

**Hasawi: KFA's next phase is to develop local sports activity**



**10,000th Syrian reaches US this week for resettlement**



**Youth movement: Gazans take up rollerblading**



**Man City go top with win over West Ham**



## GOVT TO SETTLE HOSPITAL BILLS AMID TREATMENT ABROAD ROW

11 CONTROLLERS TO BE QUESTIONED • PARIS HEALTH OFFICE 'STILL OPEN'



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NO: 16977  
40 PAGES



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High Tide  
08:23 & 22:52  
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02:40 & 16:25

### QATAR TO LEVY \$10 AIRPORT TAX ON PASSENGERS

DOHA: Qatar's government will levy a new airport tax on passengers from Tuesday as the country seeks new revenue streams amid falling oil prices. Every passenger leaving Qatar from Doha's Hamad International Airport, including transit passengers, will be charged 35 riyals (\$9.61) for using airport facilities, according to a statement by the airport. The charge will apply to tickets issued after Aug 30 and for any travel starting on Dec 1 onwards and would be used to "further increase the airport's capacity and invest in new infrastructure", the statement said. Children under two years old without a seat will be exempted.

Airport fees, while common elsewhere in the world, have until recently been avoided by Gulf states as they seek to gain a competitive advantage for business and become regional hubs. Some 1.33 million passengers travelled through Hamad International Airport in June. Airports in the United Arab Emirates announced similar taxes earlier this year. Interest rates are rising in the Gulf as low oil prices pressure governments' finances, so Qatar has been looking at ways other than borrowing to fund its projects, including raising local gasoline prices. — Agencies

### SHEEP PRICES UP AHEAD OF EID



KUWAIT: Sheep are seen in a pen at the livestock market in Shuwaikh. With Eid Al-Adha just around the corner, the market is witnessing an unreasonable hike in prices. — Photo by Joseph Shagra (See Page 4)

By A Saleh

KUWAIT/PARIS: The government has approved a special budget estimated at KD 320 million to pay bills of hospitals in countries where citizens are sent for treatment as part of the state's overseas treatment program. This step came to honor Kuwait's agreement with foreign hospitals as part of the program, and to protect the state's reputation, according to informed sources. The government stepped in at a time when the foreign and health ministries are at odds with regards to delayed payments that the latter says are yet to receive approval for from the former. The standoff between the health and finance ministries has caused Kuwait to struggle to pay dues owed to European and American hospitals where citizens are being treated under the treatment overseas program.

Meanwhile, 11 financial controllers will be questioned over accusations of delinquency and irregularities in the treatment abroad file, said sources familiar with the issue. The finance ministry had accused the health ministry of mismanagement, which led to squandering in the budget allocated for treatment abroad. However, the health ministry responded by saying that all funds were spent after receiving approval from independent financial controllers. As a result, an investigation was opened and 11 controllers were identified to be questioned, said the sources, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Health ministry officials had warned in earlier reports that several hospitals could resort to legal action to demand a total of KD 150 million that Kuwait reportedly still owes them.

Continued on Page 13



DOHA: Kenyan runner Michael Douglas Ongeri poses for a photo on Aug 16, 2016 in the Qatari capital. — AFP

### QATAR SECURITY GUARD IN THE RACE OF HIS LIFE

DOHA: Kenyan security guard Michael Douglas Ongeri has a dream - and won't be daunted by poverty, a 13-hour workday or training in Qatar's searing heat, far from his family. Nor will he let the 11 km he has to walk from work to the track then back home slow him down. "You get used to it," Ongeri tells AFP matter-of-factly. "I have to do it, it is something which is me, I like running, I have to run."

While many dream of becoming an international track star, the 22-year-old Kenyan may actually have a chance. Six days a week, he leaves work around 5 pm and heads to Doha's biggest park,

Aspire Park, in the shadow of the city's Khalifa Stadium that will host the World Athletics Championship in 2019. In temperatures of over 40 degrees C and stifling humidity, the Kenyan puts on his training gear and, sweat pouring, runs up to 12 km through Aspire's green expanses.

If it is close to his payday - 1,400 Qatari riyals a month (\$385) - it is possible Ongeri will go without food as he has no cash left, sleep for five hours in a room he shares with five others and then start all over again.

Continued on Page 13

### IRAQ REQUESTS SAUDI ENVOY BE CHANGED

#### UBER, CAREEM HALT SERVICES IN ABU DHABI

DUBAI: Ride-hailing service Uber said yesterday that it and competitor Careem have abruptly suspended services in the United Arab Emirates capital of Abu Dhabi due to "unforeseen circumstances", suggesting potential difficulties with local regulators. San Francisco-based Uber described the move as temporary and said it hopes to have more information in the next two days. It declined to say what prompted the suspension.

"We want to let you know that this was a decision taken by both companies, and our goal is to resume operations in Abu Dhabi as soon as possible," Uber said in a statement. The company has operated in the Emirates since 2013. Local regulations mean that only licensed limousine drivers in the seven-state Emirates federation can drive for ride-hailing services such as Uber, which let passengers users order rides and pay through a smart-phone app.

Christian Eid, vice-president of marketing and communications for Careem, a Dubai-based company, said many of its drivers were being stopped by authorities in Abu Dhabi, apparently over licensing issues, and as a result had become nervous and were staying off the roads. This had forced Careem to halt services there, he said.

Continued on Page 13



BAGHDAD: Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim Al-Jaafari (right) meets the new Saudi Ambassador to Iraq Thamer Al-Sabhan in the Iraqi capital in this Jan 14, 2016 file photo. — AFP

BAGHDAD: Iraq's Foreign Ministry said the government yesterday formally requested that the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad be replaced after he claimed that Iranian-backed militias are plotting to assassinate him. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ahmed Jamal told AP that the government sent a formal request to Saudi Arabia to replace the kingdom's ambassador in Baghdad, Thamer Al-Sabhan. Jamal said Sabhan's reported comments are untrue and harm relations between the two countries. He said the allegations are considered interference in

Iraq's internal affairs and that Sabhan has not provided the ministry with any proof or evidence of these claims.

Iran and Saudi Arabia are regional rivals and broke off diplomatic ties in January after several years of frayed relations. In 2011, US authorities said they had disrupted an Iranian plot to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to Washington at the time. Sabhan was quoted as telling the Saudi-owned Al-Hayat newspaper that Iraqi intelligence provided him with information about the assassination plans.

Continued on Page 13



A man sits in the desert outside Dubai yesterday. — AP

### TURKEY RAMPS UP SYRIA OFFENSIVE

BEIRUT: Dozens of people were killed in Turkish bombardment in Syria yesterday as Ankara ramped up its unprecedented offensive inside the country against the Islamic State group and Kurdish militants. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 40 civilians had been killed in Turkish shelling and air strikes on two areas held by pro-Kurdish forces in northern Syria, the first report of significant civilian casualties in Turkey's operation.

But Ankara said its raids had killed 25 Kurdish "terrorists" and that the army was doing everything to avoid civilian casualties. The bombardments came after Ankara suffered its first military fatality in the offensive against IS and the Syrian Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) militia it launched on Wednesday. The Observatory said at least 20 civilians were killed and 50 wounded in Turkish artillery fire and air strikes on the village of Jeb El-Kussa early yesterday. Another 20 were killed and 25 wounded, many seriously, in Turkish air strikes near the town of Al-Amarnah, it added.

The monitor also said at least four Kurdish

fighters had been killed and 15 injured in Turkish bombardment of the two areas. A spokesman for the local Kurdish administration said 75 civilians had been killed in both villages. But the Turkish army said it had killed 25 Kurdish "terrorists" from Turkey's outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) and Syria's YPG, state-run Anadolu news agency said. "All possible measures are being taken to prevent harm to the civilian population living in the area and the maximum sensitivity is being shown on this issue," the army said, quoted by Anadolu.

The Observatory said the bombardment targeted an area south of the former IS border stronghold of Jarabulus, which Turkish-led forces captured on the first day of the incursion. Turkish-backed rebels say they have captured at least nine towns and villages, including Jarabulus, from IS and Kurdish forces since Wednesday. In a statement Saturday, Kurdish forces accused Ankara of seeking to "expand its occupation" inside Syria.

The latest fighting is likely to raise deep concerns for Turkey's NATO ally the United States, which supports the YPG as an effective fighting

force against IS. Ankara considers the YPG a "terrorist" group and has fiercely opposed its bid to expand into areas recaptured from IS to create a contiguous autonomous zone. On Saturday, a Turkish soldier was killed and three more wounded in a Kurdish attack south of Jarabulus. Turkish media named the dead soldier as Ercan Celim, 28, and said a funeral for him would be held on Sunday in Gaziantep, which Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is currently visiting.

Turkish forces carried out their first air strikes on pro-Kurdish positions on Saturday as part of what Ankara is calling "Operation Euphrates Shield". Turkey says that the YPG has broken a promise to return across the Euphrates River after advancing west this month, despite US guarantees. Ankara's military intervention in Syria has added another dimension to the country's complex multi-front war, a devastating conflict that has killed more than 290,000 people and forced millions from their homes since it began in March 2011. Much of the heaviest fighting this summer has

Continued on Page 13





**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani.



**His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with former Iraqi president Ghazi Ajil Al-Yawar. —Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos**

## AMIR HOSTS QATAR'S PREMIER, FORMER IRAQI PRESIDENT



**His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives a letter from President of Equatorial Guinea Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, presented by Equatorial Guinea's Foreign Minister Agapito Mba Mokuy.**



**His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani.**

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received, at Bayan Palace yesterday, the visiting Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani and the delegation accompanying him on the current official visit to the country. The meeting was attended by First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah and the Amiri Diwan Advisor Khaled Abdullah Boudai.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir received the visiting former Iraqi president Ghazi Ajil Al-Yawar. The meeting was attended by His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. His Highness the Amir also received Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and the visiting Foreign Minister of Equatorial Guinea, Agapito Mba Mokuy, who handed His Highness a written message from his president, Teodoro Obiang

Nguema Mbasogo, inviting His Highness the Amir to the fourth Arab-African Summit due in the African country's capital, Malabo, in November.

Also yesterday, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met separately with his Qatari counterpart, the former Iraqi president as well as Foreign Minister of Equatorial Guinea.

Earlier yesterday, His Highness the Amir met with His Highness the Crown Prince, His Highness the Prime Minister, the First Deputy Prime Minister and Acting National Assembly Speaker Mubarak Al-Khuraifej. Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince met with His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak, Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, Khuraifej, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, 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

## NICARAGUAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT KUWAIT

**MANAGUA:** Kuwaiti Ambassador to Mexico and Non-resident Ambassador to Nicaragua Sameh Johar Hayat conveyed to the Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra the greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, wishing the Nicaraguan people further progress and prosperity.

Hayat discussed during his meeting with Ortega at his presidential palace on the prospective visit of the Nicaraguan President to Kuwait. The two men also tack-

led means of boosting bilateral ties at all levels, Nicaragua's Presidential Advisor Mohamed Lashtar said.

Ortega then presented the Kuwaiti diplomat in a ceremony held later at the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry with an Order of Merit and Excellence emblem in recognition of his fruitful efforts in developing the relations between both nations. The Kuwaiti ambassador was also decorated with the state's highest gold medal on the occasion of ending his tenure. —KUNA



**MANAGUA:** Kuwaiti Ambassador to Mexico and Non-resident Ambassador to Nicaragua Sameh Johar Hayat meets with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra. (Right) The Order of Merit and Excellence emblem presented to the Kuwaiti diplomat. —KUNA photos



**Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser Al Khalifa Al Thani, senior Kuwaiti government officials and members of the Qatari delegation attend a luncheon held in the guests' honor.**

## KUWAIT, QATAR DISCUSS BOOSTING SECURITY COORDINATION

**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah held talks yesterday with the visiting Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser Al Khalifa Al Thani on regional security issues and means of boosting mutual cooperation at the security level. The Interior Ministry press office said the two sides swapped information on combating terrorism, emerging and organized crimes and means of enhancing mutual cooperation at these levels.

Minister Sheikh Mohammad stressed during the meeting on depth of the ties between the two brotherly countries and Kuwaiti and Qatari leaders' keenness on overcoming hurdles facing mutual cooperation as well as unifying views toward regional and international affairs of common concern.

The Qatari minister expressed gratitude for the warm reception in the State of Kuwait and satisfaction at outcome of his talks with Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled. The official statement added that the meeting was held within framework of "executive measures according to the resolutions of the GCC leaders to bolster coordination among the Council's member states to solidify regional security."

Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled held a luncheon in honor of the Qatari minister and his dele-



**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah holds talks with Qatari Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser Al Khalifa Al Thani yesterday. —Interior Ministry photos

gation. It was attended by Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah and Deputy Premier and Finance Minister and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh.

The formal lunch was also attended by the

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah and other ranking officials. The Qatari delegation concluded the visit to the country later in the day. —KUNA



**Chief of the National Security Bureau Sheikh Thamer Al-Ali Al-Sabah meets with the Ambassador-Head of Delegation of the European Union to Kuwait Adam Kulach. —KUNA photos**



**KUWAIT:** First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with Ambassador-Head of Delegation of the European Union to Kuwait Adam Kulach.

## FM RECEIVES OUTGOING EU ENVOY TO KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday the outgoing Ambassador-Head of Delegation of the European Union to Kuwait Adam Kulach on the occasion of ending his tenure. The minister hailed efforts exerted by the European official during his tenure in the country.

Chief of the National Security Bureau Sheikh Thamer Al-Ali Al-Sabah also met Kulach, and hailed his efforts during his tenure in Kuwait in enhancing the relation between Kuwait and EU.

Sheikh Thamer wished him the best in his future ventures, the statement concluded.

On Saturday, Sheikh Sabah Khaled met with the visiting Foreign Minister of Equatorial Guinea Agapito Mba Mokuy. During the meeting, the two sides discussed ways to boost the bilateral relations between the two countries, and exchanged views on overall regional and international issues. They also reviewed ongoing preparations for the Fourth Arab-African Summit, set to take place in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on November 23rd. Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled held a banquet in honor of the

visiting guest, which was attended by senior officials from the Kuwaiti foreign ministry, and Mokuy's accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by Ambassador Waleed Al-Khubaizi, Acting Deputy Foreign Minister, Ayham Al-Omar, Assistant Foreign Minister of the Deputy Foreign Minister's Office Affairs, Ambassador Aziz Al-Daihani, Assistant Foreign Minister for Arab Affairs, Ambassador Hamad Al-Mashaan, Acting Assistant Foreign Minister for African Affairs, and Ambassador Saleh Al-Loughani, Acting Assistant for Foreign Minister office. —KUNA



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KUWAIT: The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Kuwait Yoo Yeonchul discussed matters of mutual concern with Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief Abd Al-Rahman Al-Alyan over the weekend. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## KUWAIT NEEDS SKILLED LABOR FOR MEGA VENTURES: MINISTER SUBAIH

KUWAIT: Kuwait needs highly skilled workers for executing mega development projects, affirmed the Minister of Social Affairs and Labor yesterday. Dr Hind Al-Subaih, also the Minister of State for Planning Affairs and Development, made the affirmation during a meeting with a visiting delegation from Malawi, headed by Henry Mussa, the minister of labor.

Minister Subaih added that the manpower authority would operate a hot-line soon to receive complaints from the diplomatic missions concerning the working expatriates. Minister Subaih also affirmed necessity of bolstering the bilateral ties between the State of Kuwait and the friendly republic, as well as looking into avenues for optimal benefit from the skilled personnel in that country.

The meeting was attended by Director General of the Public Authority for Manpower Abdullah Al-Mutawtah. —KUNA

# HASAWI SAYS KFA'S NEXT PHASE IS TO DEVELOP LOCAL SPORTS ACTIVITY

## NOC TO IMPROVE SPORT LOCALLY, ABROAD: INTERIM CHAIR

KUWAIT: Kuwait Football Association (KFA) Chairman Fawaz Al-Hasawi said yesterday that the focus during the next phase will be on developing local activity and address all the flaws as a first step to work on lifting the suspension imposed on the Kuwaiti sports.

Hasawi announced in a statement that the first step is to cancel the reserve league that is currently in place and to adopt the 'in and out' system in the premier league as of the next season consisting of premier and first.

He continued, "We will work to strengthen the league and increase the level of its performance by increasing and diversifying bonuses for the sake of increasing competition between the clubs and contribute to raising the general technical level."

"We will also work to implement privatization in the clubs which will be the first step to lift the suspension and develop sports



KFA Chairman Fawaz Al-Hasawi

image sought by all Kuwaiti athletes," he added. Hasawi stressed the need to benefit from the privatization as desired and as is the case in various regional, continental and global countries in order to achieve the desired renaissance of the game and restore its glory in various forums.

He expressed confidence in the capabilities of all employees of the

Association to achieve the first step in "our quest towards lifting the suspension imposed on the Kuwaiti sports and restore its past glories in all forums."

The Public Authority for Sports (PAS) had earlier decided to dissolve the Kuwait Football Association and the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee, assigning two interim commissions-alluding the measure to financial irregularities.

**Improving sports**

Meanwhile, Sheikh Fahad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah, Chairman of an interim committee tasked with running Kuwait National Olympic Committee (NOC), said Saturday the committee sought primarily to see Kuwaiti flags hoisted in international competitions. Committee members will exert efforts to improve sport in Kuwait at local, regional and international levels, Sheikh Fahad said in a statement. He said their aim was to serve

Kuwaiti youth "because they are the future of the country."

Sheikh Fahad said the committee was keen creating suitable environment for the improvement of sport in Kuwait, thus reflecting interest 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 Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah in youth.

Sheikh Fahad expressed gratitude for the political leadership, and Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah for assigning him to chair the NOC. Sheikh Salman, who Board Chairman of the Public Authority for Sport (PAS), announced three days ago the dissolution of NOC and appointed Sheikh Fahad to chair an interim committee for six months, and to represent Kuwait locally and abroad. —KUNA

# FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR SWITZERLAND ON OFFICIAL VISIT

KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah yesterday left for Switzerland leading a delegation to a ceremony that marks the 50th anniversary of Kuwaiti-Swiss diplomatic ties.

Today, the Swiss capital of Bern will be the scene of several political, economic and cultural activities marking the occasion, to demonstrate the deep historical ties of friendship between the two friendly countries.

The high ranking delegation also includes CEO of the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) Bader Mohammad Al-Saad, Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs Ambassador Walid Al-Khubaizi, Director General of the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) Sheikh Dr. Meshaal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Acting Assistant Foreign Minister for Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's Office Affairs Ambassador Saleh Salim Al-Loughani, Director of Operations at the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) Marwan Al-Ghanim and a host of the Foreign Ministry's senior officials.

The delegation was seen off by Acting Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Jamal

Abdullah Al-Ghanim, Assistant Foreign Minister for Protocol Affairs Ambassador Dhari Al-Ajran, and senior officials from the ministry.

**New phase**

Kuwait's Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation Ambassador Badr Al-Tunaib said meanwhile that the Foreign Minister's official visit aims at launching a new phase of relations between the two countries and marks the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Tunaib said that Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled will conduct high-level talks with the head of the Federal Governing Council, Foreign Minister and President of the Swiss parliament. The two sides will also sign an MoU on significant issues between the two countries, he added. A grand ceremony on this occasion will be held in the presence of a large number of Kuwaiti and Swiss personalities, the ambassador said..

Tunaib added that the distinguished relations between Switzerland and Kuwait were launched since independence of Kuwait in 1961, due to the importance of emergence of



KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah leaves for Switzerland yesterday. —KUNA

Kuwait at that time as the first democratic, constitutional and parliamentary country as well as being a state of institutions in the region and due to its commercial position in the Arabian Gulf.



The Ambassador pointed out that bilateral relations between Kuwait and Switzerland in fact date back to the pre-independence era where Kuwaiti traders were among the most significant suppliers of precious pearl to the

Swiss market. He said that Kuwaiti traders were also among those who contributed to the opening of Gulf markets for Swiss products in the first quarter of the last century.

**Kuwaiti ventures**

The ambassador noted that this business relationship has evolved with the advancement of Kuwaiti infrastructure ventures that have benefited from the expertise of Swiss companies in the technical field, prompting the Swiss side to open an Embassy in the State of Kuwait in 1975, stressing that cooperation between the two countries is still witnessing many achievements in various fields and projects.

The ambassador recalled the noble role played by Switzerland during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990 describing it as "remarkable" because not only Switzerland denounced and condemned the invasion, but for hosting Kuwaitis who were in Switzerland during the invasion until the end of the crisis. He also praised Switzerland's efforts through the International Committee of the Red Cross to prisoners and missing persons' cases during that crisis. —KUNA



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News

In Brief

Medical team for Kuwaiti hajj expedition sets foot in holy lands

**JEDDAH:** The first batch of the Kuwaiti medical mission assigned to care for the hajj expedition arrived in holy Makkah yesterday, an official of the group said. The vanguard team will start equipping and preparing makeshift clinics, a pharmacy and housing for the whole team, second group of which is expected to arrive next Thursday, said Mughir Al-Shemmari, the deputy chief of the Kuwaiti hajj expedition for medical services, in a statement. The first team that has already arrived includes pharmacists and managers. The second one will comprise doctors, nurses, health examiners and emergency units. — KUNA

Elderly care

**KUWAIT:** The Elderly Care Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor said yesterday the ministry deals with all 25 cases of senior citizens that have been sent by the Ministry of Health. General Director of the Elderly Care Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, Amani Al-Tabtabai said in a press statement that the efforts that have been made in the elderly service department in cooperation with the Ministry of Health resulted in treating eight elderly persons in multiple hospitals and were later discharged. She pointed out that Kuwait provides the elders with all forms of social, psychological and health support in cooperation with the health ministry. — KUNA

Kuwaiti graduates

**KUWAIT:** President of Kuwait Industries Union Huda Al-Baqshi has affirmed that the federation primarily seeks to encourage young citizens to work in the key sector for sake of the broad goal of attaining the society's security. Baqshi was speaking at conclusion of two training programs for academic graduates, one themed "makers of the future" and the other "knights of the industry." The first one aims at training 20 freshly graduated job seekers and the second one at boosting the industrial education among students. She stressed on the necessity of harmony between the public and private industrial sectors for sake of achieving security of the society, creating new jobs and resources for the national economy. — KUNA

INT'L GROUPS ASK ASSEMBLY TO DROP CROSS-DRESSING CRIMINALIZATION

By A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** Some MPs said international human rights organizations have asked the National Assembly to cancel a law criminalizing impersonating the opposite sex, or cross-dressing, and asked to discuss the issue during the upcoming term. They said the organizations believe the law contradicts human rights and general freedoms of individuals, and this harms Kuwaiti democracy. Sources said MPs will ignore the request and seek stricter punishment for this offence.

Labor transfer

Deputy Director General for foreign labor recruitment and employment at the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) Ahmad Al-Mousa issued a circular regarding a previous condition that limits transferring work permits for workers on government contracts to other government contracts. The new circulation required inspecting the last two work permits that a worker obtained before his or her transfer transaction is carried out.

Labor grievances

Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Education Fahd Al-Ghais said the period to file grievances over lack of rewards of outstanding performance or financial discrepancies started yesterday. These can be filed on the ministry's website for 60 days. He said the site is: <http://www.moe.edu.kw/employee/pages/bonus.aspx>

New patent

Kuwaiti doctor Abdelmohsen Abdelredha Al-Sahaf succeeded in receiving a patent for his Q80 innovation in the US, and by giving it this name, he wanted to have Kuwait's name mentioned when it is used. Sahaf said the innovation can be used in most orthopedic and surgical intervention operations to treat pain. "We are in the preliminary stage of design, followed by production and marketing worldwide," he added.

LOW OXYGEN LEVELS BLAMED FOR FISH KILL

**KUWAIT:** The Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) said yesterday its scientists gathered samples of dead fish along with samples from deep and offshore waters at the Kuwait Bay area and the northern area.

In a press statement, KISR stated that the researchers have gathered the data from those two areas to calculate oxygen ratio in the waters and in the marine sediments where they also identified the current environmental status and its future effect on the Marine life.

The statement added that all collected data is shared with the Environment Public Authority (EPA) after conducting full survey in cooperation of the Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR).

The results showed a decrease of oxygen concentration in the seawaters with less than four milligrams in one liter in coherence with the increase of the water temperature and high humidity, in addition to the increase of Salinity which affected the oxygen in water, the statement said.

Conclusions of the recent survey and researches showed that the oxygen was below 1mg for each liter and the marine sediments in the southern area had a notable increase in the marine organisms in the area which increased the consumption of oxygen and decreased its condensation in the waters.

The bay witnessed occurrences fish death, latest of which was in June 2015 and September 2014, where the oxygen concentration was below average with four mg in the liter, the statement concluded. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Sheep pictured at the sheep market yesterday. — Photo by Joseph Shagra

SHEEP PRICES UP AHEAD OF EID

By Faten Omar

**KUWAIT:** With Eid Al Adha just around the corner, the livestock market is seeing an unreasonable hike in prices. Demand for sheep has pushed the price of Nuaimi sheep to KD 120-150, while Iranian sheep prices have reached KD 60-80, depending on the breed, source, age and size. During Eid Al-Adha, Muslims who have the means are required to sacrifice an animal, usually a sheep, cow, goat, buffalo or camel. Kuwait Times visited the sheep market to find out the price trends.

"The price of sheep ranges from KD 60 to KD 150, with Nuaimi sheep the most expensive," said Badri, a trader at the market. He told Kuwait Times that prices are expected to go up as Eid approaches. "The price of Nuaimi sheep is KD 140 to KD 150 for large animals and KD 120 for small ones, Shafali sheep sell for KD 75 to KD 90, Australian KD 55, Jordanian KD 110, Arabian hybrid from KD 75 to KD 80, Iranian for KD 80, and Saudi for KD 120 to KD 130," he said. Badri said buyers should be aware that Muslims should only sacrifice healthy sheep and they can know this from its teeth.

Mohiuddeen, a Bangladeshi seller, said the price of sheep is determined by type and weight and most customers prefer bigger sheep for sacrifice.

"Local sheep is in more demand and they weigh up to 20 kilos. We have other sheep that weigh 20 kg to 25 kg, in addition to Nuaimi and Saudi sheep that are known for their large size," he said.

Mohiuddeen predicted that prices will remain the same. He asked people to check if the sheep they buy is sick or not by looking at the way it stands and if its head is down. He advised buyers to pay attention to the sheep's horns too.

"Prices of Kuwaiti sheep range from KD 90 to KD 120, Iranian sheep KD 60 to KD 65, and Saudi and the Syrian sheep KD 120 to 150. There are no Australian sheep in the market now," said Hussain, another seller. He added that sheep for Eid are not ready yet. Hussain said that the most popular sheep varieties now are Shafali, Syrian, Jordanian, and Iranian, apart from the local ones. "We maintain the same prices on all days because we don't want to exploit our customers," he said.



MUNICIPALITY REMOVES ENCROACHMENTS Crippling ROAD EXPANSION

**KUWAIT:** The Farwaniya Municipality's emergency team has removed 97 percent of encroachment crippling the fifth ring road expansion project, Kuwait Municipality said yesterday. The removal came upon request from the Ministry of Public Works for the construction and maintenance of roads on the western part of the fifth ring road, said team leader Khaled Al-Radaan. The team will continue its work until removing all encroachment on state property, he added. — KUNA



KRCS' CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN FOR NEEDY FAMILIES KICKS OFF AID DISTRIBUTED TO FLOOD-STRICKEN PEOPLE IN SUDAN



KUWAIT: A man donates for a charitable educational project for the children of needy families, launched by Kuwait Red Crescent Society yesterday. — KUNA

**KUWAIT/KHARTOUM:** Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) started yesterday collecting donations for a charitable educational project for the children of needy families in Kuwait under the slogan (Give Them a Chance). KRCS' Head of Media and Public Relations Khalid Al-Zaid stressed KRCS' keenness to serve community through educating needy people and make them effective elements in the society. He also affirmed the importance of supporting the charitable educational project which would have a positive impact on the children of

needy families to pursue their schooling careers. Zaid invited all to contribute and interact with the campaign in favor of the project, whether citizens, residents, businesses and all private and government agencies for the sake of relieving the needy families who are in dire need of assistance. He said the KRCS is ready to receive material donations at its headquarters starting from today for five days from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and in the evening from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Donations through KRCS' website will continue for a longer period, he concluded.



KHARTOUM: A truck carrying KRCS relief aid to be distributed to victims of floods that hit Sudan during the current rainy season.

**Aid distributed**  
Separately, KRCS began yesterday/Sunday distributing relief aid for victims of floods that hit Sudan during the current rainy season with an unprecedented record rate. Head of the KRCS' delegation Ahmed Abdullah Al-Faqaan said that the distribution started from the suburb of Suba in east of the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, as one of the affected areas where 300 families have benefited from such aid.

He said the relief supplies included blankets, bed sheets, mattresses and mosquito

nets, indicating that the distribution operations will continue to other regions affected by the floods in cooperation with the Sudanese Red Crescent Society.

He expressed hope that aid would contribute to alleviating the suffering of all needy people as a result of this natural disaster in Sudan.

Two months of torrential rain have killed more than 76 people in Sudan, and more rain is forecast. More than 160,000 people have been affected and 14,000 houses destroyed. — KUNA

Legalese

EMPLOYMENT LAW

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

**A**s I have mentioned previously, it is not easy traveling to another country that has a vastly different culture, environment, language, way of life and so on. So I can only imagine how hard it is to show up to your new job and not get paid your salary, or not have a residency, or do not have a contract and so on. Therefore I have put together questions from expat employees that are of concern. I would also like to mention that these cases are more common than you think.

No contract

**Question:** I have been working for a company for a few months and I have not been given any contract to sign so far. My work visa was stamped in February. In September, it will be three months since I joined this clinic. I have not been paid a single month's salary yet. I have been asking about this to my employer almost every other day, but they just ask me to wait. In July, they only gave me KD 200 after I mentioned my difficulties at home. The salary mentioned in my shuoon (Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor) paper is KD 1,200 KD. I also have a salary account with a private bank here, but with no salary deposited so far. I find it very difficult to wait any longer and I wish to get my release from here and also my pending salary. Can you please advise me **what I must do?**

**Fajer:** It is so unfair that you are being treated this way and it is unfortunate that so many others are being treated the same way as well. Since you have already mentioned your salary amount in your work permit (others really do not know what their salary amount is), you know you have a work visa and a bank account and yet you are not receiving any salary. I suggest you go straight to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor and file a complaint. I should also mention that because you have not been paid your salary in a timely manner and you have the proof, you can cancel your work permit!

Probation period

**Question:** I found your email address on the internet and I have a question if you can answer it please. I am working as a teacher in a private high school. They stamped my residence last year, which expires in November this year. Every year, a contract is made for one year. It includes a two-month probation period. Can I find another job in those first two months, terminate the contract and transfer my residence too?

**Fajer:** Usually, if your contract is being renewed with the same employer, then there is no probation period, but since your contract includes a probation period and since the law allows differences with the Kuwait labor law to the benefit of the employee, then you can use this clause to your benefit and terminate your contract if you want to. Just make sure you check other clauses in your contract.

Held against her will

**Question:** I would like to ask regarding my sister's situation with her employer. If she has only completed one year of her two-year contract, does she need to pay her employer for not completing the contract? Also, can her employer hold her against her will if she does not want to continue working with them? Last month, they had an agreement that my sister will be able to leave after this month, and they told her that they will not give her salary for this month because the money will go towards buying her a ticket back to our country, which is the Philippines. But then last night they told her that they will not let her go and told her to stay longer, but my sister refuses to work with them. One of her coworkers tried going back home, but they would not give him back his passport and also tell him to pay KD 1,000. Is this right? I hope for your kind consideration regarding my questions about the law here in Kuwait. Thank you.

**Fajer:** First of all, I have a policy against answering concerns for someone else. I need to speak to your sister personally because I need to know more information, like does she work for the private sector or not? I will assume she works for the private sector and try to answer your concerns.

It depends on her contract and what it says. There may be a three-month notice clause. If it is for a fixed term like you say, she needs to continue or pay damages, and by damages, I mean 3-months' notice or her salary for the amount of months it takes them to find a replacement. I must make it clear that the amount is not something either party can assess by themselves. It is something done in court, and common practice is 3-months' notice. You say that your sister had an agreement with them last month - was it on paper? If so, then it can be used in court to her benefit, and therefore she should not be worried.

For any legal questions or queries, email [ask@fajerthelawyer.com](mailto:ask@fajerthelawyer.com)





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## SHOOTING GODFATHER SALMAN AL-HUMOUD

By Thaar Al-Rashidi

Golden champion Fehaid Al-Deehani thanked Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud for standing by him in his sport from A to Z, and as for champion Abdullah Al-Rashidi, he presented his medal to Sheikh Salman in recognition of the man's support of him and the sport of shooting in general. The Olympic champions did not have to make statements about a member of the government, but they gave him and his stand justice, as historically, he is the true godfather of shooting in Kuwait - that door which opened the medals for Kuwait.

*The testimonies of the two champions are enough, because they know better than all about what Sheikh Salman has given to the sport of shooting*

Regardless of the sporting suspension, or other things, this unprecedented achievement is not the result of a one, two or three-year camp that preceded the Rio 2016 Olympics - rather it is the result of accumulated care that continued for many years, during which shooting in Kuwait was making achievements one year after another, while Kuwaitis topped the list of champions in this sport regionally and internationally for many years, to a point where Kuwait champions became major stars and competitors over the past 20 years and are the focus in every shooting tournament.

Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud is the godfather of shooting in Kuwait, not because he was the president of the shooting club, and not because he is a sheikh from the Sabah family - rather because he was a shooting champion and won several medals as a shooter in the 1980s prior to becoming an Asian and international official in the International and Asian Shooting Federations.

The testimonies of the two champions are enough, because they know better than all about what Sheikh Salman has given to the sport of shooting, and that he moved it from the local to the international level, whether by government or his personal support.

Calculations of the current sports struggles do not require us to ignore or forget the efforts of a shooting sport champion - this sport that was the only reason in having our country's name at the Olympics. It is not football, handball, or any athletic sports, or the other individual sports that gave us as a country the honor of competing and getting medals - rather it is the shooting sport alone that gave us this preference.

If we wanted to put things in place, then we have to speak this way to be fair, away from the calculations of political sports struggle in Kuwait. I said that this would not have happened if there was not a man who stood behind this sport and established it in the country in an institutional manner with a far-sighted vision - a shooting athlete called Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud.

—Translated by Kuwait Times



## KFH HONORS SHOOTER ABDULLAH AL-RASHIDI WITH 1 KG GOLD RASHIDI WON BRONZE MEDAL IN RIO 2016

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has announced granting one kilogram of gold as an award to Kuwaiti shooter Abdullah Al-Rashidi in recognition of his triumph in capturing the bronze Olympic medal in the men's skeet championship at the Rio 2016 Olympics.

This recognition emanates from KFH's long standing endeavors to support and patronize the Kuwaiti champions who raise the name of Kuwait at the international forums and global events. It also reassures the bank's ongoing commitment towards assuming its part in society.

The 1 kg gold award is a token of appreciation for the remarkable achievement of the Olympic Champion Al-Rashidi at a prestigious global event. KFH has been always committed to its society as it attaches great interest in highlighting the achievements of national talent and sponsors their participations which contributes in further motivating them, yet comprises an impetus for winning more trophies while achieving outstanding global titles that raise the Kuwaiti flag high in regional and international competitions. It is worth noting that KFH had previously honored Kuwaiti



shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani with 2 kg gold for winning the gold medal in

the men's double trap event at the same Olympics.

## Crime

Report

### TODDLER DIES AFTER FALLING INTO POOL

**KUWAIT:** A one-year-old bedoon child trying to walk drowned in a pool after falling in it. When his family discovered what had happened, he was already dead. The boy's body was sent to the coroner and a case was registered at Sulaibiya police station.

#### Maid beats employer

An Egyptian woman was beaten by her Nepalese maid with a broomstick that left her with various bruises. The woman sought her husband's help to take her to hospital, then went to the police station and told them that she was attacked by her hysterical maid. Police are looking for the maid, who escaped.

#### Jahra crackdown

A security campaign by Jahra police resulted in arresting 70 wanted individuals, besides issuing 108 traffic citations. Sixteen cars were impounded for not meeting safety standards. The detainees were referred to the proper authorities for further action.

#### Smuggling foiled

Abdaly customs officers foiled an attempt by two Iraqis to smuggle a firearm and 2,000 Captagon pills into the country. Both were arrested in two separate incidents. While officers were inspecting a bus coming from Iraq with Bahraini plates, they found 2,000 pills with a passenger, who was sent to DCGD. In the second case, they found a pistol in the suspect's bag, so he was arrested and sent to criminal detectives.

#### Driver assaulted

A citizen sought the help of her two brothers to beat an Egyptian man in Hawally following a car accident. After the car accident, the woman called her brothers, who rushed to the accident scene, argued with the other driver and beat him up. A security source said traffic policemen handled the situation and took those involved to the police station for further legal action.

#### Thief identified

A thief, who is also an ex-convict, left his ID behind during his latest theft that targeted a car in Fahd Al-Ahmad. A citizen told police his car was broken into and KD 1,000 along with personal belongings were stolen, and that he found the ID of a citizen nearby.

#### Search for harasser

A man harassed a woman in Fitnas, then slapped her and twisted her arm for admonishing him. The woman, a citizen, went to Fintas police station and told them she was harassed by a youth in a mall in front of other shoppers, so she admonished him and left. But he followed her to her car and slapped her, twisted her arm, and said: "You can't speak like this to me." The woman gave police the man's license plate number and he was charged with inciting immorality and debauchery. Police are working on arresting him.

#### Drug possession

A citizen fell asleep inside his car in front of a cafe in Sulaibiya. Policemen who woke him up found 10 envelopes of shabu, and he was detained at the Drug Control General Department (DCGD). Patrols suspect a car at dawn, then noticed a man sleeping in it. When they woke him up, they found him in an abnormal condition. — Al-Rai

## Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: Islamic architecture embodied through designs featured on the Grand Mosque's interior dome. — KUNA





EU's Refugee crisis  
simmers despite  
efforts to solve it

ONLINE CHARITIES GIVE SHADY MILLIONS TO ORLANDO

CLINTON LANDS PERSONAL COUNTERPUNCH ON TRUMP  
NOMINEE INVOKES FATHER’S MEMORY TO HIT HIM ON BUSINESS

**WARREN:** Hillary Clinton has landed on a very personal counterpunch to what she says is Donald Trump’s checked business past: Her dad. As the Democratic presidential nominee works to undercut Trump’s economic record and promote her plans for small businesses, she is invoking memories of her late father’s Chicago drapery business.

Recalling Hugh Rodham hard at work making and printing curtains for hotels and office buildings, Clinton argues that he would have been “stiffed” in a deal with the celebrity businessman.“He expected to be paid when he showed up,” Clinton said recently during an event in Warren, Michigan. “He did the work. He paid for the supplies and the labor he often hired to help him on big jobs. I can’t imagine what would have happened to my father and his business if he had gotten a contract from Trump.”

Clinton hopes to remind voters that despite her years in public life that have left her a multimillionaire, she comes from a middle-class background and understands the life of a small-business owner. She also wants to contrast her biography with that of Trump, who was raised by a successful real estate developer and has drawn criticism for his treatment of small businesses during his career.

Key qualification

Trump has promoted his business record as a key qualification for the White House. But Trump casinos failed on several occasions. When the Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey went bankrupt in the early 1990s, some contractors who worked on the property went under because Trump’s company didn’t pay what they were owed, according to interviews with The Associated Press.

In a statement to the AP, Clinton said her father’s business gave her “a sense of responsibility,” adding that she was “living proof that a successful small business is at the core of the basic bargain in America, that if you work hard and do your part, you can make your own dreams and those of your children a reality.” Clinton has been pitching her plans to support small businesses and to

make it easier to start a company. On a conference call with small-business owners last week, she proposed a new tax deduction for small businesses and offered federal incentives to encourage state and local governments to streamline regulations.

While Clinton has spoken of her father throughout the campaign, the recent recollections have been more detailed and intimate. Clinton tends to speak sparingly about her family while campaigning and when she does, it is typically to make a broader point. She has referenced her grandfather’s work in a factory in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and her mother’s troubled childhood. Clinton has also spoken of her granddaughter as an example of the future generation she is fighting for. Mo Elleithee, who worked for Clinton’s 2008 presidential bid, said that reminiscing about her

family’s business could put Clinton “in a different light” with voters. Elleithee, now executive director of the Institute of Politics and Public Service at Georgetown University, noted that “she’s never done a very good job of talking about herself.”

Fabric business

A Scranton native, Clinton’s father moved to Chicago after graduating from college. There he worked as a traveling salesman before enlisting in the Navy during World War II, Clinton writes in “Living History.” When he returned from the war, he set up a drapery fabric business in Chicago, called Rodrik Fabrics, and later started a print plant on the city’s north side.

Rodham largely worked alone, but Clinton writes that she and her brothers helped when they were old enough. The business did well enough for Rodham to buy a house in the leafy suburb of Park Ridge, where he and wife, Dorothy, raised Clinton and her two brothers. By all accounts, Rodham was a stern man, but he is also credited with instilling his daughter’s powerful work ethic and encouraging her ambition. Clinton’s childhood friend Betsy Ebeling said Rodham “could be gruff but he could be very loving.”

“Her dad was one that, as Hillary likes to say, he was a



NEW YORK: In this July 1992 file photo, Hillary Clinton's father Hugh watches as her mother Dorothy Rodham adjusts her daughter's clothing in a New York Hotel room during the Democratic National Convention. — AP

chief petty officer, both in the Navy and at home,” Ebeling said. “He’d sit at the dinner table and he’d throw out these conversation things and wait for us to go: ‘No way.’ We really did learn to debate at his feet.” Of course, parental anecdotes may not win over all of those on the fence about Clinton, who has struggled with historically high unfavorability ratings. Still, Republican Rick Tyler, who

served as an adviser to Texas Sen Ted Cruz’s presidential bid, said Clinton’s family-focused hit on Trump was effective. “She’s got a message that’s relatable,” Tyler said. “There’s literally no one on our side who has been able to articulate a counter message. And Donald Trump embodies Hillary Clinton’s message that the rich get rich off the backs of the poor.” — AP

TRUMP VOWS HE WILL BEGIN  
DEPORTATIONS IMMEDIATELY

**WASHINGTON:** Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump linked illegal immigration and employment Saturday, pledging to start deporting offenders as soon as he is sworn in should he become the White House’s next occupant. Trump all the while courted the black vote, claiming that the shooting of basketball star Dwyane Wade’s cousin will make African Americans support him, but the move instead triggered a firestorm of criticism.

“On Day One, I am going to begin swiftly removing criminal illegal immigrants from this country - including removing the hundreds of thousands of criminal illegal immigrants that have been released into US communities under the Obama-Clinton administration,” Trump told supporters in Des Moines, Iowa. Trump’s Democratic rival Hillary Clinton served as secretary of state during President Barack Obama’s first term in office. The next president will be sworn in on January 20.

“I am going to build a great border wall, institute nationwide e-verify, stop illegal immigrants from accessing welfare and entitlements and develop an exit-entry tracking system to ensure those who overstay their visas are quickly removed,” Trump warned. The billionaire real estate magnate and former reality TV host-in a white baseball cap-said that “If we don’t enforce visa expiration dates, then we have an open border. It’s as simple as that:” “A vote for Trump is a vote to have a nation of laws, a vote for Clinton is a vote for open borders,” he stressed. Details of Trump’s immigration policies remain scant. He rallied much of his primary support with a controversial hardline tone against illegal immigrants and his plan to build a wall on the Mexican border.

Some of his advisors are now reportedly urging him to tone down his signature policy priority.

Trump also made appeals to black voters, promising to help African Americans find jobs. “Every time an African American citizen, or any citizen, loses their job to an illegal immigrant, the rights of that American citizen have been totally violated,” he argued. Hours before, Trump had tweeted: “Dwayne Wade’s cousin was just shot and killed walking her baby in Chicago,” initially misspelling the basketball player’s first name before correcting it later. “Just what I have been saying. African-Americans will VOTE TRUMP!”

He was referring to the shooting death on Friday of Nykea Aldridge during an exchange of gunfire between two men as she pushed a baby stroller in Chicago. Trump’s comments unleashed a torrent of criticism spearheaded by actor Don Cheadle, who has starred in such films as “Hotel Rwanda” (2004), denouncing the bombastic billionaire for trying to score political points on the back of a murder.

“He doesn’t give a fck. More red meat to his alt-right troglodytes,” Cheadle wrote on Twitter, referring to an ultra-conservative movement largely seen as white supremacy and anti-Semitic.“You don’t get to cherry pick. All the architects on left and right have failed that city. But Drumpf ain’t the ansr.” Cheadle lambasted the 2016 presidential election for being “like a Shakespearean farce except it could end in a mushroom cloud.” Several hours after firing off his first tweet on Wade, Trump offered a more somber and contrite message: “My condolences to Dwyane Wade and his family, on the loss of Nykea Aldridge. They are in my thoughts and prayers.” — AFP



DES MOINES, Iowa: Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump speaks at the 2nd annual Joni Ernst Roast and Ride event. — AP

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# HOUTHIS SAY THEY ARE READY FOR FRESH TALKS

**SANAA:** Yemen's Houthi-run governing council said yesterday it was ready to restart peace talks with the country's exiled government provided a Saudi-led coalition stopped attacking and besieging Houthi-held territories. UN-sponsored negotiations to end 18 months of fighting in the impoverished country on Saudi Arabia's southern border collapsed earlier this month and the dominant Iran-allied Houthi movement there resumed shelling attacks into the

kingdom. At its weekly meeting at Sanaa's presidential palace, the council said that its willingness to restart peace talks was contingent on the "total cessation of the aggression and lifting of the unjust siege on the Yemeni people". In talks in Jeddah this week, US Secretary of State John Kerry said the conflict had gone on too long and needed to end. He said the Houthis must cease shelling across the border with Saudi Arabia, pull back from the capital

Sanaa, cede their weapons and enter into a unity government with their domestic foes.

Yemen's internationally recognized government, based in Saudi Arabia, has made similar demands but insisted that the Houthis fulfill all those measures before any new government was formed. However Kerry suggested they could move ahead in parallel. The exiled government suggested in a statement carried by the Saba news agency that it was pre-

pared to consider the ideas outlined by Kerry. It said: "The government is prepared to deal positively with any peaceful solutions ... including an initial welcoming of the ideas resulting from the meeting in Jeddah that included the foreign secretaries of the US, the United Kingdom and Gulf states." The Yemen war has killed more than 6,500 people and displaced some 3 million. Saudi Arabia has launched thousands of air strikes on the country. — Reuters



**SIRTE:** Members of the forces loyal to Libya's UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) fire their weapons at enemy positions in the coastal city of Sirte, east of the capital Tripoli, during their military operation to clear the Islamic State group's (IS) jihadists from the city. — AFP

## LIBYAN FORCES ADVANCE INTO LAST IS-HELD AREAS OF SIRTE

### 1,000 PRO-GNA FIGHTERS TAKING PART IN OFFENSIVE

**SIRTE:** Forces loyal to Libya's UN-backed unity government yesterday pushed into the last areas of Sirte held by the Islamic State group in what was the jihadists' coastal stronghold. Loyalists to the Tripoli-based Government of National Accord have for more than three months been pressing an offensive to retake the city from the jihadists. IS captured Sirte—which had been the hometown of Libya's slain dictator Moamer Kadhafi—in June 2015, sparking fears the extremists would use it as a launch-pad for attacks in Europe.

Pro-GNA forces earlier this month made a significant breakthrough by seizing a conference centre where IS had set up base, pinning down the jihadists in a small downtown area near the sea. "Our forces entered the last areas held by Daesh in Sirte: district number one and district number three," a spokesman for the pro-GNA forces said on Sunday, using an Arabic acronym for IS. "The final battle for Sirte has started," Reda Issa said of the city 450 kilometers east of Tripoli. About 1,000 pro-GNA fighters were taking part in the offensive, he said. Eighteen loyalists had been killed and 120 others wounded in clashes since the start of yesterday's offensive, a field hospital for the pro-GNA forces said. An AFP photographer saw several tanks and armed vehicles move towards district number one and heard gunfire and rocket explosions as they entered the northern neighborhood.

#### US air strikes

The pro-GNA forces said on their Facebook

page that the offensive came "after air strikes overnight". US warplanes have been backing the assault to expel IS from Sirte, launched in mid-May, since August 1. As of August 24, US warplanes had carried out a total of 82 strikes, according to the United States Africa Command.

The pro-GNA forces fought their way into Sirte on June 9 and seized the jihadists' headquarters at the Ouagadougou conference centre on August 10. Since entering the city, they have faced a barrage of sniper fire, suicide bombings and booby traps. Pro-GNA forces are mostly made up of militias from western cities that have sided with the unity government of prime minister-designate Fayez al-Sarraj and the guards of oil installations that IS has repeatedly tried to seize. For several days before Sunday's assault, these fighters had been gathering on the outskirts of Sirte and around district number one and district number three, troops told an AFP journalist in the city. Fighters armed and prepared their tanks for inspection, while other soldiers disassembled and cleaned their guns.

"I'm cleaning my weapon... and getting it ready for the decisive battle" against IS, said one soldier. "We hope that God will help us defeat them," Osama Mohammad Mosbah said. Fighting broke out on Saturday on the edges of district number one between the jihadists and pro-GNA fighters armed with machineguns and rocket launchers, the AFP reporter said, after relative calm since late Thursday.

#### Snipers on roofs

Pro-GNA snipers deployed onto the roofs of buildings whose facades were still painted with the jihadists' black flag, using binoculars to scan their surroundings for IS fighters. Another anti-IS fighter, Ali Faraj Ben Saeed, said: "Of course the main weapons of the IS group are bombs. They rely on booby-traps and suicide belts mainly." More than 370 pro-GNA fighters have been killed and nearly 2,000 wounded in the battle, according to medical sources. IS casualty figures are unavailable. Analysts say that ousting the jihadists from their former North African stronghold would be a symbolic boost for Libya's fragile unity government, but it could also set the stage for further conflict. They say the loss of IS's main stronghold could prompt the group to launch more scattered attacks across the country, which remains an important recruitment base for the jihadists. IS has taken advantage of chaos in Libya since the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed Kadhafi, where rival militias and authorities have vied for control of the oil-rich country. A UN-brokered deal struck in December led to Sarraj's unity government taking office in the capital, but it has since struggled to fully assert its authority. The presidential council headed by Sarraj said on Wednesday it would present a new cabinet line-up in an attempt to secure the backing of parliament. The legislature, which rejected a previous unity government in a vote today, gave the council a "final chance" and 10 days to propose a new cabinet. — AFP

## EGYPT AUTHORITIES RELEASE RENOWNED RIGHTS LAWYER

**CAIRO:** Egyptian authorities yesterday released a renowned human rights lawyer arrested after protests against President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi's decision to hand over two islands to Saudi Arabia. Malek Adly had been held in pre-trial detention since being arrested by plainclothes police on May 5. His defense team confirmed his release. "The case has not been referred to trial yet," Tarek Khater, one of Adly's lawyers, told AFP.

Adly had supported protests in April against the decision to hand over two Red Sea islands to Saudi Arabia, which provoked outrage in Egypt and accusations that Sisi "sold" them in return for Saudi investments. Police arrested dozens of activists ahead of an April 25 protest, after more than 1,000 people had chanted for "the fall of the regime" in an earlier demonstration in Cairo. The police dispersed the April 25 protest

before raiding the Journalists' Syndicate to arrest two reporters who are part of the same case as Adly.

The three were accused of "attempting to topple the ruling system" and "spreading false news", a prosecution official had said.

An Egyptian administrative court ruled in June that the islands of Tiran and Sanafir, strategically situated at the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba, must remain under Egyptian sovereignty. But the government has appealed the decision. Sisi has defended the move, saying the islands were Saudi to begin with and were leased to Egypt in the 1950s.

The former army chief came to power after toppling his Islamist predecessor Mohamed Morsi in 2013, unleashing a crackdown on his supporters that killed hundreds of protesters and imprisoned thousands. — AFP

## BURKINIS, ECONOMY TOP ITEMS IN FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

**PARIS:** The national identity crisis exposed by France's burkini controversy is threatening to set the tone for the country's presidential campaign. Along with the economy, the relationship between France's Muslims and non-Muslims has been a recurring theme as presidential hopefuls kick off campaigning for the April-May election. Some leftists say the far right is using the issue to encourage racism in France. A top French court ruling Friday against banning the burkini didn't put an end to the debate.

Some mayors are refusing to rescind their bans, arguing that the head-to-ankle swimwear could disrupt public order after a summer marred by Islamic extremist attacks. The burkini bans by some French coastal towns drew international condemnation after images circulated online of police appearing to require a Muslim woman to disrobe.

Former President Nicolas Sarkozy and other some other conservative candidates want a national law banning burkinis. Sarkozy's chief rival for the conservative nomination, former Prime Minister Alain Juppe, struck a more conciliatory tone, saying on Europe-1 radio Sunday that such rhetoric "throws oil on the fire." But at a campaign event Saturday in Chatou west of

Paris, Juppe suggested putting limits on how far religious practices can reach into public life, calling for a special accord between the state and Muslim leaders to lay out clear rules for respecting French secularism.

"It is legitimate to ask them to have a knowledge of the principles of the organization of the republican state, especially French-style secularism," he said. The economy and security issues are likely to dominate the French campaign for the April and May presidential elections, after years of 10 percent unemployment and a string of deadly Islamic extremist attacks.

While many on the French left criticize the burkini as oppressing women, they also fear the issue feeds into the agenda of far-right candidate Marine Le Pen of the National Front. Benoit Hamon, a former Socialist government minister seeking the leftist presidential nomination, tweeted Sunday that the burkini debate "is targeting Muslims once again."

Hamon criticized Prime Minister Manuel Valls, a fellow Socialist, for supporting burkini bans. Socialist President Francois Hollande, who hasn't announced whether he will seek a second term, has remained cautious in comments on the burkini. — AP



**PARIS:** A woman wearing a Muslim headscarf, right, and who refused to be identified, stands outside the Conseil d'Etat, France's top administrative court. — AP

## ISRAEL COURT POSTPONES HEARING FOR UN WORKER

**BEERSHEBA:** An Israeli court yesterday postponed a hearing for a UN worker accused of aiding the Islamist movement Hamas after a dispute over whether he should be immune from prosecution. Waheed Borsh, wearing a brown prisoner's uniform, appeared briefly in court in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba. His lawyer Lea Tsemel said the 38-year-old was innocent and that they had requested more time to be able to prove it. Borsh declined comment when approached by AFP.

The hearing was rescheduled for September 29. The engineer from Jabaliya in northern Gaza who worked for the UN Development Program (UNDP) was arrested on July 16. He was accused by Israel of being recruited by a Hamas member to "redirect his work for UNDP to serve Hamas's military interests". He was charged with diverting 300 tons of rubble from a UNDP project in the Gaza Strip, run by Hamas, to build a jetty for the Islamist movement's naval force.

After reviewing the charge sheet, the UNDP challenged Israel's allegations and said Borsh diverted the rubble under instructions from the Palestinian Authority. UN officials have argued that Borsh, as a UN employee, may qualify for immunity from prosecution and have requested that they be allowed to visit him in jail. They have also called for his release into UN custody until they can determine whether they should

press for his immunity. Israel has rejected claims Borsh can benefit from immunity, saying "whoever assists a terror organization cannot hide behind a claim of immunity." Israel and Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip have

fought three wars since 2008. More than two-thirds of the population of the enclave—which Israel has blockaded for a decade—are reliant on some form of aid, according to the United Nations. — AFP



**Beersheba, Israel :** Palestinian Waheed Borsh (C), a UN Development Programme employee in Gaza who is accused of aiding the Islamist movement Hamas, looks on during his indictment at a district court in the southern Israeli city. — AFP

## TURKEY DESTROYS 'TERROR GROUPS' TARGETS IN SYRIA: STATE MEDIA

**ISTANBUL:** Turkey destroyed an arsenal and command post belonging to "terror groups" in strikes on Syria Saturday, the Anadolu news agency said, amid accusations Turkish jets had bombed Kurdish militia positions. The state-run agency did not say if fire was from artillery or war planes or which groups were targeted. It said the fire hit targets south of the town of Jarabulus, which was taken from jihadists by pro-Ankara rebels on Wednesday.

As well as fighting Islamic State (IS) jihadists, Turkey's offensive in Syria is aimed at countering the Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) and its People's Protection Units (YPG) militia. Pro-Kurdish rebels in Syria had earlier said that they had been the target of Turkish air strikes Saturday morning, which followed shelling late on Thursday.

"Turkish jets have this morning bom-

barded our positions in southern Jarabulus and the Til-Emarne village," said the Jarabulus Military Council which is linked to the pro-Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) dominated by the YPG. "With this aggression, a new conflict period will begin in the region," it said. A monitoring group and Kurdish sources have also said Kurdish-backed fighters clashed with Turkish tanks on the Syrian side of the border on Sunday.

Turkey sees the YPG and PYD as "terror groups" intent on carving out an autonomous Kurdish region in Syria although the United States works with them in the fight against IS. Ankara says that the YPG has failed to stick to a promise made by its US allies that the militia would move back east across the Euphrates following the seizure of the town of Manbij from IS earlier this month. — AFP



## FRIENDS TO REMEMBER SLAIN MISSISSIPPI NUNS

**DURANT:** Friends and colleagues who knew two nuns killed in their Mississippi home are gathering yesterday to remember them, as authorities continue to investigate the harrowing crime that shocked people in the small communities where the women committed their lives to helping the poor. Rodney Earl Sanders, 46, of Kosciusko, Mississippi, has been arrested and charged in the deaths of Sister Margaret Held and Sister Paula Merrill. The county sheriff said Sanders confessed to the killings although many people are struggling to comprehend why anyone would want to take the two women's lives.

A wake is scheduled to be held yesterday at the St Thomas Church in Lexington where the women led Bible study. That will be followed by a mass Monday in Jackson. The women's bodies were found in their Durant, Mississippi, home after they failed to show up for work Thursday at a health clinic in Lexington, about 10 miles away. Willie March, the sheriff of Holmes County where the killings occurred, said Saturday that police work and tips from the community led police to Sanders. Authorities have said Sanders was developed as a person of interest early in the investigation.

He said he had been briefed by Durant police and Mississippi Bureau of Investigation officials who took part in Sanders' interrogation and was told that Sanders confessed to the killings and gave no reason for the crimes. The sheriff said the investigation is ongoing. Durant police could not be reached for comment Saturday. Warren Strain, a spokesman for the Department of Public Safety which includes the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation, said the organization would neither confirm nor deny that Sanders confessed. Sanders had a criminal record.

He was convicted last year of a felony DUI, said Grace Simmons Fisher, a spokes-

woman for the Mississippi Department of Corrections. He was later released from prison and is currently on probation. Sanders was also convicted of armed robbery in Holmes County, sentenced in 1986 and served six years, Fisher said. People who knew the nuns, known for their generosity and commitment to improving health care for the poor, have been grappling with why anyone would want to kill them.

### Murky intentions

Dr Elias Abboud, the physician who oversees the clinic in Lexington where the nuns worked, said Saturday that Sanders was not a patient there. The Rev Greg Plata, sacramental minister at St Thomas Catholic Church in Lexington where the wake is to be held, said he does not think people at the church knew Sanders. Authorities said Sanders was being held in an undisclosed detention center pending a court appearance. They have not given any details on why they think Sanders killed the women or whether he knew them but they do say they believe he acted alone. Strain said he does not know if Sanders has an attorney.

Merrill's nephew, David Merrill, speaking by telephone from Stoneham, Massachusetts, said Saturday the family was "thankful" Sanders is off the streets. But the family still has to deal with the loss. Merrill said he agrees with the idea of forgiveness and that is something his aunt would want for whoever killed her but he's not sure if he's capable of completely forgiving. Merrill said he would not support the death penalty if Sanders were to be convicted but that decision will ultimately be made by the people in Mississippi. The capital murder charge leaves open the possibility Sanders would face the death penalty but that determination would be made by prosecutors later. — AP



**ORLANDO:** In this June 18, 2016 file photo, demonstrators show their support during the funeral service for Christopher Andrew Leinonen, one of the victims of the Pulse nightclub mass shooting, outside the Cathedral Church of St Luke. — AP

## SCAMS LOOM AS ONLINE CHARITIES GIVE SHADY MILLIONS TO ORLANDO WASTE, QUESTIONABLE INTENTIONS AND LITTLE OVERSIGHT

**ORLANDO:** The more than 430 fundraisers posted on the GoFundMe website after the mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando have exposed weaknesses inherent in these popular do-it-yourself charity campaigns: Waste, questionable intentions and little oversight. The fundraisers - an average of more than four for each of the 49 killed and 53 wounded - include travelers asking for cash, a practitioner of ancient healing, a personal safety instructor who sells quick loaders for assault rifles, and even convicted identity impostors. "There was a deluge," said Holly Salmons, president of the Better Business Bureau for Central Florida. "It was almost impossible for us or anyone else to be able to vet."

The crowdfunding sites operate outside traditional charitable circles and often beyond the reach of government regulation. Appeals can be created in minutes by almost anyone and shared around the world. The officially sanctioned Equality Florida campaign raised more than \$7 million via GoFundMe, but another \$1.3 million went to smaller appeals - mostly set up by people with little or no charity experience. The Associated Press examined 30 campaigns chosen from throughout the lengthy list produced by a GoFundMe search for "Orlando shootings." Within a month of the June 12 shootings, they had raised more than \$265,000.

### Failure to launch

Half said donations would be used for legitimate-sounding purposes: to cover funeral, medical and other costs. Some campaign organizers were relatives of the dead or wounded. A high school basketball coach raised \$15,297 for the family of Akyra Murray, a star player who had just graduated before dying in the attack. But most campaigns lacked key

details, such as exactly what the donations would cover or even who was asking for them. Only nine of the 30 organizers agreed to interviews.

One man wanted money for travel costs to Orlando to shoot independent news video. He hadn't raised anything two months later. Another organizer raised just \$25 for travel money to hold a community healing ceremony inspired by ancient shamanic rituals. She dropped that plan in favor of sending painted rocks with an inspiring word of support. Jackson Yauck of Victoria, British Columbia, put up a lighthearted appeal to let the highest donor burn a pair of skimpy gold-colored shorts he wore to gay-pride events. He had created the appeal on Jan. 1 on behalf of other charities and when he tried to switch it to benefit the Orlando victims,

GoFundMe froze his account for at least a week, he said. He agreed to transfer the donations to Equality Florida, and GoFundMe let the appeal go forward. Yauck said he knew all but one of his 11 donors personally and didn't feel a need to tell them of the switch. "It was just for fun. If you look at the bigger picture, we raised \$600 off a pair of underwear," he said. Several businesses asked for contributions. One appeal raised \$1,375 from 14 donors within two months to keep open a hair salon run by partners killed in the attack. A counseling center raised \$150 to subsidize services to victims but closed its campaign when it found grant money elsewhere. GoFundMe helps make refunds when contributions go unused.

Weapons-accessory dealer Craig Berberich, of Bradenton, Florida, proposed holding public classes on personal safety. He posted a link to his business at the bottom of his appeal. He said he "wasn't trying to promote my business." Then he added: "I

hope we didn't give the impression that we were a charity."

He said he was shutting down his appeal. It remained online over a month later - but with only \$100 in donations. Among his store products: a high-speed loader for assault weapons. Efe Atalay, of Clermont, Florida, raised \$1,145 from 81 donors to buy security wands for nightclub entrances, but didn't say which clubs and spoke vaguely of lobbying politicians to require such security measures. He didn't respond to emails sent to his GoFundMe address.

### Patchwork of laws

Florida charities law generally requires no filings by crowdfunding campaigns meant for particular victims or their families or in support of other established charities. That accounts for the vast majority of appeals. Other states apply a patchwork of laws. Yet, crowdfunding campaigns can distribute aid more quickly than large bureaucratic funds. And they have less overhead than traditional charities, with only 8 percent of donations on GoFundMe going to the website and credit card fees.

Bobby Withorne, a GoFundMe spokesman, said the website's staffers were vetting the Orlando campaigns before releasing funds, and only a small fraction of a percent of past appeals involved outright fraud. GoFundMe froze funds from entertainment company manager David Luchsinger's campaign when donations piled up quickly. Luchsinger said he was asked for more details of his plans to replace the ruined equipment of one of his deejays who was working at the club during the attack. Luchsinger set an initial goal of \$5,000, and raised \$8,742 in one month. — AP

## HURRICANE GASTON GAINS STRENGTH IN THE ATLANTIC

**WASHINGTON:** Hurricane Gaston picked up strength yesterday as it swirled in the Atlantic east of Bermuda, the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) reported. Gaston has sustained maximum winds of 90 miles per hour, the Miami-based NHC said in its 0900 GMT bulletin. The center of Gaston was located 620 miles east of Bermuda and was moving towards the northwest at a speed of six miles per hour.

Gaston became the third named hurricane of the Atlantic season on Thursday, but quickly weakened to a tropical storm. It then strengthened and regained its hurricane status late Saturday. The hurricane was forecast to turn north on Monday, and the NHC's five-day forecast cone has Gaston then moving northeast and into the open Atlantic by Thursday. The NHC issued no coastal watches or warnings, though it did say that Gaston was expected to strengthen during the next 48 hours.

Gaston's hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 15 miles from its center, and its tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 140 miles. Although the Atlantic hurricane season officially runs from June 1 to November 30, this year's first hurricane-Alex-formed in January during an unusual weather event. The Climate Prediction Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) initially estimated the Atlantic would see between 10 and 16 storms this year, but recently updated its prediction to 17. The eight-week stretch between mid-August and mid-October is the most active period for storms and hurricanes in the Atlantic, according to the NHC. "The statistical peak day of the hurricane season-the day you are most likely to find a tropical cyclone somewhere in the Atlantic basin-is September 10th," the NHC website says. — AFP

## 10,000TH SYRIAN REACHES US IN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

**AMMAN:** The US will reach its target this week of taking in 10,000 Syrian war refugees in a year-old resettlement program, the US ambassador to Jordan said yesterday, after meeting families headed to California and Virginia. The resettlement program has emerged as an issue in the US presidential campaign, with Republican nominee Donald Trump alleging displaced Syrians pose a potential security threat. Alice Wells, the US ambassador to Jordan, said yesterday that keeping Americans safe and taking in some of the world's most vulnerable people are not mutually exclusive.

"Refugees are the most thoroughly screened category of travelers to the United States, and Syrian refugees are subject to even greater scrutiny," she

said. Wells said the target of resettling 10,000 Syrian refugees in the US in the 2016 fiscal year will be reached Monday, as several hundred Syrians depart from Jordan over 24 hours. The Jouriyeh family, which attended Sunday's short ceremony, is headed to San Diego, California. Nadim Fawzi Jouriyeh, 49, a former construction worker from the war-ravaged Syrian city of Homs, said he feels "fear and joy, fear of the unknown and our new lives, but great joy for our children's lives and future."

Jouriyeh, who suffers from heart problems, will be traveling with his wife, Rajaa, 42, and their four children. Their oldest son, 14-year-old Mohammed, said he is eager to sign up for school in San Diego and hopes to study medicine one day. The resettlement program focuses on the most vulnerable refugees, including those who were subjected to violence or torture or are sick. Close to 5 million Syrians have fled civil war since 2011. Most struggle to survive in tough conditions in neighboring countries, including Jordan, which hosts close to 660,000 Syrian refugees.

Only a small percentage of Syrian refugees have been resettled to third countries. Instead, donor countries are trying to invest more in job creation and education for refugees in regional host countries to encourage them to stay there instead of moving onward, including to Europe. Wells said the US has taken in more refugees from around the world over the years than all other nations combined. — AP



**AMMAN:** In this photo taken yesterday, five members of the Jouriyeh family, Syrian refugees headed to the US as part of a resettlement program, pose for a photo in the Amman, Jordan office of the International Organization for Migration. — A P

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## RIVALS BOTH CLAIM VICTORY AS GABON WAITS FOR VOTE RESULTS

**LIBREVILLE:** Gabon's President Ali Bongo and his only serious rival have both claimed victory in this weekend's presidential election, and accused each other of cheating. Barely had the last ballots been cast Saturday evening before the incumbent's spokesman declared: "Bongo will win... we are already on our way to a second mandate." Bongo, 57, has been in power since a disputed election held in 2009 after the death of his father, Omar Bongo, who had ruled the oil-rich Central African country for 41 years.

Yesterday, the campaign manager of Bongo's rival Jean Ping told reporters that the former head of the African Union Commission had won 60 per cent of votes counted so far, just under half of the total, against 38 percent for the president. He also accused Bongo of "trying to push his way through," with the backing of the army. "That's totally crazy," countered Bongo's spokesman. "It's tight, but we are ahead." Interior Minister Pacome Moubelet Boubeya has insisted that only results from the

election commission cleared by his ministry had any validity. Before polling began Boubeya said everything was "in place to guarantee a transparent and impartial election".

The results of the poll, which is decided by simple majority, should be declared at around 1600 GMT on Tuesday, Boubeya said in a later statement. "More than ever we appeal for calm and recall that it is illegal to declare results before the relevant authorities do," added the minister. Observers from the African Union and European Union have said that aside from some delays, the poll itself, in which some 628,000 people were eligible to vote, passed off without serious incident.

But the acrimony that had marked the campaign period continued into the weekend with each of the main rivals accusing the other of mischief. "We have observed massive fraud, in particular in areas where opposition representatives arrived in polling stations first," said Bongo's spokesman. As he cast his own ballot Saturday morning, Ping told

reporters, "We know the other side is trying to cheat. It is up to you to be vigilant." His team had said that a Friday court ruling would allow soldiers, who tend to support Bongo, a former defense minister, to "vote several times in several polling centers".

### Streets deserted

On Sunday, the streets of the capital, Libreville, were almost deserted. Fearing a repeat of the violence that followed Bongo's victory in 2009, many residents, who had stocked up on food, stayed indoors. Even those shops and stalls usually open on Sundays were shuttered. "There is no trouble in this district for now but we want to get the results soon," said Honore, a watchman. "We'll see how the candidates react. I hope it won't be like last time," he added. In the clashes that followed the 2009 victory, several people were killed, buildings were looted and the French consulate in Port Gentil, which saw the words of the violence, was torched.

Until shortly before polling day, Bongo was the clear favourite, with the opposition split by several prominent politicians vying for the top job. But earlier this month, the main challengers pulled out and said they would all back Ping. Both candidates have promised to break with the past. Faced with repeated charges of nepotism, Bongo has long insisted he owes his presidency to merit and years of government service.

His extravagant campaign made much of the slogan "Let's change together," and of roads and hospitals built during his first term. Ping described Bongo's attempts to diversify the economy away from oil as window dressing. One third of Gabon's population lives in poverty, despite the country boasting one of Africa's highest per capita incomes at \$8,300 (7,400 euros) thanks to pumping 200,000 barrels of oil a day. There has been growing popular unrest in recent months, with numerous public sector strikes and thousands of layoffs in the oil sector. — AFP

## EU'S REFUGEE CRISIS SIMMERS DESPITE EFFORTS TO SOLVE IT

### A LOOK AT WHERE THINGS STAND IN KEY COUNTRIES

**BERLIN:** Faced with more than 1 million migrants flooding across the Mediterranean last year, European nations tightened border controls, set up naval patrols to stop smugglers, negotiated an agreement with Turkey to limit the numbers crossing, shut the Balkan route used by hundreds of thousands, and tried to speed up deportations of rejected asylum-seekers. Yet many issues still remain.

European nations continue to squabble about whether, and how, to share the newcomers between them and the issues that drove refugees to Europe in the first place - such as Syria's unrelenting war - are unresolved. Overall,

that's supposed to see 160,000 moved over two years through September 2017. Yet there's little Brussels can do to force any nations to comply. New arrivals now are insignificant compared to 2015, but they have increased since the July 15 attempted coup in Turkey, topping 2,300 in the first three weeks of August. This is straining resources on the eastern Aegean Sea islands and the government has promised to build more housing on the mainland. Fears are also growing that the EU-Turkey deal might fall apart as Ankara presses for the 28 nation bloc to allow its citizens visa-free entry.

The figure has since leveled out at around 16,000 per month. Chancellor Angela Merkel has stuck to her insistence that Germany will give shelter to those who need it and that Germany "will manage" the refugee crisis. That mantra has fueled ongoing strife in her conservative bloc, and benefited the nationalist, anti-immigration Alternative for Germany party. Two attacks this summer by asylum-seekers that were claimed by the Islamic State group have also fueled concerns.

Meanwhile, Germany has moved to tighten asylum rules, deport more rejected asylum applicants and turn more people back at the border Merkel has criticized other European countries' unilateral moves to shut the Balkan migration route at Greece's expense but was a leading advocate of the Turkey-EU agreement. She insists the deal remains necessary, despite tensions with Ankara over visa-free travel.

### AUSTRIA

The discovery of 71 suffocated people in the back of a smuggler's truck in Austria a year ago triggered an outpouring of support for refugees. That now seems a distant memory. Then-Chancellor Werner Faymann urged Austrians to open their arms to the migrants, but faced increasing concerns that the country couldn't cope. Faymann changed course early this year, suddenly backing calls to shut Austria's border. He resigned in May amid falling support.

His successor, Christian Kern, has continued on the restrictive path welcomed by most Austrians, even as he urges them to be open-minded toward new arrivals. Austria was the main force in the shutdown early this year of the Balkan route. After accepting more than 80,000 migrants last year, the country stands ready to turn back the first would-be refugee over the 37,500 limit it has set as a quota for 2016.

### SERBIA & HUNGARY

The flow of migrants into Serbia has diminished drastically but not dried up entirely. Instead of thousands a day registering at organized centers, hundreds a day now try to enter illegally. Illustrating the dangers, a 20-year old Afghan migrant crossing illegally from Bulgaria was shot and killed this week by a hunter in an apparent accident. Human Rights Watch says migrants and refugees at Hungary's border with Serbia are being forced back, in some cases violently. UNHCR estimates that some 4,400 asylum-seekers are now stranded in Serbia, mostly since Hungary started enforcing new regulations in July that allow authorities to "escort" migrants and refugees caught within 8 kilometers (5 miles) of the border back to Serbia. Two "transit zones" on the Serbian side now process around 30 asylum applications a day, while 1,000 or more people are waiting in poor conditions to file asylum claims, most of which are rejected.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has called migrants "poison" and said Friday that Hungary will build a new, "more massive" fence on its southern border to defend against a possible surge in numbers. A government-initiated referendum on Oct. 2 is meant to rally political support against any EU plan to resettle migrants among the bloc's members.

### FRANCE

Migrant numbers in Calais have soared this month, even though authorities shut down half of the city's wretched camp earlier this year, and the British and French governments erected security fences and announced measures to deter new arrivals. The French government says the number of migrants in the makeshift Calais camp known as the "jungle" has reached its highest official level yet: 6,901. Aid groups say it's closer to 9,000. This week, a Sudanese migrant died after a clash between groups of Sudanese and Afghans, the 11th migrant to die in Calais this year. — AP

### ITALY

About 70,000 migrants crossed the Mediterranean into Italy from January to June this year, similar to the same period last year. But with routes northward now restricted, there's nowhere for them to go and, as smugglers resort to more dangerous practices, more migrants are dying en route. Migrants are sleeping in hotels, homeless shelters, train stations and tent camps. The Tuscan city of Capalbio is putting them in fancy villas and Milan is readying a jail to take in some. Nigerians make up the biggest group of newcomers to Italy, followed by Eritreans, Gambians, Ivorians and Sudanese, according to the UN refugee agency. The wave of arrivals is testing Italy's social services and Premier Matteo Renzi's patience as he faces domestic resistance from the anti-immigrant Northern League and reluctance from Italy's EU partners to resettle asylum-seekers. To date, only 961 would-be refugees have moved out of Italy, according to the IOM. Earlier this month, France returned to Italy some 200 migrants who plunged into the sea at the Ventimiglia border crossing. The latest hotspot is Como on the Swiss border. There authorities have approved a tent camp to house the estimated 300-500 migrants who have camped out at the train station after taking trains daily into Switzerland, only to be returned.

### GERMANY

Germany has seen a much-reduced number of newcomers this year after taking in hundreds of thousands in 2015, the majority of those entering Europe. Up to the end of July, 238,424 new arrivals were recorded - 92,000 of them in January, before the Balkan route was shut down.

### TURKEY

Turkey is hosting some 3 million refugees, including more than 2.7 million Syrians. Most refugees there don't get government support, but the agreement with the EU calls for the bloc to provide up to 6 billion euros (\$6.8 billion) to help Syrian refugees in Turkey. The deal also provides for one Syrian refugee from Turkey to be relocated to EU countries for each Syrian who arrives illegally in Greece and is sent back. So far only 1,152 have been resettled under the program - more than half of them to Germany and Sweden.

### GREECE

The numbers of migrants arriving in Greece have dropped dramatically since the March agreement with Turkey, but several thousand a month still make the journey, some 160,000 in the first half of this year. Over 58,000 people remain stuck in the financially struggling country, most hoping to continue north to nations like Germany or Sweden. The majority have applied for asylum, hoping to be relocated among EU nations - but the program is moving at snail's pace amid fierce resistance from eastern and central European countries.

So far, only around 4,400 people have been relocated from southern Europe under a plan

## FRENCH ENVIRONMENT MINISTER ANNOUNCES IRAN PARTNERSHIPS

**TEHRAN:** French Environment Minister Segolene Royal met with her Iranian counterpart in Tehran yesterday to announce plans for a number of joint projects addressing energy, water shortages and pollution. Royal held talks with the head of Iran's Environmental Protection Organisation, Massoumeh Ebtekar, and said they would build several key partnerships by February. "Several highly operational subjects were dis-

cussed," Royal told reporters. The French minister is travelling for three days with senior business figures from environmental and renewable energy firms specializing in water, pollution and energy efficiency-including the boss of multinational Engie.

"They were chosen by Iran on the basis of the challenges they face," said Royal. "Since we face the same type of challenges in France, this is a terrific opportunity for

cooperation." Royal said she would return in February to discuss progress on the partnerships. Ebtekar, who is also a vice-president of Iran, said the visit "shows the important international cooperation on the environment, and sends a strong message to the global community that countries can cooperate strongly on their shared interests and issues in the field of environment."

Royal, who was wearing the

headscarf that is obligatory in Iran, appeared reluctant to take too many questions from journalists in the wake of the recent uproar over the banning of burkini swimsuits in France. On Monday, she is due to visit Iran's largest saltwater lake, Orumiyyeh in northwestern Iran, a UNESCO heritage site that has lost 90 percent of its surface water in the past two decades as a result of over-farming, dams and climate changes. — AFP



**RIO:** Firefighters retrieve a crucifix from a church in the small town of Rio, near Amatrice, central Italy, yesterday. — AFP

## L'AQUILA: THE STRUGGLE FACING ITALY'S EARTHQUAKE-HIT TOWNS

**L'AQUILA:** Seven years after being devastated by an earthquake that killed more than 300 people, L'Aquila's abandoned city centre is a stark reminder of the struggle facing Italian towns hit by a quake last week. Scaffolding still covers the city's Baroque buildings, the skyline is dominated by cranes, most of the dusty streets are deserted and many areas remain cordoned off. "This place is one big building site," said Luca Dioletta, the owner of Bar Duomo in the L'Aquila's main square, dominated by the neoclassical cathedral which is one of few buildings not shrouded in protective tarpaulins.

Bar Duomo, which opened just a month ago, is the only bar or restaurant in the square which used to teem with life before the quake struck on April 6, 2009. Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's promise to rebuild Amatrice and other mountain towns ravaged by last week's tremors echoed pledges made by former premier Silvio Berlusconi to some 80,000 people who lost their homes in and around L'Aquila in 2009.

### Many errors

In power since February 2014, Renzi will be determined to prove himself a more able leader than Berlusconi and avoid the many errors made in L'Aquila, which lies just 56 km south of Amatrice. Reconstruction here has been held up by bureaucracy and corruption, while billions of euros were spent on unpopular housing projects, or "new towns", with rows of identical dwellings built on special quake-proof platforms. Residents say that while these brand new estates are comfortable enough, they lack any sense of community.

"Look around you, there are no services, no bars, no restaurants, no newsstands, just houses surrounded by nothing," said Ottavio Masciovecchio, 60, who lives in the Paganica new town some 10 km outside L'Aquila.

Masciovecchio, who was born in the nearby village of Paganica, says he has lost all hope of ever returning to his former home and speaks bitterly as he walks around the boarded up houses and debris in the narrow streets where he used to live.

"They say Paganica is being rebuilt but it's a lie. I'd like to show this mess to the whole world," he said. Renzi's ministers say they will not let the communities around Amatrice die, but they have not explained how they can speed up Italy's rebuilding efforts and have declined to speculate when the reconstruction might be complete. "This is not about setting challenges and making promises. We need the pace of a marathon runner," Renzi said on Thursday.

### Organized crime

Some 21 billion euros (\$23 billion) was earmarked for L'Aquila's reconstruction, but so far only 7 billion euros has been spent. Local residents say the project has been snarled by inefficient use of the resources and cloying red tape, scourges that repeatedly trip up the euro zone's third

largest economy. The housing projects were expensive, costing 2,000-3,000 euros per square metre, and residents and architects say the money could have been better spent on demolishing and rebuilding old houses or on more modest but temporary dwellings.

The new towns were strongly supported by Berlusconi himself, who made his first fortune as a construction magnate. Marco Morante, an architect from L'Aquila who has worked with the town council and private contractors, described the failure to involve the local community in decisions over reconstruction as a mistake. "Nearly everything was dictated by the central government, with a sort of military occupation of the area by the Civil Protection Department which alienated the townspeople," he said.

Masciovecchio said reconstruction contracts in L'Aquila went to firms from abroad or other parts of Italy and few local residents had been hired. His son, who had worked in a local bakery, left to seek work abroad and now lives in Finland. Morante, who estimated that only 5-10 percent of the centre of L'Aquila had been rebuilt, said bureaucracy was mainly to blame, with a bewildering series of changes in the rules on project allocation and construction permits.

Some of these changes were triggered by evidence that another Italian plague-organized crime-had infiltrated the reconstruction effort. In 2014 seven building contractors were arrested on allegations they had collaborated with the Naples mafia, the Camorra, to obtain cheap labor. Morante said Amatrice and the other towns hit by this week's earthquakes could learn from L'Aquila's experience, but there were important differences.

For example, only an estimated 2,500 people had been made homeless in the latest disaster, far fewer than in L'Aquila. However, a higher proportion of the houses were levelled and will have to be completely rebuilt. The risk for Amatrice and the surrounding towns is that if the rebuilding takes too long, the local youngsters will drift away, dealing a potentially fatal blow to communities where pensioners already make up a large proportion of inhabitants. "I'm afraid our village and others will just die," said Salvatore Petrucci, 77, who lost his house in Trisunga on Wednesday. "We may be the last people to have lived (here)."

After an earthquake hit southern Italy near Naples in 1980, some survivors had to wait more than 20 years before their damaged properties were restored. Leonardo Innocenzi, 62, who was born and brought up in the centre of L'Aquila, lives in a "new town" 5 km away and says with resignation that he hopes he can get back to his old home within "two or three years, maybe four." "I think it will need another 8-10 years for this city to return to anything like it was, and we will have to see if it ever become the community that it used to be." — Reuters



BANGLADESH POLICE HUNTS MORE EXTREMISTS AHEAD OF KERRY VISIT

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh police said yesterday they were hunting more extremist leaders after shooting dead the suspected mastermind of a deadly cafe attack, on the eve of US Secretary of State John Kerry's first visit. Security forces stormed a militant hideout outside Dhaka on Saturday, killing three suspected Islamists including the Bangladesh-born Canadian accused of organizing last month's attack that killed 22 people, mostly foreigners.

Authorities say that after returning from Canada in 2013, Tamim Chowdhury led a faction of the banned militant group Jamayetul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), blamed for a series of recent attacks on religious minorities. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the July 1 seige of the upmarket Dhaka cafe in which gunmen held hostage mainly Western diners including one American, before killing them. But police say the homegrown JMB, which has pledged allegiance to the IS group, was behind the raid. They deny the presence of international jihadist groups. "We're hopeful we can now capture and eliminate other extremists including Zia," assistant inspector general of police, Mohammad Moniruzzaman, told AFP.

Major blow

Police suspect Zia, a former army major whose full name is Syed Ziaul Haque, heads another local extremist group called Ansar al Islam, blamed for the machete murders of a dozen secular writers and two gay activists. Kerry is set to arrive in Bangladesh on Monday on his first official visit to try to deepen cooperation on counter-terrorism and

other issues. He will meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and hold talks with his counterpart Mahmood Ali "on a broad range of issues including democracy, development, security and human rights", a senior State Department official said.

Kerry will then head to India to co-chair the regular US-India Strategic and Commercial Dialogue and hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Bangladesh police hailed Saturday's raid as a major blow to extremists in the Muslim-majority country, which has been reeling from the recent killings. The cafe attack has prompted foreigners, including potential investors, to leave Bangladesh-sparking worries for its garment industry, the world's second largest after China. A series of police raids on suspected militant hideouts have killed at least 24 extremists since the cafe attack.

Police have announced a reward of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest of Zia, who was sacked from the army in 2011 for an aborted coup bid against Hasina. Experts welcomed Saturday's police raid but said the country, with its history of political instability, faces a long fight against Islamist extremism. Critics say Hasina's administration has been in denial about the nature of the threat posed by extremists and accuse her of trying to exploit the attacks to demonize her domestic opponents. "Definitely Tamim's death is a major setback for the terrorists, especially in the short term," said Abdur Rob, professor of politics and security issues at the private North South University. "(But) The incentives for regrouping will remain unless we can fix our politics." — AFP



DHAKA: Bangladeshis gather near a shooting scene in Narayanganj. — AP



NAYPYIDAW: In this photograph taken on May 27, 2016, Myanmar State Counselor and Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi (C background) chairs a meeting in Naypyidaw in preparation for the ethnic peace conference attended by representatives of ethnic armed organizations, members of parliament and military officials. — AFP

MYANMAR'S SUU KYI FACES TEST AT ETHNIC PEACE CONFERENCE 'WITHOUT PEACE, THERE CAN BE NO SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT'

**YANGON:** Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi faces what could be the toughest test of her leadership yet when she opens a major ethnic peace conference Wednesday aimed at ending wars that have blighted the country since its independence. The five-day talks will bring hundreds of ethnic minority rebel leaders to the capital, along with military top brass and international delegates such as UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon. The conference is Suu Kyi's flagship effort to quell the long-running rebellions rumbling across Myanmar's impoverished frontier states, fuelled in part by the illegal drugs, jade and timber trades.

Historical suspicions

Myanmar is home to more than 100 ethnic groups and many minorities harbor deep seated historical suspicions of the Bamar majority group which includes Suu Kyi-complaining that they have endured decades of discrimination. Suu Kyi's Nobel Peace Prize winner, has made ending the nearly 70 years of fighting the first priority of her newly minted government, which took over from the military in March after sweeping the first free election in generations.

"If you ask me what my most important aim is for my country, that is to achieve peace and unity among the different peoples of our union," she said during a recent visit to China. "Without peace, there can be no sustained development." The 71-year-old is hoping to expand a shaky ceasefire signed last year between some rebel armies and

the military-backed government. This week's conference will include both signatories to the ceasefire agreement and non-signatories, although some groups are still locked in intense fighting with government forces and their role in the talks remains unclear.

Success also depends heavily on the military, which controls key levers of government and whose leaders are thought to have made billions from the vast natural resources of Myanmar's borderlands. "Anyone who is suggesting there could be any sort of agreement in the coming days or weeks is dreaming," said Anthony Davis, a security analyst and writer for IHS-Jane's, predicting the negotiations could take "many years". The conference has nevertheless been hailed as an important first step and one loaded with symbolism in a nation emerging from a dark military past.

It is dubbed the '21st Century Panglong'-a reference to a 1947 agreement signed by Suu Kyi's independence hero father that granted a level of autonomy to major ethnic groups. The deal collapsed after Aung San was assassinated months later, precipitating half a century of brutal junta rule. Suu Kyi has followed in her father's footsteps with similar pledges to form a federalist state-though she has never spelt out the details.

**'Grand opening ceremony'**

A spokesman for the UNFC, one of the rebel coalitions attending the talks whose 11 ethnic groups include both ceasefire signatories and non-

signatories, said the conference would be "like a grand opening ceremony". Ethnic groups will be allowed to give brief speeches, but there will be no time for follow-up debates and plans are already in the works to hold more talks every six months. One rebel leader, who asked not to be named, put it more frankly. "We will not get a solution from this conference because there will be no discussion or debate," he told AFP, adding that it will however be a rare chance to "talk openly" with the government.

Myanmar's Muslim minority Rohingya population, who are subject to state-sponsored discrimination, have never taken up arms against the state and therefore are not included in Suu Kyi's peace process. The country's diverse patchwork of ethnic groups make up a third of the population, but the government and military have long been dominated by members of the majority Bamar ethnicity. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) — also mostly Bamar-surprised observers when it won a strong support from ethnic minority voters in November's polls.

Yet distrust of the military runs deep in rebel regions where there have been many documented cases of torture, rape and forced labour by state troops. Hundreds of thousands have fled to Thailand and China, while those that remain live in communities devastated by drugs, forbidden from teaching in their own language and stigmatised for not being Buddhist. Experts say the military's limited ceasefire pact has also driven a wedge between groups that signed and those that did not. — AFP

NIGERIA'S BUHARI SAYS BOKO HARAM LEADER IS 'WOUNDED'

**ABUJA:** Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari said yesterday that Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau is "wounded", in his first comments on military claims that the jihadi leader was injured in an attack. Nigeria's armed forces said on Tuesday that Shekau had been wounded in an

air strike on Boko Haram's forest stronghold, but released no further statement or evidence confirming his condition.

"We learnt that in an air strike by the Nigeria Air Force he was wounded," Buhari said in a statement from Nairobi, where he is attending a

development conference. "Indeed their top hierarchy and lower cadre have a problem," Buhari said. "They are not holding any territory and they have split to small groups attacking soft targets."

Buhari said that Shekau had been "edged out" of the group, adding credence to claims that Islamic State (IS)-appointed Abu Musab al-Barnawi was now in charge of the insurgency. Signs of a power struggle in the top echelons of the jihadi group appeared earlier this month when Shekau released a video denying he had been ousted. Barnawi is believed to be the 22-year-old son of Boko Haram founder Mohammed Yusuf and was announced as the group's leader in August by IS.

Buhari made his remarks from Nairobi this weekend where he is attending the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, a summit designed to boost ties between Africa and Japan. The president also said he "is prepared to talk to bona fide leaders of Boko Haram" to negotiate the release of 218 Chibok girls captured by the militants in 2014. Boko Haram has ravaged northeast Nigeria in its quest to create a fundamentalist Islamic state, killing over 20,000 people and displacing 2.6 million from their homes. — AFP

CHINA NAMES NEW CHIEF FOR TIBET PARTY RESHUFFLE

**BEIJING:** China's ruling Communist Party appointed a new senior official yesterday to run Tibet, considered one of the country's most politically sensitive positions due to periodic anti-Chinese unrest in the devoutly Buddhist Himalayan region. The official Xinhua news agency named Wu Yingjie as Tibet's next party secretary. New leaders were also appointed in two other key provinces, part of a broad reshuffle ahead of an important party meeting next year.

Wu has worked almost his entire career in Tibet, according to his official resume, having previously served as a deputy governor and propaganda chief, among other roles. Wu, like his predecessor Chen Quanguo, belongs to China's majority Han Chinese ethnic group. Xinhua said Chen would be tak-

ing another position, without giving further details. Communist troops marched in and took control of Tibet in 1950 in what Beijing calls a "peaceful liberation". Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama fled to India in 1959 following a failed uprising against the Chinese. China says its rule has brought prosperity and stability, rejecting claims from Tibetan exiles and rights groups of widespread repression. Xinhua said new party bosses had also been appointed to serve in the strategically located southwestern province of Yunnan and the populous southern province of Hunan. In Yunnan, which sits of the borders of Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam, Chen Hao replaced Li Jiheng, while in Hunan, Du Jiahao has assumed the party's top job, Xinhua said. — Reuters

PAKISTAN: MILITANTS BEHIND 2009 CRICKET ATTACK KILLED

**LAHORE:** Pakistani officials said yesterday that four Islamic extremists allegedly involved in a 2009 attack on the visiting Sri Lankan cricket team were killed in a shootout with police. The attack on the cricket team killed six police and two bystanders, and wounded six cricket players. The Pakistani Taleban and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, an affiliated extremist group, claimed the attack, which was carried out by 10 gunmen.

The shootout erupted late Saturday on the edge of Lahore when other gunmen tried to break the militants out of police custody, a counterterrorism official

said. Another senior official confirmed the account. Both spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing retribution. Pakistan has stepped up its fight against extremist groups over the past two years, including with a military offensive in North Waziristan, a tribal region near the Afghan border and longtime stronghold of al-Qaida and other militants.

Yesterday, security forces raided a religious seminar on the outskirts of the southwestern city of Quetta, where a suicide bomber killed more than 70 people earlier this month, and sealed it when they found nearly 100 illegal Afghan immi-

grants residing there, provincial government spokesman Anwarul Haq said. Other such raids netted another 228 Afghans, said paramilitary spokesman Khan Wasey. It was unclear if the raids were linked to terrorism suspicions. Quetta is the capital of the southwestern Baluchistan province, which has long been the scene of a low-level insurgency by separatists groups. Islamic extremist groups also operate in the region. Six alleged recruiters for al-Qaida and the Islamic State group have been arrested in the province in recent days, according to provincial home minister Sarfraz Bugti. — AP

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## PHILIPPINE EXTREMISTS STAGE MASS JAILBREAK

**ILIGAN:** Muslim extremists carrying Islamic State group insignia have staged a daring jailbreak in the southern Philippines, freeing 28 detainees in the latest in a series of mass escapes, officials said yesterday. About 50 heavily armed members of the Maute group raided the local jail in the southern city of Marawi on Saturday, freeing eight comrades who had been arrested barely a week ago, police said. Twenty other detainees, held for other offences, also escaped in the raid, provincial police chief Senior Superintendent Augustine Tello said.

The freed members of the Maute group were arrested on August 22 after soldiers manning an army checkpoint found improvised bombs and pistols in the van they were driving. The Maute group is one of several Muslim gangs in the southern region of Mindanao, the ancestral homeland of the Muslim minority in the largely Catholic Philippines. The group has carried out kidnappings and bomb-

ings and is believed to have led an attack on an army outpost in the Mindanao town of Butig in February. The fighting there lasted a week, leaving numerous fatalities and forcing tens of thousands to flee their homes as helicopter gunships fought off the attackers.

The gunmen attacking the jail Saturday were seen carrying black flags of the Islamic State group, and bandanas bearing the jihadists' insignia were later found in their base, the military said. Authorities said they were investigating why the jail's guards did not resist the raid or why security had not been increased after high-risk suspects were brought in. The jailbreak is just the latest mass escape from poorly secured Philippine jails, with the incidents often involving Muslim extremists. In 2009, more than 100 armed men raided a jail in the strife-torn southern island of Basilan, freeing 31 prisoners, including several Muslim guerrillas. — AFP



**MARAWI CITY:** A jail guard walks past a prison cell at the provincial jail yesterday, a day after members of Maute group, a Muslim extremist inspired by the Islamic State movement, rescued their jailed colleagues. — AFP



**MANILA:** Philippine Scene of the Crime Operatives (SOCO) work at the scene where two suspects were shot dead following an encounter and shootout with police at a checkpoint along a highway in Manila yesterday. — AFP

## ADDICT RISKS EVERYTHING IN DUTERTE'S DRUG WAR

### 'IT'S SCARY BECAUSE I COULD BE NEXT'

**MANILA:** Pedicab driver Reyjin dives into a neighbor's house for a quick meth fix, fearful of taking a bullet to the head in Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's brutal war on drugs but unable to quit. More than 2,000 people have died violent deaths since Duterte took office two months ago and immediately implemented his scorched-earth plans to eradicate drugs in society, ordering police to shoot dead traffickers and urging ordinary citizens to kill addicts.

The bloodbath has seen unknown assailants kill more than half the victims, according to police statistics, raising fears that security forces and hired assassins are roaming through communities and shooting dead anyone suspected of being involved in drugs. Armed police constantly circle in Reyjin's Manila slum community, but he continues to snort the fumes of the highly addictive methamphetamine known as "shabu" that Duterte has warned is destroying the lives of millions of poor Filipinos. "It's scary because I could be next," said the gaunt, gap-toothed 28-year-old, speaking to AFP on the condition his identity not be revealed for security reasons.

The father-of-three said two masked motorcycle gunmen riding in tandem on a motorcycle had shot dead a woman who sold small amounts of drugs to him and other residents. "She was sitting in the alley when she took two bullets to the head," he said. Such riding-in-tandem murders are one of the most common forms of killings by the shadowy assassins.

#### 'Cardboard justice'

Often a piece of cardboard, with "drug peddler" or "drug addict" written on it, is placed on the

corpse. This has led to the war on crime becoming known as "cardboard justice". Meanwhile, police have reported killing 756 people they have branded drug suspects. National police chief Ronald dela Rosa has repeatedly defended his officers, insisting they only kill when their own lives are in danger. However two policemen have been charged with murder over the jailhouse deaths of a father and son, who autopsies showed to have been beaten so badly before being shot that their limbs were broken.

The United Nations, the US government and human rights groups have expressed alarm at the bloodshed, with some critics warning the Philippines is in the midst of a reign of terror as authorities act with no regard for the law. Duterte and Dela Rosa have repeatedly insisted they are acting within the boundaries of the law, while accusing their critics of siding with the drug traffickers and ignoring the devastating consequences of what they describe as a national shabu crisis. They say most of the unexplained deaths are being carried out by drug syndicates waging war on each other.

Yet on the day he was sworn into office, Duterte gave a speech to a crowd in a Manila slum in which he called on them to kill drug addicts in their own community. And in an address to a group of drug addicts who had surrendered to police last week, Dela Rosa called on them to kill their suppliers and burn down their homes. Dela Rosa later apologized for the comments, saying they were made because he was angry, but they nevertheless added to an atmosphere of a dramatic breakdown in the rule of law.

#### Resilient drug trade

In Reyjin's Manila slum, the violence and security presence has slowed the drug trade and made shabu more expensive. But lots is still available, in what could be a worrying sign for Duterte who vowed during the election campaign that he could completely wipe out the trade within six months. "If you want to buy, you just go stand there on the street and somebody will approach you," said Reyjin, who took his first hit of shabu when he was 13. "You hand over the money and he will tell you to wait and have somebody else deliver the drugs to you."

Even the shabu "dens", in which people rent out their huts for addicts to take a hit, are still operating, according to Reyjin. Reyjin said he earned about 400 pesos (\$8.50) a day, taking passengers on short pedicab trips and occasionally doing odd jobs. He said he was spending about one quarter of his earnings on shabu. It used to be a 50-peso-a-day habit, but the price of shabu had doubled because of the drug war, according to Reyjin.

Neighbors told AFP the eldest of Reyjin's three children, a grade-schooler, looked malnourished and often went to school hungry. The two other siblings looked dirty and were forced to wear hand-me-down clothes in their one-room house, they added. The neighbors said they also suspected him of stealing small items from their homes to fund his habit. Reyjin said he was aware of the toll his habit took on his family. But, even compounded by the threat of his children being orphaned in the drug war, he said he could not stop taking shabu. "Sometime I tell myself I have to stop," he said. "But my body craves it." — AFP

## INDONESIAN PRIEST INJURED IN CHURCH 'TERROR' ATTACK

**MEDAN:** A knife-wielding man stabbed a Catholic priest and tried to set off an explosive device at a church in Indonesia yesterday, police said, the latest attack on religious minorities in the mainly Muslim country. Priest Albert Pandiangan was holding a mass in the city of Medan on the western island of Sumatra when a young man approached him and stabbed him in his left arm, said local chief detective Nur Fallah. The attacker was carrying a homemade explosive device, said Fallah.

"Somebody tried to kill the priest by pretending to attend the church service and at that time tried to explode something, like a firecracker, but the firecracker didn't explode, it only fumed," Fallah told reporters. The priest suffered slight injuries and has been taken to hospital for treatment. A picture of the attacker's ID card circulating

online said he was Muslim. In recent years there have been a number of attacks on religious minorities and others in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim-majority country.

A suicide attack in the Indonesian capital in January killed four attackers and four civilians, including a Westerner, and injured 19. In July a suicide bomber linked to the Islamic State group blew himself up outside a police station in Central Java. Churchgoers yesterday quickly caught the attacker and called the police. An eyewitness, Markus Harianto Manullan, said the assailant wore a jacket and carried a bag. "He sat in the same row as I did... I saw him fiddling with something in his jacket, and then I heard a small explosion and he immediately ran to the podium," Manullan said. Police are still investigating the man's motive. — AFP



**MEDAN:** People carry an unconscious friend to an ambulance in front of a church after a would-be suicide bomber failed to detonate explosives during Sunday service. — AP

## FATHER PROUD OF AUSTRALIA BACKPACKER STAB VICTIM

**SYDNEY:** The father of a Briton fighting for his life after a deadly stabbing at an Australian backpacker hostel said yesterday he was proud of his son, who has been hailed as a hero by police. Tom Jackson, 30, suffered critical head injuries in the attack by Frenchman Smail Ayad, 29, at the hostel in Home Hill, a rural town in the north of Queensland state. Fellow Briton Mia Ayliffe-Chung, 21, died in the incident late Tuesday, while a 46-year-old Australian man had non-life threatening wounds.

"There are many and varied reasons why we are, and always will be, immensely proud of Tom," Les Jackson said in a statement released by Townsville Hospital where his son is being treated. "His actions in response to this horrific attack only add to that sense

of pride." Queensland police had said that Jackson's actions to help Ayliffe-Chung were "completely selfless... (and) led to the injuries that he now has". Ayad has been charged with the murder of Ayliffe-Chung and is also facing two counts of attempted murder for the attacks on Jackson and the Australian man. He remains in police custody, with his case adjourned until October 28.

Police had said Ayad said "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest) during the attack and again when arrested, but have also said there were no signs of radicalization. The Australian government has been increasingly concerned about extremism and in particular about home-grown radicalization, keeping the terror threat alert level at high since September 2014. — AFP

## DRUG USERS AREN'T HUMAN: DUTERTE

**MANILA:** Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, who is waging a bloody war on crime, has justified the large-scale killing of drug users by suggesting the victims were not human. Duterte, who has seen about two thousand people killed since he was elected in May, made the remarks late Friday as he shrugged off the United Nations' concerns over human rights in his country.

"Crime against humanity? In the first place, I'd like to be frank with you: Are they humans? What is your definition of a human being?" he told soldiers while visiting an army camp, according to transcripts of his speech released afterwards. "Human rights? Use it properly in the right context if you have the brains," he added. "You cannot wage a war without killing," Duterte said, adding that many drug users were beyond rehabilitation. His remarks came after various UN officials, including Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in June condemned his apparent support for extra-judicial killings.

The UN special reporter on summary executions, Agnes Callamard, said earlier this month that his directives "amount to

incitement to violence and killing, a crime under international law". Duterte's comments come after his national police chief Ronald Dela Rosa on Friday urged drug users to kill their traffickers and burn their homes. "Why don't you give them a visit, pour gasoline on their homes and set these on fire to register your anger," Dela Rosa said. He later apologized for his remarks. But Duterte defended Dela Rosa, saying "that's my style. He is following it".

Duterte also taunted the United Nations, saying "they want me to go prison? Do those idiots think I will be captured alive. My God, we will be together in hell." Earlier this week, Dela Rosa told senators that over 750 people had been killed by police in anti-drug operations while more than a thousand had been slain by shadowy figures. Since then, even more people have been killed. Duterte, 71, won May elections in a landslide on a promise to kill tens of thousands of suspected criminals to prevent the Philippines from becoming a narco-state. He has vowed to protect policemen who may be charged as part of the campaign. — AFP

## JAPAN JET RETURNS AGAIN AFTER TAKING OFF FOR US

**TOKYO:** Japan's new passenger jet yesterday aborted a test flight to the United States for the second time in two days because of an air conditioning defect, its maker said. On Saturday a

Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) left Nagoya airport in central Japan for the US but soon turned back due to air conditioning problems. The plane took off again yesterday but problems "in



**This picture taken on November 11, 2015 shows Japan's first domestically produced passenger jet, the Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ), taking off from Nagoya airport. — AFP**

the same air conditioning monitoring system" caused it to return, Mitsubishi Heavy and its subsidiary Mitsubishi Aircraft said in a joint statement.

"After the jet returned yesterday, we checked the system and changed parts. After confirming that there was no problem in a test on the ground, today we launched the flight again, but the same problem occurred," company spokesman Yuji Sawamura told AFP. The development of the MRJ, Japan's first domestically produced passenger jet for over half a century, has suffered a series of delays.

In December Mitsubishi Heavy said it was postponing delivery of the planes by one year to the second quarter of 2018 for system software upgrades and other design changes. The twin-engine MRJ marks a new chapter in the country's aviation sector, which last built a commercial airliner in 1962 — the YS-11 turboprop that was discontinued about a decade later. Japan's MRJ will compete with other regional passenger jet manufacturers such as Brazil's Embraer and Canada's Bombardier. Mitsubishi Heavy unveiled the jet-which is about 35 meters long and seats about 80 passengers-in October last year and has received more than 400 orders. — AFP





A Kashmiri man holding an umbrella fishes from a weed covered portion of the Dal Lake standing on a wooden bridge as it rains in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, yesterday. — AP

## UBER, CAREEM HALT SERVICES IN ABU DHABI

Continued from Page 1

"Until we have further clarification on the situation, Careem has decided to temporarily limit services in Abu Dhabi to avoid any inconvenience this may cause," the company said.

The Abu Dhabi government's Centre for Regulation of Transport by Hire Cars, which manages the taxi and trans-

port sector, did not respond to queries. The center oversees about seven taxi operators and 18 limousine operators, some of which are partly government owned. Officials at the Abu Dhabi Department of Transport could not be reached for comment too. The companies' operations in the Emirates' largest city of Dubai, which has a different transport regulator, were unaffected by the suspension. — Agencies

## IRAQ REQUESTS SAUDI ENVOY BE CHANGED

Continued from Page 1

He said this was happening as Iran tries to block reform efforts in Iraq and other Arab countries.

Sabhan was also quoted by the Saudi-owned Al-Arabiya news channel saying "sectarian radical groups" are behind the threats. The channel, quoting unnamed sources, alleged that Iranian-backed senior figures in Iraq's Popular Mobilization Committee are among those behind the assassination plots and that they had given the Iraqi Foreign Ministry a deadline to expel Sabhan. In the Saudi-owned Ashraq Al-Awsat newspaper, an unnamed Iraqi official was quoted as saying militias were planning to attack the ambassador's armored cars with rocket-propelled grenades.

In an interview aired on Iraqi channel Wesal TV, Aws Al-Khafaji, who heads the Iraqi militia group Abu al-Fadhl Al-Abbas, said many factions in Iraq want to target Sabhan. "If

Sabhan was killed in Iraq, any factions involved would admit it, especially because he is wanted ... We clearly stated that we do not want Sabhan in Iraq," he said, before adding that if he were assassinated, "it will be an honor and will be proudly admitted."

Sabhan, responding to messages expressing solidarity with him after the Iraqi announcement, tweeted: "I am a servant of this (Saudi) leadership which is seeking to assist the truth and the wellbeing of Muslims, may God preserve it." In the interview on Al-Arabiya, he said Saudi Arabia's policies on Iraq would not change. "We have a very amicable relationship with Iraqi politicians that the media does not depict," he added.

Sabhan, whose credentials were received in Jan 2016, became the first Saudi ambassador to Iraq in a quarter century, after relations were cut following ex-president Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait. — Agencies

## TURKEY RAMPS UP SYRIA OFFENSIVE

Continued from Page 1

focused on second city Aleppo, which is roughly divided between rebel forces and President Bashar al-Assad's troops.

Global powers have been pushing for 48-hour humanitarian ceasefires in the embattled city and UN Syria envoy Staffan de Mistura has urged warring parties to announce by yesterday whether they will commit to a pause in the fighting. The UN says it has "pre-positioned" aid to go to the city for some 80,000 people. Russia, which backs Assad's forces, has endorsed the proposal. But some rebel groups have rejected the plan unless aid passes through opposition-held areas and the ceasefire

applies to other areas of Syria under siege.

Opposition groups have repeatedly called for an end to regime sieges of rebel-held areas, accusing Assad's government of using "starve or surrender" tactics. On Saturday, the last rebel fighters were evacuated from the town of Daraya just outside Damascus, under a deal that followed a brutal four-year government siege. Hundreds of fighters and their families were bused north into rebel-held territory in Idlib province, with other civilians transferred to government territory near Damascus for resettlement. The Syrian army said it was in complete control of the town, from which roughly 8,000 civilians were due to be evacuated. — AFP

## QATAR SECURITY GUARD IN THE RACE OF HIS LIFE

Continued from Page 1

"He is talented and I think he could achieve his dream as a 1,500metre/5,000m runner," says former athlete Liz McColgan who with her husband, John Nuttall, founded and runs the Doha Athletics Club (DAC). The couple help Ongeri train twice a week.

And as a former 10,000m world champion, silver medallist at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and winner of the New York and London Marathons whose husband competed in the 1996 Olympics and whose daughter just ran in the 5,000m final in Rio, McColgan's opinion carries weight. "He has a really good running style so I could see him being a better track runner," says McColgan who has been based in Qatar for the past two-and-a-half years. "I met Michael when he sent me an email to the DAC website but I had seen him training alone at the park where we train, as it was unusual to see someone running so fast on his own," says McColgan.

On the night AFP watches him train, Ongeri is surrounded by younger members of the club as Nuttall barks out instructions. "Come on Michael! Stop being so lazy!" he jokes as the security guard speeds at a pace that marks him out from the other runners. "Madame Liz", as Ongeri calls McColgan, worries that any hopes he has of competing professionally could be scuppered

by his lack of time to train. "Unfortunately he works ridiculous hours so can only run once a day," she says. "If he wanted to race internationally you need twice a day."

Ongeri grew up poor in Kenya's Nyanza Province and always loved running. But as the oldest son of five siblings, his duty was to his family, not his passion. "My background wasn't good, I faced hardship. I had to feed my family," he says. He ended up working on the same farm as his father and mother but word of a job in Qatar offered a chance to earn more money and to run as well. To secure his passage to the Gulf he paid an agent around \$1,000 - cash he did not have but borrowed from an Italian boss at a shop where he worked in Kenya.

Three years on and he has just repaid the loan and with the cash he sends to his family Ongeri survives in Doha on around \$100 each month. "Of course, now everybody (back home) is looking at me - 'Please, I need this. Please I need that.' It's difficult, Doha is a very expensive place." As the temperature finally dips below 40 degrees C, Ongeri has an hour's running behind him and a three kilometre walk home ahead. It may be a short distance from Aspire Park to Khalifa Stadium but would represent a lifetime's ambition if Ongeri one day ends up running there. "This is my dream, I will make it," he says. — AFP

## GOVT TO SETTLE HOSPITAL BILLS AMID TREATMENT...

Continued from Page 1

The total amount of monthly allocations sent to patients abroad is KD 40 million, after being approved by a joint committee from the health and finance ministries. KD 300 million has been spent on treatment abroad during the period between Jan 1 and Aug 15, 2016, while KD 550 million was spent last year, Al-Qabas daily reported last week, adding that more than 12,000 citizens are sent for treatment abroad through the health ministry. The government had approved only KD 150 million for treatment abroad in the 2016/2017 fiscal year's budget as part of austerity measures taken to offset the effects of a

deficit as a result of a drop in oil prices.

Meanwhile, the head of Kuwait's health office in Paris Dr Fahd Al-Rashidi refuted news reports on social media that claimed that the office has been closed, stressing that the office is still serving Kuwaiti citizens in Paris. The office's doors are open to all Kuwaiti patients undergoing treatment in France, Rashidi told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) yesterday, expressing his thanks to the Kuwaiti Embassy in Paris for its relentless efforts. Furthermore, he said that the office has expanded its cooperation with French medical institutions in 13 different French cities to ensure better services for Kuwaiti patients.

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## Focus

BRAZIL'S TEMER  
BESET BY RISKS

By Damian Wroclavsky

Michel Temer expects to become Brazil's full president if his rival Dilma Rousseff gets impeached this week. If he trips up, the country will fall deeper into crisis, analysts warn. Here are some of the economic, political, social and legal challenges facing him if he secures the job of dragging Latin America's biggest economy out of recession.

## Political Minefield

Center-right PMDB party leader Temer, 75, was leftist Rousseff's vice-president and stepped up to replace her during the impeachment process. The Senate is widely expected to vote to remove her from office next week. Temer would then have to avoid Rousseff's fate of falling prey to internal political divisions. "Temer is supported by conservative sectors and saw an opportunity to become president. But he has a conciliatory style," said Roberto Requião, a PMDB senator who opposes the impeachment.

Temer is planning business-friendly economic reforms but Requião said he is not as economically liberal on certain issues as some of his right-wing allies. "If he does not carry out that radical program, he will not resist the demands of those conservative groups. And if he does, another crisis will break out."



Michel Temer

Kawall, an economist and former head of the Brazilian treasury. "The key is structural changes. If he doesn't achieve them, we will enter an even deeper crisis."

## Social Protests

With his all-male, all-white cabinet, Temer is seen as an establishment figure. Rousseff's Workers' Party (PT) is fighting to mobilize unions and protest groups in its favor, defending its record of generous welfare spending. "Economic cuts will mean less funding for the social movements that were very close to power under the PT governments. Now they may regroup," said Luiz Alberto de Souza, a sociologist at Candido Mendes University in Rio de Janeiro. Kawall added: "When there are reforms, the labor unions will mobilize."

## Corruption Stain

Senior figures in Temer's political camp, as well as Rousseff's, are implicated in a scandal over corruption in state oil firm Petrobras. Three of the ministers in Temer's interim government resigned after being implicated. Some suspects mentioned Temer's own name in plea bargains. He is not being formally investigated in the case, though separately the courts are probing allegations of campaign finance irregularities against him. "The government has no margin for error. They have to be very, very careful," said Ramon Aracena, chief economist for Latin America at the Institute of International Finance. "The Petrobras corruption scandal is still lingering. That's a risk." — AFP

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## TRUMP'S WALL PLAN UNREALISTIC AND USELESS

By Sebastien Blanc

Even as Donald Trump vacillates between toning down his harsh anti-immigrant rhetoric and reaching out to minorities, he remains unshakable on one central campaign promise: Building a wall on America's southern border with Mexico. "We are going to build a great border wall to stop illegal immigration, to stop the gangs and the violence, and to stop the drugs from pouring into our communities," the Republican presidential candidate said as he accepted his party's nomination last month.

It's an idea experts say is as useless as it is unrealistic. Though that has hardly given Trump pause. "I will build the greatest wall that you have ever seen," he elaborated at a recent rally. "That's a Trump wall, a beautiful wall!" "And who's going to pay for it?" he asks at his events. "Mexico!" his energized supporters roared back. Trump says his success as a construction magnate guarantees he can build such a wall but has provided few details.

The 3,200-km US-Mexico border runs from

the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, crossing arid, sparsely populated territory as well as urban centers thick with inhabitants. After initially promising to build a new barrier running the entire length of the border, Trump now says only half actually needs to be covered because the physical terrain acts as a natural barrier along the rest. But if he's clear about the length, what about the height? Trump has variously mentioned 35 feet (10.5 m), 40 feet, 55 feet and even 90 feet.

"The wall just got 10 feet higher!" he's said when Mexican officials repeated that their country has no intention of paying a dime. He is just as vague about the cost - \$4 billion, then "six or seven" billion, "probably eight," and "10, maybe 12," before finally settling at "around \$10 billion." However, architects and engineers dismiss that figure as entirely unrealistic given even the minimum predictable costs.

## Concrete, Steel... Solid!

Trump's plan calls for prefabricated concrete panels reinforced with steel rods, heavy materials that present immense logistical chal-

lenges: Paving roads for access, building multiple sites for pouring concrete and hiring armies of workers over several years. The wall would require foundations deep enough to ensure stability and discourage tunneling. A 40-foot concrete wall using a "post and panel" system sunk 10 feet below ground would cost at least \$26 billion, according to the Texan wall expert Todd Sternfeld.

Trump dismisses such figures, however, pointing to China's ancient, 13,000-mile-long Great Wall. "They didn't have cranes. They didn't have excavation equipment," he says. "We need 1,000 miles and we have all of the materials." Key differences that make the comparison irrelevant go unmentioned - that China's wall consists of separate parts built over centuries at a human cost that's unthinkable today. Obstacles in the way of the Great Wall of Trump, as he's called it, don't stop there. In the vast American South, border areas are often private property. Securing the land for a wall would require multiple expropriation procedures and legal headaches. It has been tried before. The border already is bristling with bar-

riers and fences, much of it built through the \$2.4 billion Secure Fence Act signed by former president George W Bush in 2006.

## 30 Foot Wall, 31 Foot Ladders

The Rio Grande River, which forms the border between Mexico and Texas, presents another major obstacle. Laws prohibit construction that would impede flood management or interfere with the sharing of resources. A treaty meanwhile prohibits either countries from diverting any flow of water. But beyond the multitude of intractable obstacles facing a Trump wall, its basic sense remains highly questionable. "If you build a 30-foot wall," the comedian John Oliver has said, "all it's going to do is create a market for 31-foot ladders."

Critics point out that drug traffickers have found ways of transporting their products over or under border barriers whatever their size. Moreover, as a 2006 study by the Pew Hispanic Center found, nearly half of illegal immigrants in the United States enter through classic entry points such as airports before simply staying on their expired visas. — AFP

## A HARDBOILED (AND FICTIONAL) COP KEEPS WATCH

By Tim Sullivan

The hero, a police inspector, prowls a city known more for its political malevolence than its street crime. If you read the local newspapers, you could think it's a city with almost no crime at all. There have been no murders reported there for years, no bank robberies, no muggings, no rapes. The city is Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, which has long hidden so many realities beneath layers of propaganda and isolation.

The hero is Inspector O, a policeman who knows those realities. And so, in many ways, does the policeman's creator, the bearded man in the crowded Manhattan restaurant who calls himself James Church. Church doesn't want you to know his real name, his nationality or the name of the organization where he worked for so many years. All he'll say is that he was raised in California, that he spent decades watching North Korea as an intelligence officer for a Western country, and that he traveled there dozens of times.

Church has also, in novels about a tormented Pyongyang police inspector who loves his country despite its many failings, found a way to write about the country he studied for so long. Inspector O - his first name is never given; his surname is common in Korea - is a hard-boiled, old-school investigator, a Raymond Chandler character trying to do the right thing in a brutal world. But he is also quick to defend that world, especially when outsiders criticize it.

"We know how the world sees us," he tells a Swiss intelligence official in "Bamboo and Blood," the third Inspector O novel. "But we are not as weak as people think - or hope." Inspector O is "a good, solid police detective who just wants to do his work," said Church, whose sixth book in the series, "The Gentleman from Japan," will be released late this year. "He really doesn't care about politics. He knows it gets in the way, that it's annoying. He knows that sometimes he has to bow to it."

But O still refuses to wear one of the small lapel pins, decorated with portraits of North Korea's leaders that are ubiquitous in the country. Church's books often center around outsiders - an Israeli spy, a Scottish policeman, that Swiss intelligence guy - thrust into a North Korea they constantly misunderstand. "I couldn't pretend that I was writing from the inside. I couldn't pretend that I was a North Korean," said Church, whose first Inspector O novel was released a decade ago, and whose work has been warmly received by critics.

Now retired from government work, he was in New York recently for a visit. "What interested me was the point at which the North Korean reality and our reality meet. Because I have a lot of experience with that, and that's where it illuminates what they think."

## Cliches

The world has spent years misunderstanding the North Korean reality, Church says, reducing it to clichés of goose-stepping soldiers, brain-washed people, and dictators waiting for the chance to reduce the world to a smoldering, radioactive pulp. But much of what Inspector O encounters would be familiar anywhere. Church's North Korea is a place of squabbling relatives, office bullies, bureaucratic turf wars and bitter spouses. It's a place where most people quietly go along with the government, but a few find ways to quietly push back. It's a place where politics is a constant presence, something to be extremely wary of, but where most peo-

ple are more worried about office politics or troublesome children.

"We've seen time after time, when authoritarian countries fall, that people pretty much live normal lives," he said. "Some aspects of life are exaggerated in North Korea in many ways. But I think that when the end finally comes and we understand more fully how people live their lives, we'll be surprised."

Still, North Koreans do face myriad dangers, from arrests by the country's web of security agencies to powerful bureaucrats who can upend a person's life in a moment. "There are always storm clouds on the horizon," said Church. "There is a thunderstorm that could break at any moment." O regularly hints at those storms. "We all knew that we were drifting, and we knew where," the policeman reflects in "Bamboo and Blood," which takes place during North Korea's brutal mid-1990s famine. "A nation of shriveled leaves floating on a doomed river toward the falls. A winter of endless sorrow."



In this June 29, 2016 photo, an author and former intelligence official, who uses the name James Church in public, works on his laptop in a New York park. — AP



## INJURED SCHUERRLE OUT FOR FIRST GERMANY QUALIFIER

**BERLIN:** A back problem has ruled winger Andre Schuerrle out of Germany's friendly against Finland and their opening 2018 World Cup qualifier away to Norway. The 25-year-old Schuerrle was outstanding in creating Borussia Dortmund's first goal, then won the penalty which Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang converted, in Saturday's 2-1 home win over Mainz in opening their Bundesliga campaign. But the performance has come at a cost as Schuerrle will sit out Wednesday's friendly in Moenchengladbach, which will be midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger's final international match, and the World Cup qualifier in Oslo next Sunday, the German FA (DFB) confirmed. "I took a blow, which really affected my back," Schuerrle told German magazine Kicker on Saturday, before his withdrawal was announced. The friendly against Finland will be Schweinsteiger's 121st and final Germany appearance, having announced his retirement earlier this month. The 32-year-old has been exiled from the Manchester United first-team squad by new head coach Jose Mourinho and banished to the reserves, but the ex-Bayern Munich star said last Wednesday that he has no plans to leave Old Trafford. Head coach Joachim Loew is expected to name Schweinsteiger's replacement in Monday's press conference. Manuel Neuer, who captained Germany in the five of their six Euro 2016 matches which Schweinsteiger started on the bench, is set to inherit the skipper's armband on a permanent basis. —AFP



**NEW YORK:** Serena Williams speaks during a media availability for the US Open at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Friday, in New York. —AP

## SERENA SHOULDERS BURDEN OF HISTORY AT US OPEN

**NEW YORK:** Serena Williams once again arrives at Flushing Meadows poised to rewrite the tennis record books—if her own troublesome right shoulder and increasingly emboldened rivals allow. The 34-year-old US superstar matched Steffi Graf's Open Era record of 22 Grand Slam singles titles with her triumph at Wimbledon in July. With a seventh US Open triumph she can break Graf's record, and continue her march toward Australian Margaret Court's all-time mark of 24 Grand Slam titles.

She could also break Graf's record of 186 consecutive weeks atop the world rankings, and surpass Chris Evert for most US Open singles titles won in the Open Era.

But after seeing a frustrating year go by between her 21st Grand Slam win and No. 22, Williams said she'd learned to let history take care of itself. "At this point, I'm taking it a day at a time," Williams said. "I just am more relaxed, for sure."

A straight-sets win over Angelique Kerber in the Wimbledon final may have eased some of the pressure Williams was feeling, but it's been far from smooth sailing since.

Her bid to retain her Olympic singles title ended in Rio de Janeiro when she was sent crashing out of the third round by Elina Svitolina. Williams was clearly hindered by the shoulder injury that had forced her out of the Montreal WTA tournament as she served up eight double faults and 37 unforced errors in the straight-sets defeat.

She then withdrew from her WTA title defence in Cincinnati, still struggling with painful shoulder inflammation.

"I think usually I prefer to play more coming into the final Grand Slam of the year," Williams acknowledged. "But there is nothing we can do about it. You just have to make the best of every single opportunity. That's all I can do now."

### KERBER CLOSING IN

Williams faces a tricky opening encounter against experienced Russian Ekaterina Makarova. She could find fifth-seeded Romanian Simona Halep waiting

in the quarters and elder sister Venus, the sixth seed, in the semis.

Germany's Kerber, who defeated Williams in the Australian Open final in January, is just one of the players with a chance to seize the number one ranking if Williams falters. Kerber, 28, also boasts a title at Stuttgart, an Olympic silver medal and finals appearances at Brisbane in January and this month in Cincinnati—where she missed her first chance to supplant Williams atop the rankings. Being viewed as a legitimate threat to Williams, Kerber said, "is really special." "Because Serena is one of the best players and athletes in the world," she said.

Far from feeling stressed by the chance to topple Williams, Kerber said she is thriving on the race for number one.

"I love this question, I love it," Kerber said. "The pressure for sure is maybe a little bit higher, but if I'm not doing the pressure on myself, everything is fine."

Third-seeded Spaniard Garbine Muguruza also has a shot at the top, although the 22-year-old who stunned Williams in the French Open final will need her best US Open ever to do so.

In three main-draw appearances she has won just one match. Turning around her Flushing Meadows fortunes would further her aim of establishing herself as more than "the girl that beat Serena" at Roland Garros. Fourth-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland also has an outside chance at the world number one ranking if she can claim her first Grand Slam title. Notable absentees include 2015 champion Flavia Pennetta, who retired at the end of last year, Victoria Azarenka who is pregnant and former champion Maria Sharapova who is serving a doping suspension.

Venus Williams, whose seven Grand Slam titles include two US Opens, is among a handful of former champions among the seeds including 2004 winner Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia and 2011 champ Samantha Stosur of Australia.

"There are a lot of good players right now," Kerber said. "Let's see how Serena will play here. Let's see how the others will play. It's a new day, new tournament, new matches—so let's see." —AFP

Moya and Riccardo Piatti.

"Milos has two coaches. I came in an advisory role before Wimbledon. He's got a great team around him," McEnroe said in an ESPN conference call.

"I think it's best and easiest at this point, this week I was with him, but having thought about it, and for Milos' sake, for ESPN and my sake, I think it's best that we stop right now.

"So when the US Open starts today, he's got his people. I'm pulling for him and want him to do well. But it's best to sort of separate at this stage. It will just make life easier for everyone." Raonic starts his US Open campaign tomorrow against Germany's Dustin Brown. —AFP

## FRENCH BAN TOP WOMEN PLAYERS OVER OLYMPIC ROW

**PARIS:** The French Tennis Federation yesterday slapped a ban on the country's top women players following 'unacceptable' conduct at the Rio Olympics. If the temporary ban is upheld Caroline Garcia, the French number one, and Kristina Mladenovic, the number two, will miss the final of the Fed Cup against the Czech Republic in November. The conduct of the women as well as male teammate Benoit Paire was "unacceptable and merits an appropriate response," the federation said, announcing that a final decision will be released on September 24. In the interim the two women, the reigning French Open doubles champions, as well as Paire, will forfeit financial aid and selection to represent their country. Mladenovic is accused of publicly criticising the federation following her defeat in the Olympic doubles tournament in which she teamed up with Garcia. She said in a tweet the federation failed to tell the players about tournament rules whereby they had to wear the same colours on court, forcing Garcia into a last-minute change of kit borrowed from her teammate. Paire was kicked out of the French Olympic team by national coach Arnaud Di Pasquale over allegations of poor conduct in Rio including lengthy absences from the Olympic village. —AFP

## INFANTINO SAYS FIFA SALARY LESS THAN \$2M

**GENEVA:** FIFA president Gianni Infantino said in an interview published yesterday that he will make less than two million Swiss francs a year, well below the salary of his disgraced predecessor, Sepp Blatter. Infantino has not yet agreed to terms with FIFA but speaking to Switzerland's Blick newspaper, he said his salary "will be less than the two million francs (\$2 million, 1.8 million euros) people have speculated about." Blatter, who was mired in scandal before being banned from FIFA, made \$3.6 million in 2015. Infantino described past dealings with FIFA's compensation committee as "insulting" and "completely arbitrary." During the first two months of Infantino's tenure, which began in February, the compensation committee included former FIFA audit and compliance chief Domenico Scala, who has emerged as a fierce critic of world football's new president. Scala dramatically quit FIFA in May, accusing Infantino of trying to compromise the organisation's independent committees and acting with an authoritarian streak. Infantino said his pay could be finalised when the compensation committee meets again, with Scala no longer in the picture. Reflecting on earlier negotiations when Scala was involved, the FIFA chief said: "I expected to talk to these people about my salary based on guidelines and defined processes and not to face a fait accompli by Mr. Scala without a discussion." A FIFA inquiry last month cleared Infantino after investigating him over his use of private jets, personal expenses, hiring methods and the salary dispute. —AFP



## RADWANSKA BEAT SVITOLINA TO TAKE CONNECTICUT OPEN TITLE

**NEW HAVEN:** Top-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska completed a dominating week at the Connecticut Open yesterday, beating Elina Svitolina 6-1, 7-6 (3) in the final then spraying her coaches and friends with champagne.

The Polish star didn't drop a set during the tournament, her 19th WTA championship. She took control of the final from the start, winning 20 of the first 27 points, jumping out to a 5-0 lead.

She ran the 21-year-old Ukrainian all over the court, chasing down shots and placing her own with pinpoint accuracy. Svitolina held off two set points in the sixth game, but Radwanska was able to serve out the set in 29 minutes.

"I was really feeling good this week," Radwanska said. "Everything was working. I was feeling very confident on that court."

The second set was much closer. It included three service breaks for each player and a 37-shot rally in the ninth game. Radwanska broke serve in that game to go up 5-4 and seemed to be in control, especially after Svitolina turned her ankle chasing a lob shot.

But the 10th seed rallied, breaking back and going up 6-5. Radwanska saved two set points to force the tiebreaker, and took five of the last six points to win it.

Svitolina committed 36 unforced errors, including a backhand into the net to end the match. "Set points, they come and go in five seconds," Svitolina said. "She served two big serves. She placed it really well."

Radwanska had never before made it past the quarterfinals in New Haven, but had a relatively easy trip this year that included a first round bye and straight set wins over Jelena Ostapenko of Latvia, lucky loser Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium and a 6-1, 6-1 semifinal victory over two-time champion Petra Kvitova.

She becomes the first top seed to win since Caroline Wozniacki did it in 2011. The title is Radwanska's second this season after taking the Shenzhen Open in China in January.

She takes home just over \$130,000 for winning in Connecticut, but also earned enough points to clinch the US Open Series bonus challenge. That means a chance for up to an extra \$1 million, depending on her finish in New York next week, where she will be the No. 4 seed.

"So now it's everything in my power to do good in the U.S. Open," she said with a big grin. "It will be worth it, right?"

Svitolina, who beat Serena Williams in the third round at the Olympics, is now 4-1 in WTA finals, but this was her first at a Premier level event. She was playing this tournament for the fourth time and had never before made it out of the first round.

She said it was a disappointing first set, but an otherwise encouraging week. "There is no time to be sad because US Open is just today," she said. —AP



**NEW HAVEN:** Agnieszka Radwanska, of Poland, celebrates after defeating Elina Svitolina, of Ukraine, 6-1, 7-6 (3) in the final match of the Connecticut Open tennis tournament in New Haven, Conn., on Saturday. —AP

## 'BEST YET' MURRAY POISED TO POUNCE AT US OPEN

**NEW YORK:** Andy Murray admits he's playing his best ever tennis as he looks to capitalise on the growing frailties of his rivals and capture a second US Open title. Ahead of today's start to the season's final Grand Slam, the 29-year-old is the sport's man of the moment.

Since losing the French Open final to Novak Djokovic in June, Murray has won Queen's Club, a second Wimbledon title and successfully defended his Olympic crown in Rio. His career-best 22-match win streak came to a halt at the hands of Marin Cilic in the Cincinnati final last weekend when he simply ran out of gas.

But that hasn't dented his confidence that he can claim a second US Open, four years after his breakthrough in New York saw him become the first British man in 76 years to win a Grand Slam title.

At 29, three-time major winner Murray admits he is taking positives from being in the twilight of his career.

"You have to make the most of every opportunity. It's a slightly different mentality to maybe when you're younger and you feel like you have a bit more time on your side," said Murray.

Murray has played in all of the first three finals of the majors in 2016, losing to world number one Djokovic in Melbourne and Paris before defeating Milos Raonic in straight sets in the Wimbledon final.

The only worry for Murray is his rela-

tively mediocre recent record in New York—runs to the quarter-finals in 2013 and 2014 were followed by a fourth-round exit to Kevin Anderson 12 months ago.

Murray starts his campaign against fiery Lukas Rosol. The last time they met in Munich in 2015, the Scot described the Czech as the most-hated man in the sport.

Murray's consistency on the tour in recent weeks is in stark contrast to the rollercoaster fortunes of Djokovic, the defending champion in New York.

After he won a maiden French Open to complete the career Grand Slam, all talk was of the Serb going on to defend his Wimbledon and US Open titles and clinch a calendar Grand Slam.

### DJOKOVIC BURDEN

That's a feat so rare that only two men have ever achieved it with Rod Laver the most recent in 1969.

The expectations proved too heavy a burden when the 12-time major winner was dumped out of Wimbledon in the third round for his earliest loss at a major in seven years.

Although he then won a record 30th Masters trophy in Toronto, a shock first-round defeat at the Olympics to Juan Martin del Potro and a withdrawal from Cincinnati with a wrist injury suggested all is not well with the 2011 and 2015 US Open winner. "I am not 100 percent. Hopefully on Monday, when it all starts, I will be there," said Djokovic who faces big-serving Jerzy Janowicz of Poland in his opener.

"The wrist has not been ideal for three weeks. There are different methods of healing. One involved electricity treatment to enhance the recovery process."

Outside of the top two, five-time champion Roger Federer, who has played every US Open since 2000, called time on his season after a five-set semi-final defeat to Raonic at Wimbledon. The 35-year-old aggravated a knee injury in that loss.

Fellow old-stager Rafael Nadal, the 2010 and 2013 US Open champion, won gold in doubles at the Rio Olympics but lost the singles bronze medal play-off to Kei Nishikori. —AFP

## MCENROE CALLS HALT TO COACHING RAONIC

**NEW YORK:** US tennis legend John McEnroe on Saturday called a halt to his coaching work with Milos Raonic, claiming "it will make life easier" despite helping the Canadian to the Wimbledon final last month.

McEnroe made his announcement just two days out from the start of the US Open, the season's final Grand Slam event where world number six Raonic is ranked as a potential title winner.

Raonic, defeated by Andy Murray in the Wimbledon final, only started working with McEnroe for the grass court season but the two men then decided to extend their agreement.

The 25-year-old will continue to work with full-time coaches Carlos



**NEW YORK:** Reigning US Open tennis champions Flavia Pennetta, left and Novak Djokovic, pose with their trophies during a media availability at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Friday, in New York. —AP



# SEAGER SETS SHORTSTOP RECORD AS DODGERS DOWN CUBS 3-2

**LOS ANGELES:** Julio Urias allowed one run over six innings, Corey Seager set a Dodgers franchise record for a shortstop with his 23rd home run and Los Angeles beat the Chicago Cubs 3-2 on Saturday to even the series between NL division leaders. Urias (5-2) pitched better at home than the last time he faced the Cubs. The rookie left-hander made his second career start in Chicago on June 2 and gave up six runs - five earned - and eight hits in five innings while serving up three homers. This time, he allowed six hits and tied a career high with eight strikeouts and two walks. He is 4-0 in six games (four starts) since the All-Star break. Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 38th save a day after allowing a run on a wild pitch in the ninth in a 6-4, 10-inning loss. The Cubs' four-game winning streak ended behind the shortest outing of the season from Jason Hammel (13-7). He gave up three runs and five hits in 2 1/3 innings. Los Angeles increased its NL West lead to two games over San Francisco.

### BRAVES 3, GIANTS 1

Matt Kemp hit a three-run homer and Mike Foltynewicz pitched 7 2/3 strong innings, leading Atlanta past San Francisco. Foltynewicz (7-4) struck out six and allowed five hits and a walk. His only mistake came in the second inning, when Brandon Crawford socked an 0-1 fastball for his 12th homer. San Francisco fell to 13-26 since the All-Star break, the worst record in the majors over that stretch. Kemp hit his homer in the fourth to make it 3-1 against emergency starter Albert Suarez (3-2). Suarez was called up from Triple-A Sacramento to start in place of Jake Peavy, who was placed on the 15-day disabled list with a lower back strain. Jim Johnson pitched a perfect ninth for his 13th save.

### YANKEES 13, ORIOLES 5

Rookie Gary Sanchez kept up a most remarkable run, homering for the third straight game to help New York rout Baltimore. Sanchez hit a drive that bounced off the top of the right-center field wall and over in the fourth inning. He reached 11 career home runs faster than anyone in major league history - 23 games, including two hitless games last year. After the switch-hitting catcher connected, the crowd of 38,843 emphatically chanted his name. Mark Teixeira stepped out of the batter's box, pausing the game and allowing the 23-year-old to tip his batting helmet to the fans from the top of the dugout steps. Starlin Castro and Aaron Hicks also homered as the Yankees won their fourth in a row. A day after trouncing the Orioles 14-4, New York moved within 2 1/2 games of them for the second AL wild-card spot. Chris Davis homered twice and Mark Trumbo hit his big league-leading 39th home run for Baltimore. The Orioles have lost three straight. Tommy Layne (1-1) pitched a scoreless inning for the win. Dylan Bundy (7-5) was the loser.

### RED SOX 8, ROYALS 3

Dustin Pedroia had four hits to extend his streak to 11 at-bats before bouncing into a double play with a chance to tie the major league record and Boston beat Kansas City. Pedroia's streak, which stretched over three games, ended in the eighth inning. Johnny Kling of the Cubs set the record of 12 in 1902, Pinky Higgins of the Red Sox matched it in 1938, and Detroit's Walt Dropo accomplished the feat in 1952. Xander Bogaerts homered and drove in three runs, and Mookie Betts and Hanley Ramirez hit consecutive homers for Boston. David Price (13-8) won his fourth straight start, giving up two runs in six innings. Danny Duffy (11-2) was the loser, ending a personal 10-game winning streak. Salvador Perez hit two solo homers for the Royals.

### ROCKIES 9, NATIONALS 4, 11 INNINGS

Charlie Blackmon hit two home runs, including the go-ahead shot in the 11th inning, and Colorado beat Washington to snap a four-game losing streak. NL MVP Bryce Harper was ejected in the 10th after getting called out on strikes. The Nationals star yelled at plate umpire Mike Winters and threw his helmet to the ground after being tossed. Blackmon connected in the third off starter A.J. Cole, then hit a two-run drive off Yusmeiro Petit (3-4). Blackmon has 23 home runs this season and five multihomer games. Carlos Gonzalez also



**LOS ANGELES:** Los Angeles Dodgers' Andrew Toles, bottom, dives back to second as Chicago Cubs shortstop Addison Russell jumps to catch the ball thrown from home during the third inning of a baseball game, Saturday, in Los Angeles. —AP

hit a two-run homer off Petit, his 24th of the season and 200th of his career. Jake McGee (1-3) pitched a perfect 10th that included striking out Harper. Rockies second baseman DJ LeMahieu went 3 for 5 to pass the Nationals' Daniel Murphy for the NL batting lead.

### METS 12, PHILLIES 1

Yoenis Cespedes hit a three-run homer, Kelly Johnson had a pinch-hit grand slam and Noah Syndergaard pitched two-hit ball over seven innings to help New York rout Philadelphia. Asdrubal Cabrera homered for the third time in two games, a two-run drive that put New York ahead against Jeremy Hellickson (10-8). Neil Walker added his 23rd of the season to match a career high, giving the Mets four homers for the second consecutive night in a blowout of Philadelphia. Alejandro De Aza added a two-run double for the Mets. They have won six of seven as they attempt to make a charge in the bunched-up NL wild-card chase. Syndergaard (12-7) chipped in with a long double and won his third straight start. The only damage against him came on Freddy Galvis' homer in the third.

### ANGELS 3, TIGERS 2

Detroit stars Victor Martinez and J.D. Martinez were ejected, along with manager Brad Ausmus and hitting coach Wally Joyner in a series of balls-and-strikes disputes as the Tigers' five-game winning streak ended in a loss to Los Angeles. Kaleb Cowart hit his second career home run and C.J. Cron added an RBI single for the Angels. Victor Martinez argued with plate umpire Mike Everitt after taking strike one in the third inning. Martinez was tossed after about 30 seconds, then put his hands behind his back to continue the debate. He later flipped his helmet onto the field from the bench. After Ian Kinsler struck out looking in the fifth, Joyner was ejected from the dugout by Everitt. Joyner came out to argue, Ausmus followed and was tossed, too. In the sixth, J.D. Martinez was called out, looked back at Everitt and was ejected.

Jhoulys Chacin (4-6) threw four scoreless innings and struck out five for the win. Fernando Salas closed for his fifth save. Rookie Michael Fulmer (10-5) gave up three runs in the third.

### RANGERS 7, INDIANS 0

Mitch Moreland's grand slam capped a bizarre, five-run first inning for Texas and A.J. Griffin pitched six strong innings in the victory over Cleveland. Griffin (6-3) allowed five hits while winning for the first time since Aug. 4. In making his first scoreless start of the season, Griffin didn't allow a home run for the first time in 12 starts. Carlos Carrasco (9-7) allowed seven runs - four unearned in the first - and eight hits in four innings while striking out eight. Ian Desmond and Carlos Beltran singled with one out and moved up a base on Carrasco's balk. On Adrian Beltre's sharp grounder to third, Desmond dove back and beat Jose Ramirez's tag to load the bases. Rougned Odor's hard grounder to first bounced off Carlos Santana's glove for a run-scoring error and Moreland followed with his second career slam.

### BLUE JAYS 8, TWINS 7

Melvin Upton Jr. hit an RBI triple and continued home on a misplay in the eighth inning, completing AL East-leading Toronto's rally from a five-run deficit. Edwin Encarnacion homered and had three RBIs to help Toronto hand Minnesota its ninth straight loss. The Blue Jays trailed 7-6 in the eighth when Kevin Pillar doubled with one out off Ryan Pressly (6-6). Upton followed with a triple past a diving Max Kepler in right. Kepler fumbled the ball as he chased it down by the wall, allowing Upton to score standing up as a sellout crowd of 47,485 cheered wildly. Jason Grilli (5-3) worked one inning for the win and Roberto Osuna finished for his 29th save. Minnesota led 5-0 before the Blue Jays began their comeback. Encarnacion hit his 36th homer and leads the AL with 105 RBIs. Minnesota's Trevor Plouffe homered for the second straight game.

### ATHLETICS 3, CARDINALS 2

Khris Davis hustled home on an infield grounder in the eighth inning and Oakland rallied for two runs to beat St. Louis. The Cardinals fell to 1-8 in interleague games at Busch Stadium this season. Oakland trailed 2-1 in the eighth when Davis singled with one out against Matt Bowman (2-5) and Ryon Healy doubled, extending the longest active hitting streak in the majors to 13 games. Seung Hwan Oh relieved and Max Muncy hit a grounder that Brandon Moss stopped with a dive, but Davis scored the tying run. Brett Eibner followed with a sacrifice fly. Zach Neal (2-4) pitched a career-best six innings. Oakland pitchers held the Cardinals without a hit after the fourth inning, retiring the last 17 batters. Daniel Coulombe (2-1) and Liam Hendriks combined for two perfect innings to set up Ryan Madson who pitched a perfect ninth inning for his 26th save.

### REDS 13, DIAMONDBACKS 0

Anthony DeSclafani threw a four-hitter and Scott Schebler homered twice in Cincinnati's blowout victory over Arizona. DeSclafani (8-2) had nine strikeouts and a walk, needing 108 pitches to throw the first complete game of his career. Joey Votto and Schebler homered during a four-run first inning and Schebler connected again in a five-run second, all against Zack Godley (4-3). Schebler had a career-high five RBIs and three hits in the first multihomer game of his career. Zack Cozart hit his 16th homer in the fourth inning, and Adam Duval got his 29th homer in the eighth.

### WHITE SOX 9, MARINERS 3

Jose Abreu hit the first of Chicago's four runs, and Jose Quintana threw 7 2/3 solid innings in the White Sox's victory over Seattle. Avisail Garcia and Alex Avila hit consecutive homers during a four-run fifth and Tyler Saladino added a two-run shot in the seventh, all off struggling reliever Vidal Nuno. Abreu extended his hitting streak to 10 games and his on-base streak to 23 with a solo shot in a two-run first against Ariel Miranda (1-1).

Quintana (11-9) allowed a run and five hits and struck out eight.

### PADRES 1, MARLINS 0

Ryan Schimpf homered, Clayton Richard pitched seven innings and San Diego beat Miami to snap a four-game losing streak. Schimpf homered in the fourth inning off Jose Urena (2-5). Schimpf also homered Friday night and has 16 this season. Richard (1-3) allowed eight hits and walked one. He struck out three and threw 63 of 94 pitches for strikes. Kevin Quackenbush worked the ninth, striking out two for his first save since Sept. 22, 2014, against Colorado.

### ASTROS 6, RAYS 2

Rookie Alex Bregman homered and had three RBIs, and Dallas Keuchel threw seven solid innings in Houston's victory over Tampa Bay. Bregman connected off fellow rookie Blake Snell (4-7) in the third inning to make it 4-0. Keuchel (9-12) allowed nine hits and two runs for his first career victory over the Rays. Yulieski Gurriel added two doubles for Houston and had the first two RBIs of his career. It was the fifth game for Gurriel, who played in Cuba for 15 seasons before signing with the Astros in July. Bobby Wilson hit a two-run homer in the fifth inning for the Rays.

### PIRATES 9, BREWERS 6

Pinch-hitter Gregory Polanco had a tiebreaking three-run double and Pittsburgh overcame a four-run deficit to beat Milwaukee. Polanco doubled off reliever Blaine Boyer (1-3) with one-out in the sixth, giving the Pirates a 9-6. Hernan Perez homered twice for Milwaukee, with a three-run homer during a four-run first, and a solo shot leading off the third that put the Brewers ahead 5-1. Pittsburgh scored five runs in the fourth against Jimmy Nelson to take a 6-5 lead. However, Brewers reliever Tyler Cravy homered off Jeff Locke (9-7) to open the bottom of the inning for his first major league hit. Neftali Feliz got the last three outs for his second save in four attempts. —AP

## MLB results/standings

NY Yankees 13, Baltimore 5; Colorado 9, Washington 4 (11 innings); Toronto 8, Minnesota 7; LA Dodgers 3, Chicago Cubs 2; Los Angeles 3, Detroit 2; Boston 8, Kansas City 3; NY Mets 12, Philadelphia 1; Pittsburgh 9, Milwaukee 6; San Diego 1, Miami 0; Chicago White Sox 9, Seattle 3; Houston 6, Tampa Bay 2; Oakland 3, St. Louis 2; Texas 7, Cleveland 0; Cincinnati 13, Arizona 0; Atlanta 3, San Francisco 1.

American League Eastern Division					National League Eastern Division				
	W	L	PCT	GB					
Toronto	73	56	.566	-	Washington	75	54	.581	-
Boston	72	57	.558	1	Miami	67	62	.519	8
Baltimore	70	59	.543	3	NY Mets	66	63	.512	9
NY Yankees	67	61	.523	5.5	Philadelphia	59	70	.457	16
Tampa Bay	54	74	.422	18.5	Atlanta	48	82	.369	27.5
Central Division					Central Division				
Cleveland	73	55	.570	-	Chicago Cubs	82	46	.641	-
Detroit	69	60	.535	4.5	St. Louis	68	60	.531	14
Kansas City	67	62	.519	6.5	Pittsburgh	66	61	.520	15.5
Chicago White Sox	62	66	.484	11	Milwaukee	56	73	.434	26.5
Minnesota	49	80	.380	24.5	Cincinnati	55	73	.430	27
Western Division					Western Division				
Texas	76	54	.585	-	LA Dodgers	72	57	.558	-
Houston	68	61	.527	7.5	San Francisco	70	59	.543	2
Seattle	68	61	.527	7.5	Colorado	61	68	.473	11
Oakland	56	73	.434	19.5	San Diego	54	75	.419	18
LA Angels	55	74	.426	20.5	Arizona	54	76	.415	18.5

## PUTTS START FALLING FOR BARCLAYS LEADER FOWLER

**NEW YORK:** Rickie Fowler fired a bogey-free 68, closing with a five-foot birdie putt Saturday for a one shot lead after the third round of The Barclays, the first of four PGA Tour playoff events.

Fowler is at nine-under 204 overall and has a slim lead over 36-hole leader and fellow American Patrick Reed, who shot a 70.

"The short game has been there for me," Fowler said. "It is nice to see some putts going in. I have been swinging well for a long time. I was just waiting for the putter to catch up."

The 27-year-old California native has three career PGA Tour victories, all of which have come after trailing through 36 holes. "It has been awhile since I been in this position but I got a pretty good track record in the past. I just got to take care of business tomorrow," said Fowler.

Fowler's most recent victory came at last year's Deutsche Bank Championship, the next event on the playoff schedule, where he earned a one-stroke win over

Swede Henrik Stenson.

Aussie Adam Scott posted a 65 that was the low score of the tournament and is two shots back in solo third at Bethpage Black course in Farmingdale, New York.

Martin Laird of Scotland had a 69 and is another stroke back on a tie for fourth with Emiliano Grillo of Argentina. Defending champion and top-ranked Jason Day of Australia (70), Justin Thomas (66), Kevin Streelman (67) and Gary Woodland (68) are four shots behind in a tie for sixth.

Reigning US Open champ and world number two Dustin Johnson didn't let an equipment malfunction spoil his round of 67. He is in a six-way tie for 10th, five shots adrift of Fowler.

World No. 3 Jordan Spieth (72) is six strokes back and tied for 16th, world No. 5 Rory McIlroy (71) of Northern Ireland is a shot back of Spieth and tied for 22nd.

Fowler, who began the day tied for second, sank a five-foot birdie putt on No. 18 to claim sole possession of the lead. He

had three birdies on his bogey-free round and has only one bogey in 54 holes.

Fowler's best finish this season was a runner up at the Phoenix Open in February, when he lost to Japan's Hideki Matsuyama in a playoff.

Reed played an up-and-down front nine with three birdies and three bogeys. He parred his final nine holes to remain in contention. Scott posted an eagle on the first hole, six birdies and two bogeys.

Scott said even though the FedEx Cup playoffs are in their 10th year, some players are still warming up to the idea. "New things take a while to catch on," the world No. 7 said. "Now you're seeing guys make decisions to prioritize these events."

Johnson is still within striking distance despite playing with a cracked driver. He said the damage might have occurred at the PGA Championship last month.

"It's been like that for a while. Any swing now, it's going to go," Johnson said. Phil Mickelson (70) and Justin Rose (70) of England are tied for 34th, nine behind. —AFP



# HAPPY HOMECOMING FOR KIWI NEIL WAGNER

**CENTURION:** For the first time in his 23-Test career for New Zealand, Neil Wagner had his whole family and many of his childhood friends watching him during the first day of the second Test against South Africa at SuperSport Park on Saturday. "It was a special moment for me," said the fast bowler, who grew up in nearby Pretoria. Wagner is part of what is becoming an increasingly common phenomenon, a born-and-bred South African who has moved to another country and represented it in sport.

He was born in Pretoria and went to Afrikaans Boys' High, the same school as

South African stars AB de Villiers and Faf du Plessis. "I was two years behind them. I went to the same primary school as Faf and we played a lot of backyard cricket together."

Wagner, 30, started his first-class career for the Northerns amateur side before moving to New Zealand at the age of 21.

"I have loved every bit of it. I live in Dunedin today and that has played a big part of who I am and how I have developed as a cricketer," he said. But it was at Centurion that he developed his passion for cricket, which made playing there such a special moment.

"I had a lot of goosebumps when I walked out," he said. "It's the first time in my life that I had my whole family and a lot of the friends I grew up with sitting next to the field and watching a Test match. "I remember sitting on that bank and watching Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock and those guys, growing up and falling in love with this game. "Walking out there today to represent the Black Caps in a Test match was an amazing feeling. I loved every moment of it."

He said he stayed in touch with his old school and his friends from his younger days and looked forward to a day off after

the Test to spend some time with them.

His home language was Afrikaans and he still speaks the language when he is with his family. He took questions in Afrikaans at a press conference but answered in English.

"It's just respect for the place where I live now. It's an English-speaking country. I'm a fully converted Kiwi now."

When he lived in South Africa his surname was pronounced in the guttural Afrikaans way 'Vargnuh' but since he started playing for New Zealand it has been pronounced phonetically, with the 'Wag' as in a dog with its tail. Now he prefers

that. "I'm in New Zealand now, everyone calls me that. It's my adopted country and I'm very happy with that. My nickname is Wags. I'm not too fussed about it." South Africa's top four batsmen all made half-centuries as New Zealand's decision to bowl first failed to pay off on the first day of the series-deciding second Test.

South Africa were 283 for three at the end of a day when New Zealand were on the wrong end of no fewer than five leg before wicket decisions, while seam bowler Doug Bracewell limped off late in the day with what appeared to be a hamstring injury. —AFP

## AUSTRALIA EDGE OUT S LANKA IN DILSHAN ODI FAREWELL

**DAMBULLA:** Australia edged out Sri Lanka by two wickets to spoil Tillakaratne Dilshan's one-day farewell and go 2-1 up in the five-match series yesterday.

Opting to bat first, Sri Lanka were all out for 226 with four balls remaining, a total built around Dinesh Chandimal's gutsy 102 in an otherwise poor batting display by the hosts in the third match of the series.

Dilshan's fluent 42 in his one-day swansong was the second highest score and the former Sri Lanka captain quit the format with 10,290 runs, including 22 centuries from 330 matches.

He will play the two Twenty20 matches against Australia next month before retiring from international cricket.

Australia wobbled early in their reply but George Bailey (70) featured in two fifty-plus partnerships as the tourists chased down the target with four overs to spare.

Earlier, Dilshan was given a guard of honour by his team mates when the 39-year-old went out to bat but the team looked in trouble after being reduced to 23 for two in the fourth over.

Dilshan joined forces with Chandimal to steady the ship with a 73-run partnership before he fell to an Adam Zampa full toss.

Australian fielders shook hands with Dilshan, who received a standing ovation from the sellout crowd at the Rangiri Dambulla International Stadium.

Zampa dismissed Angelo Mathews in his next over but Chandimal maintained his red hot 50-overs form and brought up his fourth one-day century before being the last man out, holing out to Zampa off James Faulkner.

Chandimal's last seven one-day scores are 52, 62, 63, 53, 80 not out, 48 and 102.

Leading the side in absence of regular skipper Steve Smith, who has returned home to rest, David Warner marshalled his bowlers well to restrict the hosts to a modest total.

Mathews dented Australia's top order, however, cheaply dismissing Warner and Shaun Marsh as the touring side slumped to 44 for three in the ninth over.

Bailey added 62 runs with Travis Head (36) to put Australia's chase back on track and put on 81 runs with Matthew Wade (42) to take the side close to victory.

Zampa, who had claimed 3-38 with the ball, scored the winning run but Bailey bagged the man-of-the-match award.

The teams stay put in Dambulla for the fourth one-dayer on Wednesday. —Reuters



PRETORIA: South Africa's captain Faf du Plessis, right, plays a shot as New Zealand's wicketkeeper BJ Watling, watches on the second day of their second cricket test match at Centurion Park in Pretoria, South Africa, yesterday. —AP

# DU PLESSIS TON PUTS SA ON TOP IN SECOND TEST

**PRETORIA:** Stand-in captain Faf du Plessis scored a fifth test century before his bowlers ripped through the New Zealand top order to leave South Africa firmly in charge after day two of the second test at Centurion on Sunday. Du Plessis was unbeaten on 112 when South Africa declared on 481 for eight before reducing New Zealand to 38 for three at the close with superb fast bowling on a wicket that has both sideways movement and variable bounce. Skipper Kane Williamson is not out on 15 and will carry the hopes of the touring side into the third day, along with Henry Nicholls who is unbeaten on four.

South Africa's opening bowlers, Dale Steyn and Vernon Philander, both returning to the side for this series after injury layoffs, used the conditions superbly and were unlucky not to find more success.

Philander had Martin Guptill (eight) caught at slip by Stiaan van Zyl before Steyn induced an edge from Tom Latham that was caught by wicketkeeper Quinton de Kock. With plenty of deliveries beating the bat and the scoring rate slow, Ross Taylor (one) showed signs of panic. He took on the arm of the nippy Temba Bavuma at midwicket and was run out to compound the misery for New Zealand. Du Plessis had earlier shown the way with a

SCOREBOARD	
Scoreboard at stumps on the second day in the second and final Test between South Africa and New Zealand yesterday in Centurion, South Africa.	
<b>South Africa 1st innings (Overnight: 283-3)</b>	107-0, D. Bracewell 30.2-9-98-1, M. Santner 14-1-62-1, N. Wagner 39-8-86-5.
S. Cook c Williamson b Bracewell	56
Q. de Kock c Boulton b Wagner	82
H. Amla c Watling b Wagner	58
J. Duminy c Watling b Southee	88
F. du Plessis not out	112
T. Bavuma c Bracewell b Wagner	8
S. van Zyl c Taylor b Wagner	35
V. Philander b Wagner	8
K. Rabada c Nicholls b Santner	7
D. Steyn not out	13
Extras (b-10 lb-4)	14
Total (for 8 wickets, 154 overs)	481
Fall of wickets: 1-133 Q. de Kock, 2-151 S. Cook, 3-246 H. Amla, 4-317 J. Duminy, 5-342 T. Bavuma, 6-426 S. van Zyl, 7-442 V. Philander, 8-463 K. Rabada	
Did not bat: D. Pledt.	
Bowling: T. Southee 35-5-114-1, T. Boult 35.4-7-	

patient innings that took 234 balls and was his first test ton in 17 visits to the crease, a timely return to form as he stands in for regular captain AB de Villiers.

JP Duminy, restored to the team in the absence of De Villiers, missed out on his cen-

ture, though, falling for 88 caught behind off a wild hook.

Neil Wagner, who attended primary and high school with Du Plessis in Pretoria, was the pick of the New Zealand bowlers with figures of 5-89 in 39 overs. —Reuters



DAMBULLA: Australia's George Bailey is bowled out as Sri Lanka's Kusal Perera celebrates during their third one day international cricket match in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, yesterday. —AP

SCOREBOARD	
<b>DAMBULLA:</b> Scoreboard at close of play in the third One Day International between Sri Lanka and Australia yesterday in Dambulla, Sri Lanka:	
<b>Sri Lanka Innings</b>	<b>Australia Innings:</b>
D. Gunathilaka b Starc	5
T. Dilshan c Bailey b Zampa	42
K. Mendis c Warner b Hazlewood	4
D. Chandimal c Zampa b Faulkner	102
A. Mathews lbw b Zampa	2
D. de Silva c S. Marsh b Faulkner	12
K. Perera b Starc	11
T. Perera c S. Marsh b Hastings	9
S. Prasanna c Bailey b Zampa	3
D. Perera c Warner b Hastings	17
A. Aponso not out	1
Extras (lb-10 w-8)	18
Total (all out, 49.2 overs)	226
Fall of wickets: 1-6 D. Gunathilaka, 2-23 K. Mendis, 3-96 T. Dilshan, 4-103 A. Mathews, 5-133 D. de Silva, 6-154 K. Perera, 7-165 T. Perera, 8-178 S. Prasanna, 9-217 D. Perera, 10-226 D. Chandimal.	
Bowling:	
M. Starc 10-0-42-2 (w-3), J. Hazlewood 10-0-51-1 (w-1), J. Hastings 10-1-41-2 (w-2), J. Faulkner 9-2-0-44-2 (w-2), A. Zampa 10-0-38-3.	



FORT LAUDERDALE: MS Dhoni (L) of India and Carlos Brathwaite (2L) of West Indies agree with umpires Patrick Gustard (2R) and Joel Wilson (R) to abandon their match due to rain during the 2nd and final T20 between West Indies and India at Central Broward Stadium yesterday in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. —AFP



## WALLABIES COACH ATTACKS REFEREE AFTER LOSS TO NEW ZEALAND

**WELLINGTON:** Australia coach Michael Cheika launched a blistering attack on referee Romain Poite after his team lost to New Zealand 29-9 on Saturday, saying he was "bitterly disappointed" at the Frenchman's treatment of Wallabies captain Stephen Moore.

Cheika accused Poite of not liking Moore, ignoring the captain as he questioned rulings during Saturday's match in Wellington, and of having "pre-determined attitudes" towards Australia's players.

The Australian Rugby Union was also reported to be planning a complaint to World Rugby that Poite held a "secret" meeting with All Blacks coach Steve Hansen in the days before the test, and that Cheika

wasn't offered a similar meeting.

Cheika made a similar charge during Australia's series against England in June, claiming England coach Eddie Jones secretly met with South African referee Craig Joubert.

Hansen told reporters yesterday that he did not meet with Poite. He said he and All Blacks scrum coach Mike Cron met with assistant referee Jaco Peyper at Peyper's request to discuss elements of scrum rules but he had not met with a match referee before a test for almost two years.

"It's quite sad that that's come out, because it's not true," Hansen said. "Unless saying 'g'day Romain' in the morning (constitutes a meeting). He stayed here at this

hotel." The All Blacks clinched the three-test Bledisloe Cup series with a match to play. New Zealand beat Australia 42-8 in Sydney last weekend, and Saturday's win extends to 14 years their grip on the Bledisloe Cup.

It was also Australia's sixth straight loss, including last year's Rugby World Cup final against New Zealand and a 3-0 series loss to England in June. "I was bitterly disappointed, to be honest," Cheika said. "I'm on record with the referees' boss Alain Rolland about the treatment to our captain and our players, by Romain Poite, and also by Nigel Owens over this last year.

"I'm not quite sure why, but there was a time in the game in a break in play when the national captain of Australia was asking the referee, 'When might there be

an opportunity for me to talk to you?'

And he absolutely ignored him. "The referee may not like the captain personally, that might be his prerogative, but he has to afford him that opportunity if he is affording it to his opponents.

"I don't know if it's subconscious or not, but it's there, and it's got to be dealt with because it can't be that the opponents can say everything to the referee. No one is saying anything bad to him but if they've got pre-determined attitudes towards our players. ... I asked Alain Rolland last week when I saw him in Sydney and he said, 'No, that's a surprise to me.' But it's pretty blatant to anyone listening to the 'refs' ears." — AP



**SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS:** Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team's German driver Nico Rosberg (C) celebrates winning next to second placed Red Bull Racing's Australian driver Daniel Ricciardo (L) and third placed Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team's British driver Lewis Hamilton after the Belgian Formula One Grand Prix at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit in Spa yesterday. — AFP

## ROSBERG EASES TO VICTORY IN CHAOTIC BELGIAN GP

**SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS:** German Nico Rosberg steered clear of the chaos unfolding behind him to cruise to an unchallenged victory in a disrupted Belgian Grand Prix yesterday.

His Mercedes team mate Lewis Hamilton, the world championship leader, finished third from the back row of the grid, behind Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo. The pole-sitting Rosberg kept the lead at the start and was never headed, after his main rivals, fellow front-row starter Max Verstappen and the Ferrari pair of Kimi Raikkonen and Sebastian Vettel, collided at the first corner. That elevated Ricciardo, starting fifth, to second and the Australian kept that place until the end, crossing the line 14.1 seconds behind the triumphant Rosberg. The race

was briefly halted with nine of the 44 laps completed after a massive crash for Kevin Magnussen, who lost control of his Renault as he crested the fearsome Eau Rouge. The Dane, who was taken to hospital for routine checks after suffering a small cut to his left ankle, slammed violently into the barriers.

Officials deployed first the safety car then the red flag as marshals worked to repair the damage. Sunday's win was the 20th of Rosberg's career. It was also his sixth win of the season, but first since June's European Grand Prix, and it cut the deficit to Hamilton to nine points in the standings.

The Briton's rise through the order was helped by the first corner chaos that forced both

Ferraris and Verstappen into the pits and by the safety car and red flag deployed after Magnussen's crash.

Nevertheless, the triple champion, who had gone into the weekend gunning to become only the third driver to score 50 career wins, was happy to come away still ahead in the title race.

Nico Hulkenberg finished fourth for Force India ahead of team mate Sergio Perez, on a strong day for the Silverstone-based team that took them ahead of Williams into fourth in the constructors' standings. Vettel fought back to finish sixth ahead of Fernando Alonso who also enjoyed a strong race having started dead last. Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen was ninth and Red Bull's Verstappen finished a disappointing 11th. — Reuters

## MAIA STOPS CONDIT IN UFC FIGHT NIGHT

**VANCOUVER:** Demian Maia backed up his calls for a welterweight title shot with an early submission victory over Carlos Condit in the main event of UFC Fight Night at Rogers Arena on Saturday night.

Ranked third in the division, Maia said this week that with a victory over Condit, he should be in line for a fight for the title now held by Tyron Woodley. And, at 38 years of age, Maia may get his wish later in the year after forcing Condit to tap out at 3:08 of the opening round.

Maia made quick work of the fight, which was scheduled for five rounds. He broke down in tears in the middle of the octagon when it was over. Now he will await word on when a potential title fight could take place.

Maia said during a post-fight interview that if the UFC gives Stephen Thompson, the No. 2-ranked fighter in the welterweight division, the next title shot, he wants his opportunity right after that.

"I'm very grateful for everything I've accomplished in my life and very grateful for my family," said Maia, who has won six straight fights. "My life is complete already. The title shot, that will be something else, something amazing if it happens."

Tom Wright, executive vice president and general manager for UFC Canada, Australia and New Zealand, called Maia's performance "dominant" but said a decision on a possible title fight for Maia has not been made.

Saturday's fight may have been the last for Condit. There has been speculation about Condit's future in the UFC, and he

strongly suggested following his loss to Maia that his days as a fighter could be over. He stopped just short of confirming his retirement, saying he hopes the loss won't be his "swan song."

He said he'll talk to his management team and his wife and make a decision after that. But he said possible retirement has been "in the back of my mind for a while."

"I don't know if I have business fighting at this level anymore. I've been at this for a really long time," Condit said. "It's been awesome. I've got to do what I love for a living for a very long time, but I don't know if I belong here."

Anthony Pettis submitted Charles Oliveira in the third round in their featherweight bout. Pettis, who flirted with a knockout win in the first round, was able to roll Oliveira into a guillotine choke, forcing his opponent to end the fight at 3:11 of the third round.

After taking time away from the Octagon to appear on Dancing with the Stars, Paige VanZant returned to UFC with a second-round knockout over Australia's Bec Rawlings. VanZant, who last fought on Dec. 10, 2015, when she lost by submission in the fifth round, was able to land a kick to the head of Rawlings, driving her opponent to the ground. VanZant continued with a series of punches before the fight was stopped. Jim Miller opened the main card with a split-decision victory over Joe Lauzon in a rematch between the two lightweight combatants following their bloody, gruesome fight from UFC 155 four years ago. — AP



**VANCOUVER:** Demian Maia, top, of Brazil, and Carlos Condit, of Albuquerque, fight during a welterweight bout during a UFC Fight Night event in Vancouver, British Columbia on Saturday. — AP

## 220 SHOOTERS PARTICIPATE IN SHEIKH SAAD AL-ABDALLAH SHOOTING ACADEMY

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Eng Duaij Al-Otaibi attended the closing ceremony of Sheikh Saad Al-Abdallah Shooting Academy season and distributed medals and prizes to the winners of the tournament in which over 220 shooters participated.

Al-Otaibi gave medals and cups to first place winners, as Abdelrahman Al-Nimran won the skeet event, Abdelaziz Al-Daihani won the trap, while Mushari Shaheen won the 10 meter air rifle, and Fahad Nouri won the 10 meter air pistol.

Shammah Al-Rashiti won the women's 10m event, Alkawthar Abdelhussain won the 10m air pistol, while Obaid Abdelwahab won first place in the Olympic archery.

Meanwhile, Eng Duaij Al-Otaibi said that Sheikh Saad Al-Abdallah Shooting Academy season for 2016 comes as a follow up to "shooter 2000" project which was launched in 1998 with the backing of Information Minister, State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah in addition to Kuwait Shooting Sport Club board members at the time and continued with boards that followed, as the academy became more developed and experienced with the best coaches in the world.

He said the continued efforts of officials who



are supervising Sheikh Saad Academy, had a good effect by graduating a large number of shooters who formed the basic supply line for national teams and boosted the national team with those who proceeded them.

Al-Otaibi said Kuwait has the skilled and promising youth in the sport of shooting, as it is

gaining the interest of Kuwait youth and outstanding shooters from both genders are being attracted through the tournaments. They are trained at the Olympic shooting under the supervision of national teams trainers so that they can be ready to participate in the upcoming tournaments in the 2016/2017 season.



## ARGENTINA DOWN SOUTH AFRICA WITH LATE PENALTY

**SALTA:** A late penalty by replacement flyhalf Santiago Gonzalez Iglesias gave Argentina a 26-24 victory over South Africa in a rollercoaster Rugby Championship match in Salta on Saturday.

Both sides scored two tries as the Pumas, who led 13-3 at halftime, beat the Springboks for the second time in 24 meetings and the second in as many seasons.

It was Argentina's third win in the championship since joining the elite southern hemisphere tournament in 2015, having also beaten Australia once.

The Springboks, for whom winger Bryan Habana grabbed a record 65th try on Saturday, came from behind to beat the Pumas in Nelspruit last weekend and were within minutes of doing it again.

Argentina dominated the first half despite losing prop Ramiro Herrera to the sin bin for a foul tackle in the 20th minute.

The Pumas took a 6-3 lead while down to 14 men with flyhalf Nicolas Sanchez's second penalty on the half hour and they scored their first try right after Herrera rejoined the fray, having come very close with two earlier efforts. A sweeping attack from inside the Pumas' 22 with several players involved in a slick passing movement down the left wing ended with fullback Joaquin Tuculet touching down to put the home side 13-3 ahead at the interval.

South Africa began the second half

much better and a good attacking move brought their first try after flanker Francois Louw's slick pass behind his back to Habana sent the wing away for his 20th championship try.

Fullback Johan Goosen converted to level at 13-13 and Sanchez, who took a nasty knock to the head trying to defend the attack, had to be replaced with centre Juan Martin Hernandez moving inside to take his place.

Hernandez, who masterminded Argentina's win in Durban last year, engineered a fine second Pumas try with a neat crossfield kick to the far right corner where flanker Juan Leguizamón beat Habana to the ball and scored.

Argentina were seven points up again but with 13 minutes remaining they lost Hernandez to injury and South Africa smelt blood.

Replacement forward Pieter-Steph du Toit went over from a scrum close to the Argentine line and the Springboks looked like they might once again benefit from a stronger bench and snatch victory.

Veteran back Morne Steyn, who had come off the bench looking to help South Africa with his place kicking from long distance, missed the conversion and also a later drop goal attempt. But his second successful penalty had South Africa two points ahead going into the last six minutes before an off-side decision against the visitors allowed Gonzalez Iglesias to snatch the victory. — Reuters



## KLOPP CONFIDENT LIVERPOOL ARE ON RIGHT TRACK

**LONDON:** Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp expressed optimism about his team's progress despite the frustration of a 1-1 draw against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane.

James Milner put Liverpool ahead with a 43rd-minute penalty in Saturday's game, but the visitors could not make their superiority count and conceded a 72nd-minute equaliser to Danny Rose.

Having beaten Arsenal and then lost at Burnley, Klopp's men have only four points after three games, but he felt their display against Spurs demonstrated they are on the right track.

"This game showed again what we can do, how we can play. It was not only about pressing and things like this," Klopp told his post-match press conference.

"We did it really good, but we're really flexible in offensive defending. We had wonderful moments with passing and all that stuff, the direction in our game.

"I wish we could have won it, but now we have to accept a point and that's no problem because it's

Tottenham. They scored a goal and they could have won too.

"We have to accept it. We showed again that we can be really good and that's what we have to show in each game and then everything will be good."

Milner directed a nerveless penalty into the bottom-left corner after Erik Lamela had been penalised for clipping Roberto Firmino right on the edge of the Spurs box.

With Spaniard Alberto Moreno still to convince in a Liverpool shirt, Milner is being asked to fill in at left-back and Klopp suggested there could be a long-term future for him in the role.

"We're going to need more players for different positions. We decided that Milly can play (there), especially with the style of play we think we should play," said the German.

"Full-back is not only a winger in offensive situations. It's something like an eight in different moments, so that's a really good position for Milly.

"Of course he still has to adapt and learn a little bit,

because he has 500 games (of experience), but not in this position. So we have to work on it, as we work with every player.

"We were convinced that he can play the position—that's why we didn't make a transfer in this position with another player."

### POCHETTINO TIGHT-LIPPED ON ZAHA

Spurs striker Harry Kane is yet to score this season, but having taken seven games to open his account last term—which ended with him winning the Golden Boot—manager Mauricio Pochettino is not worried.

"I think it's a good signal that he didn't score yet," said the Argentine.

"Because last season he scored in game 10 and was the top scorer in the league. I sign again to do the same." Pochettino was the more satisfied of the two managers afterwards and hailed the "fantastic character" shown by his players as they fought to establish a foothold in the match.

Spurs goalkeeper Michel Vorm produced a series of

alert interventions to keep Liverpool at bay early in the game.

The hosts were then forced into a first-half reshuffle when right-back Kyle Walker went off due to illness.

After Liverpool winger Sadio Mane had seen a goal disallowed for offside, Spurs equalised when auxiliary right-back Eric Dier's cross was flicked on by Lamela to Rose, who drilled home.

Pochettino refused to comment on Crystal Palace's claim that they have rejected a bid from Tottenham for their winger Wilfried Zaha.

To date Spurs have made just two major signings—Victor Wanyama and Vincent Janssen, both of whom played against Liverpool—and Pochettino admitted the transfer window had been trying.

"I'm very happy with my squad. I never complain about my squad," he said.

"We always try to find different types of players that can help us and mix with different characteristics. But the market is never easy and for us it's difficult. But I am very happy with my squad." — AFP

## LEICESTER'S RANIERI PLAYS DOWN SCHMEICHEL INJURY FEARS

**LEICESTER:** Leicester City manager Claudio Ranieri played down fears over the fitness of Kasper Schmeichel after the goalkeeper was injured during the Premier League champions' 2-1 win over Swansea City.

Ranieri's side secured their first win of the season on Saturday as Jamie Vardy ended his wait for a first goal of the campaign and then, in an added bonus, Claudio Ranieri allayed concerns about Schmeichel. The Leicester keeper limped off in the second half, prompting concerns that he could miss the club's first ever foray into the Champions League, which starts next month with a trip to Club Brugge.

However, Ranieri believes the Dane will be back well before that historic game, and probably in time to face Liverpool at Anfield in Leicester's next Premier League assignment on September 10, with surgery planned for Monday on a hernia.

"Kasper played in the last month with a little hernia," said Ranieri, who saw Schmeichel signal to the touchline that his game was over after diving bravely at the feet of Fernando Llorente. "On Monday he will have an operation. Four or five days later he will be ready for the next match.

"It was scheduled for Monday. He wanted to play today of course and he felt something so it changed." Schmeichel's likely speedy recovery left a missed penalty from Riyad Mahrez—his third in four attempts in the Premier League—as the only reason for regret at the King Power Stadium. But the sight of Vardy back in the goal-scoring groove was the undoubted highlight of a pleasing day for Leicester, whose first-half performance warranted more than the 1-0 lead they took into half-time.

### THORN IN THE SIDE

Vardy, who scored 24 times in last season's title triumph, had started the new campaign slowly but looked like his old self as he was a constant thorn in the side of the Swans.

"A goalscorer always scores goals," Ranieri said. "Of course some seasons it is a little more, some seasons a little less, but never does the goalscorer forget the way to goal." Of course it's important to score a goal for strikers because it's their life.

"But I think the first half was outstanding for us and we had to score more than one goal. "At the beginning of second half it was good but after we missed a penalty maybe the opponent got more confident and we complicated our life a little. "It was tough. The rain was unbelievable. It was like water polo.

"But three points is good from the first victory. I'm very, very happy." Swansea manager Francesco Guidolin admitted his side were second best, even though they pulled a goal back through Leroy Fer after Vardy had opened the scoring and Wes Morgan had doubled Leicester's advantage. "The result was correct because Leicester played very well and played better than us overall," Guidolin said.

"In the first half they played very, very well. They were strong like last season. I saw a team play good football with intensity and aggression. "We prepared another kind of game but in the first half we didn't play well. "In the second half something changed after a little meeting in the dressing room and although they scored another goal we began to play with more aggression and intensity. "At the end we had the possibility to draw the game but Leicester deserved to win." — AFP



**MADRID:** Real Madrid's Marco Asensio, right, challenges Celta's defenders during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Celta Vigo at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, yesterday. Real Madrid won 2-1. — AP

## KROOS LIFTS REAL MADRID TO WIN, ATLETICO STUMBLES AGAIN

**BARCELONA:** Toni Kroos' late score ensured Real Madrid won its home opener over a feisty Celta Vigo 2-1 on Saturday, while Atletico Madrid stumbled in a second straight round of the Spanish league.

Atletico was frustrated by a newly promoted side for the second time in a week after Diego Simeone's bunch drew at Leganes 0-0. That followed its 1-1 stalemate with Alaves in its opener.

Combined with Madrid's two wins, Atletico trails its crosstown rival by four points from the start of what it hoped could be another three-team title race along with defending champion Barcelona.

Atletico forward Antoine Griezmann was scathing with his criticism of the team's start to the season. "If we continue like this we will be fighting to avoid relegation," Griezmann said. "We are angry. We have to get our act together because this is slipping away from us. We must work to get back to being ourselves."

Kroos drilled a long-range shot along the turf and in off the post for the 81st-minute winner at the Santiago Bernabeu. Playing without the injured Cristiano Ronaldo and Karim Benzema, Madrid took an hour to break through when Alvaro Morata scored a rebound from a save by goalkeeper Sergio Alvarez.

Celta midfielder Fabian Orellana responded with an equalizer seven minutes later. "We believed until the end and pulled it off," Madrid

coach Zinedine Zidane said. "We played a so-so match. Celta was a very good team."

While Madrid's Luka Modric, Gareth Bale, and Morata all hit the woodwork, Celta squandered dangerous moves that it continued to mount until the final whistle. The visitors only lacked the scoring touch that new Manchester City forward Manuel "Nolito" Agudo provided for the previous three seasons.

"We played one of our best matches at this stadium," Celta manager Eduardo Berizzo said. "I liked our attitude. We were able to take the game to them. This is an example to others who face opponents that belong to another category."

Elsewhere, Valencia slumped to a second consecutive loss after falling at Eibar 1-0, while Real Sociedad got on track by winning at Osasuna 2-0. Valencia's latest defeat comes with the club close to selling Germany defender Shkodran Mustafi to Arsenal, and Barcelona negotiating to sign away striker Paco Alcacer. Neither player was on Valencia's team at Eibar.

Celta's five-man midfield led by Orellana caused Madrid unrelenting trouble. Theo Bongonda went the closest to scoring for Celta in the first half when he won possession, huddled a tackle, and fired into the side netting of Kiko Casilla's goal. Missing firepower up front, Zidane turned to Luka Modric for Madrid's biggest threat. The Croatia midfielder tested

Alvarez with long strikes, hitting the bar a half-hour in. To start the second half, Celta mounted three attacks in a row that lacked only a final, precise pass to put Casilla under pressure. That's when Bale took a step forward, blasting a free kick that Alvarez pushed onto his bar before Morata put the hosts ahead.

Modric cued the opening goal by intercepting a poor pass by Alvarez, who then blocked Marco Asensio's weak effort. Morata was there to fire in the rebound for his first goal since returning from Juventus this summer.

Celta's equalizer went through Pablo Hernandez, Daniel Wass and John Guidetti before Orellana beat Casilla from distance with a right-footed shot into the corner of the net.

Kroos got the decisive strike, but Celta went close to grabbing a second goal in a back-and-forth exchange in the dying minutes. Zidane also said Colombia midfielder James Rodriguez, who has lost his starting role, will remain at the club despite rumors of his exit.

A minute of silence was held before kickoff in memory of the earthquake victims in Italy. At Leganes, Atletico could go no closer than shots by Griezmann, Kevin Gameiro and Yannick Carrasco saved by goalie Jon Serantes, whose Leganes remained unbeaten in its debut twilight campaign.

Barcelona visits Athletic Bilbao on Sunday seeking a second league win. — AP

## ZIDANE EXPECTS JAMES TO REMAIN AT MADRID

**MADRID:** Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane closed the exit door on Colombian playmaker James Rodriguez despite leaving the 2014 World Cup's top scorer on the bench once more for Real's 2-1 win over Celta Vigo on Saturday.

Rodriguez has fallen down the pecking order at the Bernabeu since Zidane took charge in January with Madrid's latest sensation Marco Asensio joining the likes of Isco, Toni Kroos and Luka Modric ahead of him for a place in Real's congested midfield.

However, Zidane insisted Rodriguez will remain in the Spanish capital beyond the transfer deadline on Wednesday with even the Premier League's cash-rich clubs unlikely to match the reported 80 million euros (\$90 million, £68 million) Real paid for him after the World Cup two years ago.

Rodriguez only came on for the final 21 minutes as Kroos's fine long-range effort 10 minutes from time salvaged all three points for the hosts despite the absence of Cristiano Ronaldo and Karim Benzema from Zidane's starting line-up through injury.

"I thought James played well. It is not easy to come and have to make the difference," said Zidane. "He is going to stay

here." Kroos's strike maintained Madrid's 14-match winning run in La Liga, but victory disguised a sub-standard Real display.

Without Ronaldo and Benzema, Gareth Bale failed to build on his fine start to the campaign with two goals in a 3-0 win at Real Sociedad to start the season. However, Zidane highlighted the need to win even without shining, particularly with a two-week international break to come.

"It is true that we didn't shine. In some game we can't play as we want," said Zidane. "We can improve, but I feel calm with how we have started the season. Two league games won and another official game (UEFA Super Cup) won.

"Now there are the international games and many players will leave, but that is something we can't change." And Zidane hailed his players belief to keep going until the end despite being far from their best.

"I am left with the fact the players believed until the end and we achieved what we wanted." Spanish international Lucas Vazquez started alongside Rodriguez on the bench and was introduced before his teammate in search of a winner. — AFP

## KHEDIRA WINNER FOR JUVE AS NAPOLI BEAT NINE-MAN MILAN



**ROME:** Lazio's Bastos, right, and Juventus' Gonzalo Higuain go for the ball during a Serie A soccer match between Lazio and Juventus at Rome's Olympic stadium, Saturday. — AP

**MILAN:** A second-half winner from Sami Khedira made it two wins from two for Juventus as Napoli edged nine-man AC Milan in a dramatic 4-2 win on Saturday.

Juventus, who started their title defence with a 2-1 win over Fiorentina last week, were kept on a tight rein by Lazio throughout a first half of few chances at the Stadio Olimpico.

But less than a minute after record summer signing Gonzalo Higuain came off the bench to replace Mario Mandzukic midway through the second period, Germany midfielder Khedira was set up by Paulo Dybala and beat Federico Marchetti at the 'keeper's far post.

It was enough to see Juve go provisional top ahead of the remaining fixtures on Sunday, but after a busy summer transfer period Massimiliano Allegri was quick to calm fans' expectations.

"Given the heat in Rome and the fact Lazio are a well organised side we were never going to dominate this game, although we were the better side by the end of the opening period," said Allegri.

"But we had a much better second half: let's say we've started better than we did last year." Juventus had a disastrous start to last season before fighting back into contention around the new year.

But having signed Napoli's most impor-

tant asset in Higuain last month, the champions now have no excuses as they go in search of a record sixth straight title. With Higuain still lacking fitness, the Argentine striker started on the bench for the second consecutive week, just as Allegri had indicated on Friday, replacing Mandzukic with 25 minutes to play.

The effect was immediate, but unlike last week when Higuain came off the bench to hit the winner with his maiden goal for his new club—the spotlight fell on Khedira.

The German held off his marker to collect Dybala's smart chip, turned inside and beat Marchetti at his far post with a crisp, angled shot. Higuain celebrated like he had scored himself, but with later attempts that came to nothing the 28-year-old showed he is still lacking the zip that helped him to a record 36 goals in Serie A for Napoli last season. Napoli made amends for Higuain's shock departure by signing Arkadiusz Milik, and the Poland striker made sure fans got to know his name by hitting a first-half brace in a thrilling 4-2 win at the San Paolo. Napoli had amends to make after a 2-2 draw at promoted Pescara last week but Milik gave them a 2-0 lead by the 33rd minute after he tapped home Dries Mertens' shot when it came off the post then rose to beat Gianluigi Donnarumma with a glancing header.

Milan looked to have fought their way back when M'Baye Niang, with a fine individual effort from a tight angle, and Spanish striker Suso, with a spectacular curling shot, pulled the Rossoneri level on 55 minutes. But Juraj Kucka saw red soon after for a needless challenge on Mertens, his second bookable offence, and when Mertens saw Donnarumma save his angled drive with 16 minutes to play Callejon ran in to convert the rebound. It went from bad to worse for Vincenzo Montella's men as Niang saw red for a second bookable offence when he barged into Reina with two minutes on the clock.

Despite proclaiming his "satisfaction" with the result, Montella admitted no new reinforcements are likely to join Milan, the subject of a takeover by a Chinese consortium, after club CEO Adriano Galliani told Gazzetta dello Sport the market was "over".

"When I saw the papers this morning I thought for a minute the Chinese had forgotten to make a payment," he told Sky Sport. "But our spending power was pretty limited and I knew that at the start.

"I'm happy to coach the players I have." In added-on time, Callejon should have scored his second but saw his goalbound shot pulled out of the net by the hand of defender Alessio Romagnoli, who was attributed the own goal. — AFP



# Sports

Radwanska beat  
Svitolina to take  
Connecticut  
Open title



Rosberg eases  
to victory in  
chaotic Belgian GP



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MANCHESTER: Manchester City's English midfielder Raheem Sterling scores his second goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and West Ham United at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, yesterday. —AFP

## MAN CITY GO TOP WITH WIN OVER WEST HAM



Man City 3



West Ham 1

MANCHESTER: Manchester City, Premier League champions in 2012 and 2014, went to the top of the table with a 3-1 victory over West Ham United yesterday. Superior goal difference took them above Chelsea and neighbours Manchester United, who have


also won their three opening games. Having scored twice in the first 18 minutes through Raheem Sterling and Brazilian midfielder Fernandinho, Pep Guardiola's team appeared set for an easy three points, only to be pegged back as the London side improved after halftime. Michail Antonio reduced the deficit in the 58th minute but Sterling scored his second goal in stoppage time from an acute angle. City could have leading scorer Sergio Aguero banned for the derby match against United next month if retrospective action is taken after he appeared to swing an arm at

West Ham's Winston Reid, who had to go off after taking a blow to the throat. "I did not see the incident," Guardiola told reporters and neither did West Ham's manager Slaven Bilic. "Reid got a little injured so we took him off," Bilic said. For his third league game in charge of City, the former Barcelona and Bayern Munich manager again picked Willy Caballero in goal rather than Joe Hart, and the Argentine was not troubled for almost an hour until Antonio's unexpected intervention. In the meantime, Sterling scored his first goal of the season following a fine move and Fernandinho added his first in


the league since the same weekend last year. He was left completely unmarked to head in Kevin de Bruyne's free kick as goalkeeper Adrian glared at his defence. Bilic's side, again weakened by injuries and unable to use new loan signing Simone Zaza from Juventus, employed three centre halves plus wing backs, but defended poorly against City's fluent attacking. In the second half, Bilic pushed Antonio further forward and he headed in a cross by Arthur Masuaku. City briefly looked nervous but in the last few minutes David Silva hit a post and Sterling made the victory safe. "You

have to win 3-0 or 4-0 to think the game is over," Guardiola told Sky Sports. "We played a good game. Our fans enjoyed it and we are happy. "I don't know how many shots we had but the performance in general was real good." West Ham stayed 12th in the table after their second defeat. "I wasn't happy at halftime," Bilic said. "I asked the guys to show character and spirit and a different mentality which they did. Praise for the team for the second-half performance. "A few will be back after the international break." — Reuters

## BAGGIES AND BORO IN GOALLESS STALEMATE



West Bromwich 0



Middlesbrough 0

WEST BROMWICH: West Bromwich Albion and Middlesbrough scrapped their way to a goal-less draw in a Premier League game of few chances at The Hawthorns yesterday. The point apiece saw newly-promoted Boro climb into sixth place, with West Brom moving up to tenth in the table. But this was a match to tax even the patience of the most loyal supporters, with visitors Boro not managing a shot on target until 17 minutes from time and the Baggies offering little more in attack. The draw was some consolation for West Brom after they were knocked out of the EFL Cup on penalties by third-tier in Northampton on midweek, but Sunday's match helped explained why Baggies manager Tony Pulis has been calling for several new players to join his squad by the close of the transfer window on Wednesday. West Brom manufactured something close to an early chance when James McClean saw an 11th-minute effort smothered by Boro goalkeeper Brad Guzan. Salomon Rondon, West Brom's record £12 million (\$16 million, 14 million euros) buy, then headed two half-chances well wide. Meanwhile Alvaro Negredo ploughed a lonely furrow up front for Boro. Eight minutes before half-time, a rare attack by either side saw Brendan Galloway, making his Premier League debut for Albion after a loan move from Everton, produce a low save



WEST BROMWICH: West Bromwich Albion's Northern Irish defender Gareth McAuley (L) vies with Middlesbrough's Spanish defender Antonio Barragan during the English Premier League football match between West Bromwich Albion and Middlesbrough, yesterday. —AFP

## HERTHA GETS DRAMATIC WIN, LEIPZIG DRAWS ON DEBUT

BERLIN: Julian Schieber scored the second of two injury-time goals to give Hertha Berlin a dramatic 2-1 win over promoted Freiburg, while Leipzig secured a 2-2 draw on its Bundesliga debut yesterday. Freiburg captain Nicolas Hoefler thought he'd salvaged a draw for his side on its return to the Bundesliga after one season away when he scored with a header from a corner in the 93rd minute. But there was still time for Schieber's winner from a difficult angle after Genki Haraguchi's initial effort was blocked. Hertha's Vladimir Darida opened the scoring against his former side in the 61st. Darida, who joined after Freiburg's relegation in 2015, fired inside the right post after some clever interplay between Haraguchi and Vedad Ibisevic, who laid the ball back. "In the end, we're just happy to win the thing," Ibisevic said. High temperatures played a role as both sides struggled for chances. Sky Germany reported that the on-pitch temperature reached 44 degrees

Celsius (111.2 degrees Fahrenheit) during the first half. Later yesterday, Marcel Sabitzer struck in the last minute to earn a 2-2 draw for Leipzig at Hoffenheim. Mark Uth looked to have won it for the home side when he scored in the 83rd minute after a breakaway led by captain Sebastian Rudy. But Benno Schmitz crossed for Sabitzer at the far post to claim Leipzig's first point. Lukas Rupp opened the scoring in the 55th for Hoffenheim, firing home the loose ball with the aid of a deflection after a corner. Three minutes later, Leipzig captain Dominik Kaiser equalized when Hoffenheim goalkeeper Oliver Baumann let his strike slip through his fingers. Leipzig's ascent to the Bundesliga has been controversial among opposing fans who object to its backing by energy-drink manufacturer Red Bull, which purchased the playing rights of fifth-tier side SSV Markranstaedt and rebranded the club in 2009. — AP



BERLIN: Berlin's forward Julian Schieber (3rd L) scores against Freiburg's midfielder Onur Bulut (L), Freiburg's midfielder Nicolas Hoefler (2nd L) and Freiburg's goalkeeper Alexander Scholzow (R) yesterday — AFP





KUWAIT: The Kuwait Stock Exchange building in downtown city. Continuing withdrawal of companies from KSE has unnerved investors and policy experts alike calling for immediate solutions. — KUNA

# ALARM AS COMPANIES PULL OUT OF KSE

STILL REELING FROM 2008 CRISIS, FIRMS SEEK QUICK REMEDIES

**KUWAIT:** Recurring withdrawal of companies from Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) has become an alarming issue that requires remedies, particularly after six companies with an overall capital amounts to KD 125 million have declared taking such a move, according to analysts.

The 2008 global economic crisis and its ramifications have impacted negatively on these withdrawing companies, they say, forecasting the trend will persist till the yearend, unless prime solutions and stimulants are found to discourage stumbling ones from getting out of the market too.

Maitham Al-Shakhs, the Chief Executive Officer of Al-Arabi Brokerage Company, affirmed that the companies' pullout from the KSE is alarming, noting that the enlisted once, in 2008, reached 224, as compared to 198 currently.

Most of the companies that declared pull-

out are small cap companies, however the step remains largely substantial, partially due to other factors such as the Capital Market Authority's declaration about starting to enforce governance rules, viewed largely as additional burdens on these firms.

These companies have apparently failed in increasing their capitals through subscription and coping with the additional liabilities, warranted for enlisting.

Hamad Al-Hajri, also a financial expert, mentioned some factors that prompted companies to get out, such as this year's KSE general atmosphere with regard of technical factors and incentives, absence of market makers, liquidity shortage which has been ranging between KD 7 to 10 million. He opined that in case this situation persisted in 2017, other companies would take an identical move. Al-Hajri expressed particular concern at intention of major companies such as

Kuwait United Poultry Company (KUPC) to pull out of the bourse. Such a step is quite alarming for other companies of major operating status and a large base of stakeholders may follow suit, he said.

Another company that has expressed such a plan is Kuwait Company for Medical Services with a capitalization of KD 7.6 million. The company, listed in 2009, requested optional withdrawal from the parallel stock market by September 14.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended yesterday's trading in the red zone. The price index was down 17.94 points to stand at 5,410.97 points, the weighted index was also down 1.96 points to read 346.41 points, and the KSX 15 index shed 5.69 points reaching 803.27 points. Value of trade was at KD 5,523,525.633 while the volume was 54,667,677 shares done through 1,366 deals. — KUNA

## SAUDI CENTRAL BANK'S FOREIGN ASSETS DROP

**DUBAI:** Net foreign assets at Saudi Arabia's central bank fell to \$555 billion in July, down \$6 billion from the previous month, as the government drew on reserves to cover a budget deficit caused by low oil prices, official data showed yesterday. Assets shrank by 16 percent from a year earlier to their lowest level since February 2012. They reached a record high of \$737 billion in August 2014 before starting to fall.

The assets are believed to be mainly denominated in US dollars, in the form of securities such as US Treasury bonds and

deposits with banks abroad. Those deposits fell by \$8 billion from the previous month to \$125 billion in July, but holdings of foreign securities rose by \$2 billion to \$371 billion after shrinking for 10 straight months. The central bank did not disclose details of its securities purchases.

The government has also been borrowing domestically and abroad to cover part of its deficit, which totalled nearly \$100 billion last year. Bankers expect it to conduct its first international bond issue to raise about \$10 billion or more by the end of October. — Reuters

## SAUDI, QATAR REBOUND, REST OF REGION WEAK

### MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

**DUBAI:** Stock markets in Saudi Arabia and Qatar partially recovered yesterday from last week's losses, while other Gulf markets dropped in quiet trade and Egypt sank as the government was hit by a corruption scandal in the wheat industry. Saudi Arabia's index, which had dropped 4.0 percent last week because of concern about the country's economic slowdown, rose 1.6 percent as many stocks reliant on domestic demand rebounded.

Nevertheless, trading volume remained thin - among its lowest levels this year - which suggested many investors remained wary of the market and that it might not be starting an extended rally.

Builder Abdullah Abdul Mohsin Al-Khodari and Sons climbed 8.6 percent after it renewed a 132 million riyal (\$35.2 million) Islamic credit facility, allowing it to obtain working capital for projects, and won a 69 million riyal contract from the water ministry. Investors have been concerned about the Saudi construction industry's access to financing because of a sharp slowdown in the sector and tightening liquidity at banks. Utility Saudi Electricity added 5.3 percent and Al Jazira Bank rose 3.1 percent. The biggest petrochemical company, Saudi Basic Industries, dropped 0.3 percent as it went ex-dividend.

Qatar's index rose 0.6 percent in modest turnover as top lender Qatar National Bank rebounded 1.5 percent. Drilling rig provider Gulf International Services added 0.8 percent after the Qatar exchange said index compiler FTSE had added GIS to the list of companies eligible for its secondary emerging markets index.

FTSE's original list of 20 companies did not include GIS, sending the stock 1.4 percent lower on Thursday. FTSE will publish a confirmed list of stocks to be included in its index after the market closes on Wednesday. Dubai edged 0.1 percent

lower although courier firm Aramex climbed 3.9 percent in unusually heavy trade. Abu Dhabi slipped 0.4 percent in a broad-based decline, with eight of the 10 most heavily traded stocks falling.

In Egypt, the index fell 1.0 percent to a three-week low after the Minister of Supply Khaled Hanafi resigned amid the highest-profile corruption case since President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi came to power in 2014. A parliamentary fact-finding commission's report into corruption in Egypt's wheat industry found the government played a key role in "wasting public funds" in its costly food subsidy program. The controversy could destabilise the cabinet or distract its attention from economic reforms needed to secure a \$12 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund. It could also complicate an international bond issue which the country plans in late September or early October.

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

##### SAUDI ARABIA

- The index rose 1.6 percent to 6,071 points.

##### DUBAI

- The index edged down 0.1 percent to 3,490 points.

##### ABU DHABI

- The index dropped 0.4 percent 4,500 points.

##### EGYPT

- The index fell 1.0 percent to 8,052 points.

##### QATAR

- The index rose 0.6 percent to 11,197 points.

##### KUWAIT

- The index slipped 0.3 percent to 5,411 points.

##### OMAN

- The index fell 0.2 percent to 5,809 points.

##### BAHRAIN

- The index dropped 0.6 percent to 1,139 points.

— Reuters

## EU-US TRADE TALKS HAVE FAILED: GERMAN MINISTER

**BERLIN:** Free trade talks between the European Union and the United States have failed, Germany's economy minister said yesterday, citing a lack of progress on any of the major sections of the long-running negotiations.

Both Washington and Brussels have pushed for a deal by the end of the year, despite strong misgivings among some EU member states over the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, or TTIP.

Sigmar Gabriel, who is also Germany's Vice Chancellor, compared the TTIP negotiations unfavorably with a free trade deal forged between the 28-nation EU and Canada, which he said was fairer for both sides. "In my opinion, the negotiations with the United States have de facto failed, even though nobody is really admitting it," Gabriel said during a question-and-answer session with citizens in Berlin.

He noted that in 14 rounds of talks, the two sides haven't agreed on a single common item out of 27 chapters being discussed. Gabriel accused Washington of being "angry" about the deal that the EU struck with Canada, known as CETA, because it contains elements the US doesn't want to see in the TTIP. "We mustn't submit to the American proposals," said Gabriel, who is also the head of Germany's center-left Social Democratic Party.

Gabriel's ministry isn't directly involved in the negotiations with Washington because trade agreements are negotiated at the EU level. But such a damning verdict from a leading official in Europe's biggest economy is likely to make further talks between the EU executive and the Obama administration harder.

Gabriel's comments contrast with those of Chancellor Angela Merkel, who said last month that TTIP was "absolutely in Europe's interest." Popular opposition to a free trade agreement with the

United States is strong in Germany. Campaigners have called for nationwide protests against the talks on Sept 17 - about year before Germany's next general election. — AP



HANNOVER: A man walking on stilts and dressed like the Statue of Liberty attends a protest against the planned Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, TTIP, ahead of the visit of United States President Barack Obama in Hannover. — AP



# EGYPT’S GOVT COMPLICIT IN WHEAT CORRUPTION: REPORT

## EGYPT’S PM CONSULTED ON WHEAT POLICY DECISION

**CAIRO/ABU DHABI:** A parliamentary fact-finding commission's report into corruption in Egypt's wheat industry finds that the government played a key role in "wasting public funds" in its costly food subsidy program. Reuters reviewed a copy of the report that will be presented in parliament today. It states that government entities neglected their own storage facilities in favour of less regulated private sites, made contracts with "fake entities," and oversaw flawed reforms that caused subsidy spending to increase rather than decrease as publicly stated.

Meanwhile, an official at Egypt's agriculture ministry said yesterday the prime minister had been consulted on the latest decision to return to a zero tolerance policy towards ergot, a common grain fungus, in imported wheat. "The decision was done in coordination with the prime minister," Ahmed Abu Al-Yazeed, head of the services centre at the ministry, said at a press conference. Abu Zeid added that in the latest period a total of two imported wheat shipments out of 15 had been rejected due to ergot contamination. From silo contracts to budgetary analysis to testimony from industry officials, the more than 500-page fact-finding report into wheat corruption points to government involvement in mis-managing, and at times facilitating graft in, subsidies intended to encourage agriculture and feed tens of millions.

"There are obvious flaws that rise to the level of complicity in the supply ministry and all of its bodies supervising the wheat procurement system," the report said. The supply ministry spokesman said he had resigned from his post and could no longer comment on the issue when contacted by Reuters. Egypt, the world's largest importer of wheat, has been mired in controversy in recent months over whether much of the roughly 5 million tons of grain the government said it procured in this harvest exists only on paper, the result of local suppliers falsifying receipts to boost government payments.

Industry officials have estimated that upward of 2 million tonnes could be missing from silos, a deficit that could force Egypt to import large quantities of additional grains to meet local demand even as it faces an acute hard currency shortage.

A Reuters special report earlier this year detailed how the government's wheat supply chain was riddled with corruption - from fraudulent wheat purchases by local suppli-

ers to hacked smart cards that allowed bakers to steal flour - that has cost the country hundreds of millions of dollars per year.

### LAX OVERSIGHT

The parliamentary report provides new insight into how government bodies may have played a direct role in many of the corrupt practices, particularly by awarding contracts to private suppliers who had lax oversight of their storage facilities, while leaving government sites unused. The supply ministry's Holding Company for Silos housed over 1 million tons of wheat in less-regulated private sector storage this season while leaving 700,000 tons of its own storage capacity unutilized - a violation of regulations that require government spaces to take priority, the report found.

The holding company used just 29.7 percent of the silo capacity it had available, it said. "Despite that (unused storage), the company contracted with private sector companies to rent 16 silos and 35 shounas (open air sites) to store a total of 1,147,319 tons of wheat." "Not using the full storage capacity owned by the (government) company caused it to bear huge losses...and made it take on the cost of paying to rent from the private sector."

The report also called into question the legality of many of the contracts made

with the private sector sites. Government firms contracted with "storage sites that had legal actions taken against them previously but which had since changed their commercial names", and with those that "did not have a commercial registration or a tax identification."

"This means that contracting was done with fake entities," the report stated. Last week Supplies Minister Khaled Hanafi resigned amid growing criticism of his management of the subsidies. His exit was the biggest fallout from the wheat scandal to date. Hanafi repeatedly said that bread system reforms introduced under his watch in 2014 have saved Egypt in terms of both money and strategic commodities, an assertion the report undermines. He was not immediately available for comment about the parliamentary report when contacted by Reuters. Government spending on bread subsidies rose by 3.91 billion Egyptian pounds (\$440.32 million), or 15.9 percent, in the 2014-15 financial year, and by an additional 1.89 billion (\$212.84 million), or 6.6 percent, in 2015-16, the report states, citing Finance Ministry documents.

"Subsidies increased, and did not decrease as a result of the bread system as the supply ministry continuously claims."

### ZERO TOLERANCE

Egypt will no longer permit wheat ship-

ments with even trace levels of ergot, and will apply the decision retroactively, the agriculture minister said yesterday. The decision reverses an earlier decree that had allowed for 0.05 percent, a common international standard, of the fungus in imports and which had put to rest a months-long standoff that saw suppliers boycott state grain tenders and raise prices.

"The ban will be applied to every grain of wheat entering the country. As of now no infected wheat will enter either from upcoming tenders or previous ones," spokesman Eid Hawwash said. Egyptian quarantine authorities' refusal to permit wheat shipments infected with even trace amounts of ergot-which can lead to hallucinations in large quantities but is considered harmless at minor levels-created havoc in the market earlier in the year after several shipments were rejected.

Last month's decree to begin applying the 0.05 standard was welcomed by grains traders, who have participated in larger numbers at GASC's state tenders since it was issued. A Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) risk assessment conducted earlier this year concluded that ergot poses no threat to Egyptian crops, but the agriculture ministry said at the time it would reinstate zero tolerance if future studies showed ergot affecting crops. — Reuters



CAIRO: Rida Ibrahim, 62, harvests wheat on his farm in Qalubiyah, North Cairo. —AP file photo

# SPANISH ECONOMY POWERS AHEAD AS POLITICIANS DITHER

**MADRID:** Spain's economy grew strongly in the second quarter as consumer spending stayed robust and demand for exports rose, though there were signs that a vibrant investment climate may be starting to cool after months of political uncertainty.

An economic recovery has retained momentum through eight months without a functioning government, as the country has continued to notch up one of the fastest growth rates in the euro zone this year. Quarter on quarter GDP growth reached 0.8 percent, keeping pace with the first quarter and up a tenth of a percentage point from a preliminary estimate, Thursday's final data from national statistics agency INE showed.

Consumer spending grew 3.6 percent year on year as people who kept their jobs through a recession that ended in 2013 took advantage of better times to buy big-ticket goods like washing machines. Exports of services also performed well, INE said, even outside the tourism sector which has been boosted by record numbers of visitors this summer.

Spain's acting economy minister, Luis de Guindos, said he expected the economy would eventually be impacted by the lack of a government.

However "from what we can tell there is no slowdown in the third quarter, it will be similar to the second and first,"

he told reporters. After two inconclusive national elections in December and June, the spectre of a third looms.

Politicians last week inched closer to ending the impasse when the People's Party of acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy agreed terms to negotiate a pact with a smaller rival, Ciudadanos.

If the agreement is sealed, Ciudadanos will back Rajoy in a parliamentary confidence vote on Aug. 31 on forming a government. But even then Rajoy would still be short of the majority he needs, raising the possibility of third ballot in December unless others also agree to back him or abstain.

### CHALLENGING AUTUMN

While fallout for gross domestic product so far has been slight, the political deadlock has triggered concerns that companies might delay expansion plans. A slowdown in manufacturers' investment in equipment and machinery extended into the second quarter, the INE data showed, when it grew at 7.8 percent year-on-year against 9.3 percent in the previous three months and almost 11 percent in the last quarter of 2015.

Analysts from Barclays said they expected investment growth to continue to decelerate, hit by declining business confidence. However, they raised their 2016 growth fore-

cast by 0.3 percentage points to 3.1 percent, citing strong exports. In a sign of the possible impact on government investment, spending on public works contracts slumped by a fifth in the first quarter, separate data showed on Tuesday, as decisions on infrastructure projects like roads, ports and trains were deferred.

On an annual basis the economy grew by 3.2 percent in the second quarter, INE said - below the 3.4 percent growth rate of the first but in line with a preliminary estimate.

The acting government expects the economy to expand 2.9 percent this year - one of the fastest rates in the euro-zone - though scrutiny is growing over whether that will be enough to reach deficit targets without spending cuts. Gross debt rose to a record high 1.1 trillion euros (\$1.24 trillion) in June, Bank of Spain data showed on Wednesday, which the economy ministry said was equivalent to 100.9 percent of national output - well above 2016 goals.

Further delays to forming a government would bring Spain up against the EU's deadline of mid-October to submit a 2017 budget. Missing that would damage investor confidence and raise the possibility of sanctions. "Spain is heading towards a challenging autumn as a late government formation would mean delays to the budget, the expenditure ceiling and the new path of deficit target approval," the Barclays analysts said in a note. — Reuters

## News

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 went down to KD 0.337 compared to Thursday's exchange rates, said the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) yesterday. The rate of the pound sterling went down to KD 0.396, as well as the Swiss Franc to KD 0.307. The Japanese yen went up to KD 0.003.

### QNB gets go-ahead to open branch in India

**DOHA:** Qatar National Bank (QNB) has been given approval to open a branch in India offering banking services, the Gulf region's largest lender said yesterday. The bank, which in June completed the 2.7 billion euro purchase of Turkey's Finansbank, has a presence in more than 30 countries across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. In a statement, QNB said it obtained the approval of India's regulatory authorities to conduct operations in that country, adding the move would help towards achieving its goal of strategic global expansion.

### Qatar's Barzan gas project to start in Nov

**DOHA:** Qatar will begin operations at its Barzan gas project in November, two people close to the matter told Reuters yesterday, as the Gulf state strives to meet rising domestic energy demand as it prepares to host the soccer World Cup in 2022. The \$10 billion project, a RasGas-operated joint venture between Qatar Petroleum and Exxon Mobil, was originally expected to come online in 2014. It will boost Qatari gas production by up to 2 billion cubic feet per day when it reaches capacity in the first half of 2017, the sources said on condition of anonymity because the information was not public. RasGas and Exxon Mobil representatives were not immediately available to comment. Qatar, the world's largest LNG exporter, faces growing domestic energy needs as it pursues a \$200 billion infrastructure upgrade ahead of the World Cup tournament as well as expansion of its national airline Qatar Airways. Much of the production from Barzan, located in the North Field gas reservoir off the coast of Qatar, will be directed to the power and water sector, RasGas has said. Qatar declared a moratorium in 2005 on development of North Field, which it shares with Iran, to give Doha time to study the impact on the reservoir from a rapid increase in output. — Reuters

## OPEC’S MARKET SHARE AT A GOOD LEVEL: UAE

**DUBAI:** OPEC's share of the oil market is at a good level, United Arab Emirates energy minister Suhail bin Mohammed Al-Mazroui said as the producer group continues to contend with low crude prices.

"Regardless of the different views on the oil market, we see that the OPEC current market share is at a good level," Mazroui said on his official Twitter account on Saturday. Mazroui also said he believed that any future decision on oil production would require full participation from all members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries plus other major producers.

"We acknowledge and understand the market challenges, but in my view our sector is resilient to overcome it and achieve stability soon," Mazroui added without elaborating.

OPEC members will meet on the sidelines of the International Energy Forum (IEF), which groups producers and consumers, in Algeria on Sept. 26-28. Saudi Arabian Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih told Reuters last week that he does not believe significant intervention in oil markets is necessary at this time.

Venezuela and Iran continue to seek consensus on ways to stabilize oil markets and strengthen OPEC, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said on Saturday, following a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. "We continue to build common ground and a new consensus on stabilizing oil markets, strengthening industries, strengthening OPEC," Maduro said in a ceremony broadcast on state television.

He said Venezuela's oil minister and foreign minister would make announcements in the coming weeks, but did not provide details on concrete actions. Zarif arrived in Venezuela after visiting other Latin American nations including Bolivia and Ecuador.

Venezuela since the collapse of oil prices in 2014 has sought to rally support among OPEC and non-OPEC nations to boost crude prices by limiting production. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, however, has remained more focused on retaining market share, with heavyweight Saudi Arabia showing little interest in backing output cuts. — Reuters

## EXCHANGE RATES

### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

#### ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	3.011
Indian Rupees	4.500
Pakistani Rupees	2.882
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.080
Nepali Rupees	2.816
Singapore Dollar	223.790
Hongkong Dollar	38.950
Bangladesh Taka	3.850
Philippine Peso	6.496
Thai Baht	8.748

#### GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.576
Qatari Riyal	83.001
ani Riyal	784.823
Bahraini Dinar	802.440
UAE Dirham	82.266

#### ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	29.975
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.395
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.213
Tunisian Dinar	138.410
Jordanian Dinar	426.370
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.013
Syrian Lira	2.0153
Morocco Dirham	31.590

#### EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	302.000
Euro	342.320
Sterling Pound	399.400
Canadian dollar	234.290
Turkish lira	102.550

Swiss Franc	314.580
Australian Dollar	231.030
US Dollar Buying	300.800

#### GOLD

20 Gram	268.860
10 Gram	137.350
5 Gram	69.520

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	302.200
Canadian Dollr	232.515
Sterling Pound	397.778
Euro	339.193
Swiss Frank	296.575
Bahrain Dinar	798.885
UAE Dirhams	82.505
Qatari Riyals	83.720
Saudi Riyals	81.310
Jordanian Dinar	425.825
Egyptian Pound	33.934
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.077
Indian Rupees	4.499
Pakistani Rupees	2.879
Bangladesh Taka	3.845
Philippines Pess0	6.517
Cyprus pound	159.280
Japanese Yen	3.960
Syrian Pound	2.400
Nepalese Rupees	3.810
Malaysian Ringgit	75.555
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	45.660
Thai Bhat	9.690
Turkish Lira	102.950

### BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

#### CURRENCY BUY SELL

Europe		
British Pound	0.390957	0.405957
Czech Korune	0.004591	0.016591
Danish Krone	0.041713	0.046713
Euro	0.0335322	0.0344322
Norwegian Krone	0.032658	0.037858
Romanian Leu	0.076291	0.076291
Slovakia	0.008986	0.018986
Swedish Krona	0.031911	0.036911
Swiss Franc	0.306466	0.317468
Turkish Lira	0.097722	0.108022

Australasia		
Australian Dollar	0.221221	0.233221
New Zealand Dollar	0.213431	0.222931

America		
Canadian Dollar	0.227967	0.236967
Georgina Lari	0.136374	0.136374
US Dollars	0.297850	0.302550
US Dollars Mint	0.298350	0.302550

Asia		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003298	0.003880
Chinese Yuan	0.043733	0.047233
Hong Kong Dollar	0.036852	0.039602
Indian Rupee	0.004294	0.004683
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024

Japanese Yen	0.002920	0.003100
Kenyan Shilling	0.002973	0.002973
Korean Won	0.000259	0.000274
Malaysian Ringgit	0.071125	0.077125
Nepalese Rupee	0.002802	0.002972
Pakistan Rupee	0.002662	0.002952
Philippine Peso	0.006315	0.006615
Sierra Leone	0.000050	0.000056
Singapore Dollar	0.217752	0.227752
South African Rand	0.016618	0.024118
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001637	0.002217
Taiwan	0.009373	0.009553
Thai Baht	0.008306	0.008856

#### Arab

Bahraini Dinar	0.794360	0.802860
Egyptian Pound	0.024588	0.029706
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000180	0.000240
Jordanian Dinar	0.421721	0.430721
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000150	0.000250
Moroccan Dirhams	0.019545	0.043545
Nigerian Naira	0.000312	0.000947
Omani Riyal	0.777866	0.783546
Qatar Riyal	0.082127	0.083577
Saudi Riyal	0.079433	0.080733
Syrian Pound	0.001279	0.001499
Tunisian Dinar	0.134791	0.142791
Turkish Lira	0.097722	0.108022
UAE Dirhams	0.080784	0.082484
Yemeni Riyal	0.001364	0.001444



## 71% OF MENA RESPONDENTS PREFER TO BE SELF-EMPLOYED

Entrepreneurship offers respondents personal fulfillment, freedom to choose a work-life balance and the ability to be their own boss, according to Bayt.com and YouGov report

DUBAI: Entrepreneurship is a source of economic growth in all parts of the world, and in many Middle Eastern countries it is one of the main economic drivers. Bayt.com, the Middle East's leading job site, teamed up with YouGov, a pioneer in online market research, to ascertain the current levels of understanding and interest in entrepreneurship throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The 'Entrepreneurship in the MENA' report found that a vast majority of MENA professionals (71 percent) would prefer to be self-employed, citing 'personal fulfillment' (58 percent) and 'freedom to choose work-life balance' (41 percent) as the primary reasons for this preference.

On the other hand, close to a quarter of respondents (23 percent) said that they would prefer to seek employment in a company, as opposed to setting up their own business. The main reason for this decision is the security of a 'regular income' (44 percent), followed by the interest in 'learning new skills' (41 percent), 'employment stability' (35 percent), 'benefits and perks' (31 percent), and 'fixed working hours' (28 percent). For 28 percent of MENA professionals 'lack of finances to start their own business' was the main reason they chose to seek employment in a company rather than set up their own business.

### The state of entrepreneurship in the MENA

For employed MENA professionals, almost three in five are contemplating starting their own business (59 percent), while 17 percent have already attempted to do so in the past but either 'could not do so' or 'failed to do so'.

As for MENA professionals who are currently self-employed, 75 percent have taken the first steps to establish their business within the last 6 years. Respondents who are self-employed said that 'gaining greater independence in what they wanted to

## BAYT.COM AND YOUTGOV SURVEY

achieve' (39 percent), 'feeling the time was right' (34 percent) and 'wanting to do what they love' (34 percent), were the main reasons behind their decision. Achieving a larger income was also a reason for a third of the respondents.

For active entrepreneurs surveyed, 37 percent revealed that they are at the start-up stage of their business, while approximately a quarter claim that their business is established and performing well (24 percent). However, nearly one in five (19 percent) disclosed that their business is not performing well. When asked about their business ambitions, almost a third stated that they have their sights set on obtaining more growth and profitability in their country of residence (30 percent), while almost three in 10 respondents (28 percent) want to see their business become an important regional player in the future. Around one in five hope to grow their business into an important international player (22 percent) or a major international group (19 percent).

### The route to entrepreneurial success

When it comes to the best time to start a business, professionals in the MENA are divided. It seems that 'at any time' and 'mid-career' are the most popular times, both at 37 percent. Other respondents believe the right time to set up a business is either 'right after college' or 'after a lengthy career', both at 12 percent.

Regardless of the best time to start a business, 'not being afraid of failure' is by far the best advice to give to aspiring entrepreneurs (42 percent). Other important advice include: 'perform an extensive amount of market research' (12 percent), 'have a great business plan' (11 percent), 'have a great marketing plan' (9 percent), and have a great founding team' (8 percent).

As for the best industries for entrepreneurship, the report's respondents feel that 'Communications/ Information Technology' (18 percent) and 'Advertising/Marketing/Public relations' (17 percent) are the most favorable options for aspiring entrepreneurs, followed by 'Hospitality and Leisure' (14 percent), 'Architecture and Engineering' (12 percent) and 'Finance/Insurance/Real Estate' (10 percent). To ensure business continuity and success, respondents cite five key factors, including 'innovation' (31 percent), 'being close to clients or customers' (22 percent), 'employing the right people' (21 percent), 'access to funding' (19 percent), and 'access to advice and mentorship' (8 percent).

Challenges faced by entrepreneurs in the MENA Professionals in the MENA who have tried to start a business in the past but couldn't or failed to do so faced certain challenges which prevented them from success. These reasons were mainly cited as 'inability to obtain financial support' (52 percent) and 'inability to self-finance the start-up phase of the company' (51 percent).

Finances are a common theme amongst respondents when it comes to listing their business concerns. 56 percent claim that 'procuring the finances to start' is a top concern, followed by 'hiring the wrong people' (41 percent), the 'uncertainty of profit/ income' (35 percent), and 'making a loss' (30 percent). More than half of the employed respondents (54 percent) claim that it is difficult to start a business in their country of residence, and the majority believe that government intervention could ease the business set up process in a number of ways. The vast majority (60 percent) agree that easing the law and regulations for setting up a business would improve the entrepreneurial landscape in their country immensely. This is followed by 'reducing taxation' (12 percent), 'regulating competition

among businesses' (12 percent), and 'facilitating access to skilled labor' (10 percent).

"Entrepreneurship has been a proven driver of both economic activity and innovation across the Middle East and North Africa region, which is why governments should take note of the fact that laws and regulations with regards to starting a business are amongst the top concerns for entrepreneurs in the region," said Suhail Masri, VP of Employer Solutions, Bayt.com. "We believe collaboration is a top priority for the public and private sector, as well as professionals looking for a job. In an effort to provide a channel for cooperation and exchange, Bayt.com offers Bayt.com Specialities, a platform where established business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs can share knowledge and interact before making the decision to work together. The website also provides special hiring packages to new business owners looking to hire top talents."

Masri continued: "Our database of more than 25.7 million job seekers enables us to offer new start-ups access to the best and most varied pool of candidates in the Middle East to help them meet their hiring needs and grow their business."

"Despite many challenges, Entrepreneurship is fast emerging as a transformational megatrend in the Middle East providing both a personal sense of fulfilment and the ability to be your own boss. It also plays a vital role in the economic development as a key contributor to innovation and new job opportunities. There is a long way to go to reach a mature entrepreneurial landscape in the Middle East, but the opportunities are sufficiently large and with better support from the government it will further accelerate the trend," said Arleen Gonsalves, Associate Research Manager.

Data for the Bayt.com 'Entrepreneurship in the MENA' report was collected online from May 30 to July 24, 2016, with 715 respondents from the UAE, KSA, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

## WHY RATES WILL STAY LOW FOR A LONG TIME

By Hayder Tawfik

It is the time of the year when suddenly investors are waiting for the Federal Reserve decisions on interest rates. Will it raise rates or not? This question has been asked since the last time it raised rates back in December last year. I personally expect no action from the Federal Reserve, as the economic fundamentals do not justify a rate raise yet. Even if they decide to raise rate it will be the last one and expect them to keep rates low for a long time. Last time it raised rates back in December it came out and assured the market that future hikes will be gradual and will be dependent on economic data. It seems that the central bank hasn't changed its position.

In deciding the future timing and the size of any rate raise, the Federal Reserve Committee will assess the present and actual economic conditions relative to its objective of maximum employment and 2% inflation. Well, with employment hitting record lows and inflation still below the 2%, the Federal Reserve is facing a dilemma. Although, unemployment is below 5%, wage growth has been very slow. There is no wage pressure in the system. Most of the job creation has been part timers or new comers to the job market that are offered the minimum wages. The US economic conditions haven't changed much since the last rate hike.

Changes in monetary policies are dependent on pure economic conditions that are influenced heavily by inflation, economic growth and wage growth. Obviously, there are other issues that turn up suddenly that influences central banks decisions on interest rates changes i.e. global economic conditions, financial crises, geopolitical tensions etc.

### Inflation

Inflation is no longer a big threat neither in the US nor around the world. The Federal Reserve needs to decide clearly that inflation will hit its target of 2 percent before deciding on any rate increase. Also, it should make sure where the threat of inflation is coming from, if there is one. If inflation is coming from wage growth then it has a case. But as I mentioned earlier wage growth has not been a problem in the US economy. Cheap oil and collapse in commodity prices have kept inflation extremely low, and that isn't going to change anytime soon. I think the Federal Reserve has to wait for further evidence of wage growth and a reversal in energy and commodity prices before taking any action.

### Economic growth

This is one of strong reason, why any central bank changes its monetary policy. Central banks tend to raise rates when their economy is overheating and is running out of control. They gradually raise rates to cool it down and avoid any build up in inflationary pressure. The US economy has been growing just around the 2 percent, which is way below its historical trend. Surprisingly, it has not grown much more even though rates are near zero and unemployment is running at record low. I don't think the Federal Reserve is going to ignore this weak economic growth.

### Weak wage growth

US consumer spending has been the driving force behind the economic growth. US consumption as percentage of GDP is the highest in the world. It is around 70 percent. US wage growth has been stagnant for years. Well before the 2008 financial crises. In fact, adjusted for inflation, the average yearly wage for American workers has not increased since the 1970s. A big reason for the wage stagnation is the dramatic increase in employer-sponsored healthcare costs while total compensation is rising, the take-home paychecks are not. This explains why employees do not push for higher wages. All of this will likely deter the Fed from raising rates any further. —@Rasameel



# GENDER INEQUALITY COSTS AFRICA \$95BN A YEAR: UN

RWANDA IS THE MOST GENDER EQUAL COUNTRY IN AFRICA

**NAIROBI:** The UN yesterday urged African nations to close a gender gap that is costing an estimated \$95 billion (84 billion euros) a year in lost economic potential. "Where there are high levels of gender inequality, societies are missing out," UN Development Fund (UNDP) director Helen Clark told AFP.

"They are not harnessing the full potential of women, and that costs economically, at the family level, community level and the national level." Citing agriculture as an example, Clark said that in many African nations, women are banned from owning or inheriting land, making it hard for them to borrow money.

"They then don't have the finance to buy the best seeds, the best fertilizers. So women, despite working very, very hard, end up producing less, being less productive," she said in Nairobi, where she was attending the Tokyo International Conference on African Development. Deeply-rooted structural obstacles such as unequal distribution of resources and political power, combined with social institutions that sustain inequality are holding back African women, and the continent, said the Africa Human Development Report 2016 by UN Development Program.

The UNDP said in a statement that male-female inequality in sub-Saharan Africa

costs the continent some \$95 billion each year in lost economic potential. In 2014, the cost was higher, at \$105 billion, it said. "Gender equality is a good thing in its own right, and it's the right thing to do, but often it's not until you start talking about economics that people think my goodness, it has implications if we don't do something about this," said Clark, former New Zealand prime minister and a candidate for UN Secretary General.

Clark meanwhile noted the progress made in some nations, including in Rwanda, where 65 percent of elected MPs are female.

Kenya's civil society is pushing parliament to ensure that a third of elected posts are occupied by women in accordance with the 2010 constitution. Parliament rejected a government-sponsored bill seeking to turn the constitutional requirement into law. Rwanda is the most gender equal country in Africa and sixth out of 145 countries, according to the 2015 Global Gender Gap Index, by the World Economic Forum. While 61 percent of African women are working they still face economic exclusion as their jobs are underpaid and undervalued, and are mostly in the informal sector, states the UNDP report. "Social norms are a clear obstacle to African women's progress, limiting the



**NAIROBI:** Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (left) speaks during the Tokyo International Summit on African Development at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre in Nairobi yesterday. —AP

time women can spend in education and paid work, and access to economic and financial assets. For instance, African women still carry out 71 percent of water collecting translating to 40 billion hours a year, and are less likely to have bank

accounts and to access credit," the report said. African women's health is also severely affected by harmful practices such as under-age marriage and sexual and physical violence, and high maternal mortality, it said. — Agencies



**MOSCOW:** This file photo shows AvtoVAZ CEO French businessman Nicolas Maure posing in front of a Lada Vesta car at a motor show in Moscow, a day before its opening for public. — AFP



# RUSSIA'S LADA MAKER BOSS EYES PROFITS DESPITE STRUGGLING AUTO INDUSTRY

**MOSCOW:** Four months after taking the helm of struggling Russian automobile giant Avtovaz, Renault executive Nicolas Maure has set his sights on returning the Lada maker to profit by 2018.

Maure, who headed Romanian carmaker Dacia for just over two years before taking on his new position, took over Avtovaz, which is majority-owned by the Renault-Nissan Alliance, in April amid major losses in the Russian auto industry struggling with recession. Hit hard by Russia's economic crisis, Avtovaz earlier this year was battling bankruptcy fears after its net losses almost tripled in 2015. That year the Russian car market slumped 36 percent amid international sanctions over Ukraine and the crash in oil prices took its toll on the economy. "I arrived at a trying time," Maure, 56, told AFP this week on the sidelines of the Moscow International Automobile Salon.

"The market was slumping and I was arriving in a troubled company," Maure's predecessor, Swedish executive Bo Andersson, had been on a drive to improve efficiency at Avtovaz's Soviet-era facilities and slashed thousands of jobs from the bloated workforce in 2014.

But the measures did not yield any significant financial success, and the company made a loss of 620 million euros

(\$680 million) on the French carmaker's accounts last year. But an uptick in sales, which grew 4 percent last month in comparison to the same period last year, and its growing market share has made Maure upbeat about Avtovaz's prospects.

"The situation is more favourable than when I arrived, with steady demand," he said. "We are doing everything necessary to be in profit from 2018."

### Weak market in 2017

Despite Maure's optimism about the future, Renault is still set to recapitalise Avtovaz by the end of the year. The Lada maker suffered losses of 27 billion rubles (\$416 million) in the first half of 2016.

When the Renault announced plans for recapitalisation earlier this year, Avtovaz said it would further "optimise the workforce" as part of its "anti-crisis plan" to improve finances in 2016, having already switched all of its employees and management to a four-day week from February to August.

Maure said that in light of high demand for the Lada Vesta — 30,000 of which have been sold in Russia since the beginning of the year — the company would further study

the market and could cancel its four-day work week at its factory in the city of Togliatti on the Volga River some 800 kilometres east of Moscow. Despite signs of the Russian economy stabilizing, the Association of European Businesses predicts that auto sales will drop more than 10 percent this year, a figure up from the five percent drop that had been previously predicted.

"We are working with a scenario of a weak market in 2017," Maure said. "We have to keep fighting for our share of the market (and) increase our profitability as we develop our exports, which fell to a historical low in the first quarter." Maure said Avtovaz is now seeking foreign markets in the Middle East and Africa.

The company has lost the Ukrainian market as tensions linger between Moscow and Kiev over Russia's annexation of Crimea in March 2014 and its support of a pro-Russian insurgency in eastern Ukraine.

Maure said that the corporate culture at the company has changed since he took charge. "The atmosphere was tense from a managerial, social and political standpoint," he said. "The first months consisted of calming things down, to make people gain confidence again, to tell them that Avtovaz has a future." —AFP



# JOBS DATA TO BE A BIG DEAL FOR RECORD-HIGH STOCKS

## WALL STREET WEEKLY OUTLOOK

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Wall Street will fixate on a wave of US economic data next week, crested by payrolls data on Friday that could sway expectations about the timing of future interest rate hikes and spark volatility in record-high stock prices. Fresh data about employment and consumer confidence could help investors solidify expectations for a December interest rate hike from the U.S. Federal Reserve, or lend weight to a minority of strategists predicting a rate rise as

early as next month. Fed Chair Janet Yellen said the case for a rate hike is strengthening, but she left open the timing of what would be the first increase since December 2015. “She did put the market on notice that she'd like to raise rates, which means the payrolls data out on Friday is very important. The wage component, length of the workweek and types of jobs, all are crucial in order to extrapolate to inflation,” said Quincy Krosby, market strategist

at Prudential Financial in Newark, New Jersey. Following Yellen's speech, prices for fed funds futures implied investors see roughly a 60 percent chance of a December hike, up from just above 50 percent on Thursday. Investors see chances of a September hike at 36 percent, up from 21 percent. Almost a decade of ultra-low interest rates has helped propel stock prices to record highs, even as the economy expands at a lukewarm

rate and U.S. largecaps struggle with over a year of declining earnings. Expectations for higher interest rates would likely continue a recent trend of investors selling high-dividend payers like utilities and telecoms, in favor of sectors tied to economic expansion like financials and industrials. Underscoring the importance of the upcoming jobs report, Yellen pointed to a recent rebound in employment and said in her speech at a symposium in Jackson Hole, Wyoming that the Fed expects the economy to continue expanding. “Chairwoman Yellen put a magnifying glass on next Friday's jobs report. That really I do believe is going to be a determining factor of the market's direction for its next leg,” said David Schiegoleit, managing director at US Bank Private Client Reserve in

Los Angeles. The August jobs report is expected to show the US economy created 180,000 jobs this month after rising by 255,000 in July, according to a Reuters poll. The forecast is for the unemployment rate to dip one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.8 percent. Other data in investors' crosshairs next week include personal consumption on Monday, consumer confidence on Tuesday, and car sales and factory activity on Thursday. The S&P 500 fell Friday for the fifth time in six sessions, but is just 1 percent below its record high set earlier this month. “Any potential strength in consumer and jobs data could be very helpful to support equity prices where they are right now,” said Jon Adams, senior investment strategist at BMO Global Asset Management in Chicago. — Reuters

### Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report

Sunday, August 28, 2016

Index	Change	Closing	Last Closing	High	Low
Price index	▼ -17.94	5,410.97	5,428.91	5,432.02	5,408.09
Weighted Index	▼ -1.96	346.41	348.37	348.41	346.31
KSX 15	▼ -5.69	803.27	808.96	808.96	803.12



Volume	54,670,177
Value (KWD)	5,523,638
Number of Trades	1,367

Security	Trades						
	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change
MARIN	93	93	50	5	1	93	▲ 2.0
IKARUS	31.5	30.5	44,100	1,345	3	31.5	— 0.0
IPG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	375	— 0.0
NAPESCO	730	730	1,329	970	1	730	— 0.0
ENERGYH	46.5	45.0	4,551	212	4	46.5	— 0.0
GPI	39.5	38.5	871,350	33,848	10	39.0	— 0.0
ABAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	93	— 0.0
Oil & Gas			921,380	36,379	19	771.18	▲ 1.74

KFOUC	166	166	130,000	21,580	11	166	— 0.0
BPCC	490	485	4,204	2,041	3	490	— 0.0
ALKOUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	650	— 0.0
ALQURAIN	196	194	163,319	35,866	23	194	▼ -6.0
Basic Materials			317,523	59,488	37	935.17	▼ -8.12

KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	380	— 0.0
REFRI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	315	— 0.0
CABLE	380	375	50,010	18,959	4	380	▼ -5.0
SHIP	162	162	150,000	24,300	4	162	— 0.0
PCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	960	— 0.0
PAPER	300	300	20,000	6,000	1	300	▼ -10.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	66	— 0.0
ACICO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	290	— 0.0
GMCM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	— 0.0
HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	128	— 0.0
KBMMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	— 0.0
NICBM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	194	— 0.0
EQUIPMENT	49.0	47.5	2,156,550	103,339	112	47.5	▼ -2.5
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	40.0	— 0.0
GYPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	— 0.0
SALBOOKH	61	61	477,344	29,118	9	61	— 0.0
AGLTY	470	465	3,472,128	1,631,868	28	470	— 0.0
EDU	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	196	— 0.0
CLEANING	40.5	39.5	1,300,961	52,322	13	40.0	▲ 0.5
KGL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	43.0	— 0.0
KCPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	170	— 0.0
HUMANSOFT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,500	— 0.0
NAFAIS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	180	— 0.0
SAFWAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	400	— 0.0
GFC	25.5	24.0	109,500	2,648	14	24.0	▼ -2.5
MAYADEEN	29.0	28.5	546,056	15,563	3	29.0	▼ -0.5
CGC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	670	— 0.0
MTCC	58	56	30,550	1,717	7	57	▼ -1.0
UPAC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	720	— 0.0
ALAFCO	216	216	10	2	1	216	▲ 2.0
MUBARRAD	58	58	40,000	2,320	5	58	— 0.0
LOGISTICS	71	69	340,762	23,832	12	70	— 0.0
SCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	80	— 0.0
GCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	75	— 0.0
QIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	75	— 0.0
FCM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	74	— 0.0
RKWC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	— 0.0
SPEC	75	75	10	1	1	75	▲ 3.0
Industrials			8,693,901	1,911,989	214	1155.41	▼ -2.69

KSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	148	— 0.0
NSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	— 0.0
PAPCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	106	— 0.0
CATTI	250	248	67,500	16,750	3	248	▼ -2.0
DANAH	120	114	340,000	39,900	13	114	▼ -10.0
POULT	176	176	19,694	3,466	1	176	▼ -14.0
FOOD	2,440	2,420	219,942	536,124	12	2,440	— 0.0
Consumer Goods			647,036	596,241	29	1186.67	▼ -32.56
MHC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	200	— 0
ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	920	— 0
YIACO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	208	— 0
Health Care			0	0	0	1070.78	— 0.00

KCIN	960	960	1,040	998	2	960	▼ -20
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	— 0
SULTAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	56	— 0
CABLETV	21.5	20.5	23,200	477	4	20.5	▼ -3
EYAS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	385	— 0
IFAHR	196	196	10	2	1	196	▲ 8
OULAFUEL	120	116	132,337	15,592	28	116	▼ -4
MUNTAZAHAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	85	— 0
JEZERA	820	800	15,469	12,485	4	820	▼ -10
SOOR	118	116	88,284	10,312	26	116	▼ -2
FUTUREKID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	95	— 0
ALRAI	146	146	4,100	599	1	146	— 0
ZIMAH	41.0	40.0	294,585	11,903	16	40.0	▼ -1
UFIG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	130	— 0
Mezzan	1,040	1,020	116,147	119,593	8	1,020	▼ -20
Consumer Services			675,172	171,961	90	906.31	▼ -6.59

ZAIN	325	325	22,000	7,150	6	325	▼ -5
OOREDOO	1,020	1,000	842	844	4	1,000	▼ -20
HTSTELEC	39.0	38.5	264,647	10,190	13	39.0	▲ 1
VIVA	910	910	27,853	25,346	29	910	— 0
Telecommunications			315,342	43,530	52	580.54	▼ -2.10

NBK	590	580	129,065	76,074	17	580	▼ -10
GBK	226	226	94,000	21,244	6	226	▼ -2
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	320	— 0
ABK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	320	— 0
ALMUTAHED	385	385	1,000	385	1	385	▼ -5
KIB	192	190	8,964	1,709	2	190	— 0
BURG	325	320	167,364	54,391	10	325	— 0
KFIN	465	460	473,761	218,488	29	460	— 0
BOUBYAN	380	380	34,300	13,034	13	380	▼ -5
AUB	194	194	1,535,000	297,790	7	194	— 0
ITHMR	37.0	37.0	240,450	8,897	11	37.0	▼ -1
WARABANK	168	166	542,234	91,060	67	166	▼ -4
Banks			3,226,138	783,073	163	780.43	▼ -5.03

KINS	265	265	52,000	13,780	3	265	— 0
GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	680	— 0.0
AINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	465	— 0.0
WINS	112	110	10,218	1,144	2	112	▲ 2.0
KUWAITIRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	— 0.0
FTI	46.5	46.5	3,000	140	1	46.5	▼ -0.5
WETHAQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	30.5	— 0.0
BKIKWT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	355	— 0.0
Insurance			65,218	15,063	6	1005.18	▲ 1.28

Security	Trades						
	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change
SOKOUK	33.0	32.5	966900	32,179	29	32.5	▼ -1.0
KRE	51	51	280,747	14,318	4	51	▼ -1.0
URC	102	100	7,350	748	3	100	— 0.0
NRE	78	76	31,300	2,393	4	78	— 0.0
SRE	355	355	349,053	123,914	2	355	▼ -10.0
TAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	550	— 0.0
AREEC	146	146	670	98	1	146	▲ 4.0
MASSALEH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	37.0	— 0.0
ARABREC	33.0	32.0	2,147,472	69,864	38	33.0	▲ 1.5
ERESCO	43.0	43.0	435,000	18,705	18	43.0	— 0.0
MABANEE	800	790	50,020	39,516	5	800	▲ 10.0
INJAZZAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	71	— 0.0
INVESTORS	22.0	21.5	880,921	18,941	21	21.5	— 0.0
IRC	28.0	27.0	70,496	1,903	4	28.0	▲ 1.0
ALTUJARIA	76	75	4,250	320	2	76	▲ 1.0
SANAM	31.0	31.0	500	16	1	31.0	▼ -0.5
AAYANRE	62	62	20,000	1,240	1	62	— 0.0
AQAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	56	— 0.0
ALAQARIA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	21.5	— 0.0
MAZAYA	112	112	1,024,000	114,688	11	112	— 0.0
ADNC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	11.0	— 0.0
THEMAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	— 0.0
TUJARA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	37.0	— 0.0
TAAMEER	22.0	21.5	597,000	12,837	3	21.5	— 0.0
ARKAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	76	— 0.0
ARGAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	152	— 0.0
ABYAAH	22.5	22.0	724,000	15,931	13	22.5	▲ 1.0
MUNSHAAT	50	49.0	106,542	5,263	9	49.0	▼ -1.0
FIRSTDUBAI	60	59	85,504	5,045	7	59	▼ -1.0
KBT	38.5	38.5	22,900	882	3	38.5	— 0.0
REAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	166	— 0.0
MENA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.0	— 0.0
ALMUDON	26.5	25.0	2,843,348	73,004	68	26.0	— 0.0
MARAKEZ	32.0	32.0	1	0	1	32.0	▲ 0.5
REMAL	32.5	32.0	49,200	1,575	3	32.5	▲ 0.5
AWJ	66	65	16,000	1,041	9	65	▼ -5.0
Real Estate			10,733,174	554,418	260	819.87	▼ -0.81

KINV	87	87	85,000	7,395	5	87	—	0.0
FACIL	172	172	10,000	1,720	1	172	▼	-2.0
IFA	32.0	32.0	1,520,000	48,640	5	32.0	▼	-0.5
NINV	104	102	2,298,800	234,479	29	102	—	0.0
KPROJ	550	540	64,500	35,425	7	550	—	0.0
COAST	41.0	40.0	1,167,097	47,080	41	40.5	▼	-0.5
SECH	46.5	46.5	500,000	23,250	12	46.5	—	0.0
SGC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	85	—	0.0
ARZAN	31.0	30.5	374,521	11,603	6	31.0	▲	0.5
MARKAZ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	84	—	0.0
KMEFIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	24.5	—	0.0
ALAMAN	49.5	49.0	50,100	2,455	3	49.5	▼	-0.5
ALOLA	47.5	47.0	490,001	23,035	8	47.0	—	0.0
ALMAL	22.0	20.5	1,434,640	30,205	61	21.0	—	0.0
GIH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	27.0	—	0.0
AAYAN	30.5	30.5	1,675,055	51,089	15	30.5	—	0.0
BAYANINV	32.5	32.5	6,205,050	201,664	30	32.5	▼	-0.5
OSOUL	43.5	43.5	1,000,000	43,500	1	43.5	▼	-1.0
KFIC	39.0	39.0	7,560	295	2	39.0	▲	1.0
KAMCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	128	—	0.0
NIH	53	52	1,436,444	76,116	13	53	▲	1.0
ISKAN	32.5	31.0	687,252	22,308	12	32.5	▲	0.5
MADAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	12.5	—	0.0
ALDEERA	37.0	35.0	35,500	1,244	8	35.0	▼	-0.5
ALSALAM	51	50	514,010	26,031	18	51	—	0.0
EKTTITAB	40.5	39.5	52,000	20,943	19	40.5	—	0.0
ALMADINA	49.5	48.5	401,917	19,666	17	49.0	▲	0.5
NOOR	40.5	40.0	230,000	9,300	5	40.5	—	0.0
TAMINV	305	305	350	107	1	305	▼	-10.0
EXCH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,500	—	0.0
TAIBA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	75	—	0.0
KSHC	29.5	29.5	35,055	1,034	5	29.5	▲	0.5
ASIYA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	33.0	—	0.0
GNAHC	33.5	33.0	33,291	1,099	3	33.5	▼	-0.5
AMWAL	19.0	18.5	57,000	1,056	8	19.0	—	0.0
ALUMITAZ	70	69	2,253,000	157,424	13	70	▲	1.0
MANAZEL	29.5	28.5	2,770,634	80,195	75	29.5	▲	1.5
NIND	114	114	1,800,000	31,920	11	114	—	0.0
BIHHC	27.0	26.5	1,618,492	42,892	22	27.0	—	0.0
SENERGY	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	13.0	—	0.0
AGHC	51	50	42,224	2,146	9	51	▲	1.0
KPPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	47.0	—	0.0
TAHSHILAT	39.0	34.5	13,000	474	6	39.0	▲	2.0
JEERANH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	68	—	0.0
EKHOLDING	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	132	—	0.0
GFH	79	77	1,189,900	91,827	22	77	—	0.0
INOVEST	59	59	60,000	3,540	2	59	—	0.0
Financial Services			29,067,393	1,351,155	495	558.25	▲	0.21



# CASE FOR HIGHER INTEREST RATES HAS STRENGTHENED

## NBK MONEY MARKETS REPORT

After weeks of markets anticipating the Jackson Hole speech, main points raised by Fed chair Yellen were the fact that the case for the next rate increase has “strengthened” in recent months as the US economy has approached the central bank’s goals on full employment and stable prices. Although she did not give specific timing of the next move, she mentioned that the FOMC continues to anticipate that gradual increases in the federal funds rate will be appropriate over time to achieve and sustain employment and inflation near our statutory objectives. Subsequently, markets repriced the odds of the Fed moving interest rates higher to 42 percent in September and 65 percent in December.

Subsequently, the puck was passed to Bank of Japan’s Kuroda who mentioned the BoJ will act decisively as we move on and will carefully consider how to make the best use of the policy scheme in order to achieve the price stability target. The “zero lower bound is no longer insurmountable” as a policy constraint “in practice”; “It is natural to assume another lower bound exists,” and the current rate is “still far from such a lower bound.”

Benoit Coeure added that the European Central Bank will fulfill the price stability mandate given to them by the Treaty; “But if other actors do not take the necessary measures in their policy domains, they may need to dive deeper into our operational framework and strategy to do so

Equity markets were initially hit on the back of concerns about a Fed hike in September, but recovered a bit of the losses by the close of the market on Friday to finish the week on average down less than one percent.

On the currency front, the US dollar index initial move was a spike higher. Then on inspection, the dollar reversed, however managed to end the week higher at 95.59 after Yellen’s speech. Market confusion continues demonstrating the division of opinions amongst the FOMC members. Esther George continues to push her dissenting view for a hike, having voted for a move in July. Meanwhile, Robert Kaplan said the Fed

should raise interest rates “patiently, and gradually, and cautiously”.

The euro opened the week at 1.1302 against the US dollar and managed to reach a short lived high at 1.1354. The pair slowly weakened as speculations heightened over further stimulus measures by the ECB and the strong coming US data. The currency closed the week at 1.1200.

The pound sterling opened the week at 1.3058 and reached a low of 1.3026 against USD. However, the pound quickly recovered as UK Q2 GDP second estimate, confirmed solid growth in

the Brexit quarter. The currency closed the week at 1.3140 on the back of a stronger dollar.

In Asia, the Japanese yen remains as a safe haven for investors and keeps on extending its value compared to the other currencies. The outperformance on the yen continues to pressure Japanese equities as it takes its toll on exports. The USDJPY opened the week at 100.41 and managed to reach a low of 99.91. The pair closed the week at 101.85 after Yellen’s speech perceived as relatively hawkish.

On the commodities side, oil extended its

losses as US crude and gasoline inventory unexpectedly rose to 2.5 million barrels versus a forecast of -0.5 million. Furthermore, analysts claimed that the oil price rally in August was over exaggerated and proposed oil production freeze at current near-record levels would not help decrease an oversupplied market. Moreover, gold stands at a one month low as investors remain vigilant after Yellen’s speech. Gold prices are highly sensitive to rising US interest rates, which increases the

dropped by 1,000 to 261,000 and remained near post recession lows, indicating a healthy labor market in which few people are losing their jobs. The average of new jobless claims over the past month dropped by 1,250 to 264,000, the Labor Department said. There were no special factors impacting this week’s initial claims. Claims fell below the key 300,000 threshold in early 2015 and have remained there for 77 straight weeks, the longest streak since 1970.

The US economic growth was a bit more sluggish than initially thought in the second quarter. US growth expanded at a 1.1 percent annual rate in its second estimate of GDP. That was slightly down from the 1.2 percent rate reported last month. The revision also reflected weak spending by state and local governments and the economy has struggled to regain momentum since output started slowing in the last six months of 2015. The third quarter data so far has been mixed a strong labor market should continue to support consumer spending and growth in the coming quarters.

### Europe & UK

The eurozone service Purchasing Managers’ Index inched up to a seven-month high to 53.1 in August, from a 52.9 in July, concluding that the Euro economy continues expanding at a steady pace. On the other hand, the manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index fell to 51.8 in August from a 52 in July. The strong growth in France helps the Euro zone stay steady but growth rates is slow in Germany, although it is still expanding.

German business sentiment surprisingly fell to the lowest level in six months in August in a sign that companies are still weighing the consequences of Brexit on future demand. The Munich-based Ifo institute’s business climate index dropped to 106.2 in August from 108.3 in July. That’s the lowest since February. The market forecast was for an increase to 108.5. With the UK acting as Germany’s third-largest export market, weaker demand there has the potential to damp output in Europe’s largest economy.

### UK economy grows

The UK GDP rose to 0.6 percent in the second quarter of 2016 from a 0.5 percent in the first quarter, aligned with the expectations of analysts and up by 2.2 percent y/y. British consumers and businesses showed no signs of weakness in their spending ahead of the country’s Brexit vote in June, although it is still too early to see the effects of Brexit on the UK and its business partners. Meanwhile, business investment unexpectedly climbed up by a seasonally adjusted 0.5 percent in the second quarter versus a forecasted decline of 0.8 percent. Year-on-year, business investment fell by 0.8 percent in Q2, compared to a forecasted drop of 1.4 percent as foreign investors are taking advantage of new investments after Brexit which led to a weaker Sterling pound.

Japan’s consumer prices index dropped in July for a fifth consecutive month at an annualized 0.4 percent pace, following a 0.4 percent drop the previous month. This increased the pressure on the central government to follow through with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s promise of more stimulus. Although the government kept its assessment of the economy unchanged in August and offered a slightly more downbeat view on consumer inflation than last month, as prices slid on weak household spending and a strong yen pushed down import costs. The Bank of Japan expanded its ETF purchase program at its July 29 policy meeting, but stopped short of reducing interest rates. The BOJ’s next meeting is scheduled for 21 September. Analysts widely expect the BOJ to increase the stimulus package.

### Kuwait

Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30155  
The USDKWD opened at 0.30155 yesterday morning.



# WHY IT MATTERS: FREE TRADE

**WASHINGTON:** In this angry election year, many American voters are deeply skeptical about free trade - or downright hostile to it.

The backlash against trade threatens a pillar of US policy since World War II: Through trade pacts and institutions like the World Trade Organization, the United States has sought to rip down barriers to global commerce, including quotas and taxes on imports.

Economists argue that the benefits of free trade outweigh the costs. Imports cut prices for consumers, and exposure to foreign competition makes American firms and the overall U.S. economy more efficient. There’s a geopolitical angle, too: Countries that do business with each other are less likely to go to war. Free trade, it seemed, paid off.

But doubts lingered, especially as China emerged as an economic power. China overwhelmed the world with hundreds of millions of low-paid factory workers who could crank out products for less than just about anybody else. And critics charge that China doesn’t play by the rules - unfairly subsidizing exporters, manipulating its currency to give them a competitive edge and condoning the theft of US trade secrets. Whatever the reasons, the United States last year ran a \$334 billion trade deficit with China - a big chunk of America’s \$500 billion total trade deficit.

Even economists are having second

thoughts. David Autor of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Gordon Hanson of the University of California, San Diego, and David Dorn of the University of Zurich looked at the American workers most exposed to competition from China. They got an unpleasant surprise. Instead of finding jobs in newer, growing industries, as economic theory dictated, Americans thrown out of work by the “China shock” bounced from job to job and suffered a drop in lifetime pay. China’s rise has “challenged much of the received empirical wisdom about how labor markets adjust to trade shocks,” they concluded.

### WHERE THEY STAND

Presidential candidates Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton oppose the trade agreements that are a hallmark of US economic policy. Clinton has broken with President Barack Obama by opposing the Trans-Pacific Partnership, an agreement that Obama’s administration hammered out with 11 Pacific Rim countries (excluding China) and that awaits congressional approval. Awkwardly for Clinton, she had called the agreement the “gold standard” for trade deals when she was Obama’s secretary of state.

Trump vows to tear up existing trade deals, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada, and to

slap huge tariffs on Chinese imports. He traces America’s economic problems to bad trade deals reached by clueless US negotiators outfoxed by craftier foreigners. The author of “The Art of the Deal” says he can do better.

### WHY IT MATTERS

Foreign competition is one reason America has lost 3.4 million factory jobs since China joined the World Trade Organization and became a bigger part of global trade in 2001. It’s also partly responsible for stagnant American wages. Adjusting for inflation, US households earn less than they did in 1997.

But trade isn’t the only culprit: Technology allows factories to cut jobs and still increase production. Despite the campaign rhetoric, trade deals have far less impact on jobs than forces such as automation and wage differences between countries.

The controversial Pacific deal, for instance, probably would have a negligible impact on American employment, the International Trade Commission concluded.

Trump’s plans to impose punitive tariffs would risk setting off a trade war and driving up prices for American consumers. Pulling back from trade agreements could also reduce America’s diplomatic influence. The Pacific agreement, for instance, is aimed partly at countering China’s clout in Asia. —AP

opportunity cost of holding a non-yielding asset. Gold prices reached a low of \$1317.46

### US new home sales

New home sales in the US surged to the highest in nearly eight years in July as home builders picked up the pace while buyer demand remained strong. New home sales jumped tremendously by 12.4 percent to 654,000 in July to the highest in nearly eight years as the demand for new homes remained resilient. The new figures are 31.3 percent higher than a year ago and easily beat the forecasts of a 581,000.

US existing home sales lost momentum in July and decreased by 3.2 percent m/m to 5.39 million (annualized) after reaching a post-recession high of 5.57 million in June. Sales dropped for the first time since November 2015, as a lack of inventory limited the choices for buyers. On the other hand, a rise in prices suggests the housing market remains on solid ground. Sales of single-family homes fell by 2 percent m/m to 4.82 million. However, the market remains in short supply, which is keeping pressure on home prices. Median prices advanced by 5.3 percent y/y, up from a 4.8 percent pace in June.

### US durable goods

Orders for business equipment climbed in July for a second month, which indicates that US companies are willing to invest more in the economy. Durable goods orders impressed with sharp gains of 4.4 percent, compared to the forecast of 3.4 percent. This marked the strongest gain since January. The positive readings point to stronger demand for durable goods, which translates into an increase in new jobs in the near future of the business sector. Moreover, core durable goods orders rebounded after two declines, posting an excellent gain of 1.5 percent. The latest data easily beats the market forecast of 0.4 percent.

The number of Americans who applied for unemployment benefits last week



**SAN PEDRO:** With some cargo loading cranes in the upright and idle position, are seen in this view from the San Pedro area of Los Angeles. In this angry election year, many American voters are skeptical about free trade, or hostile to it. The backlash threatens a pillar of US policy. —AP

# AVERAGE US 30-YEAR MORTGAGE RATE UNCHANGED AT 3.43%

**WASHINGTON:** Long-term US mortgage rates didn’t budge this week, remaining at historically low levels that continue to lure prospective home buyers.

Mortgage giant Freddie Mac said that the average for the benchmark 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 3.43 percent, unchanged from last week. The average rate is down from 3.84 percent a year ago, and is close to its all-time low of 3.31 percent in November 2012. The 15-year fixed mortgage rate stayed at 2.74 percent. Financial markets appeared unhappy after a speech by Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen Friday at an annual conference of central bankers although she gave some clues on a possible interest-rate increase. To calculate average mortgage rates, Freddie Mac surveys lenders across the country at the beginning of each week. The average doesn’t include extra fees, known as points, which most borrowers must pay to get the lowest rates. One point equals 1 percent of the loan amount.

The average fee for a 30-year mortgage rose to 0.6 point this week from 0.5 point last week. The fee for a 15-year loan was

unchanged from last week at 0.5 point. Rates on adjustable five-year mortgages averaged 2.75 percent, down from 2.76 percent last week. The fee remained at 0.4 point. Lawyers for accounting giant PricewaterhouseCoopers and a defunct mortgage company’s creditors and investors have reached a settlement in a lawsuit involving audits at a failed Alabama bank.

Attorneys from both sides confirmed via email Friday that the case involving the \$5 billion lawsuit was settled “to the mutual satisfaction of the parties.” The case went to trial in Miami earlier this month and was expected to last six weeks. The lawsuit claimed PricewaterhouseCoopers should have detected massive fraud at Colonial Bank of Montgomery, Alabama. It claimed the estimated \$21 billion fraud was orchestrated by top executives at the shuttered mortgage firm Taylor, Bean and Whitaker of Ocala, Florida.

Six Taylor Bean senior executives and two Colonial employees were convicted of federal fraud crimes and sent to prison. Colonial was shut down in 2009. — AP



# BCG INCLUDES 5 GCC COMPANIES IN LIST OF 100 GLOBAL CHALLENGERS

*The 2016 BCG Global Challengers report highlights 100 companies from emerging markets - including Emirates Global Aluminum, Etihad Airways, Etisalat, Qatar Airways and SABIC - that are rapidly expanding and globalizing; this year's list features the highest number of companies from the Middle East since the inaugural edition in 2006*

**DUBAI:** A new study by The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) highlights 100 companies from emerging markets that have stood the test of time, moved into the global spotlight, and reshaped the landscape of their industries - and of key geographic markets.

The report titled Global Leaders, Challengers, and Champions: The Engines of Emerging Market marks the ten-year anniversary of the first publication of BCG's list of global challengers.

Remarkably, the 2016 edition has the highest number of companies from the Middle East ever, five of which include GCC firms such as Emirates Global Aluminum, Etihad Airways, Etisalat, Qatar Airways, and SABIC.

"The global challengers are the leading edge of a much larger group of companies from emerging markets that, despite economic uncertainty, are powering ahead with confidence and ambition," said Cristiano Rizzi, Partner and Managing Director in BCG's Dubai office.

From 2009-2014, the 2016 global challengers from the Middle East have grown about 1.5 times in revenue size - and some companies such as Emirates Global Aluminum and Qatar Airways have even dramatically doubled in size. Overall, global challengers from the region have witnessed their revenues rise from approximately \$80B to \$133B - which constitutes nearly 6 percent of the Middle East's \$2.2T GDP (2014). Moreover, they have managed to maintain higher gross margins and revenue CAGRs than many emerging markets such as Latin America and Africa.

"Challengers from the Middle East have been particularly successful in delivering growth and profitability - and most have also managed to create exceptional shareholder value, especially compared to their local and global peers," added Mirko Rubeis, Partner and Managing Director in BCG's Dubai office. "In fact, in terms of profits, between 2005 and 2014, global challengers from the region achieved a growth rate approximately 1.5 times greater than S&P 500 companies and global peers."

In that very time frame, Middle East challengers generated an earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) margin of 16 percent; in parallel, S&P 500 companies and global peers, achieved a margin of 12 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

In addition, challengers from the region have also effectively kept pace with local stock indices.

## MIDDLE EAST CHALLENGERS

Among the Middle East challengers identified by BCG over years, 12 percent are graduates, 59



**Pablo Martinez, Partner and Managing Director, BCG ME**

percent remain global challengers and 28 percent continue to be successful (they were either acquired or have gone local). In short, none of them declined in size.

This year, the Middle East is also home to two 'graduate' companies, Saudi Aramco and Emirates Airlines. These international players - both of whom were featured in the 2014 roster of 'graduates' - are becoming true global leaders in their respective fields. These graduates share five key attributes that include having an ambitious global vision, global culture, and commitment to global standards; a globally scalable operating model with an optimized footprint; globally competent leaders and a powerful global talent acquisition and development strategy; a go-to-market model with a clear globalization market plan; and the ability to place innovation and reinvention at the core of their business.

For example, Emirates Airlines has, since its founding, strongly emphasized innovation and global branding. It has become a world-class airline by providing a superior passenger experience. And it has reported a remarkable record of 26 consecutive profitable years. As for Saudi Aramco, it is, today, the largest integrated global petroleum enterprise in the world, with ventures all over the globe.

The challengers from the GCC also all made it into the 2014 list. Saudi Arabian chemicals giant SABIC is the largest public company in the Kingdom operating in chemicals, polymers and fertilizers - it boasts more than 100 offices worldwide. This year marks the fifth time that SABIC achieved the status of 'global challenger'.

Abu Dhabi's Etihad Airways and Qatar Airways, two of the fastest-growing airlines in the Middle East also made both the 2013 and 2014 lists. In recent years, both airlines have succeeded in leveraging the region's favorable geostrategic location as a transportation hub at the crossroads of Asia-Pacific,



**Mirko Rubeis, Partner and Managing Director, BCG ME**

Europe, and Africa.

Etisalat, the region's largest telecommunications operator, and Emirates Global Aluminum, the fifth-largest aluminum company, were included in BCG's 2014 list of 100 Global Challengers. Etisalat is one of the largest corporations in the GCC; the company serves approximately 11 million customers in the UAE and operates in 17 countries. Looking ahead, Emirates Global Aluminum's growth shows no sign of abating; the company has actually rolled out international expansion plans.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE AIRLINE MARKET

Over the past decade, the list of challengers from the GCC indicates that air carriers from the region have a positively disproportionate share of the airline sector, especially compared to other emerging markets. The reality is, in the last ten years, Middle East carriers have led RDE revenue growth in the airline market.

"In the last decade, RDE carriers have increased their share from one fifth to one third of the global market - and from 2005-2014, they have essentially tripled their revenue from \$80B to \$240B," explained Pablo Martinez, Partner and Managing Director at BCG Middle East. "This is all thanks to Middle East carriers who have largely benefitted from their hubs, which serve long-haul markets that were less affected by the global financial crisis."

Today, Middle Eastern carriers make up a staggering 67 percent - versus 60 percent in 2013 and 50 percent in 2011 - of BCG's airline-specific list of global challengers.

There are three main reasons why Middle East carriers have remained on a solid growth path:

- Middle East airlines have a cost competitive structure: they basically have significant cost advantages in major categories as a result of the absence of income tax and access to cheap labor.



**Cristiano Rizzi, Partner and Managing Director, BCG ME**

- They are committed to quality service and are consistently ranked among the top 10 in various airline rankings.

- They implement powerful marketing plans or campaigns and leverage sports sponsorship deals to increase brand awareness, boost loyalty and promote new destinations.

## THE CHAMPIONS BEGIN THEIR RISE

As global challengers look to grow in a slower-growth world - one facing slowing economies and rising geopolitical risks - they will face increasing competition not just from multinationals but also from homegrown rivals.

BCG identified an impressive 103 companies based in the Middle East that, while not qualifying as global challengers, are still successful, growing, high-profit companies. These companies - the 'champions' - tend to be smaller than the challengers but still highly profitable and fast-growing.

From 2005-2014, these Middle East champions have doubled their growth in revenue from \$69B to \$177B - which represents about 6 percent of the region's overall GDP. Interestingly, in terms of annual revenue growth rates, these champions have also outperformed S&P 500 companies and global peers. In those nine years, they achieved an annual revenue growth rate of 11 percent versus 6 percent for S&P 500 companies and 4 percent for global peers.

Furthermore, Middle East champions have managed to maintain exceptionally high profit margins; between 2005-2014, they generated an EBIT margin of 29 percent.

These champions represent the next frontier of competition and value creation in emerging markets. If the last decade has been about the global challengers coming of age, the next decade will see a much broader range of companies arising as economic engines.



**FORD PROTECT**

## REVAMPED FORD PROTECT PROGRAM ALLOWS FORD CUSTOMERS TO UPGRADE MAINTENANCE PLAN

**KUWAIT:** Ford Motor Company, along with its distributors in the Middle East region, has revamped the Ford Protect Program offering customers the choice to upgrade their existing maintenance plans to enhance vehicle performance.

The program which helps minimize future repair costs and ensures maximum peace of mind for Ford customers, has introduced the Severe Duty Maintenance plan exclusively to the region, offering more frequent servicing of the auto transmission fluid, coolant and plugs due to harsh climate conditions. Customers with vehicles 2013 to current model year can now upgrade from their existing 3-year/60,000km or 3-year/ 64,000km Premium Maintenance Plan to 5-years/100,000km, 5-years/160,000km or 5-years/200,000km plans respectively.

Servicing the needs of high mileage drivers, two new additions have been made to the PremiumCARE Plan. Covering parts and labor costs needed to repair thousands of key components such as engine, transmission, steering, brakes, front suspension, electrical and more, customers can now choose between a 6-years/200,000km or 7-years/ 200,000km plan.

"After-sales service support is a key factor in gaining customer confidence and ensuring continued trust in the Ford brand," said Nerishinie Ragaven, Ford Protect Sales manager. "The exclusive

offering of the Severe Duty Maintenance plan and additions to the PremiumCARE Plan sets us apart from the competition and demonstrates our commitment to the region."

Ford Motor Company is a global automotive and mobility company based in Dearborn, Michigan. With about 203,000 employees and 67 plants worldwide, the



company's core business includes designing, manufacturing, marketing, financing and servicing a full line of Ford cars, trucks, SUVs and electrified vehicles, as well as Lincoln luxury vehicles. At the same time, Ford aggressively is pursuing emerging opportunities through Ford Smart Mobility, the company's plan to be a leader in connectivity, mobility, autonomous vehicles, the customer experience, and data and analytics. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company.

## BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF YAWMI ACCOUNT

**KUWAIT:** Borgan Bank announced yesterday the names of the lucky winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a prize of KD 5,000.

The lucky winners for the daily draws took home a cash-prize of KD 5,000 each, and they are:

1. Jaber Haneef Jaber Haneef
2. Qais Mostafa Mahyoub
3. Saad Owayed Mekhleif Al-Mutairi
4. Anthony Bernard Jones
5. Awadh Ghayadh Obaid Al-Enezi

In addition to the daily draw, Borgan Bank also offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, entitling one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, the quarterly draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for 2 months prior to draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account, will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500 and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws.

Borgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances to becoming a winner. The more customers deposit, the higher the chances they receive of winning.

For more information on opening a Yawmi account or about the new quarterly draw, customers are urged to visit their nearest Borgan Bank branch and receive all the details, or simply call the bank's Call Center at 1804080 where customer service representatives will be delighted to

assist with any questions on the Yawmi account or any of the bank's products and services.

Established in 1977, Borgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank customer base. Borgan Bank has majority owned subsidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch networks.

The Bank has continuously improved its performance over the years through an expanded revenue structure, diversified funding sources, and a strong capital base. The adoption of state-of-the-art services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Borgan Bank's brand has been created on a foundation of real values - of trust, commitment, excellence and progression, to remind us of the high standards to which we aspire. 'People come first' is the foundation on which its products and services are developed.

The bank was re-certified with the prestigious ISO 9001:2008, making it the first bank in the GCC, and the only bank in Kuwait to receive such accreditation for the third consecutive year. The Bank also has to its credit the distinction of being the only Bank in Kuwait to have won the JP Morgan Chase Quality Recognition Award for twelve consecutive years.

Borgan Bank, a subsidiary of KIPCO (Kuwait Projects Company), is a strongly positioned regional Bank in the MENA region.

## AL-TIJARI ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-NAJMA ACCOUNT

**KUWAIT:** Commercial Bank of Kuwait held the Al-Najma Account daily draw yesterday. 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: Mirza Awais Baig Mirza Idrees Baig — KD 7000, Ahmad Ghuloum Ahmad Mohammad — KD 7000, Amal Adnan Al-Baloul — KD 7000, Nelover Aziz Al-Rahman Mahmoud Mansour Ameer — KD 7000, Eid Metib Al-Khuraïne — 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

Quarterly draws to win great prizes that would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000  
1st quarter — KD 100 000, 2nd quarter — KD 150 000, 3rd quarter — KD 200 000, 4th quarter — KD 250 000.



ter — KD 250 000.

With Al-Najma you have more chances to win greater prizes

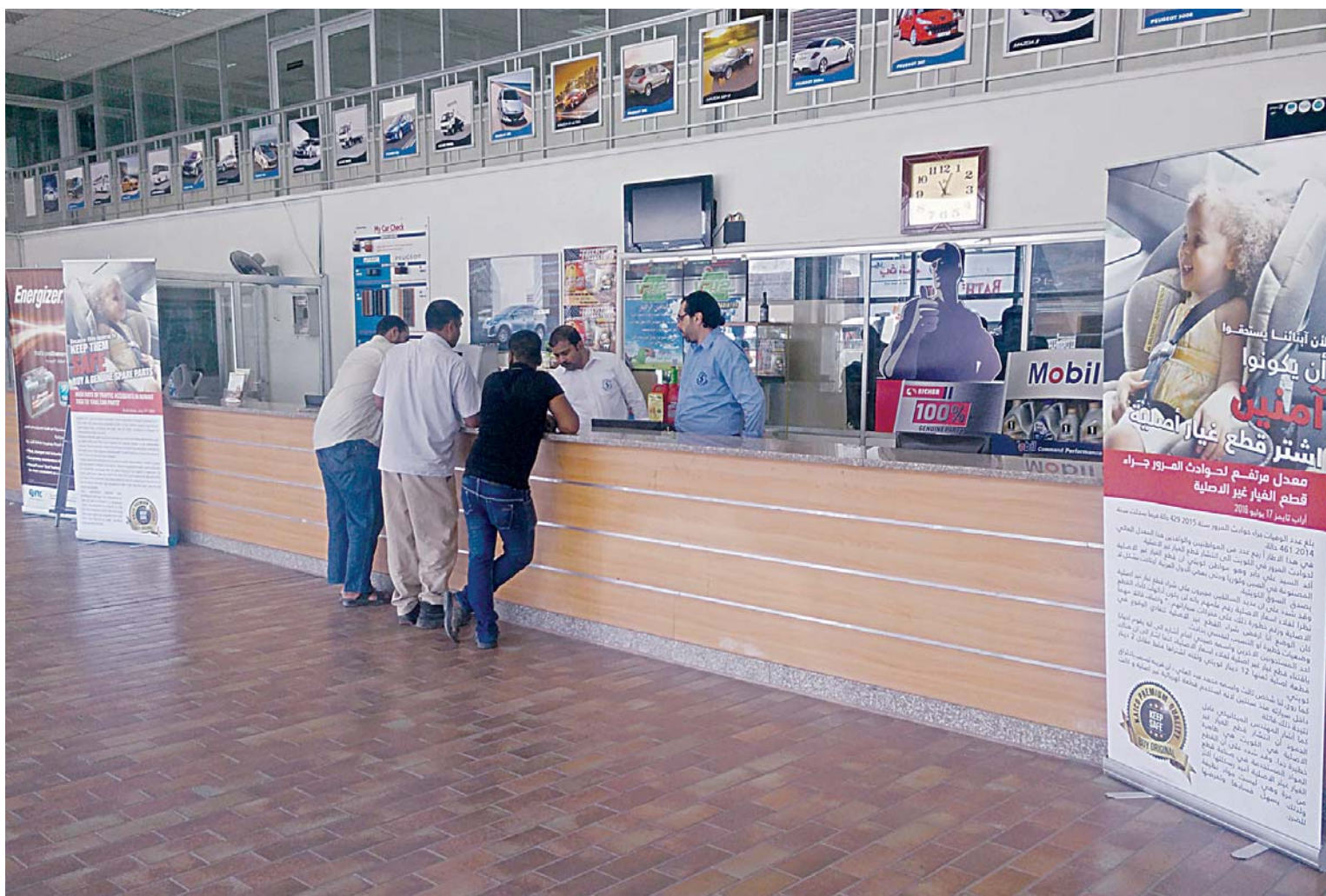
\* Each KD 25 kept in your account gives you one chance to win

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## GENUINE PARTS ENSURE SAFETY

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Automotive Imports Co WLL (Al Shaya & Al Sagar) -KAICO launched a campaign to raise the awareness of the danger of fake parts and encourage customers to buy genuine ones to keep their vehicles' performance at optimum level and safer at all times.

A huge number of road accidents are attributed to cars fitted with fake parts.

Ashish Tandon, General Manager of KAICO

stated: buying genuine parts ensures the best performance of your vehicle in all conditions. It ensures better re sale value and a happier ownership experience. Even when the car is sold it fetches a better re sale value.

Gopal, Parts Manager , KAICO stated - We ensure that we provide our customers over 95 percent Parts availability at all times and provide a 6 months guarantee on Parts and Workmanship

at our Service Centres. (Mazda - 6 months to 10,000 Km; Peugeot: 1 year from the date of invoice and Geely; 12 months or 20000 km).

Genuine Parts should be used for your car to protect not only the car, or better performance but also the safety of your loved ones. KAICO is the exclusive dealer of Mazda, Peugeot, Geely and Eicher vehicles and it provides warranty on genuine parts for all its brands.



# EMC EXPANDS 'DATA PROTECTION EVERYWHERE'

EMC Corporation (NYSE:EMC) announced new products and support that optimize the protection of VMware workloads across the spectrum of VMware environments to enable protection everywhere. A recent survey of over 2700 business and IT professionals in Europe, the Middle East and Africa undertaken for EMC by Arlington Research reported that 80% of CIOs believe a scalable, flexible converged infrastructure will provide the platform for growth. The survey revealed an increased interest in converged and hyper converged infrastructure to help CIOs address concerns about the readiness of current IT infrastructure and skills to meet long term needs as technology becomes embedded across more aspects of the business.

The integration between EMC's data protection portfolio and VMware software empowers vAdmins to provision, monitor and manage the protection of their virtual workloads through the standard VMware interface. This includes enhanced support for VMware Virtual SAN, VMware vSphere and expanded data protection options for VCE(r) VxRail Appliances. EMC Data Protection and VCE VxRail

Appliances As IT organizations increasingly look to hyper-converged infrastructure appliances (HCIAs) to simplify and improve operational efficiency for more and more use cases, they need a wider range of additional capabilities and more cost effective scaling to support those workloads VCE VxRail Appliance customers can now expand on its built-in protection capabilities and leverage a wider range of EMC data protection products to provide application consistency for backups as well as comprehensive monitoring, reporting and backup file search capabilities. With the EMC Data Protection Suite for VMware and EMC Data Domain Virtual Edition announcements, EMC is making the extended protection of Virtual Machines on VxRail Appliances: Simple Simplified management makes of data protection for VMs fast and easy Centralized monitoring, analysis, reporting and search of backup data gives users one place to find out everything they need to know A single vendor approach offers a unified point of contact for sales and support from hardware to software to protection and enables management through a single native interface FastBackup

times can be reduced by up to 50%?

Recovery times are up to 30x faster when compared to traditional image-level restores?

By deploying solutions that are built to work together, data protection for VMs on VxRail Appliances can be up-and-running in minutes Efficient Protection storage requirements can be reduced by up to 30x Up to 1,000 virtual machines can be continually protected for zero RPO?

Software-defined protection storage offers simple deployment Support for mission-critical applications, including Exchange, SAP, SQL, SharePoint, Oracle, DB2, Sybase, and IBM Domino for backup and replication EMC Data Protection and VMware Virtual SAN and VMware vSphere APIs for IO Filtering For organizations leveraging VMware Virtual SAN, the Data Protection Suite for VMware also provides industry-leading Disaster Recovery support for Virtual SAN through EMC RecoverPoint for VMs. Having announced at VMworld 2015 that EMC would become VMware's first replication design partner, this year, EMC becomes the only VM replication vendor to support VMware vSphere APIs for IO Filtering, as it

brings a fully integrated virtual replication data services through RecoverPoint for VMs.

#### Availability:

EMC Data Protection Suite for VMware is available today. EMC Data Domain Virtual Edition is available today. EMC RecoverPoint for VMs supports VMware vSphere APIs for IO filtering integration today. EMC Unity and EMC VMAX support Virtual Volumes currently.

#### Executive Quotes:

Beth Phalen, Senior Vice President and GM of Data Protection and Availability Solutions, EMC "Businesses need data protection everywhere - and that's as true with virtual machines and converged appliances as it is for traditional storage arrays. EMC's portfolio approach to data protection, and deep integration with VMware, means that we're able to offer solutions that can protect data wherever it is and empower our customers to manage their data protection through the native VMware management consoles.



**TALLINN:** People gather around a bonfire during the Night of Ancient Bonfires, a centuries-old maritime tradition also focused now on environmental awareness, on August 27, 2016. —AFP

## BONFIRES LIGHT UP BALTIC COAST, WITH TECH-SAVVY TWIST

**TALLINN:** Hundreds of bonfires dotted the Baltic Sea coast of Estonia Saturday night, a centuries-old maritime tradition to guide seafarers now celebrated with a tech-savvy environmental twist.

Summer revellers from as far as Finland, Sweden, Latvia and Russia also signed up to be part of the event on the interactive Ancient Bonfires website set up by Mairold Vaik.

The popular Estonian blogger told AFP that while the site registered hundreds of hits this year, he aims to close a ring of bonfires around the Baltic Sea by 2018, all in a bid to draw attention to its serious environmental challenges.

According to the World Wildlife Fund,

the Baltic is one of the most threatened marine ecosystems on the planet. Scientists say that the shallow and closed body of water is particularly vulnerable to overfishing and agricultural fertilisers.

Once washed into the sea, nitrate and phosphate-rich farm run-off triggers oxygen-depleted zones where no marine life can exist. Encircled by nine countries, including Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden, the Baltic has an estimated 16 million people living along its shores.

"We hope that people in other Baltic Sea states like Denmark, Germany, Lithuania and Poland will join us in the coming years," Vaik told AFP. —AFP

## EU MAY REQUIRE YOUTUBE, DAILYMOTION TO SEEK DEALS WITH MUSIC INDUSTRY

**BRUSSELS:** Websites such as Google's YouTube, DailyMotion and Pinterest could be required by the European Union to seek licenses or revenue-sharing deals with artists for content that is uploaded by their users. The music industry has long complained that services such as YouTube do not pay artists enough for their music and has urged regulators to close what it calls the "value gap". They say that Alphabet Inc's Google makes vast sums from ad-supported services such as YouTube, but only a small share of the money goes to the music industry.

The European Commission, the EU executive, is looking at imposing an obligation on platforms hosting user-uploaded content such as YouTube, Vimeo and DailyMotion to seek agreements with rights holders "reflecting the economic value of the use made of the protected content", according to a draft paper, seen by Reuters, listing the preferred options for the EU's copyright reform.

The agreement could take the form of a copyright license or a monetization agreement such as sharing of revenue, an option that is already widely used. The Commission also wants online sharing platforms to put in place "appropriate and proportionate measures, such as content identification technologies, to ensure the functioning" of the agreements with rights holders.

The proposal is still being discussed and

the final version is expected in late September. Google says that YouTube alone has generated more than \$2 billion for rights holders by striking licensing agreements with music labels and publishing societies around the world. YouTube uses Content ID, which automatically identifies an artist's content, to give rights holders the choice of whether to leave it up, block it or monetize it through a revenue-sharing deal.

Google says that more than 98 percent of all YouTube copyright removal claims use Content ID and the music industry chooses to monetize 95 percent of its Content ID claims. But rights holders say they do not have enough bargaining power and are presented with a "take it or leave it" deal since the online platforms have no obligation to negotiate with them.

The draft paper said its proposals are likely to increase revenues for rights holders but did not estimate by how much. Google declined to comment. The music industry says that Content ID does not work well enough and subscription-based services such as Spotify generate more revenue for the industry despite a smaller user base. The Commission also wants to give news publishers a new exclusive right covering the online use of their content to give them more bargaining power vis-à-vis search engines such as Google when demanding payment for showing snippets of their articles. — Reuters



**LAS VEGAS:** A pair of DJI Phantom 4 drones are flown during an AviSight Drone Academy training class at the South Point Hotel & Casino on August 25, 2016. —AFP

# DON'T COUNT ON TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE YOU IN A DISASTER

## OVERBLOWN EXPECTATIONS

**BARCELONA:** Newfound enthusiasm for the latest technologies, such as drones and smartphones, to improve the way aid is provided to people in disasters may be overblown, experts warned on Thursday.

The annual World Risk Report from the United Nations University (UNU) highlights the growing interest in new technologies to improve emergency response - from drones that can survey crisis-hit areas to social media networks that allow survivors to communicate with the wider world. These can provide important information to the logisticians who organize aid delivery or health workers trying to track deadly diseases like Ebola in no-go areas, the report said.

But Matthias Garschagen, a risk management expert with the UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), said it could not substitute for the basic infrastructure some countries have lacked for decades. "Too many people see technology as the main panacea for solving all the problems you have after disasters strike," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "A lot of development experts put too much emphasis on technology."

In Africa, for example, there are just 65 kilometers of paved road per 100,000 inhabitants, compared to 832 km in Europe or 552 km in the

Americas. In heavy rain, dirt roads soon become impassable, which hampers the delivery of aid, the report said. "No smartphones in the world are going to significantly change this state of affairs," Garschagen said in the report produced with the University of Stuttgart and B,ndnis Entwicklung Hilft, an alliance of German aid agencies.

After the Nepal earthquakes last year, aid agencies used drones to find out the extent of damage, but their uncontrolled flying was a headache for the government, which introduced restrictions. And in many cases, helicopters were not available to bring in aid to meet the needs identified by aerial surveillance.

Drones themselves cannot be expected to carry out aid deliveries any time soon, because they cannot carry big enough loads and their use is subject to so many rules, said Kathrin Mohr, who heads Deutsche Post DHL Group's "GoHelp" team. "Some suggest that drones could even carry medicine supplies to remote villages. I think this is complete nonsense," she said in the report. "Just realize what one of these drones can carry: Not more than one to three kilograms. This really is an extremely limited amount."

#### Humans matter

Garschagen said sound infrastructure - from transport to telecoms and power networks -

must be built with disaster risks in mind and properly maintained. An early warning system, installed in Indonesia after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, malfunctioned in October 2010 when a 3-metre (10 ft) wave crashed into the remote Mentawai islands, taking residents by surprise and killing several hundred people. "Too often we think infrastructure means building a nice road, a nice bridge or a tsunami early warning system," Garschagen said. "But we don't pay sufficient attention to the humans and institutions that need to be trained, educated and built around the technology in order to maintain or run it properly."

Planners and builders of infrastructure - whether companies, governments or development banks - should also consider the risks from climate change, such as worsening floods, he added. That is particularly so in Southeast Asia and Africa, where much essential infrastructure is not yet in place, he said. But pressure from investors in growing cities like Lagos or Ho Chi Minh City can make it difficult to think long term, raising the risk of buildings or transport being located in disaster-prone areas.

An index ranking the risk of disasters for 171 countries, contained in the report, shows the world's hot-spots lie in the Pacific Ocean, Southeast Asia, Central America and Africa's southern Sahel region. —Reuters

# GENERATION OF MODERN ERP BEGINS

**By Stephen Fernandes, Executive Vice President - TransSys Solutions**

**R**apid onslaught of digital technologies and growth in digital communities have prompted IT managers to look beyond traditional ERP frameworks to what is next.

Business and enterprise applications have relied on databases to store information and process it for results and inferences. But the architecture of databases used over the last decade have been used with certain limitations. Most databases have been built to use with specific applications and for specific purposes. In other words, applications and databases are configured to match each other to generate specific results for end users. Change the requirement and the database needs to be configured to match the purpose. In the present era of digital transformation and business agility, the biggest hurdles remain managing the complex databases and the enormous growth in duplication of data.

However, till recently businesses had no option but to wade through large, sprawling, complex and limited database structures, locked to legacy applications that generated predetermined reports and dashboards. Changing the requirements of the management dashboard has meant recreating the database, a long and demanding process.

While the basic core ERP engine still remains, the driver of enterprise transaction processing cannot be ignored. The associated ecosystem of tools and interfaces to engage and access this engine, are in the process of being transformed. Creating and replicating databases to meet new requirements, the significant lead times associated with the process, the limited benefits and gains at the end of it, has led to the emergence of next generation ERP.

While duplication and complexity of databases structures are offshoots of traditional inward facing IT investments, the challenges of data deluge are coming from another source. Sensor generated data, data from social media applications, consumer data generated from mobile and other connected devices, are generating exponential volumes of data, that are in an unstructured format. For any business, the external unstructured data needs to be linked to internal structured databases to be brought into context and generate business friendly conclusions. Many of the open source datawarehouses are limited in their ability to integrate with internal, structured application databases.

The limitations of ERP applications to meet

the increasing demands of business to compete in real time, the increasingly long lead times to make modifications, the inability to manage new sources of data generation, have pushed business managers to independently test the waters of cloud based applications available on multitude of connected devices. And question the longer term viability of expensive and cumbersome ERP systems.

IT managers are now faced with answering two fundamental questions. How can they leverage previous investments in ERP systems while meeting the requirements of business managers faced with the onslaught of digital transformation? How can they rapidly integrate existing ERP systems with newer, more open, agile digital applications? The primary objective of such initiatives being to transform and rebuild the business into one adapted for change and to perform as a high velocity enterprise.

The transformation process leading to building next generation ERP systems and architecture typically involves the following:

- Leveraging the core ERP and extending it to meet new data requirements
- Incorporating new technology enhancements such as open APIs, hybrid cloud deployment, in-memory computing, real time analytics, IoT interfaces
- Bringing in new models of user engagement such as managed services, consortium building, risk-sharing
- Interconnectivity and integration with multiple and growing data sources and data streams through open interfaces, aggregating results and intelligence
- Migrating to a new architecture that is open to integration, agile in delivery, and is in a mode of continuous innovation and improvement
- Revamping user experience and navigation helping them get visibility into data and actionable intelligence leading to smart decision making
- Realigning with business processes while adding additional granular information, real time analytics, in-contextual support, aiding improved decision making, agility, velocity

The most significant aspect of Modern ERP solutions is simplification at every level. This includes system architecture, program structure, data model, user interface, intuitiveness, data results, data dashboards, data interpretations, amongst others.

Other characteristics of Modern ERP applications include inbuilt-modularity of solutions, hybrid approach of deployment, extensive inter-

operability through open APIs, backward and forward platform compatibility, intrinsic open source approach, and flexible architecture for future product expansion.

Another question that arises for end users is how to migrate into next-generation ERP solutions. A ray of sunlight here - vendors are offering all possible migration paths. End users can opt for on premise or hybrid migration options. If it is on premise they can opt for greenfield, all-new environment migration. Or they can opt for upgrading selected hardware, and a phased-wise approach for improvement. For a hybrid IT migration, the optimal mix of private and public cloud deployments are selected.

It has been decades since the first databases were used by enterprises, the IT industry may now be on a fresh and revamped path of win-win relationships with their eco-system of end customers.



**Stephen Fernandes - Executive Vice President - TransSys Solutions**

# ISRAELI TECH GROUP SHELLANOO PLANS TEL AVIV IPO

**JERUSALEM:** Israeli technology company Shellanoo is planning to raise at least 100 million shekels (\$26.5 million) in an initial public offering (IPO) on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in late September or October, it said yesterday.

Shellanoo, founded in 2014 and whose backers include Russian billionaire Roman

Abramovich and popstars will.i.am and Nicki Minaj, focuses on mobile applications, online services and interactive artificial intelligence.

The company said it has been valued at \$177 million by consulting firm BDO. By staying local, Shellanoo is bucking a trend of Israeli technology companies

choosing to list on foreign markets such as Nasdaq.

Company spokesman David Strauss said that Shellanoo hopes its plans will encourage more technology businesses to stay in Tel Aviv. Among Shellanoo's investments, its website lists about two dozen mobile apps and digital platforms, some available

and some in development.

One of those programmes is anonymous messaging app Blindspot, which has come under fire from some parents and politicians who say it is being used as a weapon for cyber-bullying. The IPO is being underwritten by Israeli investment bank Poalim IBI. —Reuters



## TANZANIA’S ARMY OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS FACE MISTRUST

**DAR ES SALAAM:** One of the biggest tests of Justine Michael's job as a community health worker is not the distances he must travel along remote dirt roads to visit patients in Tanzania's Mkuranga district, but rather the suspicion he often encounters.

Many villagers are wary when they are approached by a stranger dressed in trousers and a shirt, rather than the crisp white coats favoured by doctors all over the world, he said. "Some people don't trust the services we provide. When I visit a family, the people are sometimes very hostile or say, 'what do these hospital sweepers (cleaners) want?'," Michael said. "We want them to change this mindset and know we are trained to do this work," he added.

Michael is one of more than 5,000 community health workers the Tanzanian government has deployed to provide essential life-saving services in rural areas where 70 percent of the country's population of 49 million live.

The initiative was introduced a year ago to address gaps in healthcare in the East African country where there are only 0.1 doctors and 2.4 nurses and midwives for every 10,000 people, according to 2014 data from the World Health Organization.

In Tanzania, healthcare is considered a luxury espe-

cially in remote, rural parts where, according to the World Bank, only 9 percent of the nation's doctors are based. "Our plan is to have at least two community health workers in each village," said Otilia Gowel, director of human resources and development at the ministry of health, referring to the government's five-year plan.

### Courage

In Bagamoyo district housing one of the most important trading ports along the East African coast during the slave trade, community health workers make regular visits to Fatma Abdul as she progresses through her third pregnancy.

Using simple messages with pictures, they stress the importance of breastfeeding for the first six months and offer advice on how to keep babies warm or identify signs of illness. But the health workers have done more than provide antenatal care, they have also brought hope to the HIV-positive mother of two.

"I got a lot of courage when they told me being HIV-positive is not a death sentence," Abdul said, sitting outside her mother's thatch-roofed house not far from Bagamoyo town where houses with doors of intricately carved wood line the dusty streets.

Shame over her status stopped Abdul from attending appointments at the local hospital, but she soon started receiving home visits from community health workers instead. "They taught me how to stay healthy and protect my baby from being infected with HIV," said the heavily pregnant 35-year-old. "When I give birth I might feed my baby with infant formula to avoid passing the infection," she added.

### Maternal mortality

Eireen Darlington says the community health workers she trains at a nursing and midwifery school in Tanzania's commercial capital Dar es Salaam, are taught to promote nutrition, basic hygiene, family planning and immunization.

They are also trained to tackle domestic violence and alcohol abuse, provide counseling and care for HIV/AIDS patients and give special attention to expectant mothers. "They detect and handle risky pregnancies as well as assisting women during labor and child birth," Darlington said.

According to the World Health Organization, only 47 percent of births in Tanzania are attended by a skilled health worker of any kind - a reality that contributes to high maternal mortality rates. "While Tanzania has

reduced child mortality, mothers and new born are still at high risk of untimely death," said Keith Hansen, World Bank Vice President for Human Development, at the launch of a report on service delivery data in Tanzania in May. Tanzania's maternal mortality rate was 432 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2014, an improvement on 790 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2008. But the rate still falls short of northern neighbors Kenya, which had a maternal mortality rate of 495 deaths per 100,000 live births and Uganda, which had 438 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2014, World Bank data showed.

Although the use of community health workers is widely seen as an effective way of addressing Tanzania's shortage of health professionals, critics of the scheme say health workers do not always provide quality services. "For community health workers to be able make an effective contribution, they must be carefully selected, adequately trained and continuously supported," said Anastacia Kileo, a public health expert at KCMC medical training centre.

She also worries that the government does not have the budget to pay a larger health workforce. "If we cannot even pay our doctors decently, where will the money to pay this army of community health workers come from?" she said. — Reuters



**WILLIAMSON, WEST VIRGINIA:** In this May 2, 2016 file photo, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton listens to Dr. Christopher Beckett, CEO of Williamson Health and Wellness Center during a tour an exam room of the facility. — AP

## CAN CLINTON SAVE HEALTH OVERHAUL FROM ITS MOUNTING PROBLEMS?

### HOURLASS RUNNING OUT FOR OBAMACARE

**WASHINGTON:** With the hourglass running out for his administration, President Barack Obama's health care law is struggling in many parts of the country. Double-digit premium increases and exits by big-name insurers have caused some to wonder whether "Obamacare" will go down as a failed experiment.

If Democrat Hillary Clinton wins the White House, expect her to mount a rescue effort. But how much Clinton could do depends on finding willing partners in Congress and among Republican governors, a real political challenge. "There are turbulent waters," said Kathleen Sebelius, Obama's first secretary of Health and Human Services. "But do I see this as a death knell? No."

Next year's health insurance sign-up season starts a week before the Nov. 8 election, and the previews have been brutal. Premiums are expected to go up sharply in many insurance marketplaces, which offer subsidized private coverage to people lacking access to job-based plans.

At the same time, retrenchment by insurers that have lost hundreds of millions of dollars means that more areas will become one-insurer markets, losing the benefits of competition. The consulting firm Avalere Health projects that seven states will only have one insurer in each of their marketplace regions next year.

Administration officials say insurers set prices too low in a bid to gain market share, and the correction is leading to sticker shock. Insurers blame the problems on sicker-than-expected customers, disappointing enrollment and a premium stabilization system that failed to work as advertised. They also say some peo-

ple are gaming the system, taking advantage of guaranteed coverage to get medical care only when they are sick.

Not all state markets are in trouble. What is more important, most of the 11 million people covered through HealthCare.gov and its state-run counterparts will be cushioned from premium increases by government subsidies that rise with the cost.

But many customers may have to switch to less comprehensive plans to keep their monthly premiums down. And millions of people who buy individual policies outside the government marketplaces get no financial help. They will have to pay the full increases or go without coverage and risk fines. (People with employer coverage and Medicare are largely unaffected.)

Tennessee's insurance commissioner said recently that the individual health insurance market in her state is "very near collapse." Premiums for the biggest insurer are expected to increase by an average of 62 percent. Two competitors will post average increases of 46 percent and 44 percent.

But because the spigot of federal subsidies remains wide open, an implosion of health insurance markets around the country seems unlikely. More than 8 out of 10 HealthCare.gov customers get subsidies covering about 70 percent of their total premiums. Instead, the damage is likely to be gradual. Rising premiums deter healthy people from signing up, leaving an insurance pool that's more expensive to cover each succeeding year.

"My real concern is 2018," said Caroline Pearson, a senior vice president with Avalere. "If there is no improvement in enrollment, we

could see big sections of the country without any plans participating."

If Republican Donald Trump wins the White House, he'd start dismantling the Affordable Care Act. But Clinton would come with a long list of proposed fixes, from rearranging benefits to introducing a government-sponsored "public option" as an alternative to private insurers. Not all her ideas would require congressional action.

"She is going to find it important to continue to expand health care," said Joel Ario, a former Obama administration official who's now with the consulting firm Mannatt Health.

People in the Clinton camp say she recognizes that as president she'd have to get Obama's law working better, and is taking nothing off the table.

A look at some major ideas and their prospects:

### Public option

Clinton's primary rival, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, advocated "Medicare for all" and that pushed Clinton to a fuller embrace of government-run insurance. But Democrats could not get a public option through Congress even when they had undisputed control. Whichever party wins the Senate in November, the balance is expected to be close and Republicans are favored to retain control of the House.

While a new national insurance program seems a long shot, Obama's law allows states to experiment. "I think the public option is more likely to be tested at a state level," Sebelius said.

### Sweetening subsidies

Clinton has proposed more generous subsidies and tax credits for health care, which might also entice more people to sign up. But she'd have a tough time selling Republicans. It may be doable in the bargaining around budget and tax bills, but Democrats would be pressed to give up some of the health law's requirements, including a premiums formula that tends to favor older people over young adults.

### Incremental changes

Whether it's fixing a "family glitch" that can prevent dependents from getting subsidized coverage, requiring insurers to cover more routine services outside the annual deductible, or reworking the premium stabilization program for insurers, incremental changes seem to offer a president Clinton her easiest path.

### Medicaid expansion

Expect a Clinton White House to tirelessly court the 19 states that have yet to expand Medicaid for low-income people. She'd ask Congress to provide the same three full years of federal financing that early-adopting states got under the health law. GOP governors would demand more flexibility with program rules.

"I'm just hoping that reality begins to sink in when she is inaugurated," Sebelius said. "If the law is not going to go away, then let's make it work." — AP

## TOGO SLAUGHTERS 11,500 CHICKENS AFTER H5N1 BIRD FLU OUTBREAK

**LOME, TOGO:** Togolese authorities said on Saturday they had slaughtered 11,500 chickens in response to an outbreak of H5N1 bird flu at two farms in the capital Lome and the town of Adetokope, about 25 km north of Lome. "We are in the presence of the H5N1 virus," Agriculture Minister Ouro-Koura Agadazi said on public radio, after the strain was confirmed by laboratory tests in Italy.

Highly pathogenic H5N1 bird flu has spread across a number of West African countries in the past two years, hitting poultry farms in Niger and Cameroon. The outbreaks across West Africa have raised fears of transmission to humans, given poor health infrastructure in the region and a number of human H5N1 deaths since the virus first infected humans in 1997 during an outbreak in poultry in Hong Kong. — Reuters

## AFTER IRENE FORCES RECKONING, MENTAL HEALTH CARE REBUILT

**MONTPELIER, VERMONT:** Five years after flooding from Tropical Storm Irene forced the closing of the Vermont State Hospital in Waterbury, much of the system has been rebuilt, but challenges remain.

Most of the 54 beds available to the most severely mentally ill that were lost in the closing of the state hospital have been replaced. The 25-bed Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital in Berlin is now in operation,

there are 14 beds at the Brattleboro Retreat and six at the Rutland Regional Medical Center.

But others say patients are waiting too long in hospital emergency departments to get the treatment they need. Some argue more beds are needed. Vermont Mental Health officials say there are enough acute beds, but not enough beds for people who are ready to leave top level treatment. — AP



**BERLIN, VERMONT:** In this Jan. 8, 2013 file photograph, Gov. Peter Shumlin, fourth from right, joins other officials in a ground breaking ceremony for a new hospital. — AP

## NICARAGUA CONFIRMS FIRST MICROCEPHALY BIRTH LINKED TO THE ZIKA VIRUS

**MANAGUA:** Nicaragua has confirmed its first case of a baby born with microcephaly linked to the Zika virus, authorities said on Friday. "The girl was born very underweight, at less than four pounds (1.81 kg) and with confirmed microcephaly," said Rosario Murillo, government spokeswoman and the country's first lady.

The mosquito-borne Zika virus was first detected in Brazil last year and has since spread across the Americas. The virus poses a risk to pregnant women because it can cause severe birth defects such as microcephaly. It has been linked to more than 1,800 cases of microcephaly in Brazil. — Reuters



**CAMPINAS, BRAZIL:** Aedes aegypti mosquitoes are seen inside Oxitec laboratory. — AP

## GERMAN PRACTITIONER SUSPECTED OF KILLING PATIENTS WITH EXPERIMENTAL DRUG

**BERLIN:** The head of an alternative cancer treatment centre in Germany is under investigation after three patients died there in suspicious circumstances, German prosecutors said on Friday.

The non-medical practitioner, identified as Klaus R., is suspected of manslaughter in three cases and negligent injury in the case of two more patients who remain in serious condition, said Axel Stahl, senior prosecutor in the Krefeld prosecutor's office.

Investigators are looking into allegations that the suspect treated patients with 3BP, an experimental drug that has not been clinically tested or approved for use as a cancer treatment. It is, however, used in alternative medicine, and the suspect was authorized to administer the drug on that basis. He has denied any wrongdoing.

"These are people who received treatment shortly before July 19 ... and immediately following this treatment had a dramatic decline in health", Stahl said.

The investigation will mainly focus on whether a causal link existed between the deaths of the patients and their treatment, Stahl said. It will probably be several weeks until prosecutors had the first results, he said.

Investigators would look into whether the chemical composition of the drug was incorrect and whether the dosage could have been wrong, he said.

The alternative treatment centre, located in the West German city of Brueggen near the Dutch border, was an outpatient practice. "The patients came mostly from Belgium and the Netherlands," Stahl said. — Reuters



## YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION DRIVE IN CONGO'S CAPITAL HITS TARGET

**KINSHASA, CONGO:** A vaccination campaign against yellow fever in Congo's capital is almost complete, but the gains may be reversed by the looming rainy season and the spread of the disease to areas where people have not yet been vaccinated, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday.

Health officials began a campaign to vaccinate 7.5 million people in Kinshasa last week to combat the worst outbreak in decades of the hemorrhagic virus. More than 400 people have died in Congo and neighboring Angola since December.

In all, health authorities aim to vaccinate 14 million people in the two countries by the end of August to halt the spread of the disease before the rainy season next month.

As of Thursday, 6,925,276 people, or 91.3 percent of the target population, in Kinshasa were vaccinated in the latest campaign, WHO said in a weekly report. About 2 million people were vaccinated in Kinshasa during campaigns in May and July.

The campaign wrapped up on Friday, but health workers will continue over the coming days to seek out individuals they missed, said WHO's Congo spokesman, Eugene Kabambi. "We had to resolve this before the rains ... It's a big success," Kabambi said, adding that additional preventive measures need to be taken to definitively stop transmission.

WHO's report warned that the outbreak risks spreading to areas not previously touched by yellow fever. So far, eight of the country's 26 provinces have reported suspected cases. — Reuters



**GOMBE, CONGO:** Congolese people queue to receive vaccination against yellow fever in Gombe district, of the Democratic Republic of Congo's capital Kinshasa on August 17, 2016. — AFP



**SINGAPORE:** A contractor fogs a condominium garden in Singapore in an effort to kill mosquitoes, September 5, 2013. — AFP

## SINGAPORE CONFIRMS 41 CASES OF LOCALLY-TRANSMITTED ZIKA VIRUS

MORE CASES WERE EXPECTED TO BE IDENTIFIED

**SINGAPORE:** Singapore authorities have confirmed 41 cases of locally-transmitted Zika virus, which in Brazil has been linked to a rare birth defect, and said more cases were expected to be identified.

Those infected include 36 foreign construction workers employed at a site near Aljunied in the southeast of the island, the health ministry and the National Environment Agency (NEA) said in a joint statement on Sunday.

On Saturday, authorities had confirmed Singapore's first case of a local transmission of the virus, to a 47-year-old Malaysian woman, also from the Aljunied area. "MOH (the ministry of health) cannot rule out further community transmission in Singapore since some of those tested positive also live or work in other parts of Singapore," the statement said. "We expect to identify more positive cases."

The authorities said they have tested 124 people, primarily construction workers. Seventy-eight tested negative and five cases were pending. Thirty-four patients have fully recovered. It was not immediately clear where the foreign workers were from, but Singapore hosts a large contingent of workers from the Asian sub-continent.

"All the cases are residents or workers in the Aljunied Crescent/Sims Drive area. They are not known to have travelled to Zika-affected areas recently, and are thus likely to have been infected in Singapore. This confirms that local transmission of Zika virus infection has taken place," the statement

said. Dozens of NEA staff cleaned drains and sprayed insecticide in the mainly residential area early on Sunday, and volunteers and contractors handed out leaflets and insect repellent. The NEA workers had accessed more than 1,800 premises of a total of 6,000 in the area to check for mosquito breeding.

Local residents welcomed the clean-up. "I'm very scared of mosquitoes because they always seem to bite me, they never bite my husband," Janice, 31, who gave only her first name, told Reuters. "This concerns me because maybe in a couple of years I want to have another (child)."

Zika was detected in Brazil last year and has since spread across the Americas. The virus poses a risk to pregnant women because it can cause severe birth defects. It has been linked to more than 1,600 cases of microcephaly in Brazil.

### Regional risk

The Singapore government said there were "ongoing local transmission" cases in Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. Other countries in the region to have detected the Zika virus since 2013 include Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives and the Philippines, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Malaysia said on yesterday that it stepped up surveillance at main transit points with Singapore.

Health director-general Noor Hisham Abdullah said leaflets on Zika prevention were being handed out and paramedics were at entry points to handle

visitors with potential symptoms. As of this month, Malaysia said it has screened more than 2 million visitors at air, sea and land entrances, and found no Zika infections.

In Thailand, where close to 100 cases of Zika have been recorded across 10 provinces this year, the Department of Disease Control (DDC) was screening all athletes returning from the Olympic Games in Brazil, but was not otherwise changing its prevention measures. "Every country in this region has Zika transmission cases," said Prasert Thongcharoen, an adviser to the DDC. "Thailand has, however, managed to contain the problem through early detection."

Indonesian foreign ministry spokesman Armanatha Nasir said the country was "following developments". Oskar Pribadi, a health ministry official, said there have been no recent Zika cases.

Vietnam has to date reported three cases of locally-transmitted Zika infection. The current strain of Zika that is sweeping through Latin America and the Caribbean originated in Asia, where people could have built up greater immunity.

US health officials have concluded that Zika infections in pregnant women can cause microcephaly, a birth defect marked by small head size that can lead to severe developmental problems. The WHO has said there is strong scientific consensus that Zika can also cause Guillain-Barre, a rare neurological syndrome that causes temporary paralysis in adults. — Reuters

## VOLUNTEERS GIVE KISS OF LIFE AS LAOS ROAD TOLLS MOUNT

**VIENTIANE:** "Look at me, stay with us," the paramedics shout as a barely conscious motorcyclist is bundled into a volunteer ambulance in the Laotian capital Vientiane, where rampant drink driving brings nightly carnage to the roads.

It is a grim scene familiar the world over. But in Laos, an impoverished and authoritarian communist country with almost no state-funded medical services, these kind of vital lifesavers are volunteers and entirely funded by donations.

And they have never been more in demand. By the time the crew arrive at a nearby hospital, the Japanese donated ambulance-a right hand drive vehicle in a left hand drive nation-has picked up two more injured on the way. Fresh calls for help are coming in all the time. Founded in 2010 by a group of foreigners, "Vientiane Rescue" is a much needed lifeline for those in need of urgent medical care.

"Before we launched this service, after an accident the wounded were simply left on the roadside or taken away in tuk-tuks. That's obviously disastrous for those with fractures or trauma," explained Sébastien Perret, a French national and former firefighter who helped found the group. Poorly maintained roads, dilapidated vehicles, an increase in motorcycle use and the widespread prevalence of drink driving makes Vientiane one of Asia's most precarious capitals for road deaths.

### Years of rapid growth

The government keeps few statistics, but Perret's group says demand for their services has jumped 30 percent in the last year alone. "We undertake around 20 to 30 call outs a day. And in 90 percent of cases it is road accidents," he said. There was a time when Vientiane was famed for its lack of cars. Backpackers passing

through the city in the 1990s would marvel at the wide, French-built boulevards devoid of heavy traffic, bicycles and tuk-tuks the main form of transport.

But years of rapid growth has seen the same streets filled with vehicles in recent years, many of them brand new SUVs and luxury cars driven by the country's communist party elite.

That wealth-and the volunteer ambulances scooping victims up from the road-are both a stark illustration of how public services in communist Laos are largely nascent or non-existent despite being one of Asia's fastest growing economies over the last decade. In the 1990s the country's rulers abandoned free healthcare altogether, meaning ordinary citizens must fend for themselves when they get ill.

### Minimal health spend

Since 2000, Laos' GDP has increased 12 times, reaching \$12.3 billion in 2015. But the country currently has one of the world's lowest spends on healthcare. In recent years it has averaged just 0.5 percent of GDP according to the World Bank. In contrast, similarly impoverished Cambodia spends 1.3 percent while fellow communist nations Vietnam and Cuba spend 3.8 percent and 10.6 percent of GDP respectively.

The Health Ministry in Laos, a country where all foreign journalists must be accompanied by a government minder, declined an AFP interview but did issue a brief statement via email. In it they admitted there was a shortage of good healthcare. "The main problems for hospitals in Laos is the lack of qualified staff, equipment, coaching and financial resources," the statement said. But the ministry did not say whether there were any plans to increase healthcare spending or to tackle the issues in the coming years. — AFP



**VIENTIANE, LAOS:** This picture taken on May 30, 2016 shows Vientiane Rescue volunteers taking a person involved in a road accident to a hospital. — AFP

# CLINIC PAGE



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إستشاري أطفال  
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Kuwait Triskelion Alumni Organization Sport fest and Raffle for a cause. Sebamed sponsored the event along with other companies.

## IIK DIWALI MELA 2016

After the grand success of our first ever IIK Diwali Mela, IIK is once again proud to announce for the 5th time - IIK DIWALI MELA 2016. As part of our continuous endeavour to bring the Indian Community together to celebrate the most popular Indian Festival, IIK is organizing the Diwali Mela on Friday, 21st October 2016 at Al Zumerida Hall, Al Bida'a, Opp Salwa, Kuwait from 10 AM to 8 PM.

The whole day program comprises of all round entertainment for the entire family and all age groups. Visitors can enjoy the various Indian Association cultural programs, Kids fashion show, fancy dress, Dandiya Ras, Lantern competition, Mithai Contest, Rangoli Competition, food at different Indian Stalls as well as shopping of Indian Goods like clothes, hand-crafts, novelties, gifts and others. The Carnival atmosphere is a source of amusement for one and all.

The Mela focussed to bring all Indian Associations together in a common platform, helps them to showcase their rich culture through various programs and stalls. Previous years Diwali Mela was enjoyed by people from all walks of life in the Carnival atmosphere with plenty of Food, Entertainment, Diwali Gifts shopping and games.

Various Indian Associations can be part of this Mega Carnival by having Stalls for selling food, clothes, gifts stalls, ethnic Indian products, services, promotional, fun, recreational or any other purposes. Association members can also participate in the cultural programs, Fancy Dress, Rangoli Competition, Kids Fashion Show which will showcase traditional culture. This is an invaluable opportunity to extend your wishes to the Indian community and be part of this mega program. Come and enjoy a fun filled day-long event with lots of festivity and games.

### WHAT'S ON - SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All photos submitted for What's On should be minimum 200dpi. Articles must be in plain text and should include name and phone numbers. Articles and photos that fail to meet these requirements will not be published.

Please send them to  
[news@kuwaittimes.net](mailto:news@kuwaittimes.net)



## KOYILANDY KOOTTAM KUWAIT CHAPTER ANNOUNCED 'KOYILANDY FEST 2016'

Koyilandy Koottam Facebook Global Community - Kuwait Chapter Second Year Annual Celebration "Koyilandy Fest 2016" Coupon has been launched by Mr. Afsal Khan, Malabar Gold Country Head by handed over to Mr. Hamza Payyannur, Metro Medical Group Vice Chairman. Koyilandy Fest 2016 scheduled to be held on 28th October, 2016 at

Community Hall, Abbasiya. The "Koyilandy Fest 2016" is chartered with variety of programs including Food Festival and Musical Night leading by Saleem Kodathur (Mappila Song Fame) with famous artists hails from Kuwait.

First Coupon been received by Gafoor Kappad, Rajab Cargo Chief from Mr. Vbin, Malabar Gold Marketing Head.

The function was presided over by President Illyas Bahassan. Sainudheen, K.Aboobacker, Manoj Kumar Kappad, PV Najeeb Kollam, Nikhil Pavoor delivered the felicitation speeches.

Gen. Secretary Shahul Beypore welcomed the members and Musthafa Mythri casted vote of Thanks.

## AWAMI VOLUNTEER LEAGUE KUWAIT CITY COMMITTEE OBSERVES NATIONAL MOURNING DAY



On August 15, 1975, the National Mourning Day, Father of the Bengali nation and the founding premier of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with most of his family members was brutally murdered on this darkest episode in 1975.

Commemorating the National Mourning Day Awami Volunteer League Kuwait City Committee has met on a discussion meeting and prayer mahfil at Kuwait City on 15 August 2016. Jakir Hossain General Secretary of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait City Committee presented the program and Mohammed Shahadat Hossain the president of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait City Committee presided the program.

Mohammed Masud Karim President of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Central Committee was the chief guest in the event. Among the special guests Belal Uddin General Secretary of Awami

Volunteer League Central Committee Kuwait, Vice-President Mohammed Yousuf, Abu Taher, Abdul Mabud, Mohammed shamim, Organizing Secretary Anisul Hoque Sumon, Rashedul Islam, Ashraf Azam, Sports Secretary Md. Sumon, Education Secretary Hiru Khan, Mohammed Mithu, Abdudus Salam. The program commenced with the recitation of verses from the holy Quran, recited by Monir Hossain.

The one minute silence was observed in honor of the martyrs of 15 August 1975. Awami Volunteer League Kuwait City Committee President Shahadat Hossain, Chief guest Masud Karim, All of Special guests Delivered speeches highlighting the glorious achievements of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Shaikh Mujibur Rahman. Special prayer was offered seeking divine grace for the departed soul of Bangabandhu Shaikh Mujibur Rahman and all the martyrs of August 15, 1975.





## GUST & FAWSEC HOST 'WELCOME TO KUWAIT' DINNER

Gulf University for Science and Technology, in collaboration with FAWSEC Educational Company, organized the annual welcome to Kuwait dinner on its campus last week for over 300 new international teachers joining the private school workforce for the 2016/2017 academic year. The event gave the teachers an opportunity to

meet, connect, and receive valuable information to help them as they settle in Kuwait. GUST President, Professor Donald Bates, said: "GUST is honored to have hosted such a vibrant group of educators to help ease their transition in to their new roles. Our university is renowned for its connection to the community, and this event highlighted one of our

main objectives in giving back." The event was attended by many private school teachers and administrators. It gave the attendees an outlet where they could meet each other, learn about various aspects on life in Kuwait including: culture, strategies for teaching locally, Kuwait history, networking, and leisure activities.

FAWSEC Professional Development Coordinator, Ms. Lynda Abdullaheem, said: "Easing educators into their new environment is vital to ensure that they are able to do their best work and provide a superior educational experience for our students." The event also provided an opportunity for them to interact with different local educa-

tional vendors, such as the different embassies, Teacher's Cellar Supply Store, AWARE Center, One World Actors Center, Toastmasters, and more. GUST was able to strengthen its relationship with local private schools and their administrations, and allowed the university to showcase how much it values educators.



## PAMPER YOUR FAMILY AT THE MARINA HOTEL KUWAIT WITH A SPECIAL SUMMER PACKAGE

Marina Hotel Kuwait announced its much awaited summer package and special vacation getaway to experience summer fun at its best. Guests are offered absolute pampering and leisure with a resort-feel ambience through its facilities away from the city's busy routine. The all-inclusive Marina Hotel package guarantees real joy under the sun with its secluded private beach and three pools: lap pool, kids' pool and family pool with the Marina Waves pool bar. Guests can relax in their rooms, all overlooking the beautiful Arabian Sea, at a rate starting from KD 88 for a double Superior Room per night, buffet breakfast included. The package provides free access to the hotel's many facilities: the Coral Reef Health Club & Spa, the squash court, beach and pool area. Well known for its delicious international cuisine, guest can go for first-rate dining at the hotel's two celebrated restaurants: 'The Six Palms' and the 'Atlantis'. For mouth-watering delicacies, indulge in international, Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dishes from a scrumptious array of menu choices in a tranquil setting. Additionally guests availing the summer package can take advantage of the 20% discount on buffet lunch and dinner at the Atlantis Restaurant. With a walking distance to the Marina Mall and Marina Crescent, one can enjoy a complete holiday with easy access to their favorite shopping destinations. Make sure you book your room at the award winning Marina Hotel Kuwait for a unique getaway experience and excellent standard of quality service. For more information, please visit our website: [www.marinahotel.com](http://www.marinahotel.com)

## INDIA E-TOURIST VISA FACILITY

In pursuance of the announcement made on March 14, 2015 by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, the Embassy of India is pleased to inform that the e-Tourist Visa (eTV) scheme is extended to nationals of 45 countries with effect from Tuesday, April 15, 2015. e-Tourist Visa Facility is available for holders of passport of following countries: Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Djibouti, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Guyana, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue Island, Norway, Oman, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, UAE, Ukraine, USA, Vanuatu & Vietnam. Kuwaiti nationals are not included in eTV facility. 2. The new scheme will be in addition to the existing visa services. Foreign nationals of above 45 countries holding Diplomatic / Official passports cannot avail of the eTV scheme. International Travellers having Pakistani passports or of Pakistani origin are not eligible for this facility. 3. The eTV can be utilized by all foreign Nationals holding ordinary passports whose sole objective of visiting India is recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives, short duration

medical treatment or casual business visit. The applicant should not have a residence or occupation in India. The applicant should hold a passport valid for at least six months validity from the date of arrival in India. 4. It may be noted that visa will not be issued on arrival without ETA. Applicants have to apply and obtain ETA online prior to undertaking travel to India. This process will take a minimum of 4 working days. 5. The eTV will be for single-entry and valid for only 30 days stay from the date of arrival in India. The eTV will be non-extendable, non-convertible and not valid for visiting Protected / Restricted and Cantonment Areas. Entry into India must be through any of the following 9 designated airports only - Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Thiruvananthapuram. However, exit can be through any authorized Immigration Check Post (ICP) in India. Entry into India must be undertaken within 30 days from the date of approval of ETA. The eTV facility cannot be availed of more than twice in a calendar year. 6. The applicant should carry a printed copy of ETA along with him / her at the time of travel. He / she should have a return / onward journey tick-

et, with sufficient money to spend during his/her stay in India. 7. Biometric details of the applicant will be captured at Immigration on arrival in India. 8. There is a special fee of US\$ 60 per person (plus an interchange charge of US\$ 2 for credit / debit cards) for the new scheme. This fee must be paid before the application can be processed, and once paid, the fee is non-refundable. **How to apply for ETA** 9. Applicants should apply online at: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html> Each applicant must have a separate passport (international travel documents shall not be accepted). Applications by individuals endorsed on parent's/ spouse's passport shall not be accepted. 10. The application process requires uploading the scanned page of the passport containing the photo and personal details like name, date of birth, nationality, expiry date, etc., in PDF format (10 KB to 300 KB). 11. The application process also requires the uploading of a recent front-facing digital photograph with plain white background, in JPEG format (10 KB to 1 MB). The head should be centred

within the frame and present the full head, from top of hair to bottom of chin. The photograph should not have any shadow on the face or on the background, and should not have any border. The height and width of the photograph must be equal. 12. The application is liable to be rejected if the uploaded document and photograph are not clear and as per specification. 13. The fee can be paid through Credit or Debit card. If there are more than three unsuccessful payment attempts, the application ID would be blocked & the application has to be made afresh, with a new application ID. 14. A decision on the application will be conveyed by email. Applicants are advised to ensure that correct e-mail address is provided. Applicants can track the status of their application online by clicking visa status. 15. For any assistance call 24 x 7 visa support center at +91-11-24300666 or send email to [indiatvoa@gov.in](mailto:indiatvoa@gov.in) 16. The process of ETA issuance is completely online and the Embassy of India will be unable to assist in expediting the issuance of ETAs. However, in case the eTV application is rejected, the applicant may apply afresh for issue of a regular visa.



BBC  
FIRST

03:20 Call The Midwife  
04:15 Doctors  
04:45 Eastenders  
05:15 Dickensian  
06:00 Doctors  
06:30 Doctors  
07:00 Eastenders  
07:30 Casualty  
08:25 Death In Paradise  
09:20 Call The Midwife  
10:15 Dickensian  
11:00 Doctors  
11:30 Eastenders  
12:00 Death In Paradise  
12:55 Call The Midwife  
13:50 Dickensian  
14:35 Doctors  
15:05 Eastenders  
15:40 Death In Paradise  
16:35 Call The Midwife  
17:30 Dickensian  
18:15 Casualty  
19:05 Death In Paradise  
20:00 Doctor Foster  
21:00 Doctor Foster  
21:55 Silent Witness  
22:55 Orphan Black  
23:45 Casualty  
00:40 Doctor Foster  
01:35 Doctor Foster  
02:30 Silent Witness

COMEDY  
CENTRAL

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  
07:15 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 UK  
11:25 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  
14:20 Ridiculousness  
14:45 Hungry Investors  
15:35 Catch A Contractor  
16:30 Nathan For You  
16:55 Nathan For You  
17:25 Lip Sync Battle  
17:50 Impractical Jokers UK  
18:15 Impractical Jokers UK  
18:39 Key And Peele  
19:03 Brotherhood  
19:27 MLE Championship  
20:13 Catch A Contractor  
21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
21:30 Owen Benjamin: High Five  
Til It Hurts

01:10 Gold Divers  
02:00 Tba  
02:50 Sharks vs Dolphins: Face Off

DISCOVERY  
SCIENCE

03:00 Smash Lab  
03:48 Smash Lab  
04:36 Smash Lab  
05:24 Smash Lab  
06:12 How Do They Do It?  
07:00 Smash Lab  
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  
14:55 Mega Builders  
15:05 Race To Escape  
15:26 Smash Lab  
16:14 How The Universe Works  
17:02 Mega Builders  
17:50 Smash Lab  
18:40 Moon Machines  
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 Moon Machines  
23:40 Smash Lab  
00:30 How Do They Do It?  
00:55 Food Factory  
01:20 Meteorite Men  
02:10 Moon Machines

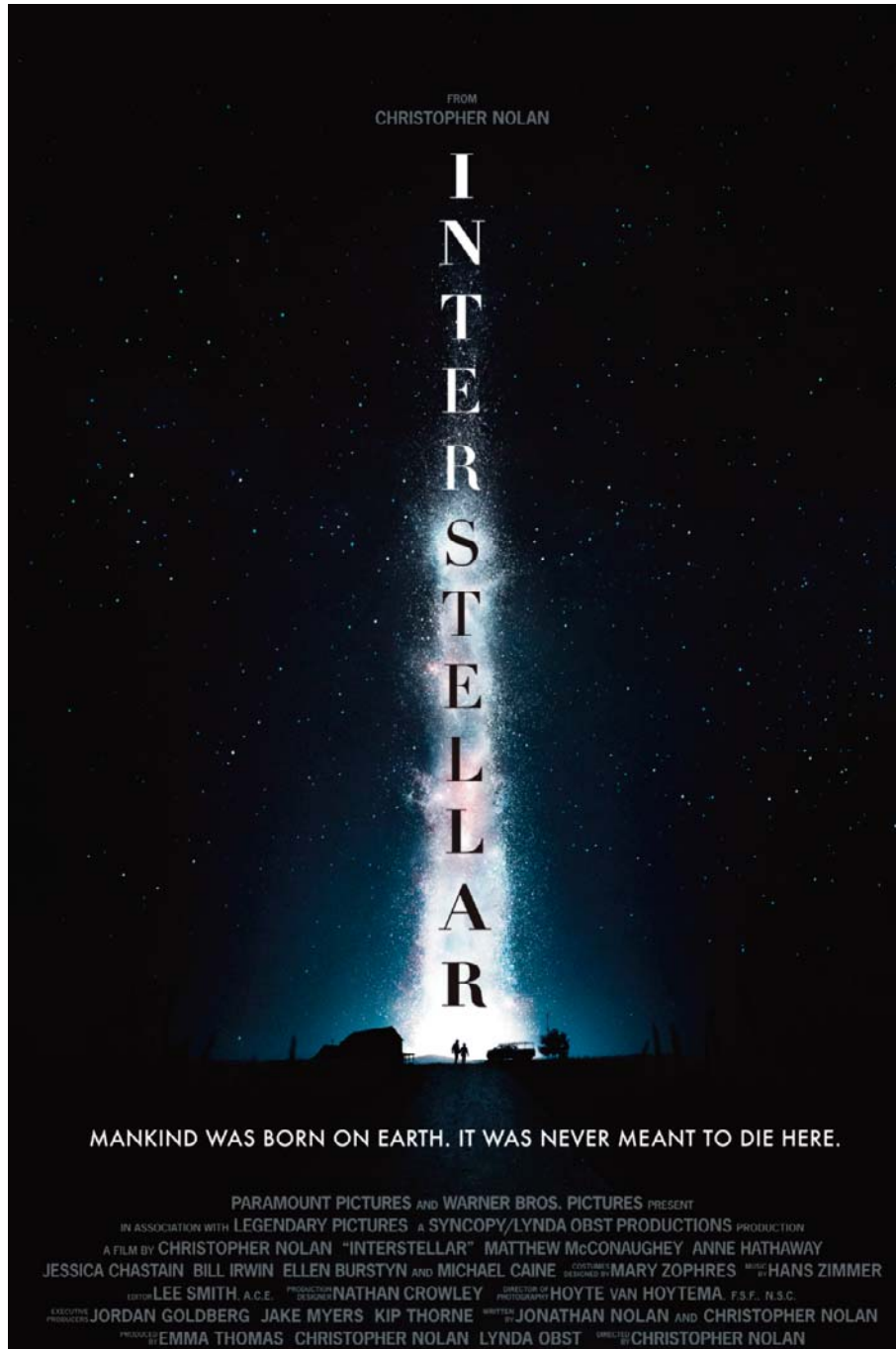
Disney  
Channel  
HD

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  
09:25 Hannah Montana  
09:50 Wizards Of Waverly Place  
10:15 Wizards Of Waverly Place  
10:40 Good Luck Charlie  
11:05 Good Luck Charlie  
11:30 Jessie  
11:55 Disney Mickey Mouse  
12:00 The 7D  
12:15 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug  
And Cat Noir  
12:40 Hank Zipzer

06:20 Loopdidoo  
06:35 Art Attack  
07:00 The Hive  
07:10 Zou  
07:25 Loopdidoo  
07:40 Jungle Cubs  
08:05 Sofia The First  
08:30 Miles From Tomorrow  
08:40 PJ Masks  
09:10 Doc McStuffins  
09:40 Doc McStuffins  
09:55 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
10:00 Sofia The First  
10:30 Sofia The First  
11:00 The Lion Guard  
11:30 Jake And The Never Land  
Pirates  
12:00 Jake And The Never Land  
Pirates  
12:30 Gummi Bears  
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  
00:05 Art Attack  
00:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
00:45 Calimero  
01:00 Zou  
01:15 Loopdidoo  
01:30 Art Attack  
02:00 Calimero  
02:15 Zou  
02:30 Loopdidoo  
02:45 Art Attack

## XD

06:00 Boyster  
06:10 Super Matrak  
06:35 Super Matrak  
07:00 Pokemon Bw: Adventures In  
Unova  
07:25 K.C. Undercover  
07:50 Supa Strikas  
08:15 Danger Mouse S1  
08:40 Phineas And Ferb  
08:05 Counterfeit Cat  
09:10 Gravity Falls  
09:35 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
10:00 Rocket Monkeys  
10:25 Ultimate Spider-Man  
10:50 Boyster  
11:20 Boyster  
11:45 Pair Of Kings



## INTERSTELLAR ON OSN MOVIES HD

Kardashians  
18:00 Keeping Up With The  
Kardashians  
19:00 E! News  
20:00 WAGs  
21:00 WAGs  
22:00 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
23:00 E! News  
00:00 Hollywood Medium With  
Tyler Henry  
00:55 Hollywood Medium With  
Tyler Henry  
01:50 New Money  
02:20 E! News

10:00 Third Reich  
12:00 Decoding The Past  
13:00 Missing In Alaska  
14:00 Ancient Aliens  
15:00 Ultimate Guide To The  
Presidents  
16:00 Third Reich  
18:00 Decoding The Past  
19:00 Patton 360  
20:00 Cities Of The Underworld  
21:00 The Universe  
22:00 Missing In Alaska  
23:00 Monster Quest  
00:00 Ancient Aliens  
01:00 Patton 360  
02:00 Cities Of The Underworld  
02:50 The Universe

01:00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night  
Takeaway  
02:30 Murdoch Mysteries

NAT GEO  
WILD  
HD

03:45 When Sharks Attack  
04:40 Dead Or Alive  
05:35 Croc Ganglands  
06:30 Planet Carnivore  
07:25 When Sharks Attack  
08:20 Dead Or Alive  
09:15 World's Weirdest Brains And  
Babies  
10:10 Animal Intervention  
11:05 Animal Armory  
12:00 Shark Men  
12:55 Game Of Lions  
13:50 Planet Carnivore  
14:45 Hunt For The Giant Squid  
15:40 Making Panda  
16:35 World's Weirdest Brains And  
Babies  
17:30 Bears Of Fear Island  
18:25 Ninja Shrimp  
19:20 Hunt For The Giant Squid  
20:10 Making Panda  
21:00 World's Weirdest Brains And  
Babies  
21:50 Bears Of Fear Island  
22:40 Ninja Shrimp  
23:30 Shark Men  
00:20 Game Of Lions  
01:10 Planet Carnivore  
02:00 Swamp Lions  
02:50 Fatal Attraction

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC  
CHANNEL  
HD

03:50 Wicked Tuna  
04:45 Alaska Wing Men  
05:40 Yukon Gold

itv  
CHOICE

03:25 Autopsy: The Last Hours  
Of...  
04:20 Don't Tell The Bride  
05:15 Eggheads  
05:45 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night  
Takeaway  
07:05 The Chase: Celebrity  
Specials  
08:00 Autopsy: The Last Hours  
Of...  
08:55 Don't Tell The Bride  
09:50 Murdoch Mysteries  
10:45 Eggheads  
11:15 The Chase: Celebrity  
Specials  
12:10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night  
Takeaway  
13:25 Emmerdale  
13:50 Coronation Street  
14:20 Coronation Street  
14:45 Murdoch Mysteries  
15:35 The Chase: Celebrity  
Specials  
16:30 Tonight At The London  
Palladium  
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 Tonight At The London  
Palladium  
21:25 Don't Tell The Bride  
22:20 Coronation Street  
22:50 Emmerdale  
23:15 Murdoch Mysteries  
00:10 The Chase: Celebrity  
Specials

H2  
HD

03:40 Third Reich  
05:20 Decoding The Past  
06:10 The Universe  
07:00 Missing In Alaska  
08:00 Ancient Aliens  
09:00 Ultimate Guide To The  
Presidents

06:35 Wild Congo  
07:30 Ultimate Survival Alaska  
08:25 Yukon River Run  
09:20 Alaska Wing Men  
10:15 Migrations  
11:10 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide  
12:05 Wicked Tuna  
13:00 Yukon River Run  
14:00 Ultimate Survival Alaska  
15:00 Wild Congo  
16:00 Migrations  
17:00 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide  
18:00 Wicked Tuna  
19:00 Wild Congo  
20:00 Migrations  
20:50 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide  
21:40 Wicked Tuna  
22:30 Wild Congo  
23:20 Yukon Gold  
00:10 Migrations  
01:00 Hazen's Wild Survival Guide  
02:00 Wicked Tuna  
02:55 Wild Congo

nickelodeon  
HD

03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
03:48 Harvey Beaks  
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  
06:36 SpongeBob SquarePants  
07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
07:48 Winx Club  
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  
11:00 Winx Club  
11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
12:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
13:00 Breadwinners  
13:24 The Loud House  
13:48 Harvey Beaks  
14:12 Rabbids Invasion  
14:36 Henry Danger  
15:00 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
15:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
15:48 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  
18:12 Henry Danger  
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
19:00 100 Things To Do Before  
High School  
19:24 Game Shakers  
19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
20:12 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  
02:36 SpongeBob SquarePants

OSN FIRST  
HD

05:00 Good Morning America  
07:00 Bones  
08:00 Once Upon A Time  
11:00 Bones  
12:00 Once Upon A Time  
13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
14:00 Live Good Morning America  
16:00 The Family  
17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
18:00 Once Upon A Time  
19:00 The Flash  
20:00 The Family  
21:00 Wicked City  
22:00 Heartbeat  
23:00 Empire  
00:00 Bones  
01:00 Wicked City  
02:00 Heartbeat

OSN MOVIES  
HD

## ACTION

03:15 The Hobbit: The Battle Of  
The Five Armies  
06:00 Wrath  
08:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
09:45 Justice League: Gods And  
Monsters  
11:30 Into The Storm  
13:15 The Hobbit: The Battle Of  
The Five Armies  
16:00 Wrath  
18:00 Into The Storm  
20:00 Edge Of Tomorrow  
22:00 Green Street 3: Never Back  
Down  
00:00 Smiley  
02:00 Sharknado 3: Oh Hell No!

OSN MOVIES  
HD

## COMEDY

04:00 Se Puder... Dirija!  
06:00 Bubble Boy  
08:00 Indian Summer  
10:00 Se Puder... Dirija!  
12:00 Under The Tuscan Sun  
14:00 Spy Hard  
16:00 Indian Summer  
18:00 The Bounty Hunter  
20:00 Thank You For Smoking  
22:00 Horrible Bosses 2  
00:00 A Long Way Down  
02:00 The Bounty Hunter

## OSN MOVIES

## DRAMA

05:00 Mood Indigo  
07:15 Memorial Day (2011)  
09:00 Escape (2012)  
11:00 Streetdance: All Stars  
Experimentor  
15:00 Odd Thomas  
17:00 Escape (2012)  
19:00 Rosewater  
21:00 Dark Places  
23:00 The Devil's Violinist  
01:15 Fading Gigolo

OSN MOVIES  
HD

## FAMILY

03:00 Flubber  
05:00 Garfield's Fun Fest  
07:00 Earth To Echo  
09:00 Up  
11:00 Race To Witch Mountain  
13:00 Bolt  
15:00 The Boxtrolls  
17:00 Big Fat Liar  
19:00 Turner & Hooch  
21:00 Three Men And A Little Lady  
23:00 The Boxtrolls  
01:00 Turner & Hooch

OSN MOVIES  
HD

04:00 Interstellar  
07:00 Miss You Already  
09:00 Hot Pursuit  
10:30 Taken 3  
12:30 Dawn Of The Planet Of The  
Apes  
14:45 Pixels  
16:30 The Walk  
18:30 Divergent  
21:00 Oliver's Deal  
23:00 American Heist  
00:45 The Lazarus Effect  
02:15 Divergent



## THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

22:18 Frankenfood  
22:42 Tosh.0  
23:05 I Live With Models  
23:30 The Daily Show With Trevor  
Noah  
00:00 Tosh.0  
00:25 Another Period  
00:50 Broad City  
01:15 Tosh.0  
01:40 The Daily Show With Trevor  
Noah  
02:05 TUT

Discovery  
Channel  
HD

03:40 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop  
Edition  
04:05 Storage Hunters  
04:30 Dallas Car Sharks  
05:00 How Stuff's Made  
05:30 How Do They Do It?  
06:00 Alaska: The Last Frontier  
06:50 Kindig Customs  
07:40 Fast N' Loud  
08:30 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop  
Edition  
08:55 Storage Hunters  
09:20 Dallas Car Sharks  
09:45 How Stuff's Made  
10:10 How Do They Do It?  
10:35 Fast N' Loud  
11:25 Sharks Among Us  
12:15 Shallow Water Invasion  
13:05 Auction Hunters: Pawn Shop  
Edition  
13:30 Storage Hunters  
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 Men  
19:20 Running Wild With Bear  
Grylls  
20:10 Storage Hunters  
20:35 Dallas Car Sharks  
21:00 Gold Divers  
21:50 Tba  
22:40 Sharks vs Dolphins: Face Off  
23:30 Fast N' Loud  
00:20 Kindig Customs

13:05 Star Darlings  
13:10 Austin & Ally  
13:35 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 Star Darlings  
16:10 Gravity Falls  
16:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug  
And Cat Noir  
17:00 Backstage  
17:50 Girl Meets World  
18:15 Austin & Ally  
18:40 Mako Mermaids  
19:05 Liv And Maddie  
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  
23:50 Violetta  
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 Zipzer  
02:05 Binny And The Ghost  
02:30 Violetta

Disney  
Junior

03:10 Henry Hugglemonster  
03:20 Calimero  
03:35 Zou  
03:45 Loopdidoo  
04:00 Art Attack  
04:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
04:35 Calimero  
04:50 Zou  
05:00 Loopdidoo  
05:15 Art Attack  
05:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:50 Calimero  
06:00 Zou

12:10 Pair Of Kings  
12:35 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
13:00 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
13:30 Phineas And Ferb  
13:55 Phineas And Ferb  
14:20 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: Bionic Island  
16:30 Danger Mouse S1  
16:55 Kirby Buckets  
17:25 K.C. Undercover  
17:50 Annedroids  
18:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty...  
K.C. Undercover  
18:40 K.C. Undercover  
19:05 Counterfeit Cat  
19:10 Gravity Falls  
19:35 Pickle And Peanut  
20:00 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
20:25 Supa Strikas  
20:55 K.C. Undercover  
21:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty...  
Guardians Of The Galaxy  
22:10 Marvel Avengers Assemble  
22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse

E  
HD

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  
09:15 Keeping Up With The  
Kardashians  
10:15 Keeping Up With The  
Kardashians  
11:10 Keeping Up With The  
Kardashians  
12:05 Keeping Up With The  
Kardashians  
13:05 E! News  
14:05 Hollywood Medium With  
Tyler Henry  
15:00 Botched  
16:00 Botched  
17:00 Keeping Up With The

food  
network

03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
03:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
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  
Basics  
08:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To  
Basics  
09:00 The Kitchen  
10:00 The Pioneer Woman  
10:30 The Pioneer Woman  
11:00 Chopped  
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  
14:30 Man Fire Food  
15:00 Chopped  
16:00 The Kitchen  
17:00 The Pioneer Woman  
17:30 The Pioneer Woman  
18:00 Chopped  
19:00 Guy's Grocery Games  
20:00 Restaurant Takeover  
21:00 Mystery Diners  
21:30 Mystery Diners  
22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
23:00 Iron Chef America  
00:00 Restaurant Takeover  
01:00 Mystery Diners  
01:30 Mystery Diners  
02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
02:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

H2  
HD

03:40 Third Reich  
05:20 Decoding The Past  
06:10 The Universe  
07:00 Missing In Alaska  
08:00 Ancient Aliens  
09:00 Ultimate Guide To The  
Presidents



**Kuwait Times**

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2016



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM

**THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (25/08/2016 TO 31/08/2016)**

<b>SHARQIA-1</b>	
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	11:30 AM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	1:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	3:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	5:30 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	7:30 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	9:45 PM
THE BFG	12:05 AM

MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:45 AM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	3:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	6:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	8:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	10:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:05 AM

SHARQIA-3	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	2:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	4:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	6:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	8:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:00 PM
SKIPTRACE	1:00 AM

MUHALAB-1	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:45 AM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	1:45 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	3:45 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	5:45 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	7:45 PM
SKIPTRACE	9:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:05 AM

MUHALAB-2	
SKIPTRACE	1:00 PM
SKIPTRACE	3:15 PM
SKIPTRACE	5:30 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	8:15 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	10:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	12:45 AM

<b>MUHALAB-3</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	2:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	4:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	6:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	9:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:15 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:15 AM

<b>FANAR-1</b>	
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	11:45 AM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	1:45 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	3:45 PM

THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	5:45 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	7:45 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	10:00 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	12:15 AM

FANAR-2	
SKIPTRACE	12:45 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	3:00 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	5:15 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	7:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	9:45 PM
SKIPTRACE	12:05 AM

<b>FANAR-3</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 PM
MOHENJO DARO - Hindi	3:00 PM
A FLYING JATT-Hindi	6:00 PM
A FLYING JATT-Hindi	9:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:05 AM

<b>FANAR-4</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:30 AM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	3:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	5:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	8:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	10:15 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:45 AM

<b>FANAR-5</b>	
GENIUS	1:00 PM
GENIUS	3:15 PM
THE BFG	5:30 PM
GENIUS	8:00 PM
GENIUS	10:15 PM
GENIUS	12:30 AM

<b>MARINA-1</b>	
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	11:30 AM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	1:15 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	3:15 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	5:15 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	7:15 PM
SKIPTRACE	9:30 PM
THE BFG	11:45 PM

<b>MARINA-2</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:30 AM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	3:45 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	6:15 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	8:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	10:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 AM

**MARINA-3**  
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION 12:00 PM

MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	2:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	4:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	6:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	8:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	10:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:05 AM

AVENUES-1	
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	12:45 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	2:45 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	4:45 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	6:45 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	9:15 PM
HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	11:30 PM

<b>AVENUES-2</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION-2D-4DX	12:15 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION-2D-4DX	2:30 PM
THE BFG -3D- 4DX	4:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION-2D-4DX	7:15 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION-2D-4DX	9:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION-2D-4DX	11:45 PM

AVENUES-3	
SKIPTRACE	12:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	2:45 PM
SKIPTRACE	5:15 PM
SKIPTRACE	7:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	9:45 PM
SKIPTRACE	12:05 AM

<b>AVENUES-4</b>	
SKIPTRACE	11:30 AM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	1:45 PM
A FLYING JATT-Hindi	4:00 PM
Special Show "MIN 30 SANA	4:00 PM
Special Show "SKIPTRACE"	4:00 PM
SKIPTRACE	7:00 PM
JAAHEEM FI ILHIND	9:15 PM
SKIPTRACE	11:30 PM

<b>AVENUES-5</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:45 AM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	3:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	5:45 PM
Special Show "MECHANIC: RESURRECTION"	6:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	8:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	10:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	12:05 AM

**AVENUES-6**

MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	3:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	5:00 PM

MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	7:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	9:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 AM

360° 1	
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	12:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS -3D	2:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	4:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS -3D	6:30 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	8:30 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	10:45 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 AM

360°-2	
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	11:30 AM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	1:45 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	4:00 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	6:15 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	8:30 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	10:45 PM
RIOT	1:00 AM

**360°- 3**

MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	12:00 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	2:00 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	4:00 PM
MONKEY KING: HERO IS BACK	6:00 PM
LIFE ON THE LINE	8:00 PM
WAR DOGS	10:00 PM
WAR DOGS	12:15 AM

<b>AL-KOUT.1</b>	
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	3:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	5:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	7:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	9:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	11:00 PM
MECHANIC: RESURRECTION	1:00 AM

AL-KOUT.2	
SKIPTRACE	12:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	2:45 PM
GENIUS	5:00 PM
SKIPTRACE	7:15 PM
GENIUS	9:30 PM
SKIPTRACE	11:45 PM

<b>AL-KOUT.3</b>	
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS -3D	11:45 AM
THE BFG	1:45 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS -3D	4:15 PM
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS	6:15 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	8:15 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	10:30 PM
JAHEEM FI ILHIND	12:45 AM

**Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page ([www.kuwait-airport.com.kw](http://www.kuwait-airport.com.kw))**

**DIAL161** FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Monday 29/8/2016				MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	Departure Flights on Monday 29/8/2016				UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	KAC	672	Dubai	14:00	AIC	982	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05	KNE	382	Taif	14:55
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	FDB	057	Dubai	14:20	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:10	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20	JZR	1540	Cairo	00:20	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
FDK	803	Damascus	00:35	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	KAC	742	Dammam	14:55	JZR	562	Sohag	00:30	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00	PIA	206	Lahore	00:40	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05	JZR	188	Dubai	15:50
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10	FDK	804	Damascus	01:35	KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	NIA	251	Alexandria	15:50	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	RJA	640	Amman	16:00	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45	NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00	FDB	051	Dubai	16:10	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	JZR	535	Cairo	16:20	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
CEB	018	Manila	02:20	JZR	257	Beirut	16:25	RJA	643	Amman	06:25	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	KAC	562	Amman	16:55	QTR	1087	Doha	06:30	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
THY	1404	AYT	02:30	KAC	118	New York	17:00	THY	771	Istanbul	06:45	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
THY	768	Istanbul	02:50	SAW	705	Damascus	17:05	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50	SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	JZR	240	Amman	06:55	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
RJA	644	Amman	03:10	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55	JZR	238	Amman	18:45
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55	BAW	156	London	08:25	KAC	1801	Cairo	18:55
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	JZR	483	Istanbul	18:20	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30	QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	KAC	173	Munich	08:35	JZR	124	Bahrain	19:20
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
MEA	406	Beirut	04:10	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35	JZR	256	Beirut	09:05	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
FEG	933	Sohag	05:00	KAC	542	Cairo	18:55	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	KAC	618	Doha	18:55	JZR	534	Cairo	09:30	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	KAC	104	London	19:00	JZR	482	Istanbul	09:40	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:30
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05	JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
BAW	157	London	06:40	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10	IRA	666	Esfahan	10:15	KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
JZR	563	Sohag	06:55	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15	ETD	920	Abu Dhabi	10:20	DLH	634	Doha	20:50
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35	JAV	622	Amman	10:25	KAC	353	BLR	20:55
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:45	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	FDB	059	Dubai	19:50	KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	KAC	561	Amman	11:20	JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20	KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25	MSR	619	Alexandria	21:30
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	JZR	189	Dubai	20:25	KAC	741	Dammam	11:35	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35	AXB	890	Mangalore	11:55	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	KNE	231	Riyadh	20:50	MEA	405	Beirut	12:00	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05	FDB	5054	Dubai	22:25
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	KAC	174	Munich	21:00	KAC	103	London	12:10	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05	UAE	874	Dubai	12:10	THY	1413	TZX	22:25
IRA	667	Esfahan	09:15	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20	FDB	076	Dubai	13:00	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
JAV	621	Amman	09:25	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30	KAC	541	Cairo	13:10	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	QTR	1082	Doha	21:55	KAC	103	London	13:10	GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00	FDK	802	Damascus	13:15	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:00
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	ETD	919	Abu Dhabi	22:05	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
AXB	890	Mangalore/Bahrain	10:55	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	FEG	934	Sohag	13:55	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00	KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila	23:25
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:25	THY	767	Istanbul	14:10	RBG	556	Alexandria	23:55
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	BBC	143	Dhaka	22:40								
FDK	801	Damascus	12:15	JZR	185	Dubai	22:55								
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:05								
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	RBG	555	Alexandria	23:15								
JZR	241	Amman	12:30	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30								
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35								
FEG	953	Asyut	12:55	KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	23:40								



CROSSWORD 1357

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14
15					16								17		
18								19				20			
21					22					23	24				
		25		26				27	28						
29	30							31					32	33	34
35					36		37				38				
39				40						41					
42			43				44	45	46			47			
48			49				50						51		
52		53				54		55			56	57		58	
							59			60		61			
62	63		64		65		66		67	68				69	70
71					72		73					74			
75					76							77			
78					79							80			

ACROSS

1. An inhabitant of Lapland.  
5. Capital of Swaziland.  
12. (astronomy) A measure of time defined by Earth's orbital motion.  
15. Large elliptical brightly colored deep-sea fish of Atlantic and Pacific and Mediterranean.  
16. Ark shells.  
17. Step on it.  
18. Of or relating to or characteristic of Israel or its people.  
19. A lipoprotein that transports cholesterol in the blood.  
21. Not far distant in time or space or degree or circumstances.  
22. French filmmaker (1908-1982).  
23. Of or relating to or being a feria.  
25. An avalanche volcanic water and mud down the slopes of a volcano.  
27. The Oceanic language spoken by the Maori people in New Zealand.  
29. A swampy arm or slow-moving outlet of a lake (term used mainly in Mississippi and Louisiana).  
31. (formal) Ordinary and not refined.  
35. (Babylonian) Father of the gods.  
38. Inflict a heavy blow on, with the hand, a tool, or a weapon.  
39. French writer whose novels described the sordid side of city life (1804-1857).  
40. A cord that is drawn through eyelets or around hooks in order to draw together two edges (as of a shoe or garment).  
42. A heavy brittle metallic element of the platinum group.  
44. A translucent mineral consisting of hydrated silica of variable color.  
47. An indication of radiant light drawn around the head of a saint.  
48. Being one more than one hundred.  
49. A federal agency established to coordinate programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environment.  
50. (Babylonian) God of wisdom and agriculture and patron of scribes and schools.  
51. The shape of a raised edge of a more or less circular object.  
52. A town in northern Egypt.  
55. A coffee cake flavored with orange rind and raisins and almonds.  
58. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.  
59. Before noon.  
60. Late time of life.  
62. Inspired by a feeling of fearful wonderment or reverence.  
65. The compass point that is midway between north and northeast.  
67. A country person.  
71. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.  
72. A numerical scale used to compare variables with one another or with some reference number.  
74. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers.  
75. A complex red organic pigment containing iron and other atoms to which oxygen binds.  
77. The basic unit of money in Ghana.  
78. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.  
79. A small low-powered electrically powered vehicle driven on a special platform where there are many others to be dodged.  
80. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls.

DOWN

1. A cut of meat taken from the side and back of an animal between the ribs and the rump.  
2. A domed or vaulted recess or projection on a building especially the east end of a church.  
3. Cause to be paralyzed and immobile.  
4. The title of the ancient Egyptian kings.  
5. A republic on the island of Malta in the Mediterranean.  
6. Old French breed of large strong usually black dogs having a long tail and long wavy and slightly stiff coat.  
7. A radioactive element of the actinide series.  
8. East Indian evergreen tree bearing very acid fruit.  
9. A condition (mostly in boys) characterized by behavioral and learning disorders.  
10. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (trade name Nalfon) used in the treatment of arthritis and other painful inflammatory disorders.  
11. The branch of engineering science that studies the uses of electricity and the equipment for power generation and distribution and the control of machines and communication.  
12. Of or relating to or characteristic of Thailand of its people.  
13. African tree with edible yellow fruit resembling mangos.  
14. A bluish shade of green.  
20. A successful ending of a struggle or contest.  
24. Remove from memory or existence.  
26. A member of a North American people formerly living in the Colorado river valley in Arizona.  
28. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.  
30. Inability to urinate.  
32. A stringed instrument of India.  
33. Characterized by slanting characters.  
34. A cavity in the mesoderm of an embryo that gives rise in humans to the pleural cavity and pericardial cavity and peritoneal cavity.  
36. Measuring instrument in which the echo of a pulse of microwave radiation is used to detect and locate distant objects.  
37. (in Gnosticism) A divine power or nature emanating from the Supreme Being and playing various roles in the operation of the universe.  
41. Soft lump or unevenness in a yarn.  
43. One-thousandth of an equivalent.  
45. A metabolic acid found in yeast and liver cells.  
46. A unit of current equal to 10 amperes.  
53. The French-speaking capital of the province of Quebec.  
54. Trade name for an alloy used to make high-energy permanent magnets.  
56. Large brownish-green New Zealand parrot.  
57. A region of northeastern France famous for its wines.  
61. Marked by features of the immediate and usually discounted past.  
63. A raised mark on the skin (as produced by the blow of a whip).  
64. Fallow deer.  
66. A town in north central Oklahoma.  
68. A set of questions or exercises evaluating skill or knowledge.  
70. Thin and fit.  
73. 10 grams.  
76. A state in north central United States.

Yesterday's Solution

O	T	C		A	E	S	C	U	L	U	S		C	F	C
P	A	R		M	E	L	A	N	I	S	E		E	A	R
E	P	A		E	L	A	P	S	E		P	A	D	U	A
C	A	B	I	N		P	I	E		A	I	L	I	N	G
			N		D		B	A	L	Z	A	C			
B	I	T	T		A	B	A	T	E		E	T	N	A	
A	S	S	E	S	S	O	R			P	H	A	R	O	S
B	A	I	R	N		L	A	C	E		O		I	R	S
K	A	N	N	A	D	A		E	Y	E	S	H	A	D	E
A	C	E		G	A			D	A	C	T	Y	L	I	S
			S		N	A	J	A	S		A	D		C	S
A	M	A	H		A	T	A	R		C		R	A		
K	E	B	A	B		T	B		I	A		A	L	C	A
A	D	A	R		C	A	B	O	M	B	A		A	A	R
B	I	S	E		P	I	E	B	A	L	D		M	R	I
A	C	E	R		U	N	R	I	M	E	D		O	K	A

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Gathering and exchanging information is part and parcel of solving problems you will be experiencing. You could be most persuasive with others and now may be a good time to deal with any difficulties that you might have with people that serve you, including the medical field. Facts to show regarding any corrections you might want to make would be a good move. There could be challenges but this only helps to fine-tune the details of a particular project. Your ambition is intensified as the day progresses. Easy does it... Take your breaks and allow others to contribute toward the outcome of the day. This afternoon you may find yourself being put to good use by your friends-it could be that someone is moving.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

There is an emotional seriousness to becoming better focused and you work quickly. With your practical awareness of the nature of time, you could make a very good leader or teacher. There could be a tendency to be too strict with yourself. Your ambition is intensified. Study and research could enter into your work at this time. Real estate or home and family planning also take on a greater importance. You may not feel that time is slipping away, but you do have that strong urge to build your support group and have roots. This is a very nice day, perhaps filled with some appreciation for all that is beautiful. Tonight favors writing, reading, messages, etc. If you do not have a computer in the home, now would be a good time to consider one.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You will feel yourself working easily with the flow of work this day. This may be the day you pick up a little extra money as a driver. You enjoy this job and look forward to the interaction with your customers. Circumstances can throw you into positions where you must deal with communications, service or enclosed hidden interests when you least expect it. You make your way through ideas, concepts and your ability to communicate and express the ideas to others. This may be a good time to consider a continuing education class or tutoring. Everyone may be away for the evening, allowing you many opportunities to relax. This evening is a wonderful time to catch up on phone calls or perhaps some personal paperwork that needs to be completed.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Today is a particularly successful day. Great headway can be made soon. At times you may feel as though you are in a stuck situation without really understanding why. When you sense you are right with your insights and understanding, you can move in a most positive direction in order to be helpful or for your own development. Read about meditation styles-find and stay with one method. Use this often to gain a focus when you need to solve a problem. This is almost like an exercise technique, wherein each person requires his or her own method to gain his or her preferred end result. You may be solving problems through psychic insight. It will help to write out the thinking on how to succeed in reaching your goals. Writing will help your mindset.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

New and unusual ways of appreciating and loving may be possible now. You may discover something new about love or may adopt a different and unconventional value system for a time. This is an easy day that runs along quite smoothly. There is a greater appreciation for people and possessions. This is certainly a time when material things have a great deal of importance for you. You may cease to waste time and money acquiring that which is worthless and may develop an eye for that which is lasting and worthwhile. A new love is not only on the horizon, but could be right next to you. A spontaneous and unexpected meeting is in the works. This time would also be positive time to heal an old relationship.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You know from the way that your projects are stacked up, you will be a busy person this Sunday. Some of your friends or family may have other ideas for you on this special day. It might be that someone will volunteer to help you get one or two projects completed before it is time to ready yourself for a party gathering of sorts later today. A gift to enjoy a spa or have a massage may be most appreciated. You never know where some of the ideas come from but this is a most enjoyable day. Your friends gather during one part of the day and your family gathers at another time of the day. You wouldn't mind if they decided to combine their efforts. Whatever the case there is much laughter and fun times.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Shortcuts are out... There could be many corrections as well as some technical changes that are needed before your present job can be completed. You will want to be sure that you do not miss an important piece of information. You are feeling good today and your energy level is high and ready for any challenges you may meet. Give yourself a cheer of confidence. Other people around you will feel more energized as well. Your attention centers on achievement, distinction and promotion. At your best you are enchanting, able to point to the unity that binds all things together. You have a natural sense for communicating with others, especially those younger than you. A new understanding about past events will be comforting.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Deal with abstract matters while remaining practical. Some will feel there is conflict, but you will understand that complexities actually aid achievement and inspiration. Answers are not simple, but they are available. You work to stay up-to-date with the most updated equipment and you look for good ways to recycle. You are very much aware of the beauty that surrounds you. A short travel to the store may bring some creative ideas for your attention in the near future. This afternoon is the perfect time for lighthearted get-togethers with friends or a trip to the countryside, perhaps a nearby lake and a catfish dinner. You have a clear vision into your own inner sense of values, how you appreciate and love.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

New inventions, new reading material and an ever changing list of friends keep you updated and continually transforming. This could mean you are a writer or reporter for the news or in a public relations sort of job. Whatever the case, you will have plenty of conversational material today. This is a time of positive thinking, mental stability, good feelings, relaxation and opportunity. This is also a good time to make long-range plans, take advantage of further education, take a long-distance trip or take up philosophy or religious studies. It is a pleasant time for you all around. There is a potential to clear the air on some past events where family is concerned. There is a willingness to listen that did not exist before. A misunderstanding is healed.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

This time is marked by realizing some unknown potential. If you take the initiative, a goal that seemed beyond your reach until recently may now be obtainable. This afternoon there is time to complete unfinished tasks. The cause of some conflict may be discovered and worked through quickly. You have what it takes to overcome any difficulties that may appear. You are happy to put disputes behind you. This could be in the workplace or at home. Creative ways of making and spending money are considered for some future income. You enjoy friends and family. Companionship with others is most rewarding and you should take every opportunity to be with loved ones. You can be helping them as much as their presence helps you.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You assume a leadership role and expect the best from the people that are around you. You set examples of a most positive attitude that others could not help but use to enhance their lives as well. Your high energy and this positive attitude will get you where you want to go in any type of business. Remember, when the results are not what you think they should be after a great deal of effort, it may be time to move forward to better opportunities. You display much personal warmth and charm-regardless of circumstances. High energies abound in talk, city travel and the usual daily activities. You are positive and motivating today. Avoid high-pressure tactics when it comes to young people. You will soon resolve problems regarding home, family or real estate.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Others could seek you out for your psychological insight and understanding. Friends or co-workers may enjoy chatting over a cup of coffee this morning. You do a lot of reading and are in touch with what is healing, fashionable and insightful. You enjoy sharing your newly acquired information with others and others love to listen. Most of the day proves to be quite profitable and the special time with friends or co-workers helps to bring a focus to your day. Long-term projects can finally come to an end. You may find yourself feeling like you can accomplish anything. You like your food natural... Nothing hidden and nothing artificial. A trip to the market or culling through your own garden may keep you busy until early evening.

Wordsearch Puzzle

60's Songs 1

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

S	P	I	H	M	H	P	U	P	P	Y	L	O	V	E	L	F
C	H	E	R	I	S	H	B	S	I	H	P	M	E	M	V	W
Y	E	L	E	N	O	R	E	G	L	Y	I	U	R	T	O	B
A	M	T	E	V	L	E	V	E	U	L	B	S	I	A	L	
D	L	H	T	T	Q	A	N	G	M	Y	N	A	F	B	P	P
I	Y	E	D	K	R	P	Y	I	A	I	D	P	Y	B	N	G
L	T	T	G	N	Z	M	H	D	V	O	X	L	S	A	Q	C
O	M	W	X	N	M	R	R	E	W	O	O	H	I	R	S	R
H	Z	I	W	Y	A	E	U	N	A	V	O	R	R	E	O	Y
Y	V	S	U	I	T	N	T	N	E	T	E	R	J	T	U	I
P	A	T	V	S	N	O	E	F	A	L	W	X	G	I	L	N
A	V	T	E	S	W	D	O	E	L	W	Q	A	G	H	M	G
N	X	Y	S	N	S	S	Y	A	T	R	A	M	V	W	A	W
A	I	M	A	R	A	C	V	Y	M	Y	D	Y	A	E	N	W

BABY LOVE  
BLUE VELVET  
CARA MIA  
CHERISH  
CRYING  
DOWNTOWN  
ELENORE  
FIRE

GROOVIN  
HEATWAVE  
HOLIDAY  
MEMPHIS  
MY GUY  
PUPPY LOVE  
RUNAWAY  
SOUL MAN

STAY  
TEEN ANGEL  
THE TWIST  
VALLERI  
WHITE RABBIT  
WINDY  
YESTERDAY

Daily SuDoku

7			8		1			6
4		2		5			8	
							5	
3			1	8	9		7	
	1		7	4	3			5
	3							
	2			1		6		7
6			2		4			1

Yesterday's Solution

Spring - Solution

L	L	A	B	E	S	A	B	U	R	N	X	G	G	E	M	C
F	I	Y	X	O	T	Z	T	P	F	H	O	N	R	A	T	X
H	R	M	C	R	C	R	Q	U	D	N	I	S	N	S	P	J
W	P	H	E	N	E	G	T	N	L	T	E	T	A	T	M	J
L	A	C	A	M	S	D	B	S	N	I	Y	E	D	E	L	B
F	Z	R	R	G	N	T	A	A	R	A	P	Y	R	R	S	H
W	M	A	T	A	I	M	L	F	M	E	A	S	E	G	T	T
E	W	M	H	G	J	P	V	O	F	Q	W	Q	I	O	M	T
S	N	O	W	M	E	L	T	W	L	O	U	O	M	L	N	O
G	G	R	O	W	T	H	C	I	E	I	D	O	L	E	V	F
Q	J	P	R	A	I	N	L	F	N	T	F	I	I	F	R	P
U	C	C	M	S	N	I	B	O	R	L	D	I	L	O	S	U
K	E	B	S	Y	E	M	X	Y	M	P	D	Z	G	S	V	L
F	N	A	H	S	B	Y	O	R	D	A	Y	S	P	E	B	W

APRIL  
BASEBALL  
DAFFODILS  
EARTHWORMS  
EASTER  
EQUINOX  
FLOWERS  
FROGS

GOLF  
GREEN  
GROWTH  
INSECTS  
LILIES  
MARCH  
MAY  
PLANTING

RAIN  
ROBINS  
SEASON  
SNOWMELT  
TULIPS  
WARMER  
WET

Yesterday's Solution

5	9	6	2	7	4	3	1	8
3	2	4	8	9	1	5	7	6
8	1	7	6	3	5	2	9	4
6	7	5	3	1	9	4	8	2
4	8	2	7	5	6	1	3	9
1	3	9	4	8	2	6	5	7
9	4	1	5	6	7	8	2	3
7	6	3	1	2	8	9	4	5
2	5	8	9	4	3	7	6	1



For labor-related inquiries  
and complaints:  
**Call MSAL hotline 128**

## Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

## Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khaldiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322



## PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaeel Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khaldiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

## STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
Fax: (+965) 24348714  
www.met.gov.kw



### Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

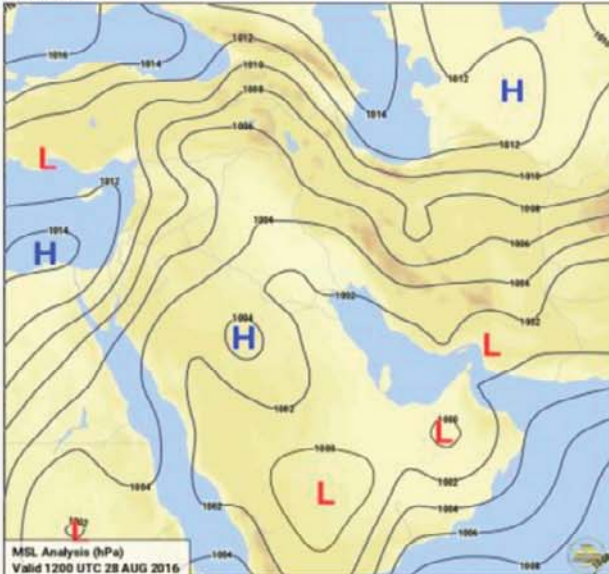
Issued 28/08/2016-19:00 LT UTC +3hr

#### MIN Temperature 28 °C

**By Night** :Relatively hot and humid especially over coastal areas with light to moderate south easterly to light variable wind, with speed of 08 - 28 km/h

**By Day** : Very hot and relatively humid over coastal areas with variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly wind, with speed of 10 - 32 km/h

SFC. CHART



Four-Day Forecast

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Expected Weather	Very hot+ relatively humid especially over coastal areas	Hot + humid especially over coastal areas	Very hot+ relatively humid especially over coastal areas	very hot
Min Temp °C	28	28	29	30
Max Temp °C	47	46	48	50
Wind Direction	variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly	variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly	north westerly to light variable	north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	10 - 32	10 - 30	08 - 28	15 - 40

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

### Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

#### Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C EXP	Max °C REC
KUWAIT CITY	35	45
KUWAIT AIRPORT	28	47
ABDULY	30	48
BUBYAN	30	41
JAHRRA	33	49
FAILAKA ISLAND	30	44
SALMIYAH	34	41
AHMADI	36	39
JAL ALIYAH	31	49
QAROH ISLAND	34	40
UMM AL-MARADEM	34	39
NUWAISIB	32	44
WAFRA	30	47
MANAGISH	31	49
SALMY	31	48
MUTRIBA	30	51

#### Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	49
Min Temp (°C)	29
Max Rel Hum (%)	45
Min Rel Hum (%)	06
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	36 SE
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

Sunrise	05:24
Sunset	18:15

#### Prayer Times

Fajr	04:01
Sunrise	05:24
Zuhr	11:49
Asr	15:23
Sunset	18:15
Isha	19:35

## INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina	0054	Malaysia	0060
Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan	00994	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Nigar	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tone	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Togo	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lesotho	00266		

## PRIVATE CLINICS



Ophthalmologists	Plastic Surgeons	Paediatricians	Endocrinologist
Dr. Abidallah Al-Mansoor 25622444	Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf 22547272	Dr. Khaled Hamadi 25665898	Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman 25339330
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea 25752222	Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari 22617700	Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed 25340300	Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888
Dr. Masoma Habeeb 25321171	Dr. Abdel Quttainah 25625030/60	Dr. Zahra Qabazard 25710444	Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy 25739999	<b>Family Doctor</b>	Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099	<b>Physiotherapists &amp; VD</b>
Dr. Mohsen Abel 25757700	Dr Divya Damodar 23729596/23729581	Dr. Snaa Maarroof 25713514	Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291
Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl 25732223	<b>Psychiatrists</b>	Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100	Dr. Musaed Faraj Khamees 22666288
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly 25732223	Dr. Esam Al-Ansari 22635047	Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282	<b>Rheumatologists:</b>
<b>Ear, Nose &amp; Throat (ENT)</b>	Dr. Eisa M. Al-Balhan 22613623/0	<b>Dermatology</b>	Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner 24555050 Ext 510	<b>Gynaecologists &amp; Obstetricians</b>	Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955	Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah 25722290
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali 25644660	DrAdrian arbe 23729596/23729581	<b>Dentists</b>	<b>Internist, Chest &amp; Heart</b>
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel 25646478	Dr. Verginia s.Marin 2572-6666 ext 8321	Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581	DR.Mohammes Akkad 24555050 Ext 210
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah 25311996	Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan 22655539	Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2	Dr. Mohammed Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital 25339667
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaory 25731988	Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliytami 25343406	Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226	<b>Consultant Cardiologist</b>
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary 22620166	Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly 25739272	Dr. Abidallah Al-Amer 22561444	Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC 2611555-2622555
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz 25651426	Dr. Salem soso 22618787	Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557	Inaya German Medical Center Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123
<b>General Practitioners</b>	<b>General Surgeons</b>	Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash 22525888	
Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi 24555050 Ext 123	Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer 22610044	Dr. Abidallah Al-Duweisan 25653755	
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar 24719312	Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher 25327148	Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111	
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaazem 25726920	<b>Internists, Chest &amp; Heart</b>	<b>Neurologists</b>	
Dr. Kathem Maarafi 25730465	Dr. Adnan Ebil 22639939	Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324	
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadad 25655528	Dr. Mousa Khadada 22666300	Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875	
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayooobi 24577781	Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan 25728004	<b>Gastrologists</b>	
Dr. Dina Abidallah Al-Refae 25333501	Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra 25355515	Dr. Sami Aman 22636464	
<b>Urologists</b>	Dr. Mobarak Aldoub 24726446	Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030	
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy 22641534	Dr Nasser Behbehani 25654300/3	Dr. Foad Abidallah Al-Ali 22633135	
Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul 22639955			
Dr. Khaleel Abidallah Al-Awadi 22616660			
Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C) 25313120			
Dr. Leons Joseph 66703427			

Psychologists  
/Psychotherapists

Soor Center  
Tel: 2290-1677  
Fax: 2290 1688

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Kaizen center  
25716707

Noor Clinic  
23845955

William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677  
Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677





Osbourne says Ozzy cheated on her with five women in five different countries

Sharon Osbourne claims her husband Ozzy has cheated on her with five different women in five different countries. The 63-year-old TV personality has opened up about her rock star husband's sex addiction, revealing Ozzy had been going behind her back for longer than people realize. She said: "The thing that's been going on with my husband recently, it's been going on for about five years but people are talking about it now. "We've survived everything, drink, drugs and now it's women." Sharon, meanwhile, also revealed she has been taking antidepressants for 20 years, but said they stopped working in 2015. She told the Sunday Times Magazine: "I had a very bad time last year. I had a kind of breakdown. I couldn't speak, I'd get out of bed to go to the studio, come back and get into bed."



CRUISE CHARTERS PRIVATE JETS FOR HIS GYM GEAR

Tom Cruise reportedly charts private jets to take his gym kit around the world with him. The Hollywood icon ensures he can stay in shape while shooting movies by using private planes to fly his fitness gear to his next destination the day before he arrives. A source told The Sun on Sunday newspaper: "Working out is really important to Tom and he likes to have his own equipment with him so he can exercise in private. "It might seem extravagant but for an A-listers of his stature, hiring a private jet is like the rest of us hailing a taxi." Meanwhile, Tom's good friend Victoria Beckham revealed earlier this year how she called on the actor to help motivate her own staff. The 42-year-old fashion

designer was once working hard on a new collection when her friend - who famously played aviator Lieutenant Pete 'Maverick' Mitchell in iconic 1986 movie 'Top Gun' - paid a visit to her office and spent quality time with all of her employees. She recalled: "So I was working on a collection and all the mood boards were up - and my team is in the room with me - and all of a sudden there was a knock on the door and Tom walks in, all in black with a pair of aviators, and he stands legs apart and his hands on his hips. "He basically came as Maverick. He spent such a long time with every single person, whether it was the design team, e-com, marketing and he spoke to all of the seamstresses."



Darius Campbell lifts the lid on Daisy Lowe romance

West End star Darius Campbell has confessed to enjoying a whirlwind romance with Daisy Lowe earlier



this year. Darius, who rose to fame on British talent shows 'Popstars' and 'Pop Idol', is a long-time friend of the model and has

admitted they went on a series of dates together before they quickly decided to end their romance. He explained: "Yes, Daisy and I dated and I met her dad Gavin Rossdale, who is great. "But what people also didn't know is we were friends first for years, even when I was married. "There was a shift that happened a few months ago where we thought we'd go from friends to dating. "When you're friends first, you know all of each other's s\*\*t. That made being more than friends really easy. "It was natural and a fun relationship - there were no awkward first dates. "She's actually not a party girl. Yeah, we'd have a few tequilas but she's just all about being with her friends, not going wild. We explored being a couple but we were better mates." Meanwhile, Daisy recently agreed to appear on the British talent show 'Strictly Come Dancing' and Darius has revealed he is keen to see her in action. He told The Sun on Sunday newspaper: "As she's about to do 'Strictly', I'd put it like this - we were great at jiving, we tried to tango, now we're back to jiving. "She's really excited about the show and she's a great dancer. I can't wait to see how she does."

Healy cannot remember life before motherhood

Una Healy has forgotten what her life was like before she became a mother. The 34-year-old beauty - who has two children, a four-year-old daughter called Aoife Belle and a 17-month-old son called Tadhg John, with her sports star husband Ben Foden - has admitted it is tough to balance her responsibilities as a parent with her pop career. She shared: "I've forgotten what life was like before having kids! I'm multi-tasking all the time, because if I'm going anywhere, doing anything, I have to think of them. "It's a juggling act and there's no method to it. You just have to try your best. Ben's life is a bit more structured and scheduled than mine. He's very hands-on with the kids and is brilliant. He plays with them while I do the washing and cooking. "I think my kids will always remember me for working and for them being a part of it all. Aoife is always telling me to pick up a guitar and play her a song. She'll then sing and dance around to it." Meanwhile, Una also revealed her bemusement at the storm created by her decision to revert back to her maiden name for work. She told The Sun on Sunday newspaper: "I gave [Ben] a heads-up and said I really wanted to go back to Healy for work. He was fine about it and found the speculation funny. I still use Foden for when I'm at home and for personal things. "I'm definitely not the first person to use my maiden name for career reasons and it feels right."

Lily James gets fashion advice from Matt Smith

The 'Cinderella' actress - who has been dating the former 'Doctor Who' star for nearly two years - appreciates her boyfriend's great sense of style so asks him to help her choose clothes for her red carpet appearances. She said: "He's got great taste so I run things by him. He's got a good fashion eye." The 27-year-old beauty spends a lot of time away from her actor boyfriend because of their hectic work commitments, but things are good between them. She said: "We make it work." And now Lily - who is the new face of Burberry's My Burberry Black fragrance - is looking forward to taking a few months off once her run in Kenneth Branagh's stage production of 'Romeo and Juliet' comes to an end. She said: "I need some time just to take stock and chill out. I am really proud of where I've got to. "I've got people like Kenneth and Burberry behind me, which makes me feel very lucky and supported." While she's proud of her achievements, the former 'Downton Abbey' star won't take her success for granted. She said: "Everything is changeable. No matter how well I do, nothing will last forever and I'll never feel secure." Lily faced a backlash over her skinny waist when she starred in the movie adaptation of 'Cinderella' but has slammed the criticism as "sexist" as guys don't face the same negativity when they slim down or bulk up. She told Grazia magazine: "It was the design of the dress, which was beautiful. I felt so frustrated. "It was so sexist, when men bulk up or get really fit for a film, that's fine. "But people make decisions about your body which have no relation to reality. We have to be careful about that."

Kanye West blasted over cost of clothing line

Kanye West has come under fire for the cost of his Life of Pablo clothing range. The rap star's T-shirts are printed on Gildan shirts with Cali Thornhill DeWitt's gothic lettering, which the lifestyle and fashion website Highsnobiety has claimed costs between \$1.50 to \$4 when purchased in bulk and wholesale. But when sold with West's lettering added, a Pablo T-shirt costs \$55, a long-sleeve one is \$75 and a hoodie for \$108. The situation has led to criticism from fans online, but a source close to the 'All Day' rapper has rubbished their moans. The insider told the New York Post newspaper: "The sourcing has nothing to do with the aesthetics or the value of the line ... To talk about the source of the shirt misses the point entirely. It's like writing an article on how an artist sells a \$50 canvas for \$1 million. Pointless." Earlier this year, Kanye hit back at critics of his fashion designs during one of his now-infamous Twitter rants. He said: "All these journalists can give their opinions well these are mine ... yes I believe in my ripped homeless sweaters!!! "I don't personally like suit jackets anymore. "I especially hate suit jackets on women... that was a groundbreaking



idea 5 million years ago! "I feel we are so stuck in the past and tradition. "I like T-shirts and women in yoga pants... I live in LA that's what people wear ... not sure why someone would put a suit jacket on with that. (sic)" Kanye also blasted the fashion industry more broadly, accusing it of being insincere. He wrote on Twitter: "Fake Fake Fake fake fake fake fake fake fake fake ... just my analysis (sic)"



Jackson was pressured to perform extra 50 shows after 'This Is It' concert

Michael Jackson felt pressured to perform an "additional 50" shows for his 'This Is It' concert. According to the musician's physician Conrad Murray - who was sentenced to four years in jail, although he served two, for the involuntary manslaughter of the King of Pop after administering a fatal dose of anesthetic Propofol in June 2009 - has admitted there was growing concern around the late 'Thriller' hitmaker's ability to give one perfect performance for his 2009 comeback residency show of 50 gigs, which was heightened when he was asked to do another 50 shows to total 100 concerts and led him to overdo on the medicine. Speaking exclusively to BANG Showbiz about what pushed the singer songwriter to take the fateful drugs, he said: "I don't think he had stage fright, but there was a lot of concern for him whether he had the ability to perform like he did to do 50 shows. They weren't just asking for 50, there was another request for an additional fifty, so a total of a 100. "I told him to not consider it ... what I suggested was a better way just to pacify the moment

because having the volition alone for this 50 was a monumental task for Michael and he tried every possible way to get away from it. "He was trying to find anything that could give him a very reasonable method to exit." However, Conrad - who was stripped of his medical license for his role in Michael's death - has hinted Michael felt he had no other choice but to persevere because he feared he would be left "penniless" and wouldn't be able to afford to feed his 18-year-old daughter Paris. He explained: "But at the same time he was in total fear because if he did exit, if he pulled away, where would he be left? On the side of the road. "He [Michael] said to me what would happen if he did not do the shows ... he said he would be penniless he would not afford the popsicles his daughter was eating. He was going to go to Skid Row, which is a derelict, downtrodden homeless, impoverished area of the already impoverished. That's where he thought Michael Jackson would end up." This Is It! The Secret lives of Dr. Conrad Murray and Michael Jackson is available to buy now.



# Bieber and Richie celebrate her birthday in Mexico



**J**ustin Bieber and Sofia Richie are celebrating her birthday in Mexico. The 22-year-old singer whisked the model - who turned 18 last week - off to Cabo San Lucas on a private jet for a romantic weekend away. Rosewood resort. The couple confirmed their romance two weeks ago but the union was met with drama, as the pop sensation's ex-girlfriend Selena Gomez became embroiled in a public spat with the

star. The 24-year-old singer publicly scolded Justin when he threatened to make his Instagram page private after fans lashed out over pictures of his new love, and they accused each other of cheating during their on/off romance. True to his word, Justin disappeared from the photo sharing site and Selena is now said to be stressed and needing time off work to rest. A source revealed: 'Justin and Selena's relationship is notoriously rocky and it

hasn't been easy to see him move on so publicly with Sofia. 'But Selena is used to seeing him with other women - it's the combination of being over-worked and under pressure. 'She's been touring for four months non-stop and won't rest until mid-December with her 'Revival' tour still to hit Europe and South America. 'There's real concern and the plan is to talk to her in the next few days to ask her to consider taking some time off.'

## Naomi Campbell's idol is Boy George

**N**aomi Campbell used to sit outside Boy George's house 'for hours'. The 46-year-old supermodel was a huge fan of the singer and his band Culture Club when she was growing up and now feels lucky to have starred in two of the group's videos and to call her idol a 'friend'. She said: 'He was my childhood idol and I'm glad to be able to call him a personal friend. 'I used to sit outside his house with my friend for hours with mag-



azines or whatever else we wanted him to sign. 'As a fan, I feel lucky to have appeared in two Culture Club videos. When I was 13, I played a tap-dancing chorus girl in 'I'll Tumble 4 Ya' video. The following year, they cast me in another of their videos, 'Mistake No. 3'. I absolutely loved Culture Club and Boy George and I still do. 'Despite her love of Culture Club, Naomi was more excited about appearing in a Bob Marley video when she was just seven years old. She told Attitude magazine: 'I have to say, out of all the videos I've appeared in, I think the Bob Marley one is the most exciting. I was just seven years old and it was my first music video. 'I was too young to understand much of it but I remember being a bit nervous when I was taken to meet him. 'My family loved reggae music. I still clearly remember there being lots of Bob Marley being played on the radio at home. Having those opportunities at such a young age was amazing.'

## The Kardashians want Adele to appear on their show

**T**he reality TV family are huge fans of the singer and are desperate to have her over for dinner so that she can appear on the family reality show 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians', but Adele isn't so keen. A source told the Sunday Mirror: 'Kendall Jenner has been pushing for her to come to dinner as she is smitten by her. She loves her talent and thinks she is a really funny woman. Kim Kardashian West and Kanye West to give Adele an LA welcome and insiders' knowledge after she bought a place here. 'Of course Kris, as executive producer on the El series, knows that getting the dinner on TV would be viewing gold. 'But at this stage, Adele is not sold on that idea. She hasn't ruled out a Adele recently revealed she is planning to spend the rest of the year in America. The 28-year-old singer is currently on tour in the US, but plans to stay in her \$7.8 million Los Angeles mansion for some time after the run of shows draw to an end in November and is 'excited' at the prospect of spending Christmas in the sun with her partner Simon Konecki and their three-year-old son Angelo. She said: 'I'm in America for eight months. I'm on tour and then I'm going to have Christmas in America. I haven't done that before, I'm really excited! The 'Hello' singer has given up drinking on the road, is making regular trips to the gym and while in the US has developed a love of organic health store Bristol Farms. She said: 'Oh my god, Bristol Farms - it's like a better Whole Foods with brands. I love it. I had a field day there yesterday.'

## Rihanna 'giddy' over Drake's billboard

**R**ihanna is 'giddy' after Drake surprised her with a billboard. Drake congratulated the chart sensation on the news she's to receive the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award at the MTV Video Music Awards by purchasing her a huge sign emblazoned with the words 'Congratulations to Rihanna from Drake and everyone at OVO.' And Rihanna, 28, was touched by the romantic gesture. A source told HollywoodLife.com: 'That's the sweetest thing any man's ever done for Ri. She's still in shock and has been being all giddy about it since it's gone up. 'It's really hard for Rihanna to shake Drake, especially when he goes out of his way to do something so sweet and on the highest magnitude possible. His



congratulatory Billboard is epic and one for the ages, going to personally thank Drake and talk to him about

what they want to do now that she believes he's interested in her and wants more. 'Rihanna couldn't hide her delight when she shared a picture of her billboard on Instagram and captioned it: 'When he extra' alongside an emoji of a trophy. The cute gesture has set tongues wagging that the pair - who used to be an item - are secretly dating again and there's no doubt that they're still extremely close, given Drake's recent display of affection. What's more, they've collaborated on a number of love tracks - most recently 'Work' and 'Too Good' and previously 'Take Care' and 'What's My Name' - and the 29-year-old Canadian rapper and Bajan singer have outrageously flirted on stage throughout Rihanna's 'Anti World Tour'.

## Nicole Scherzinger: I'm in 'a good place'

**N**icole Scherzinger is in 'a good place' in her personal life. After a tumultuous seven-year relationship with Lewis Hamilton, 31, the 38-year-old singer has moved on with 25-year-old tennis ace Grigor Dimitrov and says that she is happier than ever. She told The Sun: 'I'm at a very good place now. I'm really happy. I don't feel like there is any wall up



or any tension or awkwardness. But that's what's so great with time and life and experience. What doesn't break you or doesn't kill you really only makes you stronger. 'Nicole appeared to blast Lewis during filming of the new season of 'The X Factor' when a contestant sang her song 'Run', which contains the lyrics, 'He'll leave you with a broken heart. 'Simon Cowell said: 'Why did this song make me think of Lewis? Run away, Nicole, run away fast.' And although Nicole confirmed the song was written about her relationship with Lewis, she insisted she has no desire to hurt him. She said: 'I wasn't shying away from anything. But I'm not taking any low digs or slaps at my past relationship because that's just not who I am. 'Music speaks for itself and it's open to interpretation for everyone. But everything I sing, I sing it from my piece of truth.' Meanwhile, Nicole admitted she is at war with Simon over boyband One Direction, as she feels she deserves to get the credit for putting the group together on 'The X Factor' in 2010. She said: 'I stand by that. I'd fight with him on this. 'He could at least give me the credit because he's getting the cash flow from it. These kids are looking at houses the same price as mine. I'm like, 'Wait a second here! I'm the one having to stand in line to buy One Direction backpacks for my nieces.'



## Kylie Jenner and Tyga jet to Las Vegas with King Cairo

**K**ylie Jenner and Tyga have jetted to Las Vegas with his son King Cairo. The 19-year-old reality TV star and her rapper boyfriend have brought his three-year-old son on a trip to Sin City for some 'last-minute adventures'. Kylie and King were accompanying Tyga, 26, as he flew to Vegas to perform. Although Kylie was previously locked in a long-running feud with King's mother Blac Chyna, the pair have since buried the hatchet and Chyna recently insisted she would be happy for Kylie to babysit the tot and the new baby she is expecting with Kylie's brother Rob Kardashian. The couple - who announced they were expecting their first child together in May this year one month after getting engaged - admitted they would trust the star to look after their baby more than her sister Kendall. When asked in a Facebook Live discussion about who they would rely on to mind their tot out of Kendall and Kylie, the 28-year-old make-up artist said: 'Yeah, she [Kylie] could babysit the baby and King at the same time. [But] I would say both.' However, the 29-year-old father-to-be has revealed he would only leave his brood in the care of the beauty entrepreneur. He quipped: 'I would choose neither of them. 'No, I'm kidding ... Probably Kylie. I'll probably let Kylie babysit.'





LAKME

Fashion Week



Indian models showcase creations by designer Santosh Parekh during the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW) Winter/Festive 2016 in Mumbai.



Indian Bollywood actress Bipasha Basu showcases a creation by designer Sanjukta Dutta.



Indian models showcase creations by designer Veent Rahul.



Indian Bollywood actress Ileana D'Cruz showcases a creation by designer Redhi Mehra.



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Fashion Week



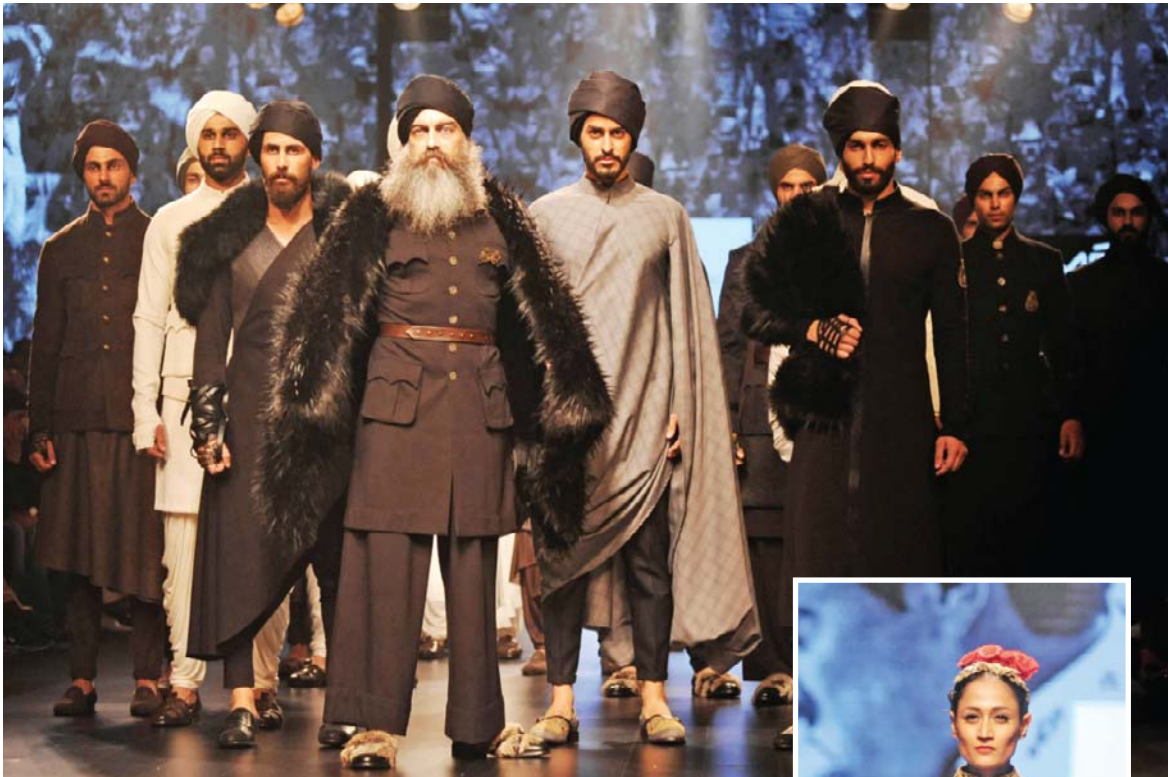
Indian Bollywood actress Prachi Desai showcases a creation by designer Sonam & Paras Modi.



Indian models showcase creations by designer Anushree Reddy.



Indian models showcase creations by designer Shantanu & Nikhil.



Indian Bollywood actor Ranbir Kapoor showcases a creation by designer Kunal Rawal during the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW) Winter/Festive 2016 in Mumbai yesterday. — AP/AFP photos



Nigel Rodgers of the Pipedown campaign group poses for a photograph in front of a branch of Marks and Spencer on Oxford Street in central London. —AFP

Quiet battle for the sound of silence in UK shops

Nigel Rodgers is in hell. A campaigner against piped music for decades, he stands in a shoe shop on London's Oxford Street which is blaring out loud pop music, wincing visibly. "It's just as bad as passive smoking," said the 63-year-old, sporting a blue blazer with a red handkerchief in the top pocket and eagerly eyeing the exit. "It really is enough to drive most people bonkers if they have got any sensitivity at all." Rodgers has campaigned against the canned music which is common in British shops and other public spaces for 24 years but his group Pipedown recently scored its biggest success yet.

One of the country's top department stores, Marks and Spencer, said it would stop playing music after a letter writing campaign by hundreds of Pipedown's 2,000 members. Now the group hopes to persuade other major retailers to follow suit as sister organizations take off around the world, including in Germany and the United States. Rodgers is far more comfortable sipping a cup of tea in the relative calm of the Marks and Spencer cafe a few doors down on London's busiest shopping street.

Masking other noise?

Here, he gently explained how he believes the mechanisation of society has turned up the volume on the modern world, causing health problems like hearing damage and raised blood pressure. "We live in a continuously noisy environment," he said. "We're being artificially stimulated all the time in a way we're not designed to." Rodgers, who also writes books on art history and philosophy, founded Pipedown aged 38 after becoming frustrated by piped music in a restaurant where he was dining with a girlfriend.

The group kept growing and, as well as letter writing campaigns, many supporters now go shopping armed with cards complaining-politely of course about piped music which they hand to shop workers. "It's not just a matter of one or two neurotics-it's a much bigger problem," Rodgers said. "Attitudes can change very fast-I'm hoping the M and S

decision may mark a tipping point," he added, blinking slightly as plates clattered in the background. By contrast, industry figures argue piped music can make shops a more, not less, pleasant environment to be in.

Adrian England of PEL Services, which provides music for a string of big name British retailers, said silence makes some people uncomfortable. "If there's no music, you'll hear arguments, noisy children-all sorts of noise which is present but you don't hear because music masks it," he told AFP. England said shops like to play a mix of two or three musical genres to appeal to their customers, varying the tempo throughout the day-mellow in the mornings, energetic in the evenings. The biggest sign of success can be if shoppers do not even realize the music is there, he said. "There certainly is a paradox. If you're doing it well then the customers won't notice-they won't compliment you, they just won't complain," England added.

'Helps me buy quicker'

Professor Adrian North of Australia's Curtin University researches the impact of music on consumer behavior and believes few businesses are using it properly to communicate with customers. Studies he has worked on suggest that playing the "right" kind of music in commercial environments could boost sales by as much as 20 per cent. The wrong music "would usually have effects that were worse than playing no music at all." Back on Oxford Street, thronged with tourists visiting London over the summer holiday period, shoppers were split on whether they loved or loathed loud music in shops.

"It takes a lot more energy walking into this kind of store-I tend to avoid them," said Martin Persson, a 34-year-old visiting from Sweden, outside the shoe shop which Rodgers found so noisy. But Ziad al-Shoebe, a 22-year-old from Saudi Arabia, loved what for him was the novelty of thumping beats as he picked out his latest designer footwear. "The music fits with the shoes-it helps me buy quicker," he added. — AFP



# Lifestyle

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2016

Tom Cruise  
charters  
private jets for  
his gym gear

36



A stallholder stands behind her wares on the first day of 'The Asylum Steampunk Festival' in Lincoln, northern England. The four-day alternative lifestyle festival is the largest and longest running steampunk festival in the World; combining art, literature, music, fashion and comedy. Steampunk is a subgenre of science fiction or science fantasy that incorporates technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery. — AFP

## Youth movement: Gazans take up rollerblading



Young Palestinians roller skate on the cornice in Gaza City. — AFP photos

Young people have turned to rollerblading in the Gaza Strip, gliding along the Palestinian enclave's waterfront with used equipment that can be bought at a popular flea market. The sport requires little gear which is important in Gaza, hit by three wars with Israel since 2008 and under an Israeli blockade for a decade. Nearly half the 1.9 million population in the strip run by Islamist movement Hamas is unemployed. "The

rollerblades are not available in Gaza. It's complicated for us to find some," said Rajab Al-Rifi, a 20-year-old rollerblader from Gaza City.

"We go to the Yarmouk souk, which is a second-hand market with goods from Israel. They are considered cast-offs from Israel, but we buy them, we fix them and then we can use them." The rollerbladers join bikers, joggers and horse- and camel-riders on Gaza's Mediterranean coastline,

weaving their movements and jumping from steps. They sometimes draw curious looks, including from city employees who stopped with their brooms in hand to watch. "When the people see us, they are happy," said Mohammed Hajjaj, 17. But the rollerbladers say more should be done to develop the sport in Gaza. "We don't have any support in Gaza," said Rifi. "There is no club for rollerblades... There is nothing for us here." — AFP



## Iraq's youth orchestra - a musical dream that shattered

For nearly six years, young Iraqis defied the war, coming from all over the country to play in an orchestra, but the emergence of Islamic State has dashed their dream of making music to bridge deadly sectarian divides. The Iraqi National Youth Orchestra's story is told in a memoir by Paul MacAlindin, the band's conductor from its founding in 2009 until it was forced to stop playing in 2014, an end that left him "devastated and empty and very, very broken." MacAlindin, a Scottish musician, was eating fish and chips in an Edinburgh cafe when he saw an appeal in the local newspaper from a 17-year-old Iraqi pianist, Zuhair Sultan, for a maestro to put the orchestra together.

At that point, in 2008, MacAlindin knew little about Iraq or the challenges of playing classical music in a country devastated by more than a decade of war. "I knew pretty much what everyone else in the general public knew, which was that Iraq was a war zone," said MacAlindin, who took the job that was funded by, among others, the British and German governments. With much of Iraq too dangerous for MacAlindin to get to in order to meet potential players, the musicians were sought on Facebook and auditioned via YouTube.

Most had learned to play by watching videos online in the first place. "There was no teaching to speak of," said MacAlindin, now 48, who before taking up the Iraqi baton had conducted orchestras and ensembles from New Zealand to Germany. The National Youth Orchestra of Iraq eventually met in 2009 for a summer school, the first of many rehearsals and concerts for which MacAlindin would fly in to conduct. His proudest memory is their first concert, following two weeks of "orchestral bootcamp" with a team of translators to help the Kurdish and Arabic speakers communicate with their maestro and each other.

### Resilience and despair

"We proved that it could be done. We also proved that we were resilient enough to see the course through to the end," he said. "And despite all the very large differences between us, we held ourselves together and nobody walked out." Beethoven's Prometheus Overture, Haydn's Symphony No. 99, and - to represent the ethnic mix of the orchestra - Kurdish and Arabic Iraqi pieces made up the repertoire that night and the orchestra went on to play in Britain, France and Germany. As well as nurturing musical talent, the orchestra brought together people aged between 18 and 25 from all over Iraq.

"We had no interest in the politics or religion or all the other things that divide young people against each other in Iraq. We were simply together making music. That built trust, and it allowed friendships to foster in the orchestra that wouldn't under any other circumstances be possible." But since the orchestra's collapse in 2014, the year the Islamic State group declared a caliphate across swathes of Iraq and Syria, MacAlindin is pessimistic about its future. "The whole country is in such a state of trauma that the possibility of anybody fulfilling their personal potential and contributing culturally to a nation - it's just not happening," he said. — Reuters