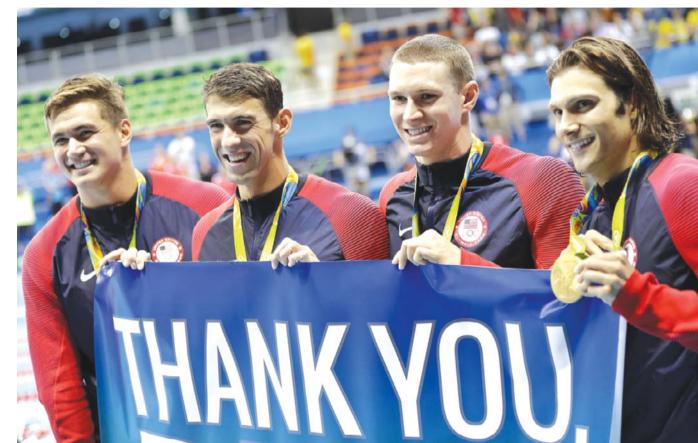
"Last warm-up, last time putting on a suit, last time walking out in front of people, representing my country-it's insane, a lot better than it was four years ago," added the 31-year-old, who retired after the 2012 London Games before returning for one last hurrah. "This is how I wanted to finish my career. I've lived a dream come true.

Being able to cap it off with these Games is just the perfect way to finish."

The hullabaloo over the Phelps's farewell overshadowed the achievement of the women's 4x100m medley relayers as they captured their country's 1,000th Olympic medal, according to the United States Olympic committee.

The country's first medal dates back to 1896, when James Connolly won triple jump gold. Even that statistic seemed to pale against the irrepressible Phelps-and likewise Ryan Murphy's leadoff backstroke leg, which set a new 100m world record of 51.85. "No matter what country you swim for you're indebted to Michael Phelps," said Murphy after winning his third Rio gold. "He's opened a lot of doors for all of us. It was awesome to be in that race with him."

Nathan Adrian brought the Americans home to preserve their unbeaten Olympic record in the event and give them a 16th swimming gold from 32 events for the week, matching their haul in London four



RIO DE JANEIRO: Nathan Adrian, Michael Phelps, Ryan Murphy, and Cody Miller hold a banner during the victory lap after winning gold in the men's 4 x 100-meter medley relay final during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics, yesterday, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. — AP

years ago. An Olympic record time of 3:27.95 was lost in the emotion after the race as Phelps tearfully saluted the crowd while his beauty queen fiancee Nicole Johnson looked on sobbing as she cradled baby son Boomer.

Icing on the cake

Britain took silver, thanks largely to a breaststroke leg from Peaty that was quicker than the world record he set to win individual gold, but won't count as it came in the middle of a relay. Australia claimed bronze, but the memory of sharing the pool with Phelps in his final race could last longer than the glow of their relay gongs.

The women's quartet of Kathleen Baker, Lilly King, Simone Manuel and Dana Vollmer made history, but were made to work. The Americans, who failed to medal at last year's world championships, had looked in peril when two-time doping violator Yulia Efimova gave Russia the lead on the breaststroke.

But Vollmer's butterfly averted a crisis and Manuel brought them home in 3:53.13 almost two seconds ahead of Australia with Denmark taking bronze.

"A 1,000th gold for team USA is a nice number," said Manuel. "It's really special. Just sharing that with three other women, it's the icing on top of the cake."

Pernille Blume, who swam Denmark's anchor leg, earlier won gold in the women's 50m free, inflicting more heartbreak on Australia's Cate Campbell after her 100m flop. Blume won in 24.07 with Manuel adding silver to her surprise 100m gold with a time of 24.09 and Aliaksandra Herasimenia of Belarus, the London runnerup previously banned for doping, taking

"It's possibly the greatest choke in Olympic history," said 100m world record holder Cate, who finished fifth. "It hurts. I almost needed someone to give me a Heimlich manoeuvre a couple of nights ago." Campbell returned around 20 minutes later for the 4x100 medley relay but despite a fine anchor leg could not prevent the United States retaining their Olympic title.

World champion Gregorio Paltrinieri blazed to gold in the men's 1,500m in the absence of defending champion Sun Yang, who crushed out in the heats blaming a cold, the Italian smashing a quality field to win in 14:34.57. — AFP







Silver Bronze

Total

RIO DE JANEIRO: Rio Olympics medals table:

Linite of Ct-t	24	10	10	
United States	24	18	18	60
China	13	11	17	41
Britain	10	13	7	30
Germany	8	5	3	16
Japan	7	3	14	24
Russia	6	9	8	23
Australia	6	7	9	22
Italy	6	7	5	18
South Korea	6	3	4	13
France		8		18
Hungary	5 5	3	5 3	11
Netherlands	3	2	3	8
Spain	3 3 2 2 2	0	2	5
New Zealand	2	6	0	8
	2			
Canada	2	2 2	8	12
Kazakhstan	2		3	7
Belgium	2 2 2	1	1	4
Thailand	2	1	1	4
Croatia	2	1	0	3
Switzerland	2	0	1	3
Iran	2	0	0	3 2 5
Sweden	1	3	1	5
Denmark	1	2	3	6
North Korea	1	2	2	5
Belarus	1	2	1	4
Brazil	1	1	2	4
Poland	1	1	2	4
Romania	i	1	2	4
Slovenia	1	1	1	3
Colombia	1	1	0	2
Slovakia	1	1	0	2
Vietnam	1	1	0	2
	1	0	4	2 2 2 5 3 3 2 2 2
Czech Republic				2
Chinese Taipei	1	0	2 2	3
Ethiopia	1	0		3
Neutral Olympic	1	0	1	2
Greece	1	0	1	2
Jamaica	1	0	1	
Argentina	1	0	0	1
Fiji	1	0	0	1
Kosovo	1	0	0	1
Puerto Rico	1	0	0	1
Singapore	1	0	0	1
South Africa	0	5	1	6
Ukraine	0	3	1	4
Azerbaijan	0	2	0	2
Indonesia	0	2	0	2
Kenya	0	2	0	2
Cuba	0	1	2	2 2 3 3 2
Lithuania	Ö	1	2	3
Georgia	Ö	1	1	2
Ireland	0	1	Ö	1
Malaysia	0	1	0	1
Mongolia	0	1	0	1
Philippines	0	1	0	1
		-		
Turkey	0	1	0	1
Uzbekistan	0	0	3	3
Egypt	0	0	3 2 2	3 2 2 2
Israel	0	0	2	2
Norway	0	0	2	2
Estonia	0	0	1	1
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	1	1
Portugal	0	0	1	1
Tunisia	0	0	1	1
Likel Andle Continues	c 0	^	1	1

Utd Arab Emirates 0

BRITAIN'S FARAH ROARS TO ANOTHER 10,000M TITLE



ATHLETICS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Britain's Mo Farah shrugged off an early fall to cement his place in the pantheon of distance greats by retaining his Olympic 10,000 metres title with a blistering final lap on Saturday.

Farah ran a superb tactical race before obliterating the opposition in the final stretch to became the first British runner to win three Olympic titles. He is now the favourite to add a fourth in the 5,000m next week.

Should the 33-year-old manage it he would emulate Finnish great Lasse Viren, currently the only man to complete the distance "double double", by retaining the Olympic 5,000 and 10,000m titles.

He has already achieved the feat in the world championships, with three in a row in the 5,000m and two over 10,000m.

"This medal means so much to me," said Farah, who dedicated the victory to his oldest daughter Rhianna. "It's nice to be able to be recognised as one of the best guys in the world."

The second half of the race was a masterclass in distance running by Farah, who was accidentally tripped with 16 laps to go by American training partner Galen Rupp but picked himself up and surged through the field to claim victory in 27 minutes 5.17

"I got emotional because you put so much work in and in one moment it's gone," said Farah, who added his daughter was also in his thoughts after falling.

"In my mind, I was like 'I can't let her down."

'GREAT ATHLETE'

All of Farah's championship victories have come in a similar style, where he tracks his usually Kenyan and Ethiopian rivals before hammering a last lap and kicking in the last 200 metres.

It again played into his hands when none of his rivals seemed willing to set a pace that might have drawn his sting, even after his fall.

As the pace increased in the final laps and the leading bunch lost numbers, the race finally descended into a winner-takes-all dash for gold between Farah and Kenya's Paul Tanui, with the composed Briton always looking favourite to come out on top.

Once again Farah relied on his finishing kick to outsprint Tanui and crossed the line with his hands placed on top of his head in his signature "Mobot"

Tanui, who has won two world championship bronze medals over 10,000 had to settle for silver, with Ethiopia's Tamirat Tola getting bronze.

"I thought going into the race an Olympic record could have been broken. We started out pretty fast but that pace wasn't kept along the way and it didn't end up happening," Tola said.

"Mo Farah is obviously a great athlete." Having not lost a competitive Olympic or world championship race since 2011, Farah said he must remain on his toes if he wants remain at the top.

"It's never an easiest thing when you know you've got a target on your back," Farah said. The 33-year-old

added that to be mentioned in the same breath as Ethiopian greats Kenenisa Bekele and Haile Gebrselassie, who have four 10,000m Olympic gold medals between them, was an honour.

"It feels amazing to make history and to be along with Kenenisa and Haile," he said. — Reuters



RIO DE JANEIRO: Britain's Mo Farah celebrates after he won the Men's 10,000m during the athletics event at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium in Rio de Janeiro on Saturday. — AFP

Kuwait Times

Sports

Mourinho's United off to flying start



Over and out for Phelps with 23 gold



MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016

WEIGHTLIFTERS DEFEND SPORT UNDER DOPING CLOUD Page 18



DEEHANI GIVEN ROUSING WELCOME WITH FLAGS, BANNERS

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti champion shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani arrived in Kuwait yesterday from Rio de Janeiro to a hero's welcome, with many officials and a large crowd greeting him enthusiastically at the airport's VIP lounge. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat and Fouad Al-Shaikh













Kuwait Times BUSINESS

China's shopping army reboots Australia retail

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Some shell firms sidestep **UK transparency rules**

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Bank Muscat, Tourism Ministry host Sheikh Majed

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LONDON: Shoppers walk past a branch of clothing retailer Topshop on Oxford Street in central London on Saturday. The Office for National Statistics publishes inflation figures tomorrow and retail sales figures on August 18. —AFP

JORDAN GROWTH SLOWS, UNEMPLOYMENT GROWS

CONFLICTS IN SYRIA, IRAQ FUEL ECONOMIC SLUMP, INSTABILITY

DHIBAN, Jordan: Sabri Mashaaleh feels misled and angry: The 29-year-old studied counseling expecting to find a civil service job, in line with what used to be a typical life path for college-educated Jordanians. Four years later, he's still unemployed.

His last hopes were crushed earlier this summer when troops tore down the tent in his small, remote hometown of Dhiban where he and other jobless young men had staged daily sit-ins for two months, demanding employment. With protests silenced, Mashaaleh sees a dark future for Dhiban. "Dhiban has become a fertile environment for radical thoughts, and it's a fertile environment for drug problems, and a fertile environment for criminals," said Mashaaleh, speaking at the roundabout where the tent once stood.

The Dhiban unrest highlights what the Jordanian government now says is its biggest challenge- rising unemployment, particularly among the young, fueled by an economic slump and spillover from conflicts in Syria and Iraq. Youth unemployment is endemic in the troubled Middle East, where a demographic "youth bulge" has increased the number of iobseekers, including college graduates, while economies have stalled amid spreading violence.

Not unique

Even though Jordan's unemployment problem is not unique, some say the pro-Western monarchy warrants special attention because of its strategic importance. The country is part of the US-led military coalition against Islamic State extremists who control parts of Syria and Iraq and have attracted thousands of followers in Jordan.

Any destabilization of Jordan, possibly triggered by economic problems, would alarm the kingdom's allies. The government needs to take urgent action, said economist Omar Razzaz, who chairs a national team of experts trying to devise a new employment strategy. "We cannot afford to have the unemployment problem turn into a radicalization problem," he said. "That's the time bomb we are facing."

Economic growth in Jordan dropped from 3.1 percent in 2014 to 2.4 percent last year and 2.3 percent in the first quarter of 2016, according to the World Bank. Continued fighting in Syria and Iraq forced the closure of Jordan's main overland trade routes in 2015 and also harmed tourism and con-

Unemployment rose from 13 percent last year to 14.7 percent in 2016. Among 18- to 24-year-olds, 35 percent have no jobs, said Lea Hakim, the World

Bank's country economist for Jordan. "The economy has not been generating enough jobs, not quantity and not quality jobs, for its population," she said.

Refugees

The influx of Syrian refugees since 2011 has further expanded the labor force. Jordan hosts some 660,000 registered refugees, though a recent census counted twice as many Syrians in Jordan, out of a total population of 9.5 million.

In the first years of the Syria crisis, Jordan barred refugees from working legally to protect its labor force. Instead, tens of thousands of Syrians worked informally in construction, farming and retail - sectors until then dominated by migrant workers from Africa and Asia because the jobs paid too little to attract Jordanians. Earlier this year, Jordan changed course. It struck a deal with donors to try to turn the refugee crisis into a development opportunity for Jordan and to deter Syrians from migrating to Europe by improving

their lives in the region. The kingdom agreed to issue work permits to tens of thousands of Syrians. In exchange, Europe eased trade restrictions to encourage investment in Jordan, while donors, including the World Bank, promised concessional financing and grants for development and labor-intensive projects in the country.

Challenge

Ferid Belhaj, the World Bank's regional director, said he expects this tradeoff to generate growth and jobs in three or four years. "The crisis is a huge challenge, but it can turn into an opportunity," he said. Razzaz, the economist, said that in the meantime, the government should launch an ambitious public works program, including employing large numbers of Jordanians to care for children and the

"We should ... start this program before we see protests," said Razzaz, who also heads the Jordan Strategy Forum think tank. The government and donor countries have funded pilot programs that fall short of needs, he said. Planning Minister Imad Fakhoury described lowering unemployment as the government's top priority. This includes a \$35 million fund to encourage young Jordanians to set up small businesses.

Jordanians need to understand that the public sector can no longer be the main employer, Fakhoury said. Opportunities are available outside the civil service, "but it requires also a change of

In Dhiban, a town of 25,000 about 70 kilometers (44 miles) from the capital of Amman, many feel marginalized. Two dozen protesters, including Mashaaleh, were initially detained when troops backed by armored vehicles dismantled the protest tent in June, but all have been released. Mashaaleh said the protests were peaceful, though the Interior Ministry said three officers were wounded when shots were fired at them during a clash in Dhiban.

The town's mayor, Fhaid Al-Rawahneh, 61, said that "we don't want to fight with the security."

He said the government must do more to bring factories to the region. An attempt to attract a prefab home construction company to Dhiban with the promise of free land became entangled in red tape, he said. Young people in Dhiban have few options. Those who can mostly sign up for police or military work in Amman, and the high transportation costs take a big cut from their meager wages.

Al-Rawahneh said only one of his four collegeeducated children has a job. "There is unemployment in every family," he said. "Our only demand is

NIGERIA WRESTLES WITH 'SUDDENLY POOR' STATUS

LAGOS: First it was falling oil prices that plagued Nigeria, then came inflation, power shortages, and a humanitarian crisis in the north. "Suddenly, we're a poor country," Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari said on Thursday in Abuja, the nation's capital.

"Before we came to office, petroleum sold for about \$100 per barrel. Then it crashed to \$37, and now oscillates between \$40 and \$45 per barrel." By the end of the month it's likely Nigeria will officially enter a recession. Adding insult to injury, this week the International Monetary Fund said that South Africa overtook Nigeria as Africa's biggest economy in dollar terms a result of the anaemic naira.

"Both countries are experiencing difficulties, but Nigeria is taking a more slower pace to recover. I don't think Nigeria can regain its position anytime soon," Manji Cheto, Sub-Saharan Africa analyst at London-based Teneo

That's because Nigeria's problems, a result of decades of mismanagement, have no easy fix. Just a few months ago, Nigeria was the number one oil exporter on the continent.

Not anymore. According to figures released Friday by OPEC, Nigeria is now producing just 1.5 million barrels per day, compared with Angola which is pumping out 1.7 million. Militant attacks on oil infrastructure in the increasingly volatile southern swamplands are to blame. The Niger Delta Avengers, a new armed group fighting for political autonomy and a bigger cut of oil revenues, have been bombing pipelines since the beginning of 2016. They have vowed not to stop until their demands are met.

Not fit

Today Nigeria is an economic heavyweight on the back foot, with its economy not fit enough to survive this round of blows exposing its structural issues.

Now the country is literally sinking into darkness. Electricity production, which already was faltering before the crisis, barely reached 2500mW for its 170 million inhabitants, according to local reports, thanks to oil militants sabotaging the lines that fuel the gas-powered stations. —AFP

GULF SHARES ADVANCE AS OIL PRICES CLIMB

DUBAI: A bounce in oil prices at the end of last week helped lift stock markets in the Gulf yesterday, while Egypt's main index eased off a 13-month closing high as investors were cautious about a preliminary agreement with the IMF on a loan program.

Dubai's index rebounded 1.2 percent to 3,567 points, its highest close in 16 weeks. Emaar Properties surged 3.5 percent and Dubai Islamic Bank added 1.7 percent. But DAMAC Properties fell 0.4 percent after the developer reported a 37.4 percent fall in second-quarter net profit to 886.8 million dirhams (\$241 mln).

Arabtec dropped 1.3 percent after it reported a second quarter loss of 186.4 million dirhams, an improvement from a year earlier but short of EFG Hermes' forecast of a loss of 83.2 million. Shuaa Capital fell as much as 1.8 percent but closed flat after the investment bank said it made a second quarter net loss of 50.8 million dirhams, compared to a profit of 1.7 million dirhams a

year earlier. The loss was mainly due to provisions set aside by Shuaa's business of lending to smaller firms.

MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

Large cap banking shares helped push Qatar's index up 0.9 percent to 11,054 points, a fresh nine-month closing high. Commercial Bank gained 2.6 percent and Qatar National Bank rose 1 percent.

In Saudi Arabia, the index gained 0.8 percent as most petrochemical shares advanced after Brent crude futures settled 2 percent higher at \$46.97 per barrel on Friday. Bellwether Saudi Basic Industries gained 0.9 percent. The positive mood spilled into other sectors, with the banking sub-index climbing 0.7 percent. Its top performer was Banque Saudi Fransi, which jumped 3.4 percent.

EGYPT

Cairo's main index retreated 0.3 percent to 8,351 points but closed 66 points above its session low. Global Telecom Holding fell

0.5 percent. On Thursday, the index gained 1 percent as investors cheered a preliminary three-year, \$12 billion funding deal with the International Monetary Fund. But while most analysts believe the agreement will be highly positive for Egypt, they are concerned by the impact of austerity policies that are expected to accompany it, such as subsidy cuts and the introduction of a value-added tax.

"While we expect positive reaction from the markets and the investor community as a whole, indirect social repercussions resulting from the program's implementation, led by rising inflation, need to be factored in as well," brokerage Naeem said in a note. Analysts at Sigmal Capital expect the central bank will raise interest rates at its meeting in September to combat a likely rise in inflation. GB Auto rose 1.6 percent yesterday after the company more than doubled its quarterly net income. —Reuters

CHINA'S SHOPPING ARMY REBOOTS AUSTRALIA RETAIL

NEVER MIND THE GUCCI, HERE'S THE FISH OIL

SYDNEY: In 2013, student Na Wang began shipping fish oil capsules to China from Sydney to help pay the rent. Now, she's in business, part of a growing army of Chinese shopping agents sending Australian food and diet pills home to feed rampant demand.

Wang, 33, is one of up to 40,000 Chinese 'daigou' in Australia, retail consultants say, using social media and mobile payment apps to buy goods to order for mainland China customers. While daigou first made waves in the West shipping luxuries from Europe like Gucci handbags, the new Australia breed deals in 'white gold' - baby milk formula - and other consumer staples.

More affluent, health-conscious Chinese shoppers want safe Australian goods, a trend stoked by tainted China food supply scandals. This year, brands like formula maker A2 Milk have begun exploring ways to harness the growth of daigou, rather than compete with them, targeting crossborder e-commerce that's seen by consultancy ThinkChina at \$1 trillion this year.

'People in China just love Australian products," said Wang, boxing up an order of Maca Plus, a powder said to boost libido, and detox treatment Fatblaster Coconut. "They like the quality," said Wang, an economics graduate from Shandong province still studying English as she looks for a job. "Nothing is expensive for them."

It's not all plain sailing for daigou, back Australia, not counterfeit Chinese goods. home or in Australia. In April, Beijing tightened rules on cross-border online shopping, though in Australia shoppers like

Wang say orders haven't been hit. Meanwhile, at the height of a 2015 boom in demand for milk formula from China, triggered by a food safety scandal, daigou attracted criticism in some Australian media for vacuuming up supply and leaving domestic shoppers emptyhanded. But the scale of the new trade has alerted retail brands to potential new sales via daigou tie-ups that might otherwise be beyond the reach of mid-tier consumer goods makers.

"Everyone's working on it (daigou tieups) now, including all the big brands," said Benjamin Sun, director at ThinkChina. "If you think about global markets, what Australia can offer to Chinese online consumers is food, supplement and dairy, not so much fashion and luxury goods."

LIVE VIDEO SHOPPING

Daigou - meaning 'on behalf of' in Chinese - establish a network of prospective customers on popular online messaging app WeChat, owned by internet giant Tencent Holdings Ltd. Some, like Wang, even broadcast their shopping live via WeChat's video service to show buyers the products are genuinely from stores in

Wang and her daigou competitors typically charge premiums of about 50 percent above the sticker price on Australian store shelves. But even allowing for shipping fees, that till means the buyer pays much less for the same product in a Chinese store - assuming it is available. A bottle of 200 capsules of Blackmores Ltd's Fish Oil is available in Chinese stores at three times the Australian retail price of A\$26.50. Blackmores says about 40 percent of sales came from China - both direct exports and via daigou - but declined to comment on dealings with daigou.

Waiting for shipments are buyers like Lu Jiwei, a thirty-something software worker from Dalian. Lu buys about once a month from three or four daigou suppliers, stocking up on Australian dairy, wine and nutrition products. "It's a bit more expensive, but not too much more to buy through daigou versus buying Chinese products,"

"Mainly it's to do with food safety concerns. Food safety standards here are perhaps a bit lower, and then you've got the source of milk because in China it's more likely that it will be affected by air pollution."

'POSITIVE FORCE'

The difficulty of doing business in China

for smaller would-be exporters has led consultants specialising in Chinese markets to increasingly advise Australian companies to team up with daigou.

Peter Nathan, chief executive of A2 Milk, a New Zealand infant formula maker that also produces in Australia, said the firm was looking at ways to work more closely with daigou. "We think daigou are good for both the local economy...and hey are very good for our business," Nathan said. "We clearly believe they are a positive force and it's fair to say that it is something we are assessing."

While food makers are keen, some big retailers have sought to tap the Chinese market directly themselves. Top grocer Woolworths set up an online store on Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd's vast Tmall electronic marketplace. But some Australia industry players, speaking on condition of anonymity, say the store has met with mixed results largely thanks to daigou offering the same goods for less.

Woolworths declined to comment on sales from its Tmall store, or on competition from daigou.

But for agent shoppers like Wang, the daigou business is in Australia to stay. "I'll continue to do this even after I find a job," Wang said. "Lots of money, good profits." —Reuters

in brief

US dollar stable against KD at 0.301

KUWAIT: The US Dollar's exchange rate against the Kuwaiti Dinar was stable at 0.301 while the euro's rate was down to KD 0.336, said the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) yesterday. The rate of the Sterling Pound was down to KD 0.389 while the rate of the Swiss Franc was stable at KD 0.309. The rate of the Japanese Yen stood firm at KD 0.002.

Dubai's Damac Properties Q2 net profit drops 37.4%

DUBAI: Dubai's DAMAC Properties reported a 37.4 percent fall in second-quarter net profit yesterday. The developer reported a net profit of 886.8 million dirhams (\$241.4 million) for the three months to June 30, according to a statement to Dubai's bourse. This was down from 1.42 billion dirhams a year earlier. EFG Hermes forecast the firm would make a quarterly net profit of 771 million dirhams. For the first half of the year, DAMAC's net profit was 1.94 billion dirhams, down 27 percent from the same period of last year.

Dubai Group sells stake in EFG-Hermes to Natixis

DUBAI: Dubai Financial Group sold its 11.8 percent stake in Egyptian investment bank EFG-Hermes Holding to France's Natixis under a debt restructuring deal, its parent company said yesterday. The sale was "consistent with the business plan for Dubai Group, which was agreed with its lenders as part of the restructuring agreement," Fadel Al-Ali, Dubai Group chairman, said in a statement. The price of the transaction was not disclosed. Based on Thursday's closing price, the stake is worth around \$107 million, according to Reuters calculations. Dubai Group completed a drawn-out restructuring of its \$10 billion debt pile in January 2014, with banks extending repayment deadlines on loans so that the group could be given time to sell its assets to raise cash needed to fund the payments. As part of its restructuring deal, it recently completed the sale of a 48.4 per cent stake in Dubai-based Shuaa Capital to Abu Dhabi Financial Group (ADFG) for an undisclosed amount.

Saudi shipper Bahri unit wins \$133.2m Islamic funding

DUBAI: National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia (Bahri) said yesterday that a subsidiary had secured \$133.2 million in Islamic financing to purchase five chemical tankers. The funding will be provided to National Chemical Carriers by Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation and BNP Paribas in the form of a murabaha facility for a 10-year period, it said in a bourse statement. A murabaha is a cost-plus-profit arrangement which complies with Islamic finance standards.

Saudi's Sipchem reports output disruptions

DUBAI: Saudi International Petrochemical Co (Sipchem)

yesterday reported that the carbon monoxide plant at unit International Gases Company (IGC) is experiencing technical issues that are disrupting operations at two units. The disruptions are affecting production of acetic acid at International Acetate Company (IAC) and output of ethyl acetate from Sipchem Chemicals Company (SCC), it said, adding that the technical issues began on Thursday. Technical teams are focused on restoring full operating capacity, it said. Initial estimates indicated the issue may continue into the third week of August. The financial impact of the reduced production will be announced once the issue has been resolved, it said.

RBS CHIEF SAYS BANK WOULD MOVE HQ FROM INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND LONDON: The chief executive of Royal Bank of Scotland says the company will move its headquarters out of Scotland if the country votes for independence. RBS said before Scotland's 2014 independence referen-

dum that it would leave in the event of independence. CEO Ross McEwan says Britain's June 23 vote to leave the European Union had not changed that. He told the BBC yesterday the bank "would just be too big for the economy" of Scotland, which has a population of about 5 million.

But he said there would not be big job losses among the 12,000 RBS employees in Scotland. While Britons overall voted 52-48 to leave the EU, Scots strongly backed staying in. Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon says that makes a second independence referendum "highly likely." —AP

DUBAI'S ARABTEC Q2 NET LOSS NARROWS

ABU DHABI: Dubai contractor Arabtec vesterday pared to a year earlier, its seventh straight quarterly loss as costs weighed on earnings. The company has been struggling with a difficult construction industry environment as Gulf economies slow and governments restrain spending because of low oil prices.

Arabtec made a net loss attributable to equity hold ers in the parent of 186.4 million dirham (\$50.8 million) in the three months to June 30, it said in a statement. This compares with a loss of 718.4 million dirhams in the corresponding period of 2015. EFG Hermes had forecast Arabtec would make a quarterly net loss of 83.2 million dirhams. Direct costs of Arabtec in the second quarter totalled 2.15 billion dirhams, almost as much as the revenues it earned in that period.

The firm's quarterly revenue was 2.16 billion dirhams, versus 1.80 billion dirhams a year earlier. "The direct costs are still too high, which is a problem. There was a good improvement in the first quarter but that has not been sustained in second quarter," Sanyalaksna Manibhandu, head of research at NBAD Securities said.

The company's finance costs from continued operations rose 89 percent from the year earlier period to 17 million dirhams during the quarter. The rise was due to increased borrowings for working capital for new projects, it said. The company was working on projects worth a total of 22.6 billion dirhams in the quarter, it said, up 12 percent from the previous year. —Reuters



LONDON: A logo of a branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland in London, Royal Bank of Scotland swung to a loss in the second quarter of 2016 as it set aside more cash to cover litigation and conduct issues as it cleans up the problems that led to a taxpayer-funded bailout at the height of the global financial crisis. —AP

EGYPT RECONSIDERS GRAIN MEGA PROJECT AMID PROBE

CAIRO: Blumberg Grain said its mega project to store Egyptian grains was back in play, with the government to announce a final decision in two weeks, after earlier indications that plans had been shelved and the company might exit the country entirely.

The decision comes as Egypt, the world's largest wheat importer, remains mired in controversy over its wheat supplies, with industry officials claiming that over 2 million tons of the 5 million tons of wheat procured locally in this harvest may exist only on paper. If Egypt's local wheat procurement numbers were misrepresented, it may have to spend more on foreign wheat purchases to meet local demand - even as the country faces a dollar shortage that has sapped its ability to import.

The grain logistics company has said the tracking and monitoring capabilities of its high-tech storage systems would crack down on the type of fraud seen in this year's

local procurement, which involves private silos sharply overestimating their wheat stocks to boost government

Blumberg Grain completed the first phase of the project earlier this year, delivering 93 systems to process and monitor about a quarter of the country's crop. But a series of bureaucratic hurdles prevented the sites from coming online in time for the procurement now under investigation.

Egypt's supply minister said last month that the second phase, which includes an additional 300 storage systems, had been rejected by the state's Holding Company for Silos

Blumberg Grain nonetheless said it is now optimistic about the project moving forward following a meeting with the prime minister and despite the pending resolution of "modest issues that stand in the way", Blumberg

45.880

Grain's CEO for the Middle East and Africa, David Blumberg, told Reuters this weekend.

"Given the high impact of this project, and the Sisi administration's emphasis on combating corruption, the need to increase hard currency, and help farmers, we are confident that the Egyptian government will do everything in its power to ensure the rapid development of the entire shouna (storage site) network," Blumberg said. The company said however that if the second phase is not signed, it would halt plans to establish Egypt as its regional export hub and for a \$250 million investment allocation for projects that include a manufacturing plant in East Port Said.

The plant would be the first located in Egypt's muchtouted Suez Canal Economic Zone, on which the government has pinned hopes of building a re-export hub that will draw badly needed hard currency but which has so far struggled to secure foreign investors.—Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO. BUY ASIAN COUNTRIES **CURRENCY SELL** Japanese Yen 4.527 **Indian Rupees** Pakistani Rupees 2.897 Srilankan Rupees 2.083 Nepali Rupees 2.837 Singapore Dollar 225.620 Hongkong Dollar 39.054 Bangladesh Taka 3.862 Philippine Peso 6.465 Thai Baht 8.698 **GCC COUNTRIES** Saudi Riyal Qatari Riyal 83.249 ani Riyal 787.162 Bahraini Dinai 804.840 **UAE Dirham** 82.512 **ARAB COUNTRIES** Egyptian Pound - Cash Egyptian Pound - Transfer 29.990 Yemen Riyal/for 1000 1.217 137.370 **Tunisian Dinar** Jordanian Dinar 427.640 Lebanese Lira/for 1000 Syrian Lira 2.0160 Morocco Dirham 31.389

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

302.900

US Dollar Transfer

395.280
230.690
101.990
309.870
232.630
301.700
GOLD
268.840
137.340
69.510
EXCHANGE CO. LTD

EXCHANGE CO
Selling Rate
302.750
233.925
392.315
338.905
296.105
800.340
82.655
83.870
81.455
426.600
33.995
2.083
4.521
2.887
3.852
6.476
159.569
3.980
2.405
3.825

Thai Bhat Turkish Lira	9.680 102.445	
Bahrain Ex	CHANGE C	OMPANY
CURRENCY	BUY Europe	SELL
British Pound	0.388422	0.403422
Czech Korune	0.004456	0.016456
Danish Krone	0.041250	0.046250
Euro	0.0331658	0.0340658
Norwegian Krone	0.032041	
Romanian Leu	0.075480	
Slovakia	0.009011	
Swedish Krona	0.031470	
Swiss Franc	0.302116	
Turkish Lira	0.097203	0.107503
Ar	ustralasia	
Australian Dollar	0.224446	0.236446
New Zealand Dollar	0.211779	0.221279
	America	
Canadian Dollar	0.226052	0.235052
Georgina Lari	0.136623	
US Dollars	0.298400	
US Dollars Mint	0.298900	0.303100
	Asia	
Bangladesh Taka	0.003386	
Chinese Yuan	0.044020	
Hong Kong Dollar	0.036912	0.039662

Malaysian Ringgit

Chinese Yuan Renminbi

Indian Rupee	0.004325	0.004714
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000019	0.000025
Japanese Yen	0.002903	0.003083
Kenyan Shilling	0.002974	0.002974
Korean Won	0.000266	0.000281
Malaysian Ringgit	0.072212	0.078215
Nepalese Rupee	0.002852	0.003022
Pakistan Rupee	0.002713	0.003003
Philippine Peso	0.006334	0.006634
Sierra Leone	0.000052	0.000058
Singapore Dollar	0.220173	0.230173
South African Rand	0.016564	0.025064
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001658	0.002236
Taiwan	0.009595	0.009775
Thai Baht	0.008360	0.008910
	Arab	
Bahraini Dinar	0.795818	0.00 .5 .0
Egyptian Pound	0.025243	
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	
Iraqi Dinar	0.000181	
Jordanian Dinar	0.422500	0.431500
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000150	0.000250
Moroccan Dirhams	0.019602	0.043602
Nigerian Naira	0.001247	0.001882
Omani Riyal	0.779294	0.784974
Qatar Riyal	0.082278	
Saudi Riyal	0.079580	0.080880
Syrian Pound Tunisian Dinar	0.001282 0.134078	0.001502 0.142078
Tunisian Dinar Turkish Lira	0.134078	0.142078
UAE Dirhams	0.097203	0.107503
UME DITTIATTIS		
Yemeni Riyal	0.000934	0.002034



he 2017 Dodge Viper has now arrived in the showrooms of MBMC (Al-Mulla and Behbehani Motors Company), the authorised distributor of Alfa Romeo, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep, Mopar and Ram in Kuwait, where it joins the Dodge range which is renowned for combining unique high performance with the highest levels of safety and the most advanced technology.

With the latest-generation Viper, the Dodge brand continues to electrify the performance car world with the brand's flagship, hand-built American supercar.

Second only to the race-enthusiast focused ACR in the Viper grand touring car lineup, the Viper GTS is the ultimate iteration of the American exotic boasting all the premium features of the SRT® and GT models, with an added list of luxury items befitting the wearer of the brand's halo.

Hand-rubbed finishes and hand-painted nose-to-tail stripes, taking 18 hours of precision, buried in the clear coat with no discernable edges are hallmarks. Proudly hand-crafted in America, the GTS is the gold standard of touring coupes, and features a 8.4litre, variable cam, SFI, all-aluminium V10 engine that produces 645 hp and 600 lb.-ft. of torque, linked to a Tremec six-speed manual transmission.

World-class Laguna leather seats are standard, as is an 18speaker state-of-the-art sound system, polished venom wheels with painted pockets, while optional GTS stripe packages and Stryker paint finishes are available.

With the introduction of matte-finish exterior paint, the 2017 Viper is now offered in more than 50 million unique build configurations, made up from the more than 16,000 unique paint colour options and more than 48,000 unique stripe combinations. Now more than ever, Viper customers have the ability to choose a truly one-of-a-kind, hand-built American supercar.

Fastest street-legal Viper track car ever

The Viper honours its long-standing legacy as the ultimate street-legal track car through significant aerodynamic and suspension upgrades. Originally introduced in 1999 and last available for the 2010 model year, the Dodge Viper has a long-standing legacy as the ultimate street-legal track car for club racing. The latest 2017 model salutes that performance legacy with significant aerodynamic and suspension upgrades, new Brembo® Carbon Ceramic Matrix brakes with six-piston front calipers and Kuhmo high-performance tyres specifically designed for the ACR.

More than 50 million unique build configurations = truly exotic, one-of-a-kind snake

For 2017, the Dodge Viper is available in more than 50 million unique configurations with the introduction of matte-finish paint across all exterior colours and stripes. Customers can choose from more than 16,000 unique paint colours and more than 48,000 unique stripe combinations from the "1 of 1" customisation programme, for a truly one-of-a-kind, hand-built American supercar.

Customers can also choose the matte finish option on all 11 additional production colours, including Adrenaline Red, Billet Silver Metallic, Black Venom, Bright White, Ceramic Blue, Competition Blue, GTS-R Blue, Gunmetal Pearl, Stryker Orange, Stryker Purple and Yorange.

All 2017 Dodge Viper models are available with stripes. GT, GTC, GTS and ACR models offer optional "GTS" stripes that run the length of the coupe from the front to rear fascia. SRT and GTC models are available with "SRT" stripes starting on the clamshell hood and making their way onto the roof and finishing on the rear hatch. Viper GTC and ACR models are available with the ACR centre band and driver's side stripe.

Stripe configurations are expertly applied in the paint booth before the main body colour. Only after the paint is cured, a final clear coat is used to ensure the stripes are an integral part of the finished product. Exterior stripes are offered in Black Venom, Billet Silver, Bright White, Gunmetal Pearl and Adrenaline Red or from the custom "1 of 1" colour palette.

Each 1 of 1 GTC model Viper features a personalised instrument panel badge with the customer's chosen name to commemorate their exclusive design.

Viper GTC Customiser offers personalised online design

On the 2017 Dodge Viper "1 of 1" GTC model, the new Viper GTC Customiser offers Viper lovers the chance to design their personalised version of the only hand-built performance supercar as part of the enhanced customisation programme. Available at www.driveSRT.com/Viper, the Viper GTC Customiser lets enthusiasts create their own virtual-reality vision of the Dodge Viper through dynamic elements that deliver a unique online design

Starting inside the Design Studio of the customiser, users create their one-of-a-kind Snake from the ground up. Users can "sit" in the virtual cockpit and take an up-close tour of all 18 available trim options. Once the design of the perfect Viper is complete, users can place the vehicle in their own lifestyle environments to preview how their custom Viper GTC will look in the real world.

Users also can share their custom supercar designs with family and friends. Images may be downloaded in various resolutions to share on social media or used as wallpaper on phones, tablets or computers. A PDF file of the image, complete with all technical information selected, can be downloaded - an especially useful tool for those ready to purchase. Designers can also share their custom Viper on the GTC Inspiration Gallery for other enthusiasts to appreciate and enjoy

The enhanced "1 of 1" customisation programme is available exclusively for customer orders (not for dealer stock). No two customers can order the same configuration, including colour, in the same model year.

Stryker Orange and Stryker Purple add to Viper's vast exterior colour palette

Available on Viper GTC and ACR models, new Stryker Orange expands the world-class exterior colour palette with enhanced pigments that add depth to the finish and reflections to show off the dramatic curves of the Viper. Stryker Purple is available on Viper GTC only.

Hand-painted process brings exclusive flexibility

The Dodge Viper's unique hand-painted process enables the flexibility to deliver industry-first custom paint options that offer unequal personalization while meeting the latest industry durabil-

Each Viper has an extremely high quality level paint finish that



ranks as one of the best in the industry. It takes between 145 to 160 man-hours to prep and hand-paint the Viper body panels. After paint and clear coat, every Viper body panel is sanded smooth by hand with 1,000 grit paper and polished to a near mir-

The individuals who paint the Viper are truly specialized artisans. The application of the exterior paint is a detailed and intricate process, taking approximately eight hours to complete. The process starts with a base colour coat followed by a tinted midcoat and topped off with a clear finish. Each coat application adds depth and accentuates the curvature of the Viper's exterior design.

Nose to tail stripes are also hand painted and finished - unlike most cars that use decals - underneath the clear coat. This results in a completely smooth surface with no discernable edges to the stripe. A stripe adds 18 hours to the overall paint process.

As a result of this unique hand-painted process, Viper is able to offer industry-exclusive matte finish across its full colour palette.

Awe-inspiring V10 powertrain

The heart and soul of the Dodge Viper is its legendary, handcrafted, all-aluminium 8.4-litre, mid-front V10 overhead-valve engine, featuring an ultra-high-flow, lightweight composite intake manifold; high-strength forged pistons; sodium-filled exhaust valves; exhaust system catalysts to ease backpressure and an aluminum flywheel that reduces reciprocating losses.

Power output of the SRT® engineered V10 is 645 horsepower and 600 lb.-ft. torque - the most torque of any naturally aspirated sports-car engine in the world.

Approximately 25 pounds (11.34 kgs) have been shaved from the fully dressed engine compared with the previous-generation model (2010 model year)

The Tremec TR6060 six-speed manual transmission features close gear ratios and a final-drive ratio of 3.55. Short shifter throws make the 2017 Dodge Viper models extremely engaging to drive. Its top speed of 206 mph (331.5 kph) is achieved through 6th gear with maximum engine speed (redline) at 6,200 rpm.

Outstanding ride, handling and capability

Starting with a stiffer structure that provides 50% more torsional rigidity than the previous generation model, the 2017 Dodge Viper chassis benefits from numerous enhancements many learned through racing efforts with Viper GTS-R, Competition Coupe and ACR-X models.

In addition to the aluminium X-brace under the hood that ties the suspension pickup points to the magnesium cowl super casting, an aluminium impact beam at the front of the car contributes to 50/50 weight distribution, while providing excellent crashworthiness. This also benefits torsional rigidity and stiffness.

Structurally, many reworked chassis components take advantage of new materials able to accommodate reduced thickness and complex shapes without compromising structural rigidity. The result is an overall weight saving of approximately 100 pounds (45.36 kgs) versus the previous generation model.

The Dodge Viper SRT model includes a standard single mode, high-performance suspension, while the GT, GTC and GTS models add a driver-selectable suspension system featuring Bilstein DampTronic Select shock absorbers with street and track settings. The new ACR features a unique track suspension with 10-setting, double-adjustable, Bilstein coil-over racing shocks and unique race alignment delivering up to 3 inches (76.2 mm) of suspension height adjustment for fine-tuning corner weight.

broadening the perform-

ance envelope on the street or the track. The new ACR rides on the latest race tyre compound technology with massive Kumho Ecsta V720 high-performance tyres (295/25/19 front, 355/30/19 rear), designed and developed specifically for the 2016 Dodge

Standard safety technologies include electronic multistage stability control and traction control, which helps to maximise traction performance at virtually any speed and driving environ-

All 2017 Dodge Viper models feature a steering-wheel-mounted switch for the standard launch control, allowing for optimal acceleration from standing starts.

Aerodynamic performance to the maximum

The optional Advanced Aerodynamics Package, TA 1.0 Package and Time Attack Group 1.0 include carbon fibre front corner splitters and a carbon fibre rear spoiler, which provide 278 pounds 126.1 kgs) of downforce at 150 mph (241.4 kph) and 460 pounds (208.65 kgs) of downforce at top speed.

The optional TA 2.0 Package and Time Attack Group 2.0 feature lower dive planes, carbon fibre front corner splitters and a larger rear wing, which provide 400 pounds (181.43 kgs) of downforce at 150 mph (241.4 kph) and 662 pounds (300.28 kgs) of downforce at top speed.

The Viper ACR sports a rear wing that is 40% larger than the TA 2.0. For maximum downforce, the optional ACR Extreme Aero Package with its larger, adjustable dual-element carbon fibre rear wing, rear carbon fibre diffuser, unique SRT hood with removable louvers, detachable extension for the front splitter and additional dive planes all add up to produce unprecedented peak downforce numbers of nearly 1 ton (907.19 kgs) at top speed.

Benchmark braking

Brake performance for the Dodge Viper is engineered to provide short stopping distances, low modulation, outstanding durability and balanced brake performance without fading under extreme conditions.

Each corner of every Viper features four-piston Brembo brakes with fixed aluminium calipers and vented rotors boasting a diameter of 14.0 x 1.26 inches (355 x 32 mm). Brake calipers are forged. All surfaces are machined for full weight optimization. The calipers are among the stiffest available. Heat distortion is nearly eliminated, even under the most demanding braking conditions.

Lightweight and slotted two-piece rotors from StopTech are standard on the Dodge Viper GT, GTC and GTS models for 2017.

Four available equipment packages (TA 1.0, TA 2.0, Time Attack 1.0 and Time Attack 2.0) feature a Brembo brake system with unique, slotted, vented high-thermal calipers and two-piece, wide annulus rotors and pads, to increase thermal capacity and optimise heat dissipation providing improved extreme use.

The latest ACR features standard Brembo Carbon Ceramic Matrix brakes with 15-inch (381 mm) two-piece rotors and six-piston front calipers, which deliver ultimate stopping performance with unprecedented brake fade resistance.

Race-inspired, high-performance interiors

The driver-oriented interior cabins of all 2017 Dodge Vipers feature superior craftsmanship, premium material appointments and performance-oriented technologies. All major interior surfaces are sewn and wrapped, with additional padding applied in

Ballistic 2 Premium high grip seats are standard on the SRT model. The Viper GT model brings in standard Nappa leather with Alcantara inserts and is available with full Nappa leather seats. SRT and GT models are both adorned with suede panels and accent stitching. Colour combinations include a black interior with black seats, a black interior with Sepia seats, and a black interior with Demonic Red seats.

Standard on the Viper GTS model, Nappa leather-wrapped surfaces surround the cabin; Laguna leather seats and an Alcantara headliner are standard. Accent colours are applied to the seats, doors, centre console and stitching, including black and two-

tone combinations

Demonic Red and black combination.

Also available on the GTC model is a fully wrapped premiun Laguna leather interior in all black, all Sepia or all Demonic Rec resulting in a luxurious full-dipped look.

Standard on the Viper ACR and optional on the GTC are high grip Alcantara leather seats in black with either Header Red or sil ver accent stitching, Alcantara wrapped steering wheel, AC badge, Alcantara door trim panels with laser etched race-flag design and Moroccan sun interior bezels.

Quality fit and finish is showcased across the lineup witl details such as the triple paint-finished gun-metal appliqués or the cluster bezel, HVAC outlets, window-switch bezels, shifte base, park-brake bezel and the integrated passenger grab-handl on the centre console.

An optional interior carbon fibre accents package, which includes carbon fibre trim on the steering wheel, door trim and switches, instrument cluster, panel vents, grab handle, consol shifter and centre stack bezel, is also available.

Standard high-performance racing seats from Sabelt feature lightweight shell created by a state-of-the-art resin transfe moulding technology for mass reduction and long-term durabili ty. Both driver and passenger enjoy thigh support and deep side bolsters designed to match the extreme lateral acceleration capa bilities of the Dodge Viper.

Seating positions provide ample room and performance-dri ving ergonomics. Seat travel stretches 3.5 inches (90 mm) overa for numerous seating options. Seat height also can be adjusted b up to 1.6 inches (40 mm) - manually on the SRT (power optiona and ACR, while power-controlled on GT, GTC and GTS models.

A 7-inch (177.8 mm), reconfigurable digital display cluster witl its full-time analog tachometer is designed specifically for th Dodge Viper. The dominant centre tachometer display features as animated readout that glows red and shows off the "Stryker" logwhen engine rpm approaches redline, safely alerting the driver to

Drivers can configure the tachometer to display their last shif point and a peak rpm hold marker can be set up for optimum per formance. Views include tachometer-only or tachometer with dig ital speed readout.

The reconfigurable digital cluster provides an unmatched presentation of the exclusive SRT Performance Pages' statistic and feedback to the driver, including 0-to-60 mph (0-to-97 kph 0-to-100 mph (0-to-161 kph); eighth- and quarter-mile elapsed times; launch control; braking distance; instant g-force measure ment readouts and top-speed performance.

The 8.4-inch (213.36 mm) touchscreen Uconnect® Medi Centre doubles as a display for SRT Performance Pages content such as quarter-mile elapsed time and speed. Data also can b stored for future reference.

Aggressive and functional exterior designs The timeless exterior design of the Dodge Viper SRT lineu

blends contemporary execution with evolutionary refinement Carbon-fibre hood, roof, decklid and aluminium door panel result in significant weight savings, high-speed stability and a .36' drag coefficient while still achieving negative lift.

The forward-hinged hood offers unobtrusive access to severa service points underneath. Six standard air extractors on the Vipe SRT and ACR models (available on GTC) or two standard air extrac tors on the GT, GTC, and GTS models remove heat from the SRT engineered V10 engine. The "Stryker" badge is positioned in th centre of the hood in front of the air intake.

The classic low-stance, extreme cab-rearward proportions and dramatic fender "gills" - another traditional Viper design cue tha also helps to extract heat from the engine compartment - com prise the unmistakable silhouette of the iconic supercar. All 201 Viper models feature a contemporary take on the traditional "double bubble" roof configuration that maximises headroom for the drive and passenger while maintaining a low frontal area - allowing addi tional room for helmets during recreational competitive driving.





SOME SHELL FIRMS SIDESTEP UK TRANSPARENCY RULES

LONDON: Some UK shell companies under offshore control may be skirting new rules which were designed to clamp down on corruption and tax evasion by forcing businesses to reveal their true owners, a Reuters analysis of corporate filings shows.

British government officials have heralded the rules, which came into effect last month, as a world-leading transparency move to tackle crime and urged other nations to follow suit.

Under the new system, statements which UK companies file when they are set up and on each anniversary of that date showing changes in shareholders or directors are supposed to

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include details of "Persons with significant control (PSC)". For most companies this is straightforward. But some owners use nominees or shell companies, which can have legitimate purposes but also can mask international crime, governments and international bodies like the World Bank say. Of 300 offshore shell companies identified by Reuters, 22 would typically have been required to have published the beneficial ownership information by now because their reporting dates fell in the weeks since July 1, when the rules came into force.

All but one of them has not done so. The ways they have avoided the rules lay bare, for the first time, several loopholes in the new regulation. Twelve filed their annual ownership statement before the new rules came into effect on July 1, although their anniversaries fell after that date. They could thus apply the old rules which did not require them to declare beneficial owners. Others filed late or stated they did not have any beneficial owners. Shell companies can have legal aims such as easing access to international markets or servicing clients in many countries and none of the actions by the companies necessarily signal improper dealings.

Robert Palmer, policy advisor at advocacy group Global Witness, said the filings showed

people might be able to hide behind shell companies despite the new system.

"One of the biggest flaws with the UK set up is that it is based on self-reporting and Companies House (which runs the UK Corporate register) has limited resources to go after people who fail to provide information or provide incorrect information," he said. Asked to comment on the ways in which companies appeared to be sidestepping the rules, Daniel Munden, Chief Press Officer for the government Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, which oversees the process, said implementing the new system would take time.

"These changes will ensure that companies are more transparent about who actually owns them," he said. "We have always been clear that the Companies House public register will be built up over time and completed by June 2017."

We need to know

The World Bank said in a 2011 report that UK corporate vehicles "feature prominently" in a database of international corruption cases its anti-corruption arm had compiled. Two years later, former Prime Minister David Cameron unveiled the planned new rules, aimed at making Britain the first major financial centre to insist beneficial owners are declared. The United States is now considering a similar step.

"We need to know who really owns and controls our companies. Not just who owns them legally, but who really benefits financially from their existence," Cameron said at the time. The UK firms Reuters identified were either UK- registered companies or Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) whose directors were foreign-based individuals representing many companies or whose members were companies registered at legal offices in low tax jurisdictions such as Vanuatu or the Seychelles.

None had any obvious operations in the UK. Two of the companies identified -Peaking Investments LLP and Global Cluster International LLP - had been formed since July 1. They did not list any controlling parties. Both said in filings: "The company knows or has reasonable cause to believe that there is no registrable person or registrable relevant legal entity in relation to the company." They did not respond to requests for comment. Asked about their statements, Joanne Johnstone, a spokeswoman for Companies House, said: "It is entirely possible for companies not to have a PSC (person of significant control), For example, 4 shareholders with 25 percent of the shares each, and 25 percent of the voting rights, none of them is a PSC." "It is perfectly legitimate for a company to have no beneficial owners and we do not verify such statements when they are submitted to us." If a complaint was referred to Companies House, it could refer the complaint on to the BEIS, she said. Of the 20 older shell companies, only one had published the required details as of Wednesday. The annual statements or details of persons of significant control of seven of the companies have not yet been published. Companies officially have 14 days after their anniversaries to present their ownership statements, but corporate filings at Companies House show they often file later. — Reuters

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HAYATCOMM	45.0	43.0	400	18	2	45.0	-	0.0
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SANAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0
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For more information, call Global Investment House on 1 80 42 42, www.globalinv.net

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Index	Previo	us Close	Last	Price	Cha	inge	Performance %	Performanc %
Dow Jones	100000	13.52	2000	76.47	-37.05	•	-0.20	6.61
NASDAQ		8.40	577.63.043	2.90	4.50		0.09	4.11
S&P 500 Financial Times		35.79 14.71	0.000	6.02	-1.74 1.31	¥	-0.08	6.85
DAX		42.84	DROXEG	13.43	-29.41	*	-0.27	-0.28
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Kuwait		9.72	0005100	8.95	-0.77	•	-0.01	-2.10
Saudi Arabia	(1000)	25.62	592.00	7.90	42.28	A	0.67	-8.48
Dubai Abu Dhabi	10.700	24.42	Caran	7.37	42.95 0.05	A	0.00	11.85 5.10
Bahrain		52.15	10,50,400	6.49	4.34		0.38	-5.24
Qatar	10,9	55.31	11,0	53.88	98.57	A	0.90	5.04
Oman		2.80		6.74	3.94		0.07	9.00
Lebanon Jordan		13.99		1.86	6.74	A .	0.59	-2.18
Egypt		77.71		8.15	-7.23 -49.56	*	-0.34	-0.81 19.58
Morocco		77.48	1777-777-33	8.26	-29.22		-0.29	11.78
Tunisia	5,38	80.60	5,38	2.65	2.05	A	0.04	6.71
	Glot	oal Cui	rrenci	es Exc	change	Rate		
28	Kuwaiti			(71)	Sterling	Swiss	Japanese	Australian
Currency	Dinar	Saudi Riyal		Euro	Pound	Franc	Yen	Dollar
Kuwait Dinar Saudi Riyal	0.08118	12.3186	3.2982 0.2677	2.9524 0.2397	0.2071	0.2609	334.07 27.12	4.3113 0.3500
US Dollar	0.30320	3.7350	0.2677	0.8952	0.7733	0.9744	101.29	1.3072
Euro	0.33870	4.1724	1.1171		0.8641	1.0888	113.16	1.4606
Sterling Pound	0.39207	4.8297	1.2931	1.1573		1.2598	130.91	1.6888
Swiss Franc	0.31117	3.8331	1.0263	0.9184	0.7938		103.75	1.3415
Japanese Yen Australian Dollar	0.00299	0.0369 2.8573	0.0099	0.0088	0.0076	0.0096	77.49	0.0129
Australian Dollar			7.5		20			k====
	MER		rencie		hange			
Currency	US Dollar	Kuwaiti	Saudi Riyal	Bahraini Dinar	Qatari Riyal	Omani Riyal	Dirham	Egyptian Pound
US Dollar		0.30320	3.7350	0.3741	3.6267	0.3832	3.6570	8.7700
Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2982		12.3186	1.2338	11.9614	1.2637	12.0613	28.9248
Saudi Riyal Bahraini Dinar	0.2677 2.6731	0.08118	9.9840	0.1002	0.9710 9.6945	0.1026 1.0242	0.9791 9.7755	2.3481
Bahraini Dinar Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.81048	1.0299	0.1032	7.0743	0.1056	1.0084	2.4182
Omani Riyal	2.6099	0.79133	9.7481	0.9764	9.4655	per real part	9.5446	22.8892
Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.08291	1.0213	0.1023	0.9917	0.1048		2.3981
Egyptian Pound	0.1140	0.03457	0.4259	0.0427	0.4135	0.0437	0.4170	70
		Glot	oal Int	erest	Rates			
Currency	1-Week	1-Month	100000	onth	155,500	onth 63		'ear 94
Kuwaiti Dinar US Dollar	0.00	0.50		44 81		63 20	- 33	52
Euro	-0.38	-0.37	- 03/2	.31		.20	1000	.07
Sterling Pound	0.24	0.27	183	38		50	-	72
Swiss Franc	-0.81	-0.80	8.77	.74		.65		.49
Australian Dollar	0.00	1.66 0.88	10.00	62 89		56 01		10
Canadian Dall	0.00	44			100	÷.	1.	
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Country	100	/ear	5-Y	'ear	10000	Year	_	Year
Country United States	0.	fear 70	5-Y	'ear 09	1.	51	2.	23
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WILL FED EVER BE ABLE TO RAISE RATES?

NBK MONEY MARKETS REPORT

espite the latest dismal GDP report and the UK's "Brexit" vote, markets have in general trended higher and have reached levels close to all time high in the US. The latest job data have also been so positive that they should have pointed to a rising interest rates as early as this year. Yet, the July Fed meeting did not commit to any interest rates hike in September and markets odds of rates hike in September still stand only at 22 percent while gold prices continue to move higher as a result of additional easing measures adopted by the other global central banks.

For the remainder of the summer, two important events are likely to shape investors' sentiments. The Fed Chair Yellen's speech at Jackson Hole on August 26 and the August employment report, released on September 2nd . As the situation continues to point to a stronger USD, the latest economic data from China have soften during the past week suggesting that the Chinese economy continues to have difficulties moving to a consumption led society. With both industrial production and retail data falling short of expectations, global investors remain unconvinced over the growth path of the Chinese economy despite all the efforts of the PBoC.

On the currency front, the Euro remained subdued against the US dollar as the divergence in policy between the Fed and the ECB continues to dictate the movement in the pair. The Euro opened the week at 1.1086, reached a high of 1.1192 given the holidays liquidity and in the absence of significant data releases. The currency ended the week at 1.1162. After the BoE cut interest rates last week, and committed to buying additional government bonds, interest rates in the UK continue to drop, making investors shun the Sterling pound. The currency opened the week at 1.3097 dropping throughout the week towards the lows of 1.2900. The currency ended the week at 1.2920.

In Japan, the USD/JPY remained subdued throughout the week following the Mountain Day holiday celebrated for the first time this year. After opening the week at 102.45, the currency traded in the narrowest range this summer and ended the week at 101.30.

On the commodities side, Crude and Brent continue to be volatile starting the week at 44.27 and 43.02 and ending the week at \$44.49 and \$46.97 respectively. Although inventories in the US rose by 1.1 million versus a forecast of negative 1.025 million, markets were cheerful over the Saudi comments that they may look to stabilise supply which spurred big gains for the oil exporting currencies.

The comments from Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih that they would "take any action to help" the crude market have been optimistically jumped on by investors, however, markets quickly turned their focus on the next OPEC meeting in November before deciding on the next move.

One hike this year?

The According to San Francisco Fed President John Williams, the Federal Reserve should raise interest rates further this year reflecting on the improved labor market conditions and the likelihood that inflation is heading higher. "As the economy gets closer to its goals, we can again pull our



foot off the gas a bit and hopefully execute a nice, soft landing over the next couple of years."

Asked if the Fed's gradual rate increases should include any rate hikes this year, Williams said, "In my view, it does." At the beginning of the year, Williams expected the Fed to raise rates several times in 2016, but global events have caused him to pencil in "a little more gradual pace of increases," he said. It is interesting to note that Williams is not a voter this year on the Fed's policy-setting panel, but his comments are closely watched because his views are seen as reflecting those of Fed Chair Janet Yellen.

Bernanke's view

The former chairman of the US Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, can't see a rise in interest rates anytime soon. Bernanke explained that most Fed officials have been proved to be wrong on their economic forecasts over the past several years. They anticipated that economic growth would be stronger, while both the unemployment rate and the natural level of interest rates would be higher.

According to the former chairman, "It has not been lost on Fed policymakers that the world looks significantly different in some ways than they thought just a few years ago, and that the degree of uncertainty about how the economy and policy will evolve may now be unusually high."

For investors, it has been unclear which data Yellen and her colleagues watch, as unemployment has fallen well below the Fed's target level, the economy has managed steady growth, and stock market levels set new records, spurring worries of asset bubbles.

Strong JOLTS report

According to the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Summary (JOLTS) report, job openings in the US edged steadily higher in June. There were 5.6 million job openings in June, little changed from 5.5 million job openings in May. The monthly report is closely followed by the Fed to assess the health of the labor market. Job openings have been elevated throughout 2016 as employers are hunting for qualified employees in a labor market that's getting close to full employment. The problem remains that June's openings were concentrated in what are often low-paying service industries. Retailers were recruiting for nearly 600,000 positions, while accommodation and food services employers were looking to fill nearly 700,000 vacancies.

Eurozone activity slows

The Eurozone industrial production fell back 1.2 percent on a monthly basis in May, reversing the 1.4 percent rise for April and raising concerns of sluggish growth. According to the report, production of energy falling by 4.3 percent, capital goods by 2.3 percent and durable consumer goods by 1.4 percent were the main reasons behind the drop.

Industrial production rose 0.5 percent on a yearly basis in the Euro zone. Across the 28-member Union industrial production fell 1.1 percent in May after a 1.5 percent increase in April.

The largest falls inside the Euro zone showed Dutch industrial production dropping 7.8 percent in May, by 4.4 percent in Portugal and 4.3 percent in Greece. Britain's manufacturing sector continued to shrink although moderately, falling 0.3 percent on a monthly basis in June following a 0.6 percentdecrease in May. Expectations were for a decline of 0.2 percent. Manufacturing production rose on the other hand 0.9 percent versus a 1.5 percent rise the previous month. Industrial production as a whole rose 0.1 percent in June compared to May, when output fell 0.6 percent in line with expectations.

Last week, the Bank of England cut interest rates and re-started bond purchases to cushion the economy against a potential downturn following the Brexit vote. For now, most MPC members expect to cut rates further and there are strong indications that some members were keen to ease further in August. Yet negative UK policy rates seem unlikely in the near future as mentioned by Mark Carney BoE governor. At the Inflation Report press conference, the Governor re-iterated that he is "not a fan" of negative interest rates and is aware of their possible adverse implications. The MPC currently judges that the lower bound is "close to, but a little above, zero", and most members expected a further cut before the end of the year.

China decelerating

As mentioned earlier in the report, economic data from China have soften in the past week adding to a raft of indicators suggesting the Chinese economy is having difficulties moving to a consumption based society. Industrial production and retail data fell short of expectations for the month of July with retail sales up by 10.2 percent in July compared with a year earlier, still below forecasts and a fall from the 10.6 percent increase in June. Industrial production on the other hand rose by 6 percent compared with the same period the previous year and was also weaker than analysts' expectations. Infrastructure spending also fell short of forecasts coming at 8.1 percent compared to 8.9 percent expected and from 9 percent in the January to June period. This is the third consecutive month of growth below 10 percent and the weakest year-to-date growth since December 1999, suggesting the effects of a credit boom in the first quarter are fading.

While China's consumption remains strong, investment and net exports are slowing. Trade data this week showed a further drop in exports and a higher-than-expected decline in imports, suggesting sluggish demand at home and abroad. Exports were down 4.4 percent on a yearly basis while imports were also down by a large 12.5 percent on a yearly basis. Japan's core machine orders rose more than forecast in June, making up for a decline in May. Core machine orders increased 8.3 percent on a monthly basis in June, above the consensus of +3.2 percent and above May's -1.4 percent. According to the report, companies predict a 5.2 percent rise in 3Q core orders. On a yearly basis, capital orders dropped 0.9 percent in June, better than May's -11.7 percent and consensus forecast of -4.5 percent. Overseas demand climbed 10.8 percent month on month, however without fully recovering from the drop of 14.8 percent in May.

During he last BoJ meeting, officials decided to raise their ETF purchases by JPY 2.7 trillion. Moreover the BoJ will establish a new facility to lend Japanese Government Bonds to banks, and officials doubled the USD lending program to \$24 billion. We believe that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's 28 trillion Yen stimulus package is likely to start supporting the economy. It could potentially support capital expenditure while offsetting weakness in foreign orders.

Australia's worried over China

Australian Business Confidence dipped in July, coming in at +4 compared to +6 in the previous month indicating that business sentiment remains high resulting from the quiet economic sentiment in China. Australian consumers however are not sharing the same optimism according to the Westpac Consumer Sentiment survey. The indicator posted a sharp drop of 3.0 percent in July and has managed just two gains in 2016. On the labor front, Australian unemployment rate edged up from 5.7 percent to 5.8 percent while the Reserve Bank of Australia has said to be closely monitoring inflation and employment data. If these indicators fail to improve, the bank could cut rates again before the end of 2016.

IL OVERSUPPLY CONCERNS RESURFACE AS PRICES RISE

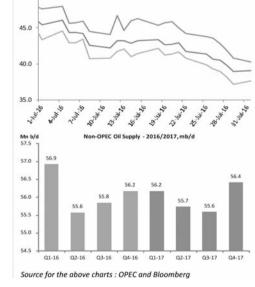
KAMCO Oil Market Monthly Report

KUWAIT: A number of developments kept the oil market on its heels during August-16 that included a 2.1 million increase in US crude oil inventory during the week ending 5-Aug-16, according to the API. Rig count also saw the biggest jump in 2016 and rose for the seventh straight week. On the other hand, the EIA raised the production forecast for US oil producers indicating a slower than expected decline in US oil output as US oil producers are proving more resilient to oil prices. The agency also lowered the average US oil price forecast for 2016 to \$41.16/b from \$43.57/b and for 2017 to \$51.58/b from \$52.15/b. A similar forecast was made by IEA that lowered global demand outlook for 2017 by 0.1 mb/d due to the expected macroeconomic factors.

Oil Prices

Oil supply concerns continued during July-16 led by developments on rising crude inventories in the US and across the globe, including China, as well as rising oil production or resilient oil production in the US. Moreover, there is a looming concern that as the seasonal maintenance kicks in the US, oil demand will further decline leading to further pressure on oil prices. The latest API report highlighted the biggest crude inventory in over the past three months with an increase of 2.1 million barrels. The EIA's short term energy outlook also pointed to figures not supportive of oil prices while highlighting July-16 production of 8.57 mb/d. a decline of 180 tb/d and the lowest level since April-14. In the report, the EIA raised the production forecast for US oil producers indicating a slower than expected decline in US oil output as US oil producers are proving more resilient to oil prices. The agency raised US oil production forecast to average at 8.73 mb/d in 2016, up from its previous forecast of 8.61 mb/d as it expects higher output with the expected increase in drilling later during this year. Its 2017, US oil production forecast was also raised from 8.2 mb/d to 8.31 mb/d. The agency also lowered the average US oil price forecast for 2016 to \$41.16/b from \$43.57/b and for 2017 to \$51.58/b from \$52.15/b. In terms of rig count, Baker Hughes reported that US oil rig count saw the biggest jump in 2016 as producers reacted to the temporary rise in oil price in June-16. This was also the seventh consecutive week when the company has reported increase in rig count. Oil fields services company Halliburton also indicated that the north American market has turned around and the company expects a rise in rig count

during the second half of the year. In a positive development, spare production capacity globally appears to be at negligi-



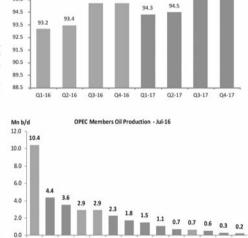
ble levels, according to US DoE, indicating that the oil prices may react violently to supply shocks like the ones seen recently. Moreover,

oil majors are reducing spending as they face issues with funding and refining margins, which reached the lowest since 2010 in the case of BP in O2-16.

Average OPEC monthly oil price declined for the first time in over six months during July-16 to \$42.68/b, a 6.9 percent decline as compared to the previous month. Brent and Kuwait Crude also declined at a similar pace during the month.

World oil demand

Total world oil demand growth for 2016 was increased by 30 tb/d from the last month to 1.22 mb/d and is now expected to reach 94.26 mb/d. The increase comes primarily on the back of higher-than-expected oil demand from OECD Europe and Other Asia during the first two quarters of the years. Road transportation sector continues to drive oil demand in Europe further supported by the industrial sector, although petrochemical feedstocks like naphtha saw a decline. Auto sales in Europe continues to be positive with 7 percent increase in registrations, according to ACEA. On the negative side, the OPEC monthly report also pointed to the negative impact of Brexit on oil demand for the remainder of the year as well as next year. In the Other Asia region, oil demand continues to be driven by India further supported by higher demand in Thailand. Monthly oil consumption in the US continued to rise since February-16 on the back of rising gasoline jet/kerosene and fuel



oil requirements partly offset by decline in diesel oil demand. Nevertheless, according to the full month data available for May-16, the increase in demand was lower than the previous months. Preliminary weekly data for the next two months, ie June-16 and July-16 also pointed to 4 percent and 1.7 percent increase

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World oil demand growth for 2017 was kept unchanged and is expected to grow by 1.15mb/d to a new record oil consumption of 95.41 mb/d. The US will continue to remain one of the major contributors to demand growth for the OECD countries with an expected increase of 0.15 mb/d. In addition, both Mexico and Canada are expected to post increase in oil demand. In OECD Asia Pacific, oil demand from

Japan is expected to slide as a number of nuclear plants are expected to restart operations, which will be partially offset by higher demand in South Korea. The other Asia region will continue to be a major contributor to this growth in 2017 on the back of positive economic growth in addition to steady retail prices. In terms of individual contribution, India is expected to be the biggest contributor to growth, whereas Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines are also expected to contribute positively to oil demand arowth in 2017.

World oil supply

Non-OPEC oil supply growth in 2016 also saw an upward revision of 90 tb/d in the latest OPEC report on account of higher-thanexpected production in the US and UK during

Non-OPEC Oil Supply - 2015/2016, mb/d		Q1-16	Q2-16	Q3-16	Q4-16	2016	Y-o-Y Growth	% Chg.
Americas	21.01	21.00	20.13	20.43	20.40	20.49	(0.53)	(2.50)
of which US	13.99	13.81	13.63	13.46	13.41	13.58	(0.41)	(2.93)
Europe	3.76	3.90	3.77	3.58	3.71	3.74	(0.02)	(0.55)
Asia Pacific	0.46	0.44	0.42	0.44	0.42	0.43	(0.03)	(6.72)
Total OECD	25.23	25.33	24.31	24.45	24.53	24.66	(0.58)	(2.29)
Other Asia	2.70	2.74	2.66	2.72	2.74	2.71	0.01	0.51
Latin America	5.19	4.98	5.08	5.21	5.24	5.13	(0.06)	(1.19)
Middle East	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.25	1.26	(0.01)	(1.00)
Africa	2.14	2.11	2.09	2.10	2.12	2.11	(0.03)	(1.48)
Total Developing Countries (DCs)	11.30	11.09	11.09	11.29	11.36	11.21	(0.09)	(0.82)
Former Soviet Union (FSU)	13.69	13.95	13.75	13.59	13.72	13.75	0.06	0.42
of which Russia	10.85	11.07	11.00	10.88	10.95	10.98	0.13	1.18
Other Europe	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.00	1.63
China	4.38	4.22	4.11	4.18	4.23	4.19	(0.19)	(4.39)
Total "Other regions"	18.21	18.31	17.99	17.92	18.10	18.08	(0.13)	(0.73)
Total Non-OPEC Production	54.74	54.73	53.39	53.66	53.99	53.94	(0.80)	(1.46)
Processing gains	2.17	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.19	0.01	0.60
Total Non-OPEC Supply	56.91	56.92	55.57	55.84	56.17	56.13	(0.79)	(1.39)
OPEC NGLs and non-conventionals	6.13	6.24	6.27	6.30	6.34	6.29	0.16	2.61
OPEC Crude Oil Production	32.10	32.51	32.78					
Total World Supply	95.14	95.67	94.62					

2Q-16. Non-OPEC oil supply growth is now expected to contract by 0.79 mb/d in 2016 to average at 56.13 mb/d. The report also warned that although global liquids supply declined in Q2-16 by 1.06 mb/d q-o-q or 0.30 mb/d y-o-y to average 94.6 mb/d, some of the non-OPEC supply outages seen during the second quarter (that helped the recent oil price rally) is expected to come back online during the second half of the year. The outages include the Canadian wildfires that affected oil production in the country. In addition, US rig count and the end of seasonal maintenance will also support output. Meanwhile, non-OPEC supply growth in 2017 was lowered by 40 tb/d and is now expected to contract by 0.15 mb/d to average at 55.97 mb/d. The decline comes on the back of 2016 revision as well as a change in production expectation for the UK. Moreover, OPEC continues to expect that although the decline in upstream investment by international oil companies has shown lesser-than-expected impact, the lack of usual exploration activities for new discoveries and replacing old fields will result in an acceleration of production declines in the coming years. Non-OPEC oil supply growth for 2017 was lowered by 40 tb/d as compared to the previous expectations and is now expected to contract by 0.15 mb/d to average 55.97 mb/d. The new estimates primarily reflect the revisions made to 2016 actuals and forecasts and also partially due to a change in the UK's production forecast for 2017.

OPEC oil production & spare capacity

OPEC oil production remained elevated during July-16 but declined slightly by 0.3 percent to 33.2 mb/d, according to Bloomberg. There were minimal changes in production by individual countries. Most notable was the decline of 70 tb/d in Nigeria as the country struggles to overcome the issues in the Niger Delta region. According to Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), the country's production is down by almost 700 tb/d from a regular output capacity of 2.2 mb/d when in fact the government had expected to increase the production to pre-January levels by August-16.

On the other hand, Iran, Iraq, UAE and Venezuela recorded an output increase of 50 tb/d during the month. According to Bloomberg, Saudi Arabia continued to produce at record levels during July-16. However, we believe, that a majority of the increase in production was primarily aimed at domestic consumption in order to deal with the seasonal summer demand where electricity consumption is at its peak in the region and hence the higher production must have had a minimal impact on international crude supply. Meanwhile Iran continues to ramp up production although further increase in production would require an investment pegged at \$100 billion. A news agency that cited Iran's oil minister, said that the country's oil output has reached 3.85mb/d and is expected to reach 4.6 mb/d over the next five years.

Another weekly said that Iran is expected to sign oil contracts worth \$25 billion within two years. Furthermore, in a continued sign of the impact of low oil prices on gulf oil exporters, Abu Dhabi has delayed an estimated \$1 Bn oil and gas development project, according to Platts. The deadline to submit the technical bids for the said project was in the last week of July, but it was pushed back, essentially putting the project on hold. Venezuela, on the other hand, continues to struggle to ramp up production due to the political and economic crisis in the country. The country's oil output is the lowest in about four decades and this has prompted the government to push for an OPEC meet to check OPEC output.







BANK MUSCAT, TOURISM MINISTRY HOST SHEIKH MAJED

BIG BOOST TO PROMOTE OMAN AS UNIQUE TOURIST DESTINATION

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the flagship financial services provider in the Sultanate, in association with the Ministry of Tourism is hosting Sheikh Majed Al-Sabah, renowned social media personality, on a unique 'Discover Oman' program. During the week-long stay, Sheikh Majed will explore Oman to discover the country's well-kept secrets covering natural attractions, vibrant heritage and

Sheikh Majed has over six million followers on social media such as Snapchat, Twitter and Instagram. He travels widely and engages in open communication with people through social media posts to highlight unique Arab traditions and values as well as remarkable social and economic developments across the world.

The bank hosted a grand reception in honour of Sheikh Majed at the head office, attended by dignitaries led by Maitha Al-Mahrouqi, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism, senior Management Team of the bank, social media enthusiasts and bloggers.

The event evocatively showcased the country's rick folklore music, traditional crafts and costumes, offering the opportunity for Sheikh Majed to interact with veteran craftsmen pursuing some of the country's popular traditional crafts. Popular fashion designers engaged in designing traditional costumes for men and women also presented their latest offerings at the event. In his characteristic vibrant style, Shaikh Majed utilized the opportunity to whip up an air of friendship and bonhomie.

Commenting on the visit of Sheikh Majed, Maitha Al-Mahrouqi said: "Such initiatives open up new avenues to attract the world to the Sultanate to experience the distinct tourist attractions and vibrant heritage and culture. We are delighted to partner with Bank Muscat and Sheikh Majid Al-Sabah to showcase Oman, which undoubtedly will give the tourism promotion program added value on social media. We are confident that this initiative will yield rich dividend and be successful in promoting the Sultanate as a unique tourist destination."

AbdulRazak Ali Issa, Chief Executive, said: "Bank Muscat in association with the Ministry of Tourism is delighted to organize the visit of Sheikh Majed within the framework of promoting the Sultanate's sustainable tourism industry. Bank Muscat is closely involved in the country's tourism development projects, complementing the government endeavours to promote Oman as a unique destination and boost the national economy."

AbdulRazak Ali Issa added: "Social media plays a significant role to strengthen relations between people across the world, facilitating exchange of information on important developments. Bank Muscat pursues an active social media policy to engage with the largest banking family in Oman. We believe social media has a unifying role in the country and we take this opportunity to welcome and thank Sheikh Majed for accepting the invitation to visit Oman. We wish him a rewarding experience in the Sultanate."

Rated among the most influential personalities in social media, including Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter, Sheikh Majed engages with his followers in a fun-loving way. With his charming and witty personality, Sheikh Majed has changed the perception of using Snapchat. His "snaps" are fun and informa-



tive and his views as a world explorer help followers gain knowledge from different cultures around the world. The followers of Sheikh Majed on Snapchat exceed six million people. Due to his active participation on Snapchat, he was selected as one of the 50 most effective personalities worldwide.

Sheikh Majed belongs to the Kuwaiti Royal Family and is a businessman. He owns one of the most successful fashion businesses called "Villa Moda", and the well-known TFK brand of perfumes, which led to his collaboration with Tom Ford to create the famous "Arabian Wood Oud". Sheikh Majed thanked

Bank Muscat for facilitating the unique opportunity to experience the wonderful Omani hospitality and discover the country's unique attractions, rich heritage and culture. Sheikh Majed's itinerary in Oman include the newly opened museum, Majlis Jinn cave, and perfume maker in Saham.

NREC REPORTS NET PROFIT OF KD7.6 MILLION FOR H1 2016

OPERATING REVENUE REACHES KD14.9 MILLION

leading regional asset manager and developer income was KD5.3 million, up 4 percent from the continues to exceed expectations. with development projects exceeding \$ 1 billion same period last year. NREC Misr continues to financial results for the first half of 2016. The company recorded growth in top-line earnings of 52 percent and a net profit KD7.6 million.

Revenue growth was driven by income generating assets in Kuwait, Jordan and Egypt, where NREC is developing a 3.8 million square meter residential community. The company is also developing Reem Mall, a two million square foot major shopping destination in Abu Dhabi. Reem Mall will house more than 450 stores including 85 restaurants, a large hypermarket, and family entertainment zones that include the world's largest indoor snow-play park.

H1 2016 Financial Highlights

Operating Revenue: KD14.9 million, up 52 percent from H1 2015

EBITDA: KD9.6 million, down 4 percent from H1 2015

Net Profit to shareholders: KD7.6 million, down

1 percent from H1 2015

Earnings Per Share (EPS) of 8.49 fils Q2 2016 Financial Highlights

Operating Revenue: KD7.6 million, up 37 per-

cent from Q2 2015 EBITDA: KD5.1 million, down 8 percent from

Q2 2015 Net Profit to shareholders: KD4.0 million, down

10 percent from Q2 2015 Earnings Per Share (EPS) of 4.44 fils

NREC CEO Samuel Sidiqi said, "We are pleased to report record revenues for the first half of 2016 with our income generating properties in Kuwait,

enue. At Grand Heights we have sold 791 units since inception representing a cumulative sales value of EGP2.55 billion.

In Abu Dhabi, Reem Mall has acquired all necessary government approvals and enabling works are currently being completed. We are in the final stages of tendering the remaining works and are pleased to have selected Al-Futtaim Carillion as the project's preferred tenderer for construction. Al-Futtaim Carillion has a strong reputation and track record in delivering high quality retail projects in the region including Dubai Mall and Deira



owners' some respite in the soaring sum-

mer heat. Starting from the 7th of August

and running until the 5th of September,

Nissan Al-Babtain are offering 30 percent

discounts on all Nissan Genuine brake,

suspension and cooling parts at all

Nissan's authorized service centers and

Nissan authorized service centers and

genuine parts. Nissan Al-Babtain is com-

mitted to continuously offer high vehicle

service standards in Kuwait and the best

after-sale services to its customers.

Nissan recommends that regular servic-

ing and general vehicle maintenance is

Customers can avail the offer at all

genuine parts authorized shops.

KUWAIT: National Real Estate Company (NREC), a al macroeconomic challenges. In Kuwait, rental City Centre. Our leasing program is on track and

We maintain our positive outlook for the rest in both Egypt and the UAE, yesterday released its perform well, generating half of our H1 2016 rev- of 2016 driven by continued healthy performance in our core markets."

H1 2016 regional business highlights

• Kuwait: The Kuwait commercial and retail portfolio continues to be a consistent strong source of recurring revenues with rental income growing by 4 percent from the same period last year to KD 5.3 million. NREC has six properties in Kuwait, with Souq Sharq being the company's pri-

• Jordan: The company recorded rental revenue of KD405,000 representing an increase of 3 percent from the same period last year. NREC's primary asset in Jordan is the 1.5 million squaremeter Aqaba Warehousing and Industrial Park.

• **Egypt:** Grand Heights sold 791 units since inception, representing cumulative sales of EGP2.55 billion. Egypt revenues contributed nearly half of H1 2016's operating revenues.

• Handover of Phase 1 units commenced in Q1 2016 and the project is scheduled to be completed in 2021 with total projected revenue of EGP11.2 billion for the project. The company plans to deliver 150 units in 2016.

• UAE: After the start of enabling works at Reem Mall in Q4 2015, we are in the final stages of tendering the remaining works and are pleased to have selected Al-Futtaim Carillion as the project's preferred tenderer for construction for the billion dollar development project.

Amazing news from Al-Tijari...

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



AL-TIJARI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-NAJMA ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait held the Al-Najma Account daily draw on August 14, 2016. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Abdulaziz Ashkanani.

The winners of the Al-Najma daily draw are:

Eid Badshah Nouh Badshah — KD 7000, Hasin Bashir Baierkar— KD 7000, Shabeeb Marzoug Al-Rasheedi — KD 7000, Sami Bader Al-Omar — KD 7000, Meshaal Abdullah Hani Nayef — 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.

The new prizes scheme for Al-Najma account Daily draw to win KD 7000.

you one chance to win • Each KD 25 kept in your account for one week will give you a chance to enter

Quarterly draws to win great prizes that

1ST quarter -KD 100 000, 2nd quarter -

With Al-Najma you have more chances

• Each KD 25 kept in your account gives

would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000

KD 150 000, 3rd quarter — KD 200 000, 4th

the daily draw. • Each KD 25 kept in your account for 3 months will give you chance to enter the quarterly draw.

Additional features

ATM card

quarter -KD 250 000.

to win greater prizes

• Issue a credit card against your account

 Obtain all CBK banking services You deserve to win! Open an account now with just KD 500 and you will enter all draws.



utation in the State of Kuwait and the

Middle East area. Today, Al-Babtain

Group has licensing rights for some of

the world's leading brands stretching the

Group has experienced continued suc-

cess and a large measure of this success

came from the Group's advanced flexible

management style and long-term vision.

These astounding results were achieved

due to a versatile strategic formula focus-

ing on growth amongst its sphere of

activities; including automotive, technol-

ogy, investment, information technology,

industrial and Finance.

For more than 60 years, Al-Babtain

globe from the USA to the Far East.

'BE THE NEXT ABK EMIRATES SKYWARDS MILLIONAIRE' MONTHLY DRAW

KUWAIT: Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) held its third 'Be the Next ABK Emirates Skywards Millionaire' monthly draw on 10 August, 2016 at the Bank's head office in the presence of a representative from the ministry of commerce.

The winners this month are:

- 1) Talal Sultan Ali, head office branch, winner of
- 500,000 Skywards Miles 2) Salem Hassan Mohammed, Sharq Branch, win-
- ner of 300,000 Skywards Miles 3) Fahad Abdulaziz Mohammed, Khaitan Branch, winner of 200,000 Skywards Miles
- To take part in the next draw, ABK Credit & Prepaid cardholders need to spend a minimum of

by ABK cardholders the higher the chances to win. Cardholders that win in any of the draws are qualified to participate further in subsequent draws, giving customers the chance to win more than once! The Bank's final draw will be held on 7

KD 100 between 1 August to 31 August, to win the

first, second or third place prize of 500,000; 300,000

or 200,000 Skywards Miles. The more points earned

September, 2016 where three new lucky winners will be announced subsequently. All winners will be contacted personally and an announcement will be made through the media with the winners' names. For more information on ABK please visit eahli.com or contact an ABK a customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.



OLYMPICS-POKEMON CRAZE CHALLENGES RIO GAMES FOR POPULARITY

RIO DE JANEIRO: Forget beach volleyball, soccer or tennis, not to mention the steeplechase or discus. Pokemon Go is challenging the Olympics for most popular game among some young Brazilians.

Hundreds of them turned out in a Rio de Janeiro park on Saturday holding their mobile phones to hunt for virtual creatures in the hyper-reality game app that has become a craze in Brazil since its release two days before the Games. "I went to a football game to see Brazil play Sweden, but after Pokemon Go started I lost interest," said student Lourdes Drummond at the Quinta da Boa Vista park, once the gardens of the Brazilian

The blockbuster game developed by Niantic, in which Japan's Nintendo Co has a large stake, uses augmented reality and GPS mapping to make animated characters appear in the real world. Players see creatures overlaid on the nearby landscape that they see through a mobile phone camera.

Brazil's third largest mobile phone company Claro estimates that close to 2 million of its users have downloaded the game just in the Rio area since it was released on Aug. 3. An executive of the company owned by Carlos Slim's America Movil said more than half of Olympic venues hunting for Pokemon.

Athletes addicted to Pokemon Go too Even athletes have been addicted to the game. Japanese gymnast Kohei Uchimura downloaded the app when he got to Brazil for pre-Games training before Pokemon Go was launched in the country. He ran up almost \$5,000 in international phone charges.

That did not stop him winning two gold medals and becoming the first man to claim back-to-back all around titles in over 40 years, and only the fourth in history. As Rio residents rode paddle boats on the lake of the Boa Vista park, youths

those users had been inside or near explored the grounds seeking Dragonite and other prized Pokemon to add to their collection. They huddled in the shade of the 19th Century royal palace to swap tips.

> "There is no interest in the Olympics here, just how to get to the next stop where there are the most Pokemon," said sociologist Joao Carlos Barssani, 31, himself joining the hunt. When a boy shouted "I found one!" dozens sprinted after him in pursuit. It may not be a physical sport, but the novelty of Pokemon Go is the mobility involved compared to traditional video games. You have to get up and go outside to search your city cell-

phone in hand to accumulate as many Pokemon as you can. "Before I never left home. Now every time my mother wants me to do any shopping, I'm out the door," said Rafael Moura Barros, an IT student who believes the game will help reduce obesity in Brazil.

Barssani said the game was changing the way Brazilian were using their urban space in cities long plagued with high crime rates. People are frequenting parks and squares that had been abandoned for fear of getting mugged, he said. "It's good to have lots of people around you, so your phone doesn't get robbed," said student Leonardo Perreira.—Reuters



WASHINGTON, DC: This file photo taken on July 12, 2016 shows a woman holding up her cell phone as she plays the Pokemon Go game in Lafayette Park in front of the

POKEMON HUNT LEADS TO GLORY FOR GOOGLE-BORN NIANTIC

SAN FRANCISCO: Born in Google's shadow, Niantic strode into the spotlight with a mobile internet spin on hunting Pokemon but can the obsession with the game lead to long-term financial success?

Niantic founder and chief executive John Hanke has told a story of naming the company after a whaling ship abandoned in San Francisco Harbor by crew members who rushed off to seek fortunes during the famed Gold Rush.

The ship was run aground and converted into a store. The notion of such long-forgotten wrecks prompted Hanke six years ago to use the name Niantic to christen a quest to combine gaming, mobile mapping and augmented reality to playfully reveal virtual things hidden in the real world.

Niantic was a side-project for Hanke at Google, which had bought the entrepreneur's startup Keyhole in 2004 and turned it into the free mapping service Google Earth. Hanke spent years as a top executive in a Google "geo" division producing widely used services such as Maps and Street View. The gamer wanted to go beyond helping people navigate and have fun with the ability for mobile devices to detect people's locations

The entrepreneur toyed with the idea of launching a new startup, but instead kept Niantic anchored in the Silicon Valley technology powerhouse. "Staying at Google gave us the advantage of being able to tap into the data we have at (mapping division) Geo and the infrastructure of Google," Hanke was quoted as saying in a 2012 Inc. magazine article.

Portals to Pokemon

The Niantic project fielded its first offering in 2011 in the form of a mobile application called Fieldtrip that served up information about where smartphone users were or nearby places of interest.

The following year, Niantic launched a game called "Ingress," seen as a predecessor to "Pokemon Go." Ingress, which has been downloaded more than 15 million times, also uses real world surroundings as the

game board. Instead of trying to catch cartoon monsters such as iconic Pikachu by targeting them with "Pokeballs," Ingress players battle for control of virtual portals. Early Ingress fans submitted pictures of places as possible portals complete with satellite position metadata, essentially crowdsourcing a rich geo-location database that was put to use in Pokemon Go. When Google underwent a corporate restructuring last year to divvy its endeavors into arms of a freshly-created parent company called Alphabet, Niantic went independent.

Google did invest in Niantic, as did Nintendo and The Pokemon Company.

Niantic claims from 50 to 100 employees. The private company does not make its financial information public but some analysts value it at more than \$3 billion.

To justify such a valuation, Niantic will have to prove that Pokemon Go is a lasting and profitable, not just another passing fling for notriously fickle mobile game players. Pokemon Go has shown it can make money. Industry tracker Sensor Tower estimated that Pokemon Go generated more than \$200 million in revenue during the month after its release in early July.

The game is free, but players can buy virtual supplies such as PokeBalls and lures to attract Pokemon. Cafes, pubs, restaurants and other venues have taken to buying lures that tempt players to linger, and hopefully spend money, while waiting to catch Pokemon.

Sponsors

During a recent Venture Beat technology conference, Hanke said that the game was designed from the outset for in-app purchases, and that revenue could also be made from sponsorships along the lines of what was done in Ingress.

Ingress has portals hosted in commercial spots such as shopping centers, and Pokemon Go launched in Japan with fast food giant McDonald's sponsoring in-game locations. "We are talking to a bunch of other businesses that want to take advantage of that model for Pokemon Go in other parts of the world," Hanke said at the con-

"It's promising."

A strong selling point for Pokemon Go sponsorships is that they get people swarming to places in a way that typical advertising does not. The power of Pokemon Go has, to some, become a bane. Parks and other public venues ripe with PokeStops or "gyms" where cartoon creatures battle are at times over run with players. Authorities have taken to warning Pokemon Go players against venturing where it is dangerous, illegal, in poor taste, or they are simply not wanted. The game and its creator are already in the sites of lawyers intent on suing to hold them accountable for trespassing or injuries involving players. The Washington-based **Electronic Privacy Information Center has** called for US regulators to investigate whether Niantic is collecting too much information about players and their whereabouts. —AFP

SMILEY FACES AT SMALL COMPANY MAKING POPULAR EMOJI APPS

NEW YORK: Mobile apps that allow users to create their own emojis or share the stylized images of NBA star Stephen Curry and other celebrities are paying off for a small upstate New York company.

Moji Maker— with its mix-and-match menu of happy, angry or goofy faces was the No. 2 paid app on the iTunes chart as of Friday morning. The company that made it, Moji, recently scored big with its Curry app and is following up with similarly styled apps for two Olympic athletes who won gold this week: swimmer Michael Phelps and gymnast Simone Biles.

The company of about a dozen people is based far from Silicon Valley and celebheavy Los Angeles in Binghamton, New York, where the three principals — all between 30 and 32 years old — grew up. None of them had a background in programming. Their success provides a window into a quickly evolving emoji market

that didn't even exist until recently. "We look at everything that we make and we ship objectively, and say, 'Is this something that we would actually use in our everyday texts? Does this have relevance in a person's everyday conversation?" said Oliver Camilo, the company's founder and CEO. "Because we don't want to create stuff that's just a boring bottle of water." The emoji market is flourishing as mobile users demand more ways to express themselves. Kim Kardashian and Justin Beiber are among the growing number of celebrities who have their own emoji apps. "Right now, there's just not a lot of players doing it and that's why a very small player who aligns himself with a Steph Curry or anyone else is able to achieve so much adoption," said Travis Montaque, founder and CEO of the research and brand integration company Emogi.

The emojis from Moji and its competitors have not been adopted by the California-based Unicode Consortium, which controls official emoji standards used on standard keyboards. — AP

INTERNET MOGUL GETS YEAR IN JAIL IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE

VIOLATION OF PROBATION

SAN FRANCISCO: A Silicon Valley internet mogul who sold his startup for \$300 million at the age of 25 and appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" as a highly eligible bachelor was sentenced Friday to a year in jail for violating his probation in a domestic violence case.

However, Gurbaksh Chahal, 34, will not immediately begin serving the sentence because San Francisco Superior Court Judge Tracie Brown cited questions about the evidence while giving him time to appeal her ruling

Brown determined last month that Chahal had violated the probation ordered after he pleaded guilty in 2014 to misdemeanor charges of battery and domestic violence battery. Prosecutors said surveillance footage from his San Francisco penthouse showed him punching and kicking his girlfriend more than 100 times and trying to smother her with a pillow.

Chahal entered his plea to the reduced charges after the woman stopped cooperating with authorities and a judge said the video could not be used as evidence because it had been improperly obtained. He was accused of violating his probation by kicking another girlfriend, who also didn't cooperate with prosecutors. Chahal said both women had cheated on him, according to prosecutors.

Chahal's attorney, James Lassart, said in court Friday that his client was denied his right to question the woman during his probation revocation hearing when she failed to attend the proceeding. "In this instance, the constitution requires that my client be allowed to confront his accuser," Lassart said.

Video allowed as evidence

Brown allowed the penthouse video to be admitted as evidence in the probation hearing, and she reviewed it privately before issuing her ruling last month. Lassart said the judge should not consider the video in her sentencing because it had previously been ruled inadmissible. The footage has not been played in court or made public

Assistant District Attorney O'Bryan Kenney called for a sentence of 18 months, saying Chahal had shown no remorse and committed a second act of violence just months after his domestic violence conviction. "He clearly didn't get the message," Kenney told the judge.



SAN FRANCISCO: In this Friday, July 22, 2016 photo, tech mogul Gurbaksh Chahal sits with his attorney James Lassart during a hearing to consider revocation of his probation on domestic violence charges. —AP

Chahal made \$300 million in 2007 when he sold his digital advertising company to Yahoo. A year later, he appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in a segment that highlighted his success and promoted him as a highly eligible bachelor.

Chahal's legal woes extend beyond the criminal case. Two former employees have sued him for discrimination, painting him as a bullying boss who thought little of women.

Patricia Glaser, the lawyer representing Chahal in the lawsuits, did not return an email or call seeking comment. An email to Chahal's online advertising technology company, Gravity4, was not returned. A message to his Twitter account also went unanswered.

Faced with the initial domestic violence charges, Chahal got help from powerful former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and the former chief financial officer for the state of California, Steve Westly, according to one of the lawsuits and emails between Westly and Chahal reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Westly, who was on the board of a company Chahal founded, suggested the businessman reach out to Willie Brown, according to a 2015 lawsuit by Yousef Khraibut, a former Gravity4 employee.

Chahal told Khraibut that he paid Brown a \$250,000 retainer to exert pressure on the district attorney to dismiss the charges, saying Brown had the "juice" to make them disappear, the lawsuit said. Brown did not return a message left at his law office.

He said in a radio interview last September that he was asked to put together a legal team to defend Chahal but did nothing unethical and returned most of the \$250,000. Westly, whose name has been mentioned as a possible gubernatorial candidate in 2018, said in a statement that he doesn't comment on ongoing legal cases but added that domestic violence in any form is inexcusable. In court documents, Chahal shot back that Khraibut was fired for not doing his work and was seeking publicity.—AP

SPACEX LANDS FALCON 9 ROCKET AFTER LAUNCHING JAPANESE SATELLITE

WASHINGTON: SpaceX successfully landed a reusable Falcon 9 rocket on a floating drone ship at sea early yesterday after the vehicle had sent a Japanese communications satellite into orbit.

The California-based company's eighth launch this year was part of its ongoing effort to re-use costly rocket parts instead of jettisoning them into the ocean. It was also the fourth time SpaceX has vertically landed a used Falcon 9 rocket aboard a floating platform at sea.

The white rocket launched under a dark night sky from Cape Canaveral, Florida at 1:26 am (0526 GMT). Less than three minutes into the flight, the rocket's main stage separated as planned, with SpaceX mission control erupting in cheers as live video showed the moves.

Around six minutes later, the first stage landed on the Of Course I Still Love You drone ship, drawing more cheers at mission control. The

vertical landing on the reconverted deck barge in the Atlantic Ocean was especially challenging because the JCSAT-16 satellite had to be carried into a highly elliptical orbit some 22,300 miles (36,000 kilome-

ters) above the Earth's equator. "The first stage will be subject to extreme velocities and re-entry heating, making a successful landing challenging," Space Exploration Technologies Corporation-SpaceX's full name-said prior to the mission.

The communications satellite will help provide more stable satellite services for video distribution and data transfer communications in Asia, Russia, Oceania, Middle Fast and North America. It was the second JCSAT satellite SpaceX has launched in four months for satellite operator SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation. SpaceX chief Elon Musk wants to revolutionize the launch industry by making rocket components reusable. —AFP



FLORIDA: A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launches from Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station early yesterday. —AP



INDIA: Villagers gather after Indian forest officials and wildlife conservationists caught a baby Rhino that strayed into an adjacent village following floods at the Kaziranga National Park, on Thursday, July 28, 2016. — AP

BANGLADESH TRIES TO MOVE STRANDED ELEPHANT TO SAFARI PARK

NEW DELHI: A fully grown Indian elephant that washed up in a swamp in Bangladesh after being caught up in raging floodwaters has become a jumbo problem for wildlife officials on both sides of the border.

Floodwaters carried the male elephant thousands of kilometers (miles) from upstream India before he became trapped in a swamp in Bangladesh's Jamalpur district some three weeks ago. Tapan Kumar Dey, a retired forest conservator who was overseeing the rescue efforts, said wildlife workers tranquilized the elephant Sunday to bring him closer to a highway to truck it to a safari park outside Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital.

Indian wildlife authorities abandoned a plan to send the elephant back to India because he was unlikely to be welcomed by his herd in the hilly forests of the remote northeastern state of

Assam. They then agreed to let him be transferred to the park.

Heavy downpours have flooded vast swaths of eastern India since monsoon rains began in June. Dey said wildlife experts were experimenting with tranquilization dosages because they wanted to make the transfer to the truck go smoothly. The swampy area where the elephant, whose age was not clear, was found was a few kilometers (miles) from the highway.

Forest guards and wardens used smaller doses of the tranquilizer and chains and iron hooks to get the elephant to start moving, Dey said. Wildlife authorities plan to use at least two domesticated elephants to help lead the way. "We plan to use some elephants to encourage it to walk with them toward the main highway," Dey said.

The elephant appeared to be in good condi-

GAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

tion, although when forest guards found him, he was dehydrated after being stuck in the swamp for days, Dey said. "Now our challenge is to bring it to the main highway, which is a few kilometers away," he said. "From there, we will take it to the safari park on Monday."

Indian wildlife experts had visited the scene and agreed with Bangladesh's proposal to transfer the elephant to the Bangabandhu Safari Park, 50 kilometers (32 miles) north of Dhaka. But another problem that wildlife wardens were facing was controlling the hundreds of people who have gathered to watch the rescue efforts, Dey said. Local villagers have named the elephant "Bangabahadur," or "Hero of Bengal."

On Saturday and yesterday, security officials had to be deployed to hold back curious villagers and keep them from hooting and cheering, which could disturb the elephant. —AP

'PICTURE POSTCARD' FRENCH VINEYARDS REVIVE HORSE-DRAWN PLOUGHS

ANGLADE, FRANCE: The sight of a large, lumbering horse pulling a plough through a vineyard may seem like a time warp, but hundreds of French winegrowers have returned to the centuries-old practice. "It's a picture postcard image," said oenologist Gilles de Revel, adding that the renaissance took off about 10 years ago with many vineyards looking to burnish their brands.

Using draught horses is a "strong new trend along with organic winegrowing", said De Revel, the dean of the oenology faculty at the Institute of Vine and Wine Sciences at the University of Bordeaux. But one Bordeaux vintner, Dominique Leandre-Chevalier, "was really a pioneer" in the revival, De Revel said, noting that he reintroduced horses soon after inheriting his father's vineyard back in 1985.

The vineyard and its Chateau Le Queyroux dates to 1895, a time when all winegrowers were still using horses as they had since the 16th century. It lies by the Gironde River estuary near the town of Anglade, across from the renowned Medoc region, and includes land on Patiras island in the middle of the waterway-his horses are loaded onto a barge to reach the spit.

After his father died in an accident at the winery, Leandre-Chevalier decided to revive the old tradition, or as he told AFP, "to reappropriate my ancestors' know-how". The main advantage is that horses have a much lighter "footprint" than tractors, so they compact the ground much less. "There's not a lot of science in it," said De Revel. "There's less compacting, so that the soil is allowed to breathe." Leandre-Chevalier, 53, concentrates his efforts on three hectares (7.5 acres) of land, just a quarter of the original family estate.

He also decided to concentrate his

vines, replanting them at 10 times the density-fitting in up to 33,000 plants per hectare compared with 3,500 previously. Many grand crus have densities of around 11,000 plants per hectare. "It's what was done in past centuries, with few clusters on each plant, just two or three-to conserve the stock's energy," says Leandre-Chevalier, who produces 66,000 bottles of red, white and rose wines a year.

While he set about replanting vines, he devised an original-and picturesque-layout for one plot: concentric circles. Hundreds of other French winegrowers, in Bordeaux as well as Burgundy and the Loire Valley, have embraced draught horses, using them for some or all of their ploughing.

In the Loire winegrowing region of Chinon, British vintner Fiona Beeston hires a mare named Isis to plough her Clos des Capucins vineyard, two plots totalling a little less than three hectares that she bought in 2010 and 2012. The tranquility of using a horse instead of a tractor "was a real discovery for me," she told AFP by telephone.

Behind the plough, "you are a long way off from the horse's ears... but all you have to do is whisper 'a gauche, un pas arriere' (to the left, one step back), and she hears it all and does it instantly and with tremendous gentleness."

The 60-year-old winegrower said that apart from the problem of compacted soil, tractors hurt the vines' roots with their vibrations, shortening the life of the plants. "And the horse doesn't break down," she added with a laugh. Even some grand crus have embraced horses at least for part of their domains, including the Chateau Latour in Pauillac, across the estuary from Leandre-Chevalier's operation. — AFP



ANGLADE, FRANCE: A worker plows French winemaker Dominique Leandre-Chevalier's young vineyard on the Patiras island on July 20, 2016. — AFP

RAPED, ATTACKED FAR MORE OFTEN

NEW YORK: Gay, lesbian and bisexual high school students are far more likely than their classmates to be raped or assaulted in a dating situation, according to the first national survey of its kind. The research also found gay teens were far more likely to have attempted suicide, taken illegal drugs and engaged in other risky behaviors.

The finding echoes results of smaller surveys and findings from advocacy groups, but it is the first government survey to look at the issues across the entire country. For years, advocacy groups have been saying gay and lesbian kids are more often bullied, ostracized and at high risk for many other problems. But earlier research by the government was limited to a small number of states and cities. The new survey includes students in rural areas and other parts of the US.

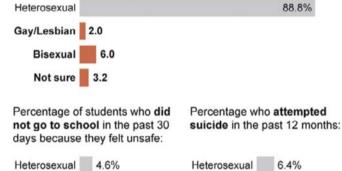
"This is the first time we can say that nationwide these are consistent challenges faced by lesbian, gay and bi- vouth," said David W. Bond of The Trevor Project, a national suicideprevention organization focused on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgen-

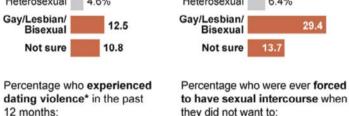
der youth. Shontay Richardson says the survey reflects her experience in high school. "There's of course the physical bullying, but also the emotional bullying that takes place," she said. Now 24 and a graduate student at Purchase College in suburban New York, she says she was lesbian but tried to hide it from her classmates. Still, she was seen as different. She was ostracized

Gay teens targeted for violence

American high school students who identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual are more likely to experience sexual assault, attempt suicide and skip school because they don't feel safe, according to a new federal survey of teens.

Students in the anonymous survey listed their sexual identity as:





Heterosexual 8.3% Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual Not sure

they did not want to: Heterosexual 5.4%

Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual Not sure *Being physically hurt on purpose (including being hit, slammed into some-

Graphic shows results of survey of gay, lesbian and bisexual teens; 2c x 5 inches; 96.3 mm x 127 mm

thing or injured with a weapon or other object) by someone they were dating

by her classmates and sexually assaulted by a boy she knew, she said.

The research results are based on esponses from about 15.600 students to an anonymous survey conducted last year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC released the report Thursday.

Of the survey participants, about 2 percent said they were gay or lesbian, 6 percent said they were bisexual and 3 percent said they weren't sure of their sexual identity. That suggests that of the 16 million students who attended public and private high schools last year, roughly 321,000 were gay or lesbian and 964,000 were bisexual, CDC officials said.

Among the findings:

Nearly 1 in 5 of the gay, lesbian and bisexual students said they'd been raped at some point in their lives, compared to 1 in 20 heterosexual students. Nearly 1 in 5 who had gone out with someone in the past year said their date had hit them, slammed them against a wall, or committed some other form of physical violence. That was more than twice what straight kids reported.

About 1 in 3 said they had been bullied at school, while 1 in 5 straight kids had. More than 1 in 10 said they'd missed school the past month because of safety concerns. Less than 1 in 20 heterosexual kids reported that. More than 1 in 4 said they has attempted suicide in the previous 12 months. In contrast, about 1 in 16 straight kids reported recent suicide attempts. — AP

AT THE RUSSIAN MOSQUITO FESTIVAL, THE MORE BITES THE BETTER

BEREZNIKI, RUSSIA: While fears of the Zika virus have kept some people away from the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, for residents of one Russian town the more mosquito bites the better.

At this weekend's Russian Mosquito Festival in the town of Berezniki, 9-year-old Irina Ilyukhina won the "tastiest girl" category with 43 bites to show for going berrypicking in the forest with her mother. She was awarded a ceramic cup in recognition of the welts all over her legs.

Unusually hot and dry weather in the

Ural Mountains town, however, has greatly depleted the number of mosquitoes this year. Festival organizers had to cancel the traditional mosquito hunt, where participants try to collect as many of the insects as possible in jars.

The heat also had Yana Solyarskaya sweltering in her mosquito costume as she led some of the dancing at the festival, now in its fourth year. Russia has detected only a few Zika cases, all in people who are believed to have been infected in areas overseas where the virus has spread. — AP



BEREZNIKI, RUSSIA: In this frame grab provided by the APTN a woman dressed as a mosquito enjoys with others a yesterday, during the Russia Mosquito Festival. — AP

SOUTH KOREA TO REVIEW TOXINS DATA DISCLOSURE PROCESS

SEOUL: South Korea plans to review if there was any negligence in the government's handling of sick workers' inquiries about workplace toxins, after an Associated Press investigation found the government repeatedly withheld such information following requests from Samsung.

Ko Dong-woo, a director at the Labor Ministry, said Friday that the ministry took the AP report seriously and would ensure officials properly evaluate information requests from workers seeking government compensation for work-related illnesses.

"We take the news report seriously," Ko said. The AP reported Wednesday that in workers' compensation cases involving at least 10 former Samsung Electronics Co. semiconductor and display plant workers with various diseases, regulators allowed Samsung to use trade-secrets concerns to block release of information about exposure to toxins. It is almost impossible to gain compensation without such data.

Samsung, by far South Korea's biggest employer, said Wednesday in response to AP's

report, "The claim that Samsung Electronics intentionally blocked workers from accessing chemical information pertaining to workplace health and safety, or illegally prevented the disclosure of such information, is not true." The company did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the government official's statement.

South Korea law bars governments and public agencies from withholding corporate information needed "to protect the lives, physical safety, and health" of individuals on trade-secrets grounds, but there are no penalties for violations. Government officials openly say corporate interests take priority, that evaluating trade-secrets claims is difficult, and that they fear being sued for sharing data against a company's will.

Earlier, one official described Samsung as his "client" to the AP. He said keeping its trade secrets was "about trust." Describing the company as the government's "client" could cause misunderstanding, Ko said, without further elaborating on what he meant by misunderstanding. In a separate response to the AP



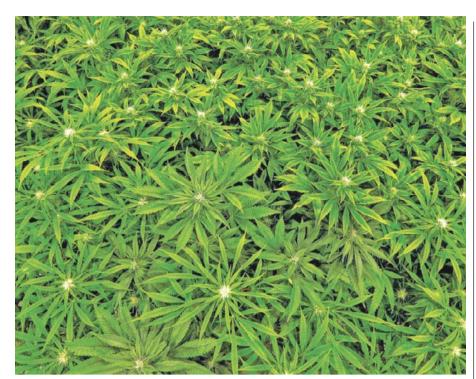
SEOUL: In this April 22, 2016 photo, a protester sits in front of the boards showing portraits and names of victims of former Samsung semiconductor and LCD factories workers during a rally against the Samsung's response to the former company employees' health problems outside Samsung buildings. — AP

report, a South Korean legislator said that there were other cases where the labor ministry did not evaluate Samsung's trade secrets, obscuring information about workplace hazards.

Kang Byungwon of the main opposition Minjoo Party said that when the labor ministry investigated workplace safety at a Samsung chip factory after a deadly accident in 2013, many of the findings were not disclosed to lawmakers, on grounds of protecting trade secrets. "The problem was that even the labor ministry did not know what those trade secrets were. That means that the ministry did not really evaluate the workplace hazards," Kang said in an emailed statement. "What we learned from the investigation was that rather than protecting workers' health, Samsung Electronics seemed more interested in meeting the minimum legal requirements."

Kang said that South Korean legislators are considering proposing an approval system for trade secrets so that experts must judge whether there are legitimate reasons to withhold information about chemical substances as trade secrets. — AP

HEALTH & SCIENCE



ALBION, ILLNOIS: In this Sept. 15, 2015 file photo, marijuana grows at the Ataraxia medical marijuana cultivation center. — AP

ACCESS IS CENTRAL TO MARYLAND MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND: Plenty of states have rolled out medical marijuana operations before Maryland, but as the state prepares to announce its top candidates for licenses to grow and process the drug, it's determined not to repeat the mistakes of

Maryland takes one of the more liberal approaches toward medical marijuana access, and that's caught the notice of businesses that flooded regulators with more than 1,000 applications. "It's failed in other states because they've been too restrictive about the kinds of diseases and ailments that could be utilized by physicians, and I think in Maryland they've taken the opposite approach, which generates the interest because they appreciate that Maryland is forward thinking on this," said Gerard Evans, a lobbyist for license applicant Holistic Industries.

Medical marijuana will be available for any condition that is severe in which other medical treatments have been ineffective, and if the symptoms "reasonably can be expected to be relieved" by marijuana. Patients with a chronic or debilitating medical condition that causes severe appetite loss, severe or chronic pain, severe nausea, seizures or severe muscle spasms also can have access, as well as people with glaucoma or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Who can prescribe it?

Even further, Maryland will allow not only physicians but nurse practitioners, dentists, podiatrists and nurse midwives to certify patients as eligible to receive marijuana. "It's not only the broad spectrum of conditions and ailments that they've put out there, but also the broad spectrum of health care practitioners that can recommend it," said Angeline Nanni, CEO of CannaMED Pharmaceuticals, which has applied for a grower's license in Hebron on Maryland's Eastern Shore where the company already has invested about \$1 million in a facility to grow and research marijuana.

Regulators have adopted best-industry practices for marijuana concentrates and cannabis-infused products. They also have implemented strict regulations regarding bona fide physician-patient relationships. People authorized to recommend marijuana use will be able to do so for patients in other states who come to Maryland.

Twenty-five states and the District of Columbia have legalized a comprehensive medical marijuana program, according to the National Conference of State

Legislatures. In Maryland, regulators are scheduled to announce on Monday which companies have received preliminary approval for licenses to grow or process marijuana.

The industry has struggled in some states. For example, Minnesota's two licensed medical marijuana manufacturers each posted millions of dollars in losses in their first year of operations, according to financial documents obtained by The Associated Press. Minnesota's program is only open to patients with 10 severe conditions. Maryland approved its first medical marijuana law in 2013. The effort stalled, however, because it required academic medical centers to run the programs, and none stepped forward.

Law change

The law was changed in 2014 to allow doctors certified by the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission to recommend marijuana for patients with debilitating, chronic and severe illnesses.

Medical cannabis is not expected to be available from Maryland dispensaries until sometime next year. The commission is expected to grant 94 dispensary licenses from 811 applicants later this year.

Troy Dayton of the San Francisco-based Arcview Group said interest in Maryland also is driven by the potential for full legalization later. Four states - Alaska, Colorado, Oregon and Washington, as well as the District of Columbia - allow marijuana possession in small amounts by adults over 21 for any reason. Medical and recreational marijuana sales in Colorado reached nearly \$1 billion last year.

"Part of the reason I think why a lot of people want to get these licenses now is that they imagine that adult-use legalization will come sometime, and they will already have a brand and a market and customers and really have an advantage if the market shifts in Maryland," Dayton said.

For now, though, officials say the focus is on helping sick people, including children who meet their physician's criteria for treatment. Harry "Buddy" Robshaw, the vice chairman of the commission, spent more than 40 years as a policeman, 15 of them as a narcotics investigator who used to put people in jail for using drugs. "I have come to believe very strongly, though, that medical marijuana is going to be a savior for a lot of people in the state of Maryland, particularly kids," Robshaw said at a recent meeting this month. — AP

ORGAN NETWORK MAPPING A PATH TO MORE FAIR LIVER TRANSPLANTS

WASHINGTON: The nation's transplant network is taking a long-awaited step to ease a serious disparity: Where you live affects whether you get a timely liver transplant or die waiting.

Desperate patients sometimes travel across the country to get on a shorter waiting list - if they can afford it. Today, the United Network for Organ Sharing is proposing a change, redrawing the map that governs how donated livers are distributed so patients wouldn't need to leave home for better odds.

"We want to make sure we give everyone a fair opportunity to get a liver transplant," said Dr. Ryutaro Hirose, chairman of the liver transplant committee at UNOS, which runs the nation's transplant system. "It's pretty much long overdue." The problem is that some parts of the country have fewer available organs, and higher demand for them, than others. That means someone in California or New York, among the toughest places to get a new liver, tends to be sicker before getting a transplant than someone in South Carolina or Washington state.

"There's a huge difference in the risk of death on that waiting list depending on where you live," said Hirose, a transplant surgeon at the University of California, San Francisco. Shifting the boundaries that determine where a liver is offered first "matches better the organ supply and demand."

Less than half people

More than 14,600 people are on the waiting list for a new liver. Just over 7,100 received one last year - all but a few hundred from deceased donors - and more than 1,400 people died waiting. The geographic disparity adds another hurdle. Livers are offered first to the sickest patients as determined by a ranking, a so-called MELD score, which uses laboratory tests to predict their current risk of death. The nation's 11 transplant regions are subdivided into local areas with individual waiting lists, and there are wide variations in organ availability both within and between regions.

Today, some regions are able to transplant patients before they're super-sick - with MELD scores as low as 23 - while others can't provide transplants until a patient's MELD score reaches 35, meaning they're at risk of death within weeks, Hirose said.

It's legal to move around for a better chance, if people know that and are able to. For example, the late Apple CEO Steve Jobs lived in California but in 2009 had a transplant in Tennessee, which at the time had one of the shortest waits.

UNOS' proposed fix is similar to how politicians redraw voting maps: divide the nation into eight new "districts" for liver transplants. That allows wider sharing and shifts the boundaries to better mix areas where more potential donors live with areas that have longer waiting lists.

The goal is for patients to have similar MELD scores at the time of transplant no matter where they live. Research models suggested the change would mean the less sick in some places, such as in the South and Northwest, would wait a little longer so that sicker people elsewhere can get a new organ a little sooner.

UNOS has debated how to change liver distribution for several years, a process Hirose called contentious as some transplant centers with shorter waits didn't want to lose them. The proposal will be open for comment from the public through mid-October before any changes are finalized.

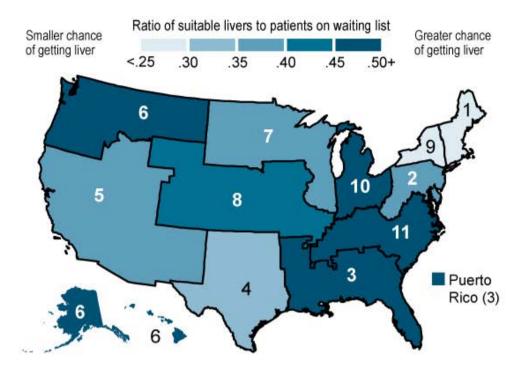
Magical window

Sick patients shouldn't have to leave home to improve their odds of a transplant, said liver

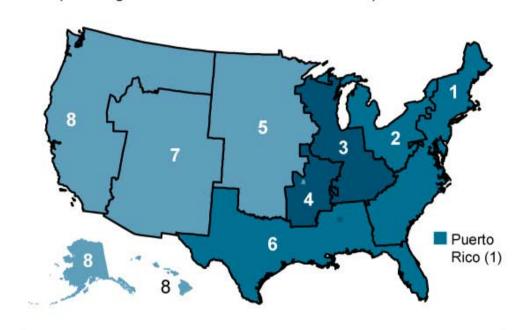
Redrawing the transplant map

The U.S. organ transplant network is reallocating the regions where liver transplants are arranged to reduce disparities in how donated livers are distributed to patients in need of them.

Currently, the U.S. is divided into 11 transplant regions where livers are shared:



The new map would consolidate the country into eight transplant regions to better balance the liver-to-patient ratio:



SOURCE: Organ Procurement and Transplant Network

recipient Myles Kane. He was shocked when his own doctors in New York urged the Brooklyn man to explore that option after an autoimmune disease caused his liver to fail at age 33.

"There's this magical window where you have to be the sickest person on the list, but if you die from that sickness - it's a real narrow window," said Kane, who eventually got on a shorter waiting list in North Carolina, where his girlfriend's parents lived. They gave Kane a place to stay for three months while recuperating from his December 2013 transplant; he met other patients who had to spend months in hotels. The transplant chief at a leading liver

center welcomed the proposed change. "The distribution of organs is not a right, it's a gift. We want to try to allocate that gift in the most fair way possible, the way that does the greatest good," said Dr. Abhinav Humar of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, who isn't part of the UNOS committee. Because a piece of a liver can regrow, patients can avoid the transplant wait if they're able to find a living donor, he noted. But ultimately, more organs from deceased donors are needed.

With the proposed remapping, "we're just changing the way the pie is distributed," Humar said. "The best solution would still be to make the pie bigger." — AP



Kuwait - Times
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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AWARDS PRESENTED

s part of community involvement, Rotary Club of Trivandrum Royal distributed Excellence Awards in Kuwait on August 12, 2016, at the Inn & Go Hotel (Swiss Bel Hotel), Kuwait City.

Justice Balakrishnan, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India inaugurated the 69th Independence Day Celebration of India and Rotary Awards Ceremony, by the traditional lamp lighting along with the Indian Ambassador Sunil Jain, Club Secretary Rtn. MPHF Dr J Moses, Rtn. Major Donor PG Muraleedharan, The Organzing Secretary of Shantigiri Ashram, Rtn. Swami Gururetnam Jnana Tapaswi, B S Pillai, Program Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman Shyny Frank and Convener M A Nizam. Dr J Moses chaired the meeting, while Program Committee Chairman B S Pillai welcomed the audience.

In his inaugural address Justice Balakrishnan

stressed the importance of improving literacy rate especially among the female sector in India. Further, he wished all success to the continued societal activities of the Rotary Club of Trivandrum Royal, and congratulated the awardees. The Indian Ambassador also in his felicitation speech congratulated the efforts and initiatives of the Rotary Club for hosting such an event in Kuwait. The Ambassador also praised the social commitment of the club and wished

all success. Thereafter, both Justice Balakrishnan and the Indian Ambassador distributed the Rotary International Excellence Awards. There were six recipients for this prestigious award. Suresh C Pillai (The Best Businessman), Sebastian Joseph (The Lifetime Achievement) G Sekharan Nair (The Life Time Achievement), Hakkim A (The Life Time Achievement) Shemej Kumar KK (The Kala Ratna) and Joy John Thuruthikkara (The Best Upcoming

Entrepreneur) were the six recipients. Later a new members' ceremonial induction was adorned by Rtn Major Donor PG Muraleedharan. B S Pillai, M A Nizam, Shiny Frank were also honored with appreciation awards. Program Committee Convener M A Nizam proposed vote of thanks while Leya Joseph and Lino Joseph brilliantly compeered the entire program. A delicious dinner was also

served to all invited guests.

'NURTURE YOUR KID'S BRAINS WHILE PLAYING WITH FANTASY WORLD'S AMAZING STEM TOYS COLLECTION'

arvey Dulku: "Parents can enjoy the peace of mind as their children play with toys that turnout to be the foundations of their kids becoming the next scientists, tech gurus, engineers, or even mathematicians who may wish to transform the world in the future"

Fantasy World is proud to be the first to introduce the concept of STEM in toys to Kuwait. This highlights its social responsibility towards the local community where it operates, offering customer's products that not only entertain them but also broaden their knowledge. In continuation with its on-going commitment to offer toys that support children in choosing their careers in future.

STEM is the abbreviation for the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Kids may find these subjects intimidating; hence introducing toys that will help them understand the discipline using friendly, hands-on approach and simplified mechanics.

For two decades, Fantasy World has been an innovative trendsetter that surpasses its competitors. Introducing the STEM concept in Kuwait proves it being dedicated and responsible towards the future of the nation as well.

Harvey Dulku, Fantasy World's Retail Director, said: "As we believe kids truly deserve the best, the brand's philosophy is to help broaden children's knowledge while playing. Toys that integrate an educational basis aid a child's early education and development. Inducing kids to play with these toys tends to be very crucial at an early age where parents can discover their child's hidden talents. For example, teaching children the basics of electronic circuits and nanotechnology, solar and wind power and how they are converted into energy. Parents can enjoy the peace of mind as their children grasp the foundations, inspiring them to become the next generation scientists, tech gurus, and engineers, or even mathematicians who may transform the world

Burhan Kazi, Fantasy World's Marketing Specialist, added: "This is an opportunity for parents towards the end of the summer break to get their children back in school-mode and refresh their memories on the core subjects for the upcoming academic year. Additionally, these toys can also be used as their project assignments in the school. Morever, STEM toys encourage family time as adults can play those games with their kids. To put simply, STEM toys fortify family bond; they are engaging and fun to play and give children the chance to learn something useful in the meantime."

Customers are invited to visit Fantasy World's The Avenues store to see and experience the wide array of STEM concept toys that are offered. Voice any inquiries and concerns by visiting Fantasy World's social media platforms on Facebook (fantasyworldtoyskuwait), Instagram(fantasyworldtoys) and YouTube (fantasyworld Kuwait).





Centrepoint management cutting the ribbon





LANDMARK GROUP OPENS 10TH CENTREPOINT STORE AND 1ST 'YOURS LONDON' STORE IN KHAITAN

outlet in Al Sharqiya Mall, Khaitan as the retailer expands its presence outside the UAE. The move

marks the opening of Centrepoint's 10th store in Kuwait. Plus size fashion brand "Yours London" has also launched its first outlet in Kuwait, under the umbrella of Landmark International, part of Landmark Group. It's the 12th store across the GCC with presence in the UAE, KSA, Bahrain and Oatar.

Yours London has a stylish range of clothing in sizes 14-32, designed to fit and flatter, including the latest

andmark Group has launched its 127th Centrepoint fashions in evening and daywear, all at great prices. The region's curvy women can breathe a sigh of relief as their wardrobe options are increased, from skirts and dresses to trousers and jackets and tops, lingerie and swimwear.

Al Sharqiya Mall is strategically located in Farwaniya Governorate, which houses some of the city's prime malls and entertainment areas. The residential population in the area is split between Kuwaitis, Arab expats and Asian expats, and is reflective of Centrepoint's customer demographic.

"We are enthusiastic about the opening of our two new stores in Khaitan. Our decision to open in Al Sharqiya Mall was based on a desire to be more conveniently located for customers in this catchment area," stated Mr. Saibal Basu, Chief Operating Officer-Landmark Group Kuwait. He added that, "Consumer spending figures in Kuwait have remained consistently buoyant and we have been delighted with the customer response to Centrepoint since we entered the market. We see a high percentage of repeat shoppers at our stores due to the extensive range we offer and also con-

sistently aim to engage with new shoppers through our exciting offering. Centrepoint has seen huge success over the past few years as it serves as one shopping destination for the entire family."

The store opening in Kuwait is to be followed by 15 more across the GCC states by the end of the year. Overall, Centrepoint aims to reach 142 outlets by year's end as part of its regional expansion plans.

Centrepoint stores in Kuwait are located in Al Rai, Avenues, Hawally, Salmiya, Fintas, Jahra, Fahaheel, Sulaibhikhat, Kuwait City and now in Khaitan

Sabah Hospital

Amiri Hospital

Chest Hospital

Adan Hospital

Ibn Sina Hospital

Al-Razi Hospital

Kaizen center

Rawda

Adaliya

Khaldiya

Shamiya

Shuwaikh

Nuzha

Qadsiya

Dasmah

Shaab

Qibla

Mirqab

Sharq

Salmiya

Jabriya

Bayan

Mishref

Sabah

Jahra

W Hawally

New Jahra

West Jahra

South Jahra

North Jahra

North Jleeb

Ardhiya

Firdous

Omariya

N Khaitan

Fintas

Bneid Al-Gar

Ayoun Al-Qibla

Maidan Hawally

Abdullah Salem

Industrial Shuwaikh

Kaifan

Physiotherapy Hospital

Maternity Hospital

Farwaniya Hospital

Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital

INTERNATIONAL

INFORMATION

For labor-related inquiries and complaints:

Clinics

Call MSAL hotline 128 **Hospitals**

24812000

22450005

24843100

25312700

24849400

24892010

23940620

24840300

24846000

24874330/9

25716707

22517733

22517144

24848075

24849807

24848913

24814507

22549134

22526804

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22515088

22532265

22531908

22518752

22459381

22451082

22456536

22465401

25746401

25316254

25623444

25388462

25381200

22630786

24810221

24770319

24575755

24772608

24775066

24775992

24311795

24884079

24892674

24719048

24710044

23900322

Soor Center

Tel: 2290-1677

Fax: 2290 1688

PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan	Fahaeel Makka St	23915883
	Abu Halaifa	Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd	23715414
	Danat Al-Sultan	Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1	24575518
	Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 92	24566622
Capital	Ahlam	Fahad Al-Salem St	22436184
	Khaldiya Coop	Khaldiya Coop	24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa	Farwaniya Block 40	24734000
	Ferdous Coop	Ferdous Coop	24881201
	Modern Safwan	Old Kheitan Block 11	24726638
Hawally	Tariq	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25726265
	Hana	Salmiya-Amman St	25647075
	Ikhlas	Hawally-Beirut St	22625999
	Hawally & Rawdha	Hawally & Rawdha Coop	22564549
	Ghadeer	Jabriya-Block 1A	25340559
	Kindy	Jabriya-Block 3B	25326554
	Ibn Al-Nafis	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St	25721264
	Mishrif Coop	Mishrif Coop	25380581
	Salwa Coop	Salwa Coop	25628241

STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw

no warnings or weather watches

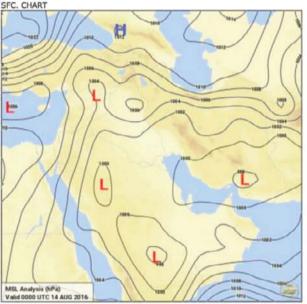


Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours
Issued 14/08/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

Max Temperature 50 °C

By Day: Very hot with light to moderate freshening gradually at times north westerly to northerly wind, with speed of 10 - 40 km/h causing raising dust over open areas.

By Night: Relatively hot with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 12 - 35 km/h.



Four-Day	Forecast

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	*	*		*
Expected Weather	very hot	very hot	very hot +chance for raising dust over open areas	very hot
Min Temp °C	32	33	34	32
Max Temp °C	49	50	49	48
Wind Direction	north westerly	north westerly	north westerly	north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	12 - 32	15 - 38	15 - 40	15 - 38

36 33	46
570	
	50
30	49
28	38
36	49
31	43
36	38
37	39
32	49
33	38
33	38
31	43
31	48
31	49
31	48
31	50
Kuwait	Airport
4	8
3	0
	31 31 31 31 31 31

Min Rel H	lum (%)	09	
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction		28 NE	
TOTAL R	AINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm	
*	Sunrise	05:15	
-	Sunset	18:30	

Fajr	03:50	
Sunrise	05:15	
Zuhr	11:53	
Asr	15:28	
Sunset	18:30	
Isha	19:53	

Prayer Times



PRIVATE CLINICS

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

Ophthalmologi:	sts
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752222
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700
Dr Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223
Ear, Nose & Throat	(ENT)
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555050 Ext 510
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
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General Practition	ners
	ners 24555050 Ext 123
General Practition	
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi	24555050 Ext 123
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24555050 Ext 123 24719312
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955
General Practition Dr. Mohamme Y Majidi Dr. Yousef Al-Omar Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem Dr. Kathem Maarafi Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae Urologists Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	24555050 Ext 123 24719312 23926920 25730465 25655528 24577781 25333501 22641534 22639955 ii 22616660

Psychologists

/Psychotherapists

Plastic Surge	a and
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doc	tor
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatris	its
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & O	bstetricians
DrAdrian arbe	23729596/23729581
Dr. Verginia s.Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami	25343406
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272
Dr. Salem soso	22618787
General Surg	eons
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Bash	er 25327148
Internists, Chest	& Heart
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

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Dr. Khaled Hamadi 25665898 Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed 25340300 Dr. Zahra Qabazard 25710444 Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099 Dr. Snaa Maaroof 25713514 Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 Dermatology Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologist Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030 Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali 22633135	Paediatricia	ns
Dr. Zahra Qabazard 25710444 Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099 Dr. Snaa Maaroof 25713514 Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 Dermatology Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 Dentists Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099 Dr. Snaa Maaroof 25713514 Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 Dermatology Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 Dentists Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Snaa Maaroof 25713514 Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 Dermatology Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 Dentists Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 Dermatology Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 Dentists Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Ahil Thomas 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Matar 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abidallah Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 2533324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
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Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2
Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226
Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer	22561444
Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557
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Neurologists Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan	25653755
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Neurologis	ts
Gastrologists Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	Gastrologis	ts
	Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali 22633135	Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
	Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali	22633135

Kaizen center

25716707

Noor Clinic

23845955

	Endocrinologi	st		
_	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330		
	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888			
	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924			
	Physiotherapists (&VD		
	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291			
	Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees	22666288		
	Rheumatologis	ts:		
31	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060			
31	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290		
	Internist, Chest & Heart			
	DR.Mohammes Akkad	24555050 Ext 210		
	Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCPC, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicir Head, Division of Cardiology	ne		
	-	25339667		
	Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital			
	-			

William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677

Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677

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Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria Azerbaijan	0043 00994	Malta Marshall Islands	00356 00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh Barbados	00880 001246	Mauritius Mayotte	00230 00269
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Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize Benin	00501 00229	Moldova Monaco	00373 00377
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Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
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Cape Verde Cayman Islands	00238 001345	Nigeria Niue	00234 00683
Central African	001345	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile China	0056 0086	North Korea Norway	00850 0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo Cook Islands	00242 00682	Palau Panama	00680 00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba Cyprus	0053 00357	Peru Philippines	0051 0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic Denmark	00420 0045	Portugal Puerto Rico	00351 001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	001787
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominican Republic	001767	Russian Federation Rwanda	007 00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador England (UK)	00503 0044	Saint Lucia Saint Pierre	001758 00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia Ethiopia	00372 00251	Samoa West San Marino	00685 00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tone	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji Finland	00679 00358	Scotland (UK) Senegal	0044 00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232 0065
French Polynesia Gabon	00689 00241	Singapore Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands Somalia	00677 00252
Germany Ghana	0049 00233	South Africa	00252
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
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Grenada	00299	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam Guatemala	001671 00502	Swaziland Sweden	00268 0046
Guinea	00302	Switzerland	0040
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti Holland (Netherlands)	00509	Serbia Taiwan	00381 00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary Ibiza (Spain)	0036 0034	Togo Tonga	00228 00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean Indonesia	00873 0062	Tunisia Turkey	00216 0090
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Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay USA	00598 001
Japan Jordan	0081 00962	USA Uzbekistan	001
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya Kiribati	00254 00686	Venezuela Vietnam	00582 0084
Kırıbatı Kuwait	00686	Vietnam Virgin Islands UK	0084
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos Latvia	00856 00371	Wales (UK) Yemen	0044 00967
Latvia	00371	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya Lesotho	00218 00266	Zimbabwe	00263

09:30 The Last Man On Earth

13:00 Community 13:30 The Bill Engvall Show

14:30 The Last Man On Farth

17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers

19:00 The Last Man On Earth

15:30 Fresh Off The Boat

16:00 Grandfathered

16:30 George Lopez

18:00 The Simpsons

18:30 Black-Ish

19:30 Crowded

20:00 The Grinder

20:30 The Grinder

23:00 The Brink

23:30 The Grinder

00:00 The Grinder

02:30 The Brink

21:30 Grandfathered

21:00 Fresh Off The Boat

22:00 Baskets 22:30 Man Seeking Woman

OM MOVIES

ACTION

04:00 Jesse Stone: Lost In

06:00 Unstoppable

08:00 The Package

10:00 Mutant World

14:00 Unstoppable

16:00 The Package

18:00 Robot Overlords

21:45 Let The Bullets Fly

ON MOVIES HID

COMEDY

12:00 Wrath

20:00 Armored

00:00 Death Race

02:00 Mutant World

04:15 At Middleton

08:00 Hope Springs

12:00 Julie And Julia

10:00 At Middleton

14:15 Bubble Boy

16:00 Hope Springs

18:00 Bottle Rocket

02:00 Bottle Rocket

22:00 Top Five

20:00 The Foot Fist Way

00:00 Revenge For Jolly!

03:15 Louder Than Words

07:00 Stonehearst Asylum

11:00 The Last 5 Years

13:00 Make Your Move 15:00 Tommy Cooper: Not Like

05:00 4 Minute Mile

09:00 The Rewrite

That, Like This

Englishman

17:00 Big Game

19:00 Run All Night

21:00 Two Wrongs

01:00 Burying The Ex

23:00 How To Make Love Like An

OM MOVIES HD

FAMILY

03:00 Race To Witch Mountain

05:00 The Princess Diaries

ON MOVIES HID

06:00 Jack

11:00 The Tonight Show Starring

10:00 Crowded

Jimmy Fallon

10:30 Breaking In

12:00 George Lopez

12:30 Life In Pieces

14:00 Black-Ish

15:00 Crowded

TV PROGRAMS

BBG FIRST

03:15 Mad Dogs 04:05 Doctors 04:35 Eastenders 05:05 The Musketeers 06:00 Doctors 06:30 Doctors

07:00 Eastenders 07:30 Eastenders 08:00 Death In Paradise 08:55 Call The Midwife 09:50 The Musketeers

10:45 Doctors 11:15 Eastenders 11:45 Death In Paradise 12:40 Call The Midwife 13:35 The Musketeers

14:30 Doctors 15:00 Eastenders 15:30 Death In Paradise 16:25 Call The Midwife

17:20 The Musketeers 18:15 Casualty 19:05 Death In Paradise 20:00 The Living And The Dead 21:00 Doctor Foster

21:55 Ripper Street 22:50 Mad Dogs 23:40 Casualty 00:35 The Living And The Dead

01:35 Doctor Foster 02:30 Ripper Street

CENTRAL STABLES 03:00 Nathan For You 03:25 Nathan For You 03:50 Impractical Jokers UK

04:15 Impractical Jokers UK 04:40 Ridiculousness 05:05 Ridiculousness 05:30 Tosh.0

05:55 Tosh.0 06:20 Frankenfood 06:50 Frankenfood Catch A Contractor 08:05 Ridiculousness 08:30 Ridiculousness

08:55 Nathan For You 09:20 Nathan For You 09:45 Impractical Jokers UK 10:10 Impractical Jokers UK 10:35 Key And Peele 11:00 Impractical Jokers

Catch A Contractor

12:15 Nathan For You 12:40 Nathan For You 13:05 Impractical Jokers UK 13:30 Impractical Jokers UK 13:55 Ridiculousness Ridiculousness

14:45 Hungry Investors 15:35 Catch A Contractor Nathan For You 16:55 Nathan For You 17:25 Lip Sync Battle Impractical Jokers UK

18:15 Impractical Jokers UK 18:39 Key And Peele 19:03 Brotherhood 19:27 MLE Chowdown: Wedges

And Wings 20:13 Catch A Contractor 21:00 The Daily Show - Global 22:40 Trailblazers

23:30 Fast N' Loud 00:20 Kindig Customs 01:10 Gold Divers 02:00 Yukon Men

DISCOVERY 03:00 Smash Lab

03:48 Smash Lab 04:36 Smash Lab 05:24 Smash Lab 06:12 Smash Lab 07:00 How Do They Do It? 07:26 Smash Lab

08:14 How The Universe Works 09:02 Mega Builders 09:50 How Do They Do It? 10:14 Food Factory

10:38 Race To Escape 11:26 Smash Lab 12:14 How The Universe Works 13:02 How Do They Do It? 13:26 Food Factory 13:50 Mega Builders 14:38 Race To Escape

15:26 Smash Lab

16:14 How The Universe Works 17:02 Mega Builders 17:50 Smash Lab 18:40 How The Universe Works 19:30 Meteorite Men

20:20 How Do They Do It? 20:45 Food Factory 21:10 Extreme Engineering 22:00 Meteorite Men 22:50 How The Universe Works 23:40 Smash Lab 00:30 How Do They Do It?

00:55 Food Factory 01:20 Meteorite Men 02:10 How The Universe Works Discovery World 03:00 Discovery World 09:00 Discovery World 15:00 Discovery World

21:00 Discovery World

DISNEP 03:15 The Hive

03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 04:10 Hank Zipzer 04:35 Binny And The Ghost

05:00 Violetta 05:45 The Hive 05:50 Mouk 06:00 Hank Zipzer 06:25 Jessie 06:50 Disney Mickey Mouse 06:55 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug

And Cat Noir 07:20 Dog With A Blog 07:45 Bunk'd 08:10 Austin & Ally 08:35 Shake It Up

09:00 Hannah Montana Forever 09:25 Hannah Montana Forever 09:50 Wizards Of Waverly Place 10:15 Wizards Of Waverly Place

13:00 Sofia The First 13:30 Doc McStuffins 14:00 The Lion Guard 14:30 Aladdin 14:55 Jake And The Never Land **Pirates** 15:05 Goldie & Bear 15:30 Miles From Tomorrow 16:00 Doc McStuffins 16:25 Doc McStuffins 16:55 Sofia The First 17:25 Sofia The First 17:50 The Lion Guard 18:15 Jake And The Never Land Pirates 18:45 Jake And The Never Land Pirates 19:00 PJ Masks 19:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 20:00 Doc McStuffins 20:30 Sofia The First 21:00 PJ Masks 21:30 Aladdin 22:00 Jungle Cubs 22:25 Gummi Bears 22:50 Zou 23:05 Henry Hugglemonster 23:20 Calimero 23:35 Zou 23:50 Loopdidoo 00:05 Art Attack 00:30 Henry Hugglemonster 00:45 Calimero 01:00 Zou 01:15 Loopdidoo 01:30 Art Attack

04:35 Calimero

04:50 Zou 05:00 Loopdidoo

05:15 Art Attack

06:20 Loopdidoo

06:35 Art Attack

07:00 The Hive

07:25 Loopdidoo

08:40 PJ Masks

07:40 Jungle Cubs

08:05 Sofia The First

09:10 Doc McStuffins

09:40 Doc McStuffins

10:00 Sofia The First

10:30 Sofia The First

12:30 Gummi Bears

Pirates

Pirates

08:30 Miles From Tomorrow

09:55 Minnie's Bow-Toons

The Lion Guard

11:30 Jake And The Never Land

12:00 Jake And The Never Land

06:00 Zou

07:10 Zou

05:35 Henry Hugglemonster 05:50 Calimero

06:00 Boyster 06:10 Super Matrak Super Matrak 07:00 Pokemon Bw: Adventures In

02:00 Calimero

02:30 Loopdidoo

02:45 Art Attack

02:15 Zou

Unova 07:25 K.C. Undercover 07:50 Supa Strikas 08:15 Phineas And Ferb 08:40 Camp Lakebottom 09:05 Disney Mickey Mouse

JENKINS GIGANDET TIPTON COIRO **4 MINUTE** AGAINST YOURSELF THE HARDEST RACE IS A CHARLES-OLIVIER MICHAUD REW'4 MINUTE MILE PHOFNLY RISING MOTION PICTURES PAINS KELLY BLATZ RICHARD JENKING CAM GEANDET
"BMICHAEL HOTHDRN CA PERTRON LEAMEN "YEST JOHN LAVIN EIGH TPTON was BHYS CORD on KIM BASINIS B MEDIA JEAN-FRANCHS LORG = MICH DANE LILLEGARD LAWRENCE STEVEN MEYERS RANDY DANNENBERG LAUREN SELIG POOL KEVIN TAYLOR JOE SISTO JONATHAN VANGER Gravitas William BUR MCAH SPAIKS DEBRAH MODE Ventures SPS JEH VAN WE NI JUSH CAMPELL PG-13

4 MINUTE MILE ON OSN MOVIES HD

Kardashians 12:05 Keeping Up With The 13:05 E! News

13:35 E! News 14:05 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry 15:00 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills 16:00 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills

17:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 18:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 19:00 E! News

03:40 Secret Access: The Vatican 05:20 Decoding The Past 06:10 Ancient Discoveries 07:00 Missing In Alaska

08:00 In Search Of Aliens 09:00 Ultimate Guide To The Presidents 10:00 Secret Access: The Vatican

12:00 Decoding The Past 13:00 Missing In Alaska 14:00 In Search Of Aliens 15:00 Ultimate Guide To The

16:00 Secret Access: The Vatican18:00 Decoding The Past19:00 Dogfights 20:00 Ancient Discoveries

21:00 The Universe 22:00 Missing In Alaska 23:00 Monster Quest 00:00 Ancient Aliens

01:00 Dogfights 02:50 The Universe



03:40 Big Rig Bounty Hunters 05:00 Mankind The Story Of All Of

06:00 Shipping Wars 06:25 Shipping Wars 06:50 Swamp People 07:40 Mountain Men

08:30 American Restoration Big Rig Bounty Hunters 09:45 10:35 Alone 11:25 Mankind The Story Of All Of

12:15 American Pickers 13:05 Storage Wars Storage Wars 13:55 Pawn Stars 14:20 Pawn Stars

14:45 Down East Dickering 15:35 Shipping Wars 16:00 Grave Trade 16:50 Mountain Men

17:40 Swamp People18:30 Mankind The Story Of All Of 19:20 American Pickers 20:10 Pawn Stars

Pawn Stars 21:00 Storage Wars 21:25 Storage Wars American Pickers 22:40 Search For The Lost Giants 23:30 Storage Wars Storage Wars 00:20 American Pickers 01:10 Storage Wars Miami

Storage Wars Miami

03:25 It's Not Rocket Science 04:20 Don't Tell The Bride 05:15 Eggheads 05:45 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway

13:25 Emmerdale 13:50 Coronation Street 14:20 Coronation Street 14:45 Murdoch Mysteries15:35 The Chase: Celebrity

17:25 Don't Tell The Bride 18:20 Emmerdale 18:45 Coronation Street 19:10 Coronation Street 19:35 The Chase: Celebrity

Specials

20:30 Together

GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD 03:50 Wicked Tuna 04:45 Alaska Wing Men

NATIONAL

05:40 Yukon Gold 06:35 Wild Hawaii 07:30 Ultimate Survival Alaska

08:25 Yukon River Run 09:20 Alaska Wing Men 10:15 The Great Human Race 11:10 Salmon Wars

12:05 Wicked Tuna 13:00 Yukon River Run 14:00 Ultimate Survival Alaska 15:00 Wild Hawaii 16:00 The Great Human Race

18:00 Wicked Tuna 19:00 Wild Hawaii 20:00 The Great Human Race 20:50 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide 21:40 Wicked Tuna

22:30 Wild Hawaii

17:00 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide

23:20 Yukon Gold 00:10 The Great Human Race 01:00 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide 02:55 Wild Hawaii

00:30 Fresh Off The Boat 01:00 Grandfathered 01:30 Baskets 02:00 Man Seeking Woman

nickelodeon HD

03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 03:48 Henry Danger 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 04:36 The Haunted Hathaways 05:00 Max & Shred

05:24 Henry Danger 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants SpongeBob SquarePants

07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 07:24 07:48 Winx Člub 08:12 Harvey Beaks 08:36 Breadwinners

09:00 Get Blake 09:24 Rabbids Invasion 09:48 Henry Danger 10:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 10:36 The Haunted Hathaways

Winx Club 11:00 11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants 11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 13:00 Breadwinners 13:24 The Loud House 13:48 Harvey Beaks

14:36 Henry Danger 15:00 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 15:24 SpongeBob SquarePants15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants 16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

16:36 The Loud House 17:00 Sanjay And Craig 17:24 Harvey Beaks 17:48 Breadwinners

18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School 19:24 Game Shakers

19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants 20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 21:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 21:24 Breadwinners 21:48 Breadwinners

22:12 Sanjay And Craig 22:36 Sanjay And Craig 23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants 23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants 23:48 Henry Danger

00:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 00:36 Max & Shred 01:00 The Haunted Hathaways 01:24 Sanjay And Craig

01:48 Sanjay And Craig 02:12 SpongeBob SquarePants

OSA FIRST HD

COMEDY

03:00 The Simpsons 03:30 Black-Ish 04:00 Life In Pieces 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

05:30 Community 06:00 George Lopez Breaking In 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 08:00 Life In Pieces

Community

09:00 The Simpsons

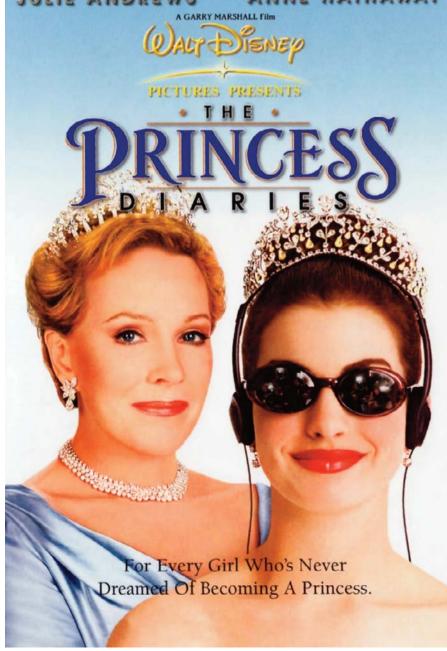
08:30

07:00 Dinosaur 09:00 American Girl: Saige Paints The Sky 11:00 The Princess Diaries 2:

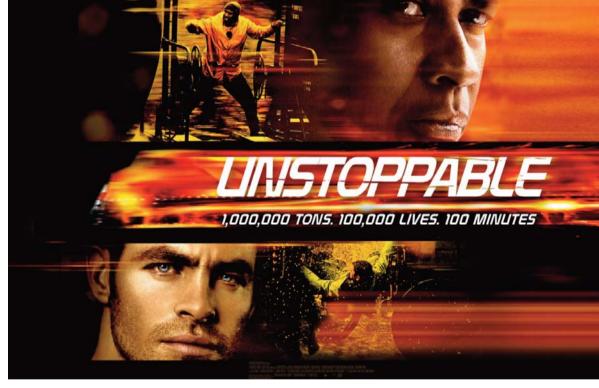
Royal Engagement 13:00 Garfield's Fun Fest 15:00 102 Dalmatians

17:00 American Girl: Isabelle Dances Into The Spotlight 19:00 The Pacifier 21:00 Ernest Goes To Camp 23:00 102 Dalmatians 01:00 The Pacifier

JULIE ANDREWS ANNE HATHAWAY A GARRY MARSHALL Film PICTURES PRESENTS



THE PRINCESS DIARIES ON OSN MOVIES FAMILY HD



UNSTOPPABLE ON OSN MOVIES ACTION

13:55

Rabbit Crying 22:18 Frankenfood 22:42 Tosh.0 23:05 I Live With Models 23:30 The Daily Show - Global **Edition** 00:00 Tosh.0 00:25 Underground With Dave Attell 00:50 Broad City

21:30 Al Madrigal: Why Is The

02:05 TUT Discovery CHANNEL HD

01:40 The Daily Show - Global

01:15 Tosh.0

Edition

03:40 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop

04:05 Storage Hunters UK 04:30 Dallas Car Sharks How Stuff's Made 05:30 How Do They Do It? 06:00 Alaska: The Last Frontier Kindig Customs 07:40 Fast N' Loud

08:30 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop 08:55 Storage Hunters UK 09:20 Dallas Car Sharks How Stuff's Made 10:10 How Do They Do It? 10:35 Fast N' Loud

11:25 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder 12:15 Street Outlaws 13:05 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop Edition

13:30 Storage Hunters UK 13:55 Dallas Car Sharks 14:20 Alaska: The Last Frontier 15:10 Kindig Customs 16:00 Fast N' Loud

16:50 How Stuff's Made 17:15 How Do They Do It? 17:40 Gold Divers 18:30 Yukon Men19:20 The Island With Bear Grylls Storage Hunters UK 20:35 Dallas Car Sharks 21:00 Gold Divers

Yukon Men

10:40 Good Luck Charlie 11:05 Good Luck Charlie 11:30 11:55 Jessie 12:20 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug

And Cat Noir 12:45 Hank Zipzer 13:10 Austin & Ally Austin & Ally 14:00 Liv And Maddie 14:25 Liv And Maddie 14:50 Dog With A Blog

15:15 Hank Zipzer 15:40 Bunk'd 16:05 Disney Mickey Mouse 16:10 Gravity Falls 16:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir

17:00 Backstage 17:50 Girl Meets World 18:15 Bunk'd 18:40 Mako Mermaids 19:05 Austin & Ally 19:30 Jessie 19:55 Violetta

20:45 Good Luck Charlie 21:10 H2O: Just Add Water 21:35 H2O: Just Add Water 22:00 Binny And The Ghost 22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 22:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 23:10 Hank Zipzer 23:35 Binny And The Ghost 00:00 Violetta

00:45 The Hive 00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:40 Hank Zipzei 02:05 Binny And The Ghost 02:30 Violetta

DISNED &

03:10 Henry Hugglemonster 03:20 Calimero 03:35 Zou 03:45 Loopdidoo 04:00 Art Attack 04:25 Henry Hugglemonster

09:10 Gravity Falls 09:35 Lab Rats 10:00 Rocket Monkeys Ultimate Spider-Man 10:50 Boyster 11:20 Boyster 11:45 Pair Of Kings 12:10 Pair Of Kings 12:35 Lab Rats Lab Rats 13:30 Phineas And Ferb

Phineas And Ferb

Kickin' It

14:45 Pokemon Bw: Adventures In Unova 15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse 15:15 Supa Strikas 15:40 Supa Strikas 16:05 Lab Rats 16:30 Pickle And Peanut 16:55 Kirby Buckets 17:25 K.C. Undercover 17:50 Annedroids 18:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty...

18:40 K.C. Undercover 19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse 19:10 Gravity Falls 19:35 Pickle And Peanut 20:00 Lab Rats 20:25 Supa Strikas 20:55 K.C. Undercover 21:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty... 21:45 Guardians Of The Galaxy 22:10 Marvel Avengers Assemble

22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse

03:15 Botched 04:10 Botched 05:05 Botched 06:00 Fashion Bloggers 06:25 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 07:20 Keeping Up With The Kardashians 08:20 E! News 08:45 E! News 09:15 Keeping Up With The

10:15 Keeping Up With The

11:10 Keeping Up With The

21:00 WAGs 22:00 LA Clippers Dance Squad 23:00 E! News 23:30 E! News 00:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry 00:55 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry

01:50 New Money 02:20 E! News 02:45 E! News

20:00 WAGs

Basics

14:00 Man Fire Food 14:30 Man Fire Food 15:00 Chopped 16:00 The Kitchen

19:00 Guy's Grocery Games 20:00 Restaurant Takeover 21:00 Mystery Diners 21:30 Mystery Diners 23:00 Iron Chef America 00:00 Restaurant Takeove

04:00 Chopped 05:00 Man Fire Food 05:30 Man Fire Food 06:00 Man Fire Food 06:30 Man Fire Food 07:00 Chopped 08:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

08:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

17:00 The Pioneer Woman

01:00 Mystery Diners

03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 03:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

09:00 The Kitchen 10:00 Trisha's Southern Kitchen 10:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen 11:00 Chopped

17:30 The Pioneer Woman 18:00 Chopped

02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

12:00 Guy's Big Bite 12:30 Guy's Big Bite 13:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 13:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 02:00 Swamp People 02:50 Mountain Men CHOICE

07:05 Chopping Block 08:00 It's Not Rocket Science 08:55 Don't Tell The Bride 09:50 Murdoch Mysteries 10:45 Eggheads 11:15 Chopping Block 12:10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night

16:30 Together 17:00 Tracey Ullman's Show



Coronation Street

23:15 Murdoch Mysteries

Takeaway 02:30 Murdoch Mysteries

03:45 Predator Fails

04:40 Dead Or Alive

Afghanistan

05:35 Snow Leopard Of

06:30 Planet Carnivore

10:10 The Bear Evidence

07:25 Predator Fails

08:20 Dead Or Alive

11:05 Animal Armory

12:00 Shane Untamed

13:50 Planet Carnivore 14:45 Predator Fails

17:30 Planet Carnivore

18:25 Animal Armory

19:20 Predator Fails

20:10 Dead Or Alive

21:50 Planet Carnivore

22:40 Animal Armory

Hole

23:30 Shane Untamed

01:10 Planet Carnivore

02:50 Expedition Wild

16:35 Extreme Animal Babies

21:00 Extreme Animal Babies

00:20 Cougars: Ninja Of Jackson

02:00 When Crocs Ate Dinosaurs

15:40 Dead Or Alive

NAT GEO

22:50 Emmerdale

CLASSIFIEDS

Kuwait _ Times

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016



KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (11/08/2016 TO 17/08/2016)

Ensel Core	AVA A	(11/06/20101017/06/	2010)
SHAROIA-1		FANAR-2	
THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	11:30 AM	SUICIDE SQUAD	11:30 AM
SUICIDE SOUAD	1:30 PM	SUICIDE SOUAD	2:15 PM
SUICIDE SOUAD	4:00 PM	ALICETHROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS	4:45 PM
MIN 30 SANA	6:30 PM	SUICIDE SOUAD	7:00 PM
MIN 30 SANA	9:30 PM	SUICIDE SQUAD	9:45 PM
SUICIDE SQUAD	12:30 AM	THE CONJURING 2	12:15 AM
SHARQIA-2		FANAR-3	
THE BFG -3D	11:45 AM	FINDING DORY	12:45 PM
THE BFG	2:15 PM	MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	3:00 PM
THE BFG -3D	4:45 PM	RUSTOM-Hindi	6:00 PM
THE BFG	7:15 PM	MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	9:00 PM
SUICIDE SQUAD	9:45 PM	RUSTOM-Hindi	12:05 AM
THE BFG	12:15 AM		
		FANAR-4	
SHARQIA-3		THE BFG	12:00 PM
MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	12:15 PM	THE BFG	2:30 PM
THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	3:15 PM	THE BFG	5:00 PM
MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	5:30 PM	THE BFG	7:30 PM
THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	8:30 PM	THE BFG	10:00 PM
THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	10:45 PM	SUICIDE SQUAD	12:30 AM
THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	1:00 AM		
		FANAR-5	
MUHALAB-1		THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	1:00 PM
MIN 30 SANA	1:00 PM	THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	3:30 PM
ABU SHANAB	1:30 PM	THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	5:45 PM
BABU BANGARAM - Telugu	4:00 PM	THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	8:00 PM
BABU BANGARAM - Telugu	7:00 PM	THE FALL OF THE KRAYS	10:15 PM
BABU BANGARAM - Telugu	10:00 PM	THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	12:30 AM
MIN 30 SANA	4:00 PM	THE LEGISTO OF THE DAY	12.507411
MIN 30 SANA	7:00 PM	MARINA-1	
MIN 30 SANA	10:00 PM	THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	12:00 PM
ARU SHANAR	1:00 AM	THE LEGEND OF TARZAN THE BEG	2:15 PM
ADU SHANAD	1:00 AWI		4:45 PM
AMULIAL AD O		SUICIDE SQUAD	
MUHALAB-2		THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	7:15 PM
RUSTOM- Hindi	1:15 PM	SUICIDE SQUAD	9:30 PM
BABU BANGARAM - Telugu	1:30 PM	SUICIDE SQUAD	12:05 AM
SUICIDE SQUAD	4:15 PM		
MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	6:45 PM	MARINA-2	
SUICIDE SQUAD	9:45 PM	THE BFG	11:30 AM
SUICIDE SQUAD	12:15 AM	FINDING DORY	2:00 PM
		THE BFG	4:15 PM
MUHALAB-3		THE BFG	6:45 PM
THEBFG	11:30 AM	THE BFG	9:15 PM
THE BFG -3D	2:00 PM	THE BFG	11:45 PM
THE LEGEND OF TARZAN	4:30 PM		
THE BFG -3D	6:45 PM	MARINA-3	
THE BFG	9:15 PM	CELL	11:30 AM
THE BFG	11:45 PM	MIN 30 SANA	1:30 PM
		MIN 30 SANA	4:30 PM
FANAR-1		MIN 30 SANA	7:30 PM
THE CONJURING 2	12:30 PM	CELL CELL	10:30 PM
ALICETHROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS		CELL	
	3:15 PM	CELL	12:45 AM
MIN 30 SANA	5:45 PM	AVENUES 4	
MIN 30 SANA	8:45 PM	AVENUES-1	
MIN 30 SANA	11:45 PM	RUSTOM-Hindi	1:00 PM

REQUIRED

Bilingual Pharmacist

required for a Reputable Company:

Skills required:

- Valid Pharmacy Practicing License in Kuwait.
- Transferable Visa
- Pharmacy experience in Kuwait not less than 3 year.
- Knowledge of drugs and their indications, contraindications, dosing and side effects.
- Excellent communication skills. Teamwork

مطلوب

مطلوب أخصائي / أخصائية صيدلة للعمل بدوام كامل لدى إحدى الشركات المعروفة

وفقا للشروط التالية:

- أن يكون المتقدم حاصل على بكالوريوس صيدلة - أن يكون لدية خبرة لا تقل عن (٣) سنوات داخل الكويت، مع إقامة قابلة للتحويل.

- أن يكون لدية ترخيص ساري المفعول بمزاولة المهنة من وزارة الصحة بالكويت.

سوف يحدد الراتب حسب المؤهل و سنوات الخبرة بعد

السيرة الدانية مرفقة بجميع الشهادات العلمية إلى الإ Belgharek.mouna@gmail.com

STORES FOR RENT

CLOSED STORES OF AREA 250, 500, 750 & 1000 SQ METER ARE AVAILABLE FOR RENT IN EAST AHMADI

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN CONTACT MR. NADEEM 97861063

Departure Flights on Monday 15/8/2016

ACCOMMODATION

Room for rent, 2 big rooms with balcony, no electricity bill, near Jabriya Indian School, central A/C, block 10, St. 9. Mobile: 55706900, 55983570. **(C 5201)** 10-8-2016

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Husain, holder of Indian Passport No. H2427557, resident of Laxman Ganj Bazar Dargah Galiakot, Rajasthan, India. Have changed my name from Husain to Husain Zovab Ali Mitha. In future, I will be known as Husain Zoyab Ali Mitha. (C 5202) 15-8-2016

WANTED

Expert Cashier, Hairdresser and Beautician

Expert female Cashiers, Hairdressers and Beauticians required for a chain of famous Ladies Beauty Salon in Kuwait, catering mainly to Kuwaiti clientele.

- Candidates should posses pleasing personality and should have good communication skills.
- Candidates from Kuwait only need apply.

Dubai

12:10

Salary upon interview.

nd CV to E-mail: wkama20i@hotmail.com For further details contact TEL :965 98855510



Arrival Flights on Monday 15/8/2016

KAC

742

14:55

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

		311t3 011 Wi011day 13/6/2010		ICAC	742	Dallillalli	14.55					JZR	776	loddah	12:15
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time			Jeddah	
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	KNE	529	Jeddah	15:05	AIC	982	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
												FDB	076	Dubai	13:10
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25	FDK	802	Damascus	13:15
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30
FDK	803	Damascus	00:35	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	FEG	934	Sohag	13:55
FDB				NIA	251		15:50					MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
	069	Dubai	00:55			Alexandria		PIA	206	Lahore	00:40	THY	767	Istanbul	14:10
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	RJA	640	Amman	16:00	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	FDB	051	Dubai	16:10	FDK	804	Damascus	01:35	PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40	KNE	382	Taif	14:55
													773		15:00
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30	JZR	535	Cairo	16:20	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00	KAC	//3	Riyadh	
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	JZR	563	Sohag	16:25	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	KAC	562	Amman	16:55	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	ATG	2271	Sharjah	16:55	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
												KAC	617	Doha	15:15
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KAC	118	New York	17:00	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
YYY	5555	Bahrain	01:50	SAW	705	Damascus	17:05	THY	769	Istanbul	03:45	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
FEG	933	Sohag	05:00	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	KAC	417	Manila	03:55	JZR	188	Dubai	15:50
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	RJA	645	Amman	03:55	KNE	530	Jeddah	15:55
												KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45	MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50	OMA	644	Muscat	04:05	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
JZR	555	Alexandria	06:15	THY	1282	TZX	17:50	FDB	068	Dubai	04:05	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
												RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	JZR	483	Istanbul	18:20	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
BAW	157	London	06:40	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	KKK	6505	Istanbul	04:20	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
												SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35	CEB	019	Manila	04:50				
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	KAC	542	Cairo	18:55	JZR	560	Sohag	05:00	SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	KAC	618	Doha	18:55	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC	103	London	19:00	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
												ATG	2271	Istanbul	18:30
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	RJA	643	Amman	06:25	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05	QTR	1087	Doha	06:30	JZR	238	Amman	18:45
ETD	919	Abu Dhabi	08:20	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	THY	771	Istanbul	06:45	KAC	1801	Cairo	18:55
KAC				FDB	063	Dubai	19:10	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50	THY	1283	TZX	19:05
	362	Colombo	08:20									QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05	JZR	124	Bahrain	19:20
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
	284			KAC	154	Istanbul	19:45	BAW	156	London	08:25	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
KAC		Dhaka	09:00									ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	FDB	059	Dubai	19:50	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
IRA	667	Esfahan	09:15	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05	KAC	173	Munich	08:35	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	KNE	381	Taif	20:10	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:30
JAV			09:25	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
	621	Amman										JAI	571		20:35
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30	KAC		Mumbai	
CCE	345	Sohag	10:00	JZR	189	Dubai	20:25	JZR	534	Cairo	09:30	DLH	331 634	Trivandrum Doha	20:45 20:50
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30	JZR	482	Istanbul	09:40				
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	OTR	1088	Doha	20:35	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45	KAC	353	BLR	20:55
				-				JZR	562	Sohag	09:50	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
AXB	890	Mangalore/Bahrain	10:55	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55					KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	KAC	174	Munich	21:00	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	IRA	666	Esfahan	10:15	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
								ETD	920	Abu Dhabi	10:20	JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
FDK	801	Damascus	12:15	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20					MSR	619	Alexandria	21:30
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30	JAV	622	Amman	10:25	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	QTR	1082	Doha	21:55	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
								KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
FEG	953	Asyut	12:55	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10					FDB	5054	Dubai	22:25
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:25	CCE	346	Sohag	11:10	THY	1413	TZX	22:25
KNE								KAC	561	Amman	11:20	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
	231	Riyadh	14:00	BBC	143	Dhaka	22:40	KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25				
KAC	672	Dubai	14:00	JZR	185	Dubai	22:55					KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
OTR	1078	Doha	14:05	RBG	555	Alexandria	23:15	KAC	741	Dammam	11:35	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
FDB	057	Dubai	14:20	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:20	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35	GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
								AXB	890	Mangalore	11:55	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:00
GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30	MEA	405	Beirut	12:00	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35					QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50	KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	23:40	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05	KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila	23:25
	340														
	340							KAC	103	London	12:10	RBG	556	Alexandria	23:55

CROSSWORD 1343

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51		100	52		53	54				55		56			
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ACROSS

- 1. The 21st letter of the Greek alphabet. 4. A piece of body armor for the trunk. 12. Title for a civil or military leader (espe-
- cially in Turkey). 15. A former agency (from 1946 to 1974) that was responsible for research into atomic energy and its peacetime uses in
- the United States. 16. Pertaining to filberts or hazelnuts. 17. The longer of the two telegraphic sig-
- nals used in Morse code. 18. The seventh and last day of the week.
- 19. (baseball) A list of batters in the order in which they will bat.
- 20. God of wealth and love.
- 21. A Japanese shrub that resembles members of the genus Spiraea.
- 23. Capital and largest city and economic center of Peru.
- 25. Tag the base runner to get him out. 26. Stick of wax with a wick in the middle.
- 27. A low triangular area where a river divides before entering a larger body of water.
- 29. A white trivalent metallic element. 34. A name that has been assumed tem-
- 38. Emptying accomplished by draining. 40. West Indian shrub or small tree having leathery saponaceous leaves and
- extremely hard wood. 43. A soft silvery metallic element.
- 44. One-hundredth of a right angle. 45. A constellation in the southern hemi-
- sphere near Telescopium and Norma. 46. Being ten more than one hundred
- 47. A small digital computer based on a microprocessor and designed to be used by one person at a time.
- 48. A state in northwestern North 50. A benevolent aspect of Devi.
- 51. A member of a North American Indian people speaking one of the Hokan lan-
- 53. (informal) Of the highest quality.
- 55. Relating to or located near a tibia.
- 57. A tricycle (usually propelled by pedalling).
- 60. A silvery soft waxy metallic element of the alkali metal group.
- 61. (Babylonian) A demigod or first man. 64. The function or position properly or
- customarily occupied or served by anoth-
- 68. Elder brother of Krishna. 73. Rounded like an egg.
- 74. (obstetrics) The number of live-born children a woman has delivered.
- 76. A white metallic element that burns
- with a brilliant light. 77. A colloid that has a continuous liquid phase in which a solid is suspended in a
- liquid. 78. The shorter of the two telegraphic sig-
- nals used in Morse code.
- 81. Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to but heavier than beer.
- 82. The compass point midway between east and southeast.
- 83. The capital of Brazil. 84. An affirmative.

DOWN 1. (football) Of advancing the ball by

- 2. A collection of objects laid on top of
- each other. 3. Of or relating to a seizure or convulsion.

- 4. A drug (trade names Calan and Isoptin) used as an oral or parenteral calcium blocker in cases of hypertension or congestive heart failure or angina or migraine.
- 5. A city in northwestern Spain near the Cantabrian Mountains.
- 6. Of or relating to the kidneys. 7. An inflammatory disease of connective tissue with variable features including
- fever and weakness and fatigability and joint pains and skin lesions on the face or
- 8. The twelfth month of the civil year. 9. Of or relating to precious stones or the
- art of working with them. 10. Half the width of an em.
- 11. Italian operatic soprano (born in 1922).
- 12. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
- 13. Mentally or physically infirm with age. 14. According to the Old Testament he was a pagan king of Israel and husband of
- Jezebel (9th century BC). 22. The seventh month of the Moslem cal-
- 24. Large Old World bat of warm and tropical regions that feeds on fruit.
- 28. The taste experience when a savoury condiment is taken into the mouth.
- 30. A cigar made with light-colored tobacco. 31. A doctor's degree in religion.
- 32. Small terrestrial lizard of warm regions of the Old World.
- 33. An award for winning a championship or commemorating some other event.
- 35. A republic in the Middle East in west-
- 36. An enclosed space.
- 37. The district occupied entirely by the city of Washington.
- 39. Wild sheep of northern Africa. 41. Any of a number of fishes of the family
- Carangidae.
- 42. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
- 49. The capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on the Congo river
- opposite Brazzaville. 52. Strike with disgust or revulsion.
- 54. Being one more than one hundred. 56. A Chadic language spoken south of
- Lake Chad. 58. The sense organ for hearing and equi-
- librium. 59. A soft white precious univalent metal-
- lic element having the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any metal. 62. English navigator who explored the Arctic while searching for the Northwest Passage (1550-1605).
- 63. Having winglike extensions. 65. An analytic or interpretive literary
- composition. 66. Eaten as mush or as a thin gruel.
- 67. Indigo bush.
- 69. South American armadillo with three bands of bony plates.
- 70. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
- 71. (Greek mythology) Greek god of war. 72. Interface consisting of a standard port between a computer and its peripherals that is used in some computers.
- 75. Black tropical American cuckoo. 79. A metallic element having four
- allotropic forms.
- 80. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object).

Yesterday's Solution

T	0	G		S	K	I	T	T	L	E	S		Α	S	P
A	В	Α		С	Α	N	0	Е	I	S	T		P	Α	Т
K	I	S	L	Е	v		Е	S	Т	Е	R		L	Е	A
A	Т	Н	I	N	Α	Ι		T	С		U	В	Y	K	Н
			G	I			В	Α	Н	Α	M	Α	S		
P	Α	T	Α	С	Α		Α	С	I	D		R	I	S	C
Α	M	Е	N		F	L	0	Е		Α	V	Ι	Α	Т	Е
P	Е	Е		В	Α		В	Α	R	D	I	С		Α	С
P	Е	T	R	Α	R	С	Α		Е		S		F	R	I
Α	R	Н	Α	Т		Α	В		S	K	I	L	L	Е	Т
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S	C	Α	T		R	Е		В		M		F	M		
M	Α	D	Α	M	Е		F		G	Α	В	F	Е	S	T
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STAR TRACK

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Everyone's communication skills are at a high. Interactions with friends and family can be fun. Others will find you most natural and full of energy to do most anything this day. Ideas, mental things, information exchange and the interrelating of all these are central to your day. You could bring imagination and religious understanding to physical and scientific studies. There is the possibility of new visions or sudden insights into your self-image or into your ideals and dreams. You may do some thinking on reshaping and renewing your philosophy or religion-your imagination is at full tilt. There are breakthroughs in compassion and communion. The mind simply cannot focus on misery when it is flooded with the desire to heal and be happy.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Some volunteer work may keep you busy most of this day. This could be in helping friends, contributing your expertise in a community project or a little time spent in a religious project. You like to care for others and this can be quite a fulfilling day if you do not overdo or push on into the time you need for yourself. There is a giving-up of much superficiality in favor of in-depth learning and self-discipline-separating the wheat from the chaff in your personality. A bout of philosophy or even a little religion could have an enormous effect on the way you look at your career during this time. Lasting values, whatever you find to be true and enduring, can guide you nowopening up avenues that have previously been blocked.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Emotional security, a sense of belonging and nurturing are felt instinctively. You want roots and you may crave a sense of intimate, lasting connection, a castle against the uncertainty of the world. It is time to talk about ways in which one can place money aside for rainy days or travel dreams. Your close friends may have ideas in which you could save or invest. Find ways in which your money will work for you, yet will be difficult to cash in quickly. Of course, the business world of money transactions is not open today but planning can be beneficial. This will help you to reach your goals of travel, redecorating, large purchases, education, etc., faster and with less frustration. Your love relationship is improving and family matters have levity.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

There is a drive to probe and penetrate today and this may find you examining and working through some strong internal changes. Push too hard and you could be too dominating, even oppressive to yourself and others. Being more involved with neighbors or siblings satisfies a deep emotional need and finds you involved in sharing stories or experiences that can bring about much laughter. Later today you may feel that emotional security, a sense of belonging and nurturing are most important. These issues are felt instinctively now. Your health report is good, but you must pay more attention to diet and nutrition. An exercise class that is competitive becomes an activity in which you enjoy becoming involved. You make great progress!



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your sense of honesty and truth is something that others sense in you and support. You might find yourself teaching or guiding groups in matters of religion or philosophy. You could have some difficulty getting your ideas across to a few people, but that is okay-you have planted the seed of thought. You experience life mostly through your emotions and how you feel about someone or something. Your intuition is strong and can guide you accurately in making decisions-if you will just let it guide you; listen to that inner voice. Your sensitivity makes you retreat from aggressive types. An afternoon with your friends can prove to be quite rewarding. Short-distance travel and fun interactions with loved ones are indicated.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

This is a great time to be with others and to play or work together. Part of this day is filled with opportunities to be with your loved ones in some extremely inspiring surroundings. Perhaps a day at the zoo or an aquarium is just what keeps your group contented. This could also mean a trip to a planetarium, a special play, a musical, an art show, etc. Short travel expeditions could be in order and a sense of belonging and nurturing are the issues that are felt instinctively now. You love your roots, whether home and family, ancestors or history in general. You are probably a collector and very discriminating in this area. You appreciate emotions and like to get a sense or feel for whatever is happening. This is a wonderful time to build on relationships.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Astronomy 2

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

DAMETEORAVONREPUS SGSHQQBJVGHSXVNXI RFTPMARORUAOAOGGU ARLAERSAHDEJIZZSJ SADNSTSZSKCTOJMOI AWCUATIIBLACKHOLE UDURELRLCLPDXMOAG QEKRQAEOLESFIENRR UTOCLCYENESKVCISA UIOOLXTWTOTREIOYV DHPIASPRCIMAAPLSI WWPLNOMNYABESPLTT GSAOTENALPKRRQCEY

ASTEROID ASTRONOMER **AURORA BLACK HOLE** CONSTELLATION **ECLIPSE** GALAXY

GRAVITY

KEPLER METEOR MOON ORBIT PARSEC **PLANET POLARIS** QUASARS

EGCMTIDESKYEOTRMR

SOLAR SYSTEM SPACE STAR **SUPERNOVA TIDES** WHITE DWARF

SATELLITE

Libra (September 23-October 22)

You have a searing vision that cuts through what passes for conventional religion. This is a vision of the endless process of life ever being born all new. There is great acceptance and faith in the natural process and the next generation. You may enjoy some time on a nearby lake with a friend or loved one-perhaps a picnic. This afternoon you find yourself entertaining children. You love children and animals and may find that they are just naturally attracted to you. Before the day is over, these children end up entertaining you. A quick huddle to put ideas together and by the evening all of you could put on a talent show to the parents. Perhaps you enjoy entertaining othersyou instill that fun into these kids. Laughter and joy is a contagious thing.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

There is a yearning to broaden horizons and widen your experiences in this life-a kind of spiritual wanderlust takes center stage in your life now. You could find yourself visiting a different religious group with a friend today. You may become involved in conversations surrounding religious matters with a variety of your friends. There is no debate, just review of different religious classes. All life seems linked together and connected. You may have an interesting view of the world, the universe and yourself. There is spiritual growth and imagination. There are many ways of seeing through the separateness in the world-to the unity behind it. You may spend much of the afternoon in relaxation.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

This is a good time to organize your affairs or rearrange your living areaperhaps a summer cleaning. Your home environment, friends and surroundings in general get attention. There are good conversations with young people and perhaps some insight into their thinking. This time is known for being quite lucky and full of fortunate circumstances that create fortunate changes-new people and objects of beauty. Your intensity and passionate approach to life are obvious to all who meet you. Life would be boring if we were all the same. If you are willing to relax this afternoon-just letting life flow to you-you could be in for wonderful surprises. You could be heading for a delightfully romantic evening with someone special.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Marriage, children, animals or gardening can be enjoyed this morning. As the day progresses, you may find the occult, psychology, initiation and mysticism of great interest and may even find yourself at some sort of a psychic fair. You are constantly involved in personal change as a lifelong habit. Sometimes you even feel a new person emerging as you learn new insights on human behaviors that help you grow and share a new you with others. You could write, create and investigate a number of scientific phenomena and enjoy every moment. Check out the latest scientific research . . . You could join the team-the research can be thrilling. Everything conspires to reveal you at your most elegant this afternoon, particularly with groups of people.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Emotional considerations may block the way you want to move today. Someone may get pushy or obscure the real choices and the right path. You have no trouble putting your feelings into words. In fact, you may have to exercise some control over your tongue-for you are quick to say things. Everything you communicate packs a wallop. Getting away to think by yourself can bring you the answers you need. Emotional security, a sense of belonging and nurturing are the things that are felt instinctively now. You want roots and you crave a sense of intimate connection that will last-a castle against the vicissitudes of the world, so to speak. Let a love relationship blossom-do not push issues or feelings too much today. This is a day for joy.

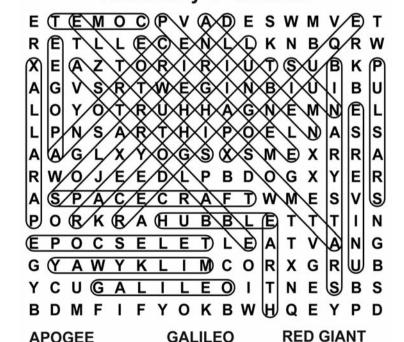


Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Everything points to your taking the initiative today in the family or a love partner's activities. You are the inspiration and driving force in the lives of others. A born coach or teacher, you are at home in the physical areas of life. You are guite able to manage a very active and strong emotional life. Strong spirit, attractive, direct, perhaps loudyou are driven to excel in any form of physical and creative expression-sports, theatrics, arts and crafts, whatever. This urge to express yourself, to speak out and be heard, propels you into teaching a small group in understanding the ways we achieve goals and how to see positive results from organizing people or yourself in projects. You are most spontaneous and enjoy answering questions

Yesterday's Solution

Astronomy 1 - Solution



APOGEE ASTROLABE ATMOSPHERE BINARY STARS COMET CORONA EARTH **EQUINOX**

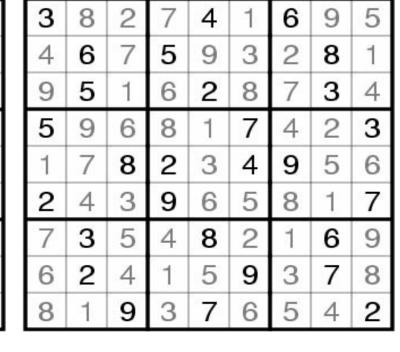
GALILEO HUBBLE LIGHT YEAR **MILKY WAY NEBULA PARALLAX** PERIGEE **PULSARS**

SHUTTLE **SOLAR WIND** SPACECRAFT SUN TELESCOPE UNIVERSE

Daily SuDoku

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1	3							7
				4	9			
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	1					4	8 5	

Yesterday's Solution



Chatter Box



'Soccer was the first sport that my parents put me in, and ultimately, all the parents kind of came over to my mom and were, 'We think Channing would be better at football. We love him, he's really great, but he's kind of hurting our children.' I was just a little wild." Channing Tatum

Laugh Lines

Why did the swordfish go to the psychiatrist? He had a duel personality

Knock Knock Who's there? Water skier Water skier who? Water skier'd of. I'm harmless!



Your roommate is going to shape a large part of your college experience, so it's crucial to know a lot about the person before deciding.

Should you room with a high school friend in college?

Yes, familiarity is important

College is a new beginning, but that doesn't mean you have to break off all ties you have with friends you've known all your life. Whether it's your elementary school buddy or high school best friend, you've spent years getting to know this person, inside and out. You've learned some of their most unique quirks and habits simply from observing them over time. Their daily routines and moral values are familiar to you. When choosing a roommate, the importance of this familiarity cannot be emphasized enough.

While it may be fun to make a new friend by choosing a random roommate, it is risky. Would you allow a random person to live with you in your house now without knowing anything about them except their basic information? A lot of colleges offer surveys that pair roommates together based on similar personal qualities and preferences, but a simple questionnaire isn't reliable enough to make a perfect roommate match, since people can lie or exaggerate their responses.

Your roommate is going to shape a large part of your college experience, so it's crucial to know a lot about the person before deciding. After a long day of classes, your roommate will be the one that you return to in your dorm. He or she will be the one to witness your homesickness and mental breakdowns over homework. There must also be a sense of security that your roommate won't take or use any of your belongings when you aren't in the dorm. The only way to ensure this is to choose someone you already know as your roommate. - Amy Tan

No, make new friends

Depending on how you look at it, college is a fresh start. It's the time where you discover yourself and find out where your life is headed. You could possibly meet your future spouse or finally discover that longawaited passion you just couldn't seem to find in high

Whether you decide to live on campus or off, roommates are a large part of your college experience. When attending a school with your bestie or good friend, you're already entering a new environment with someone you're comfortable with. Trust me, I've attended many summer camps where I've roomed with someone I've previously known and regretted it.

Now, I'm not saying you shouldn't room with someone you know. If I went to the same college as my best friend I'd die if I were roomies with them. and being roommates with someone is an intimate experience that you wouldn't want to share with just anyone. I mean, this person will most likely see you at your best and worst.

My point is that it never hurts to room with someone new. You would still have your friend and maybe have a new one! Living in a room with someone can force you into situations that you might normally not be in; for instance, sharing common dislikes for small beds and ugly wall colors. Hey, you never know: You may just end your freshmen year of college with a really good friend. That sounds like a win-win to me. - Catalina DeLaPena

Amy Tan and Catalina DeLaPena are correspondents for The Mash, Chicago Tribune's newspaper and website written for teens, by teens



U.S. forward Crystal Dunn (16) keeps the ball away from a tackle by Puerto Rico midfielder Annie Lee Mendez (11) during an Olympic qualifying match. (Jae S. Lee/Dallas Morning News)

Soccer's Crystal **Dunn talks with** Long Island kids

We met Crystal Dunn from the United States Women's National Team; we went into the interview nervous, but as soon as we sat down to talk with Crystal, she made us feel comfortable and our nervousness went away.

Crystal even had questions for us about soccer and what type of music we listen to. After the interview we took a bunch of photos with Crystal, Carli Lloyd and Becky Sauerbrunn. We left the house where the interviews were being held and headed to the soccer field to watch the team warm up.

Standing there in the snow — up in Connecticut, just outside Hartford — we could see the dedication that these players put into playing soccer for their career. It was such an amazing opportunity to be able to meet a few of the U.S. Women's Soccer players and to interview Crystal Dunn. We had an amazing experience that neither of us will forget. Attending the interview was an inspiring, fun-filled, once-in-a-lifetime experience. All three players that we met were very nice and intelligent, and had no problem socializing with us. It was very cool to see that Crystal Dunn, who grew up in Rockville Centre, went to South Side High School and then onto the University of North Carolina. When she is not playing for the USWNT, she is one of the star players for the Washington Spirit.

- Julia Fortunato and Ruby Tirone are Kidsday (Newsday) reporters

Project: Up periscope

fully remove the metal or plastic cutting

FamilyFun strip. Cut the tabs from each box, except for one: on • Give suck • Wrapping paper

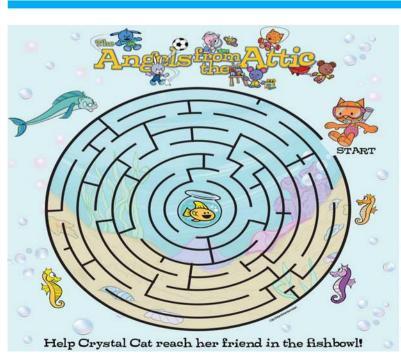
the right side, keep the second tab • Craft knife down from the top, as shown. Set • Glue dots two of the removed tabs aside.

- 2. Tape the two boxes together as shown with the ends overlapping about a 1/4 inch. Tape the seam on the other side as well.
- 3. With the glue stick, adhere the wrapping paper to the printed side of the boxes.
- 4. Use a craft knife to cut a 2-inch square window beside each tab, about a 1/4 inch in from the sides. With glue dots, secure the mirrors to the centers of the
- 5. Tape one of the removed cardboard tabs to the back of each mirror tab, overlapping them to extend the tab's length by 1 inch. Tuck in the mirrored tabs as you fold up the periscope. Use glue dots to secure the overlapping edges. Position the mirrored tabs inside the periscope at about a 45° angle. Adjust the tabs to get the best possible view, then tape them in place.

- 1. Unfold both boxes and care- YOU WILL NEED • 2 empty plastic wrap boxes
 - **Scissors** Masking tape

 - 2 round or square 2-inch mirrors



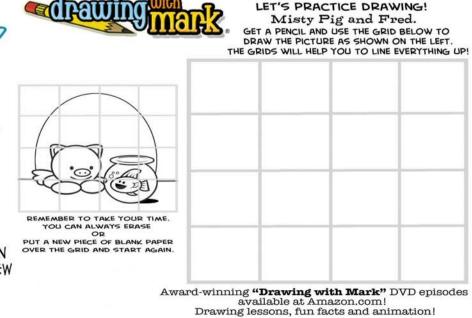






- FISH THAT SWIM UPRIGHT.
- STARFISH ARE NOT FISH, SO MARINE BIOLOGISTS DECIDED TO CHANGE THE NAME TO SEA STAR.
- · SHARKS ARE THE ONLY FISH TO HAVE EYELIDS.
- SEAHORSES CAN CHANGE THEIR COLOR TO MATCH THEIR SURROUNDINGS.

SCIENTISTS HAVE EXPLORED ONLY 1% OF THE OCEAN DEPTHS. THEY BELIEVE THERE MAY BE MILLIONS OF NEW KINDS OF ANIMALS AND FISH DOWN THERE, WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED.





ustin Bieber has threatened to make his Instagram account private because of the abuse directed towards his new girlfriend. The 'Sorry' hitmaker recently went public with Sofia Richie, but after fans took to social media to criticize her appearance, Justin has issued a warning. Justin said on the photo-sharing website: "I'm gonna make my Instagram private if you guys don't stop the hate this is getting out of hand, if you guys are really fans you wouldn't be so mean to people that I like. (sic)"This comes shortly after Justin's ex-girlfriend Selena Gomez said she "accepts" people don't really know what her life is like. Selena thinks a lot is "assumed" about her that isn't really true, but she has learned not to get upset by it as there's nothing she can do to change the situation while she's in the public eye. She said: "Nobody really knows everything and they can only assume...I figured it's just temporary. I feel like that fortunately and unfortunately it's where my life is at the moment and I have to accept it." Selena also claimed recently that she wants to date a "low key" actor. The 'Hands To Myself' hitmaker said she would like to settle down with someone who is a little less famous but admits those kind of guys are "terrified" of her. She explained: "I think people would think it's kind of dumb [to date me]. Nobody would want to throw themselves into that situation where it was so heightened publicly, like, why would they? "[I'd like a] low-key actor, writer or producer but those kind of guys are terrified of me!"



Japan pop group **SMAP** to split



ugely popular Japanese boy band SMAP will break up at the end of the year, their management said Sunday, saddening their army of fans across Asia and marking the end of an era. The five members of the group, now in their late 30s and early 40s, are regularly referred to as "national idols" and have dominated Japan's show business industry for the past quarter of a century. The news came after months of speculation about deep divisions within the band and only seven months after the group pledged to stay together. "SMAP, which has worked as an artist

group for 25 years since their debut, will disband as of December 31, 2016," said management agency Johnny & Associates Inc. The members-Masahiro Nakai, Takuya Kimura, Goro Inagaki, Tsuyoshi Kusanagi and Shingo Katori-will remain with the agency and will focus on their solo acts, the statement added. SMAP, which cryptically stands for "Sports Music Assemble People", started out as a fresh-faced boy band in 1988. They are still the top J-pop boy groupeven though its members now range in age from 39 to 43. Aside from singing mega-hit tunes, SMAP mem-

bers, as a group or individually, have hosted a number of popular comedy, variety and sports television programs, including ongoing broadcasting of the Rio Olympics, while also acting in serious dramas and movies. "Twenty-five years since their debut, the most powerful idol group in the Japanese entertainment history will bring the curtain down," said the Sports Nippon. "I never read long sentences but read this many times. I refuse to believe SMAP is disbanding," said one tweet, referring to the statement announcing the group's break up.

Rocco Ritchie celebrates birthday inside a volcano

occo Ritchie spent his 16th birthday inside a volcano. The son of Madonna and Guy Ritchie, who was stuck in the middle of a custody battle earlier this year, travelled to the Thrihnukagigur volcano in Iceland with his step-mother Jacqui Ainsley to celebrate his big day. Jacqui, 34, posted photographs taken from 120 meters inside the volcano on Instagram, saying it was a "magical experience to journey into the Earth's womb". Allied to the volcano visit, Rocco was also gifted a Kabbalah protection bracelet by his famous father, which is supposed to keep him safe. A source told the Sunday Mirror newspaper: "Guy and Jacqui had a Kabbalah wedding and they wanted something based on belief and spirituality for Rocco's present. "It's a silver and gold



protection bracelet with his star sign birth stones, moonstone and topaz." Madonna, for her part, was recently filmed taking her son to get a piercing for his birthday. The chart-topping pop star was seen taking Rocco to Elite Jewelry & Piercing in Manhattan, New York, last week. Rocco is reported to have walked out of the venue with a stud in one of his ears. He chose a gold square stud costing \$120 for the earring and an additional \$15 for the piercing, according to the gossip website TMZ. Madonna also posted a series of heartfelt messages on Twitter to celebrate her son's birthday. She wrote: "Happy Birthday to my First Born Son! A true Warrior with a beautiful Heart. Let the Sun shine! (sic)" She also said: "Once my baby always my baby. Happy Sweet 16! (sic)"

Oliver banned from getting a vasectomy

amie Oliver has been banned from getting a vasectomy. The celebrity chef and his wife Jools recently welcomed the fifth baby into their family, and while Jamie is reluctant to have any more children, his wife is still not keen on him having a vasectomy. The 41-year-old star told Gurgle magazine: "I'd suggested getting the snip was a good idea, but Jools won't let me... she loves babies." The latest member of their family, a baby boy whose name has not yet been revealed, has joined Poppy Honey Rosie, 14, Daisy Boo Pamela, 13, Petal Blossom Rainbow, six, and Buddy Bear Maurice, five. Following the birth,

Jamie recently took to his wife's Instagram account to post a picture of Jools and her new baby sleeping side by side. He captioned the image: "I hacked mums Instagram account bless them both sleeping and exhausted together I can't tell you what a wicked mum this chick is.... I had the best week off readjusting to the new family member a baby boy and I've loved every single minute....everyone has grown and adjusted.... Big love to all the mums out there it's hard graft amazing. "Happy weekend people and when Jools finds out I hacked her account all I can say is I love you joxxxxxxx (sic)"



Jamie Foxx performs surprise gig in restaurant

amie Foxx spontaneously performed with a house band at Mastro's in New York City. The Oscar-winning actor, who famously starred as Ray Charles on the silver screen, reportedly entered the restaurant "with his kids, a couple of handlers and his jeweler" and had a rib-eye and chocolate cake before he took to performing in front of the other guests. Jamie hopped on the stage with the live



band, "sang the chorus of [Ray Charles' classic] 'I Got a Woman' while playing the piano," and then made for the exit, according to an eyewitness who was speaking to the New York Post newspaper. The source added: "On his way out he said that he was in town all week and will be back." Meanwhile, a good friend of Jamie's recently claimed that the award-winning star is dating fellow Hollywood A-lister Katie Holmes. The duo are rumored to have been dating for a considerable period of time and Claudia Jordan recently opened up about their situation. During a recent interview, the 'Real Housewives of Atlanta' star was asked about Jamie and she said: "[He's a] good friend of mine." Claudia subsequently insisted she had never hooked up with the 'Django Unchained' actor, and then she added: "He is very happy with her [Katie]. I like that he seems very happy." Rumors of a possible romance between the two Hollywood stars have been circulating for more than a year. However, the duo and their representatives have consistently denied that they are anything more than just good friends. A rep for Katie said last year, for instance: "These stories are untrue and this gossip needs stop. "Katie is not dating anyone."

Zac Efron wants a girl to ask him out

he 28-year-old actor - who has been single since split ting from his former girlfriend Sami Miro earlier this year doesn't think a guy should always make the first move and would "prefer" it if someone wants to date him would approach him first. He said: "I think it's fine for girls to ask boys out. I actually prefer it." However, the 'Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates' star has admitted he can't hide his feel-



ings when he likes a girl. He said: "A girl can tell I like her when I blush or start telling bad jokes." But Zac is usually comfortable with showing his feelings. He said: "I'm not afraid to cry. Not all of the time. But when I'm watching a movie, I'll sometimes shed a tear." The Hollywood hunk was once left red-faced after mistaking someone else's fiance for his own girlfriend. He said: "I was walking behind somebody who I thought was the girl I Was at a party with, and I lifted her up and whirled her around... and it was not my date. "It was somebody's fiancee and the guy in question was not amused. I had to apologise and everyone seemed upset. That wasn't fun." Though the 'Baywatch' star always thinks he has a certain type, he still finds himself falling for girls that lack the qualities he is looking for.

Tyler couldn't love anyone with 'bad taste' in music

he 39-year-old actress who has son Milo, 11, from her previous marriage to Royston Langdon, as well as 17-month-old Sailor and Lula, four weeks, with her fiance Dave Gardner - is attracted to "thoughtful, considerate" men, and has admitted she won't tolerate it if she doesn't agree with their choices of favorite bands and singers. Asked about what she looks for in a suitor, she said: "A thoughtful, considerate person melts my heart. "Someone who pays attention and notices the little things. "And I can't be friends or love someone who has bad taste in music." While Liv doesn't get embarrassed easily, she admits her parents, Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler and former Playmate Bebe Buell, always manage to leave her red-faced with their outrageous comments. She said: "I'm not easily embarrassed at all, but my mom and dad both manage it. "They can say some pretty bold and outrageous things. They are never afraid to say what's on their mind, that's for sure." Like her parents, the 'Lord of the Rings' actress isn't afraid to speak her mind, although she never holds a grudge after a row. She said: "I try not to take things too personally. If someone or something really upsets me I'm pretty straightforward about it. I am not a grudge-holder. "Because I am softly-spoken and a bit shy, people think I'm not a strong or brave person but I'm very resilient." Although Liv has admitted she has made mistakes in her life, she has no regrets because she's learned something from all of her experiences. She told Grazia magazine: "No

regrets. Many mistakes. I feel grateful for the les-

sons they teach me. Life would be so bor-

ing without them."

Hiddleston and Swift are following each other on Instagram



■om Hiddleston and Taylor Swift are now following each other on Instagram. The 35-year-old actor joined the picture-sharing site last week but took a few days to start following his 26-year-old girlfriend. Meanwhile, in a new interview, Tom has praised musicians for their emotional vulnerability. The star did not mention his singer/songwriter girlfriend directly but said musicians and singers have it more difficult than actors because they share their most personal thoughts and feelings in their music. Speaking at a SAG-AFTRA Q&A in Los Angeles, Tom said: "I really have such respect for musicians and for singers because they're so naked. Actors get to hide behind character, even though we're really expressing ourselves, but people don't tell that. "But musical performers are up there and it's them. I have a guitar and this is the song I wrote, this is how I feel. But the power you have to make people feel good is extraordinary and that's the reason why these performers are unstoppable." Tom and Taylor have been dating since June but the actor was previously forced to deny claims his relationship with the star is a "publicity stunt". He said: "Well, um. How best to put this? That notion is - look, the truth is that Taylor Swift and I are together and we're very happy. Thanks for asking. That's the truth. It's not a publicity stunt." And the 'Thor: Ragnarok' star recently insisted he doesn't care what people think of his relationship because he knows he's being "authentic" and true to himself.

—Bang Showbiz



A man passes by a closed shop as he walks down the Istiklal avenue in Istanbul known for centuries, as the main commercial artery running through the heart of Istanbul, attracting thousands of people every day for shopping, entertain-ment or historic sightseeing. — AFP photos



People pass by closed shops as they walk down the

Attacks, coup bring change to Istanbul's Istiklal Avenue

or centuries, it has been the main commercial artery running through the heart of Istanbul, attracting thousands of people every day for shopping, entertainment or historic sightseeing. But following a string of deadly attacks and the failed coup of July 15, Istiklal Avenue now faces an uncertain future, its shops boarded up and visitor numbers plummeting, its identity rapidly changing. Located in Beyoglu in the center of European Istanbul, the pedestrianized street is lined with elegant shops and cafes, stretching 1.5 kilometers (almost a mile) from Tunel, which overlooks the Golden Horn, to Taksim Square. In March, the street was hit by a suicide bombing that killed three Israelis and an Iranian and injured dozens in an attack blamed on Islamic State (IS) jihadists. And three months later, at least 41 people were killed in a triple suicide bombing at Ataturk airport, causing tourism to plummet.

Now, once-lively areas along the street have fallen silent, with a string of shops shuttered, from big chains to boutiques, unable to make a profit in the face of high rents and declining revenues. For Beyoglu mayor Ahmet Misbah Demircan, Istiklal Avenue will never lose its dynamism, with the current recession an unfortunate "reality" but only a temporary one. "The terror attacks followed by the July 15 coup were actions aimed at dealing a setback to Turkey's economy," he told AFP.

"We are aware of the negative waves. It's only natural after all that has happened, and I personally do not see any sign it will have perber of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP). Although some businesses would not survive because of the lack of profits, it would be unfair to stigmatize Istiklal Avenue and craft "disaster scenarios" out of it, he said.



People walk on the Istiklal avenue.





People pass by a closed shop as they walk down the Istiklal avenue.



People pass by closed shops as they walk down the Istiklal avenue.

to \$400,000 (between 36,000 and 360,000

euros), Aydogan says he has been unable to

'Profile changing'

only factor, with the street's character changing starkly after the 2013 street protests

against then prime minister now President

Recep Tayyip Erdogan. At the time, protesters

played cat-and-mouse with riot police who

fired volleys of tear gas in the side-streets of

But the violence and high rents are not the

find a tenant. "There is no demand."

Istiklal Avenue has a special place in the history of Istanbul and until the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, was the heart of what seen as very much the European guarter of the city. Then known as the Grande Rue de Pera-The Great Street of Pera-it formed the main axis of an area that at the time was populated almost exclusively by Europeans and Christians and not Ottoman Muslims. For centuries, it was a hub for foreign merchants, diplomats and later tourists in Istanbul-then known as Constantinople-resulting in the construction of churches and embassy complexes that remain to this day.

Its character changed markedly after the foundation of modern Turkey in 1923. Renamed Istiklal ("Independence") Avenue, the area gradually became exclusively Muslim Turkish with most of the remaining Christian minorities pushed out in the horrific anti-Greek riots of September 1955. With Turkey's dynamic growth over the last decade, Istiklal was gradually taken over by the big chain stores at the expense of smaller shops that could not afford the high rents. Many Istanbul locals gave the street a wide berth but it became a magnet for tourists, especially growing numbers from Arab countries.

But soaring rents have forced out many businesses, locals say. Real estate advertisements are pasted onto the front of empty buildings. "Over the last decade, rents have skyrocketed irrationally," said Ihsan Aydogan, who owns property on the famed avenue. With monthly rents ranging from \$40,000 up Istiklal. Turks began to stay away but the area became attractive to Arab tourists, with restaurant names appearing in Turkish and Arabic, street buskers playing Arabic tunes and shisha cafes proving popular.

Hakan Eginlioglu, head of the Istanbul Tourist Guides' Chamber, said in the past, Istiklal was frequented by secular Turks and European tourists but it had changed over the years, drawing in large numbers of locals from conservative quarters as well as Arab tourists.

With the flow of Arabic tourists and conservative Turks, "the human profile at Istiklal is changing, so is the atmosphere and the demands," he said. — AFP



Mayor of Beyoglu district Ahmet Misbah Demircan pose in a doner restaurant in the Istiklal avenue.



People pass by closed shops as they walk down the Istiklal avenue.

For presidential hopefuls, you (sometimes) are what you eat

as Gerald Ford beaten by a tamale? Did Swiss cheese cost John Kerry the White House? Will Donald Trump lose after chowing down on fried chicken on a private jet? Food can play a key role in how candidates solicit votes for the most powerful job on the planet. But for every master stroke-when food and politics majestically come together in mouth-watering theater-there are gaffes that may hasten electoral disaster. "Food can be a way for politicians to communicate a type of accessibility," said Dan Pashman, host of The Sporkful food podcast at WNYC Studios. "But when politicians screw it up, it's very easy to make a mistake," he told AFP.

One of the most successful food interventions was the 1939 "hot dog summit" hosted by Franklin D Roosevelt for King George VI, and credited with cultivating public support for helping Britain defeat the Nazis. The British monarch may never have seen a frankfurter before or eaten anything but a canape with his hands-indeed, Queen Elizabeth whispered to Eleanor Roosevelt, "How do you eat this?"-but as the president's guest, the king wolfed down the dog American-style.

"KING TRIES HOT DOG AND ASKS FOR MORE," crowed The New York Times. The meal became known as "the picnic that won the war." This year, in an election notable for its astonishing vitriol, polarization and even fears of violence, the campaign has been distinguished by far more than just food. Still, the candidates' eating habits may provide some insights. Hillary Clinton, tabbed at least by early polls to make history as America's first female commander-in-chief, claims to eat a hot pepper a day for stamina. But she never drops her guard to do so in public.

"It's awkward eating in front of the press," she admitted to chat show host Stephen Colbert in April. "They could get a funny shot, you know something could drop out of your mouth, you could smear your face... anything that makes you look silly." When Clinton did sample a spoonful of ice cream at a photo op, a reporter promptly yelled out if she knew the calorie count. She booed him. Trump, on the other hand, is happy to let folk know he loves fast food-the "blue collar billionaire"-tweeting a picture of Kentucky Fried Chicken laid out with a knife and fork on board his private jet.

"One bad hamburger, you can destroy McDonald's," he told CNN. "I like cleanliness, and I think you're better off going there than maybe some place that you have no idea where the food's coming from." While many Americans might not share his reasoning, his diet may add to his populist appeal. Yet he caused considerable indigestion when he tweeted pictures of himself apparently eating from a taco bowl at his desk, the bowl bizarrely placed atop a picture of his ex-wife in a bikini.

"The best taco bowls are made in Trump Tower Grill. I love Hispanics!" he tweeted, wishing Mexicans a happy public holiday despite having insulted them as criminals, rapists and illegal immigrants. A taco bowl is not an authentic Hispanic dish. "In one tweet you have everything," said Pashman. "Making a claim about how great he is in a way that can't be substantiated; insulting people of another culture even as he is trying to embrace them." "The kinds of food



Hillary Clinton, the nominee of the Democratic Party for President of the US, picks up milkshakes at Puritan Ice Cream and Take Out in Manchester, New Hampshire, in February 2016.

gaffes that are so damaging are the ones that play into pre-existing opinions about the candidate," he added.

Looking 'hoity toity'

One example: the idea that President Ford, from Michigan, was out of touch with ordinary people in the South when he failed to remove the tough outer husk before biting into a tamale in Texas in 1976. Jimmy Carter, a peanut farmer

and Democrat from Georgia, won Texas and won the presidency. "It may have been a tamale that did it," Mike Huckabee, the former governor of Arkansas, went so far as to claim on The Sporkful podcast. Kerry made a similar misstep in 2004 when running against George W. Bush. In the swing state of Pennsylvania he ordered Swiss cheese-not an acceptable option there-on his Philly cheese steak.

"One, it made it look like John Kerry didn't



Republican US presidential nominee Donald Trump eats at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, in 2015.

know anything about cheese steak, and number two, it made him look hoity toity," or snobbish, Pashman said. Kerry won Pennsylvania anyway, but Bush won the election.

So, what foods might inspire November's eventual victor? Ronald Reagan loved jelly beans; he kept jars of them handy, offering them as gifts to visiting dignitaries. Bill Clinton, now a vegan, was more than partial to cheeseburgers; he would sometimes lead reporters on jogs to McDonald's. A bit more soberly, Barack Obama snacks on almonds-seven lightly salted almonds at a time, to be precise. Obama once told Vanity Fair he had more important decisions to make than food: "You can't be going through the day distracted by trivia." Words of advice. But will Clinton or Trump heed them? —AFP



A jogger runs by a structure made of metal and coloured bottle caps representing Pope **Francis by Chinese** artist Dangyong Liu in a park in Rome. —AFP

Competition brewing for London afternoon teas

he popularity of afternoon tea has London hotels vying to attract a new wave of customers by inventing twists on the classic English indulgence-although with tapas and takeaways on offer, some say the trend is going too far. London's Sanderson hotel won this year's themed afternoon tea of year award for its Mad Hatter's version, with every item inspired by the "Alice in Wonderland" story. The K West Hotel and Spa has given theirs a "glam-rock makeover", with tea-infused cocktails and electric blue teapots, served on vintage album covers.

And the Lancaster London has a takeaway version to be enjoyed in Hyde Park just across the road, plus an ARTea, delivered in a painter's box with jam and cream in paint tubes and featuring "miniature edible paintings". "There is a lot of competition so you have to stand out from the crowd," said Keith

Newton, the founder of national Afternoon Tea Week, which takes place in mid-August. "But you have to be careful because people do want the traditional," he told AFP. "Sandwiches, scones, desserts: you can be creative within that structure but not stray too far away."

All things British

Afternoon tea conjures up a bygone age of English aristocratic refinement, luxury and leisure. Attributed to the duchess of Bedford in the mid-1840s, it came about as a way for the elite to fill the gap between lunch and increasingly late formal dinners. It is typically served in three rounds on plates stacked on a holder: sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, and a selection of desserts or cakes-plus, of course, the tea. "Afternoon tea was all about accentuating the tea: Tea was the expensive product," said Max "Mr Tea" Eisenhammer, of

the Rare Tea Company, which supplies Claridge's hotel and the Noma restaurant in Copenhagen. He visits hotels to ensure they are serving the tea properly, through the correct leaf-to-water ratio, water temperature and infusion time for each different tea.

"We provide training. People who go to afternoon tea are expecting the best," he told AFP. Newton said the afternoon tea sector had witnessed strong year-on-year growth, leading some outlets to try shaking up the formula in a bid to stay ahead. "For foreign visitors, it's on their list of things to do-but most of our business is actually from people within the UK," he said. "We've seen a big rise since 2012



A member of hotel staff pours cups of tea at the Kensington Hotel in London.

when we had Queen Elizabeth II's diamond jubilee and the London Olympics: There was a massive interest in all things British." Prices can cost from £10 (\$13, 11.50 euros) to more than £50 (\$65, 58 euros) at the top hotels.

'A big draw'

At The Kensington Hotel in west London, the tea selection on offer includes silver tip jasmine tea from China, scented over six days



A member of hotel staff serves afternoon tea at the Kensington Hotel in London.

with fresh jasmine flowers. Customers tend to take around two hours savoring the four varieties of sandwich-including the staple cucumber, smoked salmon and egg mayonnaise, plus the five sweets including an amalfi lemon eclair and strawberry tart. Fabio Adler, the hotel's food and beverage marketing manager, said part of the attraction was its convivialityeveryone eating the same food at the same

He said afternoon tea was just one of their five meal slots but more than others reflects a London hotel's standing. "It's a big draw," the Brazilian told AFP. "It's really fiercely competitive. It can get silly with timings: hotels offering it at 11:00 am defeats the purpose. "And Spanish afternoon tea with mini tapas; for me, that's going too far." At The Bridge Tea Rooms in Bradford on Avon, southwest England, the two-time winners of the UK's top tea place award also keep to a tried and tested formula. They maintain a Victorian theme, with the waitresses wearing period white aprons and mop hats with black skirts. "The look and feel is very important," owner Alison Hayward told AFP. "Keep it traditional is the best way." — AFP



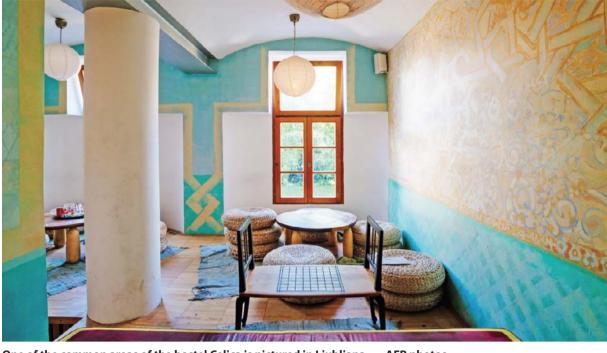
A member of hotel staff carries a tray of tea pots at the Kensington Hotel.



A member of otel staff puts cups of tea onto a tray.



Afternoon snaks served at the Kensington Hotel in London.





One of the common areas of the hostel Celica is pictured in Ljubljana. — AFP photos

A general view shows the hostel Celica

A night behind bars in Slovenian prison-turned-hostel



Bars are seen on the windows of the hostel Celica.

Bars are seen on the windows of the hostel Celica.



Bars are seen on the windows of the hostel Celica.

ancy spending the night in a former military prison that is now a youth hostel with an artistic twist? In Slovenia you can, and with a clear conscience about your ecological footprint. The technicolour building in Ljubljana was originally a jail built by the occupying Austro-Hungarian army in 1882 and remained in use until Yugoslavia fell apart in the early 1990s. When Slovenia became independent in 1991, a group of artists and squatters prevented the building's demolition, opening the way a metamorphosis into Hostel Celica, which means "cell" in Slovene, in 2003.

"The main concept of Celica is: Through art and architecture heal a place so to give in a new energy, turning something negative into its complete opposite, into something positive and open," project manager Tanja Lipovec told AFP. And not only that. Each of its 20 cells, complete with bars on the door and windows, has been turned by more than 80 local and international artists into spaces that are all unique. To add to the prison feeling, guests are assigned their cells by the management in the same way that prisoners could not choose their cells back in the day. And all free of charge, its website jokes.

Sustainable tourism

That though doesn't stop what is a common sight at the hostel: guests peering through the bars into other cells to see which one they would like next time. While the cells are doubles and triples, there are also two 12-bed and six five-bed dormitories. And with the hostel not being "average", as Lipovec puts it, the clientele are not just the 18-25 crowd



A dining area of the hostel Celica is pictured.

that typically stay in hostels. They include older people, including families or elderly travellers staying in Ljubljana, this year's European Union "Green" capital. "People that come to Celica are not always budget travellers. They are people willing to pay more because they are aware of the added value they are getting back," Lipovec said.

"Just knowing that it was a prison before and how they turned it into a hostel, the history itself is amazing. Just spending the night here, that's great," said visitor Russel Pineda, 28, from California. With prices ranging between 18 and 33 euros (\$20-37) per bed per night, Hostel Celica is reasonably pricedalthough guests have to share bathrooms.

Solitary confinement cell

But it also provides the satisfaction of staying in the world's first eco-friendly hostel to be awarded with the Gold Travelife certificate for sustainability in tourism. Along with recycling, re-using materials, monitoring the cost of energy and using green energy, the Travelife criteria also cover issues like human rights, child protection and employee welfare. "It's the awareness of how you can benefit back to the local community where you are located and that you are aware of the preciousness, the importance of the local environment," Lipovec said. Those wanting an extra-special experience can venture down to the basement, home to a former solitary confinement cell in the basement. Left as it was in the past, cold and without windows and with original graffiti and scratches on the walls, it's far from



A tourist walks through a hallway on the way to a room in the hostel Celica.



One of the common areas of the hostel Celica.



One of the hostel rooms, which was once a prison cell, is pictured at the hostel Celica.



One of the rooms, which was once a prison cell.



A stairway on the first floor of the hostel Celica.



Festival goers enjoy the color party, when participants throw colored powder at each other, at the 24th Sziget (Island) Festival on Shipyard Island, Northern Budapest, Hungary. The festival is one of the biggest cultural events of Europe offering art exhibitions, theatrical and circus performances and music concerts over eight days. — AP

Palestinian wedding season can hit the wallet hard



Friends and relatives congratulate the Palestinian brothers Fayez (left) and Fares Msallem.



Palestinian brothers Fayez (left) and Fares Msallem pose with their necklaces made of banknotes.



The grandmother of Fayez Msallem (center) congratulates him during his wedding ceremony.

or Palestinians, summer is wedding season-time for brides and grooms to celebrate. But for guests, who are expected to help cover the costs, it can mean financial misery. The tradition of "naqout" encourages those invited to donate cash to help pay for the often lavish feasts. They pick up an envelope, fill it with cash, usually sign it and place it in a box strategically placed at the entrance. Technically the donations are voluntary, but hosts take a dim view of those failing to meet expectations. Some Palestinians see the tradition as a way to share the costs of important community events. But others say the social pressure to contribute pushes them into dire

Murad Shriteh, 46, from near the West Bank city of Ramallah, said he feels swamped after being invited to more than one wedding a week. He spent \$400, nearly half his monthly

salary, in just two weeks of weddings, he told AFP at a wedding party in the West Bank town of Birzeit. "I have already received several invitations for the rest of August, but I think I will refuse a few," he said. The West Bank sees more than 25,000 weddings a year, according to Palestinian statistics. Social pressures and tradition mean that most are extravagant celebrations, with much of the community invited. They tend to involve mountains of food, live music and a photographer. The most lavish celebrations even offer each guest a traditional Palestinian scarf or a rosary. A wedding can cost up to \$30,000, while even a poor family may shell out \$10,000.

Sharing the burden

That's a major in expense in the West Bank, where more than a quarter of people live under the poverty line after nearly 50 years of



pockets of the family-traditionally the father of the bride. Naqout is a way of sharing the burden. Khaled Abdallah, 50, recently celebrated his son's marriage in a village near Ramallah in the West Bank. He splashed out \$10,000 on the big day, but recouped the entire amount in donations. For him it was payback for decades of paying for other people's weddings. "The naqout endures because it is a part of solidarity," he said.

Israeli occupation. The costs come out of the

Some see their donations as investments, expecting similar sums in return when one of

Palestinian brothers Fayez (left) and Fares Msallem kiss their father during their wedding ceremony.

their family marries. "It is a form of social security," said Majdi al-Malki, a professor of social sciences at the Birzeit University near Ramallah. "It is presented as a gift, but it is actually a practical and useful way to share the costs of marriage." He said the tradition is a legacy of ancient Palestinian tribal society. At some weddings, donations are even exposed for all to see: the cash is triumphantly hung around the neck of the groom in the midst of the guests.

"It's a way to show pride, to show off the size of the donations" and to thank donors, Malki said. But it doesn't always work like that. One father who recently paid for a wedding said some guests had left empty, unmarked envelopes. "Thanks to video recordings, I could work out who they were," he told AFP, speaking anonymously. "When their relatives get married, I won't forget it." — AFP



Palestinian brothers
Fayez (left) and Fares
Msallem are
showered with
confetti as they
parade on a street in
the village of Salem,
east of the occupied
West Bank city of
Nablus, on their
wedding day.
— AFP photos

