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NO: 16921- Friday, July 1, 2016

Sales of secondhand items booming in Kuwait

4



Ice-cool Evans sets up another British date for Federer

46



The punisher, sworn in as Philippines' President

18

### Ramadan Timings

Emsak:	03:07
Fajer:	03:17
Shrooq:	04:52
Dohr:	11:52
Asr:	15:26
Maghreb:	18:52
Eshaa:	20:23

# 10 killed, 12 injured in Kuwait deadly fire

See Page 9



KUWAIT: Paramedics assist an injured man after a deadly fire killed 10 Asian residents in Farwaniya yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayaat

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Local Spotlight

# RAMADAN DIARY



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

I am against the idea of taking a holiday during the month of Ramadan, as I consider work as worship, but I have a different opinion this year. Many people see it as a month of eating and sleeping, with no consideration for the sacredness and meaning of this month. If you have work to complete during Ramadan in the daytime, you will get bored and frustrated by the frequent disruptions, and only if you are lucky you finish all your work as expected.

Why do people not work as usual during Ramadan? It is a very confusing question because everyone is eager to eat instead of working. I had to visit some government offices and I noticed that the working hours during Ramadan are only two hours. The actual working hours are from 10 am to 2 pm in

most places, but the truth is that by 1 pm, many don't want to work.

Productivity is not associated with fasting. It is a chance to prove that fasting is part of faith, strength and stability at work, as we all say work is worship, and fasting is worship too. But the way many people behave during this month affects their daytime activities. Clearly, many people are focused on food, so that it has become part of the customs and traditions of Arab and Muslim countries.

I am also surprised with the overcrowding at restaurants to the point that it's difficult to go to any place without prior reservation. So the image set here is that Ramadan is only associated with food. These ideas should not be the only projection Muslims send to the world. Unfortunately, the truth is that we not only need to consider the problem of wastage of food, but also need to increase awareness on this subject. It requires a lot of effort from everyone.

The Civil Service Commission has announced that Eid Al-Fitr holidays will be for five days starting from July 5. Sunday, July 10 will be the day to resume work.

Happy Eid!

## Photo of the day



KUWAIT: Photo shows the Liwan (front hall) of a traditional Arab house. — KUNA

in my view

# HELLFIRE AWAITS: FACING KUWAIT'S REMORSELESS SUMMER

By Aakash Bakaya

Local@kuwaittimes.net

Even after 20 years growing up in this country, you still never get use to it. It hits you the second you step out of your door. It lies in wait, savoring the moment you leave the safe confines of your air-conditioned abode. When you're out in the open, there is no escaping it, nothing you can do but embrace the searing pain as your skin quite literally begins to ignite and your scalp begs you for reprieve. No matter how long you stay in this country, there is little anyone can do to escape Kuwait's 50-plus-degree Celsius summers.

Today, as I was walking towards the bus stop, I passed a group of men removing their beat-up looking box A/C from their shabby looking residence towards a pick-up truck with several other similar AC's on its back. There were two men at the doorway fanning themselves with looks on their faces that can only be described as 'hopeless dread'. You didn't have to be a mind-reader to know that these two men, along with the rest of the bachelors living in their small room were concerned how they would get by without an A/C in their house.

For many reading this, you might have the luxury of your own personal vehicles. But for several others in this country, including myself, we are required to embark to work using public transport. At bus-stops and in buses themselves, the heat is something everyone suffers universally. Some unlucky few have to wait for their bus for more than 30 minutes and the

midday sun gives only slender slivers of shade. Having Ramadan in the midst of the summer has done little to help both the fasting and non-fasting alike.

Passing through Kuwait City anytime during 1-3 pm becomes a slow moving crawl as every major office has decided to make their check-out timing of their employees the exact same. No matter where you end up getting stuck in traffic, try to remember that there are buses packed over acceptable limits with people clamoring not only for space to stand but A/C vents as well. My 30 minutes on average work commute has turned to an hour and 15 minutes and I'm confident that it is the same for many others either going or coming back from work.

The commute is akin to a kind of torture to many of us on the bus. The sweat, stress and ever increasing discomforts are pains that are mentally and physically felt among everyone forced to endure the hellish afternoon sun. It is possible to compare these shared seasonal feelings to the experience of monsoon in the sub-continent, where all of us, regardless of income, are forced to deal with the unrelenting rains in their own personal way. The only difference however is that there are many who welcome the rain and the change of weather it brings. In Kuwait though, no sane person is eager for the summer season to begin.

Tomorrow, much like every other day, I will dread stepping out of the house to face the heat. It is like hopelessly facing your greatest demons. But it helps me to remember those bachelors taking out their mal-functioning A/C from their house. I think 'at least I have an A/C house to go out from and an office with A/C to reach.' So like every demon you face in life, all it takes to beat the heat is a little self-awareness to overcome it. Also a nice pair of shades always helps.

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# Sales of secondhand items booming in Kuwait

By Ben Garcia

Sales of secondhand or lightly used items are booming in many parts of Kuwait. One would wonder why such a demand exists in a rich country like Kuwait, but there are many compelling reasons for this. The expat population is transient, while wealthy locals frequently replace old items for new ones. Home goods such as furniture and decorative items, books, carpets, clothes and shoes are easily accumulated as time goes by. These items usually end up at online markets, garage or car boot sales as well as the Friday Market or Souq Al-Jumaa, Kuwait City's Souq Al-Mukhaseen in Mubarakiya or in some lanes near mosques.

Secondhand items are a big help for low income laborers in the country, but they are also useful for business-minded people. In fact, some are already making a profit out of it. They buy and resell goods here and outside the country. Garry, from the Philippines, buys secondhand clothes and anything useful like shoes and carpets from the Friday Market, then sends them to the Philippines by forwarding services.

"I am here to select the best clothes that can be sold in the Philippines," said Garry, selecting from the assorted clothes in one of the many stalls at the Friday Market. "I buy them and send them by cargo," said Garry, a restaurant worker and entrepreneur. "My family receives the clothes and they sell it for a very low price in the market. We are earning a bit from this smalltime business. Maybe after three years, I will be able to start a new clothes shop back home due to this venture," he said.



**Ramadan Quiz 2016**

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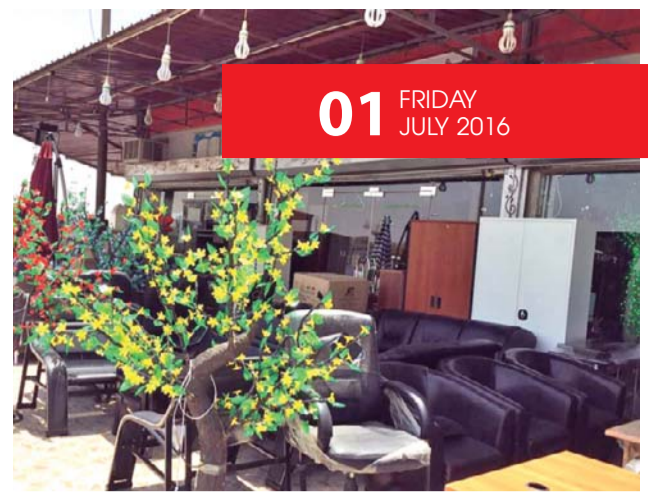
**Answer & Win Fabulous Prizes**

Kuwait Times annual Ramadan Competition returns with one YES or NO question published every day throughout the holy month of Ramadan. All thirty coupons with the correct answers must be sent to the newspaper to be eligible for the raffle draw. All coupons must be received by Friday 8th July 2016 at Kuwait Times Office.

2016/7/6 ع-ب

✂

<p><b>Kuwait Times</b> Ramadan Quiz Answer &amp; Win</p>	<p><b>Kuwait Times</b> Ramadan Quiz Answer &amp; Win</p>
<p>26. How old was Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) when he got married to Khadijah (Radi allahu Anha)?</p> <p><b>25 years</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>	<p>Date: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Civil ID.: _____</p> <p>Tel: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>



01 FRIDAY  
JULY 2016

Photos show some of the secondhand or lightly used items usually sold at the online markets, garage or car boot, Friday Market or Souq Al-Jumaa.

The Friday Market sells almost everything under the sun - used and new clothing, electronic appliances, home decor and furniture. The market is also home to sellers of old and new Iranian carpets, office tables and chairs, paintings, cabinets, bicycles even fishing rods, books and stationery. Sports shoes sell like hot cakes. "I buy used original Adidas and Nike shoes from Kuwaiti houses and I sell them here," said Juman, a Bangladeshi stall owner said. "Filipinos love these shoes," he added. "The prices of secondhand 'branded' shoes range from KD 6 to 16, far lower than the original price of KD 45 to KD 100," said Juman.

The Friday Market opens for business from Wednesday to Saturday evening. All unsold items displayed at the venue have to be removed by Saturday evening or they get dumped in the garbage after the market closes. Adjacent to the Friday Market is a permanent shopping complex known as Rai Center, which also sells old and lightly used goods. Some of the items being sold have been repaired, which make the products cost higher compared to the Friday Market. They are displayed in a smaller area unlike the Friday Market. Rai Center is open throughout the week.

"Our prices are higher because our shops are permanent," said a shop owner at the center. "Our products are purchased directly from the owners of houses and villas in Kuwait who want to replace their old furniture," he said. Items are also obtained from expatriates who are leaving the country for good. "People are moving all the time, so whatever they value less is sold or given away. Things that were accumulated are left behind, and that's how we have many old and lightly used items sold at the Friday Market," the owner said.

Some people buy and sell used goods by other means. Noora has transformed her villa basement to hold garage sales every Friday in Egaila. She collects items like bags, shoes and home decor stuff and sells them at her garage sale. Proceeds of the garage sales are given to charities in the Philippines. "I visit the garage sale every Friday. The owner of the garage is a Kuwaiti who is very low profile and doesn't want any publicity," said Bong, a shopper.

Renz posted his old Canon camera to sell on Facebook. He posted it on a Friday and found a buyer by Sunday. There are other online shops where you can sell your old but reusable home items. "I needed cash immediately so I tried the FB account. A buyer from my work, who wanted it at a lower price, suggested to post it online, and that's how I got a buyer for the price I wanted," Renz said.



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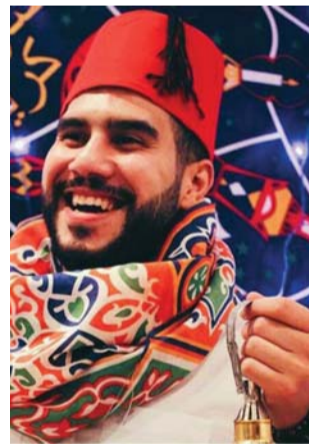
KUWAIT: Some of the dancers showcase their talents during an event called 'A night on Almo'ez Street'.

# Feeling at home in a foreign land

By Faten Omar

**H**omesickness can be a real problem for those who travel away from home for a long time. Most expats in Kuwait have felt homesick at some point in their lives. You might miss your family, friends, pets, house or neighborhood. In Ramadan, many people feel nostalgic about the gatherings and traditions of their countries. But once the new surroundings and people become more familiar, this feeling of nostalgia goes away.

Ahmed Ghazi is a 27-year-old Egyptian who organized an Egyptian night from futour to suhoor called 'A night on Almo'ez Street', which is the best place to experience authentic Ramadan culture in Cairo. Kuwait Times spoke to Ghazi to know more about the event that gathered hundreds of strangers via Facebook to make them feel at home.



Ahmad Ghazi





**KT: Tell us more about yourself.**

**Ghazi:** I was born in Riyadh. I now live in Kuwait with my family and friends. I work as an accountant, and also do a lot of art and graphic designing. I would someday pursue it more than a hobby. I'm generous, odd and kind of weird. I'm fairly clever too. I see art in things that aren't necessarily artistic.

**KT: How did you come up with this idea?**

**Ghazi:** I was with one of my colleagues Ahmed Sadek, and we were planning a big gathering for our families, friends and relatives since Ramadan was approaching. We were missing home and the vibes of Ramadan in Egypt. That's when we thought of making it a big Egyptian family gathering like what takes place on Almo'ez Street.

**KT: Tell us more about Almo'ez Street?**

**Ghazi:** Almo'ez Street is one of the oldest streets in Cairo with the greatest architectural treasures in the Islamic world. This street has been turned into an open-air museum. From the north of Almo'ez Street to the south, there are lots of mosques and museums you can visit to discover real Islamic arts.

**KT: Why did you choose to call the event 'A night on Almo'ez Street'?**

**Ghazi:** Actually, we had a couple of names in mind, but we decided to choose 'A night on Almo'ez Street' to connect with people as they are away from home. Almo'ez Street itself contains many historic buildings ranging from the era of Amr Ibn al Aas to the Tulunid, Fatimid, Ayyubid, Mamluk and Ottoman eras to the Mohammad Ali era. A United Nations study found it to have the greatest concentration of medieval architectural treasures in the Islamic world.

**KT: How did you organize the event?**

**Ghazi:** My friend Ahmed and I, with some of our friends, organized the event. Everyone was excited about the event. We are really thankful to our families, friends and especially to the people who attended the event. They made this day beyond fabulous and unforgettable.

**KT: Are you going to do more cultural and community events?**

**Ghazi:** Yes, if I get the chance and the support.

**KT: Why do you think people were excited about it?**

**Ghazi:** We organized many things related to Egyptian culture, from folklore dancing and food to the designs and the programs. We even had the mesaharati, the man who walks the streets just before dawn in Ramadan with a drum, chanting traditional songs to draw people out of their slumber for suhour, the final meal before the fast of the day begins. We tried our best to replicate the Almo'ez Street culture here and show people how Ramadan in Egypt looks like.

**KT: How was the event?**

**Ghazi:** Honestly, it was beyond words. We are very pleased by the feedback. Many asked us to do this again in Ramadan or on the second day of Eid.

**KT: Did you satisfy the people? Or there was something missing you wanted to add?**

**Ghazi:** We can never satisfy everyone. But we tried our best to make them live the Ramadan vibes as they should be. There were some things missing and we will add them next time.

**KT: How many people turned up?**

**Ghazi:** Around 100 to 130 people - we also had people from other nationalities like Lebanese and Syrians who attended the event.

**KT: Do you often use social media to meet people from your country or to share activities?**

**Ghazi:** Yes, online communication is important for everyone. Also, positive interaction with the people that have the same mutual ideas can really lead to great contributions. Social media allows us to interact freely and quickly.

## VIVA Announces Winner of KD 500 in "Win Big in Ramadan" Campaign

VIVA, Kuwait's fastest growing and most developed telecom operator, announces third week's winners of the campaign "Win Big in Ramadan" that allows postpaid customers to win valuable cash prizes during the holy month of Ramadan.

The winner of KD 500 prize is Ms. Doha Saad AL-Soraya, and the names of daily draw's winners with prize KD 100 are: Rafeef Reyad Sayed, Omar Fawaz Omar A-Mutairi, AL-Anoud Saad Khalaf Al-Dhafeeri, Saeed Mostapha Mohammad Abu Al-Hasan, Abdulrahman A Al-Dowaisan, Decky Haidar Ulum, Mohammed Khaleel Al-Sayed Khaleel.

VIVA gives the customers a wonderful opportunity to win amazing cash prizes this Ramadan - KD 100 daily, KD 500 fortnightly and KD

1000 at the end of the month, once they pay their VIVA bills through Direct Debit, VIVA website, VIVA App or by calling 102 during the holy month.

To find out more about "Win Big in Ramadan" campaign, visit one of the 70 VIVA branches, or the VIVA website at [www.viva.com.kw](http://www.viva.com.kw), or call VIVA's 24-hour call center on 102.



## DATES, AL-SAFAT, AL-MANAKH -TRADITIONAL KUWAITI MARKETS

**KUWAIT:** The Dates, Al-Safat, Al-Manakh, and Al-Ferrdah markets were vital business hubs which steered Kuwait's economic growth in the past. Set for different purposes, these markets played an important role in importing and exporting goods to and from Kuwait as well as providing local products to customers in the old days. Speaking about the historical significance of the markets, researcher Mohammad Abdulhadi Jamal said that despite being a small nation, Kuwait still

is considered as a strong economic force in the region.

One of the major old markets in Kuwait was Al-Ferrdah, said Jamal, adding that the market, named after a seaport, was one of the busiest locations for trade due the fact that goods and cargo were directly loaded and unloaded straight from ships into the market. The market sold a variety of products ranging from foodstuff to consumer goods, said the researcher. Meanwhile, Jamal spoke about the

proceedings Al-Manakh market, saying that the name came from the fact that the area was the resting spot for caravans heading from and to markets in Al-Sham, Iraq, Najed, and other regions back in the day. Al-Manakh was considered as a parallel market for goods were stocks played a major role in bring riches to those involved.

One of the most significant events in Al-Manakh's history was the crash of 1982, said Jamal, adding that deals were conducted on

the basis of trust among merchants; however, something happened which made things go "haywire". And it namesake might suggest, the Dates market also played an important part in the economy of Kuwait in the past, noted the historical researcher. The market was exclusively establish for the dates industry and only that, affirmed Jamal, noting that the location of market varied due to the passage of time, but the business still remain as substantial till this day. — KUNA



## MINISTRY SUPPORTS PAAET AHEAD OF GCC SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah has vowed support to the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) for hosting the 8th GCC Sports Championship for universities and higher education Institutions. The PAAET will be offered full logistic and media backing to guarantee success for the

tournament that authority hosts in November, Sheikh Salman told a PAAET delegation, the Ministry of Information said in a statement on Wednesday. The minister stressed the significance of the event for the GCC youth. The delegation, led by Director General Dr Ahmad Al-Athari, expressed gratitude to Sheikh Salman for his unlimited support to the Kuwaiti people, especially youth,

in sports, social and cultural activities to enhance the constructive and effective national thinking. The meeting also addressed the programs the PAAET can offer for training and qualifying Kuwaitis within the development program backed by the Ministry of Information and the State Ministry for Youth Affairs.

Meanwhile, the statement said that

Minister Sheikh Salman had also received the new board of the Ministry of Information workers' syndicate. Congratulating the board members, the minister underlined the importance of holding the values of national unity and interests above all other considerations. The syndicate board thanked Sheikh Salman for his unrelenting efforts to promote the Kuwaiti media. — KUNA





KUWAIT: Firemen seen at the scene of the fire that broke out at a house in Farwaniya.—KUNA

# 10 INDIANS, PAKISTANIS PERISH IN DEADLY FIRE

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Ten Asian workers were killed and 12 others injured in a fire yesterday at an old building used to house expat laborers in Farwaniya, the Health Ministry said. The ministry, quoted by state news agency KUNA, said all the victims were Indians and Pakistanis. At least five of the injured were in critical condition. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. A medical emergency preliminary report said 10 deaths were reported, while 12 were rushed to hospital. Three of the victims died of cardiac arrest. Health Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Allied Health Services Dr Jamal Al-Harby said that six people died inside the building, all charred, while three died while on their way to the hospital.

In a statement to KUNA, Acting Director of KFSD Maj Gen Khalid Al-Mekrad said that four fire departments were mobilized immediately to battle the blaze, adding that among the injured were firefighters as well. Al-Mekrad noted that the prefabricated buildings lack basic security and safety precautions and have some major violations. Last week, a blaze at the Gulf state's central jail killed one inmate and wounded 56 other people, including a fireman. Expatriate workers, mostly from the Indian subcontinent, make up around 70 percent of oil-rich Kuwait's 4.3-million population.



# International

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2016

**IS ripped apart by air strikes in Fallujah**



**Islamic State makes inroads into Kenya**



**NA leaders urge against Trump's isolationism**



ISTANBUL: Family members, colleagues and friends of the victims of Tuesday blasts gather for a memorial ceremony at the Ataturk Airport yesterday. — AFP

## 13 DETAINED OVER ISTANBUL AIRPORT ATTACK

CHILLING DETAILS EMERGE OF SUICIDE BOMBERS ASSAULT

**ISTANBUL:** Turkey yesterday detained 13 suspected Islamic State jihadists over the deadly Istanbul airport attack, as chilling details emerged of how suicide bombers launched their assault. The death toll from Tuesday's gun and suicide bomb spree at Ataturk airport has risen to 43, the interior minister said, with 19 foreigners among the dead and more than 200 people injured. Authorities have identified the bombers as a Russian, an Uzbek and a Kyrgyz national.

Turkey has been plunged into mourning over the carnage at Ataturk airport, the deadliest of several attacks to strike Turkey's biggest city this year. Police carried out more than a dozen raids across Istanbul early Thursday, arresting 13 people including four foreigners, Interior Minister Efan Ala said. Turkey has suffered a string of deadly attacks in the past year blamed on either IS or Kurdish rebels, and the airport attack comes just at the start of the crucial summer tourist season.

Ala told reporters late Wednesday there was an ongoing "serious and comprehensive investigation" into who was behind the

attack. Using another name for IS, he said: "First signs point to Daesh, but it's not certain yet." CIA director John Brennan said the attack, which has sparked international condemnation, bore the "hallmark" of the jihadist group.

### 'Rifles in suitcases'

Details are emerging of how the attackers arrived at Turkey's busiest airport by taxi before indiscriminately firing at passengers with automatic rifles and detonating suicide bombs. "The terrorists failed to pass through the regular security system, scanners and police control," Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told reporters late Wednesday. "They returned and came back with long-range rifles they took out from their suitcases, and passed the security control by opening fire randomly at people," he said.

"One of them blew himself up outside and the other two took advantage of the panic during the opening of the fire, entered inside and blew themselves up." A senior source close to the presidency gave a slightly different version of events, saying two attackers

blew themselves up on separate floors of the airport before the third followed suit outside. CCTV footage widely-circulated on social media showed a huge ball of flame erupting at the entrance, scattering terrified passengers. Another video showed a black-clad attacker running inside the building before collapsing to the ground—apparently felled by a police bullet—and blowing himself up. The victims include several Saudis, a Chinese national, a Tunisian and a Ukrainian. Of the injured, 92 are still in hospital, the Istanbul governor's office said.

### Security lapse?

Authorities are under pressure to convince visitors that Turkey is still safe, as the vital tourism industry has taken a heavy hit from a string of deadly attacks in the past year. Ege Seckin, an analyst at IHS Country risk, said the attack was "most likely conducted by the Islamic State to undermine the Turkish economy by attacking the airport ahead of the summer months, when tourism peaks". Yildirim said Turkey would "increase the presence of specially-trained staff" at the nation's

airports. He moved swiftly after the bombings to deny there had been any lapse in security, but many Turks have been angered by the perceived failure to stop the bombings. "It was an airport," one man could be heard shouting outside an Istanbul morgue on Wednesday, as devastated families went to collect the bodies of loved ones. "It's not like this happened in the street." The opposition Cumhuriyet newspaper also expressed anger at what it said was a failure by the nation's leaders to take political responsibility for the attack. "Is there anyone to resign?" it asked, pointing out that after the IS bombings at Brussels airport and a metro station in March, three Belgian ministers offered their resignation. Turkey has suffered at least five attacks blamed on IS jihadists, including a blast in Ankara in October that left over 100 dead, the worst in the country's modern history. In January, a bombing in the heart of Istanbul's tourist district, also blamed on IS, killed a dozen German visitors. Two months later, three Israelis and an Iranian were killed in another attack attributed to the jihadists on the city's main Istiklal shopping street. — AFP

## EGYPT MARKS OVERTHROW OF PRESIDENT WITH NEW HOLIDAY

**CAIRO:** Egypt yesterday celebrated the army's 2013 overthrow of an Islamist president with a new national holiday, marked by warplanes flying over the capital of Cairo and a brief address to the nation by President Abdel-Fattah El-Sissi. Supporters of El-Sissi, who as defense minister led the ouster of Mohammed Morsi, planned to hold rallies later in the day to mark the occasion. But the holiday mood was ruptured by reports from Egypt's restive Sinai Peninsula, where suspected Islamic militants yesterday gunned down a Christian priest and two members of the country's security forces in separate attacks, according to security and medical officials.

Back in 2013, millions of Egyptians took to the streets on June 30, to call for Morsi to step down, just a year after he took office as Egypt's first freely elected presi-

dent. El-Sissi announced his ouster on July 3, 2013, and authorities later detained thousands of Morsi supporters and banned his Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist group. Morsi, who has since been in custody, has been sentenced to death in one trial and long prison terms in several others. Convicted on a range of charges, including a prison break, leaking secret documents and conspiring with foreign terror groups against Egypt, he is appealing his convictions.

### 'June 30 Revolution'

The holiday, which the government refers to as the "June 30 Revolution" and which it announced earlier this week, will be also marked with musical performances and free entry to museums. In the ancient southern city of Luxor, hot-air bal-

loons carrying Egyptian flags flew over pharaonic temples and authorities plan a parade along the River Nile.

"On this glorious day, I would like to assure you that we are working hard to realize the hopes of the Egyptian people for the better future they deserve," El-Sissi, elected to office two years ago, said in a pre-recorded address to the nation broadcast yesterday. "The June 30 revolution reasserts the impossibility of imposing a status quo on the Egyptian people. Anyone who imagines that he can successfully do that is deluding himself," he said, alluding to Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

On Wednesday, he appealed to security forces and agencies to stop anyone from "spoiling" the occasion. He did not elaborate, but he appeared to be referring

to possible protests by Morsi supporters or attacks by Islamic militants. Egyptian security forces have been battling militants for years in Sinai, but attacks have grown deadlier and more frequent after Morsi's ouster. In yesterday's attacks, the priest was gunned down while walking in the city of el-Arish. Outside the city's main hospital, a bomb blast killed one policeman and wounded two.

And in a Sinai village near the border town of Rafah, a bomb blast badly wounded a soldier. The soldier was wounded again when an ambulance taking him to el-Arish, escorted by an armored vehicle, was ambushed by militants. That ambush killed another soldier, the security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters. — AP

## PALESTINIAN KILLS TEEN IN WEST BANK HOME

**JERUSALEM:** A Palestinian attacker fatally stabbed a 13-year-old girl in her home in a Jewish settlement in the West Bank yesterday before being shot dead by security guards, the Israeli army said. The army said the Palestinian killed the girl in her bed after breaking into her home in the Kiryat Arba settlement outside the city of Hebron.

Security personnel rushed to the house and fired on the attacker, who wounded a guard before being shot dead, the army said. The girl was taken to hospital in Jerusalem in critical condition and died of her wounds. The Palestinian health ministry identified the attacker as Mohammed Nasser Tarayra, 19, from the village of Bani Naim, just outside the city. Israeli media, which identified the girl as Hallel Yaffa Ariel, reported that she was attacked in her sleep. The Israeli military released a photograph of her blood-spattered bedroom. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held talks with Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman after the attack and the home village of the assailant was sealed off.

Israeli work permits for members of Tarayra's extended family were also to be revoked and authorities began procedures aimed at demolishing his home, a measure often taken against attackers. "The horrifying murder of a young girl in her bed underscores the bloodlust and inhumanity of the incitement-driven terrorists that we are facing," Netanyahu said in a statement. "The entire nation deeply identifies with the family's pain and declares to the murderers: 'You will not break us.'"

### Flashpoint city

Hebron in the occupied West Bank has been a flashpoint in a spate of deadly unrest that has rocked Israel and the Palestinian territories since October last year. Several hundred Jewish settlers live in a tightly guarded enclave in the heart of the city of more than 200,000 Palestinians, a persistent source of tensions. Kiryat Arba, where yesterday's attack occurred, is on the outskirts of the city and has a population of more than 7,000.

The violence since October has killed at least 211 Palestinians, 33 Israelis, two Americans, an Eritrean and a Sudanese. Most of the Palestinians were carrying out knife, gun or car-ramming attacks, according to Israeli authorities. Others were killed in clashes with security forces or by Israeli air strikes on the Gaza Strip. The number of attacks has declined but the deadliest yet hit Tel Aviv earlier this month when Palestinian gunmen killed four people at a popular nightclub. The two attackers-cousins from the Hebron area-were arrested. Analysts say Palestinian frustration with Israeli occupation and settlement-building in the West Bank, the complete lack of progress in peace efforts and their own fractured leadership have fed the unrest.

Israel says incitement by Palestinian leaders and media is a leading cause of the violence. On a visit to Israel and the Palestinian territories this week, UN chief Ban Ki-moon condemned the recent wave of attacks as "terrorism". But he urged Israel to address the "key underlying causes of violence" including "growing Palestinian anger, the paralysis of the peace process, the nearly a half-century of occupation."

Negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians have been at a standstill since a US-led initiative collapsed in April 2014. France is planning to hold an international conference before the end of the year in a bid to restart the peace process. Israel opposes the French initiative, calling instead for bilateral negotiations, while Palestinian leaders have expressed support for it. — AFP



**LONDON:** Brexit campaigner and former London mayor Boris Johnson addresses a press conference in central London yesterday. — AFP

## UK IN SHOCK AS JOHNSON AVOIDS LEADERSHIP BID

### POPULAR FRONT-RUNNER RULES HIMSELF OUT

**LONDON:** The race to become Britain's next prime minister took a dramatic, unexpected turn yesterday as former London Mayor Boris Johnson - popular with the public and widely considered to be a front-runner - ruled himself out of contention after the defection of a key ally. In a morning of political machinations and high-stakes treachery that had commentators reaching for Shakespearean parallels, Justice Secretary Michael Gove abruptly withdrew his support for Johnson and announced he would run for the Conservative Party leadership himself.

Johnson, a prominent campaigner for Britain's withdrawal from the 28-nation European Union, then told a news conference that the next Conservative leader would need to unite the party and ensure Britain's standing in the world. "Having consulted colleagues and in view of the circumstances in Parliament, I have concluded that person cannot be me," he said to the astonishment of journalists and supporters. The decision by Johnson, 52, is

an unexpected twist in a political career that saw him serve as journalist, lawmaker and mayor, building a public profile on Latin quips, cycling and ruffled eccentricity, while nurturing a poorly concealed ambition to lead his country.

Johnson's decision to break with longtime ally Prime Minister David Cameron and back the "leave" side in Britain's EU referendum seemed to have paid off last week, when Cameron resigned after voters decided 52 to 48 percent to exit the bloc. Cameron's resignation triggered a Conservative leadership race. By Thursday afternoon, the nominating period had ended, leaving five candidates: Home Secretary Theresa May, Work and Pensions Secretary Stephen Crabb, Energy Minister Andrea Leadsom and former Defense Secretary Liam Fox, in addition to Gove.

Conservative lawmakers will choose two finalists and then more than 100,000 party members select the winner by a postal ballot, to be announced on Sept 9. The winner will become Britain's prime

minister and play a vital role shaping the nature of its relationship with the EU after last week's Brexit vote ended the career of Cameron, whose bid to keep Britain in the continental bloc failed. The bookies' early favorite is the 59-year-old May, who is seen by many in the party as a safe pair of hands as the country struggles to disentangle itself from the EU. Her six years as Britain's interior minister, considered one of the toughest jobs in politics, gives her credibility to deal with the EU on the issue of immigration, sure to be one of the thorniest topics in the exit talks.

"My pitch is very simple," she said at a campaign launch event. "I'm Theresa May and I think I'm the best person to be prime minister of this country. "If ever there was a time for a prime minister who is ready and able to do the job from day one, this is it." Although May had offered a tepid endorsement of Britain's place in the EU during the referendum campaign, she was clear that the results of the vote would be respected. — AP

## ISLAMIC STATE MAKES INROADS INTO KENYA

**NAIROBI:** Recent arrests show the Islamic State's growing presence in East Africa, where they are recruiting young Kenyans for jihad abroad and raising fears some of them will return to threaten the country. Kenyan intelligence agencies estimate that around 100 men and women may have gone to join the IS in Libya and Syria, triggering concern that some may come back to stage attacks on Kenyan and foreign targets in a country already victim to regular, deadly terrorism.

"There is now a real threat that Kenya faces from IS and the danger will continue to increase," said Rashid Abdi, senior analyst at the International Crisis Group think tank in Nairobi. The problem of eager but often untrained extremists gaining terrorist skills with IS and coming home to launch attacks is one European nations are already grappling with, and may soon be Kenya's problem too. "It's a time bomb," said George Musamali, a Kenyan security consultant and former paramilitary police officer. "People going to Libya or Syria isn't a problem for Kenya, it's what they do when they come back." The first Al-Qaeda attack in Kenya was the 1998 US embassy bombing and the most recent large one a university massacre in Garissa last year, but the IS threat is new and as yet ill defined. In March four men appeared in court accused of seeking to travel to Libya to join IS. Then in early May, Kenyan police announced the arrest of a medical student, his wife and her friend accused of recruiting for IS and plotting an anthrax attack. Two other medical students were said to be on the run.

### 'IS terror network'

Police chief Joseph Boinnet described a countrywide "terror network" linked to IS and led by Mohamed Abdi Ali, a medical intern at a regional hospital, "planning large scale attacks" including one to "unleash a biological attack... using anthrax". Three weeks later Kenyan police announced (using another IS acronym) the arrest of two more members of "the ISIS network that is seeking to establish itself in Kenya in order to conduct terror attacks against innocent Kenyans."

Police said they had found "materials terrorists typically use in the making of IEDs—homemade bombs—as well as 'bows and poisoned arrows'". Some experts dismissed the suggestion of an imminent large-scale attack in Kenya, but said the threat of IS radicalization, recruitment and return is genuine. "We can't see either the intent to carry out such an attack nor any real planning for it," said one foreign law enforcement official who has examined the anthrax allegation. "But there is something in it: there is IS here, mainly involved in recruitment and facilitation."

Martine Zeuthen, a Kenya-based expert on violent extremism at Britain's Royal United Services Institute, said the recent arrests "indicate that radicalization continues to be a serious security concern". She said that while recruitment into the Somalia-based Al-Qaeda group Shabaab remains the primary danger, "there are also credible reports of recruitment from Kenya to violent groups outside the region, such as those fighting in Libya." "Like those who went to fight in Somalia and returned to Kenya, this new category of recruit may also return and pose a security risk to Kenya," said Zeuthen.

Kenyan authorities already struggle to manage the return of their nationals from Somalia, where hundreds of Kenyans make up the bulk of Shabaab's foreign fighters. In the future they will likely also have to deal with returning IS extremists as well as self-radicalized "lone wolf" attackers inspired by the group's ideology and online propaganda. — AFP



**GARISSA:** This file photo taken on April 2, 2015 shows paramedics helping a student who was injured during an attack by Somalia's Al-Qaeda-linked Shabab gunmen on the Moi University campus. — AFP



**FALLUJAH:** A member of the Iraqi government forces stands near a body lying on the road next to a charred vehicle southwest of Fallujah on June 29, 2016 after Iraqi forces airstrikes destroyed 260 vehicles carrying militants from the Islamic State group trying to flee after their defeat in Fallujah. — AFP

## IRAQ: IS RIPPED APART BY AIR STRIKES AS IT FLED FALLUJAH

260 VEHICLES WERE DESTROYED, 150 MILITANTS KILLED

**BAGHDAD:** Iraqi commanders said yesterday that Islamic State group fighters fleeing their once emblematic bastion of Fallujah had taken a heavy toll from strikes by both Iraqi and US-led coalition aircraft. They said at least 260 vehicles were destroyed and 150 militants killed in strikes that began late Tuesday as routed jihadists attempted to leave their last positions west of the city in huge convoys.

"Our heroes in the military aviation destroyed more than 200 vehicles," Yahya Rasool, the spokesman of the Joint Operations Command coordinating the fight against IS, said. The ministry of defense released aerial footage showing dozens of vehicles being taken out. Rasool said commandos had also seized large quantities of weapons and ammunition. He said at least 150 IS militants were killed in the strikes, although it was not clear how the dead were counted and identified.

### Massive convoy

Rasool was referring to a first series of strikes on a massive convoy of several hundred vehicles heading south of Fallujah toward the desert, apparently to areas IS still controls near the border with Syria. At least another 60 IS vehicles were destroyed later by air strikes conducted by Iraqi and US-led coalition aircraft on a convoy heading northwest of Fallujah, Anbar Operations Command chief Ismail Mahalawi told AFP. He could not provide an estimate for the number of IS fighters killed in those strikes.

"This is a desperate attempt on the part of the terrorists to flee to their areas in Al-Qaim near the Syrian border and Tharthar," Mahalawi said. Tharthar is a lake north of the Euphrates surrounded by desert through which IS fighter still have lines to reach Mosul, the country's second city and their last remaining major Iraqi hub. Iraqi forces have retaken full control of Fallujah, a longtime jihadist bastion just 50 kilometers west of Baghdad, after a vast operation that was launched in May.

After tough battles to breach IS defenses in south Fallujah, elite Iraqi forces conquered the rest of the city with relative ease. They took full control of the city on Sunday after IS fighters abandoned the Jolan neighborhood without firing a shot in anger and retreated to rural areas to the west. The account of the air strikes provided by the JOC suggests IS fighters had no other choice but to attempt a suicidal convoy, which they knew would leave them exposed to air strikes. According to Rasool and other military sources, the first strikes broke up a massive initial convoy that stretched several kilometers.

### Foreign fighters

Some left their vehicles and hid in a spot which was subsequently struck by Iraqi aircraft, resulting in a very high death toll, he said. Fragments of the convoy were able to move on and some more vehicles were destroyed in subsequent strikes. "We achieved a great vic-

tory by killing dozens of militants and the leaders of this organization who tried to flee after their defeat," Rasool said. The JOC said that the majority of the strikes were carried out by Iraqi aircraft and that US-led coalition warplanes joined the operation later. Speaking from the scene in a video released by the defence ministry, the head of Iraq's army aviation said many of the militants killed were foreigners.

"Most of them were foreign fighters who refused to surrender to our forces" during the Fallujah operation, Lieutenant General Hamed Al-Maliki said. "They left corpses in the desert and took some of the wounded with them," he said. It was not immediately clear whether some IS militants were able to survive the aerial onslaught and reach their strongholds near Syria. The strikes appear to spell the end of fixed IS positions in eastern Anbar province, further shrinking the "caliphate" the group proclaimed over large parts of Iraq and Syria two years ago.

After losing the provincial capital Ramadi, as well as the towns of Hit and Rutba, defeat in Fallujah means the jihadist footprint in their traditional stronghold of Anbar is limited to areas near the Syrian border.

Iraqi forces are now training their sights of Mosul and pressing simultaneous operations from the south and the east of Qayyarah, a town in the Tigris valley they want to use as a launchpad for a fully-fledged offensive on IS's de facto Iraqi capital. — AFP

# BREXIT SHAKES HOPES OF BALKAN EU BIDDERS

## MORE HURDLES, DELAYS TO THEIR MEMBERSHIP BIDS

**BELGRADE:** When Britain voted to leave the European Union, pro-Russians in Serbia were quick to proclaim the bloc's death: they lit candles and laid flowers in front of the EU headquarters in Belgrade and declared the country's efforts to join the 28-nation club null and void. Although the mock death certificate published by a Kremlin-backed group may be a bit premature, Serbia and other Balkan nations which suffered through wars and violent breakups of their states in the 1990s will certainly now face more hurdles and delays to their membership bids as the EU itself is falling apart.

It was the promise of Eastern expansion, championed by Britain, that helped halt the brutal 1990s wars among former Yugoslav republic. With the EU membership prospect now diminishing and the EU splitting up, the volatile Balkan region bordering the EU could now fall prey to power players such as Russia. Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bosnia, Kosovo and Albania, all at different stages in joining the EU, have declared that the British exit in a referendum last week will not diminish their membership efforts. But their leaders have acknowledged that the weakened EU may not be as appealing as it used to be.

"This is the biggest political earthquake since the fall of the Berlin wall," Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic said. "There is no doubt that this will leave significant consequences not only in short but in long terms. What will the EU enlargement policy be I cannot tell you at this moment." Serbia, strategically important for Russia as it remains its only real ally in the region, has faced relentless propaganda and political pressure from the Kremlin to ditch its pro-Western alliances. Russian offi-

cial have demanded that referendums be held in Serbia on its EU and possibly NATO bids, counting on strong historic ties between the two Slavic nations.

"The Brexit is not good news for the countries in the region, especially Serbia which has the closest ties to Russia," said Jelica Minic from the European movement for Serbia, adding that the latest polls show that Serbs are largely Euro-skeptics and increasingly turning toward Russia. "Serbia is dangerously sliding toward Russia," she said. Moscow has also been very active in Bosnia, working through the Bosnian Serb mini-state there whose officials have been blocking the country's Muslims and Croats from their efforts to join the EU and NATO.

### Yugoslav tragedy

For years membership in the EU was seen by many in Bosnia as a goal that would bring some stability in people's lives, but the rupture in the EU brings back bad memories of the Yugoslav tragedy. "This is not going to end well. I see nothing good in the future," said Sarajevo Zuhra Coric, referring to the British exit. Bosnian political analyst Ivana Maric believes what is happening now in the EU could have a positive effect as Britain has never been completely integrated and the Union may come out of this more "connected."

"What happened to the pound will discourage other forces in Europe who considered similar referendums," she said, referring to the drop of the British currency on the exchange markets immediately after the referendum. "However, the enlargement process may be delayed." Macedonia has been an EU candidate member since 2005, but its bid has been blocked by Greece over the name dispute.



**BELGRADE:** A seamstress sews an EU flag in a workshop. —AP

Macedonian president Gjorge Ivanov expressed "great concern" with Brexit and said he fears that the EU may now split up with more of its member states leaving.

"We, who are older generation, experienced the tragedy of the former Yugoslavia, where there was also a system of collective decision-making. Where is that state now? We are wor-

ried by the possibility that the European Union may follow the same road," Ivanov said. In the Serbian capital, the pro-Russians were gloating. They stuck a death notice to the entrance of the EU office, with a note: "We are informing the citizens of Serbia that after a long and serious illness, the European Union died at the age of 59." — AP

Kuwait Times

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**MONESSEN:** In this June 28, 2016 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a campaign stop at Alumisource, a metals recycling facility. — AP

## NORTH AMERICA LEADERS URGE AGAINST TRUMP'S ISOLATIONISM

**OTTAWA, Ontario:** President Barack Obama and the leaders of Mexico and Canada pushed back forcefully on Wednesday against the isolationist and anti-immigrant sentiments that have roiled Britain and been championed by GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump. The leaders warned against easy solutions peddled by "demagogues" who feed on economic anxiety.

With tensions growing over terrorism and fallout from Britain's exit from the European Union, Obama acknowledged that Americans and others have reason to be concerned about their own future in a rapidly globalizing economy. He said concerns about immigrants had been exploited by politicians in the past, but he insisted he wasn't worried Americans will follow that path. "We should take some of this seriously and answer it boldly and clearly," Obama said, without naming the Republican presidential candidate. "But you shouldn't think that is representative of how the American people think."

### 'Genuine longer-term concerns'

Gathering in the Canadian capital, the leaders defended their calls for freer trade within the continent and beyond. They argued that instead of withdrawing from the world, advanced countries should focus on higher standards, wages and legal protections that would ensure the benefits of globalization are widely felt. "The integration of national economies into a global economy, that's here. That's done," Obama said. Obama's comments at a news conference with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto came as the leaders sought to show unity amid growing nationalist movements in Europe and elsewhere, epitomized by Britain's move to leave the 28-member EU.

Though Britain's decision has rattled the global financial system, Obama said he believed the markets were starting to settle down. Still, he acknowledged there would be "genuine longer-term concerns" about global economic growth "if, in fact, Brexit goes through." "This doesn't help," he said.

Obama said his message to British Prime Minister David Cameron and to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is largely spearheading Europe's response, was that "everybody should catch their breath." Though Merkel and other European leaders have urged Britain to start its withdrawal quickly, Obama called for a thought-out process that would be transparent and clearly understandable.

"I think that will be a difficult, challenging process, but it does not need to be a panicky process," the president said. The Canadian and Mexican leaders largely echoed Obama's calls for staying focused on closer economic ties. Pena Nieto said Mexico sees opportunity for growth and investment by broadening its relationship with the rest of the continent. "We are competitors, yes, but we have complementary economies, and that will give more development to our society," the Mexican leader said.

### 'No more NAFTA'

And Trudeau said the three leaders' strategy for combating protectionist views was to "highlight how much trade and positive agreement among our nations are good not only for the economy of the world and the economy of our countries, but it's also good for our citizens." Yet it was Trump and his insistence that Americans are better served by reasserting independence that shadowed the leaders' meetings at the annual North American Leaders' Summit. Even as the three took the podium in Ottawa, Trump was threatening to pull the US out of the North American Free Trade Agreement, chanting at a rally, "No more NAFTA."

When a reporter asked the leaders to weigh in on Trump, Obama intervened, suggesting his counterparts should be careful what they say in case Trump ends up winning. "I'm not saying they shouldn't answer. I'm just - I'm helping them out a little bit," Obama joked. He appeared personally insulted by Trump's claims to represent the public's best interests, accusing the presumptive Republican nominee of wrongly purporting to be a populist. He

said people like Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders rightly deserve label of "populist" but that Trump is merely resorting to "nativism," "xenophobia" and "cynicism."

"We have to call this mentality what it is: a threat to the values that we profess, the values we seek to defend," Obama said later during a speech to Canadian Parliament, where a packed audience of about 1,000 interrupted him repeatedly with standing ovations. They chanted "four more years" as Obama wrapped up his address. Ahead of the summit, Canada announced it will lift visa requirements for Mexican visitors as of December 2016, while Pena Nieto agreed to open Mexican markets to Canadian beef. All three leaders pledged to generate half of their electricity from renewable sources by 2025, and Mexico also committed to joining the US and Canada in tackling methane emissions.

### Briton indicted on weapons charges

In other news, a British man arrested at a Donald Trump rally in Las Vegas after trying to grab a police officer's gun was indicted on Wednesday on weapons charges, the authorities said. Prosecutors charged Michael Sandford, 20, with two felony counts of being an illegal alien in possession of a firearm and one count of impeding and disrupting the orderly conduct of government business, the US Attorney's Office in Las Vegas said in a statement.

Sandford, who was in the United States unlawfully, tried to grab a police officer's gun while attending a rally for the presumptive Republican presidential nominee on June 18 before he was quickly overpowered and removed from the event, the charge sheet said.

Although an initial complaint filed after his arrest stated that he told a Secret Service agent that he had intended to kill Trump, the indictment does not charge him with plotting to kill the billionaire businessman. Sandford went to a gun range in Vegas on the eve of the rally to take shooting lessons using a Glock 9 millimeter handgun, the same type of weapon used by the officer he allegedly tried to disarm, the indictment said. — Agencies

## CONNECTICUT POLICE MORE LIKELY TO USE STUN GUNS ON MINORITIES

**HARTFORD, Connecticut:** Hispanics shot with stun guns by police in Connecticut in 2015 were more likely to be fired upon multiple times than other racial groups, according to an analysis released yesterday of the first statewide data of police stun gun use in the United States. In cases where police pull stun guns, the report says officers also were more likely to fire them in confrontations involving minorities, as The Associated Press first reported in January after obtaining preliminary data collected from police departments around the state.

Officers fired the weapons, as opposed to merely brandishing them, 60 percent of the time in confrontations involving whites, 81 percent of the time in those involving blacks and 66 percent of the time in those involving Hispanics. The report, written by Central Connecticut State University analysts who reviewed the data, said it was difficult to draw conclusions from the information because it was the first data to be collected and many police departments appeared to underreport their stun gun use.

The report calls for improved data collection but does not make any conclusions about whether police are engaged in racial profiling in their stun gun use. "With this basic information you can start asking more questions and figure out whether policies governing Tasers need to be modified," said Michael Lawlor, Connecticut undersecretary for criminal justice policy and planning. "I'm sure over time it will have a big impact. You can expect the use of Tasers will change simply because law enforcement is aware this data is being collected and reported publicly."

A 2014 law made Connecticut the first state to require all police departments to report every instance in which an officer fires or threatens to use a stun gun. Across the state, 610 people were involved in police stun gun incidents last year and 419 of them received an electrical shock. Nearly 300 people were injured after being shot with a stun gun and two died. In stun gun incidents involving Hispanics, 27 percent were shocked twice, compared with 18 percent of whites and 15 percent of blacks. Hispanics also were more likely to be shocked more than twice.

Among the report's other findings, about 53 percent of the people shot with stun guns appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, despite guidance to avoid using them in such cases. In 2013, Taser International Inc, a leading maker of stun guns, advised law enforcement officials to try to avoid using stun guns on people who are impaired from alcohol, drugs or certain medications, because of the risk of injury or death posed by electric shocks to their bodies.

Wethersfield Police Chief James Cetran, a vice president of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, said it isn't clear why Connecticut officers are firing their stun guns at so many impaired people. He said it often isn't immediately clear to officers whether someone is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and using a stun gun is preferable to using deadly force with a firearm.

"If you've got an immediate threat that's coming at you, you need to protect yourself or that innocent third person," he said. "There are certain times when policy doesn't save your life. ... Tasers I can honestly say have saved officers from injury. They've saved some suspects from injuries. Probably a lot of suspects."

The report also found that one-third of people involved in police stun gun incidents were described as "emotionally disturbed" and 13 percent were labeled as "suicidal." Data analysts noted that several federal courts have questioned the constitutionality of using stun guns on people to secure their own safety or to transport them to hospitals, which some Connecticut officers did in dealing with emotionally disturbed people. — AP



**CONNECTICUT:** In this file photo, a Taser X26 sits on a table in Knightstown, Ind in Connecticut. A new report suggests police are more likely to use stun guns on minorities. — AP

## OBAMA VOWS TO SIGN PUERTO RICO BILL QUICKLY

**WASHINGTON:** As Puerto Rico faces a major debt payment, President Barack Obama is vowing to move quickly to sign a last-minute rescue package for the financially-strapped US territory and its 3.5 million Americans. In a rare election-year feat, the White House-backed legislation passed with strong bipartisan support in Congress. The Senate voted 68-30 for the legislation on Wednesday, three weeks after the House approved the measure.

"This bill is not perfect, but it is a critical first step toward economic recovery and restored hope for millions of Americans who call Puerto Rico home," Obama said in a statement. Puerto Rico is in a decade-long recession and has \$70 billion in debt, and leaders of both parties warned that failure to pass the bill could send the island into financial chaos. Signs are already pointing to a humanitarian crisis as thousands have fled the island and businesses there have closed, schools have struggled with limited electricity and hospitals have asked for cash payment in advance for some medication. A \$2 billion debt payment to creditors is due Friday, and the territory's governor has said that there isn't money to pay it. The legislation would create a control board to oversee the U.S. territory's finances and supervise some debt restructuring. It would not provide any direct financial aid to the territory, but leaders warned that a bailout could eventually become necessary if Congress doesn't take this step. The control board would be similar to one that oversaw the District of Columbia in the late 1990s. Its seven members would oversee negotiations with creditors and the courts over reducing some debt.

In addition to creating the board, the bill would require the territory to create a fiscal plan and fund public pensions, which the Puerto Rico government has shorted by more than \$40 billion. Gov Alejandro Garcia Padilla has warned the US territory would face multiple lawsuits if the bill is not approved, especially following Friday's anticipated default on \$1 billion in general obligation bonds. The legislation would temporarily block creditor lawsuits from being filed until February 2017.

The general obligation bonds are backed by the island's constitution, but Garcia has said the government has no money to honor that debt despite the implementation of new taxes and recent increases in utility rates. Garcia hasn't said if the island will default on the other \$1 billion that is due. "Puerto Rico cannot endure any more austerity," Garcia said in an editorial published Wednesday.

Negotiations on the bill got a boost in December when House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis, promised to find a reasonable solution to help the island. Utah Rep. Rob Bishop, the Republican chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, spent the next several months writing the bill under intense pressure from bondholders worried their investments would be lost, as well as Democrats and Obama administration officials who pushed to make sure that Puerto Ricans' underfunded pensions were also a priority.

Ryan helped negotiate the compromise bill and the House voted overwhelmingly to pass it, 297-127. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew visited Capitol Hill on Tuesday in a bid to persuade some reluctant Democrats concerned that the board would be too powerful. Democrats have also opposed a provision that would allow the island's government to lower the minimum wage for some younger workers. Lew urged senators to vote for the bill even though it isn't perfect, saying that if the island defaults, the government may be forced to shut public transit, close a hospital or send police officers home.

Still, some staunchly opposed it, including Sens. Bob Menendez, D-NJ, and Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. "In my view we need austerity not for the people of Puerto Rico, but for the billionaire Wall Street hedge fund managers who have exacerbated the crisis on the island," Sanders said on the floor. In the days before the vote, some bondholder groups worked to turn senators against the bill, arguing it doesn't sufficiently protect creditors and is tantamount to a bailout for the territory. Several labor unions also lobbied against the measure, arguing that a lower minimum wage could take money out of the Puerto Rican economy. The legislation is needed because Puerto Rico cannot declare bankruptcy under federal law. Mainland municipalities and their utilities can, while municipalities and utilities in Puerto Rico cannot. —AP



**CEDAR TOWN:** In this Saturday, April 23, 2016 photo, members of the Ku Klux Klan participate in cross burnings after a "white pride" rally in rural Paulding County. — AP

## KU KLUX KLAN DREAMS OF RISING AGAIN 150 YEARS AFTER FOUNDING

### MERGING WITH LARGER GROUPS TO BUILD STRENGTH

**BIRMINGHAM:** Born in the ashes of the smoldering South after the Civil War, the Ku Klux Klan died and was reborn before losing the fight against civil rights in the 1960s. Membership dwindled, a unified group fractured, and one-time members went to prison for a string of murderous attacks against blacks. Many assumed the group was dead, a white-robed ghost of hate and violence.

Yet today, the KKK is still alive and dreams of restoring itself to what it once was: an invisible white supremacist empire spreading its tentacles throughout society. As it marks 150 years of existence, the Klan is trying to reshape itself for a new era. Klan members still gather by the dozens under starry Southern skies to set fire to crosses in the dead of night, and KKK leaflets have shown up in suburban neighborhoods from the Deep South to the Northeast in recent months. Perhaps most unwelcome to opponents, some independent Klan organizations say they are merging with larger groups to build strength.

#### 'Klan's trademark'

In a series of interviews with The Associated Press, Klan leaders said they feel that US politics are going their way, as a nationalist, us-against-them mentality deepens across the nation. Stopping or limiting immigration - a desire of the Klan dating back to the 1920s - is more of a cause than ever. And leaders say membership has gone up at the twilight of President Barack Obama's second term in office. Joining the Klan is as easy as filling out an online form - provided you're white and Christian. Members can visit an online store to buy one of the Klan's trademark white cotton robes for \$145, though many splurge on the \$165 satin version.

While the Klan has terrorized minori-

ties during much of the last century, its leaders now present a public front that is more virulent than violent. Leaders from several different Klan groups all said they have rules against violence aside from self-defense, and even opponents agree the KKK has toned itself down after a string of members went to prison years after the fact for deadly arson attacks, beatings, bombings and shootings. "While today's Klan has still been involved in atrocities, there is no way it is as violent as the Klan of the '60s," said Mark Potok of the Southern Poverty Law Center, an advocacy group that tracks activity by groups it considers extremist. "That does not mean it is some benign group that does not engage in political violence," he added. Klan leaders told the AP that most of today's groups remain small and operate independently, kept apart by disagreements over such issues as whether to associate with neo-Nazis, hold public rallies or wear the KKK's trademark robes in colors other than white.

#### '3,800 members'

It's impossible to say how many members the Klan counts today since groups don't reveal that information, but leaders claim adherents in the thousands among scores of local groups called Klaverns. "Most Klan groups I talk to could hold a meeting in the bathroom in McDonald's," said Chris Barker, imperial wizard of the Loyal White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Eden, North Carolina. As for his Klavern, he said, "Right now, I'm close to 3,800 members in my group alone."

The Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish protection group that monitors Klan activity, describes Barker's Loyal White Knights as the most active group today, but estimates it has no more than

200 members. The ADL puts total Klan membership nationwide at around 3,000. The Alabama-based SPLC estimates the Klan has about 190 chapters nationally with no more than 6,000 members total, which would be a mere shadow of its estimated 2 million to 5 million members in the 1920s.

#### 'Not blocking minority rights'

"The idea of unifying the Klan like it was in the '20s is a persistent dream of the Klan, but it's not happening," Potok said. Formed just months after the end of the Civil War by six former Confederate officers, the Klan originally seemed more like a college fraternity with ceremonial robes and odd titles for its officers. But soon, freed blacks were being terrorized, and the Klan was blamed. Hundreds of people were assaulted or killed as whites tried to regain control of the defeated Confederacy. Congress effectively outlawed the Klan in 1871, and the group died.

The Klan seemed relegated to history until World War I, but it was resurrected as waves of immigrants arrived from Europe and elsewhere, and grew more as the NAACP challenged the South's Jim Crow laws in the 1920s. Millions joined, including community leaders like bankers and lawyers. That momentum declined, and best estimates place membership at about 40,000 by the mid-'60s, the height of the civil rights movement. Klan members were convicted of using murder as a weapon against equality in states including Mississippi and Alabama, where one Klansman remains imprisoned for planting the bomb that killed four black girls in a Birmingham church in 1963. KKK leader Brent Waller, imperial wizard of the United Dixie White Knights in Mississippi, said stopping immigration - not blocking minority rights - is the Klan's No. 1 issue today. — AP

## KIDNAPPED INDIAN BOY RETURNS FROM BANGLADESH AFTER 6 YEARS

**NEW DELHI:** A 12-year-old Indian boy who was kidnapped from New Delhi and taken to neighboring Bangladesh six years ago finally returned home yesterday to be reunited with his parents. Sonu, who goes by one name, landed at Delhi airport escorted by security guards and officials and gripping his father's hand as his mother clutched him from behind. "I have found my son and I am very happy now. Would like to thank (foreign minister) Sushma Swaraj," his father Mehboob told reporters. Officials have not revealed details of his abduction ordeal but local media reported Sonu was kidnapped by a tenant living in his parent's Delhi house in 2010 before being trafficked across the border.

A Bangladesh mechanic alerted Indian officials after speaking with Sonu whom he reportedly found being exploited and forced to do household chores by his trafficker in southwestern Jessore. "She used to make me work and beat me," Sonu

was quoted as saying by Bangladeshi online news portal bdnews24.com earlier this week. The boy was later transferred to a children's home as Bangladesh and India worked to have him repatriated. Foreign affairs minister Swaraj said on Tuesday that DNA samples taken from the boy matched those of his mother.

Images showed Swaraj hugging a smiling Sonu at her New Delhi office as he and his mother touched the minister's feet in a gesture of respect and gratitude. In a similar case last year, a mute and deaf Indian woman who strayed into Pakistan more than a decade ago finally returned to her home country. She was hopeful of being reunited with her long-lost family after identifying them in photographs delivered by Indian officials in Pakistan. But in a tragic twist just hours after she had arrived in Delhi, the woman, Geeta, said she could not recognize the family she thought was hers. — AFP



**NEW DELHI:** Indian External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj (left) meets 12 year-old boy, Sonu (second left) and his parents at the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi yesterday. — AFP

## HOME-GROWN MILITANTS AND FORMER MAJOR BEHIND BANGLADESH ATTACKS BLOGGERS, FOREIGNERS, RELIGIOUS MINORITIES TARGETED

**DHAKA:** Early in June, a man walked into the Dhaka premises of the Ramakrishna Mission, a Hindu centre for spirituality and learning in the Bangladesh capital, and delivered a handwritten note warning of an attack by Islamic State. Days later, armed policemen were sitting inside the mission's compound among orange-robed monks, the gates outside were closed and fewer people than normal showed up at a medical clinic it runs for the neighborhood.

"We are monks, we will live and die here, but people with families are worried," Swami Shivananda, a priest managing the administration of the mission, said of the country's Hindu community, which accounts for 10 percent of the population. Islamic State and Al-Qaeda have claimed responsibility for the killings of more than 30 people since early last year, in an escalation of militant violence targeting liberals, atheists, foreigners, gays and religious minorities.

They have shocked the largely moderate Muslim country of 160 million people and heightened fears that Bangladesh, once hailed as the next Asian tiger economy with its huge garment industry, could lose out to more stable competitors in the region. Unlike some security experts, Bangladesh authorities say the two international jihadi movements are not directly involved in the murders, many of which were carried out with machetes. But, as the police at the Hindu mission attest, the danger is real, and counter-terrorism officials warn it could get worse with one local militant group adopting al Qaeda's methods and calling on the expertise of a former army major implicated in a failed 2011 coup.

### Deadly rivalry

Security officials say two local militant groups, Ansar-al-Islam and Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen, are behind the killings. Of

the two, Ansar, which pledges allegiance to Al-Qaeda, has emerged as the most organized and dangerous, they say, while Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen is seen as a looser organization that claims it represents Islamic State but has no proven links to it. "By now we have a clear idea of the organizational structure, command and control and methods of operations of Ansar-al-Islam," Monirul Islam, chief of Bangladesh's counter-terrorism police said.

"They follow the ideology of Al-Qaeda, their operational leaders are mostly educated men, (from a) middle class background. They declare their allegiance to Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and, through it, to Ayman Al-Zawahri," he said, referring to Al-Qaeda's global leader. According to Thomas Joscelyn, senior editor at The Long War Journal that tracks jihadi groups worldwide, there was evidence of more direct links between Bangladesh and Al-Qaeda, and he warned the Islamist militant threat had been underestimated.

"We now have competition between Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State in Bangladesh, which means that the jihadist pool is deep enough for both organizations to operate in the country." In May, 2015, AQIS leader Asim Umar claimed responsibility for the murder of Avijit Roy, a US citizen and blogger hacked to death in Bangladesh that February. US officials said at the time they were unable to confirm the claim. Initially, Ansar struck bloggers and publishers critical of radical Islam, then university teachers, including one who asked a woman student to remove her veil in class. In April, it said it murdered two gay rights activists, saying they were promoting anti-Islamic activities, police said.

### Mysterious ex-officer

Also worrying for authorities is the

apparent rise within Ansar's ranks of former army major Syed Mohammad Ziaul Haque, who went into hiding after the military accused him of involvement in a plot to overthrow the government in 2011. "We have a suspicion that the ex-major is one of their leaders," said counter-terrorism chief Islam. "He is in hiding. We know his capability. If he is involved, it is a strength for Ansar-al-Islam." Zia, as intelligence agencies call him, was from the engineer corps and trained in special operations. His would be the first known case of a Bangladesh military officer switching sides to join a militant group, although it has happened elsewhere.

A military spokesman said Zia had been dismissed from service five years ago, but added that he was not in a position to speak about Zia's activities since then. Zia's involvement with Ansar was first mentioned by the head of its predecessor group following his capture in 2013, two police officials said. Zia was helping in the training of the fighters, motivating them to carry out jihad against "anti-Islam" forces and also taught bomb-making skills, one official briefed on the interrogation report said.

Reuters could not independently verify the police claims. At the same time, Islamic State has said it was behind the killings of Hindus, Buddhists and members of minority Muslim sects, which have accelerated in recent weeks. Security officials tie those deaths to Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen, a home grown group inspired by Islamic State's vision of a caliphate. Police official Islam said authorities had found computer evidence that Bangladesh-origin foreign fighters, some in Syria, were claiming attacks on behalf of Islamic State as soon as they occurred. But he said there was no evidence of operational ties with the Middle East-based movement. — Reuters

## News

in brief

### 5 held for planning attacks

**HYDERABAD, India:** India's federal investigative agency has arrested five people for allegedly collecting weapons and explosive materials to attack religious sites and sensitive government buildings in various parts of the country. The suspects appeared in court yesterday, which sent them to jail for 14 days while the agency completes its investigation of the case. During questioning late Wednesday, the suspects revealed that they were being guided by an online handler suspected to be based in Iraq or Syria, the National Investigation Agency said in a statement, adding that it is looking into possible links with the Islamic State group. It said two semi-automatic pistols, chemicals for making deadly explosives and 1.5 million rupees (\$22,000) in cash were recovered from the suspects in the southern city of Hyderabad.

### AQIS on 'terror' list

**WASHINGTON:** The United States added Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent, a regional branch of the global extremist network, to its terror blacklist yesterday. The State Department designated AQIS a "foreign terrorist organization" and its leader, Indian-born Asim Umar, a "specially designated global terrorist." Al-Qaeda, the jihadist movement founded by the late Osama bin Laden, has long been a banned group, but Thursday's order singles out a relatively new offshoot. Bin Laden's successor, Egyptian ideologue Ayman Al-Zawahiri, announced the formation of AQIS in September 2014 to carry the group's fight to India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Since then, the group has claimed responsibility for a number of deadly and sometimes spectacular attacks, which may explain the US decision to list it separately. Under the new designation, if investigators tie any assets or property under US jurisdiction to the group or its leader, they will be frozen. In addition, US citizens are forbidden from having any dealings with the group on pain of prosecution. In a statement announcing the order, the State Department said AQIS had claimed responsibility for the September 6, 2014 attack on a Pakistani naval dockyard.

### Pharmacy fire kills 8

**MUMBAI:** Eight people were killed when a fire gutted a pharmacy in India's financial capital Mumbai yesterday, police said. One other person was seriously injured in the blaze, which broke out early yesterday morning, Mumbai police spokesman Ashok Dudhe said. "The primary reason for the fire seems to be a short circuit. But officials will have to establish the exact cause once investigations are complete," he said. It was the latest deadly fire to hit Mumbai in recent years. In June last year, a fire in a high-rise apartment block killed seven people after they became trapped in a lift on the upper floors. A month earlier, four firefighters were killed in a blaze at another building.



## AUSTRALIAN FACES COURT IN BALI ON CHILD SEX OFFENCES

**DENPASAR:** An Australian went on trial yesterday accused of molesting dozens of Indonesian children on the popular resort island of Bali. Prosecutors have accused Melbourne-born Robert Andrew Fiddes Ellis of molesting 24 children since 2014. The 69-year-old allegedly lured children to his house by offering them gifts and mon-

ey, before touching them inappropriately while bathing them. Bali police arrested Ellis in January after a tip-off from a local child protection agency about a suspicious foreigner who frequently invited young children to his home.

Ellis could face 15 years in prison if found guilty. His lawyer, Soti Sapurah,

denied Ellis had molested the children, claiming his client only bathed them and never forced them to engage in inappropriate acts. "Robert did not intend to molest the children, he only wanted to make them happy," Sapurah told AFP outside Denpasar District Court. Ellis will return to court in July. Bali is a popular holi-

day destination for global tourists, particularly Australians, who flock to the island for its surf, resorts and night life. But some have wound up in prison on child sex offences. In 2009, 61-year-old Australian Philippe Robert Grandfield was sentenced to eight years prison for paying underage boys for sexual favours. — AFP

## INDONESIAN POLICEMAN TO BE HONORED FOR REFUSING BRIBES

**JAKARTA:** A member of Indonesia's notoriously corrupt police is to be honored for refusing to accept bribes during his 40-year career, instead scavenging garbage to supplement his meagre salary, an official said yesterday. While many countries give awards for police bravery, Indonesian authorities have decided to honor policeman Seladi, 57, after he became a media sensation when the story of his determination not to accept kickbacks emerged. The police in Indonesia are considered one of the country's most graft-ridden institutions. They are accused of regularly extorting bribes from the public, being involved in the drugs trade, and have been embroiled in numerous high-profile corruption cases.

But father-of-three Seladi—who like many Indonesians goes by only one name—insists he always refused bribes despite only earning the equivalent of about \$400 a month and facing much temptation, as he worked in the department that issued driving licences in the city of Malang, on Java island. "In the driving licence department, there is a lot of temptation," he said.

"Many people want to give me money or gifts so they can pass their driving test. But I always refused—my parents taught me not to take bribes." He was unable to afford his own house, meaning he had to live with his wife and children at the home of his parents-in-law.

In 2004, Seladi began scavenging from garbage dumps to top up his state income, earning on average an extra \$5 a day, mostly by selling on recyclable items. East Java province police spokesman Argo Yuwono said Seladi would be honored at a ceremony on Indonesia's national police day on Friday for not accepting bribes, and for his dedication in supporting his family by doing extra work.

The spokesman did not say what exactly Seladi would receive. Indonesia was ranked 88th out of 168 countries and territories in NGO Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index last year. A number one ranking represents the least corrupt. — AFP



**MALANG:** Indonesian policeman Seladi carries bags of garbage in Malang, East Java. Seladi, a member of Indonesia's notoriously corrupt police is to be honored for refusing to accept bribes during his 40-year career, instead scavenging garbage to supplement his meager salary. — AFP



**KABUL:** Afghan policemen look on as the wreckage of a bus is removed from the site of a suicide bomb attack that targeted a convoy of buses transporting police cadets on the outskirts of Kabul yesterday. — AFP photos

## TALEBAN BOMBERS HIT POLICE CADETS IN KABUL, KILLING 30

BLOODSHED CONDEMNED AS 'CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY'

**KABUL:** The Taliban claimed responsibility yesterday for a twin suicide attack targeting a convoy of buses transporting Afghan police cadets in Kabul, which Afghanistan's interior ministry said killed 30 and wounded 58. The bloodshed, which was condemned as a "crime against humanity" by President Ashraf Ghani, comes little over a week after 14 Nepali security guards who were heading to work at the Canadian embassy were killed in a massive blast that left their minibus spattered with blood.

"The convoy of buses transporting newly graduated police was targeted by two suicide attackers in the limits of Kabul province. As a result 30 police were martyred and 58 more injured," a statement issued by the interior ministry said. Sediq Sediqqi, a spokesman for the ministry, said the cadets were returning from a training centre in neighboring Wardak province and were heading to the capital when targeted on Kabul's outskirts. One attacker was on foot, and the other was in an explosive-packed car, he said. The Taliban quickly claimed responsibility for the attack, the group's spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said in a statement. An AFP reporter said the area had been cordoned off but it

appeared that five green police cadet buses had sustained damage, as well as a military Humvee vehicle assigned to escort them. Twisted metal and glass shards littered the scene as security personnel gathered around the wreckage. President Ghani said the attack demonstrated the Taliban's weakness on the battlefield, a statement from his office said. "This cruel and complete disregard for human life during the holy month of Ramadan is abhorrent," the US embassy in Kabul added.

### Resurgent Taliban

The resurgent Taliban have been fighting against the Western-backed Kabul government since they were ousted from power by a US-led invasion in late 2001. They have been gaining ground across the country but the Islamic State group are also making inroads into Afghanistan, particularly in the east, where they are challenging the Taliban on their own turf. On June 20, 14 Nepali security guards were killed in an attack on their bus that prompted Kathmandu to ban its nationals from working in the war-ravaged country.

Eleven others were killed in a string of bombings across Afghanistan on the

same day. The US and NATO combat mission in Afghanistan ended in December 2014. US forces have been in an advisory role since then, while carrying out counterterrorism missions against IS and remnants of Al-Qaeda. US forces had only been authorized to hit Taliban targets for defensive reasons, or to protect Afghan soldiers. But the recent changes mean US troops can now work more closely with local fighters in striking the Taliban, who have demanded the departure of all foreign forces.

The Taliban regularly attack police as part of their campaign, and a recent AFP investigation found that the insurgents are exploiting child sex slaves employed by security forces to deploy deadly insider attacks. President Ghani on Tuesday ordered an investigation into the institutionalized abuse.

Efforts to bring the war to a close via peace talks meanwhile appear indefinitely stalled after the US killing of former Taliban chief Mullah Akhtar Mansour in a drone attack inside Pakistan last month. It is not yet clear whether his successor Haibatullah Akhundzada will emulate his former boss in shunning dialogue with the Afghan government. — AFP



**MANILA:** In this photo provided by the News and Information Bureau, Malacanang Palace, new Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, second from right, takes his oath before Philippine Supreme Court Associate Justice Bienvenido Reyes during inauguration ceremony in Malacanang Palace yesterday. — AP

## DUTERTE, 'THE PUNISHER', SWORN IN AS PHILIPPINES' PRESIDENT

POLITICAL SHAKE-UP RAISES DOUBT ABOUT ECONOMIC, CHINA POLICIES

**MANILA:** Rodrigo Duterte was sworn in as the Philippines' 16th president yesterday, capping the unlikely journey of a provincial city mayor whose brash man-of-the-people style and pledges to crush crime swamped establishment rivals in last month's election. After making his pledge at the presidential palace in Manila, with one hand on the Bible, Duterte delivered a speech in which he promised a "relentless" and "sustained" fight against corruption, criminality and illegal drugs. However, he said these ills were only symptoms of a disease cutting into the moral fibre of society.

"I see the erosion of the people's trust in our country's leaders, the erosion of faith in our judicial system, the erosion of confidence in the capacity of our public servants to make the people's lives better, safer and healthier," he said. Duterte tapped into voters' disgust with the Philippines' political elite and the failure of successive governments to tackle poverty and inequality, drawing comparisons with Donald Trump and the rise of assertive populists across the globe.

But his defiance of convention has raised concern that economic growth in the Philippines, the fastest of Southeast Asia's five main economies under his predecessor, could be at risk on his watch. The political shake-up also adds to uncertainty about Manila's position in a sometimes-bitter dispute with China over sovereignty in the South China Sea, a key global trade route. China's official Xinhua news agency said President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory message to Duterte, saying he was "willing to work with Duterte to push for improvement of relations between the two countries".

Duterte's new defense minister told Reuters this week that crushing Islamist militants in the south of the country would take precedence over South China Sea dis-

putes. Duterte's election campaign focused almost entirely on the scourges of crime, drug abuse and corruption, and voters were not deterred by repeated warnings from "the Punisher", in profanity-peppered speeches, to have offenders killed.

In his maiden speech, the president conceded that many believe his methods "are unorthodox and verge on the illegal". However, the 71-year-old former prosecutor said he knew right from wrong and would abide by the rule of law. Duterte was mayor for 22 years of the southern city of Davao, where, according to human rights groups, death squads have killed at least 1,400 people since 1998, most of them drug-pushers, addicts, petty criminals and street children. He denies any involvement in vigilante killings.

### No banquet, champagne

In keeping with his unsophisticated manner, the presidential inauguration ceremony was far less elaborate than is customary. There was a traditional 21-gun salute at Malacanang Palace, a graceful white mansion originally built by Spanish colonialists in the 18th century. But aides said there was no sumptuous banquet or champagne, just a meal for 627 guests showcasing the country's culinary heritage, including coconut pith spring rolls, a cheese made from carabao milk and durian tartlets. Duterte is not known for his sartorial elegance: he usually sports a short-sleeved casual shirt, never wears socks and told Reuters on the hustings that he wouldn't be seen in a tie. On Thursday, he wore a formal 'barong' shirt but TV presenters commented that he appeared to be wearing slip-on loafers.

Indeed, there is little about Duterte that is conventionally presidential. Aides say he wants to travel in a pick-up truck instead of the president's bullet-proof Mercedes. And

it is still not clear if he will keep a promise to spurn the luxury of the palace and commute daily from Davao, which is two hours from Manila by air. Few media organizations were invited to the inauguration, the upshot of a furor Duterte unleashed recently when he suggested that corrupt journalists were legitimate targets for assassination.

His incendiary rhetoric and advocacy of extrajudicial killings to stamp out crime have alarmed many who hear echoes of an authoritarian past under the dictator Ferdinand Marcos. In the weeks since Duterte's election victory there has been a jump in the number of suspected drug dealers shot dead by police and anonymous vigilantes, a sign, critics say, that a spiral of violence has already begun. But this appears to have only augmented his popularity. Thousands of people belonging to a left-wing activist group marched to an area near the palace, not to protest as they usually do, but to cheer for Duterte.

"Change is indeed coming," said Sevilla Sayco, a 61-year-old rice farmer from a province north of the capital. "We are happy because the previous administration paid us no attention. But Duterte is pro-poor," she said while shopping for shirts with Duterte's image on them, among piles of other Duterte merchandise from nail clippers to pens and keychains. Duterte later invited the leftists into the palace and spoke to them about ideas he had to distribute millions of hectares of public land to farmers and release political prisoners.

He has promised to spread wealth more evenly in a country where over a quarter of the 100 million people are poor. He gave few details on Thursday of his economic policies but has said he will pursue his predecessor's infrastructure and fiscal efficiency drives to lift growth to at least 7 percent. — Reuters

## NEW PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT FACES DAUNTING CHALLENGES

**MANILA:** Rodrigo Duterte, who was sworn in as the Philippines' 16th president yesterday, has given himself a colossal campaign promise to fulfill: Eradicating crime - especially drug trafficking, smuggling, rapes and murder - in three to six months. That won him a lot of votes, but it also spurred alarm and doubts, including from police officials, who said it was an impossible feat. Famous for his blunt speech, Duterte also made a number of potentially divisive declarations or decisions that will likely complicate his first few months in office. Here are some of them:

### Zero crime

Duterte has repeatedly vowed to wipe out crime and corruption in three to six months, warning lawbreakers they would be shot to death if they try to resist. Police officials doubt this can be achieved, and human rights advocates fear that people's rights and the rule of law will be ignored.

### Confronting China

Duterte has adopted a gamut of options in dealing with China over contested territories in the South China Sea. He said he will prod China to abide by the upcoming decision of an arbitration court that's handling a Philippine lawsuit against Beijing. If China doesn't budge, he says he'll be open to one-on-one talks with Beijing. Another time, he said he leaned toward multilateral negotiations that would involve the United States and Japan and rival claimant governments to resolve the escalating conflicts. At a televised debate, he revealed his most outlandish idea: Traveling to the disputed waters by Jet Ski and planting a Philippine flag on one of the new Chinese man-made islands, saying it's up to the Chinese to shoot him and turn him into a national hero.

### Dictator's burial

Duterte has said he will allow the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos - whose body is displayed in a glass coffin in his northern home province - to be buried at a national heroes' cemetery. This may spark a political storm. The previous president and left-wing activists have opposed such a burial, citing the plunder and massive human-rights violations that happened under the dictator, who was ousted in a 1986 revolt. Duterte argued that those buried at the cemetery were not all heroes, and said he would leave it up to the military whether to bestow full funeral honors. Such a burial, he said, "can be arranged immediately."

### Reimposing the death penalty

Duterte plans to re-impose the death penalty. Hanging is his preferred mode of execution. He said capital punishment will not only deter crimes but is also retribution for crimes committed. It's a plan opposed by the Catholic church and human rights advocates and may derail assistance by allies like the European Union.

### Arroyo's release

Duterte said he supports the release of ex-President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo from detention on corruption charges - a move also likely to be met with protests. He said Arroyo refused his offer of pardon because she said that would require that she admit wrongdoing and she wasn't guilty of any crime. Duterte said he told her that he would support her if she applied for bail, and that her long detention, partly caused by trial delays, was grounds for dismissal of her case. The 69-year-old Arroyo, who is suffering from a neck ailment, finished her tumultuous term in 2010. Since then, she has been charged with vote fraud and corruption and was detained at a government-run hospital.

### Release of communist guerrillas:

Duterte said he plans to release detained communist guerrillas, including Communist Party of the Philippines leaders Benito Tiamzon and his wife, Wilma, to foster peace talks to settle the decades-long Marxist insurgency. The Tiamzons, who were captured by government forces in March 2014, face several charges, including murder. Their release may anger some in the military and police who have battled with communist guerrillas and lost colleagues in the fighting. — AP

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Friday Times

# Lifestyle

[www.kuwaittimes.net](http://www.kuwaittimes.net)

## Rumi wasn't yours: Afghan fury as Iran, Turkey claim Sufi poet

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An Afghan boy cools himself off under a waterfall during the Islamic month of Ramadan, on the outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan, yesterday. Muslims across the world are observing the holy fasting month of Ramadan, when they refrain from eating, drinking and smoking from dawn to dusk.— AP



## The love-hate relationship with cheese

I have a love-hate relationship with cheese. I love it so much I could survive on it alone. Nothing can ever make me happier than a wheel (yes, a whole wheel) of aged Gouda; or a wedge of raspberry Bellavitano; or some warm Brie topped with fig compost. BUT - if you're trying to drop kilos, or even maintain a healthy lifestyle, then you probably should go ahead and ask cheese for some space (which is really, really hard).

If you enjoy cheese, don't completely eliminate it from your diet. It is a nutrient-rich food that can have high levels of protein, leaving you feeling full and satisfied. No matter what type of cheese you prefer, you will get at least 6 grams of quality protein in a 1-ounce serving. Beyond making a significant contribution to your daily protein requirement, the protein in cheese supports weight loss. It slows the movement of food out of your stomach so you feel full longer, and it keeps blood sugar balanced. Protein also stimulates satiety by affecting hormones that regulate your appetite.

However, cheese is incredibly high in calories and fat, so you will need to limit the amount you eat. Cheese is high in saturated fat, so it is important to choose low-fat or fat-free brands to avoid the unhealthy fat. Instead, limit portions to 1 ounce and buy low-fat or fat-free brands to keep the calories and fat within your daily goals. Most types of full-fat cheese have 72-125 calories in a 1-ounce serving. 1 ounce is generally 1-2 cubes; this is an incredibly small serving for someone like me who goes through cheese groups as if they're a bag of M&Ms. Fat-free brands, although not as delicious, contain no fat, which subsequently reduces the calories by at least half and sometimes more than that, depending on the type of cheese. Semi-soft cheeses, such as brie, have fewer calories than hard cheese. Cheese can also be quite high in sodium, ranging from 16 milligrams to more than 500 milligrams.

Use full-fat cheese strategically and when you can actually experience the flavor it. Skip cheese on sandwiches and tacos, where the taste may not be as noticeable because of other overpowering ingredients. Hard cheeses, such as Parmesan, Romano and Asiago, have a strong, salty flavor - so you only need a small amount to boost flavor of otherwise boring, low-calorie food. You can use grated Parmesan to flavor low-calorie vegetables or air-popped popcorn with just 22 calories per tablespoon. Switch to low-fat cheese when recipes call for ricotta, mozzarella or cottage cheese. Opt for low-fat cream cheese for baking and to top on your bagels or crackers. Look for triangles (laughing cow) of low-fat, flavored cream cheese containing just 35 calories each. There are always healthier options and alternatives - choose wisely and intentionally!

# Star conductor Nelsons quits legendary Wagner festival

**S**hooting star Latvian conductor Andris Nelsons has withdrawn from this year's Bayreuth Festival, just a month before he was to open the legendary month-long summer opera festival, organizers said yesterday. The 37-year-old podium star, currently chief conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and soon to take up the baton at Germany's Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, had been scheduled to conduct the premiere of a new production of Richard Wagner's final opera "Parsifal" this year. "With utmost respect to the Bayreuth Festival's management and staff, director and his team, assistant

conductors, cast, orchestra and chorus, Andris Nelsons has asked the festival's management for rescission of his contract for this summer's production of 'Parsifal'," festival spokesman Peter Emmerich said in an emailed statement.

"Owing to a differing approach in various matters, the atmosphere at this year's Bayreuth Festival did not develop in a mutually comfortable way for all parties. With regret, the Bayreuth Festival agreed to Andris Nelsons' request," Emmerich said. The Bayreuth Festival, the world's oldest summer music festival, was set up by the composer himself and is dedicated exclu-

sively to the performance of his works. It is currently run by the composer's great granddaughter, Katharina Wagner. The new production of "Parsifal" is being staged by German director Uwe Eric Laufenberg and is scheduled to open the festival on July 25 in a gala performance attended by Germany's political and social elite. Chancellor Angela Merkel is a regular visitor, but will not be at the opening night owing to scheduling commitments.—AFP

## Film academy invites 683 new members to join

**S**ix months after announcing intentions to double the number of female and minority members in its ranks by 2020, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has invited 683 new members to join the organization. The academy says its invitees are 46 percent female, 41 percent minority and represent 59 countries. Should all of the invitees accept, the new class would make the academy's overall membership 27 percent female and 11 percent non-white, up from 25 percent and 8 percent respectively. Idris Elba, Chadwick Boseman, Eva Mendes, America Ferrera and Anika Noni Rose are among the actors invited to membership. Other potential new members helping to increase the academy's diversity include Chinese cinematographer Zhao Fei, Japanese production designer Yohei Taneda, Mexican director Patricia Riggen and musicians such as Fitzgerald Diggs, who's better known RZA from Wu Tang Clan.

The 2016 group of invitees is the academy's largest ever and more than doubles last year's class, said President Cheryl Boone Isaacs. She said the academy has worked for several years to diversify its largely white, male membership. Last year's #OscarsSoWhite movement amplified that conversation. The academy announced sweeping changes to its recruitment and voting practices in January after a second straight year of all-white acting nominees for the Academy Awards. In March, the organization added three new members to its board of governors and appointed six minority members to other leadership positions.

"I think because the conversation has truly exploded that we were able to have the size and the diversity of talent increase even more for 2016," Boone Isaacs said in an interview Wednesday. "We have recognized diverse talent throughout our history," she said. "What is of-the-now is how expansive and diverse our industry has become." She said academy members have been energized by the mandate to



In this March 2, 2014 file photo, an Oscar statue is displayed at the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.—AP

bring emerging or overlooked talents into their ranks. "It's been like a charge of electricity," she said. Two-time Oscar nominee Laura Dern has felt that energy in the actors branch.

"It is the membership saying we want to support fellow artists," Dern said Wednesday. "And we want to really feel that the academy is a true representation of art at this time on this planet." Just as moviegoers and Oscar watchers are demanding more diversity on screen, Dern says the academy is seeking to be more inclusive and expansive in its search for excellence. "As history continues to prove to us, we always seem to benefit when you question," she said. "It's an artist's job to question, to consider and to figure out how to expand and grow. So we have to take that to heart and ask ourselves and each other how we can continue to grow and represent art in the best possible way."—AP

Indian Bollywood actors Ejaz Khan, (left), Suha Gezen (center) and Hiten Tejwani attend the press conference of upcoming Hindi film 'Shorgul' - based on the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots - directed by Swatantra Singh, in Mumbai yesterday.—AFP





## 'Saq Al Bamboo' and 'Been Galbin'

By Nawara Fattahova

The Kuwait Times is publishing daily recaps of two of the Kuwaiti soap operas airing on Al Rai TV and MBC Drama. Here are the recaps of the 24th episode:

### 'Saq Al Bamboo' (Bamboo Stalk)

Nooriya tells her son Eisa if he gets engaged to Khawla then her mother can't take her away. Noor tells Khawla that she loves Eisa. Hind calls Nooriya to inform about Rashid's dead. She also tells Noor and Khawla that they found his remains in a collective grave in Iraq and that he is dead since 1991.

She says that the results are accurate due to the DNA tests and also they found his key-chain. Noor then informs Eisa, who start crying. The sisters decide that Khawla will inform their mother Ghanima about Rashid's death. She also tells about their decision. After breaking the news to Ghanima, she goes to the morgue to send off Rashid. Eisa and Ghasan go to the cemetery and after burying Rashid's remains, Eisa puts a letter he wrote to his father in the grave and they both cry.

Eisa calls his mother to tell her about the grief and she tells him to give condolence as he is Rashid's son. Then Khawla tells him not to get out of the room to avoid problems.

After the mourning, Eisa complains to Khawla that he wanted to be with the people who came to give condolences rather than sitting alone in his room.

### Been Galbin (Between Two Hearts)

Bashar is still angry so Aryam proposes to invite his family for lunch at her house but he thinks it's a bad idea but she convinces him to think about it.

When Dana goes for dinner with Fareeda, Masoud comes and tells Dana he loves her and wants to marry her. But she refuses to talk about this matter, so he apologizes.

Dana's father calls Fareeda asking her to

meet. On meeting he asks her not to meet Dana. Fareeda tells him that he is sick with his memories and needs treatment and that she will keep seeing Dana.

Noora, Mihsenand along with their family go for lunch to Aryam's house. While leaving Aryam's son Rashid comes along to play with the kids. When Marzouq knows about Rashid he calls Aryam threatening her if she didn't bring him to his house within an hour he will not let her see Rashid again. Bashar then takes Rashid with the maid to Marzouq's house.



Reed Hastings, left, CEO of Netflix, poses with Ted Sarandos, Chief Content Officer of Netflix, during a press conference in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday.—AP

## Netflix to boost original series, films in and from Asia

Netflix plans to expand its Asian offerings to subscribers around the world by tapping more creators in the region, including "Snowpiercer" director Bong Joon-ho, its chief said yesterday. CEO Reed Hastings said the US streaming service company is looking at many projects throughout Asia, including original series by Asian creators, following its investment in the South Korean filmmaker's new movie "Okja." Hastings did not elaborate. He said more details will be announced later this year. "Okja" is Netflix's first investment in a Korean film project. The latest work by Bong currently being filmed at a remote village in eastern Korea is slated for launch next year on Netflix.

Bong is one of the best known South Korean directors. His works "Snowpiercer," "Mother" and "The Host" gave him critical acclaim and commercial success. Local media reported that Netflix invested \$50 million, among the largest amounts in the South Korean movie industry. Netflix's growing focus on Asian content comes after its business in the region suffered some setbacks this year. In January, it launched its service in 130 more countries as part of its efforts to boost international

subscribers to offset slowing growth in the US. In the same month, Indonesian state telecommunications company PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia blocked the internet video service because it lacked a permit to operate in the Southeast Asian country.

In South Korea, Netflix struggled to add subscribers amid competition from existing streaming services and its dearth of local shows. Netflix officials said some original shows for Korean audiences are in the pipeline, and that it had spent the first few months learning the preferences of local viewers.

The service is available in 190 countries to 81.5 million subscribers but not in China, the biggest market for South Korean TV series and films. Netflix is aware that its absence in China may be a letdown for local creators. "China is part of a very important business model for K-drama, sometimes realizing even more revenues for the K-drama in China than realizing in Korea today," Ted Sarandos, Netflix's chief content officer, said, referring Korean drama series. "We continue to look at China as an opportunity, but it's a very complicated one."—AP

## Jesus Christ film coming to virtual reality

The story of Jesus Christ is coming to virtual reality for the first time. Autumn Productions and VRWerx announced plans Wednesday to release the live-action film "Jesus VR - The Story of Christ" on all major VR platforms this Christmas. The 90-minute movie will depict such events as Jesus' birth, baptism, crucifixion and resurrection in 360 degrees. "Jesus VR" was filmed in 4K resolution on location in Matera, Italy.

The movie will be available for rent or purchase for VR systems such as Samsung Gear, Oculus Rift, PlayStation VR and HTC Vive. The film is directed by David Hansen and stars Tim Fellingham as Jesus. "The Passion of the Christ" executive producer Enzo Sisti is among the producers. VRWerx previously created a VR game based on the "Paranormal Activity" film franchise.—AP



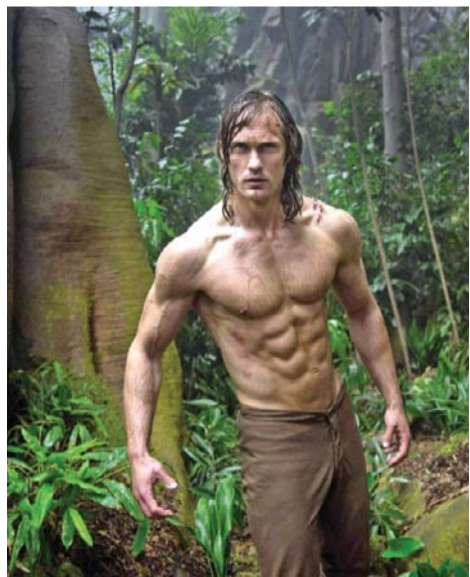
This undated photo provided by Autumn VR Inc and VRWERX, LLC, shows a production still from "Jesus VR - The Story of Christ."—AP

## Film Review

## 'The Legend of Tarzan'

"The Legend of Tarzan" is sequel, origin story, and racially sensitive revisionist history lesson all in one. What it isn't is much fun for anyone who's seen Edgar Rice Burroughs' ape man in any of his previous incarnations. While name recognition alone should snare a fair number of those who prefer their pulp heroes endowed with superpowers, between this and last year's "Pan," evidence suggests Warner Bros. ought to leave the live-action reboots to Disney.

For a film the scale of Yates' "The Legend of Tarzan," the visual effects are astonishingly subpar, obliging the creative team to distract us with such impressive topographical sights as the African savannah and Alexander Skarsgard's abs. The latter selling point doesn't appear until nearly midway through the movie, until which point Adam Cozad and Craig Brewer's script is concerned primarily with getting Tarzan back to Africa—a prospect his beloved Jane (a semi-empowered Margot Robbie) far prefers to days spent "hybridizing coconuts and playing ping pong." While choppy, action-oriented flashbacks retrace the feral child's formative years in the wild, it seems the one-time vine-slinger has grown up and re-gentrified in rainy old England, where he has traded his loincloth for a dapper pair of pants and assumed his identity as John Clayton III, fifth earl of Greystoke and member of the House of Lords.



This image released by Warner Bros. Entertainment shows Alexander Skarsgard from 'The Legend of Tarzan.' — AP

## Secret identity

Covering his protagonist in scars (a superficial gesture toward realism), Yates has attempted to give us a more psychologically complex Tarzan—which is to say, he serves up a version of the character that shamelessly emulates the "why so serious" tone of Christopher Nolan's brooding Batman movies. Skarsgard plays Clayton as a pampered rich kid haunted by his parents' deaths who feels compelled to protect others. The main difference is the fact that everybody knows his secret identity, which makes it rather easy for the film's villain, Capt Leon Rom (Christoph Waltz, in yet another of his suave sociopath roles, just a few degrees removed from the well-mannered Nazi officer he played in "Inglourious Basterds") to invent a pretext that will lure Tarzan to the Congo, where Rom plans to deliver him to vengeful tribal chief Mbonga (Djimon Hounsou) in exchange for the sought-after diamonds of Opar.

Inadvertently helping to pull off Rom's plan is another Tarantino regular, Samuel L Jackson, who may as well be riffing on his score-settling "The

Hateful Eight" character. Jackson plays George Washington Williams, a veteran of the American Civil War (and a real historical figure) who suspects that Belgian king Leopold II may be enslaving—or at least condoning the enslavement of—the natives of his colony in the Congo. Having fought to help end slavery in the United States, Williams has now set out to stanch the practice at its source, enlisting Tarzan (who, frankly, seems more interested in the fate of the gorilla family that raised him) to restore some sense of balance to the region.

Williams makes an intriguing addition to the formula, as does the decision to peg this particular Tarzan adventure to the Congo, which isn't necessarily the backdrop Burroughs had in mind. (Situating it there does allow the film to make a more impactful commentary on Europe's controversial relationship with the Dark Continent.) To the extent that white men have exploited Africa for more than two centuries, Tarzan comes to represent the extension—a hero who identifies with the natives and stands up to the corrupt white men who refuse to respect their lives, liberty, or potential claim to their own natural resources.

## African natives

The film establishes Rom's villainy early on via a scene of disturbingly cold-blooded genocide, as the Belgian officer gives the go-ahead for his Force Publique soldiers to gun down locals armed only with spears (although, like Tarzan, Yates seems more interested in the fate of the gorilla family later in the film). The historical figure on whom Rom is based was notoriously cruel to African natives—it was he who inspired the character of Col. Kurtz in "Heart of Darkness." Dressed in white linen and armed with only a deadly rosary made from Madagascar spider silk, Rom gets the fate Hollywood feels he deserves, which includes a homophobic barb from Jane that flies right over the character's head ("Sounds like you and your priest were really close").

The role of Tarzan is unique among Western heroes in that he requires virtually no acting ability (as bodybuilder Miles O'Keefe and Calvin Klein model Travis Fimmel both demonstrated). And yet, with each subsequent screen appearance, the bar is raised on how perfect audiences expect the character's wildly unnatural physique to be. In that respect, Skarsgard makes a fine choice for the role, looking more than ever like someone's fantasy PhotoShop rendering of father Stellan's head grafted onto an impossibly shredded torso—which isn't so far removed from the process the visual effects team used to meld his face onto an all-CG body during scenes when Tarzan swings through the trees at top speed.

To the extent that modern audiences accept the character as a sort of proto-superhero, Tarzan's "powers" rank way down there with those of Aquaman: He's super-strong, agile, and can speak to animals, having mastered the mating calls of nearly every African species. Whenever Tarzan shares the screen with animals, however, the critters look appallingly digital—with human actors not even bothering to look in the right direction much of the time (consider the scene when Mbonga's men are surrounded by gorillas, reacting as if to invisible ghosts). It's a glaring problem, given all the attention Yates poured into crafting a believable context for what amounts to a glorified B movie. As a brand, Burroughs' hero has always been schlocky, and no amount of psychological depth or physical perfection can render him otherwise—especially if the filmmakers can't swing a convincing interaction between Tarzan and his animal allies. That dynamic—along with his full-throated yodel—has always been Tarzan's trademark, but in this relatively lifeless incarnation, it simply doesn't register. — Reuters



Patients, therapists and volunteers dance during the tango workshop at the Borda psychiatric hospital in Buenos Aires. — AFP photos

## Tango therapy lifts spirits of Argentine mental patients

The shadows of barred windows make the Buenos Aires psychiatric hospital seem especially soulless, but then the syncopated beats of tango music fill the air. For a handful of residents at the Borda hospital, the daily shuffle in line for medication has given way to the sensual steps of Argentina's classic dance. The twice-monthly class is called "We are all crazy about tango." "People with mental illnesses tend to be passive receptors, but in tango they are transmitters," dance teacher Laura Segade said.

"We try to make the man feel like a man and see himself as one. He comes to the class as a patient and leaves as a pupil, with a smile on his face." Borda is Argentina's biggest public men's psychiatric hospital. The female dance partners are tango enthusiasts from outside. Hospital psychiatrist Guillermo Honig says tango exercises patients' creativity and body awareness. "I felt like I danced better today. I am more relaxed," says one patient, who identified himself as Maximiliano. He is an outpatient and attends the classes with a dozen others who are hospitalized. "I like the lyrics of tango—the nostalgia, the melancholy."

## Tango breakout

The organizer of the tango workshop, psy-



Volunteer Marta Gabelli (left) dances with an ambulatory patient during the tango workshop.

chologist Silvana Perl, patrols the corridors of the hospital rounding up participants. Most patients resist. "I haven't got time," says one, waiting in line for his medication. "The workshop is an opportunity to break the hospital routine," Perl said. "The idea is to break into the listless lives of the schizophrenic patients. Artistic commotion can awaken them and make them connect." She returns to the canteen-dance floor with half a dozen participants who laugh and pair off with the volunteers as the music begins.

"It is like any regular tango class. Everyone does their best to complete the moves. They don't just do as they're told, they try to learn to do it for themselves," said dance instructor Roque Siles, 53. "They give it their all to do something that a few minutes earlier seemed impossible." To end the class, all the dancers join in singing tango songs. "The world is a mess and always will be," they sing in the lines of one classic, "Cambalache." One patient, Raul, did not join in the dancing but now asks to sing. "I said I was a worthless tramp to her," he sings. "And I laughed about it." — AFP



Volunteer Marta Gabelli (right) dances with an ambulatory patient during the tango workshop at the Borda psychiatric hospital in Buenos Aires.



The ruins of the house of Sufi mystic and poet Rumi in the Khowaja Gholak district of northern Balkh province. — AFP photos



The ruins of the house of Sufi mystic and poet Rumi.

# Rumi wasn't yours: Afghan fury as Iran, Turkey claim Sufi poet

Who can lay claim to Rumi, the Sufi mystic who is one of the world's most beloved poets? A bid by Iran and Turkey to do so has exasperated Afghanistan, country of his birth eight centuries ago. Tehran and Ankara asked to list the work of Jalal ud-Din Muhammad Rumi as their joint heritage on the UN's "Memory of the World" register in May. The register, falling under the UN's cultural organization UNESCO, was formed in 1997 to protect the world's documentary heritage-archives, correspondence and writing-especially in troubled or conflict-ridden areas.

But the Afghan government has denounced the bid, which mainly concerns the 25,600 verses of "Masnavi-i-Ma'navi", one of the most influential works in Persian literature. He is one of the best-selling poets in the US, and his works have been translated into more than 23 languages. Hollywood is planning a Rumi biopic-also mired in controversy after rumored plans for Leonardo DiCaprio to play him were met with accusations of "whitewashing". The poet and philosopher "was born in Balkh in Afghanistan and made us proud," the Ministry of Information and Culture insisted.

UNESCO "never asked us" about the proposal, Haroon Haklimi, the ministry's spokesman, said, acknowledging that Kabul had been beaten to the punch but hoping they can yet convince the organization that Afghanistan has the better claim to the poet.

## Son of Balkh

For Afghans, who learn his poems in primary school, Rumi is "Maulana Jalaludin Balkh", or "Maulana" (literally "our master"), or simply "Balkhi". Most researchers agree he was born in Balkh, Afghanistan in 1207 — though this too has been the subject of debate: a few argue he was born just across the border, in what is modern day Tajikistan, in a region also known as Balkh. Today, the Afghan town of Balkh is a small provincial settlement, but back then it was an ancient religious capital and center for Buddhist and Persian literature. It was sacked by Genghis Khan and his Mongal hordes in 1221. The young Rumi and his family fled to Turkey, where he spent most of his life-he died in the city of Konya in 1273. It was there that his son founded the Order of the Whirling Dervishes to perpetuate his father's teachings. But for Afghans, he remains a child of their country and it is still possible to visit the house in which they believe he was born. The powerful governor of Balkh province, former warlord General Ata Mohammad Noor called on Afghanistan's representative to the United Nations to protest.

"By limiting Maulana to only two countries, we do not do justice to a global personality who is truly cherished and admired across the world," he said. "He is considered an important part of the culture and identity of Afghanistan," writer and poet Sadiq Usyan, professor at the Balkh university in nearby provincial capital Mazar-i-Sharif, told AFP. Separating the two is considered an "insult" and even a "threat" to Afghanistan, he said.

A UNESCO representative in Kabul argued there had been some "confusion". "Any country, delegation or even individual can submit a request to be considered under this program," said spokesman Ricardo Grassi. He noted the backlash, adding: "But this request has still to be considered." To accede to it without mentioning Afghanistan would be unacceptable, said the director of Balkh's

provincial cultural department, Salih Mohammad Khaleeq. "Maulana belongs to Afghanistan."

## #RumiWasntWhite

Khaleeq has big plans for Balkh-especially since Oscar-winning star DiCaprio was tipped to play Rumi in the new Hollywood film. The unconfirmed rumor spread rapidly on social media with accusations of film industry "whitewashing", with the hashtag #RumiWasntWhite swiftly trending. "So easy for Hollywood to find Muslims to play terrorists, but they can't cast a Muslim as Rumi?" read one typical tweet. Another said: "remember when idris elba wasn't 'english enough' to play james bond, but it's chill if leo dicaprio plays rumi." For Khaleeq, however, the film is an opportunity. "We want this place to become a tourist site where tourists can come and visit," he said. A large portrait of Rumi already greets visitors arriving in Balkh. However, his childhood home has been ravaged by time, badly weathered with its ochre-coloured mud walls collapsed, the interior open to the wind. The controversy has warmed spirits in the region, with an online petition collecting nearly 6,000 signatures. President Ashraf Ghani, who in mid-June hosted Turkey's foreign minister Mevlut Cavusoglu, has been carefully diplomatic, with a statement saying Rumi is "a shared pride of the two countries".

It added he was ready to register Rumi's works "as a shared heritage of Turkey and Afghanistan". He made no mention of Iran.

Clues to what Rumi himself might have made of the dispute may lay in his writings. In 2007, Afghanistan, Iran and Turkey came together with UNESCO to mark the 800th anniversary of his birth. Then, the cultural organization issued a medal in his honor while citing one of his famous couplets: "I do not distinguish between the relative and the stranger". — AFP



Afghan street vendors sitting under a sign bearing the image of Sufi mystic and poet, Rumi.



The ruins of the house of Sufi mystic and poet Rumi.



The ruins of the house of Sufi mystic and poet Rumi in the Khowaja Gholak district of northern Balkh province.



#### Ingredients

2 tbsp butter  
4 cups deseeded dates  
1 tbsp ground cardamom  
1 tbsp saffron threads  
1 cup flour  
1/2 cup whole milk  
1 tbsp rosewater

#### Preparation

- Cook the flour on a dry pan until golden in color.
- Set aside.
- Melt the butter in the pan and add your dates.
- In medium heat, mash the dates with the butter and add the cardamom and saffron.
- Add the roasted flour and mash well.
- Add the milk and mix in.
- Add the rosewater and mix the whole thing together until combined.
- Serve warm.
- Can be store up to a month in the fridge and heated before serving.

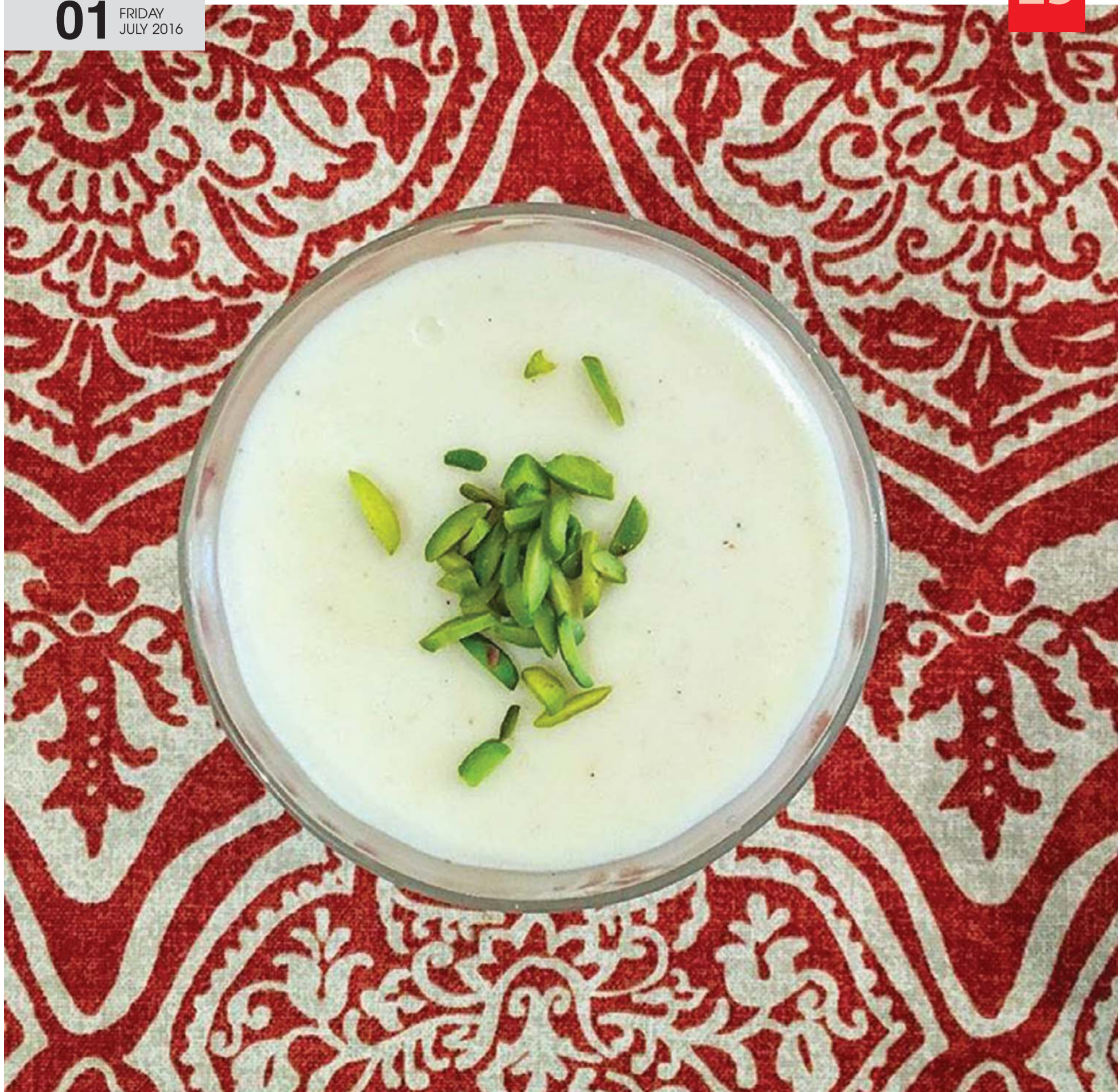
# Tamriya

(A traditional Kuwaiti date dessert)

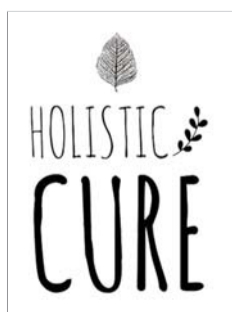
Recipes from Holistic Cure  
By Aisha Al Zabin







# Mahalbiya



## Ingredients

- 9 cups water
- 1 1/2 cups powdered milk
- 1/2 cup raw sugar
- 1 tbsp ground cardamom
- 1/2 tsp mistika or mastic or Arabic gum
- 1 1/2 cups corn starch dissolved in 1 cup cold water
- 1/4 cup blossom water

## Preparation

- Combine the 9 cups water, powdered milk, sugar, mistika and cardamom in a deep pot.
- Bring to a boil.
- Add the corn starch dissolved in water and stir the mixture constantly on high heat until thick.
- Remove from the heat after 4 minutes of stirring and add the blossom water.
- Strain the mixture to get rid of any clumps.
- Pour into cups or bowls and cool in the fridge for at least 4 hours.



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Friday Times

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2016

Kids

Color me!



By Sarah R Gibson

**W**hy play sports? You might say “to get exercise” and you’d be right. To have fun? That’s true, too. But there’s more. In fact, there are at least 5 more reasons. According to the Women’s Sports Foundation, girls who play sports get a lot more than just fit.

\* Girls who play sports do better in school. You might think that athletics will take up all your study time. But research shows that girls who play sports do better in school than those who don’t. Exercise improves learning, memory, and concentration, which can give active girls an advantage in the classroom.

\* Girls who play sports learn teamwork and goal-setting skills. Sports teaches valuable life skills. When you working with coaches, trainers, and teammates to win games and achieve goals, you’re learning how to be successful. Those skills will serve you well at work and in family life.

\* Sports are good for a girl’s health. In addition to being fit and maintaining a healthy weight, girls who play sports are also less likely to smoke. And later in life, girls who exercise are less likely to get breast cancer or osteoporosis.

\* Playing sports boosts self-confidence. Girls who play sports feel better about themselves. Why? It builds confidence when you know you can practice, improve, and achieve your goals. Sports are also a feel-good activity because they help girls get in shape, maintain a healthy weight, and make new friends.

\* Exercise cuts the pressure. Playing sports can lessen stress and help you feel a little happier. How? The brain chemicals released during exercise improve a person’s mood. Friends are another mood-lifter. And being on a team creates tight bonds between friends. It’s good to know your teammates will support you - both on and off the field!



DID YOU KNOW?



- \* Snow forms when water vapor in the atmosphere freezes into ice crystals.
- \* Snowflakes form in a variety of different shapes.
- \* Snow is a form of precipitation, other forms of precipitation are rain, hail and sleet.
- \* Light and fluffy snow is often called ‘powder’.
- \* Heavy snowfalls are often called

‘snowstorms’.

- \* Snowstorms with high winds are often called ‘blizzards’.
- \* Snow reflects a high level of ultra-violet radiation and can cause snow blindness. Sunglasses, goggles and other eye protection help absorb the ultraviolet rays.
- \* A number of winter sports rely on snow, including skiing and snowboarding.
- \* Recreational activities such as snowball fights, tobogganing and making snowmen are also popular in the snow.
- \* Skis, sleds and snowmobiles are useful transport options through snow.
- \* Snow can lower visibility, making driving conditions dangerous.
- \* The highest snowfall ever recorded in a one year period was 31.1 meters in Mount Rainier, Washington State, United States, between February 19, 1971 and February 18, 1972.

SUDOKU

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				9	2

SOLUTION

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2	3	5	9	6	8	1	4	7
9	8	1	4	3	7	5	6	2
6	2	9	1	8	3	7	5	4
3	7	4	5	2	9	8	1	6
5	1	8	6	7	4	9	2	3





## KIDS RECIPES



### Central Valley Harvest Bake

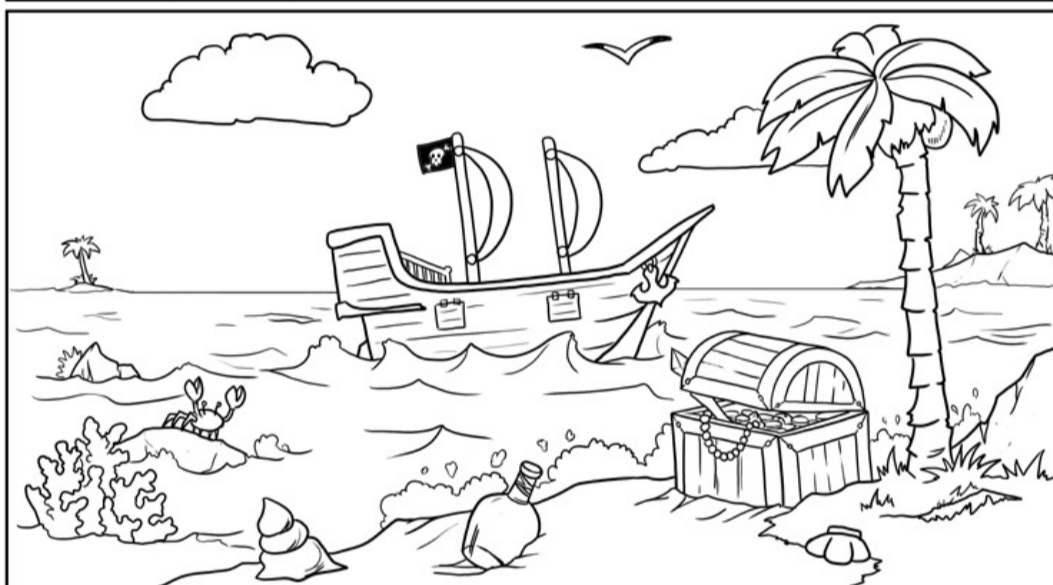
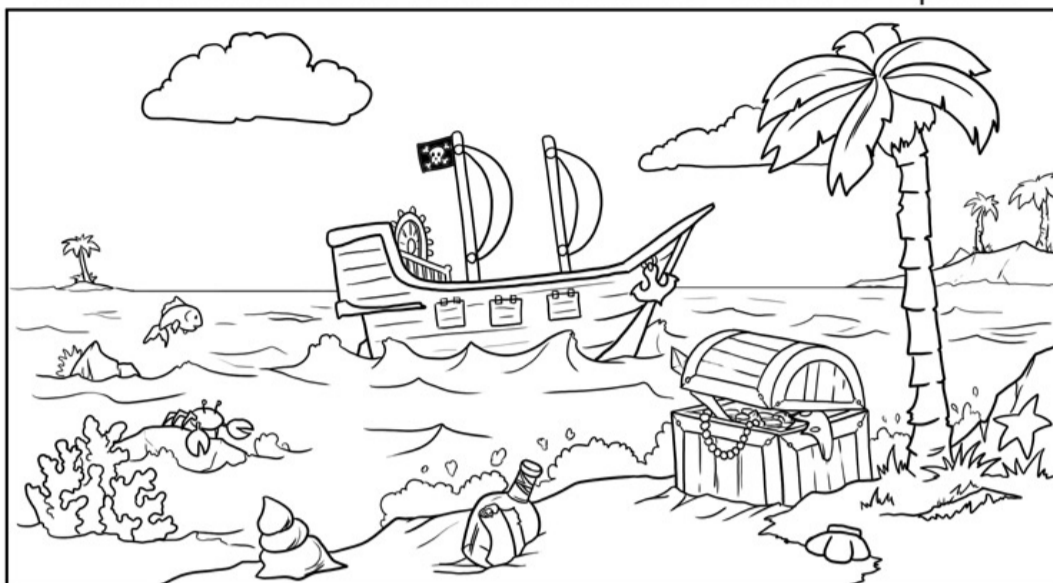
**What you need:**

- \* 1 1/4 pounds butternut squash, cubed
- \* 1 1/2 tablespoons red bell pepper, chopped
- \* 1 3/4 teaspoon jalapeno pepper, chopped
- \* 2 1/2 tablespoons yellow onion, diced
- \* 5 tablespoons applesauce
- \* 5 tablespoons black beans, drained
- \* 3 1/2 teaspoons fresh oregano
- \* 1/8 teaspoon kosher salt
- \* 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- \* 2 tablespoons red quinoa (to be prepared according to package directions)
- \* 1/2 cup low-fat granola

**What to do:**

1. Line two pans with foil.
2. Preheat oven to 350°F.
3. Combine cubed squash, chopped red pepper, and chopped jalapeno pepper in a mixing bowl. Toss with 2 tablespoons olive oil.
4. Place squash mixture on a lined pan and roast in oven for 20 minutes.
5. In a separate bowl, toss chopped onion with 1 tablespoon olive oil.
6. Spread onions on second lined pan and roast in oven for 10 minutes.
7. While vegetables are roasting, prepare 2 tablespoons quinoa according to package directions. Set aside.
8. In large bowl, combine quinoa, applesauce, black beans, oregano, and salt.
9. When cool, add squash mixture and onions to the bowl. Toss lightly.
10. Place into the baking dish.
11. Top with granola.
12. Bake in oven for 20 minutes, or until granola is slightly browned.

Find the differences. There are 10 differences between these two pictures.



## WORD SEARCH

### Insects

G D I D B D T E I G C O C O O N Y W  
 C F P E V R V T A Y B Q I B C T X F  
 O Z F I R E F L Y N R L N H M K B E  
 A D R A G O N F L Y H L S Q Y W B U  
 W L E W N D J O L F P N E E X Y E B  
 P J A T E R M I T E R C C V W B E K  
 G Z M S X A V G Q T A O T L N U T E  
 S L O Z H C F C S I Y C T A N T L R  
 I G S U V G L E O S I K P D R T E P  
 X J Q B E E J I R L N R U Y L E F K  
 Q Y U N R E G F O E G O I B K R I Y  
 B P I C R I C K E T M A V U P F Q X  
 U U T K X F L E A M A C Z G B L N V  
 P N O A T J U G K A N H P E R Y N M  
 H O R S E F L Y Q Q T M D L B P P O  
 T H G L O W A N T P I E Z D Q O H T  
 O N W A A D G N D H S P I B B F O H  
 T G H G R A S S H O P P E R F N T L

- |           |           |                |
|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| ant       | cocoon    | grasshopper    |
| bee       | cricket   | horsefly       |
| beeble    | dragonfly | insect         |
| butterfly | firefly   | ladybug        |
| cockroach | flea      | mosquito       |
|           |           | moth           |
|           |           | praying mantis |
|           |           | six            |
|           |           | termite        |

### Origami windmill

**What you need:**

- \* 1 x two-sided square of origami paper (approx 23cm x 23cm)
- \* 1 x wooden chopstick (disposable takeaway ones are ideal)
- \* 1 x drawing pin/tack

**Activity:**

1. Fold the square diagonally one way. Open it out and then fold it diagonally the other way.
2. Open it out again.
3. Using the fold marks as a guide, fold the lower left-hand corner to the centre mark and do the same with the upper right hand corner.
4. Turn the paper over. Sit it on the table at a 45 degree angle. Fold the left flap to the centre. Fold the right flap to the centre. (see video)
5. There will now be a tab at the bottom and one at the top. Fold both tabs behind.



6. You should now have a square shape with an alternate colored square pattern. Turn it over.
7. Pull out the paper from the middle: squash fold each corner (see video) to make the windmill's wings.
8. Push the pin through the centre of the windmill and attach it to the chopstick.
9. Blow gently to make the windmill spin.

JOKES

JOKES

**Q: Knock, knock—Who's there?—Hawaii—Hawaii who?**  
**A: I'm fine, Hawaii you?**  
**Q: Knock, knock—Who's there?—Orange—Orange who?**  
**A: Orange you even going to open the door!**  
**Q: Knock-knock—Who's there?—Gray Z—Gray Z who?**  
**A: Gray Z mixed up kid.**

**Q: Knock, knock—Who's There?—Who—Who Who?**  
**A: Is there an owl in there?**  
**Q: Knock, knock—Who's There?—Anita—Anita who?**  
**A: Anita to borrow a pencil.**  
**Q: Knock, knock—Who's There?—Woo—Woo who?**  
**A: Don't get so excited, it's just a joke.**





# Friday Times Travel



Top reasons to visit

# Basque Country

**B**asque Country, in case you haven't heard, isn't like the rest of Spain. Proudly perched on the northern Atlantic coast, near the border of France, the fabled region - locally known as Euskadi or Pals Vasco - has its own language, its own culinary traditions, and a distinctive geographic and cultural landscape. From fairy tale-like villages and modern architectural landmarks to world-class food and wine, here are ten reasons you should add Euskadi to your travel to-do list.

#### Capital of Culture

You shouldn't need extra motivation to visit San Sebastián - the impossibly lovely seaside metropolis is widely considered one of the best places to eat in the world - but this year, the city was awarded the coveted title of European Capital of Culture (along with Wrocław, Poland). This designation brings with it a packed calendar of events and activities set to enliven the city throughout the year, from concerts and film festivals to art exhibitions, live performances of opera and theatre, creative workshops and courses, and children's programming. Explore the city and its cultural offerings on two wheels: the bicycle is the festival's official mode of transportation.

#### Superb dining

Food & Wine magazine reported a fascinating statistic: Basque people spend more than twice as much of their disposable income on food as people do in the United States. Step into any bar and look at the lavish spread of pintxos and you'll understand why. The region's cuisine, built around authentic and local products like grilled lamb, cured meats, salt cod, sheep's and goat's cheese, piquillo peppers, artichokes, and fresh anchovies, to name just a few, is rightfully world-famous. You can swing high or low: Basque Country is home to nearly thirty Michelin-starred restaurants, but you'll be just as happy sampling the finger food and sipping Basque cider or txakoli, a sparkling white wine typically served as an aperitif, at a bustling corner bar that's been run by the same family for generations.

#### Guggenheim Bilbao

Gleaming and otherworldly, the Guggenheim Bilbao is more than an art museum: it's a modern architectural landmark, a stylized ode to the city's ship-building past and an unmistakable emblem of Bilbao itself. When Frank Gehry's masterpiece opened in 1997 - on the banks of the Rio Nervión, in a derelict and highly polluted area that was previously an industrial wasteland - it was a symbol of revitalization and the dawn of a new era for the city. Stroll along the riverfront promenade for spectacular views of the museum's sculptural exterior before heading inside to view exhibits like the current headliner, Andy Warhol. [warhol.guggenheim-bilbao.es/en](http://warhol.guggenheim-bilbao.es/en).



#### A classic road trip

To experience the enchantment of the Basque coastline, you'll want to rent a car and explore the dramatic clifftop landscape at your own pace. Take the scenic route from Bilbao to San Sebastián; this unforgettable road trip leads you through a string of traditional fishing villages with names you'll struggle to pronounce, from tiny Elantxobe to drop-dead gorgeous Lekeitio to Getaria, hometown of the fashion designer Cristóbal Balenciaga (there's a great museum dedicated to his oeuvre.) All of the towns along this stretch feature great pintxo bars and quiet medieval streets that invite a leisurely wander.





**Unique identity**

If you follow the news, you know that Basque nationalism is a point of controversy in Spain. But that regional pride could be read as an expression of cultural independence: though mystery surrounds the topic, confounding anthropologists and archeologists, Basque people are believed to be descendants of the original human inhabitants of the European continent. Their culture is characterized by thoroughly unique traditions, including Euskara, the Basque language. It predates the Romans and, even more intriguingly, it bears no relation to languages spoken elsewhere in Europe. Travelers will hear Euskara spoken throughout Basque country, and see the language - with its own alphabet and dedicated typeface - printed everywhere from the train station schedule to newspapers and café menus. Luckily, most words are also printed in a language that's much easier to decipher: Spanish.

**Stairway to heaven**

It's a small journey, getting to the ninth-century religious site of San Juan de Gaztelugatxe - a zigzag walk down a steep

hill, passage across the Bay of Biscay via a picturesque stone footbridge, and a hike up 241 steps, to be exact. But the views from the top of the island make the effort worthwhile. Gaztelugatxe derives from the Basque gaztelu (castle) and aitz (rock or crag). Even though the original hilltop church, dedicated to Saint John the Baptist, was demolished and rebuilt, 'castle rock' remains an apt description of this quintessentially Basque landmark. Take in sweeping views of the dramatic coastline and the crashing waves below, and keep your eye out for Basque fishermen making the pilgrimage along with the tourists: it's a local tradition to hike to the church and ask for the saint's blessing for a bountiful season ahead.

**Vitoria-Gasteiz**

The Basque capital doesn't see as many international visitors as Bilbao or San Sebastian - all the more reason to spend a few days exploring the cobblestone streets and pintxo bars of pretty Vitoria-Gasteiz. Highlights include the postcard-perfect historic centre, considered the best preserved medieval centre in Basque Country, and the 13th-century Cathedral Santa María, a Gothic landmark perched at the summit of the old town.

**Gernika**

Even if your knowledge of art is limited, you've likely seen Guernica, Pablo Picasso's powerful mural depicting the violence and chaos of war. It's widely thought to be a response to the 1937 bombing of Gernika, a Basque village, during the Spanish Civil War. Today, you can visit the site yourself, stopping into the excellent Museo de la Paz de Gernika for an overview of wartime events and the town's significance in the greater context of Basque culture.

**Surfing at Mundaka**

Surf up: the wave at Mundaka, on Basque Country's central coast, has long been regarded as the best wave in all of Europe. The natural geography here - a sandbar formed by an estuary - forms fast, hollow waves that some surfers have called the finest in the world. If you're not up to the challenge, watch the spectacle from the town's harbour walls.

—www.lonelyplanet.com



WORD SEARCH

Old TV Shows 3

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

N I T R A M S N O S T E J E H T A  
 M T N I G H T G A L L E R Y T L D  
 S U M A E T A E H T A P N J U L E  
 E E R B R F P O O L W E E O C G R  
 N N J P U E B T L T C Y Y V R F E  
 O F O H H M T Y H D I T B E L L T  
 J D Q S U Y M S O A U O E Q K I S  
 Y W R L A C B Y B O P N E L E P I  
 B S O A B M T R B E A P A E C P M  
 A C A E G S Y A O C W L Y W A E C  
 N B A G A N D R R W A A R D N R H  
 R L Y N E A E E R W N C U O A A I  
 A V Y Y M V S T P E T E X L B Y P  
 B D R K I L D A R E P W M O J H S

- ALLY MCBEAL
- FLIPPER
- NIGHT GALLERY
- BANACEK
- GREEN ACRES
- PERRY MASON
- BARNABY JONES
- HAPPY DAYS
- PEYTON PLACE
- CHIPS
- L A LAW
- THE A TEAM
- COLUMBO
- MAD ABOUT YOU
- THE JETSONS
- DR KILDARE
- MARTIN
- VEGAS
- DRAGNET
- MISTER ED
- WEBSTER
- DYNASTY
- MURPHY BROWN

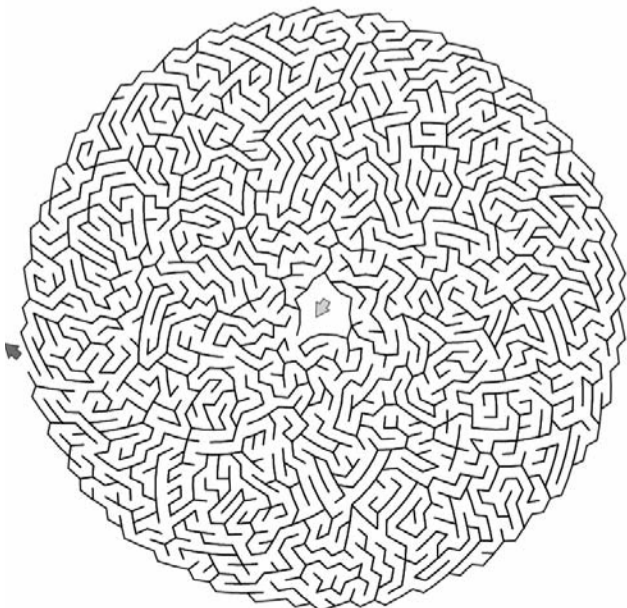
Yesterday's Solution

Old TV Shows 2 - Solution

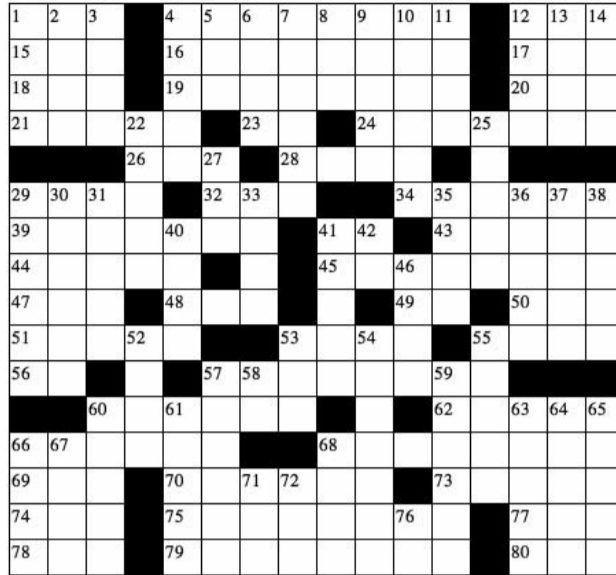
S Y L A E Y C N E G R E M E P G M  
 E H I G H L A N D E R T Z L A C A  
 C L W O W B Y G O S N P I N R P J  
 E H L E T O H P Y Y R V O V T E O  
 C Y I E L Q H U R O R I B R Y D R  
 I E T C N O G S F E T R I L O I D  
 V L Q O A E U I Y A M N A F F H A  
 I L P O S G L G N B T O V H F W D  
 M A L I C E O N R I S F G H I A R  
 A V W H R Y E H N A Q O S L V R I  
 I G A X O I O T O F N A C W E Y V  
 M I C P L D I U J P M T R E Q V F  
 X B T A A N C H E Y E N N E H D I  
 E O S N O O P S R E V L I S I T Y

- ALICE
- HARRY O
- PROFILER
- ALIEN NATION
- HIGHLANDER
- RAWHIDE
- BIG VALLEY
- HOTEL
- RHODA
- CHEYENNE
- LOU GRANT
- RIN TIN TIN
- CHICAGO HOPE
- MAJOR DAD
- SILVER SPOONS
- ELLEN
- MASH
- THE COSBY SHOW
- EMERGENCY
- MIAMI VICE
- WISEGUY
- GOMER PYLE
- PARTY OF FIVE

CHALLENGING MAZE



CROSSWORD 1301



ACROSS

1. A bachelor's degree in naval science.
4. Give to, in marriage.
12. Any of various units of capacity.
15. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects.
16. A rattling sound as of hard things striking together.
17. A constellation in the southern hemisphere near Telescopium and Norma.
18. A federal agency established to coordinate programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environment.
19. Goddess of love and beauty and daughter of Zeus in ancient mythology.
20. A unit of absorbed ionizing radiation equal to 100 ergs per gram of irradiated material.
21. An imaginary elephant that appears in a series of French books for children.
23. (Akkadian) God of wisdom.
24. A clue that something has been present.
26. Light informal conversation for social occasions.
28. A boy or man.
29. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
32. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
34. Division of a group into opposing factions.
39. A festival featuring African-American culture.
43. A board game in which players try to move their pieces into their opponent's bases.
44. Not reflecting light.
45. Used of idealized country life.
47. A Turkish unit of weight equal to about 2.75 pounds.
48. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
49. A public promotion of some product or service.
50. Inquire about.
51. United States tennis player (born in Czechoslovakia) who won several singles championships.
56. An associate degree in nursing.
62. (Old Testament) The minister of the Persian emperor who hated the Jews and was hanged for plotting to massacre them.
66. Capital and largest city of Iraq.
69. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
70. Large European marine food fish.
73. Relatively nontoxic South African herb smoked like tobacco.
74. The smallest multiple that is exactly divisible by every member of a set of numbers.
75. Be iridescent.
77. The molecular weight of a substance expressed in grams.
78. A plant hormone promoting elongation of stems and roots.
79. The property of excessive fatness.
80. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.

DOWN

1. (pathology) An elevation of the skin filled with serous fluid.
2. Plant with an elongated head of broad stalked leaves resembling celery.
3. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
4. The capital and largest city of Ghana with a deep-water port.
5. (British informal) Not to be deceived or hoodwinked n 1.
6. An event (or course of events) that will inevitably happen in the future.
7. A college town in central New York on Lake Cayuga.
8. Goddess of criminal rashness and its punishment.
9. Emperor of Rome who introduced a degree of freedom after the repressive reign of Domitian.
10. A disease of cattle and sheep attributed to a dietary deficiency.
11. An unfledged or nestling hawk.
12. Capital city of the Apulia region on the Adriatic coast.
13. (informal) Exceptionally good.
14. Remove with or as if with a ladle.
22. An active and efficient cause.
25. A landlocked desert republic in north-central Africa.
27. The cry made by sheep.
30. Cause to become awake or conscious.
31. A switch made from the stems of the rattan palms.
33. A small cake leavened with yeast.
35. Of or relating to or characteristic of the Republic of Chad or its people or language.
36. (anatomy) Of or relating to the ilium.
37. A vigorous blow.
38. (British) Inferior and worthless.
40. A feeling of strong eagerness (usually in favor of a person or cause).
41. Relating to the deepest parts of the ocean (below 6000 meters).
42. A colorless and odorless inert gas.
46. City in southwestern Colombia in a rich agricultural area.
52. No longer having or seeming to have or expecting to have life.
53. Botfly larva.
54. Symptom consisting of a localized collection of pus surrounded by inflamed tissue.
55. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
57. French film maker influenced by surrealism.
58. A very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropic forms.
59. British colonial financier and statesman in South Africa.
60. Small terrestrial lizard of warm regions of the Old World.
61. (folklore) A corpse that rises at night to drink the blood of the living.
63. Molten rock in the earth's crust.
64. A colorless and odorless inert gas.
65. City in Sudan.
67. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.
68. Chocolate cookie with white cream filling.
71. Being one more than two.
72. Measure of the US economy adopted in 1991.
76. Being one more than one hundred.

Yesterday's Solution

D A L G I N G I V A S C A R  
 A L A C O N I C A L H A K E  
 B A C C A E B R A C E L E T  
 A R E A C C M B A I L E E  
 B A L S A B A B K A  
 A F L A M E D A M A H C C  
 F L Y L E A F F O A L S E A  
 R A G B R A D B A T H A R  
 A B U J A R A J A B O A S T  
 I B S E N S C U B A K L E E  
 D Y H P I E D B L A E  
 D A L A B E A M K A  
 G R A D U A T E R V A E Q  
 A A R S I A L I A A K A B A  
 G M T S C A L A W A G G A B  
 A A S R E L I A N C E A B A

Daily SuDoku

		3	9			2
8	1			2	6	
	6					5
			1	6		
1		5		3		4
		2	4			
7						3
	4	6				7 9
6				7	1	

Yesterday's Solution

2	7	5	8	1	3	6	9	4
3	6	9	2	4	7	5	8	1
8	1	4	6	5	9	2	3	7
4	3	6	7	2	8	1	5	9
7	8	1	5	9	4	3	6	2
9	5	2	1	3	6	4	7	8
5	9	7	4	6	2	8	1	3
6	4	8	3	7	1	9	2	5
1	2	3	9	8	5	7	4	6



03:00 Electra Glide In Blue  
04:55 Fuzz  
06:25 Big Screen  
06:40 Crimes And Misdemeanors  
08:25 Funny Thing Happened...Forum  
10:05 Adventures Of Hercules  
11:35 Big Screen  
11:50 Alexander The Great  
14:05 Puckoon  
15:30 The Real Howard Spitz  
17:15 Peggy Sue Got Married  
19:00 The Kentuckian  
20:45 Big Screen  
21:00 Sfw  
22:35 Restoration  
00:30 Blown Away



03:25 Into The Pride  
04:15 Gator Boys  
05:02 Treehouse Masters  
05:49 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
06:12 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
06:36 Treetop Cat Rescue  
07:00 Treetop Cat Rescue  
07:25 Cats 101  
08:15 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
08:40 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
09:10 Treehouse Masters  
10:05 Tanked  
11:00 An Original Duckumentary  
11:55 Bondi Vet  
12:50 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
13:15 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
13:45 Gator Boys  
14:40 Treehouse Masters  
15:35 Tanked  
16:30 Into The Pride  
17:25 River Monsters  
18:20 River Monsters  
19:15 Tanked  
20:10 Lion Man: One World African Safari  
20:40 Lion Man: One World African Safari  
21:05 Running Wild  
22:00 River Monsters  
22:55 Gator Boys  
23:50 River Monsters  
00:45 I'm Alive  
01:40 River Monsters  
02:35 Running Wild



03:40 Dirty Money  
04:05 Storage Wars Canada  
04:30 Storage Hunters UK  
05:00 How Do They Do It?  
05:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
06:00 You Have Been Warned  
06:50 The Carbonaro Effect  
07:15 The Carbonaro Effect  
07:40 What Happened Next?  
08:05 What Happened Next?  
08:30 Running Wild With Bear Grylls  
09:20 Deadliest Job Interview  
10:10 Dive Wars Australia  
11:00 What On Earth?  
11:50 Marooned With Ed Stafford  
12:40 Manhunt With Joel Lambert  
13:30 Driving Wild  
14:20 Diesel Brothers  
15:10 Street Outlaws: New Orleans  
16:00 Outback Truckers  
16:50 Outback Truckers  
17:40 Outback Truckers  
18:30 Outback Truckers  
19:20 Outback Truckers  
20:10 Outback Truckers  
21:00 Driving Wild  
21:50 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder  
22:40 Street Outlaws: New Orleans  
23:30 Fire In The Hole  
00:20 Inside The Gangsters' Code  
01:10 Driving Wild  
02:00 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder  
02:50 Street Outlaws: New Orleans



03:00 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol  
03:50 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

08:05 Catch A Contractor  
14:45 Hungry Investors  
19:03 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
20:13 Frankenfood  
20:37 Frankenfood  
21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
21:30 Hungry Investors  
22:30 Catch A Contractor  
23:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
00:00 Lip Sync Battle  
00:25 Lip Sync Battle  
00:50 Hungry Investors  
01:40 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
02:05 Catch A Contractor



03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
03:48 Henry Danger  
04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
04:36 The Haunted Hathaways  
05:00 Max & Shred  
05:24 Henry Danger  
05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
06:36 SpongeBob SquarePants  
07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
07:48 Winx Club  
08:12 The Loud House  
08:36 SpongeBob SquarePants  
09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
09:24 Harvey Beaks  
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 Harvey Beaks  
13:24 The Loud House  
13:48 Get Blake  
14:12 Rabbits Invasion  
14:36 100 Things To Do Before High School  
15:00 Game Shakers  
15:24 The Loud House  
18:12 Henry Danger  
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School

11:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
12:12 Breadwinners  
12:36 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



03:40 Serial Killer Earth  
04:30 The Universe  
05:20 Ancient Aliens  
06:10 Ancient Discoveries  
07:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The East  
08:00 Ancient Discoveries  
09:00 America: The Story Of The U.S.  
10:00 Serial Killer Earth  
11:00 The Universe

12:00 Ancient Aliens  
13:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The East  
14:00 Ancient Discoveries  
15:00 America: The Story Of The U.S.  
16:00 Serial Killer Earth  
17:00 The Universe  
18:00 Ancient Aliens



03:00 Untamed & Uncut  
03:50 Ultimate Survival  
04:40 How It's Made  
05:05 How It's Made  
05:30 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
06:20 Mythbusters  
07:00 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
07:25 Kids vs Film  
07:50 Too Cute!  
08:40 You Have Been Warned  
09:30 How It's Made  
09:55 How It's Made  
10:20 Mythbusters  
11:10 Bondi Vet  
12:00 Too Cute!  
12:50 How It's Made  
13:15 How It's Made  
13:40 Ultimate Survival  
14:30 Dirty Jobs  
15:20 Mythbusters  
16:10 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
16:35 Kids vs Film  
17:00 Dynamo: Magician Impossible  
17:50 How To Build A Bionic Man  
18:40 You Have Been Warned  
19:30 Mythbusters  
20:20 How It's Made  
20:45 How It's Made  
21:10 Dynamo: Magician Impossible

22:00 How To Build A Bionic Man  
22:50 Untamed & Uncut  
23:40 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
00:30 Mythbusters  
01:20 Dynamo: Magician Impossible  
02:10 How To Build A Bionic Man



03:00 Murder Among Friends  
03:48 Redrum  
04:36 Deadly Affairs  
05:24 The Perfect Murder  
06:12 Nightmare Next Door  
07:00 Deadly Affairs  
07:50 I Almost Got Away With It  
08:40 The Perfect Murder  
09:30 On The Case With Paula Zahn  
10:20 Nightmare Next Door  
11:10 Southern Fried Homicide  
12:00 Deadly Affairs  
12:50 I Almost Got Away With It  
13:40 The Perfect Murder  
14:30 On The Case With Paula Zahn  
15:20 Nightmare Next Door  
16:10 Murder Comes To Town  
17:00 Deadly Affairs  
17:50 On The Case With Paula Zahn  
18:40 The Perfect Murder  
19:30 I Almost Got Away With It  
20:20 Nightmare Next Door  
21:10 Deadly Devotion  
22:00 Obsession: Dark Desires  
22:50 Forbidden: Dying For Love  
23:40 Steven Avery: Innocent Or Guilty?  
00:30 Redrum  
01:20 Obsession: Dark Desires  
02:10 Forbidden: Dying For Love



03:00 Building The Biggest  
03:48 Stephen Hawking's Universe  
05:24 Uncovering Aliens  
06:12 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
07:00 Mythbusters  
07:50 Stephen Hawking's Universe  
09:30 Through The Wormhole  
10:20 Uncovering Aliens  
11:10 How The Universe Works  
12:00 Building The Biggest  
12:50 Mythbusters  
13:40 Stephen Hawking's Universe  
15:20 Uncovering Aliens  
16:10 Building The Biggest  
17:00 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
17:50 Scanning The Skies  
18:40 Mythbusters  
19:30 How It's Made  
19:55 How It's Made  
20:20 Through The Wormhole  
21:10 Man v The Universe  
22:00 Cosmic Collisions  
22:50 How It's Made  
23:15 How It's Made  
23:40 Food Factory USA  
00:05 Man v The Universe  
00:55 Cosmic Collisions  
01:45 How Do They Do It?  
02:10 How It's Made  
02:35 How It's Made



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  
06:20 Loopdidoo  
06:35 Art Attack  
07:00 The Hive  
07:10 Zou  
07:25 Loopdidoo  
07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
08:05 Sofia The First  
08:30 Miles From Tomorrow  
08:45 PJ Masks  
09:10 The Lion Guard  
09:35 Doc McStuffins  
10:00 Sofia The First  
10:25 Unbungalievable

06:00 Boyster  
06:10 Super Matrak  
06:35 Super Matrak  
07:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
07:25 K.C. Undercover  
07:50 Supa Strikas  
08:15 Annedroids  
08:40 Lab Rats  
09:10 Kirby Buckets  
09:35 Pokemon Series Xy: Kalos Quest  
10:00 Rocket Monkeys  
10:25 Ultimate Spider-Man  
10:50 Boyster  
11:20 Boyster  
11:45 Pair Of Kings  
12:10 Pair Of Kings  
12:35 Lab Rats  
13:00 Lab Rats  
13:30 Phineas And Ferb  
13:55 Phineas And Ferb  
14:20 Kickin' It  
14:45 Kickin' It  
15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
15:15 Supa Strikas  
15:40 Supa Strikas  
16:05 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
16:30 Kirby Buckets  
16:55 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
17:25 K.C. Undercover  
17:50 Supa Strikas  
18:15 Lab Rats  
18:40 K.C. Undercover  
19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse  
19:10 Annedroids  
19:35 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
20:00 Kirby Buckets  
20:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
20:55 K.C. Undercover  
21:20 Pickle And Peanut  
21:45 Lab Rats  
22:10 Mighty Med  
22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA



THE TRANSPORTER: REFUELED ON OSN MOVIES HD



06:00 Guy's Grocery Games  
07:00 Man Fire Food  
07:30 Man Fire Food  
08:00 Chopped  
09:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics  
09:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics  
10:00 The Kitchen  
11:00 The Pioneer Woman  
11:30 The Pioneer Woman  
12:00 Chopped  
13:00 Grandma's Secret Cookbook  
13:30 Grandma's Secret Cookbook  
14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
15:00 Man Fire Food  
15:30 Man Fire Food  
16:00 Chopped  
17:00 The Kitchen  
18:00 The Pioneer Woman  
18:30 The Pioneer Woman  
19:00 Chopped  
20:00 Iron Chef America  
21:00 Cutthroat Kitchen  
22:00 Chopped South Africa  
23:00 Kitchen Casino  
00:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
00:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
01:00 Cutthroat Kitchen  
02:00 Chopped South Africa



03:40 American Restoration  
04:05 American Restoration  
04:30 Pawn Stars  
05:00 Grave Trade  
06:00 The Curse Of Oak Island  
06:50 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar  
07:40 Battle 360  
08:30 American Restoration  
08:55 Mountain Men  
09:45 Ax Men  
10:35 Swamp People  
11:25 American Restoration  
12:15 Counting Cars: Best Of  
12:40 Counting Cars  
13:05 American Pickers  
13:55 Grave Trade  
14:45 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar  
15:35 Battle 360  
16:25 Counting Cars: Best Of  
16:50 American Restoration  
17:40 Down East Dickering  
18:30 Duck Dynasty  
19:20 Ax Men  
20:10 Swamp People  
21:00 Storage Wars Miami  
21:25 Storage Wars  
21:50 Criss Angel: Mindfreak  
22:15 Barry'd Treasure  
22:40 Battle 360  
23:30 Inside Alcatraz: Legends Of The Rock  
00:20 Grave Trade  
01:10 Counting Cars: Best Of  
01:35 Counting Cars  
02:00 American Pickers  
02:50 Down East Dickering



03:25 Don't Tell The Bride  
04:20 Pick Me!  
05:15 Pick Me!  
06:10 The Doctor Blake Mysteries  
07:05 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh  
08:00 Don't Tell The Bride  
08:55 Seven Days With, A  
09:50 Seven Days With, A  
10:40 Pick Me!  
11:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh  
12:30 The Doctor Blake Mysteries  
13:25 Emmerdale  
13:50 Emmerdale  
14:20 Coronation Street  
14:45 Seven Days With, A  
15:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh  
16:30 Don't Tell The Bride  
17:25 The Great Fire  
18:20 Emmerdale  
18:45 Emmerdale  
19:10 Coronation Street  
19:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh  
20:30 Don't Tell The Bride  
21:25 The Great Fire  
22:20 Coronation Street  
22:50 Emmerdale  
23:15 Emmerdale



## A BEAUTIFUL MIND

### A BEAUTIFUL MIND ON OSN MOVIES HD FAMILY

23:40 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh  
02:30 Emmerdale  
02:50 Emmerdale



03:05 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet  
03:30 Places We Go  
03:55 One Man & His Campervan  
04:45 David Rocco's Dolce India  
05:10 World's Best Chefs  
05:35 World's Best Chefs  
06:00 A Model Adventure  
06:50 Cesar To The Rescue  
07:40 Chefs Run Wild  
08:05 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
08:30 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
08:55 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet  
09:20 Places We Go  
09:45 One Man & His Campervan  
10:10 One Man & His Campervan  
10:35 David Rocco's Dolce India  
11:00 World's Best Chefs  
11:25 World's Best Chefs  
11:50 A Model Adventure  
12:40 Cesar To The Rescue  
13:35 Chefs Run Wild  
14:00 Jose Andres: Dinner In Haiti  
14:55 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet  
15:25 Places We Go  
15:50 One Man & His Campervan  
16:20 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
16:45 David Rocco's Dolce India  
17:15 World's Best Chefs  
17:40 World's Best Chefs  
18:10 A Model Adventure  
19:05 Food Lover's Guide To The Planet  
19:30 Places We Go  
20:00 One Man & His Campervan  
20:25 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
20:50 David Rocco's Dolce India  
21:15 World's Best Chefs  
21:40 World's Best Chefs  
22:05 A Model Adventure  
22:55 Cesar To The Rescue  
23:45 Chefs Run Wild  
00:10 Jose Andres: Dinner In Haiti  
01:00 Glamour Puds  
01:25 Home Strange Home  
02:15 Meat v Veg  
02:40 American Food Battle



03:45 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn  
04:40 1000 Days For The Planet  
05:35 Ultimate Predators GPU

06:30 Africa's Deadliest  
07:25 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn  
08:20 1000 Days For The Planet  
09:15 Ultimate Animal Countdown  
10:10 Cuba's Secret Reef  
11:05 Hyena Queen  
12:00 Shark Men  
12:55 72 Dangerous Animals Australia  
13:50 Africa's Deadliest  
14:45 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn  
15:40 1000 Days For The Planet  
16:35 Ultimate Animal Countdown  
17:30 Hunting The Hammerhead  
18:25 World's Deadliest Snakes  
19:20 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn  
20:10 1000 Days For The Planet  
21:00 Ultimate Animal Countdown  
21:50 Hunting The Hammerhead  
22:40 World's Deadliest Snakes  
23:30 Shark Men  
00:20 72 Dangerous Animals Australia  
01:10 Africa's Deadliest  
02:00 Dangerous Encounters  
02:50 Natural Born Monsters National Geo HD  
03:20 Route Awakening  
03:50 Nazi Megastructures  
04:45 X: The Generation That Changed The World  
05:40 The Numbers Game  
06:35 Secrets Of The Tang Treasure Ship  
07:30 Brain Games  
07:55 Brain Games  
08:25 Wicked Tuna  
09:20 X: The Generation That Changed The World  
10:15 Locked Up Abroad  
11:10 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge  
12:05 Megastructures  
13:00 Wicked Tuna  
14:00 Brain Games  
14:30 Brain Games  
15:00 Taiwan Medical Miracle  
16:00 Locked Up Abroad  
17:00 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge  
18:00 The Great Human Race  
19:00 Taiwan Medical Miracle  
20:00 Locked Up Abroad  
20:50 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge  
21:40 The Great Human Race  
22:30 Taiwan Medical Miracle  
23:20 The Numbers Game  
00:10 Locked Up Abroad  
01:00 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge  
02:00 The Great Human Race  
02:55 Nazi Megastructures



03:00 Odyssey  
04:00 Good Morning America  
06:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
07:00 Chicago Fire  
08:00 Prison Break

09:00 Supergirl  
10:00 Odyssey  
11:00 Chicago Fire  
12:00 Prison Break  
13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
14:00 Live Good Morning America  
16:00 The Night Shift  
17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
18:00 Prison Break  
19:00 Supergirl  
20:00 Shark Tank  
21:00 The Night Shift  
22:00 Downton Abbey  
23:00 Sleepy Hollow  
00:00 Chicago Fire  
01:00 The Night Shift  
02:00 Downton Abbey



04:00 Sweet Home Alabama  
06:00 Nitro Circus: The Movie  
08:00 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory  
10:00 Sweet Home Alabama  
12:00 Nitro Circus: The Movie  
14:00 Three Men And A Baby  
16:00 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory  
18:00 Pitch Perfect  
20:00 Bringing Down The House  
22:00 Trust Me  
00:00 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory  
02:00 Pitch Perfect



03:00 Snow Dogs  
05:00 The Princess And The Frog  
07:00 Dr. Seuss' The Lorax  
09:00 Diary Of A Wimpy Kid  
11:00 Wreck-It Ralph  
13:00 Mulan  
15:00 Bedtime Stories  
17:00 Toy Story 3  
19:00 Camp Nowhere  
21:00 Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides  
23:15 Bedtime Stories  
01:15 Camp Nowhere



03:30 Jersey Boys  
06:00 Powder  
08:00 A Beautiful Mind  
10:15 Beaches  
12:30 A Civil Action  
14:30 Upside Down  
16:30 A Beautiful Mind

19:00 Decoding Annie Parker  
21:00 Breathe In  
23:00 Get On Up  
01:15 A Beautiful Mind



03:15 McFarland, USA  
05:30 Step Up Revolution  
07:15 Some Girls  
09:00 McFarland, USA  
11:15 Alexander And The Terrible... Very Bad Day  
13:00 Big Hero 6  
14:45 The Duff  
16:45 Annie  
18:45 The Theory Of Everything  
21:00 The Walk  
23:15 The Transporter: Refueled  
01:00 The Gift



04:15 Blue Elephant 2  
06:00 Egon And Donci  
08:00 Ploddy Police Car On The Case  
09:45 Jock The Hero Dog  
11:15 Columbus In The Last Journey  
12:45 Space Warriors  
14:30 The Heart Of The Oak  
16:00 Yellowbird  
18:00 Jock The Hero Dog  
20:00 The Dragon Pearl  
22:00 The Heart Of The Oak  
23:30 Yellowbird  
01:15 Ploddy Police Car On The Case  
02:45 The Dragon Pearl



04:00 Next Goal Wins  
06:00 Born To Race: Fast Track  
08:00 Veronica Mars  
10:15 Batman: Assault On Arkham  
11:45 Trigger Point  
13:45 One Chance  
15:45 The Grand Seduction  
17:45 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I  
20:00 Mortdecai  
22:00 The Lovers  
00:00 One Chance  
02:00 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I



04:00 Good Will Hunting  
06:15 Beautiful

08:30 I Am Number Four  
10:30 Father Of The Bride Part II  
12:30 Sister Act 2: Back In The Habit  
14:30 Goal II: Living The Dream  
16:30 My Bollywood Bride  
18:15 Dawn Of The Dead  
20:00 Thor 2: The Dark World  
22:00 Mission To Mars  
00:00 The Duchess  
02:00 Annapolis



03:00 Private Practice  
04:00 Da Vinci's Demons  
05:00 How I Met Your Mother  
05:30 How I Met Your Mother  
06:00 The Simpsons  
06:30 The Simpsons  
07:00 Low Winter Sun  
08:00 American Idol  
09:00 American Idol  
10:00 Private Practice  
11:00 Private Practice  
12:00 Da Vinci's Demons  
13:00 How I Met Your Mother  
13:30 How I Met Your Mother  
14:00 The Simpsons  
14:30 The Simpsons  
15:00 Low Winter Sun  
16:00 American Idol  
17:00 Cougar Town  
17:30 Cougar Town  
18:00 Desperate Housewives  
19:00 Desperate Housewives  
20:00 Fit For Fashion  
21:00 American Idol  
22:00 American Idol  
23:00 American Idol  
00:00 Private Practice  
01:00 Da Vinci's Demons  
02:00 Desperate Housewives



03:06 Jon & Kate Plus 8  
03:30 Craft Wars  
04:20 Little People, Big World  
04:45 Little People, Big World  
05:10 Cake Boss  
05:35 Something Borrowed, Something New  
06:00 Six Little Mcghees  
06:49 Cake Boss  
07:12 Cake Boss  
07:35 Cake Boss  
07:57 Cake Boss  
08:22 Food Hospital  
09:10 Food Hospital  
09:57 Ugly House To Lovely House  
10:45 Single Dad Seeking...  
11:35 Say Yes To The Dress  
12:00 Say Yes To The Dress  
12:25 Say Yes To The Dress  
12:47 Say Yes To The Dress  
13:12 Say Yes To The Dress  
13:35 Oprah Prime  
14:25 Oprah: Where Are They Now?  
15:15 Little People, Big World: Welcome To...  
16:05 Little People, Big World  
16:30 Little People, Big World  
16:54 Little People, Big World  
17:18 Love At First Swipe  
17:42 Love At First Swipe  
18:05 Ugly House To Lovely House  
18:55 Cake Boss  
19:20 Six Little Mcghees  
20:10 Sister Wives  
21:00 Six Little Mcghees  
21:25 Six Little Mcghees  
21:50 Sister Wives  
22:40 7 Little Johnstons



03:00 The Leftovers  
04:00 Carnivale  
05:00 Longford  
07:00 My House In Umbria  
09:00 Earthly Possessions  
11:00 Into The Storm  
13:00 A Bright Shining Lie  
15:00 Temple Grandin  
17:00 Into The Storm  
19:00 Secrets And Lies  
20:00 The Sopranos  
21:00 True Blood  
22:00 Game Of Thrones  
23:00 After The Thrones  
23:30 Curb Your Enthusiasm  
00:00 Secrets And Lies



**Aries (March 21-April 19)**

You seem most creative with your ideas and ways of communicating. Unique and unconventional approaches to study or research are forthcoming. You value change and transformation and have an almost reckless faith in the life process. You may find yourself in an excellent job or at least with a defined path and plan. You appreciate goals and efforts at the global level and try to find ways in which you can implement them into your own life. Your energy level is high but the nervous tension level may also be high. Take the full time allotted to you at each break—particularly the noon break—and find peaceful ways to relax. A new animal or family member demands your attention this evening. It looks like play-time! Enjoy!



**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**

Your sense of direction and guidance are the key to understanding you at any in-depth level. You seem to naturally find a solution—always managing to come up with the correct approach. There is a great capacity to negotiate with the law and authorities, plus an ability to find your way when it comes to inner and spiritual matters. Others sense this gift and accept guidance and counsel from you often—including today. Matters of law, religion and philosophy of the most definite kind hold your interest. You could find that houses and other real property take on greater significance. A move is in the forecast and now is the time to think about exactly what that means to you; the world is yours! Gain power through dependable information.



**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**

Your timing is much better today. Others seem to have a need to listen to what you have to say. Although you may not have all the answers you feel you need, the combination of your ideas with other people's ideas is productive and has good results. It is possible that you will be able to move out of your apartment soon and into your first home. There may soon be a greater focus on family life: parents, children, relatives, the domestic scene. Nurturing is where you concentrate your efforts in your personal life now: making things grow and taking care of them, planting seeds that will develop and survive far into the future—that's what it's all about now. Patience should be practiced, especially just now. Take things slowly.



**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**

This is a lucky day for you when it comes to career decisions. You will work hard to make your dreams a reality. Flashes of insight with tremendous originality and independence are typical. You may find yourself teaching others about some new technical skill. You have a natural sense of invention and a love of all things electrical and of communication in general. A born traveler, not afraid to be alone, you will find opportunities to travel—perhaps through lecturing. You are unconventional today, when it comes to self-expression. You will find new and different ways to get this expression over to others—possibly through sports, or entertainment, the creative arts, etc. Always independent when it comes to emotions, you do not mind feeling a little different.



**Leo (July 23-August 22)**

Past restrictions are gone. You will be able to move forward and get much accomplished. Your ideas and thoughts will be clear and the unusually difficult tasks will not slow you down. You become organized as soon as you know your schedule. It will feel exhilarating to know you are on the right road to success and your self-confidence should be high enough that nothing can stop you. There are highlights of leadership and opportunities for advancement. You will feel powerful and those around you will see that you have the ability to make good decisions, accomplish goals and network with authorities. There should be some compliments coming your way this afternoon. A love story or poem is shared tonight.



**Virgo (August 23-September 22)**

Your artistic side jumps to attention as some new challenges that are similar to a business advertisement tease your imagination. You can create a presentation that results in some innovative ideas. There is a sense of testing the limits, but there is also some fun of accomplishment involved in today's work. Being more in touch with your emotional roots is a keynote of the cycle that now takes hold in your life. This has to do with feelings, but it's more than that; it is about making the things you feel and care about a reality. At some levels, this may mean creating a greater balance when it comes to career and family. Credit yourself with the will to get things done and realize that now is a good time to plan an important party.



**Libra (September 23-October 22)**

You seem to possess a ceaseless need to be analytical today. You spend a great deal of time analyzing or studying certain situations and can undermine your own progress. If you are not moving forward with your work, you might consider a little extra help or a bit of overtime with your work. Thinking things through and accounting for all the details and making careful measurements, keeps the mind active and involved. An interest in health and work may come to your attention. There may be new ways of communication, technical probably, that will take much of your spare time this afternoon. Very little is accomplished at home since you may learn about someone in the neighborhood that you would like to know better.



**Scorpio (October 23-November 21)**

Co-workers enjoy being around you, particularly today. You are in a happy mood and you plan to stay that way for a long time. Your thought is that nobody could sway you from this good feeling. Your workload is good and it is starting to look as if you have a good grasp on the way your work is moving along. If you have a team, you will find that all of you work very well together. You and your family have been considering real estate lately and this just may be a good time to discover what you want in a home. Taxes, investments and other financial ties or obligations grab your attention. You may even be looking to upgrade or downgrade into a different home. There may be less of a need to have lots of space; it will all need care.



**Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)**

A renewed emphasis on reading, writing, studying and all forms of information exchange is highly motivating. New ideas and creative solutions are at the ready. You are not usually the talkative one in your work area but today there are many things to talk about—new discoveries. You might enjoy being a salesperson or working in the advertising business; success is certain. Your imagination and sense of what connects all of life are felt in your speech and in the way you communicate. You love a good story and a sense of the mystical pervades every one you tell. You remember times of your youth and you may shop for some kind of ice cream maker for the next family gathering. You are looking forward to a fun family gathering soon.



**Capricorn (December 22-January 19)**

You may be helping a young co-worker with that person's duties or in understanding the work this morning. Everyone wants a piece of you and this can result in your needing more space, a chance to be alone—escape! It is because of your being in demand that brings about a great deal of satisfaction in your work. Your ambitions are usually supported by the will to get things done. Achievement, ambition and authority are the things that take on greater importance. A marriage or other partnership can raise high hopes. There are good feelings from all around you and there is a sense of support and harmony and enjoyment of this happy time. Do research on the family crest. Find some time to read some amusing story and then relate it to others. Most of all, laugh.



**Aquarius (January 20- February 18)**

There is a focus on worldwide events and the need to keep in touch with others. This could be a group energy type of thing but it looks as if you joined the competition to fulfill a special need. It is time to be involved in the big picture. The media are instrumental in this social awareness and you may be a part of the media. You are certainly seen obtaining information from as many different sources as possible this month. Expect, then, to be involved with newspapers, magazines, tv, internet and discussions on computer networks and in coffee houses. Others will want to know the latest—you must keep on the right path and avoid being misleading. Celebrating the evening with people, music and good feelings is certainly enjoyable.



**Pisces (February 19-March 20)**

This is a time to take risks and dare to be a little unconventional. New insights bring bright ideas for new inventions. Your career could open up by taking the road less traveled and by daring to be the oddball with new approaches. An understanding attitude on your part could have far-reaching effects on your own life-path and career during this time. A little restraint for now could be beneficial; keep notes so that you can stay focused. Careful with the budget today, you may be more than a little eager to acquire things or indulge too much. Be alert for the knowledge that will help you to fine-tune your work program. A friend will invite you to do some fun activities that could be a bit out of the ordinary this afternoon.

**COUNTRY CODES**

Afghanistan	0093	Kuwait	00965
Albania	00355	Kyrgyzstan	00996
Algeria	00213	Laos	00856
Andorra	00376	Latvia	00371
Angola	00244	Lebanon	00961
Anguilla	001264	Liberia	00231
Antigua	001268	Libya	00218
Argentina	0054	Lithuania	00370
Armenia	00374	Luxembourg	00352
Australia	0061	Macau	00853
Austria	0043	Macedonia	00389
Bahamas	001242	Madagascar	00261
Bahrain	00973	Majorca	0034
Bangladesh	00880	Malawi	00265
Barbados	001246	Malaysia	0060
Belarus	00375	Maldives	00960
Belgium	0032	Mali	00223
Belize	00501	Malta	00356
Benin	00229	Marshall Islands	00692
Bermuda	001441	Martinique	00596
Bhutan	00975	Mauritania	00222
Bolivia	00591	Mauritius	00230
Bosnia	00387	Mayotte	00269
Botswana	00267	Mexico	0052
Brazil	0055	Micronesia	00691
Brunei	00673	Moldova	00373
Bulgaria	00359	Monaco	00377
Burkina	00226	Mongolia	00976
Burundi	00257	Montserrat	001664
Cambodia	00855	Morocco	00212
Cameroon	00237	Mozambique	00258
Canada	001	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Cape Verde	00238	Namibia	00264
Cayman Islands	001345	Nepal	00977
Central African Republic	00236	Netherlands (Holland)	0031
Chad	00235	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Chile	0056	New Caledonia	00687
China	0086	New Zealand	0064
Colombia	0057	Nicaragua	00505
Comoros	00269	Niger	00227
Congo	00242	Nigeria	00234
Cook Islands	00682	Niue	00683
Costa Rica	00506	Norfolk Island	00672
Croatia	00385	Northern Ireland (UK)	0044
Cuba	0053	North Korea	00850
Cyprus	00357	Norway	0047
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Oman	00968
Czech Republic	00420	Pakistan	0092
Denmark	0045	Palau	00680
Diego Garcia	00246	Panama	00507
Djibouti	00253	Papua New Guinea	00675
Dominica	001767	Paraguay	00595
Dominican Republic	001809	Peru	0051
Ecuador	00593	Philippines	0063
Egypt	0020	Poland	0048
El Salvador	00503	Portugal	00351
England (UK)	0044	Puerto Rico	001787
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Qatar	00974
Eritrea	00291	Romania	0040
Estonia	00372	Russian Federation	007
Ethiopia	00251	Rwanda	00250
Falkland Islands	00500	Saint Helena	00290
Faroe Islands	00298	Saint Kitts	001869
Fiji	00679	Saint Lucia	001758
Finland	00358	Saint Pierre	00508
France	0033	Saint Vincent	001784
French Guiana	00594	Samoa US	00684
French Polynesia	00689	Samoa West	00685
Gabon	00241	San Marino	00378
Gambia	00220	Sao Tome	00239
Georgia	00995	Saudi Arabia	00966
Germany	0049	Scotland (UK)	0044
Ghana	00233	Senegal	00221
Gibraltar	00350	Seychelles	00284
Greece	0030	Sierra Leone	00232
Greenland	00299	Singapore	0065
Grenada	001473	Slovakia	00421
Guadeloupe	00590	Slovenia	00386
Guam	001671	Solomon Islands	00677
Guatemala	00502	Somalia	00252
Guinea	00224	South Africa	0027
Guyana	00592	South Korea	0082
Haiti	00509	Spain	0034
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Sri Lanka	0094
Honduras	00504	Sudan	00249
Hong Kong	00852	Suriname	00597
Hungary	0036	Swaziland	00268
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Sweden	0046
Iceland	00354	Switzerland	0041
India	0091	Syria	00963
Indian Ocean	00873	Taiwan	00886
Indonesia	0062	Tanzania	00255
Iran	0098	Thailand	0066
Iraq	00964	Toga	00228
Ireland	00353	Tonga	00676
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Ivory Coast	00225	Trinidad	001868
Jamaica	001876	Tunisia	00216
Japan	0081	Turkey	0090
Jordan	00962	Tuvalu	00688
Kazakhstan	007	Uganda	00256
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Kiribati	00686	United Arab Emirates	00976

# ZIKA SEX RESEARCH BEGINS DESPITE US CONGRESS FUNDING IMPASSE

**NEW YORK:** It could take years to learn how long men infected with Zika are capable of sexually transmitting the virus, which can cause crippling birth defects and other serious neurological disorders. In the meantime, health officials have warned couples to refrain from unprotected sex for six months after a male partner is infected. The extraordinary recommendation, based on a single report of Zika surviving 62 days in semen, could affect millions. The grave risks associated with Zika, along with its potential reach, are driving US health authorities to pursue research even though funding is mired in Congressional gridlock. A study of sexual transmission risk is one example of science that health officials said can't wait for politics.

Borrowing money earmarked for other programs, the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has started enrolling men infected with Zika in Brazil and Colombia in the study to determine how long the virus remains transmittable in semen. The study could take years to complete, but interim results could help public health officials fine-tune their recommendations on sex. "We are going out on a limb, but we have to," Dr Anthony Fauci, director of the US institute, said in an interview. "We can't say we're going to wait until we get all

the money."

Public health officials are alarmed by Zika's transmission versatility, which has the potential to expand its reach. It is primarily spread by *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, as are the dengue and chikungunya viruses. But at least 10 countries, including the United States and France, have reported Zika infections in people who had not traveled to an outbreak area but whose sexual partners had. This ability to spread through sex could help Zika gain a further foothold outside the warm habitats of its most effective agent, the mosquito.

### Caution in lieu of answers

To protect women who are pregnant or trying to conceive, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended couples refrain from unprotected sex for six months - triple the 62 days the virus survived in the semen in one British case study. The World Health Organization recently issued similar guidance. But such strict advice is not ideal, Dr Anne Schuchat, a CDC deputy director, said in an interview. "To tell people not to have sex until we get back to you is not a very satisfying recommendation," she said. "We would like to have some more understanding of the sexual risk."

In the US territory of Puerto Rico, where more than 2,100 cases of infection

have been reported since the start of the year, health officials are passing out Zika protection kits that include bug spray and condoms, along with the recommendation. But the warning against unprotected sex isn't going over very well, said Dr. Chris Prue, a CDC behavioral scientist who has studied the response. "Condoms are not popular in a lot of places," she said. "There's religious and personal preferences and lots of personal factors in that."

US lawmakers deadlocked over funding to fight the Zika virus on Tuesday, as Senate Democrats blocked a Republican proposal they said fell short of the challenge posed by the virus and hurt other health priorities. It was unclear when Congress would revisit the request by President Barack Obama for \$1.9 billion.

### Funding priorities

In the meantime, the White House has diverted more than \$500 million earmarked for other projects for urgent Zika initiatives, including those where scientific opportunities will be lost if not acted upon immediately. One such study will follow children born to women infected with Zika to identify the development of any disabilities not detected at birth. Other projects on the priority list include vaccine development and mosquito eradication. One study underway will

assess whether the risk of transmission is greater from men who experience Zika infection symptoms, such as fever and rash, than from those who don't. This information is considered vital since most people experience no symptoms.

The study of infected men in Brazil and Colombia will test semen from thousands of men over time to determine how long Zika poses a risk to sexual partners. As long as the virus can be grown in a laboratory from semen cell samples, infectious disease experts believe it is potentially contagious. Zika typically clears the bloodstream about a week after infection, but it has been detected in urine for at least twice as long. Its persistence in semen in the British case study has caused some researchers to draw comparisons to other viruses.

HIV can last in blood and semen indefinitely, and the mosquito-borne West Nile virus can reside in the kidneys and urine for years, researchers said. One patient who survived the deadly Ebola outbreak had evidence of that virus in his semen for 18 months. "We got very surprised by Ebola that it was hanging around for so long," said Dr Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. "One of the big questions we have to ask is does Zika also cause a similar type of latency?"—Reuters

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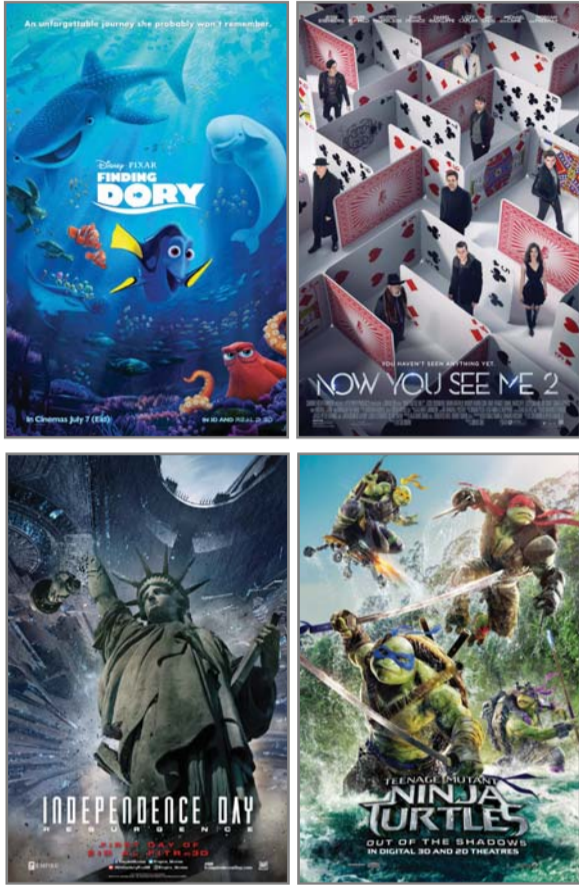


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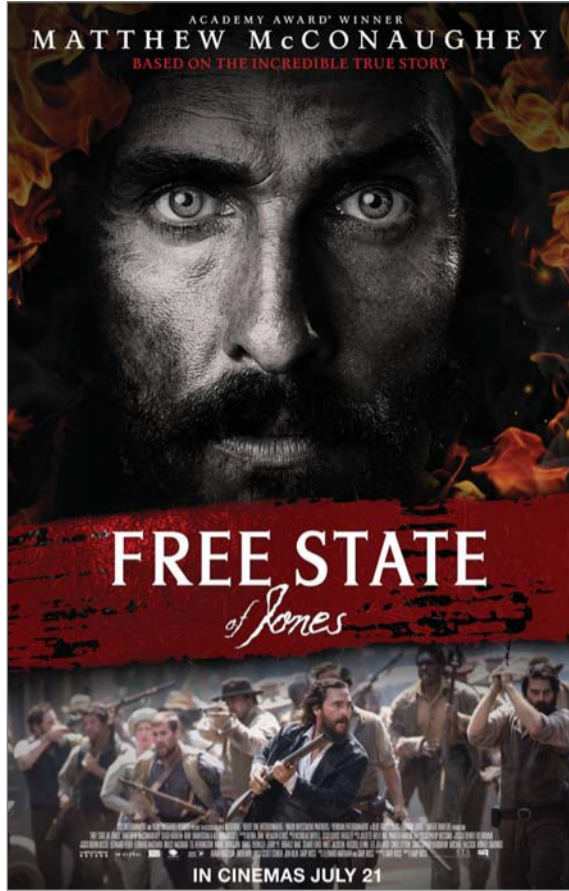
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# Friday Times BUSINESS

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NEW YORK: Jonathan Niles, center, works with fellow traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. — AP

## GLOBAL STOCKS RALLY AS BREXIT SHOCK EASES EU, ASIA PUSH HIGHER; POUND HOLDS GROUND

**LONDON:** European and Asian stocks pushed higher while the pound held most of its ground yesterday as markets shrugged off their Brexit shock. After wiping out on Wednesday all of its losses following the surprise vote by Britain to leave the EU, London's FTSE 100 index yesterday pushed another 0.6 percent higher around 1000 GMT.

Meanwhile, Paris climbed also 0.6 percent and Frankfurt added 0.4 percent. Michael Hewson, chief market analyst at CMC Markets, noted that the equities rebound appears to have left banking stocks behind. "It is here that the soft underbelly of the European economy remains, with financials under pressure again after the US subsidiaries of Deutsche Bank and Santander failed the latest Federal Reserve stress tests for the second year in succession," he said.

In London Barclays was down 0.8 percent, Lloyds 1.6 percent and RBS by 3.0 percent. Deutsche Bank shares slid 1.5 percent and

Santander by 1.2 percent. Meanwhile Asian stock markets also climbed, tracking rebounds in Europe and New York on Wednesday as markets recovered from last week's hammering. Speculation that authorities will announce monetary easing measures to offset any negative impact have also provided strong support. Stephen Innes, a senior trader at Oanda Asia Pacific said in a note: "The global central bankers are in the background and the markets realise that the central bankers are going to stand in front of any capitulation."

Trading floors are rife with talk of fresh stimulus measures from key central banks. After a \$17 billion boost by South Korea, Japan is in focus after the country's prime minister, finance minister and central bank boss held talks Wednesday. Tokyo rose 0.1 percent, although it ended well off its earlier highs owing to profit taking having risen about four percent since Friday's close. Hong Kong added 1.8 percent and Seoul closed up 0.7 percent.

Singapore and Taipei each put on more than one percent, while Manila surged two percent. But Shanghai closed 0.1 percent down. Sydney climbed 1.7 percent ahead of a neck-and-neck general election in Australia at the weekend.

### Pound stable

The pound also held on to most of its gains versus the dollar as other higher-yielding, riskier, currencies benefited from hope that the fallout from Friday's referendum will not be as bad as feared. "The initial shock over the UK voting out of the EU is easing across the world," Mitsushige Akino, a Tokyo-based executive officer at Ichiyoshi Asset Management Co., told Bloomberg News. "We've survived the event-related risk, and investors are beginning to see that the impact on the actual economy is limited. There's hope for policy measures globally, not just in Japan, so that's supporting markets."

The pound slid slightly from its New York

close to \$1.3445, but was considerably up from the 31-year-low of \$1.3121 it touched Monday. Analysts at Moneycorp said the slide in the pound from the shock of the Brexit result appears to have stopped. "It does not matter that there might in time be new shocks that will send it lower: this one seems to have run its course. All the known bad news has been priced into sterling," said Moneycorp analysts. However, there remains plenty of caution as Britain and its EU partners struggle to reach a divorce agreement.

With Prime Minister David Cameron handing over responsibility in the autumn to an as-yet-unknown successor, European leaders are adamant that London will not win any concessions to gain access to the vast single market. Highlighting the concerns about the impact of the Brexit vote, Singapore's United Overseas Bank said it had suspended loans to anyone wanting to buy property in London, citing "uncertainties". — AFP

## PUTIN SAYS 'TRAUMATIC EFFECT' OF BREXIT VOTE TO LAST LONG

**MOSCOW:** Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday warned that the fallout from Britain's vote to leave the European Union would last a long time. "Brexit—that is the choice of the subjects of Great Britain and we have not in any way interfered in this and are not interfering," Putin told Russian diplomats in Moscow. The Kremlin strongman said

Moscow "will closely follow how far the negotiations between London and Brussels go and what the consequences will be for all of Europe and for us." "It is clear that the traumatic effect from the results of the referendum will be felt for quite a long time," Putin said. "We will see how their principles of democracy get realized in practice."

A slim majority of voters in Britain cast their ballots to leave the EU in a referendum on June 23 that has sent economic and political shockwaves across the globe. Putin has played his cards close to his chest over the Brexit vote but many in the West suspect him of relishing the prospect of turmoil in the EU. Putin had earlier slammed the British

leadership's approach to the referendum as "nothing more than overconfidence and a superficial approach to solving fateful decisions for one's country". Ties between Russia and the West are at their lowest point since the Cold War over the Ukraine crisis, with the EU slapping damaging sanctions on Moscow. — AFP

## TOP BANKER WARNS BREXIT MAY CAUSE ECONOMIC CRISIS

**LONDON:** Britain's shock EU withdrawal could cause an economic crisis, a top banker warned yesterday, adding it was "far from certain" London would secure its exit demands in Brussels. "This is a political crisis that has the potential to create an economic one," said John McFarlane, chairman of Barclays bank and head of finance lobbyists TheCityUK. "Unlike the previous crisis, in this instance, the City does not bear the accountability," he added in reference to the 2008-2009 global banking crisis. "We have experienced an exogenous shock, and have acquitted ourselves admirably."

McFarlane said the financial sector wanted the British government to secure single market access in the exit talks, while it also wanted the ability to employ talented workers from Europe and the rest of the world. Some restrictions on the free movement of people were likely, he added. "While it is perfectly understandable that it will take time for the country to find its feet, we do urgently need stable, effective and inspirational political leadership to steer the way forward," noted McFarlane in a speech to TheCityUK's annual gathering in London.

"Unfortunately it is far from certain what we might be able to secure in our discussions with the EU. It is nevertheless important for us to understand what options exist and to plan prudently for all contingencies." EU leaders had meanwhile agreed Wednesday that Britain cannot have "a la carte" single market access after leaving the union—without accepting the bloc's rules on free movement.

City bankers are anxious that they will lose their so-called "passporting" rights that currently allow London-based financial services firms to operate across the bloc. On June 23, Britons voted 52 percent to 48 percent in favor of leaving the EU after four decades as a member. The shock result—which confounded opinion polls that had indicated a Remain win—sparked turmoil in global financial markets and sent the pound collapsing to a 31-year low against the dollar.

"We went to bed yesterday being assured by the markets that by the morning it would be business as usual, but woke to find that the UK suddenly saw its future outside of Europe," added McFarlane. "Make no bones about it, this has been a serious geopolitical and economic shock that requires a coordinated response. "We now must build a new international model for the UK, naturally looking globally, but nevertheless retaining a strategic, but possibly different, partnership with the EU." — AFP



HONG KONG: A man wipes the rain water off his face as a screen displays the Hang Seng Index at a bank. — AP

# SINGAPORE BANK SUSPENDS LONDON PROPERTY LOANS

### CITING UNCERTAINTY FROM BRITAIN'S VOTE TO QUIT EU

**SINGAPORE:** A top Singapore bank said yesterday it has suspended loans to anyone wanting to buy property in London, citing uncertainty from Britain's vote to quit the EU and dealing a blow to investors looking to make the most of the weak pound. United Overseas Bank (UOB), one of the city-state's three homegrown lenders, said it was monitoring the market closely to determine when the loans would resume.

"We will temporarily stop receiving foreign property loan applications for London properties," it said in a statement. "As the aftermath of the UK referendum is still unfolding and given the uncertainties, we need to ensure our customers are cautious with their London property investments," it added. "We are monitoring the market environment closely and will assess regularly to determine when we will re-instate our London property loan offering."

UOB has the biggest share of loans for the London property market among Singapore's three banks, an industry source said. Financial markets were plunged into turmoil following last week's Brexit vote and while they have enjoyed a recovery over the past few days, analysts warn there could be repercussions

well beyond Britain and Europe. Market-watchers said property prices in Britain are expected to plummet as the pound takes a beating, and foreign investors, especially those from Asia, are already poised for a buying spree.

But Donald Han, managing director of Chesterton Singapore, a consultancy specializing in UK property, said banks are just exercising caution given the uncertainties. "London property prices are some of the most resilient in the world because even during the global financial crisis it only dipped by 10 to 15 percent," he told AFP. "What's different this time is that Brexit is unprecedented. It's only the UK that's affected, not the rest of the world as was seen during the previous financial crisis so understandably the banks are being cautious."

#### Forex risks

The pound tumbled more than 10 percent against the US dollar Friday to a 31-year low, and while it has recovered slightly it is still under pressure. Singapore's biggest bank DBS said it would continue to provide financing for property purchases in London but gave customers the option of borrowing in

Singapore dollars or pounds.

"For customers interested in buying properties in London, we would advise them to assess the situation carefully before committing to their purchases as there could be potential foreign exchange and sovereign risks," said Tok Geok Peng, executive director of secured lending at DBS. "With foreign exchange risks, even if the value of the overseas property rises, any gains will be eroded if the country's currency depreciates against the (Singapore dollar). This is in addition to the risks associated with any government policy changes," Tok added.

Asian investors have long sought out both commercial and residential UK property off the back of potential for capital growth and a resilient economy. London house prices are some of the most expensive in the world and have been on the rise over the past six years. But international consultancy KPMG has forecast house prices could fall five percent nationwide—and even more in the capital—following Friday's surprise decision to separate from the EU after four decades. Another consultancy, Jones Lang LaSalle, said prices could fall 10 percent over the next two years. — AFP

## GERMANY'S UNEMPLOYED REMAINS AT RECORD LOW

**FRANKFURT:** Unemployment in Germany in June remained at its lowest level since unification, as Europe's top economy remains robust, data showed yesterday. The unemployment rate—which measures the jobless total against the working population as a whole—stood at 6.1 percent in June, unchanged from May, the federal labor office said in a statement. In numerical terms, the number of people registered as unemployed in Germany declined by 6,000 to 2.69 million.

Unemployment now stands at the lowest level since West and East Germany reunited in 1990 after the fall of the Berlin Wall the previous year. In raw, or unadjusted, terms, the jobless total also decreased, falling by 50,000 to 2.614 million. The unemployment rate slipped to 5.9 percent in June from 6.0 percent in May, the office said. "Despite the difficult environment, the German economy remains robust," the labor office said. German gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 0.7 percent in the first quarter. "Moderate growth can be expected during the rest of the year," the office said. "The labor market data were positive," said BayernLB economist Christiane von Berg. The jobless numbers could increase in the coming months as refugees sign on the dole, the expert said.

More than one million asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, fleeing war and persecution in their home countries such as Syria. While the new arrivals are waiting for their asylum applications to be processed and they are attending integration courses, they are not counted as being available for work and not included in the official jobless data.

Regarding the British vote to quit the European Union, "it remains to be seen to what extent the uncertainty sparked by the Brexit vote will affect the hiring plans of German companies," von Berg said. But IHS Global Insight analyst Timo Klein felt that the British referendum had "thrown a significant spanner into the works." He estimated that German growth forecasts would have to be lowered both this year and next year in the wake of the vote. Klein said he now expected unemployment in annual average terms "to start rising from a trough of 6.1 percent at present to at least 6.5 percent in 2017 and close to 7.0 percent in 2018. "The growing impact from refugees who have been granted asylum status and are subsequently looking for work is also behind this increase," he said. — AFP

## CLAIMS FOR US UNEMPLOYMENT AID RISE BUT REMAINS LOW

**WASHINGTON:** More Americans applied for unemployment benefits last week, but the level of jobless claims remains low enough to suggest that most workers enjoy job security. The Labor Department said yesterday that weekly US applications rose by 10,000 to a seasonally adjusted 268,000. The 4-week average, which is less volatile, was unchanged at 267,000.

Unemployment claims are a proxy for layoffs. They have remained below 300,000 for 69 straight weeks, longest such streak since 1973. Hiring has slowed this spring. Employers added just 38,000 jobs last month, the fewest in more than five years. But even if they are not adding many workers, employers are still reluctant to reduce their staffs. The unemployment rate fell in May to 4.7 percent, lowest in more than eight years.

The US economy got off to a slow start this year, growing at a weak annual pace of just 1.1 percent from January through March. Economists expect growth to pick this quarter, driven by healthy consumer spending. Still, the Federal Reserve has been reluctant to declare the economy completely healthy, deciding at all four meetings this year that conditions were not yet strong enough to justify higher interest rates. Britain's June 23 decision to leave the European Union has rattled markets and created uncertainty about the global economic outlook. — AP



**ULAN BATOR:** A man rides his horse next to a ger near Zuumod south of Ulan Bator on June 29, 2016. — AFP

## POLITICAL LANDSLIDE STINGS MINERAL-RICH MONGOLIA COUNTRY STRUGGLING TO TURN RESOURCES INTO WEALTH

**ULAN BATOR:** A landslide election victory by Mongolia's opposition is a stinging rejection of the government's failed economic policies, analysts and voters said yesterday, as the country struggles to turn its vast natural resources into national wealth. The Mongolian People's Party (MPP) won 65 out of 76 seats in the State Great Hural parliament, leaving the ruling Democratic Party (DP) in single figures with a mere nine spots, the election commission announced early yesterday.

Among the casualties was outgoing Prime Minister Chimedijn Saikhanbileg, who lost his own Bayanzurkh seat in Ulan Bator to a virtual unknown. "I voted for the MPP because the DP used their power only for their own good," said Magsarjaviin Bold, 46, a construction worker in the capital. "They are mostly businessmen and did things that only profited them." Billions of dollars' worth of natural resources lie buried beneath Mongolia's sprawling steppes, drawing the attention of multinational mining giants such as Anglo-Australian Rio Tinto, which has a multi-billion-dollar copper and gold project at Oyu Tolgoi.

But development has been delayed for years by disputes over the role of foreign investment, while slowing growth in Mongolia's biggest customer China has done nothing to help, and the ruling party paid the price for an anaemic economy. In 2011, the year

before the DP came to power, Mongolia's GDP rose a world-leading 17.3 percent. By last year expansion had slumped to 2.3 percent. Marissa Smith, a Mongolia expert at De Anza College in San Francisco, told AFP: "There has been a shift since the last election away from blaming foreigners towards blaming Mongolian politicians and other elites for the failure of Oyu Tolgoi and (coal project) Tavan Tolgoi to have met expectations."

### 'Wrong direction'

Turnout was 72 percent and 13 women were elected, up from 11 last time, despite a cut to a quota for female candidates. Pre-election polling by the International Republican Institute (IRI) showed that over 60 percent of Mongolians felt their country was "headed in the wrong direction", a sentiment driven by concern over corruption and the government's inability to transform resources into new jobs.

"Voters were very clear with their ballots... they wanted change," said IRI's country director Ashleigh Whelan, adding that the victory will give the MPP an overwhelming majority in the legislature: "Any initiative that they want to pass... they'll pass it." After the scale of the MPP's victory emerged, party chairman Miyegombiin Enkhbold vowed to put the country back on track, saying it would "do our best to fix the economic and social downturns." But while the MPP was the ruling party

during Mongolia's Communist era and the DP guided it to its democratic present, many Mongolians see little difference between the two parties and how much will change remains unclear.

Both ran virtually identical campaigns, focused on the importance of job creation through resource development, but short on practicalities. "Our political parties don't really have a political ideology that unites them," said Mogi Badral Bontoi, CEO of market intelligence firm Cover Mongolia. "Politicians join their parties not because of their political ideology... but which party gives them the best chance to gain power, gain influence."

The election result was "tentatively positive" for foreign miners, which also include Chinese state-owned coal giant Shenhua, said Greg Kwan of the Economist Intelligence Unit in a research note, as the new government was unlikely to reverse "a recent shift to a more friendly stance". Mogi hoped the next government would be "much more focused on the economy than China", he said, "less populist, less nationalist, less protectionist". Not all MPP supporters agree. "I don't want the new government to sell Mongolian natural riches for lower prices to foreigners," said Zagdiin Sesemjav, a 62-year old pensioner who backed the party. "That is giving them away," she said. "Most income must come to Mongolia, not foreign companies." — AFP

# THE FADING FISHERMEN: HISTORIC INDUSTRY FACES CLIMATE CHANGE

## CENTURIES OF OVERFISHING, POLLUTION AND FOREIGN COMPETITION



In this April 23, 2016, photo, Elijah Voge-Meyers carries cod caught in the nets of a trawler.

**SEABROOK:** The cod isn't just a fish to David Goethel. It's his identity, his ticket to middle-class life, his link to a historic industry. "I paid for my education, my wife's education, my house, my kids' education; my slice of America was paid for on cod," said Goethel, a 30-year veteran of these waters that once teemed with New England's signature fish.

But on this chilly, windy Saturday in April, after 12 hours out in the Gulf of Maine, he has caught exactly two cod, and he feels far removed from the 1990s, when he could catch 2,000 pounds in a day. His boat, the Ellen Diane, a 44-foot fishing trawler named for his wife, is the only vessel pulling into the Yankee Fishermen's Co-op in Seabrook. Fifteen years ago, there might have been a half-dozen. He is carrying crates of silver hake, skates and flounder - all worth less than cod.

One of America's oldest commercial industries, fishing along the coast of the Northeast still employs hundreds. But every month that goes by, those numbers fall. After centuries of weathering overfishing, pollution, foreign competition and increasing government regulation, the latest challenge is the one that's doing them in: climate change.

Though no waters are immune to the ravages of climate change, the Gulf of Maine, a dent in the coastline from Cape Cod to Nova Scotia, best illustrates the problem. The gulf, where fishermen have for centuries sought lobster, cod and other species that thrived in its cold waters, is now warming faster than 99 percent of the world's oceans, scientists have said. The warming waters, in the gulf and elsewhere, have caused other valuable species, such as clams, to migrate to deeper or more northern waters. Others, such as lobsters, have largely abandoned the once-lucrative waters off the southern New England states of Connecticut and Rhode Island, having become more susceptible to disease or predators. Lobster catches in Maine are booming as the species creeps northward, but as the warming continues, that's a good thing bound to end. A federal report from 2009 said that half of 36 fish stocks studied in the northwest Atlantic Ocean have been shifting northward over the past 40 years, and that the trend is likely to continue.

Fish aren't the only ones moving on, and not just in the Northeast. The US fishing fleet has dwindled from more than 120,000 vessels in

1996 to about 75,000 today, the Coast Guard says. For the fishermen of the northeastern US - not all of whom accept the scientific consensus on climate change, and many of whom bristle at government regulations stemming from it - whether to stick with fishing, adapt to the changing ocean or leave the business is a constant worry.

### Waving the white flag

Robert Bradfield was one of the East Coast's most endangered species, a Rhode Island lobsterman, until he pulled his traps out of the water for the last time about a decade ago. Bradfield, of Newport, started in the fishery in the mid-1970s and stayed in it for some 30 years, sometimes catching 2,000 pounds of lobster a day. During his final years, he was lucky if he caught 100 pounds, not even enough to pay for bait, fuel and deckhands. He now works on a pilot boat, guiding larger ships in and out of the harbor. He is glad he's still on the water, but he misses lobstering and the community of fishermen he used to see in Newport. "There's probably 95 percent attrition out of that fishery in this area," Bradfield said. "Of all the guys I fished with, I was a lobsterman for 30 years, and there's maybe three left."

The number of adult lobsters in New England south of Cape Cod slid to about 10 million in 2013, according to a report issued last year by an interstate regulatory board. It was about 50 million in the late 1990s. The lobster catch in the region sank to about 3.3 million pounds in 2013, from a peak of about 22 million in 1997. Bradfield's take on the role of warming oceans is nuanced and reflects the many years he spent on the water. Shell disease, he said, has taken a toll on southern New England's lobster stock, something scientists say is a result of rising temperatures.

Bradfield also agrees with scientists who say the increase in predatory fish, such as black sea bass, is bad for the lobster population. Warming oceans are responsible for the increase in those fish species off New England, scientists say. But Bradfield, a father to three grown children, also said his decision to leave the fishery was more about economics than science. He thinks some published studies are inconsistent. And he laments that Newport's docks, once home to dozens of lobster boats, are now down to a few. "It tore me up to do something else," he said.



In this April 23, 2016, photo, David Goethel flips a cod while sorting ground fish caught off the coast of New Hampshire.

Others in the lobster business dispute the science that lays the blame on climate change. Nicholas Crismale, a former lobsterman and president of the Connecticut Commercial Lobstermen's Association, is one of many lobstermen in his state who believes pesticide runoff is to blame. Connecticut researchers found no pesticides in lobsters collected in Long Island Sound in late 2014. But Crismale, out of the business for four years and helping to run his wife's restaurant, Lobster Shack in Branford, sticks to the hypothesis, even in the face of science. "The warming stuff is a lot of baloney," he said. "It's just another scientist looking for a grant." Crismale said it's a shame that lobstering, often a multigenerational enterprise in New England, is reaching its end in Connecticut. He used to bring his daughters out fishing with him, but they've grown up to be a lawyer and a teacher, and another generation isn't taking their place. "I'm never going to be able to take a grandchild out on my boat," Crismale said. "And some of the other fishermen were second and third-generation fishermen. And they lost all that." Connecticut's lobster fishery, based on Long Island Sound, has been hit especially hard by warming water and has been reduced to nearly nothing.

A power plant on the sound recorded more than 75 days with an average water temperature above 68 degrees Fahrenheit in each of the years 2012, 2013 and 2014, according to a regulatory board's report. Between 1976 and 2010, that happened only twice. Lobsters prefer temperatures in the high 50s and low 60s. There were nearly 300 lobstermen in Connecticut in 1999, and now there are maybe a dozen full-timers left. Some in the Rhode Island lobster fishery said it's still possible to make a living in the business. Greg Mataronas, the president of the Rhode Island Lobstermen's Association, who fishes out of Little Compton, said regulations and territoriality prevent members of the state's fleet from moving to more fertile grounds. But the few remaining lobstermen in Rhode Island are still able to pull lobsters from the state's waters, he said. "There's a real disconnect between what the guys are seeing on the water and what the scientists are saying," he said. Bradfield isn't buying it. He is glad he left the business, as painful as it was to leave a piece of his identity behind. "There's a saying: Behind every successful fisherman is a wife with

a good job," he said. "You go down to the State Pier in Rhode Island now, guys hate what they're doing right now."

### Hanging on, getting by

David Goethel has spent most of his life fishing for New England cod, and he doesn't want to stop now. "I could catch the entire quota for the Gulf of Maine in eight days," Goethel said in a bit of bravado he swears is not an exaggeration. "I wouldn't break a sweat doing it." Fishing is in Goethel's blood. He paid his way through Boston University by taking thrill-seekers out on "party boat" fishing trips in Boston Harbor and segued into commercial cod fishing in 1982.

Today, he operates a trawler that leaves from New Hampshire, its nets scouring the Gulf of Maine for fish. But the catch these days is different - with the cod in jeopardy and quotas that limit his ability to catch them at all-time lows, cod fishermen like Goethel try to eke out a living by supplementing cod with just about anything else they can catch. Goethel is making much less money. In the 1980s and '90s, he could bring in \$120,000 in a year, but is now making about \$60,000, without subtracting a health insurance bill over \$27,000. He and his wife, who is up every day at 4 a.m. for a far-flung teaching job, haven't taken a vacation in three years.

Retirement isn't in the cards for the 62-year-old Goethel - at least, not soon. "My wife is working far more than she used to," he said. "I have to work more to make less." The challenges climate change have brought to commercial fishing are perhaps most noticeable in New England's cod fishery, which has dwindled from more than 1,200 boats in the 1980s to only a few dozen today. In that time, the catch of cod has also plummeted, from more than 117 million pounds in 1980 to just over 5 million in 2014. Most consumers haven't noticed the collapse, with cod still readily available at restaurants and markets because of foreign sources like Iceland and Norway. Scientists said late last year that the impact of climate change on Atlantic cod might be worse than previously thought. Fishermen pursue the fish in the Gulf of Maine and, farther off New England, the shallows of Georges Bank, both of which have experienced dramatic temperature rise. Around 2004, the gulf began warming about 10 times faster than previously. — AP



## KENYA'S FLOWER SECTOR IS NOT ALL ROSES FOR MAASAI

**NAIVASHA:** The shores of Lake Naivasha in Kenya's Rift Valley are dotted with bustling shanty towns but it has not always been like this. The local economy has grown dramatically since the late 1980s when the first commercial flower farms were established in the area, around 90 km north west of Nairobi.

Today, the Lake Naivasha region is the country's biggest hub for floriculture, earning billions of Kenya shillings for farm owners, creating unprecedented job opportunities and drawing thousands of migrants from other parts of the country. According to the Kenyan Horticultural Crop Directorate (HCD), Kenyan growers exported 122,825 tons of cut flowers worth 62.9 billion Kenya shillings (\$620 million) in 2015. An estimated 500,000 people are employed by the industry, which generates 1.2 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

For Naivasha Maasai pastoralists, however, the push by big farming companies has not sparked opportunity but panic that their traditional semi-nomadic lifestyle could be at risk. In many parts of East Africa, governments are pushing for pastoralist communities to switch to settled farming with supporters saying such a move will create better food security, curb conflict between herders and farmers, and free up land.

Critics, however, say switching from pastoralism to settled farming could make communities less resilient to climate change. The growth of cut flower farms has intensified competition for dwindling grazing land and vanishing water supplies for the herdsman whose traditional grazing grounds between Lake Naivasha and Mount Longonot have shrunk as the industry has expanded. There are fears that further land acquisition in the area, which already accounts for around 70 percent of total floriculture production in Kenya, will erode their livelihoods.

### Not all roses

The cut flower companies say they have acquired land from communities and the government through a legitimate and transparent process. But the Naivasha Maasai community say some big farms neither consulted them nor paid compensation for land. "Land grabbing by elite individuals and encroachment of the lake by floriculture farms has dispossessed us of our ancestral territories thus denying us access to the lake by blockading access route to the only water source," Jackson Shaa, a community leader, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Community leaders say the privatization and subdivision of their ancestral lands threatens ancient pastoralist practices, endangering livestock production and ecological sustainability and eroding communal rights to land and natural resources. While they accept that floriculture and linked investments might stimulate economic growth in the region, they fear that reduced access to land will widen social inequalities and put their livelihoods at risk. "We have had talks with the Lake Naivasha growers' group on how to promote sustainable agricultural and pastoralist practices but we are yet to see meaningful results," Shaa said.

Losing their grazing land has also forced some Maasai to abandon their traditional livelihood to sustain their families. "We have a few of our members employed at these flower farms, but their wages are low compared with those of outsiders since they lack formal education," he said. "The community's cultural attachment to the lake's resources has not been considered in the establishment of these private investments."

### Law and custom

Formal land rights were strengthened in the new Constitution that was promulgated in 2010. These created a three tier system of land classification and ownership: private, public and community lands. However according to the Naivasha Maasai, their land rights remain insecure. "We want to see more reforms in land governance that would protect our land from further acquisition by these investors. We hope the Community Land bill 2015 which is yet to be passed by legislators could be expedited," says Shaa.

Proving community land claims is difficult under Kenyan law, he said, and this is how their tenure has been held traditionally. Jane Ngige, chief executive officer of the Kenya Flower Council, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation that the flower industry has always consulted with local communities. "We continue to engage with these communities through various groups such as the Lake Naivasha Growers Group (LNGG) and Lake Naivasha Riparian Association (LNRA) where the interest and concerns of these communities are taken care of," she said. — Reuters



**TOKYO:** This December 15, 2010 file picture shows Japanese businessmen walking on a Tokyo street. — AFP

# JAPAN'S SALARYMEN SEE POCKET MONEY COLLAPSE

## STRUGGLING TO GET BY ON MONTHLY ALLOWANCE

**TOKYO:** Japanese salarymen are struggling to get by on the monthly allowance they receive from their wives, which has fallen to its lowest level in decades, a survey showed. Despite frequently being the sole breadwinner, many Japanese husbands hand over their entire wage to the woman of the house, who often manages the family's bills and balances the books.

The nation's army of male office workers, known for their punishing work hours, now have just 37,873 yen (\$370) to play with a month, according to a survey by Tokyo-based Shinsei Bank. That is the third lowest in the lender's annual survey, published Wednesday. It is also way down from the heady days of the late 1980s and the early

### Tepid pay rises

1990s when the economy was booming and husbands enjoyed the high life with 77,725 yen a month, said the bank, which has surveyed men's allowances since 1979. A weak economy and tepid pay rises are forcing many households to target discretionary spending, including husbands' pocket money. To keep a lid on expenses, the average man budgets 587 yen for lunch every day, data from some 1,000 men aged between their 20s and their 50s showed.

Monthly costs for after-work drinks—often almost compulsory bonding sessions with their colleagues—come in

around 11,765 yen, up 50 yen from last year. Japan has suffered years of deflation that have seen prices stagnate or fall. This means that the same amount of money buys more today than it did in the early 1990s. Falling prices may sound good for shoppers but it tends

to hurt the economy as consumers put off spending to get goods cheaper down the road. Japan's prime minister Shinzo Abe swept to power in late 2012 on a pledge to beat the deflationary spiral but the plan, dubbed Abenomics, has faltered. — AFP

## ARRESTS IN BOLIVIA WORKERS' PROTESTS

**LA PAZ:** Clashes between police and factory workers in Bolivia on Wednesday resulted in dozens of injuries and arrests during protests against policies under President Evo Morales, various sources reported. The incidents took place in the city of Cochabamba, 400 kilometers east of La Paz, where police used tear gas to clear a major road demonstrators had blocked.

Four policemen were injured when protesters threw stones at them, Interior Minister Carlos Romero told a news conference. Union leader Angel Camacho told reporters separately that more than 60 demonstrators were arrested and several wounded by "these cowardly policemen". Elsewhere

on Wednesday, protesters organized street marches and roadblocks in six of the country's nine regions during the beginning of a three-day strike led by the Provincial Workers Central (COB) union, the country's largest.

Previously allied to Morales, the COB was protesting the closure of a state textile factory along with laws changing standards for public enterprises, pensions and officials' rights. The workers in Cochabamba began their protests last week with marches and roadblocks. Several of the COB's chapters are demanding the annulment of a political agreement the union signed with Morales's government in 2013, arguing that their appeals are not being heard. — AFP



ATLANTA: Tyler Naquin #30 of the Cleveland Indians dives back to first base against Freddie Freeman #5 of the Atlanta Braves during the third inning at Turner Field on Wednesday in Atlanta, Georgia. — AFP

## INDIANS BEAT BRAVES FOR 12TH STRAIGHT WIN

**ATLANTA:** The Cleveland Indians are one win away from tying their all-time record for consecutive victories. Danny Salazar won his sixth consecutive start and Lonnie Chisenhall hit his third homer in five games as the Indians made it 12 in a row with a 3-0 victory over the Atlanta Braves. The Indians' record winning streak is 13 games, first set in 1942 and matched in 1951. Salazar (10-3) allowed five hits, walked none and struck out eight over seven innings while lowering his ERA to 2.22 — second in the American League.

### CUBS 9, REDS 2

Anthony Rizzo belted his first career inside-the-park home run in the first inning and Kyle Hendricks allowed two runs over six frames as the Chicago Cubs completed the sweep of the Cincinnati Reds with a 9-2 victory. Rizzo hit a liner to left-center field that caromed off the glove of left fielder Adam Duvall and rolled to the warning track. Rizzo raced around the bases to stake the Cubs to an early 3-0 lead. Reds center fielder Billy Hamilton, who nearly collided with Duvall on the play, was struck on the left side of his face by the ball and had to leave the game.

### TIGERS 10, MARLINS 3

Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in three runs and Daniel Norris struck out a career-high eight batters as Detroit cruised past Miami. Cabrera and Jarrod Saltamacchia, who also homered, had three hits apiece for the Tigers. Steven Moya added a solo shot, Victor Martinez had two hits and two RBIs and Ian Kinsler contributed two hits and three runs scored. Norris (1-0), making his second start of the season, gave up two runs on eight hits in five innings.

### BLUE JAYS 5, ROCKIES 3

Toronto starter Aaron Sanchez gave nearly all the Blue Jays' relievers the afternoon off as he dazzled the Colorado Rockies. Sanchez worked a season-high-tying eight innings as the Blue Jays beat the Rockies 5-3. Sanchez (8-1) got 14 outs on ground balls, including

two double plays. The Rockies managed just six singles off Sanchez, who issued two walks and recorded three strikeouts during his 106-pitch outing.

### Orioles 12, Padres 6

Yovani Gallardo's solid pitching enabled the Baltimore Orioles to record their seventh straight win with a 12-6 victory over the host San Diego Padres. Gallardo (3-1) allowed three runs on as many hits and struck out six in six innings to pick up the victory. Mark Trumbo paced the Orioles with four RBIs and Manny Machado added three in the Orioles' 12-hit attack.

### RAYS 4, RED SOX 0

Tampa Bay starter Matt Moore took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and pitched seven shutout innings, outdueling former teammate David Price. Price (8-5) has just one win in his last seven starts, and he is now 0-3 as a visitor since being dealt from the Rays two years ago.

### ASTROS 10, ANGELS 4

Jose Altuve was a homer short of the cycle, and the Houston Astros completed a three-game sweep of the Los Angeles Angels with a 10-4 win. Altuve, who has an 11-game hitting streak, singled in the first inning, tripled in the third and doubled in the fifth. With a chance for the cycle in the sixth, he lined out to left. Then in the ninth, he singled to left for his fourth hit. George Springer and Luis Valbuena homered for Houston, which got a serviceable performance on the mound from starter Dallas Keuchel (5-9), who gave up three runs (two earned) on six hits and three walks to get the win.

### PHILLIES 9, DIAMONDBACKS 8 (10 INNINGS)

Philadelphia pinch-hitter Tyler Goeddel hit a tie-breaking sacrifice fly in the 10th inning as the Phillies completed a 9-8 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks. Peter Bourjos beat out an infield single to shortstop with one out off right-hander Silvino Bracho (0-2),

and Cody Asche singled Bourjos to third base to bring up Goeddel. Left-hander Brett Oberholtzer, the Phillies' seventh pitcher, worked around a one-out bunt single by Michael Bourn in the bottom of the 10th inning for his first career save.

### YANKEES 9, RANGERS 7

Brian McCann homered in consecutive at-bats and Didi Gregorius hit a two-run home run with one out in the bottom of the ninth as New York rallied from a five-run deficit to defeat Texas. After Alex Rodriguez lined out, McCann drove a 1-0 pitch from Sam Dyson into the right-field seats. Starlin Castro followed with a walk and Gregorius ended it by lining the first pitch from Dyson into the right-center field into the right-field seats. It was Gregorius' first career walk-off home run and touched off a wild celebration at the plate.

### NATIONALS 4, METS 2

Max Scherzer allowed just two hits and no runs with 10 strikeouts in 7-1/3 innings and Dan Murphy hit two homers as the Nationals beat the Mets 4-2, sweeping the three-game series against the defending National League champions. Murphy hit a solo shot in the second and a two-run homer in the eighth to lift his average to .352 as he tied a career-high with 14 homers this year.

### BREWERS 7, DODGERS 0

Home runs from Ryan Braun and Kirk Nieuwenhuis and a career-high eight shutout innings from right-hander Junior Guerra led the Milwaukee Brewers to a 7-0 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers. Guerra (5-1) earned his second consecutive victory by holding the Dodgers to just two hits and two walks while striking out seven. Braun's home run was his 13th of the season and extended his hitting streak to 10 games while Nieuwenhuis' hit his fifth.

### WHITE SOX 9, TWINS 6

Brett Lawrie, Tyler Saladino and Todd Frazier all homered and James Shields picked

up his first win for the Chicago White Sox in a 9-6 victory over the Minnesota Twins. Saladino homered in the fifth inning before Frazier followed up with his solo shot in the sixth to give Shields some room to work with. Shields (3-9) notched his first victory for the White Sox after he surrendered a leadoff home run to Eduardo Nunez, but then settled in to work 6-2/3 innings when he scattered eight hits, struck out five and walked one.

### ROYALS 3, CARDINALS 2 (12 INNINGS)

Alcides Escobar's one-out RBI double in the top of the 12th inning lifted the Kansas City Royals to a 3-2 win over the St. Louis Cardinals. Whit Merrifield started the rally with a double off Seth Maness (0-2), St. Louis' eighth pitcher of the game, and advanced to third on a wild pitch. Escobar lined a 3-1 pitch down the right field line just in front of a diving Stephen Piscotty as Merrifield scored. Wang Chien-Ming (5-0) pitched the last two innings for the win as Kansas City (41-36) won despite stranding 19 runners.

### ATHLETICS 7, GIANTS 1

Jed Lowrie and Yonder Alonso hit two-run homers, and rookie left-hander Sean Manaea pitched 5-2/3 scoreless innings, leading Oakland to a 7-1 victory against the San Francisco Giants. Manaea (3-4) had been on the disabled list since June 14 with a strained left forearm before being activated on Wednesday to make his 10th career start. He gave up six hits, struck out four and walked one.

### PIRATES 8, MARINERS 1

The Pittsburgh Pirates rolled out to a big early lead and rode rookie starter Jameson Taillon to an 8-1 win over the Seattle Mariners. The 24-year-old Taillon (2-1) allowed just one run off six hits over six innings in his fifth major league start. Pirates right fielder Sean Rodriguez had two doubles, four RBIs and scored twice as Pittsburgh (38-41) jumped out to an 8-0 lead through the top of the fifth inning. —Reuters



**DUNELLEN:** In this June 18, 2016 photo, Kanak Jha, right, talks with a friend from school before playing in an exhibition table tennis match in Dunellen, NJ. Gordon Kaye, CEO of the USA Table Tennis, says it's rare to find a young player "of his caliber that is so aware and comfortable within his surroundings." — AP



**MILPITAS:** Members of the US Olympic table tennis team applaud as Kanak Jha, of Milpitas, Calif., holds a baseball before throwing out a ceremonial first pitch on his 16th birthday prior to the start of a baseball game between the Atlanta Braves and the New York Mets, Sunday, June 19, 2016, in New York. —AP

## CALIFORNIAN YOUNGEST TABLE TENNIS PLAYER IN RIO

**NEW YORK:** Kanak Jha is having quite a year. He spent nine months playing professional table tennis in Europe, threw out the first pitch at a New York Mets game on his birthday and qualified for the Rio Olympics.

And get this: He's only 16.

"I'm happy that I'm the youngest, but I don't think about it so much," said Jha, who in April, when he was still 15, became the youngest male to qualify for table tennis in Olympic history. "In the end, it's just men."

If he sounds mature for his age, he comes across that way. Jha's competitive during a match, but easygoing away from the table. He recently trained at the Lily Yip Table Tennis Center in the New York area with his five Olympic teammates and signed autographs for fans. "He has a good fighting spirit," said US Olympic coach Massimo Costantini. "Sometimes at that age, they get upset and are not mature. We're working on the mental side to make him stronger. A simple mistake can compromise the entire match."

"You need a strong mental balance," Costantini said. "It's not just managing success, but failure." Yip, who competed for the US in table tennis at the 1992 Barcelona and 1996 Atlanta Games, is one of the national team coaches. She hosted the current Olympic team, which wrapped up three days of practice with an exhibition and fundraiser at her club in Dunellen, New Jersey.

During the exhibition match, Jha started his serve by holding the ball and paddle a few inches from his nose, then tossing the ball 4 feet into the air before making contact. After the point, he wiped the table with his hand, a common players' habit before serving.

Although he lost the match to an older and higher-rated Chinese player, Jha drew warm applause from the mostly Asian audience.

### RARE YOUNG FIND

Gordon Kaye, CEO of the USA Table Tennis, says it's rare to find a young player "of his caliber that is so aware and comfortable within his surroundings." It's certainly not your basement pingpong, with quick best-of-7 singles matches played to 11 points. There are different styles - defensive "choppers" or offensive "loopers," who play a more aggressive game.

The Chinese men and women are the best in the world, winning Olympic gold with regularity. Since the 1988 Olympics, China has won 47 medals, followed by South Korea (18) and Germany (5). The US has never medaled in the sport, which offers singles and team competition. Gold-medalist Jike Zhang will return to defend his title in Rio, where compe-

tion begins Aug. 6. So why are the Chinese so good, aside from their devotion to the sport and its prominence in the culture? "They're very strong, especially in the first three shots of the rally - serve, receive and third-ball attack," Jha said. "They really dominate the rally." Yue "Jennifer" Wu, like Yip, was born in China before becoming an American citizen. She moved from Beijing to New York eight years ago and improved her English by coaching at the club run by Wang Chen, a US Olympian in the 2008 Games.

The 26-year-old gives lessons in New York at Spin, a table tennis club and restaurant co-owned by Susan Sarandon. Wu recently went home to Beijing and Japan to train and played tournaments in Croatia and Slovenia.

"Table tennis in China is like the NBA here, everybody plays," Wu said. "My mom plays three times a week and people love to watch."

### BIG DREAM

She ate no meat for a month while in Beijing, saying her concerns about banned steroids given to cattle trump those of the Zika virus in Rio. Wise decision, because drug testers arrived at 6:40 a.m. when she returned home in Fort Lee, New Jersey.

Wu said it was a "big dream" to make the Olympics since she was 8 years old. She was quiet on the bus after qualifying for the Rio Olympics at the Pan Am Games last year because it's "hard to make Olympics, you work so very hard." Jha, who took up the sport at 5 at a recreation center near San Jose, California, lived in Sweden with his 19-year-old sister Prachi, who played on the national team but didn't qualify for Rio. He took online courses during his sophomore year in high school. "There's a consistent training system," Constantini said of the European circuit. "A coach, trainer, physiotherapist. It's something you can't find in the US."

Jha's parents are from India, and he was born in the US. His father Arun came to America to study business and works at Oracle. His mother Karuna worked at Sun Microsystems before starting her own hypnotherapy and reiki business.

"She feels my energy," Kanak said of the reiki treatments. Kanak uses positive imagery and self-talk before and during matches.

"It's kind of a ritual," he said. "I just keep reviewing strategy and say some motivational things to myself. I talk (silently) to myself a lot. More than other athletes." The personal pep talks and affirmations seem to be working. Even so, his mom says she was "so nervous watching" the Olympic qualifying event in



**DUNELLEN:** photo, Kanak Jha serves the ball during an exhibition match in Dunellen, NJ. The 16-year-old qualified for the Olympic games in Rio as the youngest male table tennis player in Olympic history. — AP

April in Markham, Ontario. Jha says he's looking forward to the athletes' village and mingling with players from all over the world. "It's

a great opportunity at this young age to see how the Olympics works," Constantini said. "He will be ready by 2020." —AP

## MAJORITY OF ATHLETES ARE CLEAN - BOLT

**NEW DELHI:** Sprint king Usain Bolt has praised efforts by athletics chiefs to clamp down on doping in the build-up to August's Olympic Games, saying that "most athletes are clean". In an interview in today's Times of India, the Jamaican was confident of adding to his bulging medal collection in Rio and shrugged off the vow by one of his main rivals, the American Justin Gatlin, to win gold. Gatlin is being allowed to compete in Rio despite having served two doping bans while Bolt could also find himself up against former world champion Tyson Gay who was suspended for doping in 2013.

The decision to bar Russian athletes from the Rio games for their country's state-sponsored doping has underlined the scale of the problem facing the sport but Bolt said he believed the battle against the cheats was being won. "I believe the

majority of athletes are clean and athletics is doing a good job at catching the ones who aren't," Bolt told the newspaper. "The sport has to continue to fight the cheats." Bolt has himself been caught up in a doping controversy recently after teammate Nesta Carter reportedly tested positive for a banned stimulant during their gold-winning relay run at the 2008 games in Beijing. The 29-year-old Bolt is eyeing history at Rio where he will attempt to become the first man ever to win gold in the 100, 200 and 4x100m events in three straight Olympics.

"I have my goals and will try to achieve those goals in Rio. My main aim is winning three more Olympic gold medals. I can still run very fast," said Bolt.

"I never listen to what people say before a race. I focus on myself and know that if I am fit and healthy in Rio, I will be hard for anyone to beat." — AFP

## S KOREA TO COOPERATE WITH PARK APPEAL AGAINST RIO BAN

**SEOUL:** South Korea's Olympic committee said yesterday it would fully cooperate with the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) after swim star Park Tae-Hwan appealed against his Rio ban over doping.

But a spokesman declined to say whether the committee would abide by any CAS ruling on Park's case.

The multiple Olympic medallist has sought "an urgent ruling" from the Lausanne-based CAS by July 8 — the deadline for South Korea to select their Rio swimming team.

Park completed an 18-month suspen-

sion in April after testing positive for an anabolic steroid in out-of-competition controls before the 2014 Asian Games. But he remains barred from competing in Rio under a Korean Olympic Committee (KOC) rule which prohibits athletes from representing South Korea for three years after the expiration of any doping ban.

"Once the CAS begins its review, representatives for Park Tae-Hwan and the KOC will have to appear," a KOC spokesman told AFP. "When we receive a message about that, we will cooperate fully and accordingly," he said.

Should Park's appeal be upheld, the

spokesman was non-committal on what action the KOC would take. "We will first have to see the final ruling by the CAS and then decide on the necessary steps," he stressed.

The CAS does not have the power to force national sports bodies to follow its decisions, although court officials report compliance with about 90 percent of rulings.

Park's legal team argues that the KOC regulation is unfairly punitive and has pre-emptively sought an injunction from a district court in Seoul to make any CAS ruling binding on the national commit-

tee. Park has repeatedly begged for a chance to compete in what would be his third, and probably last, Olympics at one point getting down on his hands and knees during a press conference.

The 26-year-old was the poster boy of South Korean swimming-courted by advertisers and idolised by fans-before his positive test was revealed in January last year.

He won 400m freestyle gold and 200m freestyle silver at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and two silver medals at the 2012 London Olympics, as well as 400m world titles in 2007 and 2011. — AFP



**OMAHA:** Larry, a goldendoodle, waits for athletes to arrive while working as a therapy dog at the US Olympic swimming trials in Omaha, Neb., Wednesday. — AP

## US SWIMMERS USING THERAPY DOGS TO RELAX BEFORE RACES

**OMAHA:** Kacey Oberlander is missing her dogs back home, and she's more than a little stressed competing in the high-pressure environment at the US Olympic swimming trials.

That's where Holly comes in. The adorable, 4-year-old Havanese is available for petting and furry hugs. "It just calms me down a lot," said Oberlander, who swims for York YMCA in Pennsylvania and will be attending the University of Alabama in the fall. "It's nice to see the happy puppy dogs running around when everything is so intense and everyone's so serious. The dogs are very happy all the time. It makes me calm."

Yep, these Olympic trials have gone to the dogs - and the athletes are loving it. USA Swimming, in an effort to ease some of the anxiety accompanying such a major meet, has partnered with Domesti-PUPS - a nonprofit organization based in Lincoln, Nebraska, that is providing four-legged companions for the athletes lounge at CenturyLink Center.

In a section of the arena that is generally off-limits to everyone except the swimmers, dogs such as Holly and Larry, a Goldendoodle who will readily pose for a picture or pause for a pat on the head, have been welcomed with open arms.

If anyone doubts their purpose, each pooch wears a collar that says, "Please ask to pet me. I'm friendly." "There's a lot of pressure," said Leah Braswell, a teammate of Oberlander's. "Having the dogs here is a great distraction, a way to take a break from all of that. They're happy all the time. It just makes you happier. You can forget about whatever race you just had."

Given their gentle, soothing nature, "therapy dogs" have become more and more familiar around hospitals, retirement homes, hospice centers and disaster areas. They've provided comfort to veterans and those suffering from autism. They've even done time in prisons, nudging inmates along the road to rehabilitation.

There's no judgment from these animals. Fido merely wants to love and be

loved. For someone in pain or anguish, they can be an invaluable companion.

At the Olympic trials, their role is a bit different. But it's really in keeping with the extensive training that Domesti-PUPS puts its animals through before sending them out into the world.

"Anywhere there's an elevated level of stress, we can take our dogs and try to de-stress them," said Sandy Ludwig, who works with the organization. "These dogs are just lying there, waiting to have their bellies rubbed or their ears scratched."

That's what Morgan Weinberg had in mind for the trials, an all-or-nothing meet that not only determines the powerful American team for the Rio Games, but also serves as a chance for many up-and-coming athletes to get their taste of a big-league atmosphere.

There are more than 1,700 swimmers in Omaha, most of whom have no chance of qualifying for the Olympics. Yet the burden of competing weighs on all of them to some degree. — AP

## FOR PHELPS, 5TH OLYMPICS MAY MEAN THE MOST YET

**OMAHA:** Michael Phelps surged to the wall, and then whipped around to spot his time.

That number wasn't really important.

The only thing that mattered was No. 5.

Phelps became the first male swimmer to qualify for five Olympics with a victory in the 200-meter butterfly at the US swimming trials Wednesday night, another huge milestone in the water but even more significant given what's happened away from the pool.

A second drunken-driving arrest. A re-evaluation of his life. An impending marriage. And his first child. With 7-week-old Boomer in the arms of his mother at the CenturyLink Center, Phelps cruised to a victory that meant as much personally as all those triumphs that came before. The most decorated athlete in Olympic history is Rio bound.

"With everything that's happened and being able to come back, that was probably harder than any swim I've had in my life," Phelps said. "Just being able to finish how I want to is so important to me. Getting on this team is what I wanted to do." He wasn't the only one feeling a bit of redemption.

Missy Franklin turned in one of the gutsiest performances of her career to earn a spot for Rio in the 200 freestyle. One night after she struggled to seventh in the 100 backstroke - an event she won four years ago in London - there was plenty of speculation that she'd be hard-pressed to qualify for any individual events at these games.

Franklin herself sounded as though she'd be happy just getting on the team as a relay swimmer.

### STIFF CHALLENGE

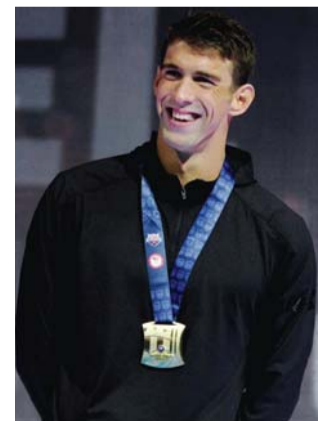
Turns out, she'll be busier than that in Brazil. While Katie Ledecky romped to victory in the 200 free, earning a second individual event at the Olympics, Franklin rallied over the second half of the race to claim the runner-up spot. Franklin's coach, Todd Schmitz, pumped his fists and charged down the steps of the arena to congratulate his bubbly swimmer, one of the biggest stars of the London Games.

She finally had reason to smile. "Last night was really tough and coming back from that, I was telling myself, 'I'm not done fighting. I'm not done with believing in myself,'" Franklin said. "That's probably the most proud race I've ever swam in my entire career, coming back from such a loss last night and telling myself that I still have it in me to do whatever I believe I can do."

Phelps held off a stiff challenge from Tom Shields to win the 200 fly - the first event Phelps ever swam at the Olympics, 16 years ago in Sydney.

One day before his 31st birthday, Phelps came full circle in the race he's always considered his baby.

Phelps touched in 1:54.84 - far off the world record of 1:51.51 he set at the 2009 world championships while wearing one of the high-tech suits that have since been banned. — AP



**Michael Phelps**

## SHASTRI IN SPAT WITH GANGULY AFTER INDIA COACHING SNUB

**MUMBAI:** Denied another stint as India's head coach, Ravi Shastri has been embroiled in an ugly spat with former captain Sourav Ganguly, who was part of the panel which awarded the job to Anil Kumble last week.

The coach's post was vacant since Shastri's 18-month tenure as the team director ended with India's semi-final exit at the World Twenty20 tournament on home soil earlier this year.

For the post, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) received 57 applications which were made available to an advisory panel that included ex-captains Sachin Tendulkar and Ganguly and former batsman VVS Laxman.

The panel met the final contenders, includ-

ing Shastri who spoke via skype, before Kumble, a contemporary of the ex-cricketers on the panel, landed the job despite his lack of coaching experience.

Shastri told the Indian media that Ganguly's absence during his interview was disrespectful and he advised the former captain to be present at important meetings in the future. Ganguly, one of the most successful Indian captains, said he had taken the BCCI's approval to attend a meeting of his state cricket association, of which he is the president. "I just feel that the comments are very personal and if Ravi Shastri feels that I am responsible for him not being the coach of India, he's living in a fool's world," Ganguly

told television reporters in Kolkata.

"It's a committee and there are people in the committee who are of more repute than I am and there are other people involved also who were consulted and spoken about. So that's disappointing." Ganguly said the panel had agreed his request to resume the interview after completing the association's meeting. "Once I came here to this meeting, I got a message from (BCCI secretary) Mr (Ajay) Shirke that the other two members are requesting if they could continue with Ravi, which I was fine with.

"I said 'fine, I know I have been stuck with this and you please go ahead and do it'. That happens everywhere in the world and that's

the exact story." Ganguly said Shastri should also have made the effort to be present in person during his interview.

"Since he's spoken about disrespect, and honestly I say this with anger, that he gave me a suggestion that in the future that I should be available for such meetings," Ganguly said. "I have an advice for him also. When the coach of India is selected, and it's one of the most important jobs in cricket, he should be in front of the committee giving his presentation and not sit in Bangkok on holiday and make a presentation on camera, especially when someone, who is one of the greatest cricketers of India all time (Anil Kumble), spoke for two hours nearly." — Reuters



Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Abdallah Al-Sabah

## ITF TO HONOUR KUWAIT'S MOHAMMAD AL-GHAREEB

**KUWAIT:** The International Tennis Federation will honor Kuwaiti Tennis player Mohammad Al-Ghareeb during Kuwait - Malaysia Davis Cup matches on July 15-17, said the President of Kuwait and Arab Tennis Federations Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Abdallah Al-Sabah. He said this honoring by ITF of Al-Ghareeb is an appreciation of his representing his country in Davis Cup for the past 20 years, adding that he will be the first Kuwait, Gulf, and Arab player who receives such an honor from ITF.

Sheikh Ahmad wished Kuwait National team all the best during their matches with their Malaysian counterparts in the middle of the month.

Sheikh Ahmad thanked the Public Authority for Sports for its full patronage of all KTF activities in Kuwait and abroad.



Mohammad Al-Ghareeb (left)

## ROY'S STUNNING KNOCK POWERS ENGLAND TO WIN

**LONDON:** Jason Roy fell five runs short of setting a new batting record but his superb 162 still helped England win the fourth ODI against Sri Lanka and take an unassailable 2-0 series lead on Wednesday.

Surrey's South African-born opener took centre stage on his home county ground and hammered the second highest individual one-day score by an England batsman.

His fireworks lit up the gloomy, rain-filled South London skies to ensure England captured the series at The Oval. His second hundred in three ODI games, 162 runs off 118 including 13 fours and three sixes, helped England clinch a six wicket win with overs to spare as they chased down their revised victory target of 308 with ease. And they clinched the series 2-0 with just one game left in Cardiff on Saturday.

It was England's second highest successful one-day run chase - and they did it in 42 overs.

Sadly for Roy he fell just five runs short of overtaking the highest score by an England batsman with another Robin Smith's 167 not out against Australia at Edgbaston in 1993 still holding firm.

He was bowled by Nuwan Pradeep with England in sight of the finishing line. Jonny Bairstow and Jos Buttler saw them home with 11 balls remaining. At Edgbaston, Roy was accompanied by fellow opener Alex Hales who also made an unbeaten ton in that match.

But this time he was helped mainly by Joe Root, whose 65 showed a return to form for the Yorkshireman who had struggled recently and had gone six games with just one score over 11.

But if Root had his mojo back, Roy merely continued in the kind of vain which has made him one of the world's most destructive and stylish one-day performers. A back injury to Alex Hales during Sri Lanka's innings of 305-5 off a reduced number of overs due to the rain meant Moeen Ali had to open with Roy instead.

SCOREBOARD			
<b>LONDON:</b> Completed scoreboard in the fourth ODI between England and Sri Lanka at The Oval on Wednesday:			
<b>Sri Lanka</b>		<b>England</b>	
K. Perera run out (Bairstow)	1	J. Roy b Pradeep	162
D. Gunathilaka c Ali b Rashid	2	M Ali c Chandimal b Pradeep	2
K. Mendis c Plunkett b Rashid	77	J Root c Pradeep b Gunathilaka	65
D Chandimal b Willey	63	E Morgan c Gunathilaka b Lakmal	22
A Matthews not out	67	J Bairstow not out	29
S Prasanna b Willey	9	J Buttler not out	17
D Shanaka not out	19	Extras (5lb, 7w)	12
Extras (2lb, 5w)	7	Total:(4 wkts, 40.1 overs)	309
Total (5 wkts, 42overs)	305	Did not bat: A. Hales, A Rashid, C Woakes, D Willey, L Plunkett.	
Did not bat: U. Tharanga, N Pradeep, F Maharoo, R Lakmal.		Fall of wickets: 1-18 (Ali) 2-167 (Root) 3-221 (Morgan) 4-281 (Roy)	
Fall of wickets: 1-8 (Perera), 2-136 (Mendis), 3-158 (Gunathilaka), 4-245 (Chandimal), 5-259 (Prasanna),		Bowling: Pradeep (9-0-78-2), Lakmal (7-0-48-1), Gunathilaka (5-0-30-1), Matthews (3-0-17-0), Maharoo (8-0-58-0), Shanaka (1-0-12-0), Prasanna (7.1-0-61-0). —AFP	
Bowling: Willey 8-0-58-2; Woakes 9-65-0; Plunkett 8-0-65-0; Rashid 9-0-57-2; Ali 8-0-58-0.			
*England revised victory target 308 (D/L)			

### PARTNERSHIP ENDS

But Roy shrugged off the early loss of Ali, for just two, and the batsman cut and carved the Sri Lankan attack apart. England raced out the blocks needing more than seven an over, and Roy ensured they were always up with the required rate the skies still dark and threatening to rain once more.

Root departed, a lazy top edged sweep saw him caught by Nuwan Pradeep off Danushka Gunathilaka, and his 149-run second wicket partnership with Roy came to a sad end.

Morgan looked well set until he was superbly caught by the diving Gunathilaka for 22 off Suranga Lakmal with England on 221. Roy was joined by Jonny Bairstow and reached 150 but was kicking himself when he was bowled by Pradeep with England so close to the finishing line. Earlier, Sri Lanka had produced their best batting display of the series so far with four men hitting half centuries.

The tourists recovered from losing opener Kusal Perera in the second

over, run out by Jonny Bairstow for just a single, to give England's attack the run around.

Morgan chose to field first and he may have been regretting it for a while as Gunathilaka and Kusal Mendis put on 128 for the second wicket off just 111 balls. Mendis was struck 13 boundaries in his 77 while Gunathilaka was also aggressive with seven fours in his 62.

The persistent rain finally came down hard enough to force the players from the field for a two and a half hour delay with Sri Lanka on 127-1 from 18.1 overs at the time.

England fought back with Adil Rashid claiming the wickets of Mendis (77) and Gunathilaka (62) but England still had to deal with the in-form Chandimal (63) and his captain Angelo Matthews (67 not out) who picked up the gauntlet and helped Sri Lanka amass 305-5 from 42 overs.

England's target was revised up by just three runs but with Roy building up a full head of steam they cruised home comfortably. — AFP

## SLEEP, SUE, SING-WIMBLEDON WHEN IT RAINS

**LONDON:** Gilles Simon threatened to sue, Eugenie Bouchard bopped along to Beyonce while John Isner steadily became very bored playing mini-golf.

When it rains at Wimbledon, which it has been doing for large parts of the first week at a soggy All England Club, players are driven to distraction. Volatile Frenchman Simon was in combative mood when light drizzle fell during his second round match against Grigor Dimitrov on Court One yesterday.

He even briefly refused to play on. "I won't play when it rains. I know you have commitments to TV but if I get injured I

will sue you and I will win," Simon told the umpire before the brief shower passed on.

Play was halted at 4:00pm (1500 GMT) on Tuesday while just 90 minutes of action had been possible on courts away from the covered Centre Court on Wednesday. That meant only 18 of the scheduled 62 singles matches were completed leaving the first round to drag on until yesterday.

Organisers had to pay out refunds of between 50 percent and 100 percent on Wednesday's open court tickets. At 1:00pm (1200 GMT) yesterday, Barbora Strycova saw off Anett Kontaveit and the

opening round, usually wrapped up on Tuesday, finally came to an end.

Isner started his first round match against Marcos Baghdatis on Tuesday and completed a 7-6 (7/2), 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 almost 48 hours later. It was one of six men's opening round ties that only finished Thursday.

Four first round women's ties started yesterday morning. "The long days in the locker room the last two days were just brutal. You can only play so much putt?putt in the locker room with your friends," said Isner.

The big American, like many other

players, has become accustomed to the European rain this summer.

At the French Open, his first round was scheduled for the opening Sunday but he didn't get finished until Tuesday.

### BOUCHARD ON THE COUCH

Bouchard, the 2014 runner-up, needed to play on Tuesday and Wednesday to defeat Magdalena Rybarikova in the first round. Her match was completed in the late evening of Wednesday under the roof of Centre Court and the Canadian was due back on the same arena on Thursday to face Britain's Jo Konta. — AFP



**WIMBLEDON:** Britain's Daniel Evans celebrates beating Ukraine's Alexandr Dolgoplov in their men's singles second round match on the fourth day of the 2016 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, yesterday. — AFP

## DANIEL EVANS NEXT BRITISH UNDERDOG TO FACE FEDERER

**LONDON:** Daniel Evans insists he doesn't want to be reduced to a figure of fun when he follows in Marcus Willis's footsteps against Wimbledon legend Roger Federer.

After world number 772 Willis became an overnight sensation with his run through qualifying to a memorable second round defeat against Federer this week, it's Evans' turn to take on the Swiss star following a 7-6 (8/6), 6-4, 6-1 victory against Ukrainian 30th seed Alexandr Dolgoplov yesterday. Evans, until now known mostly for landing himself in trouble with his off-court antics, will be playing in the All England Club third round for the first time when he faces seven-time Wimbledon champion Federer. But unlike the permanently grinning Willis, who performed gamely but at times resembled a fan who had somehow found his way onto Centre Court, Evans is treating his opportunity with the utmost seriousness. "It's not a day out for me. It's a good opportunity. It's not a Lord Mayor's show, whatever. I'm taking it seriously," Evans said. "He's not a normal guy obviously. It would be stupid to say it's

not a special occasion to play him.

"I just have to prepare myself best and try and put that to the back of my head. "It's going to be a great experience. Hopefully an even better one than most people think." Evans had beaten Jan-Lennard Struff on Monday to continue a fine year in which he has risen more than 650 places to number 91 in the world rankings.

### RENAISSANCE

It was Evans' first win in four attempts at Wimbledon after claiming seven years ago he would be stacking supermarket shelves if he had not cracked it by 25.

That depressing career path appeared to be looming large when, ranked outside the top 700, he was reduced to entering pre-qualifying in an unsuccessful bid to make the Wimbledon main draw last year. But, now 25, Evans is finally showing signs of maturing enough to fulfil his potential.

"When I was a bit younger, I don't think I was ready to play professional tennis. I would say I wasn't ready for that commitment of day in, day out," he said.

"I let a lot of people down. It was difficult to keep letting those guys down, seeing them disappointed in what I'd been doing. "Gradually sort of got the message through. But it took a few knocks at the door. It's a grind at times. Now I'm enjoying it."

Key to Evans' renaissance is British Davis Cup captain Leon Smith, who once joked he would have to electronically tag Evans to ensure he didn't disappear for wild nights out.

"I owe a lot to Leon. He's always shown good strength of character to back me when a lot of people would have thrown me away," Evans said. Asked if he will seek advice from Willis on how to face Federer for the first time, Evans took the opportunity for a friendly jibe at his close friend. "Are you kidding me? I don't get a word out of him. He's a celebrity now," he laughed.

"I still can't believe he actually qualified and won a round. "I'd be hard pushed to find someone that resents him right now. Everyone is so happy for him. He should be dining out on it for a while." — AFP

## VENUS KEEPS HER WITS ABOUT HER TO DOWN GREEK QUALIFIER

**LONDON:** A time violation warning, a few spots of rain and the thunderous groundstrokes of her rival could not throw Venus Williams off her long-limbed stride as she reached the Wimbledon third round with a 7-5 4-6 6-3 win over Greek qualifier Maria Sakkari yesterday.

Playing an opponent who was not even aged three when she won the first of her seven grand slam titles at Wimbledon in 2000, Williams proved that it would take more than mere determination to topple the American eighth seed.

Barring a loss to an unranked Kim Clijsters at the 2009 US Open, Williams had not lost to a player ranked outside the world's top 100 at a grand slam this century.

World number 115 Sakkari's hopes of ending that run gathered momentum when she broke the 36-year-old three times in the second set.

But Williams, who dropped her serve in the seventh game of the first set after incurring a time violation warning for switching rackets, was back into her groove in the third set and set up a meeting with Russian Daria Kasatkina.

Meanwhile, a clinical Simona Halep wasted no time in reaching the third round at Wimbledon yesterday, cruising past Italian veteran Francesca Schiavone 6-1 6-1 in just over an hour.

Showing glimpses of the form that took her to an All England Club semi-final in 2014 and to world number two last year, the fifth-seeded Romanian had too much power and court craft for her 111th-ranked opponent.

Halep controlled much of the play with pinpoint groundstrokes, dominating the baseline rallies and often finding winning passing shots when her 36-year-old opponent varied her game by coming to the net.

Troubled in recent months by an Achilles injury that forced her withdrawal from the Birmingham event in mid-June, Halep was playing only her second grasscourt match of the season.

Her record at Wimbledon remains mixed. With the exception of 2014, she has previously got no further than the second round in four attempts. Halep next faces 26th-ranked Kiki Bertens, who this month became the first Dutchwoman in almost half a century to reach the French Open semi-finals. — Reuters



**LONDON:** Simona Halep of Romania returns to Francesca Schiavone of Italy during their women's singles match on day four of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, yesterday. — AP

## MARADONA URGES ARGENTINES TO LEAVE MESSI ALONE

**BUENOS AIRES:** Soccer great Diego Maradona is urging fellow Argentines to leave Lionel Messi alone over the current star's decision to retire from Argentina's national team following its loss to Chile in the Copa America championship match.

In an interview on La Red radio, Maradona also ridiculed people who have criticized Messi for missing his shot as Chile won a penalty shootout to take the title, questioning those who find fault with a soccer star's play "without ever having touched a ball."

Despite Argentina's loss, "I consider Messi a winner," said Maradona, who led

Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup. Although he earlier joined in the chorus of Argentines calling on Messi to stay with the national squad, Maradona toned that down Wednesday.

"Let's let Messi have his holidays," he said. "From now on we have to build a unified idea and if Messi says 'I don't want more,' we will have to present another team." Maradona criticized the Argentine Football Association, whose national team hasn't won a major title since the Copa America tournament in 1993. "We must have done something wrong because the AFA is the way it is.

Argentine soccer is how it is, and we will be paying for it," he said.

Illustrating his dim view of the current national team, Maradona confirmed the authenticity of a leaked WhatsApp audio in which he implies to his 1986 teammates that their 1986 World Cup-winning squad was better than Messi's. "We didn't go to play against Chile. We went and beat Germany," he says. "You know what I mean about the difference between one team and the other?"

Messi touched off an uproar in Argentina with his abrupt resignation from the national team after Sunday's game

with Chile. He is the national team's career leading scorer with 55 goals in 113 international appearances, but he has never led Argentina to a major title, losing championship matches to Brazil in

the 2007 Copa America, Germany in the 2014 World Cup and Chile in the 2015 and 2016 Copa America. "That's it, I've already tried enough," Messi told the Argentine network TyC Sports after the latest loss to Chile. "It pains me more than anyone not being able to be a champion with Argentina, but that's the way it is. It wasn't meant to be, and unfortunately I leave without having achieved it." — AP

## WAKE UP FRANCE! ICELAND NEXT: EVRA

**PARIS:** France, who have earned a reputation for leaving it late at this European Championship, would be well-advised to wake up early when they face Iceland for a place in the semi-finals, veteran defender Patrice Evra warned yesterday.

The hosts have survived some scares with sluggish starts and last-gasp wins on their way to the last eight but now is the time to make an impact from the start, the 35-year-old left back, regarded as Les Bleus' wise old man, told a news conference.

"We keep scaring ourselves, we're crazy," Evra said. "If we keep doing that, we might not go through. We need to stop reacting and start acting."

Evra, who has won plenty of silverware at club level but has never gone beyond the quarter-finals of a major event with France, nodded when asked whether Sunday's tie at the Stade de France might be the most important game in his career.

"Yes, that's true," said the Juventus player, in line to win his 78th cap against Iceland. "I can't stop there, we can't stop there. We all know what we're here for."

"Uncle" Evra, as his team mates affectionately call him, urged the France players not to underestimate Iceland, who advanced with a shock 2-1 win over England.

"Before England played them, English journalists were asking me what it would be like (for France) to face England and I told them 'wait a minute, guys, you're not there yet'", he said.

"People go on about long throws and all that but Iceland are not just that," he added. "They're a good team who can play good football and they did not get to that stage by accident. We have all due respect for Iceland, which does not mean we don't believe we can't beat them."

Evra, whose own performances in the tournament have been criticised but whose leadership qualities are vital to France, looked happy to chat with journalists at France's training camp outside Paris.

It was not always the case. His relationship with the outside world suffered from his role in the 2010 World Cup scandal, when he captained the team who refused to train in South Africa in support of striker Nicolas Anelka, ejected from the squad for insulting then-coach Raymond Domenech.

"This team is great, we enjoy being together and we're having a lot of fun," Evra said. "Before, things were a bit more complicated." — Reuters



**ANNECY:** Iceland's midfielder Aron Gunnarsson takes part in a training session in Annecy yesterday, prior to their quarter-finals match against France on July 3. — AFP



**LILLE:** Wales' Gareth Bale, left, jokes with Joe Ledley during a training session in Dinard, western France, yesterday. Wales will face Belgium in a Euro 2016 quarterfinal soccer match in Lille today. — AP

## WALES, BELGIUM VIE FOR EURO 2016 GOLDEN TICKET

**LILLE:** History awaits the victors as Wales talisman Gareth Bale and rejuvenated Belgium star Eden Hazard lead their respective golden generations into battle in today's Euro 2016 quarter-final in Lille.

Belgium, second in the FIFA ranking, are desperate to make good on their squad's vast potential and reach a first major semi-final since the 1986 World Cup. Wales are riding high in their first major tournament in 58 years and having outlasted British rivals England and Northern Ireland, their confidence is at an all-time high.

"I think it is fair to say it could be the biggest ever game for Wales," said Bale, the tournament's joint-top scorer with three goals. "We know about the quarter-final in 1958 (at the World Cup), but since then it's definitely the biggest game in Welsh football. "It is one we're looking forward to. We just want to enjoy the occasion, take it all in and hopefully we can get into the semis." After hitting the heights in a 3-0 win over Russia in their final Group B game, Chris Coleman's Wales had to dig deep to see off Northern Ireland in the last 16.

An attritional match was settled in the

75th minute when Bale's cross was turned in by Gareth McAuley for an own goal, but today's game could be a more open encounter.

Beaten 2-0 by Italy in their first match, Marc Wilmots's Belgium have since grown in stature, beating the Republic of Ireland and Sweden before crushing Hungary 4-0.

The victory over Hungary was built around a man-of-the-match display from Hazard, who scored one goal and made another in one of his finest international performances. After a bleak season with Chelsea, the 25-year-old embodies Belgium's hopes of improving on their quarter-final showing at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil.

### PRESSURE ON WILMOTS

Hazard sustained a minor thigh problem against Hungary that kept him out of training for two days, but he will return to training on Thursday and is expected to start against Wales.

Like Hazard, Bale is the symbol of his team's rise. He has already enjoyed success against Belgium, scoring the only goal of

the teams' qualifying encounter in Cardiff a year ago. It was a result that confirmed Wales's arrival as a force, but Belgium defender Toby Alderweireld is confident his side will not meet the same fate again.

"We have the players to stop Bale," said the Tottenham Hotspur centre-back.

"We can't have silly concentration lapses when we have the ball. "Since the start, our objective has been to win the tournament. But it's important to go into each match in the right way." Alderweireld will play in a reconfigured defence at Stade Pierre-Mauroy, with 21-year-old Manchester City centre-back Jason Denayer set to replace the suspended Thomas Vermaelen.

Atletico Madrid winger Yannick Ferreira Carrasco could also come into the team in place of Dries Mertens after a goal-scoring cameo against Hungary. Wales captain Ashley Williams was pictured with his left arm in a sling after the win over Northern Ireland, following a collision with teammate Jonathan Williams, but the Swansea City centre-back took a full part in training on Wednesday. — AFP

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2016

WIMBLEDON: Greece's Maria Sakkari returns against US player Venus Williams during their women's singles second round match on the fourth day of the 2016 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, yesterday. — AFP

# VENUS KEEPS HER WITS ABOUT HER TO DOWN GREEK QUALIFIER