THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

**SHAWWAL 8, 1437 AH** 

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

Banking system in Kuwait remains sound, stable: Hashel



Sanders finally endorses Clinton at joint campaign rally

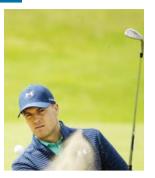


Hidden angel mosaic at Bethlehem shrine sees the light



Olympic withdrawal was 'hardest decision' for Spieth

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# MP CALLS FOR ADDING HEZB, DAWA TO ANTI-TERROR BILL

SPEEDY IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW SPORTS LAW SOUGHT

Min 35°

Min 35° Max 47° High Tide

06:07 & 18:22

Low Tide 12:44

#### AIRPORT CLEANERS STRIKE OVER UNPAID WAGES

By Faten Omar and A Saleh

KUWAIT: Cleaners at Kuwait International Airport went on strike yesterday in protest against not being paid their salaries since May. The cleaners also demanded to receive a minimum salary of KD 60 as stipulated in their contracts, as they do not have any other source of income. The workers' cleaning company declined to issue a statement to Kuwait Times, but confirmed that it will pay the workers two months' salary within days, after it is approved by the management.

Acting Director of MPA Ahmad Al-Moussa said the Manpower Public Authority summoned the owner of the cleaning company, and will take legal action against the company if it does not meet its commitments towards the workers, especially with regards to monthly salaries. He said all labor strikes that took place lately are due to nonpayment of monthly salaries. He said MPA punished violating companies by suspending their files, and will not be lax in taking necessary legal action against any violating company.

An airport source said that the delay in payment of salaries is not the first, as it has happened before with security workers. The source added that the cleaners also went on strike last month due to the same reason, and this is because of the inability of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor to adopt an effective law to ensure that companies pay the salaries of their workers on time.



KUWAIT: Cleaners gather during a strike in protest over unpaid salaries at the airport yesterday.

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** MP Abdullah Al-Maayouf said yesterday that a draft law proposed by fellow lawmaker Saleh Ashour to counter terrorist groups should have included Lebanon's Hezbollah and Iraq's Dawa Party besides the Islamic State group. A few days ago, Ashour submitted a draft law calling to consider the Islamic State as a terrorist group and also stipulating a jail term of between 10 and 20 years for those convicted of establishing or promoting terrorist groups.

Maayouf said the Hezbollah and Dawa groups should have been included in the new bill away from any sectarian considerations. Kuwaiti courts have passed rulings against dozens of members, sympathizers and financiers of the Islamic State for being associated with an outlawed organization because Kuwaiti law does not specifically consider the Islamic State as a terrorist group. The law will be studied by the National Assembly after the summer recess in October, but the Assembly's panels are expected to review the bill during the summer recess.

Maayouf also strongly criticized the head of the Kuwait Football Association Sheikh Talal Al-Fahd, claiming he is trying to survive in his post after a new sports law became effective yesterday after its publication in the official gazette Kuwait Al-Youm. He charged that Sheikh Talal has been trying to seek help from outside the country, totally ignoring Kuwaiti domestic laws.

In a related development, MP Abdullah Al-Turaiji yesterday called on the Minister of Information and Youth Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah to follow up the implementation of the new sports law, especially after

Continued on Page 13



MANILA: An activist wearing a hat representing the Philippine navy boat "Sierra Madre", now half-submerged at the Second Thomas shoal of the Spratly islands, sits with protesters during a demonstration in front of the Chinese consulate yesterday. — AFP

# TRIBUNAL REJECTS CHINA'S SOUTH CHINA SEA CLAIMS

THE HAGUE: An international tribunal ruled yesterday against China's claims it had "historical rights" in the South China Sea in a bitter dispute that risks further stoking regional tensions. Manila - which had lodged the suit against Beijing - welcomed the decision by the Permanent Court of Arbitration but Beijing reacted furiously, saying it "neither accepts nor recognizes" the ruling. Beijing claims most of the South China Sea, even waters approaching neighboring countries, as its

sovereign territory, basing its arguments on Chinese maps dating back to the 1940s marked with a so-called nine-dash line.

"The tribunal concluded that there was no legal basis for China to claim historic rights within the sea areas falling within the 'nine-dash line," the Hague-based PCA said in its hard-hitting ruling. It said Beijing had no historic rights to resources in South China Sea waters and that such rights were "extinguished" as being incompatible Continued on Page 13



NEW YORK: Medical students Jag Chilana (left) and Scott Kobner play Pokemon Go on their smartphones at Union Square on Monday. — AFP (See Page 27)

# 20 KILLED IN ITALY TRAIN CRASH



in brief

#### Trial in Makkah crane

RIYADH: Charges and a trial are expected soon in Saudi Arabia over last year's crane collapse in Makkah that killed 111 pilgrims and injured nearly 240 people just days before the start of the annual hajj pilgrimage, according to a report published yesterday. The statelinked Al-Riyadh newspaper said the Bureau of Investigation and Prosecution in Makkah has handed over its findings to Makkah's criminal court for judicial review. The crane collapsed amid unusually strong winds on Sept 11, piercing through parts of the roof of

the Grand Mosque that houses the Kaaba and bringing

down slabs of concrete on worshippers below.

collapse to begin soon

#### Qatar to build Hadid flower-shaped hotel

DOHA: Qatar will construct two buildings designed by late Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid, including a tower shaped like a desert flower close to the site of the 2022 soccer World Cup final, a member of its ruling family said yesterday. Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al-Thani, the brother of Qatar's Emir, commissioned Hadid in 2013 to create the structures, one a 38-story hotel in the form of a hyacinth and featuring a nine-pointed base to shield visitors from the searing Gulf sun. Sheikh Mohammed's Al Alfia Holding said in a statement it would construct the tower "designed in response to current and future environmental challenges" by 2020 in the city of Lusail, 23 km north of the capital Doha.

ROME: At least 20 people were killed yesterday in a head-on collision between two passenger trains in the southern Italian region of Puglia, in one of the country's worst rail accidents in recent years. Emergency services raced to extract people from the wreckage of smashed carriages thrown across a single track into olive groves near the town of Andria, in what one witness described as an "apocalyptic scene". Coffins were taken to the site near the city of Bari to carry away the first of the dead as 200 rescue workers sifted through the wreckage in temperatures

reaching 40 degrees Celsius.

"I saw dead people, others who were begging for help, people crying. The worst scene of my life," one policeman told journalists. Vito Montanaro, director general of the Bari heath authority, said 20 people had died and 35 were injured, 18 of them critically. "It was an enormous accident, a very violent crash," said Transport Minister Graziano Delrio, who arrived on at the scene along with two ministry inspectors to aid the investigation.

Continued on Page 13



Two smashed carriages are thrown across the tracks after a head-on collision between two trains between Ruvo and Corato in the southern Italian region of Puglia yesterday. — AFP

#### POKEMON GO DRIVES PLAYERS INTO FRENZY

SAN FRANCISCO: Pokemon Go mania has quickly swept the US as players armed with smartphones hunt streets, parks, rivers and elsewhere to capture monsters and gather supplies in the hit game. The free application based on a Nintendo title that debuted 20 years ago has been adapted to the mobile internet age by Niantic Labs, a company spun out of Google last year after breaking ground with Ingress, a game that merged mapping capabilities with play. By Monday, Pokemon Go had been downloaded millions of times, topping rankings at official online shops for applications tailored for smartphones powered by Apple or Google-backed Android software.

According to the research firm SimilarWeb, the game was downloaded in more than five percent of Android phones in the first two days of release and had outpaced the dating app Tinder. The game uses GPS and mapping

capabilities in mobile phones to let players roam the real world to find "PokeStops" stocked with supplies and hunt cartoon character monsters to capture and train for battles. PokeStops can also dispense monster eggs, which players incubate by racking up walking distances.

Players can also visit "gyms", where captured cartoon creatures can be conditioned as combatants to seize such training facilities. "It's cool to actually play as a Pokemon trainer in real life," said Lucas Garcia, a 17-year-old California boy who has been a fan for more than a decade. "It is nice to have a video game that makes you actually walk around instead of sitting in front of a TV screen holding a controller."

People who played Ingress will recognize PokeStops and gyms, many being monuments, signs, businesses or other real world spots that served as "portals" that could be captured in the earlier Niantic game. "We have helped

users all around the world have fun, socialize, and get more fit as they play and explore," Niantic chief executive John Hanke said in a blog post when Pokemon Go was released last week in the US, Australia and New Zealand.

A tidal wave of interest in the game has bogged down servers hosting the software, frustrating some players and delaying plans to launch Pokemon Go in more countries. "I downloaded it because everyone that I know has liked Pokemon since before fifth grade," said California teenager Owen Fairchild, who is now in college. "Now that I have it, I get it. I never really walked around, but a couple of days ago, I walked across the island... and I hatched two five-kilometer eggs."

A young woman playing Pokemon Go came upon a dead body in a Wyoming river while hunting a water monster in the game, according to US news reports.

Continued on Page 13







KUWAIT: Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received yesterday the ambassadors of Cyprus, Greece, and Austria to Kuwait on the occasion of the end of their tenure. During the meeting, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled praised their efforts in boosting bilateral relations with Kuwait. — KUNA

# INFO MINISTER, AMBASSADORS DISCUSS REGIONAL, INT'L ISSUES

Sheikh Salman extols young Kuwaiti female inventor



Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets with inventor Abeer Al-Naimi.

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah met yesterday with the ambassadors of several brotherly and friendly countries in Kuwait.

Sheikh Salman Sabah, who also doubles as Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, discussed with the ambassadors of Azerbaijan, Japan, Tunisia and Romania bilateral cooperative relations and a number of regional and international issues, the Ministry of Information said in a press release. During the meeting, the ambassadors hailed relations and cooperation between Kuwait and these countries as being developed in various fields, mainly in the fields of youth and culture, it added.

#### **US patent**

Separately, Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud praised yesterday a young Kuwaiti employee of the Ministry of Information for attaining a US patent for an invention of hers. The praise came in a statement issued by the ministry of Information following Sheikh Salman's meeting in his office with the inventor Abeer Al-Naimi. The inventor, who works for Kuwait TV's Channel One got US patent office's approval for the design of a toilet commode that can be used in a car by people with special needs.

The minister voiced pride of the ministry of Information in one of its creative employees who, with her patented invention, represents the innovative spirit of young Kuwaitis. He said Naimi's invention is further testimony to the creative minds and talents of Kuwaiti youth seeking personal expression and distinctiveness in so many ways. The young inventor thanked the ministry for harnessing the talents of the youth and for encouraging them to excel in their fields of interest. — KUNA



Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets with the ambassador of Japan.



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

Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets with the ambassador of Tunisia.



Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets with the ambassador of Romania



KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem met with head of the Kuwait Fire Service Directorate's trade union Khaled Al-Aimi, and members of the union. The meeting discussed means of giving support and securing safety of firefighters while carrying out their duties. The meeting was attended by MPs Mubarak Al-Herais, Humoud Al-Hamdan and Asker Al-Enezi. — KUNA



Kuwaiti Ambassador to Australia Najib Al-Bader (right).

#### KUWAIT PARTAKES IN ISLANDS **DEVELOPMENT FORUM'S SUMMIT**

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Ambassador to Pacific region. This is the fourth Kuwaiti Australia Najib Al-Bader took part in the leaders' summit of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF), an event held in Honiara the capital of the Solomon Islands, said a statement by the embassy yesterday.

Ambassador Bader, who is representing His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, said that it was important for Kuwait to participate in such gatherings which will surely help solidify ties between Kuwait and countries in the July 13th. — KUNA

participation in the forum since 2013, said the ambassador, adding that Kuwait was considered as one of the PIDF's valuable partners.

Established in 2013, PIDF was created as a space for catalyzing, mobilizing, and mainstreaming action in support of sustainable development through a green economy in Pacific Island countries. The summit's main theme for this year is "stewardship for healthy oceans and healthy nations." The event will last till



#### KUWAIT PARTICIPATES IN WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

**ANKARA:** Kuwait's permanent delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr Meshal Hayat acknowledged the importance of protecting and preserving worlds historical sites and monuments. He said on the sidelines of the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee on Tuesday that Kuwait have donated USD 100,000 to repair damages in Arab heritage sites in Iraq, Syria, and Libya.

Dr Hayat also confirmed that Kuwait had meet representatives of other states on the sideline of the session to discuss efforts in restoring historical sites affected by natural

disasters, floods, and wars. On the session, the Kuwaiti official said that the meeting will nominate several locations in Sudan, Iran, Turkey, India, and other regions to the list of UNESCO World heritage sites.

Several states sought assistance from Kuwait in the matter lifting their sites from the list of hazardous locations, said Dr Hayat, affirming that Kuwait will do its best on this matter. The World Heritage Committee was formed in 1972. It is responsible for implementing the World Heritage Convention, outlining the use of the World Heritage Funds, and allocating different financial assistance. — KUNA

#### APDSC LIFTS SUSPENSION ON KUWAITI CLUB FOR DEAF

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti Sports Club for in the fine. The sanction imposed by the Deaf announced yesterday the lifting of the suspension imposed by the Asia-Pacific Deaf Sports Confederation (APDSC). Executive at the club, Jaber Al-Kandri said that he was handed the official decision on lifting the suspension which was imposed in 2008.

The decision came after the club paid off a portion of a fine, said Kandri, adding that around \$75,000 were left

APDSC on the club included suspending Kuwait's membership, a ban on participation in any championships organized by the Confederation, in addition to a prohibition from attending any conferences or meetings. This sanction imposed due Kuwait's failure to host the Asia-Pacific Deaf Games which was scheduled in Kuwait in 2008. — KUNA



#### **KUWAIT'S APRIL EXPORTS** AT KD 19 MILLION: REPORT

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's exports have totaled about KD 19 million last April, with 75 percent (KD 14 million) to Arab states and 25 percent for the rest of the world, according to a report by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Iraq had the most share of Kuwaiti Arab exports with 81 percent (KD 12 million), while Italy was the top on international level with 29 percent (KD 1.4 million), said the ministry in a report pub-

lished yesterday. Exported items for Arab World included paper bags, plastic cans, dairy products, oils, sweets and others, while insecticides, polyethylene, and other substances were exported on an international level. Meanwhile, the report also mentioned statistics on general import licenses issued by the ministry, metal stamping, and Kuwait's economy status, and trade permits. — KUNA

#### KRCS OFFERS RELIEF AID TO SYRIAN FAMILIES IN LEBANON

**BEIRUT:** The Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) yesterday announced distributing relief aid among 250 Syrian refugee families in Dhar Al-Ahmar town, West Bekaa, East Lebanon. Each family was offered food packages and cleaning materials enough for five people for a whole month, head of the KRCS field team Yusuf Al-Najjar said. He

hoped that the aid would help alleviate the sufferings of the refugees engulfed by harsh conditions. Najjar reiterated KRCS's commitment to carrying on with support to the refugees. Lebanon hosts more than a million Syrian refugees staying in makeshift camps in different parts of the country, with the majority in the Bekaa. — KUNA









KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem and Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah yesterday visited firefighter Fahad Mansour Al-Feraih, who was injured while he was performing a mission.



KUWAIT: This handout photo shows debris at the site of the collapse 
A vehicle damaged in the collapse. reported yesterday at a college in Ardhiya.



# COLLEGE'S PARKING ROOF COLLAPSES, NO INJURIES

#### 'PHOTOGRAPH-RECORD-MOVE' TRAFFIC ACCIDENT PROJECT SOON

By A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** Education Minister Bader Al-Essa said preliminary indicators about a roof's collapse at the parking lot of the basic education college point to a fault by the contracting company, adding that there were no injuries. He said an investigation committee will be formed to discuss the reasons for the accident. Official spokeswoman of the authority Fatima Al-Azmi said the collapse was at the college's car parking in Ardhiya in the area designated for the teaching faculty. She said no injuries were reported. Some vehicles were damaged, however. The college is affiliated to the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET).

50+ C degrees

Kuwait will be hit with a heat wave during which temperatures will exceed 50 degree C in some areas due to seasonal weather changes, a veteran meteorologist said yesterday, adding that the extremely hot temperatures are expected to start Friday and will continue to Monday. The Indian seasonal low depression is expected to extend north-west of the Arab peninsula, which will cause the movement of very hot winds from the middle and south of the peninsula, Meteorologist Essa Ramadhan said. The winds' temperature will be increased by the temperature of north-westerly winds descending from the mountains of the Iranian hill and passing through the hot plains in southern Iraq towards Kuwait and eastern provinces of Saudi Arabia, he explained.

#### **Reporting accidents**

Secretary General of the Supreme Planning and Development Council Khalid Mahdi said advanced stages of the new traffic strategy project related to traffic safety were completed, and it will reduce the documentary cycle in dealing with traffic accidents. Mahdi said the project is included in the development plan projects and is being executed within the framework of the national document signed between the council's secretariat general and UNDP. Mahdi said the traffic strategy

aims at improving services of the traffic department in the field of dealing with traffic accidents and reducing the time to issue reports, as the report can be issued using modern technologies, using smartphones and the geographic information system (GIS), as the policeman can photograph the incident and send it to the concerned department through a project called 'photograph-recordmove' without the need to go to the police station or obstruct traffic. Mahdi said there is coordination with the information technology systems center and investigations department at the interior ministry, adding that large number of traffic officers have been trained at US universities and advanced cameras have been imported for this project, while the GIS system has been upgraded to determine accident locations besides seeking to implement the instant payment of traffic fines, which is scheduled to start at the start of next year.

#### **Absconding reports**

The Manpower Public Authority (MPA) said the work of the absconding reports committee in cooperation with concerned authorities at the Interior Ministry resulted in resolving 1,588 complaints during last year and until May this year. It said that it was agreed, through coordination between MPA and interior ministry authorities, to cancel the absconding complaints for some cases including holders of Palestinian travel documents, children of Kuwaiti women, wives of expat workers who work in the private sector, first degree relatives of Kuwaitis and partners in a company's founding contract. It mentioned the importance of the absconding complaints resolving committee and the reasons for reforming it, as it is responsible for receiving the complaint from the employer, then summoning the employee to discuss the reason why he absconded, then try to settle the dispute in a friendly manner when possible. The authority said if this is not possible, the committee will take legal action against the absconding worker in coordination with the interior ministry to deport him.



**Education Minister Bader Al-Essa** 

#### **Treatment overseas**

The Health Ministry suspended work at the overseas treatment higher committee until further notice. This measure aims at organizing the work mechanism at the committee, besides preparing plans that guarantee the flow of work correctly.

#### Carcinogen chocolate report refuted

The public relations and information department at the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition said reports on social media regarding a chocolate product containing carcinogens are not correct. Chairperson of the higher committee on food safety Amal Al-Rashdan said after consulting international and regional organizations, it was found there is nothing to prove the authenticity of this story.

#### **Embezzlement**

The misdemeanors court sentenced a Kuwaiti engineer who embezzled KD 12 million from citizens and escaped to Iran to two months in jail. Lawyer of several citizens who were swindled said this is the first sentence and must be implemented, and she cannot appeal unless she is physically present. He said there are many more cases waiting for her.



A firefighter tackles flames at a building in Hawally yesterday.



Firefighters take rest during the operation.

# TWO INJURED IN 7-FLOOR HAWALLY BUILDING FIRE

#### Dealer arrested with 5kg heroin

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Two residents of a Hawally building sustained burns during a fire reported yesterday. Kuwait Fire Services Directorate (KFSD) received a call about a fire in a seven-storey building, so Hawally, Salmiya and rescue centers responded. The fire started in leftovers in the staircase on the seventh floor, investigations later revealed. The flames reached rest of the area of the residential apartments. Teams were formed to evacuate residents, while others fought the blaze. Firemen rescued two persons, Asian and Arab nationals, and both were taken to Mubarak hospital. Meanwhile, a member of KFSD's public relations department was injured and also taken to hospital.

Drug dealer apprehended

The Drugs Control General Department

arrested a drug dealer with possession of a large quantity of drugs before he was able to sell them. Tips were received about an Indian man dealing in drugs, so legal procedures were taken. An undercover agent asked to buy 50 grams of heroin from the suspect. The suspect was arrested during the exchange. He told police there were more drugs in his Fahaheel home, where five kilograms of heroin and 250 grams of shabu were found. The drugs' estimated street value is KD 350,000. The suspect was sent to concerned authorities.

#### Traffic campaign

The traffic department carried out several campaigns in all governorates last week, resulting in issuing 26,372 citations, impounding 1,032 cars, detaining 31 persons and deporting three expats for driving without a

#### **Fatal crash**

A Saudi man was killed and a woman was injured when his car hit a stray camel on what is now commonly known as Salmy's "Road of Death", bearing in mind this is not the first time this has happened.

#### Suspects caught

A police patrol in Mahboula suspected a car with two men and a girl in it. When they were asked for their IDs, the two men were found to be Saudis, but the girl did not have any ID. The two claimed she was their sister, but she gave different names, then appealed to police to free her from them. The driver then drove off in the wrong direction and was chased on the coastal road. They collided with a car and escaped, but when the car's information was published, the suspects were found with the girl.



KUWAIT: Ministry of Finance's Undersecretary Khalifa Hamadah (left) and Zak's chairman Jaber Al-Kathemi sign the agreement. — KUNA

#### KUWAIT'S INVESTMENTS IN UK NOT AFFECTED BY BREXIT: OFFICIAL

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Investment Authority's (KIA) diverse and numerous investments in the UK will not be affected by the UK's decision to pull out of the EU, also known as Brexit, Ministry of Finance's Undersecretary Khalifa Hamadah said yesterday.

Hamadah told the press that other financial matters were touched upon after signing a geoinformatics contract with local and international entities. He pointed out that the Finance Ministry will constantly reconsider all monetary backing especially those concerning gasoline. He added that the Ministry has a strategy to deal with the country's budget deficit of the fiscal year 2016/2017; the twofaceted strategy entails getting a KD 2 billion loan from local markets and a KD 3 billion loan from international markets. He concluded by saying that privatization is an economic and financial reform tool that was approved by the Cabinet back in March.

The Ministry of Finance signed yesterday

an agreement with a consortium of firms to allow the consortium to develop IT approaches at identifying and codifying all real estate owned by the state of Kuwait.

The agreement helps the state of Kuwait survey and tabulate all pertinent information regarding state-owned properties and land and store this information in a high-tech electronic fashion easily accessible to those seeking it, Hamada said in a statement he made at the signing of the agreement. He added that the agreement calls for the consortium to complete its work in four years at a cost of KD 6.8 million. The consortium is made up of the local Kuwait firm of Zak Solutions, the American company known as Excella Consulting, and a German consulting company. Zak's chairman Jaber Al-Kathemi said the consortium will prepare a geographical data base of land information based on satellite photography of the whole country using digital technology. — KUNA

#### HAMAD AL-MATAR ANNOUNCED WINNER OF BURGAN BANK'S THURAYA QUARTERLY DRAW

announced its Thuraya Account winner of the Audi R8 sports car. The winner Hamad Ghazi Mohammad Al-Matar expressed his excitement for being the new winner of the Audi R8 with Al-Thuraya Salary Account from Burgan

Al-Thuraya Account is the only salary account in Kuwait that provides its customers with the chance to win Audi R8

KUWAIT: Burgan Bank recently Cars on a quarterly basis. The account aims at raising the frequency of customers winning one of the world's most

Opening an Al-Thuraya account is simple; customers are required to visit their nearest Burgan Bank branch and obtain all the necessary details, or simply call the bank's Call Center 1804080. For further information, customers can visit the bank's website on www.burgan.com.

## NBK extends \$280 million credit FACILITY TO KUWAIT STYRENE COMPANY

'Demonstrates leading role as supporters of national enterprise'

KUWAIT: The National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) has concluded a financing agreement with The Kuwait Styrene Company (TKSC), giving the latter access to US \$280 million in credit facilities. The loan, secured with NBK acting as sole underwriter, will be used for general corporate purpose spending at TKSC.

The agreement was signed on behalf of NBK by CEO - Kuwait Salah Al-Fulaij, along with his TKSC counterpart Adel Yousuf Al-Saad Al-Munifi. Also present at the signing were TKSC's Chief Financial Officer, Ghadeer Abdullah Al-Ajami, and NBK's Pradeep Handa, General Manager of the bank's Foreign Corporate, Oil and Trade Finance Group.

EQUATE Petrochemical Company, Kuwait's first international joint-venture in this industry, provided technical and financial support to TKSC, which contributed to expediting this loan with NBK. EQUATE is the single operator of Greater EQUATE, which includes The Kuwait Styrene Company (TKSC), Kuwait Paraxylene Production Company (KPPC) and The Kuwait Olefins Company (TKOC) under one fully integrated operational umbrella at Kuwait's Shuaiba Industrial Area.

The financing deal is "yet another demonstration of NBK's leading role as facilitator of economic development in Kuwait," said Fulaij. "It demonstrates once again how committed we are to fostering the spirit of national enterprise in Kuwait." "While NBK is proud to offer operational and financial support, we take equal pride in our ability to provide additional services to our corporate customers," he added.

In addition to banking, NBK provides corporate customers with advisory services and consultancy aimed at facilitating the development of the Kuwaiti economy and spurring its continued growth, said the bank's CEO- Kuwait. With a long track-record of securing large-scale funding, NBK has earned the trust of large corporations and national companies across Kuwait, Fulaij added. The bank's long history of local, regional and global successes has earned it a reputation as a development-savvy partner able to play a pivotal role in the economy, he said. "I am proud to say that NBK has become the go-to bank for major entities in the Kuwaiti corporate sector".

Speaking at the signing ceremony, TKSC CEO Munifi said his company was proud to have this partnership with NBK "for access to \$280m for the company's general corporate purposes," he said. "The very fact that we were able to secure credit facilities on such a scale speaks volumes of TKSC's competitive status, and says a great deal about our solid financial standing."

According to Munifi, TKSC will use the credit facilities for general corporate purposes. "Part of the funds will be directed to reinforcing activities that enhance our competitive edge," he explained. Munifi lauded NBK for its continued commitment to providing credit facilities, which support the industrial sector as a whole and the petrochemical field in specific. As Kuwait's first and only producer of Styrene Monomer, The Kuwait Styrene Company (TKSC) was established in 2004 as an international joint venture between The Kuwait Aromatics Company (KARO) and The Dow Chemical Company (Dow).



#### KIB SUPPORTS GROUP OF KUWAITI JOCKEYS TO PARTICIPATE IN EQUESTRIAN TOURNAMENTS

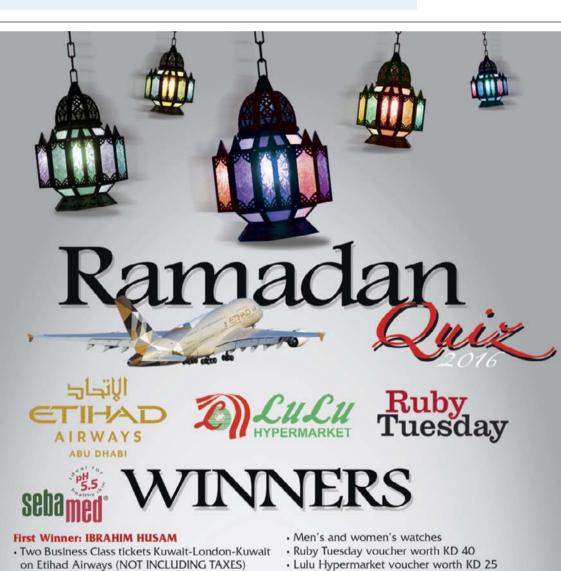
**KUWAIT:** Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced its full support and sponsorship of the Kuwaiti horseracing jockeys: Ghazi Al Juraei, Ahmad Al-Mudaheka, Abdullah Hamadah and Ahmad Al-Ansari to give them the chance to participate in the upcoming equestrian championships as a team representing KIB. The sponsorship of the phenomenal jockeys stems from the bank's leading social responsibility program that aims at supporting various initiatives; be it sports, social, humanitarian, cultural and many others.

On this occasion, the Head of Corporate Communications at KIB, Nawaf Najia, said that this support translates the bank's constant strive to interact with all society segments, especially the youth, in addition to supporting various sports activities and Kuwaiti athletes who take

part in local or international tournaments. He added that KIB has lately intensified its efforts to support sports initiatives, which achieve great response from this segment.

Najia mentioned that KIB, as a leading Islamic banking institution, strongly believes in its responsibility to serve the community at all levels. That's why the bank is planning and launching various initiatives and programs that serve all sectors; be it social, economic, cultural or related to healthcare. Najia concluded by stressing on the bank's attempt to deploy all its efforts and resources to strengthen the bonds with all society segments, and wishing the Kuwaiti jockeys all the best and success to score high in the upcoming championships and raise Kuwait's





- Two vouchers from Ruby Tuesday worth KD 20
- Second Winner: SHAIK ANWAR
- · One Economy Class ticket Kuwait-Madrid-Kuwait on Etihad Airways (NOT INCLUDING TAXES)
- · Men's and women's watches · Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 40 Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 50
- Third Winner: KAWTHER HASSAN
- · One Economy Class ticket Kuwait-Abu Dhabi-Kuwait on Etihad Airways (NOT INCLUDING TAXES)
- · Men's and women's watches
- · Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 40 · Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 50
- **Fourth Winner: FARAH ALAE ALDEEN**
- · Smart Viora mobile
- · Men's and women's watches
- · Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 40 · Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 50

#### **Fifth Winner: REHAB MOHAMMED**

- · Canon camera
- · Men's and women's watches • Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 20
- Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 50
- Sixth Winner: TASIN SHEKHANI · Tap lot Dual skim

· Al-Sanabel Al-Thahabeyah voucher worth KD 25

#### Seventh Winner: MOHAMMED IRFAN

- · Tap lot Dual skim
- · Men's and women's watches
- Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 20 Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 25
- Al-Sanabel Al-Thahabeyah voucher worth KD 25

#### **Eighth Winner: SHIKH JUWWAMIKH**

- · Tap lot Dual skim
- · Men's and women's watches
- Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 20 Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 25
- Al-Sanabel Al-Thahabeyah voucher worth KD 25

#### Ninth Winner: K HASSAN

- · Tap lot Dual skim
- Men's and women's watches
- Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 20
- · Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 25 Al-Sanabel Al-Thahabeyah voucher worth KD 25

#### **Tenth Winner: PREMNATH**

- Tap lot Dual skim
- Men's and women's watches • Ruby Tuesday voucher worth KD 20
- Lulu Hypermarket voucher worth KD 25 Al-Sanabel Al-Thahabeyah voucher worth KD 25



#### **Kuwait Times**

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# BANKING SYSTEM IN KUWAIT REMAINS SOUND, STABLE DURING 2015: HASHEL

remained sound and stable during 2015, where domestic credit posted a healthy growth, Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr Mohammad Al-Hashel announced yesterday.

Banks non-performing loan ratio continued its steady decline to reach a historically low level, coverage ratio climbed to a new high, capital adequacy levels stayed robust and net income grew positively, albeit at a much slower pace than in 2014, Hashel said during the publication of the CBK Financial Stability Report (FSR) for 2015.

According to the report and after two years of double-digit growth, the banking system posted a much slower expansion when viewed on a consolidated basis; assets grew by a muted 2.6 percent during 2015.

#### **Domestic assets**

Growth in domestic assets was much healthier at 5.7 percent on the back of strong growth in domestic credit which was up by 8.5 percent compared to 6.3 percent in 2014. As for growth in banks' consolidated deposits slowed down to 3 percent compared to 7.8 percent in 2014, Domestic deposits grew only a tad better, posting 3.3 percent increase in 2015. However, the banking system continued to enjoy a stable funding base with 63 percent of the total deposits placed in the time deposit category. Moreover the asset quality of the banking system has visibly improved over the last few years, exhibited by a steady decline in both the gross and net non-performing loan ratio, the gross on a consolidated basis, has dropped to a historically low level of 2.4 percent (1.9 percent on domestic, Kuwait- only basis) as of December 2015, well below 3.8 percent last observed in 2007 before the global financial crisis struck.

The Banks' net income, on consolidated basis, grew by a modest 7 percent to reach KD 705 million in 2015, at a much slower pace compared to 26.5 percent in 2014. Both return on assets as well as equity experienced a marginal improvement as growth in net income outpaced the growth in assets and equity.

As for Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) of the banking sector, it further improved to reach 17.5 percent, well above the CBK's 12.5 percent requirement for 2015. Though the improvement in CAR was largely driven by conventional banks in 2015.

Adding that the Islamic banks continued to maintain capital adequacy ratios above their conventional counterparts, which in part also explains their lower efficiency ratios. The

**KUWAIT:** The banking system in Kuwait banks' overall leverage ratio was 9.7 percent in 2015, well above 3 percent benchmark proposed by the Basel Committee, indicating banks' capacity to extend credit without the risk of breaching the leverage ratio.

#### **Discount rate**

CBK, in lockstep with the Federal Reserve, raised its discount rate by 25 bps in December 2015. Domestic inter-bank rates were on ascent few months in advance of CBK's move, largely in anticipation of an impending lift-off by the Federal Reserve. Both the scale of liquidity absorptions as well as interbank rates indicate that liquidity in the banking sector,



Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr Mohammad Al-Hashel

while still healthy, has slightly tightened; accordingly, absorption both in terms of interventions and Tawaruq for shorter maturities visibly tapered by the close of 2015.

CBK's mop up exercise relied, almost entirely, on the use of one-week instruments, further reducing the share of one-month arrangements. In the foreign exchange market, KD depreciated against USD by 3.6 percent in 2015 while appreciating against EURO and GBP by 6.7 percent and 0.9 percent respectively; diverging growth trajectories and monetary policies across major economies influenced the exchange rates.

Kuwait Stock Exchange, moving in lockstep with the protracted decline in oil prices, closed the year down in double digits (14.1 percent) as the absence of a domestic catalyst left the market more attuned to global developments; large cap stocks retreated by 15 percent (Kuwait-15 index) despite banks' healthy profits.

Kuwait's real estate market also markedly slowed down both in terms of number and sales value of the deals, after enjoying positive growth for five consecutive years (with a particularly robust expansion in 2014).

The retreat was broad based as all three segments (residential, investments and commercial) contracted significantly as steady fall in oil prices weighed on investors' sentiments. Yet the real estate prices seemingly held up well, averting any serious correction; this suggests the presence of genuine demand as well as investors' preference to stay put.

However, materialization of an extreme tail event like a sharp correction in the real estate prices, though highly unlikely, could test the resilience of the banking sector, given banks' significant exposure to the real estate market, both in terms of loans and collaterals. Both retail and large-scale payment systems in Kuwait have been steadily growing, exhibiting the increasing role of modern payment systems in facilitating a myriad of transactions on a daily basis. During 2015, value of ATMs and point of sale (POS) based transactions posted growth of 5.2 percent and 13.2 percent respectively. These growth trends are similar to the ones observed in 2014 and underscore the resilience of household consumption in Kuwait despite a challenging economic environment. There are, however, signs of a slowing trend in the sales of consumer durables.

#### E-banking

To facilitate the increasing use of e-banking, necessary infrastructure in Kuwait has also been expanding; the number of ATMs and POS machines grew by 4. 7 percent and 13.1 percent, respectively reaching 1,708 and 43,322 machines by December 2015. Moreover, branch network also continued to expand (particularly for Islamic banks), bringing total bank branches in Kuwait to 422.

The Governor indicated that growth in private sector credit is likely to remain healthy amid ongoing emphasis on capital spending. Moreover, oil market is heading towards a more balanced position. The Kuwaiti banking sector, which has remained unscathed so far, is likely to benefit further from this relatively improved outlook on domestic front. And the banking sector is well placed to remain resilient in the near term, though the capacity to withstand various shocks does vary across banks. — KUNA



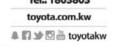
The Central Bank of Kuwait's head office.











# FROM THE ARABIC PRESS

#### الانياء

Al-Anbaa

#### THE MINISTER AND THE RIGHT OPINION

#### **By Adel Al-Ibrahim**

onesty in professional performance is a responsibility that is not limited to one employee or the other - rather it basically starts with the minister, not for anything other than him giving the oath of office to perform his duties in front of His Highness the Amir with all honesty. Also, a member of the legislative authority takes the oath of office before assuming his legislative duties, but for the rest of the employees, there is no oath except in the military and some professions, because they are supposed to perform their duties according to the law and rules and any violations by them will lead to investigations.

This was a necessary introduction for what was published on social media on the letter of the education minister, which was urgent and confidential, which included the referral of the grievance of an applicant for the job of a teaching faculty member and similar cases to the higher appointments committee after being rejected by the department of education and training faculty members affairs because their academic qualifications do not match, besides the fact that the specialty is not required, along with five similar cases.

We have the following comments on this: First: If the minister's opinion, according to what was published, that the papers presented by the applicant are matching, then this means there is a clear defect at the appointments department, and its work is carried out according to personal liking and not according to rules and regulations, which compels the education minister to fulfill professional honesty and hold them to account and refer them for investigation to ensure justice. There may be previous cases that were served injustice and were not appointed and could not reach

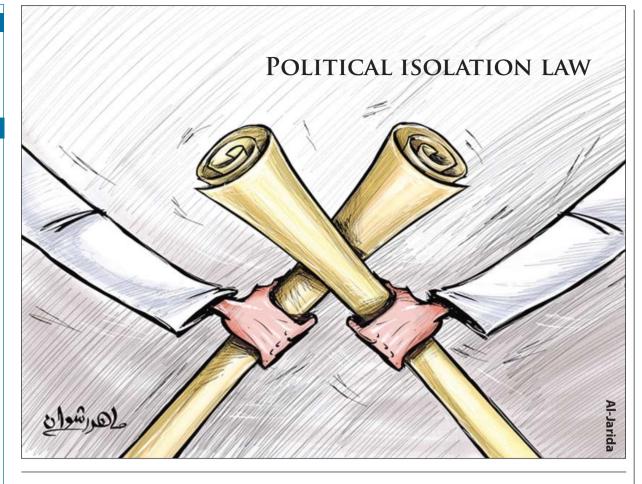
Second: If the decision of the teaching faculty members affairs department in rejecting the applicant's application and his grievance was according to rules and regulations and required conditions, and the affected person should refer to court. Then its opinion must be respected without interference by the minister in its work, because it is not in his authority to violate the law, or for appointments to be means to gain parliamentary approval, especially that he took the oath of office to perform his duties with all honesty.

Third: If the minister violated rules and regulations, then I find he violated his duties as a minister and reneged against the oath, which means he is not qualified for his post, and we have the right to ask what is good in the existence of committees and conditions if the minister cancels them and makes individual decisions?

Yes, everyone talks about implementing the law, but who does not have wasta is the one concerned with the law despite what is published that the law is for everyone, and this is the reason of our educational and economic backwardness, with regret. I hope the teaching faculty committee, if it was right with its decision that the applicant did not meet conditions, submits its resignation because of the minister's interference in its work, so that everyone knows that justice is something that cannot be sidestepped, and that every official's responsibilities and duties has limits.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

KUWAIT: A traditional grocery store in Kuwait. — KUNA photo



#### MARIAM AL-KHAMEES WINS NEW CADILLAC SRX IN GULF BANK'S RED, SALARY ACCOUNT QUARTERLY DRAW

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank welcomed Mariam Adel Fahad Al-Khamees, the second quarterly Red and Salary Account draw winner of 2016, at the Cadillac showroom in Al-Rai Area. Yaser Sulaiman, Executive Manager, Consumer Banking at Gulf Bank congratulated her on winning the

New Red Account or Salary Account customers who open an account and transfer their student allowance or

salary will also be eligible to enter the monthly cash draws for a chance to also win up to KD 1,000 each. In addition, the quarterly car draw will be for 1 lucky winner who will have a chance to win a new Cadillac SRX. For further information about Gulf Bank's red account and other prize draws, visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, call the Customer Contact Center on 1805805, or go online at www.e-gulfbank.com.



#### **Crime**

Report

#### Man assaults dentist, patient

**KUWAIT:** Adan detectives are looking for a citizen who beat a dentist and a female Lebanese patient who was being treated in Adan specialized medical center. The citizen who was waiting his turn stormed into the clinic and found the patient being treated, so he insulted and beat both the doctor and the patient in front of other patients before escaping. The doctor lodged a complaint at Adan hospital, while the Lebanese woman submitted a medical report of injuries she received. Adan detectives are looking for the suspect.

Fake cops rob pedestrian KUWAIT: An Egyptian man lodged a complaint at Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh police station, saying that two persons who claimed to be detectives beat him up and robbed KD 530 from him. He told officers that while he was walking, the two approached him after they pulled over their SUV, and said that they were detectives. They then started beating him and took the money before escaping, he said, adding that he was unable to note down the vehicle's license plate number. Detectives are working on the case.

#### DUI

Police stopped a woman who was driving erratically and was discovered to be drunk. She was also found wanted for murder threat and misuse of a telephone, in a case filed by her ex-husband's sister at Bayan police station. The woman was taken to Salmiya police station and charged for driving under the influence of alcohol and drunkenness, and added to the earlier charges.

#### Suspects caught

Ahmadi police arrested two citizens for kidnapping and attempt rape of a minor. Both were also found wanted on felony cases. The arrests were made during a routine check. The suspects were taken to the proper authorities for further action.

#### **State security case**

Interior Ministry Undersecretary Lieutenant General Sueliman Al-Fahad ordered a citizen to be sent to state security. The man attempted to climb over the Interior Ministry's fence to tell about some people who deal with the Daesh terrorist group, according to investigations. Surveillance systems spotted the man while climbing the external fence of the ministry and he was arrested. When asked about his action, he said he was not allowed to meet a senior official and has important information about people connected to Daesh. The man's psychological state is unknown.

#### Suicide avoided

Jahra security men persuaded a woman to change her mind about setting herself on fire in front of the central prison. The woman reportedly wanted to commit suicide because of threats she said she receives regularly from a prisoner. Police received a call from a citizen saying her daughter is threatening to set herself alight in front of the central prison gate, while screaming hysterically. Police found the girl holding a bottle full of fuel and a lighter, so they negotiated with her for hours before they were able to put her under control. She was sent to Sulaibiya police station for questioning. — Al-Rai

#### **Photo**



# International

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

#### What to expect as May starts untangling the UK from the EU

Page 10



Pentagon chief seeks better use of US forces in Afghanistan

Page 9



LONDON: Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron is pictured during a visit to Reach Academy Feltham yesterday. —AP

# CAMERON CHAIRS HIS FINAL CABINET MEETING

#### PM TO DEPART OFFICE TODAY

**LONDON:** British Prime Minister David Cameron chaired a farewell Cabinet meeting yesterday, a day before handing over power to his successor following the historic vote to leave the

European Union.

Ministers gathered for the final session a day after Home Secretary Theresa May was confirmed as the new Conservative leader and prime minister-in-waiting - and as a moving van arrived in Downing St. ahead of Cameron's

departure today.

Culture Secretary John Whittingdale said there had been a "touch of sadness" to the meeting, which saw May and Treasury chief George Osborne led tributes to Cameron. Cameron resigned after Britons voted June 23 - against his advice - to leave the EU. May will have to deal with the political fallout and

oversee the complex process of separating from the bloc

She will spend the day considering the makeup of her own Cabinet before she moves into 10 Downing St. on Wednesday. British media have focused on whether Osborne will keep his job in charge of the economy. With the pound in crisis and fears over the economy, some argue that May could opt for continuity and keep Osborne in place, particularly as he has the confidence of many in the banks and markets.

But others say that the key position should go to someone who favored leaving the European Union. May supported remaining in the EU, but has promised to give prominent "leave" campaigners key Cabinet roles in a bid to heal the party's longstanding split over Europe.

#### Brexiteers

Two of the leading Brexiteers, former London Mayor Boris Johnson and Justice Secretary Michael Gove, were briefly Conservative leadership contenders, and May could show magnanimity by putting them in her Cabinet.

She has also said she will appoint a "Brexit minister" to oversee negotiations with the EU. May is already facing pressure from the 27 remaining EU countries to invoke Article 50 of the bloc's constitution, which sets the clock ticking on two years of formal exit talks. She has not said

when she plans to do it.

She is also facing calls from opposition politicians to call an early election, before the next scheduled vote in 2020. May might be tempted to go to the polls to confirm her own mandate, and because the main opposition Labor Party is

in the midst of a leadership struggle that puts it in a weak position.

Leader Jeremy Corbyn has lost the support of most Labor members of Parliament and is facing a challenge from legislator Angela Eagle. The party's governing National Executive Committee is met yesterday to rule on whether Corbyn should automatically be on the ballot in a leadership contest, or whether he needs to gather nominations from 51 lawmakers - something he would struggle to do. Corbyn is likely to mount a legal challenge if the decision goes against him. Leftwinger Corbyn has a strong base of support among grassroots Labor members and some trade union leaders.

Len McCluskey, general-secretary of the Unite union, called Eagle's challenge a "coup" and said it would be a "sordid little fix" to exclude Corbyn

from the ballot paper. The leadership battle has turned bitter, and risks splitting the century-old party in two. Police said Tuesday they were investigating reports that a brick had been thrown through the window of Eagle's constituency office in northwest England.

Corbyn said the attack on Eagle's office and abuse directed at other lawmakers was "extremely concerning." Last month Labor legislator Jo Cox was shot and stabbed to death in her northern England constituency, the first lawmaker to be killed in a quarter of a century.

"As someone who has also received death threats this week and previously, I am calling on all Labor Party members and supporters to act with calm and treat each other with respect and dignity, even where there is disagreement," Corbyn said. —AP

#### RIGHTS GROUP DECRIES 'FORCED ANAL EXAMS'

**KAMPALA, UGANDA:** Human Rights Watch is urging an end to "forced anal examinations" with a report documenting them in eight countries, mostly in Africa, saying the practice is based on flawed ideas about supposedly proving homosexual conduct.

In a report released yesterday, the advocacy group calls the examinations "a form of cruel, degrading and inhuman treatment" that amounts to sexual assault, violates international conventions and could rise to the level of torture.

The report draws on interviews with 32 men and transgender women subjected to the exams in eight countries that ban same-sex conduct: Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Lebanon, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda and Zambia.

The report says the exams are rooted in "discredited 19th century theories" that homosexuals can be identified by characteristics of the anus. A Kenyan court recently upheld the use of anal examinations to determine a suspect's sexual orientation, dismissing the argument that the procedure amounts to torture and degrading treatment.

A group of homosexuals in Uganda will soon launch a court case against the procedure because it violates the country's bill of rights, said Frank Mugisha, a gay leader who said he was aware of many such incidents. "It's very degrading," he said.

Although some cases involve rape, many involve consenting adults targeted by the police, some of whom try to extort cash from suspects, Mugisha said. The subject of homosexuality is taboo in many African countries. In 2009, a Ugandan lawmaker introduced a bill that prescribed the death penalty for some homosexual acts. A less severe version passed by lawmakers was rejected by a court as unconstitutional, amid international pressure.

Many homosexuals live secret lives, afraid of beatings and other acts of violence if they are outed. —AP



KENYA: Kenyan gays and lesbians and others supporting their cause wear masks to preserve their anonymity as they stage a rare protest. —AP

# STORMS TEAR UP COMMUNITIES IN MINNESOTA, WISCONSIN

LITCHFIELD, MINNESOTA: Storms carrying tornadoes, torrential rain and powerful winds damaged homes, deposited a snow plow in a tree and flooded highways in north-central Minnesota and northern Wisconsin.

Audrey Schoenberg took shelter at a restaurant in Litchfield, Minnesota, after a tornado Monday flipped her home off its foundation. "I'm numb. I'm numb. I don't know really what I do feel right now. It's quite a shock to see that everything is gone," she said.

Authorities said the tornado damaged up to 20 homes in the area. Keith Johnson, the mayor of Litchfield about 70 miles west of Minneapolis, said there was serious damage, but that no one was injured.

"I've lived in this town 52 years and I've never seen a storm like this in our community," Johnson said. Diane Kelbing told KARE-TV that she and her husband raced to their mobile home park shelter when they heard the tornado warning siren. "Well, the garage is gone, the shed is gone, the snowmobile trailer is gone. We've got a snow plow in the tree," Kelbing said.

Fifty residents were removed from the Hilltop Health Care Center in nearby Watkins after the home lost part of its roof. The American Red Cross said it is assisting the evacuees. Law enforce-

ment also reported a tornado touchdown around 6:30 p.m. Monday three miles east of Rockville, in Stearns County, Minnesota, according to the National Weather Service.

The storms also washed out sections of highways in northern Wisconsin and closed other roads. The Ashland County Sheriff's Office urged against travel in the county because many local roads were flooded. Sections of US Highway 2 and state Highway 13 south of Highbridge were closed yesterday.

The National Weather Service said more flooding was likely in northern Wisconsin, where rivers and creeks will continue to rise over the next two days. Areas around Danbury to Minong, Hayward, Ashland and Hurley are expected to experience the most significant flooding.

In Minnesota, the storms also generated a deluge of heavy rain causing the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office to advise against travel late Monday because of flooding. In St. Cloud, powerful rain flooded street and left some motorists stranded in high water. In a Baxter industrial park, a foot of water covered the roadways. The National Weather Service reported 11 inches of rain fell in the east-central Minnesota city of Sturgeon Lake. —AP

#### AUSTRALIAN CONVICTED OF RECRUITING 7 MEN TO FIGHT IN SYRIA

recruiting and sending fighters to Syria was convicted yesterday of recruiting seven foreign fighters.

Hamdi Algudsi, 42, had pleaded not guilty in the New South Wales state Supreme Court in Sydney to seven counts of recruiting men from June until October in 2013 to travel from Australia to Syria to fight with Jabhat al-Nusra and other al-Qaida affiliates.

A jury yesterday found him guilty of six counts, and then continued deliberations before convicting

**SYDNEY:** The first person charged in Australia with him on the charge relating to the seventh man. Each offense carries a potential maximum of 10 years in prison. The same offense committed since legislation was amended in 2014 carries a maximum sentence of 25 years. Alqudsi will be sentenced next month.

At least two of the recruits died in Syria. Algudsi, a Sydney-based disability pensioner with two wives recognized under Islamic law, had booked flights to Turkey and organized the recruits' itineraries. He had also advised the recruits how to avoid drawing

attention to themselves as they left Australia. The prosecution relied on a large cache of intercepted phone calls in Arabic and English, including some with Mohammad Ali Baryalei, who

would become known as Australia's highest-ranking member of the Islamic State group before he died in Syria in 2014.

When they spoke, Baryalei was fighting for Jabhat al-Nusra, but discussed switching his allegiance to the Islamic State. Alqudsi's lawyer Scott Corish had told the court his client could have thought the men were going to Syria for humanitarian reasons. But prosecutor David Staehli said the jury could not possibly find that the calls between Algudsi and Baryalei were about humanitarian work.

After the verdicts, another of Alqudsi's lawyers, Zali Burrows, told reporters, "He accepts the verdicts but he'll always maintain his innocence." Security officials recently estimated that 110 Australians are fighting for the Islamic State group in the Middle East. — AP



JUBA: This handout image provided by the UNMISS (United Nation Mission in South Sudan) on Monday shows some of the at least 3000 displaced women, men and children taking shelter at the UN compound in Tomping area. — AFP

# CEASEFIRE HOLDING IN S SUDAN CAPITAL

TOO EARLY TO TELL IF TRACE WILL LAST

**JUBA, SUDAN:** A fragile ceasefire appeared to be holding in South Sudan's capital Juba after four days of gun battles that have left hundreds of people dead and sent nearly 40,000 fleeing.

It was too early to tell on yesterday whether the ceasefire called by both President Salva Kiir, and his longtime opponent Vice President Riek Machar, would last, but the Iull allowed civilians to leave their homes.

There were no helicopter gunships in the sky, no tanks on the streets, no artillery barrages and soldiers in their machine gun-mounted pick-up trucks appeared to have stayed in their barracks.

The calm was welcomed by Juba residents who have stayed mostly indoors for days as fighting intensified between Kiir's government forces and former rebels loyal to Machar. "The situation is quiet near the airport," said August Mayai, a local resident. "There are people in the streets."

Traders returning to once-busy markets found their shops and stalls looted. Volunteers and officials from South Sudan's Red Cross set about the grim task of collecting bodies of the dead.

There has been no estimate so far of civilian or military casualties from the heavy clashes Sunday and Monday but Adama Dieng, the United Nations' Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, said some civilians, "were reportedly targeted based on their ethnicity."

Kiir is from the Dinka tribe and Machar a Nuer. South Sudan's civil war has been characterised by ethnic massacres between the two groupsincluding in Juba-as well as rape, sexual slavery, murder and the use of child soldiers.

#### Fears of a return to war

The recent fighting began in earnest on Friday evening-killing over 300 soldiers that day alone according to government estimates-then paused on Saturday, the country's fifth anniversary of independence, before resuming with intense fighting on Sunday.

The violence has raised fears of a return to civil war that broke out in December 2013. An August 2015 peace deal was supposed to end the conflict but has so far failed to do so, despite the return of rebel leader Machar in April to join a government of national unity alongside his enemy Kiir.

On Monday evening Kiir and then Machar both ordered ceasefires after a chorus of condemnation from the United Nations, regional bloc IGAD, the United States and others. "The United States condemns in the strongest terms the return to violence in South Sudan. It must stop," National Security Advisor Susan Rice said in a statement hours after the cease-

#### 'Anything can happen'

Despite the pause in fighting Juba remains on tenterhooks. "We are on the lookout because anything can happen," said one resident who did not want to be named. "We've had the same situation before: we thought it was going to be fine, and it wasn't." Rashid Abdi, an analyst at the International Crisis Group think tank in Nairobi shared that scepticism. "Any cessation of fighting activities, even for a day, is welcome. But whether the ceasefire will hold is another discussion," he said.

The impact of the days of violence on an already weak and scarcely implemented peace deal remains to be seen. At least 36,000 have fled their homes in Juba since Friday, according to UN figures, with many heading for the presumed refuge of United Nations' bases. But even there they were not safe with the UN saying eight people were killed and 67 injured at socalled "Protection of Civilian" sites since Sunday.

Two Chinese peacekeepers were also killed and others wounded. International flights to Juba's international airport were still suspended yesterday morning although some private charter flights were able to evacuate foreigners and aid workers.

South Sudan has seen more fighting than peace since independence in July 2011, with clashes continuing even after the August 2015 peace deal. Tens of thousands have died in the violence, with close to three million forced from their homes and nearly five million surviving on emergency food rations.

The humanitarian crisis has unfolded alongside an economic one with the currency collapsing and inflation spiraling out of control. The country's mainstay oil industry is in tatters and regional towns have been razed. — AFP

#### UN LIBYA ENVOY URGES UNITY TO DEFEAT 'TERRORISM'

CAIRO: The UN Secretary-General the Libyan army, to improve security Special Representative for Libya Martin Kobler yesterday urged all military groups in the country to get united under one general command and the umbrella of the Presidency Council and the national unity government to counter "terrorism".

Following talks with the Arab League Secretary General Ahmad Abul-Gheit in Cairo vesterday, Kobler stressed the importance of lifting the ban on arming

conditions in the North African country.

The envoy said that the situation in Libya was utterly unsatisfactory.

Kobler noted that the Sukhirat Accord signed by the Libyan stakeholders in December provided that the army must be unified. He noted that they would continue coordination with the Arab League for realizing security and stability in Libya, saying his talks with the Abul-Gheit were "constructive." — KUNA

#### TERRORISTS, TRAFFICKERS USE US SHELL COMPANIES

WASHINGTON: Terrorist groups and drug traffickers are using anonymously owned US shell companies to hide and move their money, a senior Treasury official warned yesterday, calling on Congress to crack

"With every threat that we track, be it foreign terrorists, narcotics cartels, sanctioned regimes or cyber hackers, our investigators encounter American shell companies used to hide and move money," wrote Adam Szubin, the acting under secretary for terrorism and financial intelligence, in an opinion article. "A loophole in our financial system allowed for this secrecy, and it took years to uncover the full money trail," he wrote in The Hill, a specialized publication on congressional affairs.

The Treasury proposed to Congress last month legislation that would require the beneficial owner of a company to be identified whenever a US company is formed. Currently a number of states officially permit companies to be formed and registered with their beneficial owners remaining

"This gives US shell companies the dubious distinction of being the only money laundering method where secrecy is provided by a government entity," Szubin wrote. He recalled that stopping terror financing and money laundering have been broadly supported by Congress, but over the years "interested stakeholders" have systematically defeated legislation similar to the Treasury's recent proposal. — AFP

#### ISRAELI ARAB MISSING AFTER CROSSING INTO GAZA

JERUSALEM: An Israeli Arab is missing after crossing into Gaza yesterday, the army said, with Israel barring its citizens from entering the Palestinian enclave run by the Islamist movement Hamas

Media reports in Israel said the man had scaled the border fence around the Palestinian territory, but the army confirmed only that he had entered. "Earlier today an Israeli man was identified crossing from Israel into the Gaza Strip. The incident is being reviewed," a spokes-

She said the man was a member of the Bedouin Israeli-Arab Muslim minority, but refused to provide further details about his identity or where he entered. A Hamas official contacted by AFP declined to comment.

Israel does not allow its citizens to enter Gaza, partly over concerns they may be used as leverage to demand concessions, including the release of prisoners. Hamas claims to be holding four Israelis currently, though two of them-soldiers captured during the 2014 war in Gaza-are believed to be dead.

One of the other two is Hisham al-Sayed, a Bedouin man who disappeared last year and whose family says has schizophrenia and has repeatedly gone to Jordan and Egypt before being returned.

The fourth is Avraham Mengistu, an Israeli Jew of Ethiopian descent who went missing ir 2014 and whose family also say has mental health problems.

Officials in Israel have been seeking the return of all four. Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit was captured by Hamas in 2006 and released in 2011 in exchange for over 1,000 Palestinian

#### LOW-CASTE INDIANS THRASHED FOR SKINNING DEAD COW

AHMEDABAD, INDIA: Members of a cow vigilante gang who stripped and beat low-caste villagers over alleged cow slaughter have been arrested in India after video footage of them went viral, an official said Tuesday.

The four villagers from the lowest Dalit caste were assaulted in western Gujarat state by 'gau rakshaks' (cow protectors) who were protesting against the skinning of a cow, an animal considered sacred by India's large Hindu population.

Cow slaughter and the consumption of

beef are banned in Gujarat and several other states in officially secular India. "We have arrested three of the six accused on charges of attempt to murder," N.U. Zala, a local police officer, said.

The video shows the four half-naked men tied to a car as the activists take turns to thrash them with belts and batons at a crowded marketplace. Two more Dalits were beaten up after they tried to save the other four. Police said the low-caste workers brought the cow for skinning after it had died naturally. — AFP

# FOR CHINA, TRUMP PERHAPS BETTER THE DEVIL THEY DON'T KNOW

#### BEIJING WATCHING US PRESIDENTIAL RUN WITH TREPIDATION

**BEIJING:** In 2010, then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton provoked outrage in Beijing when she pushed the South China Sea to the top of the regional and US security agendas. Now as an international court handed down a ruling that threatened China's sweeping claims in the vital waterway, Beijing is watching Clinton's presidential run with trepidation.

Combined with her tough line on human rights and role in leading President Barack Obama's Asia "rebalancing", Clinton is well-known in China - but not well liked.

While presidential rival Donald Trump has irritated Beijing with comments such as comparing the US trade deficit with China to rape, he is largely an unknown quantity, a person who even privately officials shrug their shoulders over. "Clinton will be a difficult partner," one senior Chinese diplomatic source told Reuters, having just admitted to not knowing much about Trump or what he stands for.

China remembers clearly a 2010 Southeast Asian security summit in Hanoi, when Clinton waded into the South China Sea dispute, saying open access and legal solutions were a US "national interest" and "pivotal to regional

In a strongly worded response, China stressed the South China Sea as one of its "core interests", putting the issue up there with Taiwan, Tibet and Xinjiang in terms of its importance to Beijing.

China warned its rival claimants and neighbors not to be emboldened by US support - a line it has repeated ever since. An arbitration court hearing the dispute between China and the Philippines over the South China Sea is set to hand down its ruling on in the Dutch city of The Hague yesterday. Legal experts expect at least some substantive findings to go against China, which has vowed to ignore the ruling.

#### Strength, respect

China's military, which is ramping up its presence in the South China Sea as part of a major modernization program, is also watching the election closely. "Hillary is very fierce when it comes to China," a Chinese official close to the military establishment told Reuters.

While the Chinese government has been largely quiet about the US election, state media has not been so restrained, with one paper even equating Trump to Hitler. In May, China's official Xinhua news agency noted Trump's more isolationist campaign compared to Clinton's, who it described as an "old foreign policy hand" and important backer of the Asia-Pacific "pivot" that China considers a threat.

"As far as she's concerned, being tough on foreign policy is perhaps the best way to show America's so called 'leadership'" it said in a com-

Laura Rosenberger, a Clinton campaign foreign policy adviser who worked with her in the State Department, told Reuters Clinton would remain tough on the South China Sea issue. "She believes that we need to be very strong in terms of standing up to many of the actions the Chinese have taken," Rosenberger said.

"She believes in the principles of freedom of navigation in international waters, that commerce on the high seas in incredibly important to the United States, and that these are really very direct interests that we need to continue to stand up for." Trump adviser Peter Navarro, an economist at University of California Irvine and the author of the book, "Crouching Tiger:

What China's Militarism Means for the World," said a Trump presidency would lead to respect. "The central difference between a Trump administration and the current administration or a Clinton administration is respect. The leaders of Russia, the leaders of China will respect Mr. Trump, will respect America because we will be strong economically, militarily and politically."

#### **Unknown quantity**

Trump may actually find some sympathy in China, even if he is seen as an unknown quantity. "Who is Trump? We don't really know. We do know he hates Muslims though - and that will be well received in some circles here," said the Chinese official with ties to the military, pointing to what China views as its war on terror in its Muslim-populated far western region of Xinjiang.

China also views Trump as a businessmen with whom they can probably negotiate. "It would be very transactional for the Chinese," said a senior Western diplomat in Beijing. "He's a businessman they think they'll be able to strike a deal with."

Trump may also be less tough on China over human rights than Clinton, who has frequently clashed with Beijing on the issue.

In 2011, Clinton said China was on a "fool's errand" to try to halt the march of freedom, while in 2012 she was deeply involved in efforts to get blind dissident Chen Guangcheng out of China after he fled to the US embassy in Beijing.

Trump advisor Navarro said Clinton's record on

human rights abuse was "sketchy at best and abysmal at worst", highlighting her first trip to Asia as Secretary of State in 2009, where other issues were given priority. "So it's difficult to see how she would have someone would view her as credible on that issue." — Reuters



BAGHDAD: An Iraqi man walks past military vehicles paraded in the streets yesterday, during a rehearsal by pro-government forces for a military show to be held later this week in the Iraqi capital by the Joint Operations Command to celebrate the recapture of Fallujah from the Islamic State group jihadists. — AFP

#### PENTAGON CHIEF SEEKS BETTER USE OF US FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, AFGHANISTAN: US Defense Secretary Ash Carter said yesterday that the decision to give US commanders more authority to work with Afghan troops and strike the Taleban will maximize the use and effectiveness of American forces in Afghanistan.

Carter is in Afghanistan to meet with US commanders in the wake of a pledge by NATO allies to keep troop levels stable as they battle a resilient Taleban.

Speaking during a press conference with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, Carter also said that progress by the Afghanistan government on economic and anti-corruption reforms "is central" to the continued international support for the country.

Ghani said his government is working to remove corruption and also on the economic reforms. This is Carter's second stop in a war zone in as many days, part of a weeklong trip that has underscored America's growing commitment to two wars that President Barack Obama inherited but has not been able to end.

#### **Carter meetings**

Carter was scheduled to meet with both Ghani and chief executive officer Abdullah Abdullah, as well as his top US commander in Afghanistan, Army Gen. John W. Nicholson. On Monday in Iraq, Carter announced that the US would be sending 560 additional troops there in the coming days and weeks.

Obama announced last week that he would keep 8,400 US troops in Afghanistan after this year, rather than cut their numbers to 5,500 as he once planned. In addition to taking part in the NATO advisory-and-assist mission, the US

has special operations forces in the country that conduct counterterrorism missions.

The planned force levels allow NATO allies to remain in regional hubs around Afghanistan, with Germany in the north, Italy in the west, Turkey in the capital of Kabul and the United States in the east and south.

Earlier plans to consolidate forces in Kabul and Bagram were scrapped amid resurgent Taleban fighting and the growing presence of Islamic State militant, including many that simply switched allegiance from one insurgent group to

US Army Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, the top NATO commander, told reporters at the NATO meeting that the Afghan mission is key to global security. "We know that there are al-Qaida and (Islamic State) components in Afghanistan," he said. "If we fail there we will certainly see that impact in our global counterterrorism campaign that we're executing. It will make it harder."

Obama came into office pledging to extract America from the nearly 15 year conflict. But with the Taleban gaining ground and it becoming clear that Afghan forces still needed US and coalition support, he urged his fellow NATO leaders in Warsaw to expand their support for the war against the Taleban.

The US has pledged to provide \$3.5 billion annually to fund Afghan forces, and the government in Kabul is expected to contribute as much as \$500 million. Allies would provide the remaining \$1 billion. The funding would maintain a total of 352,000 Afghan Army troops and police officers. —AP



KABUL: US Secretary of Defense Ash Carter, left, speaks as Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, right, listens during press conference at the Presidential Palace yesterday. —AP

DALLAS: Candles and flowers placed in honor of slain Dallas police officers sit in front of a makeshift memorial in honor of the slain Dallas police officers in front of police headquarters on Saturday. —AP

# OBAMA TO OFFER DALLAS **'SOME MEASURE OF COMFORT'**

#### President to bridge issues with tribute to fallen five

WASHINGTON: President Barack Obama will be in a different city but still in an all-toofamiliar place when he leads the nation in honoring more lives cut short by gun violence, this time by a black man who said he wanted revenge for the killings of blacks by

Obama will try to help grief-stricken Dallas begin to heal less than a week after five of its police officers were slain and others wounded by an Army veteran-turned-sniper. Obama has denounced the violence as a "vicious, calculated and despicable attack on law enforcement" by a "demented" individual.

Just a few weeks ago, Obama spent hours in Orlando, Florida, consoling the loved ones of 49 people who were killed in a shooting rampage at a nightclub.

In what has become an unwelcome but regular duty of his presidency, Obama was preparing to address an interfaith memorial service in Dallas for the officers. They were killed last Thursday while standing guard as hundreds of people peacefully protested the police killings of black men in Louisiana and Minnesota earlier in the week.

#### The attack

The attack ended with the gunman, Micah Johnson, 25, blown up by a bomb delivered by a police robot. The black Army veteran portrayed the attack on the white officers as payback for the fatal police shootings of black men in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and suburban Minneapolis. Portions of both shootings were videotaped and broadcast nationwide, leading to fresh outrage, protests and scores of arrests. The killings also put the country on edge, heightened racial tensions and pushed the issue of the use of deadly force against black males by white police officers to the forefront.

Obama will seek to bridge those issues with his tribute to the fallen five, which include a former Army Ranger, a Navy veteran and a newlywed starting a second family.

The president, joined by his wife, Michelle, and Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, will also meet privately with the families of the slain officers as well as the injured to convey the support and gratitude for their service and sacrifice that has been expressed around the country. At least nine other officers and two civilians were injured in the attack.

wife, Laura, will also attend. Bush, who settled in Dallas after leaving office in 2009, will also speak at the service. White House spokesman Josh Earnest said

Former President George W. Bush and his

Obama recognizes that people across the US join Dallas in grieving over the recent, troubling events. "The president is hoping to offer some measure of comfort," Earnest said.

Obama and Biden met Monday with police chiefs, sheriffs and rank-and file officers to discuss adopting a series of reforms that were drafted by a White House task force on policing, as well as how to restore trust between police officers and the communities they are sworn to serve and protect.

Obama planned a meeting for today with a broader group that includes law enforcement, activists and academics. —AP

include an array of liberal policy posi-

tions in the Democratic platform, which

fights, most notably failing to win sup-

port for blocking a vote in Congress on

the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal.

that "our job now is to see that platform

implemented by a Democratically con-

trolled Senate, a Democratically con-

trolled House and a Hillary Clinton presi-

dency - and I am going to do everything

Sanders did not win all of his policy

But he told the rally in Portsmouth

a committee approved on Saturday.

#### INMATE WHO KILLED 2 AT **COURTHOUSE WAS HANDCUFFED**

ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN: A jail inmate was handcuffed when he wrested a gun from a sheriff's deputy and killed two bailiffs as he was being escorted from a holding cell to the courtroom at a southwestern Michigan courthouse, a sheriff said yesterday.

Berrien County Sheriff Paul Bailey said he had wrong information Monday night when he told reporters that Larry Darnell Gordon was not restrained during his deadly escape attempt in St. Joseph, about 100 miles northeast of Chicago. "After further investigation from the crime



MICHIGAN: This undated photo provided by the Michigan **Department of Corrections shows** Larry Darnell Gordon. —AP

scene techs, the suspect in this incident was handcuffed in the front," Bailey said.

Bailey said a fight broke out in a non-public area of the courthouse Monday afternoon, giving Gordon, 44, the opportunity to disarm Deputy James Atterberry Jr. He provided no information on how that happened except to say that "it's not an easy thing to do."

#### Sheriff's comments

People scrambled for cover after Gordon, who was locked up on several felony charges, shot Atterberry, then killed Joseph Zangaro, 61, and Ronald Kienzle, 63, both retired police officers. He also shot a woman in the arm, the sheriff said.

"Our hearts are torn apart. ... I have come out stronger." —AP

known them for over 30 years. It's a sad day," Bailey said Monday. Bailey said Gordon took hostages for a short period before trying to leave through another door. The inmate then was fatally shot "by two other bailiffs who came to render aid, along with several other officers," Bailey said. "He was trying to escape," the sheriff said. Zangaro was head of court security. He retired from the Michigan State

Police as commander of the Bridgman Post. Kienzle retired as a sergeant in the Benton Township police department after serving in the US Army. In 2011, Zangaro told The Herald-Palladium newspaper that security staff had a "ton of experience," more than many police depart-

"Probably 90 percent of the people who are here don't want to be," he said of people with business in the courthouse. "They have either a criminal issue, a civil issue or a family issue, and those become very emotionally charged sometimes."

The courthouse was closed yesterday but is expected to reopen today. Gordon's ex-wife, Jessica Gordon, told WOOD-TV and the Detroit Free Press that he likely was trying escape to see his family. She added that he was "not a monster," but "an amazing man that got mixed up with the wrong people."

Jessica Gordon said they divorced earlier this year but he remained close with his 6-year-old daughter. His ex-wife said she spoke with him Sunday and had no indication he was planning an attack. Gov. Rick Snyder cut short a visit to Midland and traveled across the state to St. Joseph - a city of about 8,300 people - to meet with investigators and victims' fami-

Snyder called it a "terrible day in a wonderful community. ... This is a particularly tough time for law enforcement. So I ask that everyone reach out and try to be as supportive of law enforcement across the state and across the country as possible in a difficult case like this."

Marcus Muhammad, mayor of nearby Benton Harbor, said "together, we can pull through it and hopefully

#### SANDERS ENDORSES CLINTON FOR WHITE HOUSE IN SHOW OF PARTY UNITY

PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE: Democrat Bernie Sanders endorsed former rival Hillary Clinton for president in a show of party unity yesterday, saying she was the best candidate to fix the country's problems and beat

Republican Donald Trump in the Nov. 8

With Clinton nodding in agreement beside him, Sanders put their bitter primary campaign behind them and said Clinton would take up the fight to ease economic inequality, make college more affordable and expand healthcare coverage for all Americans.

"This campaign is about the needs of the American people and addressing the very serious crises that we face, and there is no doubt in my mind that, as we head into November, Hillary Clinton is far and away the best candidate to do that," he told a raucous crowd in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, that included plenty of vocal Sanders sup-

#### Sanders intent

"I intend to do everything I can to make certain she will be the next president of the United States," the US senator from Vermont said. His endorsement, coming five weeks after Clinton became the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, brought the most prominent holdout in the party's liberal wing into Clinton's camp. Sanders threw his support to Clinton less than two weeks before the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, where she is expected to be formally nominated.

"I can't help but reflect on how much more enjoyable this election will be now that we are on the same side," Clinton said of Sanders. "Thank you

SET TO JOIN ON CAMPAIGN TRAIL Bernie for your endorsement, but more than that, thank you for your lifetime of fighting injustice."

In a statement, the Trump campaign said Sanders was now officially part of the rigged system he had criticized during the long primary battle with Clinton. "Bernie's endorsement becomes Exhibit A in our rigged system the Democrat Party is disenfranchising its voters to benefit the select and privileged few," said Stephen Miller, a senior policy

adviser to Trump. Clinton hopes the joint appearance work to do. "I am absolutely certain I will not vote for Hillary Clinton," said Gale Bailey, a Sanders supporter and an unemployed graphic designer from Rochester, New Hampshire, who attended the rally in a Sanders T-shirt. "She's a crook, and I'm not going to vote for a crook," Bailey said, adding that she would write in Sanders' name on the

Sanders victories on platform

November ballot.

The appearance in Portsmouth con-

cluded weeks of negotiations between I can to make that happen." Top Democrats, including President Barack Obama and Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, a favorite of the party's liberal wing, have already announced their support for Clinton, leaving Sanders at risk of being left behind in the Democratic battle against

"I think all signs point to the fact that we're going to have a very united party going into Philadelphia," Clinton campaign spokesman Brian Fallon said on CNN earlier on Tuesday, "and when you compare it to the Republicans, we're

going to be miles ahead of them." Trump has struggled to unify the Republican Party after alienating many establishment figures with his stances on immigration, Muslims and women. A number of prominent Republicans are skipping the party's convention in

In another sign of the Democrats' growing unity, two prominent liber-

ALBANY, NEW YORK: Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. Speaks. —AP

will help her win over Sanders supporters, some of whom carried Sanders signs into the rally and frequently drowned out her backers. In recent Reuters/Ipsos polling, only about 40 percent of Sanders backers said they would back Clinton, and the crowd at Tuesday's rally made it clear she still had

the two camps as Sanders pressed for concessions from Clinton on his liberal policy agenda. It came after Clinton last week

adopted elements of Sanders' plans for free in-state college tuition and expanded affordable healthcare coverage. Sanders also successfully pushed to

al groups that had backed Sanders, the Communications Workers of America labor union and the Congressional Progressive Caucus PAC, announced their support for Clinton on Monday. —Reuters

## NORTH CAROLINA POLICE OFFICER CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING WOMEN

**GARNER, NORTH CAROLINA:** A police officer in North Carolina has been placed on administrative leave after being arrested and

charged with attacking two women. Several local media outlets reported that 26-year-old Silvestre Mendoza, an officer with

the force in Garner, was arrested by Johnston County sheriff's deputies Sunday and charged with two counts of assault on a female.

An arrest warrant says Mendoza was accused of hitting a woman Friday. The warrant says he is charged with biting another

woman Saturday. The reports say Mendoza on Monday declined to talk about the charges.

Cleveland next week.

He says he does not yet have an attorney. Garner police say Mendoza was hired March 21 and was assigned to the patrol division. —AP

#### FRANCE'S MACRON IN NEW STEP TOWARDS PRESIDENTIAL BID?

**PARIS:** France's rising political star Emmanuel Macron addressed a meeting of his political movement yesterday in what is widely seen as the latest step towards a bid for the presidency.

The 38-year-old economy minister set up "En marche" (On the move) in April to the consternation of many of his Socialist Party colleagues. They saw it as a challenge to the authority of embattled President Francois Hollande. The timing of his speech on yesterday, two days before Hollande gives his traditional Bastille Day TV interview, has also raised some eyebrows.

Macron's allies say though that no-one should expect him to announce yet that he is either leaving the government or that he will be a candidate for president. "He is not going to say 'I'm leaving straight away" but he is "entering campaign mode", said one of Macron's main supporters, the mayor of Lyon, Gerard Collomb.

Some say he could launch his real campaign in September, France's traditional back-to-work month after the summer holidays. Macron hinted again at the weekend that he had ambitions to stand in next May's election. Invited to watch a stage of the Tour de France, he made a series of references comparing cycling with politics, saying he was in the race to challenge for the "yellow jersey" worn by the leader.

"There are several stages. One began on April 6 (with the creation of En Marche) and I hope to see it through to the summit," he added in a reference to the mountainous stage of the race.

The problem for the Socialists is that while Macron refuses to rule out a bid for France's highest

office, Hollande's abysmal poll ratings make it hard for him to appear the natural candidate of the left 10 months from now.

In an apparent jibe at Hollande, Macron said this month the possibility of primaries being held to decide the candidates of both the Socialists and the centre-right Republicans was "proof of the weak leadership on both sides". Hollande has said he will decide by the end of the year whether he will stand, even though opinion polls currently show he would be eliminated in the first round.

#### 'Question of loyalty'

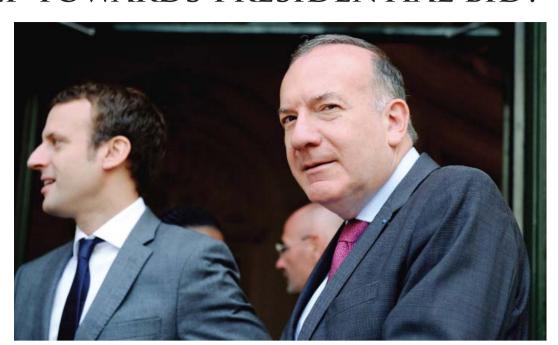
The president and the government appear to have weathered the storm of weeks of strikes and protests over their attempts to reform France's rigid labor laws to make it easier to hire and fire employees and bring down the high unemployment that has dogged Hollande for four years.

France's successful staging of the European football championship also gave Hollande some relief from his critics, even if the host nation lost to Portugal in the final on Sunday.

Hollande's response to Macron's setting up of the party in April was clear he "has to be in my team, under my authority", he said. "It's a question of personal and political loyalty," the president added.

Applauded by liberals for challenging the key planks of French Socialism such as the 35-hour work week, Macron has been lampooned by die-hard leftists as being too cozy with big business.

He earned nearly one million Euros (\$1.1 million) a year as a Rothschild banker before entering politics



PARIS: French Minister of Economy Emmanuel Macron (L) and Head of the French Employers Federation Medef Pierre Gattaz (R) wait for the arrival of South African President Jacob Zuma prior to an economic meeting as part of the visit of South African President Jacob Zuma on Monday. — AFP

as an advisor to Hollande, who named him to the cabinet in August 2014. France is also fascinated by Macron's marriage to his wife Brigitte, 20 years his senior, whom he met when she was teaching at his high school. She plays a prominent role in the running of his office. — AFP

# WHAT TO EXPECT AS MAY STARTS UNTANGLING THE UK FROM THE EU

SET TO BE PRIME MINISTER TODAY

LONDON: Home Secretary Theresa May is set to become Britain's new prime minister today when David Cameron steps down after six years at 10 Downing Street because of his defeat in the country's referendum on European Union membership. May will be in charge of implementing the voters' June 23 decision to leave the EU and strike an independent path. Here are answers to some questions about what happens next:

#### When will the new prime minister start the legal process to leave the 28-nation EU?

To start the process of a British exit from the EU, or Brexit, a prime minister must invoke Article 50 of the EU treaty. May has said she will not start the process until next year, but she may face strong pressure to accelerate the plan. She is becoming prime minister earlier than anticipated because her opponent withdrew from the Conservative Party leadership contest, and some leaders of the campaign to leave the EU want the legal process to begin right away. EU leaders are also pressing for faster action. May has said there is no rush and that she wants Britain to establish its negotiating priorities before starting the Article 50 process, which imposes a two-year deadline on negotiations. May did not back the campaign to leave the EU, expressing a preference to remain part of the bloc, but she now emphasizes that "Brexit means Brexit" and says the voters' wishes will be respected.

#### Will she be able to change her mind about Brexit if the political and economic climate shifts?

Article 50 is designed to be irreversible once it is invoked, in large part to discourage countries from threatening to leave in an attempt to negotiate more favorable terms. However, no major country has ever left the bloc before so it is not entirely clear if some way could be found to keep Britain from leaving even after the process has started if that's what British and EU leaders want. The EU has been known for its ability to improvise, or fudge, solutions as needed, and if faced with economic turmoil it's possible the union could find a way to remain intact.

#### Is may planning to handle the **Brexit process herself?**

May has said she will appoint a Cabinet-level Brexit minister along with a Brexit department to spearhead the negotiations with other European nations. It is not clear who that person will be. The process will not be simple: Thousands of treaties and



LONDON: Britain's Home Secretary Theresa May gestures as she leaves after attending a cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street yesterday. — AP

agreements are in place and will have to be unrav- unable to win meaningful compromises on this eled. Britain will also be seeking new trade arrange ments with its former union partners. Many aspects of Britain's economic and judicial systems have been intertwined with the EU for several decades and ties will now have to be severed. Just separating Britain from the EU bureaucracy will require a whole new bureaucracy to be established to manage the process. But May's political future depends on a successful divorce agreement and she may choose to become directly involved, particularly in delicate talks with other European leaders.

#### Will may keep Britain in the single European economic market even after it leaves the EU?

This is one of the great unknowns. May has indicated she wants British firms to keep having unfettered access to lucrative European markets, but has insisted Britain can no longer accept the freedom of movement that has allowed EU nationals to move to Britain without any restrictions. European leaders guided by EU principles may be unwilling to give Britain access to European markets without accepting the free movement of people. Cameron was point during his tenure, and it is not clear if May will fare any better. This is really the heart of the matter, with much riding - for both sides - on finding some common ground.

#### May is coming to power without having been elected and the opposition is calling for an early general election. If one is held, how would it affect May's plans for Brexit?

The next scheduled general election is set to be held in 2020, but Parliament has the power to schedule an earlier vote. May said when she launched her leadership bid in June that she did not see a need for an early election. Once she is in power, it is possible she may ask Parliament to hold an early election if she feels a new election would add to the Conservative Party's slim majority in Parliament. If an election is held, and if a candidate who strongly favors EU membership would be elected with a clear mandate from the public to keep Britain inside the bloc, it could have a substantial impact on the Brexit plan. But May is unlikely to risk an early election unless she is extremely confident of victory. — AP

#### ISLAMIST ATTACKS, MIGRANT CRISIS MAKE GERMANS ANXIOUS

**BERLIN:** Germans have become far more fearful in the last year, with a possible terrorist attack, political extremism and the social effects of Europe's migrant crisis topping their list of worries, a survey showed yesterday.

Just over a year before a federal election in Europe's biggest economy, the annual study by insurer R+V showed a 10 percentage point increase in its annual "fear index" of Germans to 49 percent. "Never before in the course of our surveys have peoples' fears risen so drastically within a year as in 2016," said Brigitte Roemstedt, head of the R+V Info Centre which conducted the survey of 2,400 Germans.

Deadly Islamist attacks hitting neighboring France and Belgium have put Germany on high alert. In addition, more than one million migrants have entered the country, many from war-torn countries like Syria and Iraq, fuelling concern about mounting costs and integration. "Terror attacks, riots by extremists but also political polarization following uncontrolled mass migration are shaking Germans' characteristic need for security," said political scientist Manfred Schmidt of the Ruprecht-Karls University in Heidelberg who was a consultant for the survey.

The top concern, terrorism, worried 73 percent of Germans compared to 52 percent last year. Second comes political extremism which causes anxiety among 68 percent of Germans, up from about half last year. Higher than ever before is the fear that migration could cause tensions between Germans and foreigners living in the country. With an 18 percent jump, 67 percent were worried about that.

Political parties are likely to compete in offering solutions to these issues in the runup to the 2017 election. German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives and their coalition partner, the centre-left Social Democrats, have in the last year lost support to the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD). — Reuters

#### AUSTRIA SEIZING HITLER'S BIRTHPLACE TO PREVENT NAZI PILGRIMAGE SITE

VIENNA: Austria's government moved yes- tration, academia and civic society will ultiterday to seize the house where Adolf mately decide the fate of the building. Hitler was born to prevent it becoming a to tear it down.

Hitler's family lived in the house in Braunau on the Inn for only three years around his birth on April 20, 1889; but the fate of the three-storey building coated in pale yellow paint has long been the subject of controversy. A spokesman for the interior ministry said the government had agreed a law to take ownership after the building's landlord, a local woman, had refused to sell it to the state. The bill would now go before parliament.

"The decision is necessary because the Republic would like to prevent this house from becoming a 'cult site' for neo-Nazis in any way, which it has been repeatedly in the past, when people gathered there to shout slogans," Interior Minister Wolfgang Sobotka

told reporters before the cabinet meeting. "It is my vision to tear down the house," he added. A commission consisting of 12 members from the fields of politics, adminis-

A retired local woman owns the propersite of pilgrimage for neo-Nazis, and the ty, which Austria's interior ministry has been country's Interior Minister said he wanted renting since 1972 and has sublet to Braunau. The ministry pays around 4,800 Euros (\$5,332) a month in rent.

> The building has housed workshops for disabled people, but has been empty since 2011, because the owner repeatedly rejected ideas for the future use of the house and purchase offers from the state, according to the interior ministry spokesman.

> Once the law has passed parliament, the owner has no right to appeal the decision or negotiate her compensation, which will be in line with the sum paid to home owners evicted in the course of railway line construction, he said.

> Nazi Germany annexed Austria in 1938. Debate still smolders over whether Austrians were willing accomplices, many having cheered his return to his country of birth at the time, or the first victims of a dictatorship that ultimately reduced much of Europe to ruins and cost tens of millions of lives. — Reuters

KENYA: Malala Yousafzai speaks to refugees in the Dadaab refugee camp yesterday. —

#### NOBEL WINNER MALALA VISITS WORLD'S LARGEST REFUGEE CAMP

DADAAB, KENYA: Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai was spending her 19th birthday yesterday visiting the world's largest refugee camp to draw attention to the global refugee crisis, especially as Dadaab camp faces pressure to close after a quarter-century.

Since last year, Malala has been in contact via Skype with a group of girls in Dadaab and was looking forward to meeting them and others, said Taylor Royle, her spokesman. "I am here to speak for my unheard sisters of Somalia striving for education every day," Malala said yesterday, explaining that on each birthday she chooses a region where girls' education is neglected and needs attention.

Kenya's government says Dadaab camp, which hosts more than 300,000 mostly Somali refugees, will be closed in the next year because it has become a security liability. The camp is in eastern Kenya, near its border with Somalia.

The possibility that the camp will be closed brings yet more uncertainty to the refugees, who face the prospect of returning to a Somalia still plagued with conflict. Kenya insists any returns will be voluntary, even as the international community has urged caution and warned against forceful

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta has said repatriations from Dadaab will be done in a humane way. Many of Dadaab's refugees have lived most if not all their lives in the sprawling camp, which has been open for 25 years and is a vast settlement of established homes and newcomers' improvised huts of thorn branches and other materials. — AP

## UK LABOR PARTY AWAITS KEY LEADERSHIP RULING, CORBYN'S FATE IN BALANCE

LONDON: The socialist head of Britain's opposition Labor Party, Jeremy Corbyn, will discover whether he has the automatic right to defend himself from a leadership challenge - a key moment in the running battle for control

The turmoil within the 116-year-old party, which governed Britain for 13 years until 2010 under Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, comes as the country's political landscape is changing fast following a June 23 vote to leave the European Union.

While the ruling Conservative Party has quickly appointed a new leader, Theresa May, to take over from Prime Minister David Cameron and pilot the 'Brexit' process, Labor's left-wing leadership is locked in a bitter internal power struggle with its more moderate members of parliament (MPs).

As Labor looks to define its priorities for the upcoming negotiations, rival MP Angela Eagle has triggered a leadership contest, saying Corbyn has failed to connect with voters and is not capable of winning a national election.

Corbyn has said he will not resign, citing the overwhelming mandate he won from the party's grassroots members when they elected him leader in September last year. That has sparked fears that the party could split, as it did in the 1980s, and dilute the centre-left influence over Brexit negotiations.

The party's internal strife has fuelled tensions among its supporters, and police said on yesterday Eagle's constituency office in northern England had been vandalized. Corbyn said he and other lawmakers had received death threats. "It is extremely concerning that Angela Eagle has been the victim of a threatening act and that other MPs are receiving abuse and threats," he said in a statement.

Later on Tuesday, the party's National Executive Committee will make a crucial ruling over whether Corbyn's name can automatically go onto the ballot paper for the leadership election or whether he, like his challenger, needs to find 51 lawmakers to back him.

"It would be alien to the concept of natural justice that Jeremy Corbyn is not automatically on the ballot paper," said Len McCluskey, a Corbyn supporter and head of Unite, the

country's biggest union and Labor's largest financial backer.

"What I won't accept is any sordid little fix which is alien to our traditions." If the ruling goes against Corbyn he could struggle to find enough lawmakers to support his bid, given that Labor MPs have already passed a motion of no-confidence in him by a margin of 172 to 40.

Corbyn retains strong support among the party's rank-and-file members, meaning that if he does make the ballot paper he could hold on to power and prolong the stand-off with MPs. —Reuters

#### POLISH GOVT WANTS TO REDUCE **COMMUNIST AGENT PENSIONS**

**WARSAW:** Poland announced yesterday a plan to shrink the pensions cheques received by tens of thousands of ex-agents in the nation's feared communist-era secret police out of a

"sense of justice". The proposal would see the relatively high SB secret police pensions lowered to the current monthly average paid out by the state-run ZUS social security system, which is around 400 Euros (\$450). "We want a societal sense of justice to win out. There's no support for officers of the oppressive secret police receiving such high benefits for having stifled the freedom and independence of our country," Polish Interior Minister Mariusz Blaszczak told reporters.

Poland's secret police were much loathed and feared for their political repression and bru-

tality. The SB notably abducted, tortured and murdered dissident priest Jerzy Popieluszko, a key figure in Poland's 1980s anti-communist Solidarity movement.

The government plan would affect around 32,000 people and would yield savings of more than 30 million Euros per year, according to Blaszczak. The proposal still needs to be presented in parliament, but it will likely pass since the governing conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party has a majority there. But the measure could theoretically be blocked by the constitutional court, which is currently feuding with the PiS. The government has introduced several controversial reforms since gaining power last year that according to the opposition were intended to paralyze the court. — AFP



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#### AMNESTY SLAMS TORTURE OF VIETNAM'S PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

**PARIS:** Thrown into jail for their political or religious access to family members or a lawyer. views, Vietnam's prisoners of conscience are routinely tortured, beaten and kept from their families, Amnesty International said in a report published yesterday.

The rights group interviewed 18 prisoners of conscience who collectively spent over 77 years in prison for activism, questioning injustices in society or for their ethnicity and religious beliefs.

In the report, "Prisons within Prisons", those interviewed recount being beaten until they urinated blood, given electric shocks and confined in isolation without

One former prisoner of conscience told Amnesty he was beaten unconscious and left in a cell for four days without food. When he asked for food, officers prepared a bowl of rice for the dogs outside his cell, and then gave him what was left.

"On one occasion, pens were placed between his fingers and his hands were twisted around, causing excruciating pain. On another, the legs of a table were placed on his toes and police put all their body weight on the table resulting in unbearable pain and causing his toes to bleed," read the report. "When his interrogators began electrocuting him and told him that his entire family, including his wife and child, would be arrested if he did not confess, he finally relented and agreed to plead guilty to the charges against him."

The report accuses Vietnamese officials of using prisoners known as "antennae" who work with authorities and take part in torture and continue interrogations

inside prison cells, in exchange for favorable treatment. Amnesty said in the most extreme case it heard, a Hoa Hoa Buddhist, Mai Thi Dung, had to share cramped cells with a series of different women who would question her about her activism at night, after she had endured up to 10 hours of interrogation by authorities. She was locked in a tiny room "with no open windows or ventilation shafts resulting in such bad ventilation that it was difficult to breathe.

On one occasion prison authorities "presented her with a document for her to sign which guaranteed her conditions of detention in which she could move and breathe easily in exchange for a confession. She declined.". — AFP



SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA: A South Korean man holds a sign during a rally to denounce deploying the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, near US Embassy on Monday. — AP

#### JAPAN COURT UPHOLDS REACTOR SHUTDOWN IN NEW BLOW TO NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

**TOKYO:** A Japanese court yesterday upheld an order to keep two reactors operated by Kansai Electric Power closed, the utility said, helping keep efforts to get the country's struggling nuclear industry up and running in limbo.

The decision, which backs a petition from residents living near the Takahama atomic station west of Tokyo, means Kansai Electric must go to a higher court to try and win permission to get the reactors back online

The move marks the latest judicial impediment to utilities' attempts to restore atomic power after the Fukushima disaster five years ago. Two out of Japan's 42 operable reactors are running, but a local governor who won election on Sunday has vowed to shut those units down.

While Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government is keen to restore a power source that provided about a third of electricity supply before the meltdowns at Fukushima, the public remains deeply skeptical over industry assurances on safety.

Residents have lodged injunctions against nearby nuclear plants across Japan and lower courts have been increasingly siding with them on safety concerns.

Contentious verdicts are usually overturned by higher courts, where judges tend to be more attuned to government policy, judicial experts say. But with courts and local politicians providing obstacles there may be further impetus for the government to scale back nuclear targets. Japan will cut the emphasis on nuclear in its next energy plan, sources told Reuters in May.

The government has boosted renewable energy output and the population has responded to requests for more energy efficiency. The government is also strongly pushing for higher use of coal, which has soared to record levels.

Japanese utilities have benefited from a plunge in oil and gas prices that have kept costs down after higher imports of fossil fuels helped drive Japan into a record trade deficit in the years after Fukushima.

The Otsu District Court on March 9 ordered Kansai Electric, Japan's second-biggest utility, to shut down the Takahama reactors in the country's first injunction to halt an operating nuclear plant. "Today's decision ... is very regrettable and we cannot accept it," Kansai Electric said in a statement, adding that it would file an appeal with the Osaka High Court.

An appeal may take about a year and means continued extra purchases of oil, gas or coal to replace nuclear power generation. A Kansai Electric spokesman said the shutdown of the two Takahama reactors reduces recurring profit by 10 billion yen (\$97 million) per month because of higher fossil fuel use and other factors. — Reuters

# N KOREA VOWS TO END DIPLOMAT COMMUNICATION CHANNEL WITH US

#### HARSHER PUNISHMENT FOR AMERICANS

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA: North Korea said Monday it will end a diplomatic communication channel with the United States and hinted at harsher punishment for Americans detained in the country in retaliation for US sanctions that target leader Kim Jong Un.

The US government last week imposed penalties on Kim and 10 other top officials for alleged human rights abuses. North Korea is already sanctioned because of its nuclear weapons program, but it was the first time that Kim has been personally sanctioned. The North called the sanctions tantamount to a war declaration.

On Monday, the North's state media said it told the United States it will terminate contact through a UN channel in New York that allowed diplomats to communicate. The New York channel refers to a method for North Korea's UN diplomats to communicate with US diplomats in New York. This is needed because the countries don't have diplomatic ties and their animosities have deepened because of the North's nuclear and missile programs.

#### **New York Channel**

In Washington, State Department spokesman John Kirby did not directly address the fate of the New York channel. In comments to reporters, he called on North Korea "to

refrain from actions and rhetoric that only further raise tensions in the region." He said he would not comment on the details of diplomatic exchanges.

The North also said it informed Washington that it will handle all issues between the two countries according to an unspecified wartime law, including Americans detained in North Korea, according to the state-run Korean Central News Agency.

South Korean media have suggested that North Korea might use the wartime law to hand out harsher punishments on Americans detained in the North. The North's actions could complicate US efforts to secure the release of at least two American citizens being held for alleged espionage, subversion and other anti-state activities. One is serving a 10year prison term with hard labor while the other received 15 years.

Kirby urged North Korea to adhere to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and grant consular access to any detained US citizens without delay. He also reiterated a call for the Americans to be freed.

North Korea in the past released or deported American detainees only after high-profile Americans visited the country on their behalf. Outside analysts say Pyongyang often attempts to use foreign detainees to wrest concessions from other countries.

The North's announcement came hours after it made more threats, this time over a US plan to deploy an advanced missile defense system in South Korea.

The North's threat, carried in state media, was typical of past bluster. It came three days after Seoul and Washington said they were close to determining a location in South Korea for the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system to better deal with North Korean threats.

The North said it will take an unspecified "physical counter-action" as soon as the THAAD location is announced. The statement also carried one of the North's favorite, oft-repeated threats: To turn Seoul into a "sea of fire." It has regularly warned it would do that since 1994. US and South Korean officials say THAAD only targets North Korea, but China and Russia suspect it could also help US radars detect their own missiles.

South Korea's President Park Geun-hye said Monday she agreed on the US missile deployment because North Korea has openly threatened to launch nuclear and missile attacks on South Korea. The two Koreas are divided along the world's most heavily fortified border. The United States stations about 28,500 soldiers in South Korea. — AP

#### IN RARE CONSENSUS, AUSTRALIAN MPS CALL FOR E-VOTING AS POLL COUNT DRAGS ON

**SYDNEY:** Australians have elected a divided parliament stacked with fractious independents and minor parties but the nation's weary political leaders are united on at least one front: the need for electronic voting.

Counting in Australia's July 2 election dragged into its 10th day yesterday, drawing unfavorable comparisons with Japan, Iceland and Spain, where recent elections were all decided in less than a day.

Britons took just seven hours to calculate their contentious Brexit vote to leave the European Union last month. Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition leader Bill Shorten have backed e-voting as a solution to Australia's snail-paced count, although experts warn of security issues and others bemoan the potential loss of typically Australian election day quirks like the "sausage sizzle".

Shorten said on Sunday, after already more than a week of hand-counting of ballot papers, that it shouldn't take "a grown-up democracy" so long to figure out who has won. Counting in Australia, where voting is compulsory, is usually resolved on the same evening that Australia's 15 million voters cast their ballots. But a tight election this year and a close-run poll in 2010 demonstrate how polls can drag on for weeks before final results are declared, with electoral officials recounting by hand as they painstakingly pore over slender margins and wait for postal ballots to arrive.

By comparison, more than 45 million votes were cast in Japan on Sunday and more than 33 million were cast in the Brexit referendum. Both polls produced results within hours. E-voting could solve Australia's quandary by delivering an instant, computer-counted result, but experts warn the risks might outweigh the benefits.

Electronic voting is currently available to vision-impaired voters via an automated telephone system. It has also been trialed at state polls. In a 2015 trial in New South Wales, Australia's most populous state, internet security experts found the process vulnerable to hacking.

"Security issues around electronic voting are not solved. Software errors and security problems could potentially impact the election result," said Vanessa Teague, a lecturer in computer and information systems at University of Melbourne. — Reuters



transport plane takes off from Komaki Base for South Sudan on Monday. — AP

#### VIOLENCE SPURS JAPAN TO EVACUATE WORKERS FROM SOUTH SUDAN

**TOKYO:** Japan has urged dozens of Japanese nationals including aid workers in South Sudan's capital of Juba to leave the country and dispatched military aircraft to evacuate them amid renewed fighting in the African nation.

Japan sent transport aircraft to Diibouti on Africa's eastern coast, though it's unclear how they will travel the 3,000 kilometers (1,900 miles) between Juba and Djibouti. The three C-130s, which left their base in Komaki 260 kilometers (130 miles) southwest of Tokyo late Monday, are expected to pick up about 70 Japanese nationals

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said yesterday that the government was doing its utmost to protect

the Japanese. He said Japanese defense troops building roads and infrastructure will stay for the time being.

About 350 Japanese troops are there as part of the United Nations' peacekeeping operations. They are in their camp and safe, Defense Minister Gen Nakatani said.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency, a government-funded organization, said its more than 40 staffers were safe and standing by at home to be evacuated. JICA contractors were killed in a militant attack in Bangladesh this month.

The agency said the decision to pull out was not because of the Bangladesh attack, but because of the deteriorating safety situation in Juba. — AP

# INDIA PM CALLS EMERGENCY MEETING AS KASHMIR DEATH TOLL RISES

#### AT LEAST 29 PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN CLASHES

**SRINAGAR, India:** India's prime minister called an emergency meeting yesterday over escalating anti-India protests in Kashmir, where at least 29 people have died in clashes and hospitals are struggling with hundreds of injured.

The protests erupted over the weekend after Indian troops killed the popular, young leader of the largest rebel group in the Indian-administered region beset by an insurgency since the 1990s.

Defying curfews and paramilitary troops and riot police on patrol, crowds of youths threw stones at law enforcement officers and rallied in the main city of Srinagar and dozens of other places around the region. Separatist politicians, most of them under house arrest, extended a call for a general strike through Wednesday.

A young man was killed yesterday after government forces opened gunfire on protesters who attacked a police station in northern Kupwara area and burned a police vehicle trapping some police, police said. At least two other civilians were reported injured. Since the weekend, 28 civilians, mostly teens and young men, and one policeman have

been killed in the clashes. Doctors and government officials said they were struggling with a medical emergency after hundreds of civilians were admitted to hospitals with bullet and pellet wounds. At least 100 troops have been injured. Amid reported scuffles between law enforcement and hospital staff, many injured protesters said they were beaten up by police and paramilitary soldiers while on the way to hospitals. Authorities appealed for calm and said they would investigate the complaints.

#### Prime Minister's stand

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, having just returned from a four-nation tour in Africa, called a high-level government meeting to discuss how to

calm the region and restore peace. Indian authorities had said Monday they sent at least 2,000 more law enforcement troops to the mountainous region, where hundreds of thousands already are deployed permanently.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also expressed concern about the violence. A statement said Ban "calls on all parties to exercise maximum restraint to avoid further violence and hopes that all concerns would be addressed through peaceful means".

Indian officials lifted a suspension on an annual Hindu pilgrimage to a mountain cave that draws about half a million people each year, and asked that law enforcement ensure the security of the pilgrimage. Kashmir is about 70 percent Muslim.

Across the region, shops were shuttered, businesses closed and cellphone and mobile Internet services were suspended. Thousands thronged Tral town, despite restrictions, to participate in the memorial service for rebel leader Burhan Wani. — AP



ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN: Top leader of Hizbul Mujahideen Syed Salahuddin, center in cap, leads prayers for Burhan Wani yesterday, a rebel leader killed Friday night by Indian forces in a gunbattle in Indian controlled Kashmir, at a rally near the United Nations office. — AP

# N F W S

# ONE YEAR ON, US OBSTACLES BLUNT HOPES FROM IRAN DEAL

**TEHRAN:** A year ago, a landmark nuclear deal with world powers led jubilant Iranians to dream of an end to isolation and economic hardship, but critics say US obstacles have soured those hopes. Despite many sanctions being lifted, the international banking system is still too nervous to work with Iran. At the same time, President Hassan Rouhani faces criticism for over-hyping the economic benefits of the accord as well as fierce opposition from hardliners who reject closer ties with the West.

Many in the Islamic republic and beyond trace the problems back to Washington. "Iran has done its part. The blockage comes from the Americans - the Europeans should put more pressure on them," said a European diplomat in Tehran, speaking on condition of anonymity. "There are political leaders in the United States who make Iran out to be the devil and have not understood the goal of this accord," he added. The deal reached on July 14, 2015 saw the US, Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia agree to lift some international sanctions in exchange for guarantees that Iran would not pursue nuclear weapons.

But even after it took effect in January, the US maintained primary sanctions linked to Iran's human rights record and ballistic missile testing - blocking Tehran from dollar transactions and leaving banks worried they could still be prosecuted for doing business with the country, despite repeated assurances from Washington that they will not. Oil production has soared back almost to presanctions levels, but Rouhani's hopes of attracting \$30-\$50 billion in foreign investment each year increasingly look like wishful thinking.

#### 'Intense Fight for Power'

Aside from a €400-million (\$441-million) joint venture announced last month between France's Peugeot-Citroen and its old partner Iran Khodro, investments have been slow to materialize despite a rush of business delegations. Planned sales of hundreds of Airbus and Boeing planes are stalled, with Republicans in Washington doing their utmost to derail the deals. "The accord opened up the possibility (of working in Iran), but it's still complicated to

get concrete results due to financing problems," said Romain Keraval, head of Business France's Tehran office.

Hardliners are having a field day with the meagre results, using the media to press home a narrative that the nuclear deal will not benefit ordinary citizens. Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who supported the deal in order to end sanctions, continues to emphasize a "resistance economy" aimed at boosting domestic production and warns against Western "infiltration" through the agreement.

"There is a very intense fight for power happening," said the European diplomat. "The hardliners are doing everything they can to impede Rouhani's efforts to improve relations with the world. They see it as leading to more foreigners coming to Iran and 'spoiling' the country from within."

Many see the continued US sanctions as proof that Washington never wanted a real reset in relations, and only saw the nuclear deal as another way to manipulate Iran. "The US used this deal to put more pressure on us, trying to make us change our behavior in the Middle East or give up our ties with (Lebanese group) Hezbollah," said Amir Mohebbian, a Tehran-based political analyst with ties to politicians of all hues. "History has taught us we should not trust the United States."

Conservatives are at least taking heart from the chaos engulfing Western politics - from the divisive rise of Donald Trump in the US to Britain's dramatic decision to leave the EU. "They won't be able to gather together against us as they did in the past, especially when we are showing them a new face of flexibility," said Mohebbian.

#### 'A Lot of Work to Do'

Rouhani faces a tough re-election bid next year, and with 11 percent of Iranians out of work, his advisors have been pleading for patience. "Sanctions had become a very big obstacle in the path of Iran's economy, but removing them was not by itself going to be the sole engine of economic growth," said Said Leylaz, an analyst close to the president. "We have a lot of work to do." — AFP



Two tourist sit along the sea wall in the Casco Viejo neighborhood of Panama City on Monday. Casco Viejo is the old colonial district of Panama City, with cobblestone streets and distinct colonial buildings.— AP

#### MP CALLS FOR ADDING HEZB, DAWA...

Continued from Page 1

its publication in the official gazette. Turaiji urged the minister to speed up the implementation of the law, adding that the new legislation provides the minister with powers necessary to deal with the incorrect situation in the sports sector and for holding to account those responsible for the deterioration of sports in Kuwait.

The lawmaker said that those who contributed to the

suspension of Kuwaiti sports should be aware that they will not escape punishment. He said the new law will respond to demands by the Kuwaiti people to reform the situation in the sports sector.

Meanwhile, MP Ahmad Al-Qudhaibi vowed yesterday that he will hold the government to account in the next term over the delay in issuing the bylaws of the anti-corruption law. He said that the law, which was published in February, states that its bylaws should be issued within two months after its publication in the gazette.

#### 20 KILLED IN ITALY TRAIN CRASH

Continued from Page 1

The collision happened on a bend in the track in open countryside and flung the front carriages of both trains into olive groves bordering the line, slinging bits of metal from the wreckage. "It's an apocalyptic scene, it was hard not to vomit on first sight," said local journalist Lucia Olivieri who works for Andria Live.it, adding that rescue workers feared people may still be trapped.

Riccardo Zingaro, head of traffic police in Andria, said the yellow and blue carriages of the commuter trains were "utterly crumpled". Local hospitals issued a request on social networks for blood donors to come forward to help the injured. Paramedics set up an impromptu medical center among the olive trees, with three helicopters airlifting out the most seriously hurt victims, including one young boy. There were also psychologists on hand to help survivors.

Many of the passengers on one of the trains had been students heading to lessons at the University of sparking an explosion. — AFP

Bari and travellers on their way to Bari international airport. Relatives had arrived at the scene looking for news of their loved ones. Investigators said at least one of the trains had been travelling very fast, and it was possible the collision was caused by human error. One of the four-carriage trains was supposed to have waited at a station for a green light before heading down the single track between the towns of Corato and Andria.

Prime Minister Matteo Renzi interrupted a speech in Milan to say the country would "not stop until we know what happened". "This is a moment for tears in which we need to work to recover the victims and wounded," he added. Renzi said he was returning immediately to Rome following the collision. The trains were operated by private railway company Ferrotramviaria rather than the national railway operator Trenitalia. Italy's last major transport incident in 2013 left 38 people dead after a coach ran off the road and plunged into a viaduct. In 2009, 29 people died after a train carrying gas derailed, sparking an explosion.— AFP

#### Tribunal rejects China's South China Sea...

Continued from Page 1

with exclusive economic zones provided for in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), to which both countries are signatories.

"China had violated the Philippines' sovereign rights in the exclusive economic zone by interfering with Philippine fishing and petroleum exploration, by constructing artificial islands and failing to prevent Chinese fishermen from fishing in the zone," the PCA added. The tribunal further ruled that the disputed Spratly islands "cannot generate maritime zones collectively as a unit" as claimed by China.

Yesterday's judgement comes against the backdrop of frequent military brushes between China and its Asian neighbors the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan, which ring the waters believed to hold untapped oil and gas reserves. The tensions have also alarmed the United States which has key defense treaties with many regional allies, and in a show of strength last week sent warships to patrol close to some of the reefs and islands claimed by China.

All eyes were watching for any possible reaction on the ground or in the water from the Asian political and military powerhouse after the foreign ministry swiftly denounced the decision. "The award is null and void and has no binding force," the Chinese foreign ministry said in a statement after the ruling. "China neither accepts nor recognizes it." Beijing has repeatedly denied the tribunal's authority to rule on the dispute over the strategically vital region, and it refused the opportunity to defend its position in The Hague.

To bolster its position it has rapidly turned reefs into artificial islands capable of hosting military planes. Beijing has held naval drills between the Paracels and the southern Chinese island of Hainan in recent days. Richard Heydarian, a political analyst at De La Salle University in Manila, said the judgement was a "clean sweep" for the Philippines, with the court deciding that China had "vio-

lated prevailing international law on multiple levels". "China has been branded as an outlaw in unequivocal terms. US, Japan and other major powers should now focus on enforcing this binding verdict if China fails to comply," he said.

The Philippines, which had lodged the suit in 2013, welcomed the "milestone decision". Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay said experts were studying the decision. "In the meantime, we call on all those concerned to exercise restraint and sobriety". The Philippine embassy in China has warned its citizens to beware of personal "threats" and avoid political debates. Nationalist demonstrations are not rare in China, sometimes apparently with the tacit backing of authorities. More than 20 Chinese police were positioned outside the embassy, with more in vans nearby - a significantly larger presence than usual - along with two lorries loaded with crowd control barriers, a possible indication that authorities expected protests.

Ahead of the decision, new Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte had signaled he did not want to antagonize China, saying he would not "taunt or flaunt" a favorable ruling and would seek a "soft landing" with China. But Chinese President Xi Jinping said earlier this month that Beijing would never compromise on sovereignty, adding: "We are not afraid of trouble." China had sought diplomatic support around the world, and foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said its latest backers in the case included Angola, Madagascar and Papua New Guinea.

One of the key issues was whether the land features in the area are islands capable of supporting human habitation - which under UNCLOS are entitled to territorial waters and an exclusive economic zone - or rocks, which only have territorial waters, or low-tide elevations, which get neither. "The ruling can reduce the scope of the South China Sea disputes, but will not solve them," said analysts Yanmei Xie and Tim Johnston of the International Crisis Group in a report ahead of the decision. The ruling was likely to "escalate the war of words", they said, but added: "Escalation to military standoffs is not inevitable." — AFP

#### POKEMON GO DRIVES PLAYERS INTO FRENZY

Continued from Page 1

Pokemon Go comes with warnings to players to remain aware of their surroundings. Fairchild told of being so engrossed in the game that he has walked into things on sidewalks. Some US authorities are advising players to avoid breaking the law by trespassing in places that aren't open to the public in the search for cartoon creatures, and saying that some players have been targeted by criminals.

"If you use this app (or other similar apps) or have children that do, we ask you to please use caution," the O'Fallon, Missouri Police Department said on its Facebook page. The department also warned that robbers were preying on players drawn to rich troves of Pokemon monsters in parking lots or other places where victims might be vulnerable. Pokemon monsters can be seen through smartphone cameras, with charac-

ters appearing in whatever real settings are in view. They are caught by hitting them with virtual balls tossed by swiping across touch screens.

"I'll walk up to a PokeStop and see all of these people standing around flicking their fingers across their phones," Garcia said. "It's comforting to know there are a lot of us nerdy types out there." Pokemon Go is not just heavily downloaded, it is being kept by players and, in the majority of cases, played daily on a scale that already rivals the use of Twitter, according to industry trackers. People are also spending money to buy virtual items. "I have always liked the idea of going around the real world to collect and catch Pokemon; it has been a dream of mine," Garcia said. Nintendo, Google and Pokemon Company all invested in Niantic after it spun off from the California-based Internet company. Nintendo has a stake in the Pokemon Company joint venture that holds the Pokemon copyright. — AFP



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Issues

# AFRICAN AMERICANS LOOK TO NEXT STEPS

#### **By Thomas Urbain**

shattered by a deadly sniper attack, members of Dallas's black community have begun the work of regrouping and taking charge of their future. About a thousand people gathered late Sunday at the Friendship-West Baptist Church, called together by the Next Generation Action Network, which had helped organize the march. The protest ended in bloodshed, with five police officers killed, nine wounded and two civilians also hurt after a lone gunman ambushed police.

African American activists, entrepreneurs and elected officials at the townhall meeting weighed potential next steps and how to build a movement. But the evening was also dominated by ordinary people who had come to express their exasperation. They spoke about police brutality and Eric Casebolt, a white policeman who, in June 2015, violently slammed a 15-year-old black girl to the ground at a party deemed too noisy and drew a gun on two of her friends. None of them was armed.

A grand jury decided last month not to indict the officer from the Dallas suburb of McKinney, touching off a wave of indignation. Others acknowledged that the problem had less to do with the Dallas Police Department, which has made significant reforms in recent years, than with law enforcement in surrounding towns. Dallas Police Chief David Brown, who has received plaudits, still came in for his fair share of criticism. Early on as the situation developed, his department tweeted out a photograph of a man later identified as Mark Hughes, who had been carrying an assault-type rifle at the protest, as a suspect before reversing themselves. His image was beamed around the world.

"Everybody is singing Kumbaya for the chief of police," said Mark's brother Cory Hughes, one of the organizers of Thursday's march. Brown "put my brother out there and he has yet to pick up the phone and call us, to send an email, to send out a tweet, and we can't even go home!" Hughes said, noting the family has received numerous death threats.

#### A Plan of Action

Other participants in the meeting said the problems go beyond law enforcement. In some suburbs of Dallas, blacks and Hispanics are not welcome, according to activist Carlos Quintanilla, president of Accion America. He pointed to Garland and Arlington, while others mentioned Duncanville. And in neighborhoods heavily populated by blacks, rats run rampant in school cafeterias, while mold spreads in classrooms.

Participants pointed to South Oak Cliff High School, which Brown himself attended several decades, as one such school. Dominique Alexander, the charismatic founder of the Next Generation Action Network, spoke of a "school-to-jail pipeline" in majority black, poor neighborhoods. Wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the name of late boxer and civil rights activist Muhammad Ali, senior pastor Frederick Douglass Haynes III called for far-reaching answers. "There are wounds to our souls," said Haynes, who paid tribute to the slain officers. "We can't settle for another Kumbaya moment that is superficial," he said. "We need a plan of action."

Civil society representatives urged people to vote, contact their elected leaders, to be present when movements get started and make donations. "I get a hundred likes when I post a picture" on Facebook, said a young woman with long braids. "I get four when I say come to this townhall meeting." The gathering set a date for the next city council meeting on August 3 and called for another townhall on Thursday in the hopes of setting something in motion. After Thursday's killings, "Dallas is ground zero for change," said Royce West, a Democrat in the Texas Senate. "We don't have a choice," he told AFP. "The loss of lives of officers and citizens, it creates the perfect storm for change."

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#### AFTER BREXIT VOTE, STURGEON TAKES CONTROL

By Elisabeth O'Leary

he Friday morning after Britain voted to leave the European Union, leaders in London had little to say. Prime Minister David Cameron resigned in a short statement. Boris Johnson, the face of the leave campaign, spoke for seven minutes. George Osborne, finance minister, was nowhere to be seen and would not appear in public for three days. Four hundred miles away, Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister for the United Kingdom's northernmost nation of Scotland, appeared before the cameras, dressed in red. Her message: Scots had voted decisively to stay in the EU. That may mean Scotland would split away from the rest of the country.

For the next 30 minutes, Sturgeon took questions from reporters in Edinburgh. The next day she held a crisis cabinet meeting and gave a statement. On Sunday she was on three television talk shows and three days later she travelled to Brussels to speak with EU politicians. On Twitter, she called Johnson the leader of "Project Farce" and criticized the uncertainty now faced by EU citizens living in Britain.

By addressing the acute political, economic and social crisis that has gripped the UK after the referendum, Sturgeon and her nationalist party have seized on a chance to revive their ambitions for Scottish independence. It was a project considered shelved nearly three years ago after Scotland voted to remain in the UK in its own plebiscite. Sturgeon has argued since then that many voted to stay in the UK because it guaranteed Scotland's EU membership. Now the Scottish parliament has given her a mandate to try to keep Scotland in the EU by whatever means possible.

"The UK that Scotland voted to remain within in 2014 doesn't exist anymore," she told BBC television. "There are going to be deeply damaging and painful consequences of the process of trying to extricate the UK from the EU. I want to try and protect Scotland from that." It remains to be seen whether Scotlish independence will happen. Splitting Scotland from the UK would end three centuries of shared history, upending another tight economic

relationship shortly after a divorce between Britain and the EU. Scotland sells two thirds of its £76 billion (\$99 billion) of goods and services exports to the rest

of the UK, excluding oil and gas. But over the past two weeks, EU politicians have for the first time shown openness to Scotland's EU predicament. That could be a negotiating tactic for Brussels with London. And the return of the Scottish cause shows how the EU referendum - originally pitched by Cameron as an opportunity to prove British unity with Europe while calming anti-EU lawmakers in his own party is tearing at the social, economic and cultural cohesion within the four nations that make up the UK: England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. An opinion poll published in Scotland's Sunday Post after the EU vote showed support for independence rising to 59 percent from the 45 percent who voted for it in 2014, a level roughly steady since then. The referendum's aftermath has also created an opportunity for Sturgeon, a lawyer turned politi-Britain. She has put herself and her cause centerstage in Europe. "She's a shining light, hardworking and with an integrity that the rest of the motley crew in British politics just doesn't have," said lan Graham, a 48-year-old businessman from Kirkcaldy in Scotland. Graham said he didn't support independence last time, but may reconsider.

#### Door-To-Door

Since her days as a teenager in Dr Marten boots and listening to Duran Duran in Ayrshire, Western Scotland, Sturgeon has wanted Scottish independence. In 1987, at age 16, she knocked on the door of Kay Ullrich, a family neighbor in Dreghorn and an SNP candidate who would later become a lawmaker. It was a time when many local families had lost their jobs after factories closed. Sturgeon wanted to help campaign for the Scotlish National Party (SNP), which argued that Scotland would be better off socially and economically if it unhitched from the rest of the UK.

At the time, SNP membership was around 2,000 nationally, said Ullrich, 73, who recalls Sturgeon as an ardent campaigner. "We'd be in the

pub already and her group would come in and say 'We'd have been here earlier but Nicola said 'let's do another street.'" Sturgeon studied to be a lawyer and practiced until 1999, when she entered Scotland's devolved parliament. She had met then party leader Alex Salmond years before when he was a rising SNP star.

Salmond, considered smart but divisive by those close to him, asked Sturgeon to be his deputy when he ran, and won, the 2004 contest for party leadership. She stayed by his side until 2014 and the Scottish independence vote. During the campaign, she debated the economic merits of leaving. Independence would mean Scotland had control of its own tax take and its own energy resources, most notably, North Sea oil, she argued.

Being around Salmond toughened her stance and rhetoric. "When I was first in politics, women were very rare and the people around you tended to be middle-aged men and inevitably you do, subconsciously start to behave ... like a man," she told Reuters in an interview before the referendum. "It's only now that I'm older that I have had the confidence to be myself." That confidence has earned respect from peers and constituents. "There's no doubt that Nicola is focused. She can be ruthless and controlling (but) remains highly professional and enormously competent," said former Conservative Scottish lawmaker Mary Scanlon, a rival of Sturgeon's.

Constituents say Sturgeon is dedicated to political outreach, attending fundraisers with her husband Peter Murrell, who is the SNP's chief executive, and still finds time to call her mother every day. Since she took over the party in 2014, SNP membership has risen fivefold. The party won 56 of the 59 Scottish seats in the national parliament in 2015. The SNP's strong presence on the British political stage has helped to keep independence hopes alive at home, by giving a voice to Scottish issues. Scotland has about 9 percent of a total of 45 million UK voters and the devolved Scottish parliament decides health and education spending. From this year, it also has the power to set tax rates and bands after a deal to increase its clout offered just before the 2014 referendum.

#### Tactics

In Brussels, Sturgeon has played a tactical game. The day before she went to the European capital on June 29, she won a rare mandate from a unified Scottish parliament to keep Scotland in the EU by whatever means possible. In meetings with officials from across the political spectrum, including Martin Schulz, the German Social Democrat speaker of the European Parliament, she did not raise the issue of independence outright. Rather, she spoke about the disappointment of EU-loving Scots, according to several people who attended. "She didn't use the referendum as an excuse to leave. She wasn't pushing independence at all," said an EU source who attended.

Not acknowledging the elephant in the room is a ploy for both sides, European officials say. In the past, EU officials have been cold towards potential Scottish independence. That's because they feared igniting a nationalist fuse elsewhere in Europe, such as in Spain, where a drive for an independent Catalonia in 2014 brought hundreds of thousands of people onto the streets of Barcelona.

Now, however, Scottish independence is more appetizing in Brussels - if only as a negotiating tool to signal annoyance at London. Sir David Edward, a Scot and a former judge of the European Court of Justice, said goodwill has been eroded by the years Britain has spent fighting for opt-outs of EU policy. European officials are "absolutely fed up to the back teeth" of the British, he told Reuters, explaining why many senior EU officials were more than happy to see Sturgeon.

What Scotland can do to retain EU membership remains legally unclear. But Edward says it is "almost all about political will". There are alternative relationships that could work for Scotland, short of full EU member status, including opt-outs or a trade agreement which would treat it as a separate entity. Sturgeon's task at home is tough. She needs to balance keeping independence activists happy while trying not to scare off unionists, some of whom vote for her as the best defender of Scottish interests but oppose independence, according to party insiders. —Reuters

#### COLOMBIA WAR WIDOWS, EX-FIGHTERS CLEAR MINES

By Anastasia Moloney

neeling down in the middle of a minefield, Noralba Guarin uses a spade to scrape away the hard red earth on a remote wooded hillside in southwestern Colombia. Sweating under her protective anti-explosive vest and shatter-proof mask, she searches for landmines, a deadly legacy of 52 years of civil war in Colombia, one of the most mine-scarred countries in the world. "I never imagined I'd be looking for mines," said the widow and mother of two young children as she hacked away at vegetation near the village of San Rafael in Colombia's province of Antioquia.

War forced Guarin to flee her home twice, once aged 13 to avoid being forcibly recruited by rebels from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), and years later when rebels threatened her again when she was heavily pregnant. Now Guarin works for the British-based Halo Trust, a demining group, clearing the mines the FARC planted in their fight against government troops. "At the start of the day, the first thing you think is that I know that here in front of me, there could be mines where I haven't yet cleared," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "I have to be cautious and careful and follow what I've been taught and trained to do to the letter," said the 26-year-old, who started her demining job a year ago.

#### Historic Ceasefire

In the surrounding rolling countryside guns have fallen silent and the bombing raids have stopped following a bilateral cease-fire signed in June between the government and rebels. This brings Colombia ever closer to signing a full peace accord to end half a century of war and Latin America's longest-running insurgency. A final deal is expected within weeks. But as Colombia emerges from decades of war, the enemy remains - in the form of landmines that lurk beneath the soil.

Getting rid of mines in Colombia - a land of mountains and jungle terrain - is a key challenge facing the battered nation and is a crucial for rural development and tackling poverty. It's a task

experts estimate will take a least a decade. After Cambodia and Afghanistan, Colombia has the third highest number of landmine casualties, with 11,440 people, including civilians, children and soldiers killed or injured by landmines since 1990, government figures show.

Most of the landmines have been planted by FARC fighters in rural areas to push back army troops and destroy their morale. The drug-running FARC rebels have also planted mines in and around coca fields - the raw ingredient of cocaine - to protect their valuable crop. Often made from empty glass bottles of rum, coffee and tuna cans, and plastic tubes filled with sulphuric acid, homemade mines have been a cheap, and easy to make, weapon of war.

The government says nearly 700 of Colombia's 1,096 municipalities are thought to be contaminated by landmines. Now with the historic ceasefire three weeks in, hopes have been raised that the FARC will stop laying landmines for good. It paves the way for mine clearance to speed up and expand as security improves in areas once controlled by the rebels. "We hope with the peace agreement we can move into more areas," said Alex Greenall, Halo Trust's senior operations officer in Colombia.

#### Slow Pace

As part of the peace effort, a pilot program started last year involving guerrilla fighters working alongside army soldiers to identify and clear a small number of minefields. Such efforts are likely to increase once a peace deal is signed. In addition, the Colombian military has been carrying out its own demining operations for more than a decade. It says all of the mines it planted over the years have now been cleared and the army has found and destroyed 5,262 mines since 2004.

Colombia's president, Juan Manuel Santos, this year pledged to make the country free of mines by 2021 and said there will be 10,000 people working on mine clearance by next year. But near San Rafael, thick vegetation makes mine clearance hard going. Nearby electricity towers interfere with metal detectors and workers must use simple gardening tools. Guarin and the 27 oth-

er civilian deminers working for Halo Trust in this area clear an average of just 6.8 square meters each day, roughly half of what can be cleared in easier terrain using a metal detector. "It's 90 percent gardening. The terrain, vegetation and logistics of accessing areas make it slow pace," Greenall said.

The other challenge is that no one knows exactly where and how many mines there are or how much it will all cost, he said. It means Halo Trust staff go from village to village, from house to house, gathering information from villagers about the possible whereabouts of mines to piece together a detailed map. On the hillside Guarin's colleague, Wilmar Gil, is scouring for mines. Beside him two sticks mark the spot where landmines have been found since demining started here in May.

For him the work has a personal poignancy. Gil was 14 when he heard the screams of his father who stepped on a landmine while tending his cassava crops one day in 2005. The mine tore off his father's ankle, forcing doctors to amputate his leg below the knee. "I was nearby and heard an explosion, then my father screaming help, help! He almost bled to death," said Gil, 25. "I was drawn to the job because of what happened to my father. It made my very sad seeing him like that. I think that this is something very, very inhumane. It's very barbaric."

#### Catalyst for Rural Development

A peace deal could pave the way and encourage more of Colombia's 6.7 million displaced people to finally return home. But unless swathes of land are cleared of mines, many farmers and their families will be too afraid to go back. For Juan Romero, an ex-combatant who belonged to an illegal armed group for four years and laid down his weapons in 2006, clearing mines is a chance to contribute to building peace. He is one of nearly 20 excombatants, from all sides in the war, employed by the Halo Trust as mine clearers.

Romero, who declined to give his real name, started clearing mines last year and has so far found one. "Before we were actors in the conflict," the 32-year-old said. "Now we are actors of peace, actors of construction and transformation." —Reuters

#### **SPURS SIGN HOTSHOT DUTCH STRIKER JANSSEN**

LONDON: Prolific Dutch international striker Vincent Janssen signed for English Premier League club Tottenham Hotspur yesterday from AZ Alkmaar for a reported fee of £17 million (\$22.3m, 20.1m euros), the buying club announced.

scored in a 2-1 friendly win over England in March this year-signed a four-year contract. "We are delighted to announce the signing of Vincent Janssen from AZ Alkmaar, subject to international clearance," read a statement from Spurs. "The striker has signed a contract with the club until 2020." Janssen, who finished top scorer in the Dutch league last term with 27 goals and won the Johan Cruyff trophy for young player of the year which future Spurs team-mate Christian Eriksen won when at Ajax, joins Kenyan midfield enforcer Victor Wanyama as fresh faces at Spurs. Manager Mauricio Pochettino has been strengthening the squad for the twin challenges of the title race-having finished third last term-and the Champions League. — AFP

The 22-year-old-well known to English football fans having

#### BERTRAND SIGNS NEW **FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT**

LONDON: England defender Ryan Bertrand has signed a contract extension that will keep him at Southampton until 2021, the Premier League club said yesterday. The 26-yearold, who was in his country's squad for Euro 2016, initially joined the club on a season-long loan in July 2014, but completed a permanent move from Chelsea in February the following year. But now he has signed a new five-year deal as the club continues to tie up key players on long-term contracts. "I'm very pleased. It's been a fantastic move for me since the day I came to this club and I look forward to many more successful years and really pushing forward," Bertrand told the club's website (www.saintsfc.co.uk). "I've enjoyed my football here. I've really enjoyed the club, and the fans have been fantastic with me personally as well, so I couldn't think of any better place to play football and to keep on developing. Bertrand, who had a frustrating spell with Chelsea, made 32 league appearances last season to lead Southampton to a sixth-place finish in the table and a place in the Europa League group stages.—Reuters

#### MODRIC QUESTIONED IN DINAMO ZAGREB GRAFT CASE

ZAGREB: Real Madrid midfield star Luka Modric has been questioned by Croatian prosecutors over a multimillion-euro corruption case involving former high-ranking Dinamo Zagreb officials, a report said yesterday. Modric — who is not suspected of any wrongdoing — had already been questioned by anti-graft prosecutors (USKOK) in Zagreb in September 2015 and his testimony was considered key in the case. At the time local media reported Modric was questioned on the financial details of his 2008 transfer to Tottenham Hotspur. From there he joined Real Madrid. There were no details about the latest meeting with prosecutors, which took place in the Croatian capital on Monday, the Jutarnji list daily said. Former Dinamo Zagreb boss Zdravko Mamic — considered the most powerful man in Croatian football — and his brother Zoran, the club's ex-coach, were charged by USKOK in April with abuse of power and bribery. The Mamic brothers were charged along with one of the club's former directors and a tax inspector. —AFP

# FROOME QUESTIONS QUINTANA'S TACTICS

ANDORRA LA VELLA: Chris Froome and his Sky manager Dave Brailsford have questioned the tactics of chief rival Nairo Quintana at the Tour de France. The defending champion led the Colombian by 23 seconds ahead of today's 10th stage from Andorra to Revel, back in France.

But over three Pyrenean mountain stages, Quintana failed to attack Froome, leaving the Briton and his team perplexed. "I would be interested to find out from him (why he didn't attack)," said Froome, 31.

"I was expecting an attack from him (on Sunday) and was keeping something in reserve, and in the back of my mind just waiting for his big move. But it never came."

There may be 12 stages left in the Tour but Froome's Sky have the yellow jersey and are set up to defend it. "It really is a good place to be at the moment, I'm really happy to have the yellow jersey on my shoulders," said Froome.

"Tactically, but also for morale and for the team. Tactically it puts the shoe on the other footit's up to other teams now to go out to try to gain back time they've lost already."

Quintana admits he could lose time to Froome in Friday's 13th stage time-trial but says he's happy with the position he finds himself in. "Froome is quite strong, his team is quite strong but I'm better than previous years," said the 26-year-old

"I've got more maturity. I hope to get through the time-trial, that's where I'm weakest in relation to him. "We'll see day by day, both me and the team. There's a long way to go in the Tour, a lot of mountains-you can't lay down your whole life on just one day.

"You have to take it slowly to see how your rivals are and where the possibility to attack will be."

#### 'COMPACT RACE'

Brailsford said he's been surprised that other teams, not just Quintana's Movistar, have simply let Sky control the race, rather than trying to put them into difficulty. "We've seen Chris attack, we've seen a couple of other skirmishes if you like, but as of yet it's been a relatively compact race," he said. "At the end of the day there's only one team controlling this race, that's us.

"No other team has made any attempt to control the race. We controlled the race even when one of the big teams (BMC) was in the (yellow) jersey. "At some point in time, either the race gets taken on and (with) some of the other teams we have a battle with it, or we're going to continue to control the race until a couple of key showdowns."

Froome believes the race so far has shown he's simply got the strongest team-mates to fall back on. "With the team that I've got, I think they've shown themselves over the last few days, just in terms of numbers in the final, we do have the strongest team here," he said. "I'm confident the guys will be able to ride in that defensive way to help me. "When it comes to that final moment, even when other GC riders have only got one or two team-mates left, I'm sitting there with four or five and that's certainly going to work in my favour."

But Movistar manager Eusebio Unzue said his team are merely biding their time. "We're concentrating on effectiveness, there's no prize for the one who attacks the most," he said. "The compensation will come from being effective, either through attacking or through great defence." — AFP



REVEL: (From L) Australia's Richie Porte, Colombia's Nairo Quintana, Great Britain's Christopher Froome, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, Italy's Fabio Aru, Spain's Joaquim Rodriguez and France's Warren Barguil ride during the 197 km tenth stage of the 103rd edition of the Tour de France cycling race yesterday between Escaldes-Engordany and Revel. —AFP

#### NEW GENERATION IS TAKING OVER: BARDET

**LA MASSANA:** A new generation of professional riders is emerging intent on breaking with old habits in the peloton and doing things their own way, according to Frenchman Romain Bardet. Speaking to Reuters on the first rest day of the Tour de France, Bardet, sixth overall in the 2014 Tour and a potential podium finisher in Paris, said riders should not be seen as brainless pedal pushers. "We like to put a tag on cyclistssaying they're a bit thick, just good to push on the pedals, with their shaven legs and trademark tan, but it's not just that," the 25-year-old said.

"I hate this cliche. It's a simplistic approach, riders are profoundly human, with their sensibility, their political awareness."

After years of Lance Armstrong domination, a new generation of riders born in the 1990s is taking over, looking to bring a breath of fresh air into a sport long plagued by Omertathe law of silence imposed by the disgraced American rider. The professional peloton has until recently been ruled by self-proclaimed leaders, such as Fabian Cancellara, whose influence in the pack is still being felt.

"I have no link (with him). Cancellara has never spoken to me, I think he does not even know I'm a professional bike rider," said Bardet, a composed and articulate character

who has a degree in management. "There is a new generation coming that will have their own approach to riding although we mean no disrespect to the past. I was talking about Cancellara but Alberto Contador is a very respectful rival, who'll pat you on the back, like Alejandro Valverde.

"It's more open, there is no clear hierarchy, even if (world champion Peter) Sagan is a bit of a leader there will be no boss like before," he added.

Sagan, 26, has spoken up for riders' safety recently and is extremely popular in the peloton, unlike the 35year-old Cancellara.

Just like Sagan, Bardet is concerned about safety and believes authorities have not been dealing

swiftly enough with the concern.

#### **UNITY NEEDED**

Riders need to unite but the nature of the sport makes it difficult. "In an environment that is so fiercely competitive, it's really hard to find unity," said Bardet. "It is absolutely necessary but it's hard to bring the riders together. We're not being consulted much by the (cycling)authorities. "It's a precarious world, riders have one or two-year contracts which means it is hard for them to commit for the sport in the long term." French riders, however, are quite united, a consequence of years of abuse by other riders when France was at the forefront of the fight against doping in the late 1990s. 'Francais de merde' (shitty Frenchman) is an insult that is still being heard in the peloton, Bardet confirmed, saying the fight against old habits is not over.

"You even hear that from riders who pretend they rule the peloton," he said. "So nothing is won yet. But it's changing with the new generation. I'm thinking of (Italian Fabio) Aru, (the 2015 Vuelta winner) who is not like that at all. It's more a question of generation than nationality."

Bardet, who was ninth on last year's Tour and now lies sixth after nine stages, 44 seconds behind overall leader Chris Froome, said he intends to keep a cautious approach in the rest of the race, reining in his attacking instincts. "It's not like in 1998 when it was 'open bar', when you could attack day after day," he said referring to the year of the Festina doping scandal when widespread use of the blood-boosting EPO was revealed. "We're human. I'm aware of my capacities, I know that if I go too deep into the red one day I'll pay for it the next day. "Attacking when you've got five Sky riders at the front of the peloton and ending up with a five-minute deficit just to show my face on telly, I'm not interested. That would be shooting myself in the foot twice." — Reuters

# INJURED CONTADOR LIKELY TO MISS RIO OLYMPICS

**MADRID:** Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador said yesterday that he is almost certain to miss the Rio Olympics next month after the injuries that ruined his shot at a third Tour de France victory. The 33-yearold, a two-time Tour de France champion, quit cycling's most famous race on Sunday's ninth stage after crashing on both of the opening two stages, suffering injuries including down his right side. He finished fourth in the individual time trial at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, but missed the following Games in London after he was handed a two-year doping ban.

"Regarding the Olympics, it is practically impossible (for me to participate) because the question is not whether I have recovered but if I can participate in top condition," he told a press conference in Madrid after having medical tests.

"At first glance it looks like that will not be possible." Doctors said it would take about four weeks for Contador to recover from a range of injuries, which include muscle tears in his left thigh and bruising to his right shoulder.

Contador said missing the Olympics, which start on August 5, would deal "a big blow to morale because it is the second main objec-

tive of the year after the Tour". He is hoping to recover in time to ride in the Vuelta a Espana, which begins on August 20. "I think I can get there," he said of the Vuelta, a race he has won on three occasions. Contador insisted he had no regrets after persevering in this year's Tour despite the early crashes that eventually forced him into a premature exit. "I had to try it, I had to try to give it everything," he said. He dismissed any thoughts of retirement, just a day after compatriot Joaquim Rodriguez, 37, announced he would call time on his career at the end of the season.

"We're going to conclude an agreement in due course with a team for next year," said Contador, who acknowledged having made contact with various teams in the final year of his deal with Tinkoff. — AFP



MADRID: Tinkoff team's Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador gestures during a press conference at the CEMTRO hospital in Madrid yesterday. Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador said yestrday that he is almost certain to miss the Rio Olympics next month after the injuries that ended his shot at the Tour de France. — AFP

#### **RED BULL TO VOTE AGAINST** 'HALO' SAFETY DEVICE

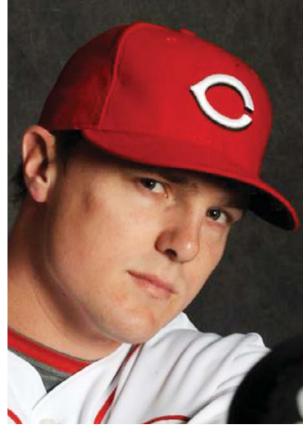
**LONDON:** Red Bull would oppose the last weekend's British Grand Prix at introduction of a proposed 'halo' cockpit protection device in Formula One next season if it comes to a vote, team principal Christian Horner has said. Former champions Red Bull had the device installed on their car at the start of the sport's second in-season test at Silverstone yesterday, becoming the second team to try it out after Ferrari. The 'halo' concept, more like a wishbone with a central pillar supporting a protective loop above the driver's head, has been promoted by Ferrari and Mercedes, whereas Red Bull prefer their own 'aeroscreen'. The latter device. more attractive to some, did not perform as well in testing by the governing body and the halo is now the main focus. "Personally I'm not a big fan of the halo," Horner told reporters after

Silverstone. "I think it's an inelegant solution to the problem that it's trying to deal with. "I'd prefer there to be more research time taken to do the job properly, rather than rushing something through that may have other consequences. So I'm not a big fan of the halo and the limitations that it has. "I certainly wouldn't vote in favour at the moment." The International Automobile Federation (FIA) is keen to introduce the halo next year but that would normally require a unanimous vote by top teams in the core Strategy Group, including Red Bull, as a change to the technical regulations.

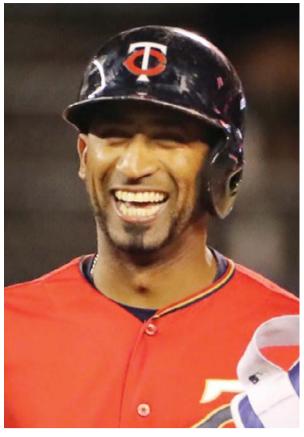
The FIA could impose it on safety grounds, however, while approval for 2018 would acquire only a majority vote.— Reuters











**Eduardo Nunez** 

# ALL-STARS FROM CELLAR-DWELLERS GET RARE SPOTLIGHT

**SAN DIEGO:** For Adam Duvall, Jay Bruce, Julio Teheran and Eduardo Nunez, the All-Star Game is as close to the spotlight as they're likely to get this season.

Their teams are far from contention, on track to lose 100 or more games. "Obviously it means a lot. But it would be better if we were winning or playing better as a team," said Duvall, whose Cincinnati Reds are 32-57.

"But this is where we are in this stage of the

process. We are rebuilding, and Cincinnati has been very vocal about that. I think we have a lot of the pieces of the puzzle. We have a very good foundation and we are doing the things necessary to be successful in the future," he said. Bruce is also on the Reds, who haven't won a title since the 1990 Nasty Boys team and seem years from contending again. "I will consider myself a Red until I am no longer in uniform," he said. "Remember, I was traded last

year and it didn't happen and here I am an All-Star with the Reds. If the Reds think it is in the best interest of the organization, that they can maybe get better, they will do it."

Teheran's Atlanta Braves are 31-28, the worst record in the majors, a team that stripped down in preparation for next year's move to suburban SunTrust Park. "It's kind of been a hard year. We have been an up-anddown team," the pitcher said. "But it's something you don't think about it. You only control what you can control. I know I don't have a lot of wins but I'm going to keep doing what I do and that is to go out there and get people out. It doesn't matter if you have run support or not. You have to help your team win."

Nunez plays for the Minnesota Twins, who are 32-56 and far from the power that won titles in 1987 and 1991. "We are struggling, we know that. But we have to see the good side and I'm here trying to represent my team and my fans in Minneapolis," he said. "Yes this is the highlight. I was very excited. I didn't expect it. I went from looking for more playing time to making the All-Star team is amazing.

The former Yankees infielder has 12 homers and 40 RBIs. "You can't control numbers. You work to get good numbers but you don't have any control. The opportunity was very big for me. It made a big difference," he said. —AP

#### MURRAY TARGETS TOP RANKING AFTER WIMBLEDON TRIUMPH

**LONDON:** World number two Andy Murray has set his sights on overtaking Novak Djokovic at the top of the rankings after capturing his second Wimbledon crown on Sunday. Murray, who reunited with coach Ivan Lendl last month, has reached the finals of his last five tournaments, winning in Rome and at Queen's Club before beating Milos Raonic in straight sets to end a 36-month hunt for a third grand slam title.

Murray's triumph and Djokovic's thirdround loss means 4845 ATP ranking points now separate them.

"I would love to get to number one, for sure, and the way to do that is to show up every week and be focused on that event," Murray told British media.

"It's definitely a goal. It's something I

spoke to my team about, something I chatted to Ivan about. "This has been a great tournament for me but, if I want to win a few slams over the next few years, I am going to have to get better. I know that he (Djokovic) will come back strong from this because of the player he is."

Djokovic arrived in London as the holder of all four grand slams and the Serb had not been beaten on the big stage since losing to Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka in the 2015 French Open final.

"Novak is still clearly number one in the world right now. He is not just going to go away because he has had one bad tournament. You can't forget what he has done in the last 18 months or so-it has been incredible," Murray added. —Reuters

# Waitrose

# SHARAPOVA TO MISS OLYMPICS

month's Rio Olympics after the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on Monday decided to defer its decision on the Russian multiple grand slam champion's appeal against a two-year doping ban until September.

Sharapova was seeking to have her ban, which was imposed on her by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) in June, wiped out or reduced and a decision was initially expected to be announced by July 18. The postponement of the ruling

**NEW YORK:** Maria Sharapova will miss next came as Sharapova and the ITF needed more time to "complete and respond to their respective evidentiary submissions", the CAS said in a statement. "A decision is expected to be issued by 19 September 2016," it added.

> The 29-year-old former world number one was named in Russia's official entry list for the Olympics tennis tournament. Sharapova was banned last month following a positive test for the banned drug meldonium during January's Australian Open.—Reuters



**Maria Sharapova** 

# ENGLAND'S ROOT READY FOR NUMBER THREE ROLE

**LONDON:** England batsman is confident he can cope with the added responsibility of batting at number three during the upcoming Test series against Pakistan.

Root has been promoted one place up the order following former number three Nick Compton's decision to take time out from cricket following a poor series against Sri Lanka. Although not true of Compton, number three has historically been the place occupied by a team's leading batsman. Root, who had a brief spell as an England opener, was persuaded to make the move by captain Alastair Cook and coach Trevor Bayliss. Now the 25-year-old Yorkshireman will slot in at number three for the first of a four-Test series against Pakistan starting at Lord's on Thursday. "We had a few discussions throughout the season that it could be a possibility moving forward," Root told a Lord's news conference on Tuesday. "I think the fact I had quite a long time to think about it and to chat it over with the selectors and Trevor and Cooky, it probably made it a bit easier, rather than being thrown into the role," added Root, who has scored nearly 3,500 runs in his 42 Tests at an average of over 52 with nine hundreds. "The way they've dealt with it has been really good and it's given me time to get my head around it.

"I feel pretty comfortable going into the series and it's now just about trying to make sure that moving forward that's something I feel comfortable with and I can keep making big scores and contributing to winning Test matches." Root denied England's middle-order would be weakened by his promotion and the ongoing absence through injury of allrounder Ben Stokes. "I think that's probably harsh," said Root. "Someone like Jonny Bairstow would consider himself a middleorder batsman and he's taken his game to another level."

He added: "Guys like James Vince, who will really be looking forward to getting back out playing red-ball cricket again.

"He's got a little bit of experience under his

belt and will gain confidence from that." Pakistan left-arm quick Mohammad Amir is

set to make his return to Test cricket on Thursday at Lord's-the ground where he incurred a five-year ban for deliberately bowling no-balls against England in the 2010 "spot-fixing" row. —AFP

## MLB SCRAPS PLANS TO PLAY IN LONDON IN 2017

**SAN DIEGO:** London is not calling for Major League Baseball next year. MLB has given up plans to play regular-season games in the British capital in 2017. Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said in January that his staff was working hard at playing in London, and MLB officials looked at the renovated Olympic Stadium as a possible venue. The Red Sox likely would have been one of the teams

"There was discussion about London early on," union head Tony Clark said Monday. "Unfortunately there were a number of moving pieces related to London that shortened our window in an effort to try to find common ground on that happening, and we weren't able to get it done in time."

Dan Halem, MLB's chief legal officer, said that ongoing collective bargaining negotia-

tions and next spring's World Baseball Classic kept the league from pursuing a London series for next year. "We did not have enough time to work out

all the details to play in London in 2017,"

Halem said. "We continue to discuss interna-

tional play with the union, including playing games in London."

Clark also was non-committal about having players on 25-man active rosters made available for the 2020 Olympics, which will be held in Tokyo from July 24-Aug. 9. The International Olympic Committee executive board voted last month to support a sixnation tournament that year in both baseball and women's softball, and the full IOC is to vote in August.

Baseball became a medal sport for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics but was dropped for the 2012 London Games and won't be played this year in Rio de Janeiro. In 2008, only those not on 25-man big league rosters as of late June were allowed to compete - the US team included Jake Arrieta and Stephen Strasburg - both All-Stars this year. "Is there an appreciation for the value of having baseball in the Olympics? Yes, there is," Clark said. "Is there an appreciation for the season and how or if it could work with our active players? Yeah, there's a conversation, but we run into the same roadblocks we always have."—AP

#### OLYMPIC SWIMMING CHAMP LE CLOS SAYS BOTH PARENTS HAVE CANCER

**CAPE TOWN:** South African Olympic underwent surgery last month. swimming champion Chad le Clos, who beat Michael Phelps in one of the upsets of the 2012 London Games, announced Monday that both his parents are fighting cancer.

Le Clos said in a statement that his father Bert, who himself became a global celebrity for his exuberant celebrations and animated interviews in London, has prostate cancer and

His mother Geraldine has breast cancer, had a double mastectomy, and is undergoing chemotherapy, Le Clos said. Le Clos' mother had been in remission since 2010, but the cancer had returned, Le Clos said.

"It has not been an easy time but I am training hard for Rio," Le Clos said in his brief statement . "More than anything else I want them to win their

battles. I also hope that they will be in Rio." Le Clos asked for privacy for his family and said he would not be doing any interviews ahead of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, which open on Aug. 5. Le Clos, just 20 at the time, beat his childhood hero Phelps to win gold in the 200-meter butterfly in London, a big surprise that gained added attention because of his father's heartwarming and humorous

TV interviews. Admiring his son with a gold medal around his neck, Bert said in an interview with the BBC soon after the race: "Look at him! And he's beautiful! Look at this. What a beautiful boy!"

The father then asked if the interview was going out live. When told that it was, Bert apologized for being so excited. Fans loved Bert so much that the BBC asked him to return for a

second interview. Chad le Clos, now 24, is due to defend his 200 butterfly title in Rio, and also compete in the 100-meter butterfly, where he won silver in London just behind Phelps. He could come up against Phelps again in those two events. He could also swim in the 200 freestyle. Le Clos is also a three-time world champion and a six-time winner at the world short-course championships. —AP

## AUSSIE WOMEN EYE US UPSET IN RIO

**SYDNEY:** Three-time Olympic medallist Suzy Batkovic was yesterday left out of Australia's woman's basketball squad for the Olympic Games as the Opals look to make the podium for a sixth successive time in Rio de Janeiro.

The 35-year-old, a team regular for over a decade, was one of three players to miss the cut in coach Brendan Joyce's final roster alongside Tess Madgen and Rebecca Allen.

They were already without star centre Lauren Jackson, who retired in March because of injury after an almost 20-year international career. The world number two Australians have won either silver or bronze at every Olympics dating back to Atlanta in 1996, with the irrepressible US team their long-time nemesis.

Laura Hodges, Elizabeth Cambage and Rachel Jarry return from the London 2012 line-up that won bronze, while Erin Phillips and Penny Taylor make their return to Olympic competition. They are joined by Olympic debutants Marianna Tolo, Katie-Rae Ebzery, Natalie Burton, Tessa Lavey, Leilani Mitchell, Stephanie Talbot and Cayla George. Rio will be Taylor's third Games after missing London with injury, and she believes that the strength, determination and focus of the current side will give them every chance of upsetting the Americans. "Gold is always the goal at an Olympic Games but we know there is a long way to getting the chance to play for that gold medal," she said. "We have a strong team and a very similar team to what we had at the 2014 World Championships and I think Brendan has done a wonderful job implementing a system that we love being a part of.

"We play Brazil first up and playing the home side in the first game is always going to be a huge challenge in itself." The Opals wrap up a camp on Australia's Gold Coast shortly before heading to America for warm-up matches against the USA, Canada and France. —AFP



Indian hockey team.

# INDIA CHANGE SKIPPER AHEAD OF OLYMPICS

**NEW DELHI:** India's hockey coach Roelant Oltmans said yesterday that skipper Sardar Singh had been replaced as captain for the Olympics as he backed the sport's one-time giants to continue their recent revival in Rio.

After unveiling the 16-strong men and women's squads which will travel to Brazil, Oltmans said that goalkeeper Sreejesh Ravindran would lead the men's team under a new "rotational captaincy" programme. Singh, who has been captain of the team for the last for years, was picked in the squad and Oltmans insisted he remained a key player. But the move comes after he was accused in February of sexually harassing a woman who claims to have been his former girlfriend, accusations that Singh has strenuously denied.

"I have been here for a three and a half years now and what I observed is a fairly hierarchic structure and when there is only one captain for long then the players shy away from responsibility," said Oltmans. "In a team, during a game, I need players who take responsibility. Changing the captaincy on the pitch gives far more responsibility. "Sardar is an important player but I am sure this (rotational captaincy) will help the team and it will help him as well," he added at a press conference in New Delhi.

India once dominated the men's game at the Olympics and has won a total of eight golds. However the last of these was in Moscow back in 1980 and they finished last at the London games four years ago. Although not one of the favourites at next month's Olympics in Brazil, there have been encouraging signs for India of late and they were runners-up in the recent Champions Trophy.

"You have seen in the last couple of years that we are getting better and better," said the

62-year-old Dutchman. "If that's enough already to get medals at the

Olympics that's something we have to prove.

India's strong showing at last month's Champions Trophy in London has seen it rise a couple of spots to fifth in the world rankings, still some way behind Australia at the top of the

"It's clear from where we are, winning a couple of medals in FIH (International Hockey Federation) tournaments, look at the world rankings at the moment," said Oltmans.

"It is all signals of revival but nothing more than that. It is up to us to prove it during the Olympics that we are there for a longer time," added the coach, who is also the team's high performance director. The Indian men's team has been drawn in Group B alongside Argentina, Canada, Germany, Ireland and Netherlands.

The women's team, which is making its first appearance at an Olympics for 36 years, has been grouped with Argentina, Australia, Great Britain, Japan and the United States. —AFP

#### **NSW OUT TO SALVAGE PRIDE** IN ORIGIN DEAD RUBBER

**SYDNEY:** New South Wales are desperate to salvage some pride and send retiring captain Paul Gallen out in style in the third and final State of Origin match of this year's series today against Queensland.

The Maroons have already sealed their 10th rugby league series title in 11 years after a 26-16 win in Brisbane last month, which followed a 6-4 triumph in the opener in Sydney. After yet another failed campaign, New South Wales have added James Tedesco, Wade Graham and Josh Dugan to a freshened side as they look to avoid a series whitewash.

Tedesco replaces Matt Moylan at fullback, while Dugan returns from injury. Graham has received his Origin call-up at the expense of Greg Bird, after returning from suspension.

The long-serving Gallen will line-up for his 24th and last Origin match, with a special video tribute set to be aired immediately before the game at ANZ Stadium. Coach Laurie Daley said his captain would leave a legacy "of giving his best".

"I don't think anyone could ever question that. He goes out there and leaves nothing in the tank," Daley said.

"He's been a true warrior through difficult times but he's aimed up every time he's pulled on a sky blue jersey which I think the boys appreciate. "They know how much this game means to him personally and it'll be great for them to not only win for Gal but win for the state because it'll give everyone a great deal of optimism."

But Queensland captain Cameron Smith is keen to spoil Gallen's party, adamant there will be no let up from his side with a 3-0 whitewash the aim to ensure New South Wales do not carry self belief into next year's series. "There is no lack of motivation. We spoke about our mindset towards this match and where it needs to be at and I don't see any issues," he said. "We can't afford not to put in a good performance because that can give them a bit of self belief and momentum into next series." Queensland have made two changes from the Brisbane match with Gavin Cooper set to make his Origin debut, while Nate Myles has recovered from injury, with Michael Morgan and Josh Papalii unavailable due to injuries.

Queensland (from) - Darius Boyd, Gavin ooper, Cooper Cronk, Dane Gagai, Matt Gillett, Aidan Guerra, Greg Inglis, Jacob Lillyman, Josh McGuire, Nate Myles, Corey Oates, Justin O'Neill, Corey Parker, Matt Scott, Cameron Smith (capt), Johnathan Thurston, Sam Thaiday.

New South Wales (from) - James Tedesco, Blake Ferguson, Michael Jennings, Josh Dugan, Josh Mansour, Jack Bird, James Maloney, Aaron Woods, Robbie Farah, Paul Gallen (capt), Wade Graham, Josh Jackson, Tyson Frizell, Matt Moylan, James Tamou, David Klemmer, Andrew Fifita. —AFP

**Paul Gallen** 

# WARRIORS' STAR GREEN ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

LOS ANGELES: Golden State Warriors star Draymond Green, who is expected to represent the United States in the Rio Olympics, has been arrested for an alleged misdemeanor assault. According to court documents obtained by ESPN, the 26year-old Green was detained in the early morning hours on Sunday following an altercation at Conrad's Grill restaurant in East Lansing, Michigan where Green played four seasons of college basketball.

Police said that Green was arrested for misdemeanor assault and battery. Green has not been charged and police said no one was injured. He was released on a \$200 bond and is scheduled to be back in court on July 20. "It was basically an altercation between two guys," police told the US sports broadcaster on Monday. There were no injuries reported. If convicted, he could face a maximum \$500 fine and 93 days in jail. The Warriors said they are trying to learn more about the incident. "We are aware of the news involving Draymond Green in Michigan over the weekend. At this point, we are collecting information and will have no further comment until we have a better understanding of the situation," the Warriors said in a statement.

Green is among a dozen players who are expected to make up the US team for the Rio Summer Games and he is scheduled to attend the men's Olympic basketball camp in Las Vegas on July 18-21.

"We are still awaiting details. No comment at this time," USA Basketball managing director Jerry Colangelo told ESPN.

He averaged 14.0 points, 9.5 rebounds and 7.4 assists per game last season in helping Golden State reach the National Basketball Association finals.

In the finals, the controversial Green got into a heated altercation with Cavaliers star LeBron James and missed game five of the championship series for an accumulation of flagrant fouls throughout the playoffs. The Cavaliers won the championship in game seven. — AFP



**Draymond Green** 

#### RUSSIAN ATHLETE ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN RIO FACES CRITICISM

Klishina is facing a barrage of criticism at home for agreeing to compete under a neutral flag. Because Russian track and field athletes were suspended globally following state-sponsored doping, the US-based Klishina was given permission by the IAAF over the weekend to compete as a neutral athlete because she met "exceptional eligibility criteria."

But that enraged some Russians, who called her a "traitor," and pointed out she

**MOSCOW:** Russian long jumper Daria lives and trains abroad. One social media account published her picture in a leaflet that was reminiscent of Nazi propaganda that encouraged collaboration in the occupied territories of the Soviet Union."Russian athletes, the only thing you have to do in order to compete in the Olympics is to give up the banner of your country," the leaflet said. "Do give up the shameful Russian flag!" Even the typically bland state-owned Rossiyskaya Gazeta published an opin-

ion piece lambasting Klishina.

"They've allowed only one Russian, the long jumper Daria Klishina, to compete at the Olympics only because she trains in the United States," veteran sports journalist Nikolai Dolgopolov wrote. "How silly is that?" Klishina dismissed the criticism in a piece published by the All-Russia Athletic Federation, and said she hopes other Russians will be cleared.

"It is not like I started training in the

United States with an American trainer a month ago," she said. "I have been there for three years now, that is why I think it is wrong to accuse me and call me a traitor of the motherland. I still hope that it won't be just me who gets to go

More than 80 Russian athletes have applied for clearance from the IAAF, and only Klishina and doping whistleblower Yulia Stepanova have had their requests

The IOC has yet to allow them to compete in the Rio de Janeiro Games. Dmitry Peskov, the spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin, sought to lower the tensions on Monday. "It's not the right time for emotions, it's time for legal actions that we are undertaking," Peskov said. "Court decisions are pending. Russian athletes and those who represent them will use all legal means at their disposal and fight till the bitter end." —AP

#### IS RIO'S 2016 OLYMPIC 'TRANSFORMATION' FOR REAL?

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Rio's mayor touts a "transformation" of the 2016 Ólympic city but when Rosa, a cleaning lady, makes the difficult journey back to her crime-ridden slum each evening, she's grateful just to have made it home.

At the heart of Rio de Janeiro's so-called legacy projects-long-term improvements brought by the Olympics to a rundown city-is transport.

New roads and cycle paths have been built along the Atlantic coastline, a system of express bus lanes has been created and, biggest of all, a 10-mile (16-kilometer) extension to the metro will link the farflung west of the city.

Add in the other urban goodies-new housing, schools, a revitalized city center, and the Museum of Tomorrow-and it adds up, Mayor Eduardo Paes says, to "a renewed and more integrated city."

But if you're like Rosa, who did not want to give her last name, this shiny new Rio remains a world away.

In the Mare favela, where she has lived for 18 years, shootouts between drug dealers and police with automatic weapons are a near-daily reality, while getting to and from home requires negotiating tortuous bus routes. "The working class isn't getting any benefits from these Games," said Rosa, who is 50.

#### ON THE MOVE

Paes admits the legacy projects may not meet everyone's expectations but he says the effect is nevertheless huge.

"People imagine the Games will solve Brazil's problems or even the causes of the problems, but it won't be one or the other. It was a chance to make a better city. Don't expect a Chicago or Tokyo. Compare Rio to Rio," he said.

Transport is the key. According to city hall, the new projects mean that in 2017, some 63 percent of the population will use public transport, compared to only 17 percent in 2009.

"Transport is the biggest legacy when measured by investments and numbers of people who benefit," Rafael Picciani, the deputy mayor, told AFP.

Currently, buses are used by 37 percent of people, compared to just four percent on the metro. The metro extension will change those numbers and the express bus system will reduce travel times for many.

However, the accompanying reduction, or what the mayor's office calls "rationalization," of previously existing bus lines, has resulted in hardship for people-like Rosanot living near the new networks and now

forced to take even longer bus journeys. There are also worries over the quality of the construction work. Part of an ambitious oceanside cycle path collapsed, killing two people, after it was hit by a large wave in April.

#### **FUTURE OF POLICING?**

Officials say that the Olympics will be safe thanks to a huge reinforcement by soldiers, elite national police units and others, totalling 85,000 officers.

But what happens once the tourists and extra police go home?

Just in the first five months of this year, 2,083 murders were committed in Rio state, up 14 percent on the same period last year. Street robberies and car thefts have gone through the roof.

In favelas like Rosa's home neighborhood in the Mare, shootings are a near daily event, often with powerful automatic weapons that increase the risk of deadly stray bullets.

Violence has gone down since 2008 when a bold new "pacification" strategy was introduced to insert police deep in the favelas and increase community policing, rather than rely on sporadic raids from the

However the program has recently appeared to unravel in some favelas, with traffickers apparently regaining territory. Now, many favela dwellers question whether the embedded police will even stay on after the Olympics.

#### **SPORTS FOR ALL?**

Hosting the Olympics means building lots of new sports installations.

Officials say all this infrastructure-in contrast to the embarrassing fate of unused stadiums from the 2014 World Cup in Brazil-will benefit the population after the Games end.

"There'll be no white elephants," Picciani said, although that promise is likely to be severely tested by the fate of the newly built Olympic golf course, given that very few Brazilians play the sport.

City hall hopes to rent out the facilities for sporting events but says they will also be accessible to the public. These include the aquatic center in Deodoro, one of Rio's poorest areas.

However all the construction came with a high human cost: more than 22,000 families were forced to move out of their homes.

Resettlement packages and new homes were offered and Picciani says "all those who left are better off now than before."

But activists, like the Olympic Games Popular Committee, say the forced changes had a less charitable effect by clearing the poor out of neighborhoods that post-Olympics will be marketed as higher-end real estate. —AFP



#### DOUBLED UP FELIX FINISHES FOURTH, NO CHANCE FOR OLYMPIC DOUBLE

**EUGENE:** Allyson Felix had the star power to change the Olympic schedule. Now, it's her schedule that needs adjusting. Felix's run at the 200-400 Olympic double, made possible after Olympics officials honored her request for a chance to run both races, came to an earlier-than-expected end Sunday. She finished fourth in the 200-meter final, one spot away from Rio, in a .01-second loss to a sprawling Jenna Prandini at US Track and Field Trials.

"Honestly, disappointed," said Felix, who will not get a chance to defend her Olympic title in her signature event. "The whole year, that has been what I was working for. When I look back and see everything that happened, I still think it's quite amazing I was able to make the team."

She did make the 400-meter lineup, and that is, indeed, quite an accomplishment considering the injury she suffered this spring. After landing awkwardly on an exercise ball while doing core work, she rolled her right

The injury was so severe she avoided running around the track in the correct, counterclockwise direction until just before trials, for fear she would put too much outside pressure on her injured ankle.

In track parlance, a sprinter doesn't necessarily have to be "fast" to succeed in the 400 a full lap around the track in which technique is more important than pure speed. But in the 200, it takes a more aggressive lean into the curve at the opening of the race - just the sort of "speed work" Felix didn't get enough of during her slow comeback.

"I could only do what I could with the ankle," she said. And so, she started slow, never made up ground against winner Tori Bowie or second-place Deajah Stevens and could not hold off Prandini, the former University of Oregon star who had to wait about 30 seconds to see the result for third place go up on the board. Afterward, she was scraped-up but

"I don't know what happened," said Prandini, who finished in 22.53 seconds. "But it got the job done."

One of Felix's biggest fans made news earlier in the day: According to USA Track and Field, 16-year-old Sydney McLaughlin will be the youngest member to compete for the U.S. Olympic track team since 1972 after finishing

third in the 400-meter hurdles. Not bad for the junior out of Union Catholic High School in New Jersey, who turned on the Beijing Olympics eight years ago, saw Felix winning the 4x400 relay and thought, "I'd like to be like her, someday."

Asked what she liked most about Felix, McLaughlin said: "She wasn't afraid to lose." "Sometimes, I get so caught up in the fact that I hadn't lost a hurdles race, and I come here, and these girls are faster than me," said McLaughlin, who admitted to being so nervous earlier in the week she considered pulling out of the meet. "It's realizing that sometimes you have to lose to get better."

It happened to Felix plenty over the years, none more heartbreakingly than in Athens and Beijing, where she settled for back-toback silvers in an event she had dominated.

But she won gold in 2012. And with track and field - and possibly NBC, as well - desperate for some star power in a sport now headlined by Usain Bolt and a worldwide doping crisis, a scheduling change that would double the track time for one of America's most popular runners was a no-brainer.

But US trials don't guarantee anything, and on Sunday, a few more potential medal contenders - including 400-meter hurdlers Johnny Dutch and Bershawn Jackson - also saw some dreams end early.

Felix is still going to Rio de Janeiro. But with more free time on her hands than originally planned. "I'm pretty sure everyone expected to see her on the (200) team," Bowie

said. "I'm pretty sure it won't be the same without her." Other happenings on the final day of track trials:

**DIVING FOR RIO:** Prandini wasn't the only one who left her feet trying to get that last spot. Last weekend, Brenda Martinez was devastated when she got tripped in the 800meter final and left behind at the finish. On Sunday, she wasn't going to miss her chance. She leaned, and then barreled over the finish line of the 1,500-meter final to take the third and final spot. Ricky Babineaux had a dive that didn't work out as well; he still came up .06 short of third in the 400 hurdles. "I think it was worth the dive, if I would've made it," he

THE SUHR THING: Jenn Suhr is about as close to a sure thing as there is in track and field. Still, the defending Olympic pole vault champion was in tears after she won to make her third Olympics. "It doesn't get any easier when you get older," she said in an on-track interview. "I'm just happy that all the work was

**IF THE SHOE FITS:** Kim Conley saw her first attempt at making the Olympics spoiled when her shoe came off in the 10,000 meters. No wardrobe malfunction this time. She finished third in the 5,000. "I had my heart set on the 10 this year. That was disappointing. I feel like I turned the page really well," she said.

OTHER WINNERS: Matt Centrowitz won, as expected, in the men's 1,500. He'll be joined by Robby Andrews and Ben Blankenship. Barbara Nwaba took the heptathlon title. Kerron Clement won 400-meter hurdles to make his third Olympics. He won silver in Beijing and finished eighth in London. Erik Kynard was the men's high jump champion, with a leap of 7 feet, 6 inches.

**QUOTABLE:** "When I give all I have and run 22.5, it's just not there." -Felix, on her time (22.54 seconds) that landed her fourth in the 200.— AP



**Usain Bolt** 

#### **BOLT AIMS FOR MORE** OLYMPIC GLORY IN RIO

**KINGSTON:** Usain Bolt will get a chance to hone his Olympic track and field legacy, as he was named to the 59 member Jamaican team that will compete at the Olympic Games in Rio next month. Bolt, who withdrew from the 100m final and sought a medical exemption from the 200m at the Jamaican Olympic Trials two weekends ago, was named on the provisional list submitted to the IOC to contest the 100m/200m/4x100m relays in Rio.

He seeks to become the first man to win three straight triple-triples after wins in Beijing in 2008 and London in 2012.

The announcement was made Monday afternoon at a news conference held by the Jamaica Olympic Association in Kingston where all members of the Olympic team were announced.

The Jamaica Athletics Administrative Association's (JAAA) selection rules allow for athletes ranked in the top three in the world to submit medical exemptions and miss the trials but they must be able to prove their fitness at a later date to be named to the Olympic team.

Bolt suffered a grade one hamstring tear on the first day of the four day national championships. He then ran the semi-final of the 100m before withdrawing an hour before the final. He submitted a medical exemption for the rest of the championships, including the 200m.

He then travelled to Europe to see a specialist, world renowned sports doctor Hans-Wilhelm Muller-Wohlfahrt and posted a photograph of himself training over the weekend. Bolt ran a season's best 9.88 seconds in the 100m but has yet to run a 200m race in competition. He is scheduled to run at the London Anniversary Games later this month.

Bolt is one of several Jamaican athletes who used the medical exemption at the trials including Elaine Thompson, who won the women's 100m in a world leading 10.70 seconds, Olympic bronze medalist Hansle Parchment in the men's 110m hurdles and 400m hurdler Janieve Russell, all of who were included on Monday's list.— AFP



BUENOS AIRES: Argentine professional basketball player Luis Scola takes a photo with athletes of the Argentina Rio 2016 Olympic Games delegation along with Argentine President Mauricio Macri, center, during the farewell ceremony in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Monday. — AP

#### TV MONEY LURES HENRY AWAY FROM BELOVED GUNNERS

LONDON: France and Arsenal legend been working with Arsenal youth play-Thierry Henry ended his association with the English Premier League club yesterday preferring to focus on his burgeoning media career.

The 38-year-old former striker-part of the 1998 World Cup and Euro 2000 winning teams-could have coached the Gunners' under-18 side but declined the offer when Arsene Wenger told him he would have to give up his lucrative Sky Sports TV contract for which he is reportedly paid £4 million (\$5.2m, 4.7m euros) a year. Henry, Arsenal's all-time leading scorer with 174 goals in 254 appearances from 1999 to 2007, had

ers as part of his UEFA A Licence course.

Another former Arsenal legend, Tony Adams, 49, will take the role with the under-18s. Adams's former centraldefensive partner Steve Bould is Wenger's assistant manager while another ex-player, Freddie Ljungberg, will work with the under-16s.

Henry must now find a team to coach to complete his Pro Licence. Reviews of Henry's performances as a pundit for Sky have been largely critical, but critics agreed that he was far better on the BBC during Euro 2016.

Noted sports TV critic Giles Smith

said in The Times newspaper yesterday: "One puzzle we're nowhere nearer solving: how can the same Thierry Henry who is so open and engaging on the BBC be such a lump of wet wool on Sky Sports?" Meanwhile, Hull City boss Steve Bruce has said he is flattered to be linked with the vacant England manager's job, following the departure of Roy Hodgson.

Hodgson quit in the wake of England's humiliating exit from the European Championship at the hands of Iceland and Bruce is one of several managers who have been linked with the post by the British media.

"It's highly flattering and I'm hon-oured to be linked with it," Bruce, who led Hull back into the Premier League after one season in the Championship (second-tier), told the local media.

"Whether or not it goes any further than that... It's the pinnacle isn't it? To manage your country, there's no bigger job. "It's all speculation. There's a lot of people who have written nice things and I'm grateful for that."

The names of United States manager Juergen Klinsmann and Sunderland boss Sam Allardyce are also doing the rounds for the job. Bruce said he had not been contacted by the English Football Association and was focused on building a Hull squad capable of competing in the Premier League in the coming season. "With the players that we let go at the end of last season, and the two injuries we've subsequently picked up, we might now be looking at five or six new faces," he added. "We'd like to add to the squad quickly if we could, but when you have European Championships going on there hasn't been any really significant movement (in the transfer market) just yet. A lot of clubs are being patient and we have to do the same. "We have a good base of players here." — Agencies



SAINT-DENIS: This file photo taken on July 3, 2016 shows France's defender Samuel Umtiti controlling the ball during the Euro 2016 quarter-final football match between France and Iceland at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, near Paris, on July 3, 2016. Barcelona have agreed a 25-million-euro move for France defender Samuel Umtiti from Lyon, the Spanish giants announced yesterday. — AFP

#### BARCA COMPLETE DEAL FOR LYON'S UMTITI

**BARCELONA:** Barcelona have completed the signing of France defender Samuel Umtiti from Lyon in a deal worth 25 million euros (\$27.7 million), the Spanish champions announced yesterday. Umtiti, 22, will pen a five-year contract with Barcelona which includes a buy-out clause of 60 million euros, the club said in a statement. Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu confirmed last month that the two clubs had reached an agreement over the transfer while Umtiti was on international duty for France at Euro 2016.

The Cameroon-born centre-back made his France debut in the quarterfinals against Iceland and retained his place in the team for the next two matches, including Sunday's 1-0 defeat by Portugal in the final. Umtiti, who can also play at left-back, will be officially presented as a Barcelona player on Friday after undergoing a medical at the Camp Nou. He will compete for playing time with Gerard Pique, Javier Mascherano and France team-mate Jeremy Mathieu, whose injury prompted Didier Deschamps to call up Umtiti for the European Championship.

Umtiti, an under-20 World Cup winner in 2013, becomes Barca's second signing of the summer after the Catalan giants exercised a buy-back clause to re-sign midfielder Denis Suarez from Villarreal

In Glasgow, Mark Warburton's success in steering Scottish giants Rangers back into the Premiership earned him a much

improved three-year contract yesterday. The 53-year-old Englishman-who took over at Rangers last year after a successful stint at unfashionable English side Brentford-had his present contract, which had two years remaining on it, ripped up and replaced by a three-year deal. His assistant, former Rangers and Scotland defensive pillar, David Weir-who worked with him at Brentford-was also rewarded with a similarly improved offer.

"Our decision to reward Mark and David with significantly improved contracts was primarily driven by our recognition of their role in transforming the football department at all levels throughout the club and their desire to continue with that project in the seasons ahead," said Rangers managing director Stewart Robertson.

"We have sold more than 41,000 season tickets and, like everyone at the club, our supporters are looking forward to seeing the team compete in the top flight once again - both domestically and in Europe."

Warburton, who has forged a successful managerial career despite never playing in league football, said it was a privilege to be in such a prestigious job.

"I have said this many times since moving to Glasgow but it really is a huge honour and privilege to be manager of Rangers Football Club and I am thrilled to agree a new contract," said Warburton, who also guided Rangers to the Scottish Cup final last term after a sensational semi-final victory over bitter city rivals Celtic. "Our debut campaign in Scotland was certainly a positive one but we are all working tirelessly to deliver continued success for our fans."— Agencies

# GERMANY'S LOEW TO STAY ON DESPITE EURO DISAPPOINTMENT

**BERLIN:** Germany's Joachim Loew said he would stay on to lead the World Cup winners to their title defence in Russia in 2018 despite an initial hesitation on whether to continue after a disappointing semi-final defeat to France last week at the Euro 2016.

Loew, who has coached Germany for 10 years and to five straight semi-final appearances at World Cups and Euros, said in a statement yesterday he planned to continue, ending some speculation that the 56-year-old might step

"Despite our disappointment, the team didn't disappoint," said Loew, who was Juergen Klinsmann's assistant coach for two years before taking over the reins in 2006.

"It was the youngest team in the tournament and I continue to see great potential," added Loew, referring to his team's average age of 25.4 years, which was next to England the youngest at the tournament. Italy had the oldest team with an average age of 29.4 years.

"I'm sure that they'll give us plenty of joy in the future and that's why I remain enthusiastic about continuing to work with these players and accompany their developments going to the 2018 World Cup in Russia."

Loew had triggered speculation that he might step down right after Germany lost to France 2-0 in the semi-final when he was asked about his future.

"I don't know," he told ZDF television just minutes after the final whistle. "It'll take a while (to make a decision)." Those non-committal comments prompted a wave of support for Loew and an opinion poll by the Emnid polling institute for Bild am Sonntag newspaper showed that 84 percent of Germans wanted the man they call "Jogi" (pronounced 'Yogi') to continue.

Also known as the "Bundestrainer", Loew has led his team to at least the semi-finals in every tournament they have played in since he took over after the 2006 World Cup, where Germany



AUGSBURG: This file photo taken on May 29, 2016 shows Germany's head coach Joachim Loew prior to the friendly football match between Germany and Slovakia in Augsburg, southern Germany. Loew confirmed yesterday that he will perform his contract with the German Football Federation (DFB) and stay as coach of the German national football team until the end of the Football World Cup to take place in the year 2018. — AFP

under Klinsmann also reached the semi-final before losing to Italy.

Loew also led Germany to the 2014 World Cup title-the country's fourth after 1954, 1974 and 1990. Loew's record stands at 137 matches with 90 wins and 23 defeats.

Germany's World Cup defence starts on 12 years. — Reuters

September 4 with a qualifying match against Norway. Loew is one of the longest-serving national team coaches anywhere but ranks only third in Germany after 10 years at the helm. Sepp Herberger coached the national side for 20 years and Helmut Schoen served in the role for

# WEST HAM PIN £50M PRICE TAG ON PAYET

MARSEILLE: Dimitri Payet is worth not a penny less that 50 million pounds (\$65.3 million), West Ham United co-chairman David Gold has said, but even that might not be enough to prise the France midfielder away from the London club. Payet, who ioined West Ham from Marseille in June last year, scored 12 goals in all competitions in his debut season in England and was instrumental in helping France reach the European Championship final, scoring three times. His performances for club and country have prompted speculation about a possible move to Chelsea, Manchester City or Paris St Germain, but Gold said West Ham would be reluctant sellers even if someone matched the huge fee.

"We wouldn't even listen to any offer under 50 million pounds and even then we need to keep our best players so we just don't welcome any offers at all for Dimitri," Gold told the BBC. "He's instrumental, he's important to us, the team is built round him and he's not for sale. He's settled in London with this family, the fans adore him and we're going to the Olympic Stadium.

"We've done everything we possibly could do. I'm hoping that will be enough (to keep him)."

Meanwhile, Paul Pogba may stay put at Juventus despite talks about the French midfielder's possible move to England or Spain, his agent Mino Raiola has said.

The 23-year-old Pogba, who played a pivotal role in France's run to the Euro 2016 final, has been strongly linked with a return to English Premier League club Manchester United with Champions League winners Real Madrid also eyeing him.

However, a fee touted to be around a world record 100 million pounds (\$130.65 million) could see Real priced out of a move for Pogba, according to British media reports.

"There is a lot of talk about Paul's future, but maybe he will not leave Juventus," Raiola told The Times.

"He is in no rush to leave, and Juventus do not want him to go. They want him to renew his contract. Paul is not desperate to move. We are very happy at Juventus and they are a club that want to keep their star plavers."

Pogba's contract at Juventus runs until 2019, while Raiola has worked closely with United during the close season as he wrapped up deals for his clients, midfielder Henrikh Mkhitaryan and striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic. — Reuters

#### ANCELOTTI PLANS TO BUILD ON GUARDIOLA'S FOUNDATIONS

**MUNICH:** New Bayern Munich manager Carlo Ancelotti has no plans to rip up the foundations laid by predecessor Pep Guardiola and says he will look to continue the club's tradition of attacking football when the season kicks off in August. The Italian has large boots to fill as Guardiola, who switched to English Premier League side Manchester City this month, won three straight Bundesliga titles during his tenure at the Allianz Arena. "I know very well that the style of Bayern Munich is to play attacking football and we want to play attacking football. I love to play attacking football," Ancelotti told reporters on Monday.

"I'm not here to make a revolution because the job that Guardiola did here was fantastic and I would like to follow his style. I don't think our style is going to change a lot compared to last year. The system will be more or less the same."

Despite the domestic dominance, Guardiola's three-year spell at Bayern was not deemed entirely successful having missed out on the Champions League title.

Ancelotti said it was impossible to predict whether he would do any better. "Of course everybody wants to win the Champions League, but only one team wins it," added Ancelotti, who is the only manager to have won the Champions League three times.

the Bundesliga and in the Champions League. The only thing that we cannot control is the result-if I could control that too I would be a magician, but I'm only a manager." Having managed AC Milan, Paris St-Germain,

"I know that Bayern have a fantastic history in

Chelsea, Juventus and Real Madrid, Ancelotti said he had become accustomed to the pressure that comes with taking up a job with clubs targeting Champions League success.

"A lot of people ask about the pressure-I am used to it. I had the luck in my career of coaching top teams-all top teams who want to win, but honestly I don't feel the pressure because I'm used to it," the 57-year-old said.

Bayern kick off their title defence against Werder Bremen on Aug. 26. —Reuters



SEVILLA: New Sevilla's Argentinian midfielders Matias Kranevitter (R) and Joaquin Correa play with balls as they pose on the pitch during their official presentation at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan stadium in Sevilla yesterday. — AFP

Kuwait Times

**Injured Contador** likely to miss **Rio Olympics** 



Sharapova to miss **Olympics** 



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TROON: Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland, right, hits his tee shot off the 9th tee during a practice round for the British Open Golf Championships at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, Scotland, yesterday. — AP

# ING OUT OF OLYMPICS HARDEST CHOICE: SPIETH

compete for a gold medal in Rio de Janeiro for the first time in 112 years.

Spieth cited "health concerns" as his reason for withdrawing, though he said the Zika virus was only part of it. Asked what kept him out of the Olympics, the 22-yearold Texan would only say that it was personal and anyone in his shoes would have made the same choice.

"Why was it so hard? Because I'm a huge believer in Olympic golf," Spieth said Tuesday during a news conference that touched only briefly on his bid for the third leg of the career Grand Slam at the British Open.

"This year I just had to try and weigh a risk that doesn't present itself every year," he said. "And just at the time that I had to make the decision, I just felt this was the right move for me. Not everybody's going to understand. Nobody's going to understand what it's like in my shoes. ... Mine came down to just a very personal decision that, again, I don't expect anybody to understand, but trust that I believe I'm making the right decision for myself, for my future and for those around me."

Spieth's stock has risen sharply in the last year after he won the Masters and US Open and made a spirited run at the Grand Slam. With 18 other players having withdrawn, he was looked upon as someone whose commitment might ease the backlash against golf for its perceived indifference about the sport returning to the Olympics.

That didn't stop him from following his instincts. Spieth said he didn't make up his mind until Monday morning, and the decision was his alone.

#### **DECISION**

"Everybody's entitled to their own opinion," Spieth said. "I'm not worrying about anybody else except myself, and again, I don't expect people to fully understand it. They don't know what I know about myself and my future and my goals. Therefore, there's nothing I can do about it except go on and try to again focus on this

TROON: Jordan Spieth said pulling out of the week." Spieth's decision means none of the top four in Olympics was the hardest decision he's ever made, and the world ranking - they have won six of the last eight that it likely will haunt him as he's watching golfers majors - will be in Rio when golf is part of the Olympic program for the first time since St. Louis in 1904.

Jason Day, Dustin Johnson and Rory McIlroy previously pulled out, all citing Zika and their plans to start a family or have more children. The mosquito-borne Zika virus has been linked to severe birth defects and possible neurological disorders in adults. International Golf Federation President Peter Dawson said Monday he thought there was an overreaction to Zika and that none of the workers on the new golf course have been affected. Spieth is staying with Rickie Fowler this week in Troon, and he said he was standing next to him when Fowler tweeted Sunday night that he would be playing. Spieth had planned to room with Fowler in Rio, and he said he texted Fowler after informing the IGF that he

"He said, 'No worries. I know you had to make it just for you. You're just going to be jealous when I get that gold," Spieth said. "That's what he said. So that's how it went." Either way, Spieth said he would be watching. He is the defending champion at the John Deere Classic, which was moved to the week of the Olympics when the PGA Tour adjusted its schedule for the Rio Games. Even though he's out of the Olympics, Spieth said he won't go to the John Deere.

"I don't think it would be an appropriate move to play that week, so I will not be playing that week," he said. "I don't think it would be appropriate given our decision on the Olympics. ... We've won two out of the last three years. So I will be going back there, I just don't think it's appropriate this year."

Spieth joked after an introduction to his close call at St. Andrews last year that it would be the easiest question he received. And when it was over, as he pushed back from the table, he said quietly with a smile, "Do we have a tournament this week?"

He was ready to move on from Olympics to a claret jug. But even Spieth knows that won't happen. He said he would carry the decision with him through the



TROON: Jordan Spieth of the US walks into a press conference ahead of the British Open Golf Championship at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, Scotland, yesterday. — AP

Olympics and for a while. "It will loom over me throughout the Olympic games, for sure," he said. "I will be, I'm sure, at times pretty upset that I'm not down there. I thought about all this ahead of time. When I watch the opening ceremonies, that's going to be a big bummer.

Then when I watch these guys competing on the golf course. I'll be texting with Rickie, obviously, throughout as a good friend of mine. I thought about all of this ahead of time and still made the decision I did because it was the right move for me." — AP



Laila Ali

# LAILA ALI WELCOMES TRIBUTE TO DAD AT HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

LOS ANGELES: Laila Ali returns as host of the Sports Humanitarian of the Year awards, which plan to honor her father Muhammad

Ali in a tribute she eagerly awaits. The show yesterday at the Conga Room in downtown Los Angeles features awards for individual, team, league and corporate humanitarians. Ali's father died in June at age 74 after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. The worldwide tributes were appreciated by his daughter, a former pro boxer herself who retired undefeated.

"I'm happy that my father is no longer suffering. Moving on is sort of a celebration to me. I hope people never forget," she said recently. "There's a new generation of kids that maybe haven't heard. I invite people to learn about him and be inspired by him."

Ali is using the show as a teaching moment it's nice to highlight the positive things they're for her own kids, 7-year-old Curtis Jr. and 5year-old Sydney. She is married to former USC and NFL star Curtis Conway.

'They can watch the show and watch all the winners on the stage, so when they see Chris Paul or Brent Burns or Tina Charles, I can say, 'Look what they do when they're off the court," she said. "They're never too young to start learning. I learned that through my father, not only him telling me but showing me." Burns of the San Jose Sharks, Charles of the New York Liberty, Carlos Dunlap of the Cincinnati Bengals and Paul of the Los Angeles Clippers are finalists for sports humanitarian of the year.

"A lot of times you see athletes in the news for things they said or do for negative things,

doing," Ali said. "There's so many people out there who are doing good and demonstrating leadership and having a positive impact on their communities."

The team finalists are the Detroit Pistons, LA Galaxy, San Francisco 49ers and San Francisco Giants. Tennis great Billie Jean King, New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft and the 2015 Missouri football team will be recognized as Stuart Scott Enspire Award winners, named for the late ESPN "SportsCenter" anchor. Net proceeds of the event benefit the Stuart Scott Memorial Cancer Research Fund at The V Foundation. ESPN will grant nearly \$800,000 to the charities of the nominees and winners. Highlights of the show air July 15 on ESPN. —AP

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STOCKS, STERLING RALLY ON STIMULUS HOPES



TEHRAN: An Iranian man waits on his horse and carriage for customers outside Tehran's ancient Grand Bazaar. — AFP

## Tehran bazaar blends hope, caution after nuke deal 'THE EUROPEANS PUSHED US TOWARD CHINA'

TEHRAN: As a tailor in Tehran's fabled Grand Bazaar for over 60 years, Mostafa Javedan has lived through coups, wars, a revolution-and now the ups and downs of international sanctions. His little store in the shade of the bazaar's high stone arches, established by his grandfather in the days of the 19th century Qajar dynasty, has weathered all these storms and remained firmly tied to global trends even when Iran was at its most isolated. "The chicest and the best-dressed in the world are the French and then it's the Iranians, but the English produced the best fabrics," the 80-year-old told AFP, looking snappy in a pair of shades and blue slacks.

#### **Times have changed**

These days, Mostafa sits back and lets his son Saeed do the work, and most of the fabrics come from China-one effect of the international sanctions slapped on Iran in 2012 over its nuclear program. "The Europeans pushed us toward China. Ten years ago we never bought fabrics from China, but their quality has been improving," said Saeed. "I think sanctions were a boost for the Chinese economy." The bazaar is still the main centre for business in Tehran, packed with shoppers browsing everything from centuries-old carpets to the latest mobile phones.

When Iran's nuclear deal with world powers struck in July 2015 led to many of the sanctions being lifted in January, small family-run stores in general saw little obvious change. They had already been forced to adapt, and in keeping with Iran's long history as a central point of East-West trade, many of its merchants had simply shifted their focus towards Asia. In one of the many kitchenware stores, most of the pots and pans are marked "Made in China". "We have some goods from Italy and the United States, but very few," said Ali Masoumi, 30, whose father set up shop in the 1950s.

He said the real changes had to come from within, and was skeptical the nuclear deal would make much difference. "If there is going to be any change it must be from inside Iran. The government should have a will for change. That will doesn't exist," he said. The moderate government of President Hassan Rouhani that came to power in 2013 has stabilized the runaway inflation and currency collapse of previous years. Rouhani hopes the end of sanctions will help Iran attract \$30 to \$50 billion in annual investment needed to hit his target of eight-percent growth. But a raft of US sanctions are still in place, related to Iran's human rights record and missile testing, leaving shoppers as well as businesses cautious. "People still don't want to risk investing and spending. They want to be sure there won't be any more drastic changes in the dollar rate, banking, housing and everything else," said Masoumi.

#### **Optimism and obstacles**

Still, others say the positive atmosphere created by the nuclear deal is already paying dividends. Esmaeil Ivazi, 35, was shopping for a carpet in the bazaar, on the back of a healthy few months for the toy factory he owns. He said exports to neighboring countries-including Iraq, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Armenia and Tajikistan-had risen sharply since January. "Our relations with foreign companies have become better after the nuclear agreement, as they trust us more now," said Ivazi. "I'm optimistic that the situation will continue to improve. People have hope for the future, and I believe that is driving people and markets to improve." But he admitted that obstacles remain, particularly while international banks remain wary of doing business with Iran over the threat of remaining sanctions. "We have banking problems. We want to sell to Russia, but we have money transfer issues," he said. "They can't travel here each time they want to buy something."— AFP



TEHRAN: Iranians shop in Tehran's ancient Grand Bazaar. — AFP

## FRANCE ENERGY GIANT BUYS CHINESE WIND ENERGY FIRM

European player in a burgeoning Chinese market, state-owned French energy giant EDF said yesterday it had taken a controlling stake in Hong Kong-based UPC Asia Wind Management (AWM). EDF, which did not reveal what it had paid for the 80 percent stake in AWM, the local arm of wind farm operator UPC China, already has nuclear activities in China, as well as a growing presence in thermal and hydraulic power. US investment fund Global Environment Fund (GEF) will retain a 20 percent share of AWM, said EDF, which last year dubbed China the centre of gravity of the global energy industry.

The French firm, which highlighted its view of China as a priority growth market, is present in a swathe of Chinese cities, notably with a stake in a nuclear plant at Taishan in the south. "Our goal is to accelerate our low-carbon gen-

**PARIS:** Seeking to place itself as the main eration, with a diversified energy mix where nuclear and renewable energy balance each other," said EDF's chief executive Jean-Bernard Levy in a statement. "Our development in high-potential markets, such as China is a full part of this dynamic process. This country where we have been present for more than 30 years, is providing to the Group significant growth opportunities and we are delighted to boost our presence in renewable energy

With the deal, "we are the premier European operator to set up in China, an what is an extremely promising market," said Antoine Cahuzac, director general of EDF's renewable energy division EDF EN. Economic growth has seen China's energy consumption rise exponentially in recent years and carbon currently has a 70 percent share in the mix. However, Beijing's "ambition is to reach 200 gigawatts of installed wind power capacity by

2020 - a rise of 15 GW per year," said EDF. By the end of 2014, China already had surpassed the United States as the country with the world's largest installed base of wind power at 100 GW and last year attracted around half of global wind power development.

China's current total installed capacity is 145 GW. Explaining some of the detailed rationale behind the UPC AWM deal, Bruno Fyot, EDF EN director general delegate, told reporters: "We are taking over 174 megawatts of operational projects and 130 megawatts of projects under construction ... and a little over one gigawatt of projects under development." Fyot added EDF was additionally very open to solar power opportunities which may present themselves in China. EDF EN is targeting annual construction of between 200 and 300 MW to reach two gigawatts within five yearsabout double current installed wind power capacity in France. —AFP

# **OPEC SEES TIGHTER** OIL MARKET IN 2017

**LONDON:** OPEC yesterday was upbeat on the oil market outlook for 2017, saying global demand for its crude would be higher than its current production and excess oil inventories would be whittled down. However, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries in a monthly report also cut its forecast for world economic growth this year, citing increased uncertainty following Britain's vote to leave the EU and said the pace of oil demand growth would slow slightly next year, in its first 2017 forecast.

"After the UK's referendum to leave the EU, economic uncertainty has increased," OPEC said in the report. "Potential negative effects have led to a downward revision of global economic growth in 2016 to 3.0 percent from 3.1 percent." Other forecasters including the International Monetary Fund have cut economic growth outlooks following the UK referendum. Concern about the economic impact of Brexit has weighed on oil prices, which at \$47 a barrel have fallen from a 2016 high close to \$53 in early June.

World oil demand will rise by 1.15 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2017, OPEC said, its first forecast for next year in the monthly report. That marks a slight slowdown from growth of 1.19 million bpd expected in 2016. Oil prices have halved from two years ago in a drop that deepened after OPEC refused in late 2014 to cut output to support prices, hoping that cheaper oil would curb highercost rival supply such as US shale.

Despite Brexit, OPEC's 2017 market outlook suggests the strategy is working as it expects supply outside the group to fall further and demand for its own crude to rise, tipping the global market into a slight deficit. "The contraction seen this year in non-OPEC supply is expected to continue in 2017 but at a slower pace," OPEC said. "Market conditions will help remove overall excess oil stocks in 2017."— Reuters

# OIL, SHIPPING MARKETS ON EDGE AFTER SOUTH CHINA SEA RULING

#### Brent crude oil prices jump 2 percent

**SINGAPORE:** Global oil and shipping markets reacted nervously yesterday after an international arbitration court ruled against Beijing's claims across large swathes of the South China Sea, fuelling geopolitical tensions in the vital waterway. A tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, found China had breached the sovereign rights of the Philippines and had no legal basis to its historic claims in the South China Sea, a major shipping lane between Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

The ruling will be seen as a victory by other regional claimants such the Philippines and Vietnam, but with China rejecting the ruling and saying its military would defend its sovereign rights, nerves were on edge. Although shippers and oil traders said they did not expect an immediate impact on shipping as a result of the ruling, oil prices jumped following the findings. Brent crude futures

were up over \$1, or more than 2 percent, any actions that restricted the right of to \$47.60 per barrel at 1110 GMT.

"It is vital that merchant ships are allowed to go about their lawful business on the world's oceans without diversion or delay. We will of course be monitoring for any interference in the coming weeks," said Peter Hinchliffe, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Shipping in London. The deep waters of the South China Basin between the Spratly and also-disputed Paracel Islands are the most direct shipping lane between northeast Asia's industrial hubs of China, Japan and South Korea and Europe and the Middle East. The geography of the region offers few economically viable alternative routes for large oil tankers or dry-bulk ships and container ships.

Esben Poulsson, president of the Singapore Shipping Association, said

innocent passage and freedom of safe navigation for merchant shipping would potentially drive up shipping costs, resulting in a detrimental impact on maritime trade. Reuters shipping data shows that, counting just Very Large Crude Carrier (VLCC) super-tankers, some 25 VLCCs are passing between the disputed Spratly and Paracel islands at any time, with enough capacity to carry the equivalent of about 11 days' worth of Japanese demand.

Some industry participants were more relaxed, however. "It's just pure politics," Ralph Leszczynski, head of research at ship broker Banchero Costa said. "China will simply ignore it, and it will not change in any way the reality on the ground. All there is at stake is access to offshore oil and gas deposits and perhaps fishing grounds," he said. Insurers said costs were unlikely to rise in the short term. "We don't currently foresee any increase in insurance costs as a result of the ruling and would be surprised to see operators being penalized by the insurance market for trading in this area," said Andrew Brooker, founding partner, at Hong Kong marine marine insurance broker's Latitude Brokers.

Neil Roberts, manager of marine underwriting at the Lloyd's Market Association, said the South China Sea is not listed by the LMA's joint war committee which highlights insurance hotspots. "Unless it is there would be no prospect of premiums rising," Roberts told Reuters. "The shallow waters and numerous reefs in the Spratly island region means that commercial shipping is unlikely to be sailing within the territorial waters of any of the islands."—Reuters

#### KUWAIT INFLATION EASES 2.8 PERCENT

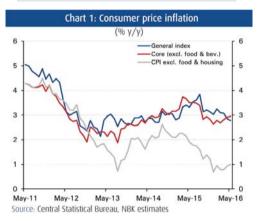
#### **NBK Economic Update**

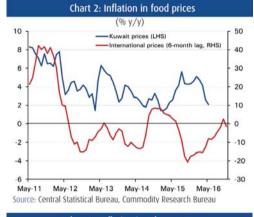
**KUWAIT:** Inflation in consumer prices eased to 2.8% year-on-year (y/y) in May, mainly due to softer food inflation. Core inflation (which excludes food prices) came in marginally higher at 3.0% y/y during the same period. We expect annual average inflation in 2016 to moderate to 3.0% compared to 3.3% in 2015, on the back of low commodity prices and a stronger local currency. Inflation in local food prices maintained its downward trend in May. Local food inflation slowed to an over one-year low of 2.1% y/y in May.

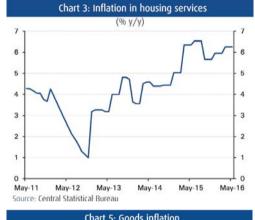
We expect growth in food prices to remain soft on the back of falling international food prices. According to the Commodity Research Bureau, inflation in international food prices slipped back into negative territory in May, with prices falling by 1.3% y/y. This has also led to softening inflation in non-durable goods, which slowed from 2.1% y/y in April to 1.8% y/y in May. Inflation stabilized in furnishings & household maintenance and clothing & footwear. Inflation in furnishings steadied at an eight-month high of 3% y/y in May.

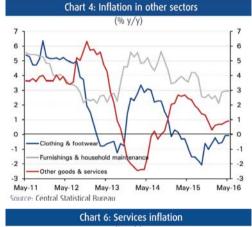
Clothing & footwear prices continued to fall, albeit at a modest rate of 0.1% y/y. The stronger dinar and more frequent and longer seasonal promotions have driven costs lower in this segment. Inflation in durable and semi-durable goods as a whole remain slow. Inflation in durable goods and semi-durable goods came in at a mere 0.8% y/y and 0.6% y/y, respectively. The inflationary trends in the 'furnishings' and 'clothing' segments are good gauges of the inflationary trends in durable goods and semi-durable goods. They have almost been moving in tandem with each other.

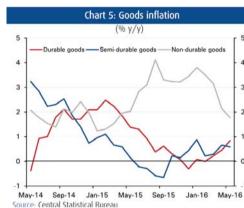
Inflation in the 'other goods & services' segment rose in May, but still remained relatively subdued. This component, which is mostly comprised of imported goods such as personal care products and jewelry, has been seeing lower imported inflation on the back of a stronger local currency. Inflation in overall services, especially in services ex-housing, has largely stabilized recently, but continues to face downward pressures. Inflation in services, which is predominantly driven by housing rent inflation, remains firm at 4.4% y/y. However, excluding the cost of housing, inflation in services is currently hovering at around 1.7% y/y.

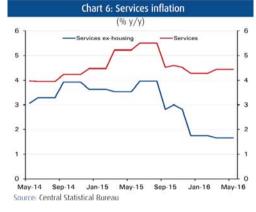












#### FLYDUBAI PARTNERS WITH BOOKING.COM

**KUWAIT:** Dubai-based flydubai is partnering with Booking.com, the global leader in connecting travelers with the widest choice of incredible places to stay, adding a wide range of hotels and other accommodation options to its website flydubai.com. Hotels.flydubai.com is powered by Booking.com and is designed to help passengers find the perfect stay that suits their preference and budget from over 954,000 accommodations world-wide. Passengers are able to browse other guests' reviews and book flexibly with a range of payment options.

Commenting on this partnership, Ramesh Venkat, Chief Information Officer (CIO) at flydubai, said: "With this website, we are able to offer our passengers even more options when travelling with flydubai, making it easier for them to organize their holidays or business trips. With Booking.com, we will offer one of the largest accommodation databases in the world and we are pleased to be able to extend these numerous opportunities to our customers."

"Our aim at Booking.com is to connect travelers from all over the world with their ideal stay in the most seamless and enjoyable way possible," said Bryan Batista, Head of Global Partnerships at Booking.com. "Partnering with flydubai is a great opportunity for us to engage with even more customers flying in and out of Dubai, enabling them to quickly find the perfect accommodation that meets their unique needs, whether they're travelling for business or pleasure.

flydubai's website (flydubai.com) offers a personalized online experience by receiving customized content based on a customer's location and previous interaction with the site. The website has a layout that automatically adjusts depending on the device being used and is ideal for mobile

devices and tablets. In addition, destination guides and travel tips provide inspiration for planning the perfect trip, holiday or last-minute getaway to one of flydubai's hidden gems such as Salalah, Sarajevo or Sofia. The airline's website is available in Arabic, English and Russian.

Passengers can purchase tickets from flydubai's website (flydubai.com), flydubai travel shops or through travel partners. Further information and details of the carrier's car rental and travel insurance services can also be found on flydubai.com. flydubai continues to invest in technology to offer an easy and friendly experience throughout a passenger's journey. The airline has recently enhanced its offering by adding WiFi and live television onboard. The airline features an advance touch-screen In-Flight Entertainment system hosting over 2,000 hours of nonstop entertainment.

#### 1 الوطني National Bank of Kuwait NBK Financial Markets Daily Report At 02:00 PM Previous Day

Index	Previous Close	Last Price	Chan	ige	Daily Performance %	Yearly Performance %	
Dow Jones	18,146.74	18,226.93	80.19	•	0.44	4.60	
NASDAQ	4,956.76	4,988.64	31.88	<b>A</b>	0.64	-0.37	
S&P 500	2,129.90	2,137.16	7.26	•	0.34	4.56	
Financial Times	6,682.86	6,682.26	-0.60	•	-0.01	7.05	
DAX	9,833.41	9,982.12	148.71	•	1.51	-7.09	
CAC 40	4,264.53	4,328.11	63.58	<b>A</b>	1.49	-6.66	
Swiss	8,117.11	8,121.61	4.50	<b>A</b>	0.06	-7.90	
Nikkei 225	15,708.82	16,095.65	386.83	<b>A</b>	2.46	-15.44	
Topix	1,255.79	1,285.73	29.94	<b>A</b>	2.38	-16.90	
Hang Seng	20,880.50	21,224.74	344.24	<b>A</b>	1.65	-3.15	
Straits Times	2,876.14	2,901.82	25.68	_	0.89	0.66	

Index	Previous Close	Last Price	Chan	ige	Daily Performance %	Yearly Performance %
Kuwait	5,365.47	5,377.75	12.28	<b>A</b>	0.23	-4.65
Saudi Arabia	6,570.34	6,612.14	41.80	<b>A</b>	0.64	-4.94
Dubai	3,392.90	3,437.51	44.61	<b>A</b>	1.31	7.68
Abu Dhabi	4,540.27	4,542.74	2.47	<b>A</b>	0.05	5.41
Bahrain	1,156.45	1,166.72	10.27	<b>A</b>	0.89	-4.89
Qatar	10,105.52	10,140.79	35.27	<b>A</b>	0.35	-3.11
Oman	5,820.34	5,848.89	28.55	<b>A</b>	0.49	7.66
Lebanon	1,152.49	1,157.15	4.66	<b>A</b>	0.40	-1.46
Jordan	2,098.01	2,098.41	0.40	<b>A</b>	0.02	-1.79
Egypt	7,506.18	7,411.69	-94.49	•	-1.26	7.14
Morocco	9,584.16	9,596.96	12.80	<b>A</b>	0.13	7.38
Tunisia	5,390.34	5,398.88	8.54	<b>A</b>	0.16	6.91

Currency	Kuwaiti Dinar	Saudi Riyal	US Dollar	Euro	Sterling Pound	Swiss Franc	Japanese Yen	Australian Dollar
Kuwait Dinar		12.3047	3.2944	2.9719	2.5075	3.2390	341.79	4.3199
Saudi Riyal	0.08127		0.2677	0.2415	0.2038	0.2632	27.78	0.3511
US Dollar	0.30355	3.7351		0.9021	0.7612	0.9832	103.75	1.3113
Euro	0.33649	4.1404	1.1085		0.8439	1.0906	115.03	1.4547
Sterling Pound	0.39880	4.9072	1.3138	1.1850		1.2926	136.35	1.7239
Swiss Franc	0.30874	3.7989	1.0171	0.9169	0.7736		105.52	1.3337
Japanese Yen	0.00293	0.0360	0.0096	0.0087	0.0073	0.0095		0.0126
Australian Dollar	0.23149	2.8484	0.7626	0.6874	0.5801	0.7498	79.12	

Global Currencies Exchange Rate

Currency	US Dollar	Kuwaiti Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Bahraini Dinar	Qatari Riyal	Omani Riyal	Emirates Dirham	Egyptian Pound
US Dollar		0.30355	3.7351	0.3744	3.6265	0.3832	3.6572	8.6800
Kuwaiti Dinar	3.2944		12.3047	1.2334	11.9470	1.2624	12.0481	28.5950
Saudi Riyal	0.2677	0.08127		0.1002	0.9709	0.1026	0.9791	2.3239
Bahraini Dinar	2.6709	0.81076	9.9762		9.6862	1.0235	9.7682	23.1838
Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.08370	1.0299	0.1032		0.1057	1.0085	2.3935
Omani Riyal	2.6096	0.79215	9.7471	0.9770	9.4637		9.5438	22.6514
Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.08300	1.0213	0.1024	0.9916	0.1048		2.3734
Egyptian Pound	0.1152	0.03497	0.4303	0.0431	0.4178	0.0441	0.4213	

Currency	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.00	1.19	1.44	1.63	1.94
US Dollar	0.43	0.47	0.67	0.96	1.28
Euro	-0.38	-0.36	-0.30	-0.19	-0.07
Sterling Pound	0.44	0.45	0.50	0.59	0.82
Swiss Franc	-0.82	-0.81	-0.77	-0.70	-0.58
Australian Dollar	1.83	1.89	1.78	1.73	1.66
Canadian Dollar	0.00	0.87	0.87	1.00	1.08

	Glo	bal Bond Y	ielas			
Country	2-Year	5-Year	10-Y	ear	30-	Year
United States	0.66	1.05	1.4	7	2.	20
Europe	-0.69	-0.60	-0.13		0.	42
United Kingdom	0.14	0.37	0.7	7	1.	62
		Commoditi	es			
Index	Previous Close	Last Price	Change		Daily Performance %	Yearly Performance %
Kuwait Oil	42.74	42.59	-0.15	•	-0.35	32.73
Brent	43.40	44.64	1.24	_	2.86	13.39

Index	Previous Close	Last Price	Char	nge	Daily Performance %	Yearly Performance %
Kuwait Oil	42.74	42.59	-0.15	•	-0.35	32.73
Brent	43.40	44.64	1.24	<b>A</b>	2.86	13.39
West Texas	44.78	44.68	-0.10	•	-0.22	17.08
Gold	1354.85	1347.96	-6.89	•	-0.51	21.67
Silver	20.26	20.25	-0.01	•	-0.05	31.64

#### **EXCHANGE RATES**

SELL

20 Gram

10 Gram

Nepalese Rupees

5 Gram

#### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO. BUY ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen 4.507 **Indian Rupees** Pakistani Rupees 2.890 Srilankan Rupees 2.091 Nepali Rupees 2.824 Singapore Dollar 225.220 Hongkong Dolla 39.020 Bangladesh Taka Philippine Peso 6.440 Thai Baht 8.655 **GCC COUNTRIES** 

**CURRENCY** 

Saudi Riyal Qatari Riyal 83.194 ani Riyal 786.642 Bahraini Dinai 804.300 **UAE Dirham** 82.457

**ARAB COUNTRIES** Egyptian Pound - Cash 34.479

Egyptian Pound - Transfer Yemen Riyal/for 1000 1.216 **Tunisian Dinar** 138.280 Jordanian Dinar 427.330 Lebanese Lira/for 1000 2.018 2.0158 Syrian Lira Morocco Dirham 31.531

**EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES US Dollar Transfer** 302.700

Sterling Pound 393.510 Canadian dollar 232,490 Turkish lira 309.190 Swiss Franc Australian Dollar 229.750 **US Dollar Buvino** 301.500 GOLD

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

274.680

140.260

70.970

3.805

**Rate for Transfer Selling Rate** 302.900 Canadian Dollar 232.445 Sterling Pound 393.145 Euro 335.450 Swiss Frank 298.925 Bahrain Dinar 801.276 **UAE Dirhams** 82.700 Qatari Riyals 83.910 Saudi Riyals 81.495 Jordanian Dinai 427.030 **Egyptian Pound** 34.013 Sri Lankan Rupees 2.088 **Indian Rupees** 4.508 Pakistani Rupees 2.888 Bangladesh Taka 3.857 Philippines Pesso 6.431 159.630 Cyprus pound 3.980 Japanese Yen 2.395

Malaysian Ringgit 76.475 Chinese Yuan Renminbi 45.630 Thai Bhat 9.585 Turkish Lira 104.965

Hong Kong Dollar

# **BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY**

**CURRENCY** BUY **SELL** Europe **British Pound** 0.385478 0.400478 0.004343 0.016343 Czech Korune Danish Krone 0.0328594 0.0337594 0.036672 Norwegian Krone 0.031472 Romanian Leu 0.073969 0.0736969 0.009018 Slovakia 0.019018 Swedish Krona 0.031200 0.036200 Swiss Franc 0.301078 0.312078 Turkish Lira 0.099777 0.110077 Australasia Australian Dollar 0.232455 0.220455 New Zealand Dollar 0.213608 0.223108 America Canadian Dollar 0.226592 0.235592 Georgina Lari 0.136691 0.136691 0.303550 **US Dollars** 0.299050 **US Dollars Mint** 0.299050 0.303550 Bangladesh Taka 0.003388 0.003972 Chinese Yuan 0.044043 0.047543

0.036923

0.039673

Yemeni Riyal

0.004320 0.004730 Indian Rupee 0.000019 0.000025 Indonesian Rupiah 0.002899 0.003079 Japanese Yen Kenyan Shilling 0.002984 0.002984 Korean Won 0.000253 0.000268 Malaysian Ringgit 0.072250 0.078250 0.003024 Nepalese Rupee 0.002854 Pakistan Rupee 0.002744 0.003034 0.006398 0.006698 Philippine Peso 0.000058 0.000052 Singapore Dollar 0.219231 0.229231 South African Rand 0.014732

0.023232 Sri Lankan Rupee 0.001672 0.002252 Taiwan 0.009270 0.009450 0.008281 0.008831 Thai Baht Arab Bahraini Dinar 0.796216 0.804716 **Egyptian Pound** 0.027069 0.032187 Iranian Riyal 0.000084 0.000085 Iraqi Dinar 0.000181 0.000241 Jordanian Dina 0.423014 0.432014 Kuwaiti Dinar 1.000000 1.000000 0.000150 0.000250 Lebanese Pound 0.043290 Moroccan Dirhams 0.019290 Nigerian Naira 0.001248 0.001883 Omani Rival 0.779684 0.785364 Qatar Riyal 0.082319 0.083769 Saudi Rival 0.079620 0.080920 0.001283 0.001503 Syrian Pound Tunisian Dinar 0.135279 0.143279 Turkish Lira 0.099777 0.110077 **UAE Dirhams** 0.080975 0.082675

0.001368

0.001448

Kuwait Times \_\_\_\_\_ DILCINIC C

#### News

in brief

#### Qatar National Bank net profit rises 13.4%

**DUBAI:** Qatar National Bank (QNB), the Gulf's largest lender, reported yesterday a 13.4 percent increase in second-quarter net profit, according to Reuters calculations, broadly in line with analysts' forecasts. The bank reported a net profit of 3.3 billion riyals (\$906.3 million) in the three months to June 30, compared with 2.91 billion riyals in the corresponding period of 2015, Reuters calculations showed, using financial statements in lieu of a quarterly earnings breakdown. Three analysts polled by Reuters had on average forecast QNB would make a quarterly net profit of 3.20 billion riyals. For the first six months of 2016, the bank's net profit reached 6.2 billion riyals, up by 12 percent from the same period of last year, it said in a statement.

#### Boeing announces jet deals at Farnborough

FARNBOROUGH: US aerospace giant Boeing yesterday announced a string of deals for the sale of commercial aircraft, with China showing keen demand on the second day of Farnborough airshow. The planemaker said it has finalized an order with German travel giant TUI Group for ten single-aisle 737 Max 8 jets plus the option for a long-haul 787-9 Dreamliner. The TUI deal was worth \$1.4 billion (1.3 billion euros) at catalogue prices, while airlines typically receive large discounts. Boeing added that Air Lease Corporation had doubled an order to six 737 MAX 8s worth a total of \$660 million. ALC currently has 180 jets on order with Boeing, which represents the company's largest backlog for any leasing customer. Boeing added that China's Kunming Airlines has indicated an interest in purchasing ten 737 MAX 7 airplanes with a value of \$902 million. Seattlebased Boeing added that another unnamed Chinese carrier has signed a commitment for 30 737 jets worth in excess of \$3.0 billion. The planes are a mixture of 737 MAX and Next-Generation 737s.

#### Airline orders 25 Airbus A320neos worth \$2.6bn

FARNBOROUGH: German airline Germania yesterday ordered 25 single-aisle fuel-efficient Airbus A320neos worth \$2.6 billion (2.4 billion euros) at list prices in an announcement at the Farnborough air show. The firm aircraft order, for delivery from 2020 onwards, will double the Germania Group's current fleet of aircraft, the pair announced on the second day of Farnborough. Airlines typically negotiate sizeable discounts to catalogue prices so the actual cost of the aircraft is likely to be lower. The contact was signed at the air show by Germania boss officer Karsten Balke and Fabrice Bregier, president and CEO of Airbus. "We are delighted that Germania Group has renewed its confidence in Airbus to further expand its Airbus fleet," Bregier said in a statement. "By operating the A320neo, the airline will benefit from further fuel efficiency and latest cabin innovations with unmatched comfort for their passengers."

#### Qatar Airways targets 10% of LATAM Airlines

FARNBOROUGH: Qatar Airways has agreed to acquire up to 10 percent of Latin America's largest airline LATAM Airlines, in a \$613 million deal that requires the consent of existing shareholders at the Chile-based carrier, the two companies said yesterday. The deal follows Qatar Airways' purchase last year of 15 percent of British Airways owner International Airlines Group , which like Qatar and LATAM is a member of the Oneworld airline alliance. The move is part of a rapid global expansion by the Doha-based airline, which is due to talk to Italian carrier Meridiana later on Tuesday about the proposed purchase of a 49 percent stake. "As a leading airline in Latin America, and key member of Oneworld, this investment provides potential opportunities for Qatar Airways' global network, alongside our successful investment in IAG," Qatar Airways chief executive Akbar Al Baker told a media briefing at the Farnborough Airshow. The two airlines said they had signed a subscription agreement that provides for Qatar Airways to acquire up to 10 percent of LATAM's total shares following a capital increase.

#### India's inflation notches up to 5.77 percent in June

**NEW DELHI:** India's consumer price inflation notched up marginally to 5.77 percent in June from a year earlier, official data showed yesterday, with hopes dimming of a possible slash in interest rates. The acceleration from May's 5.76 percent and 5.4 percent in April was mainly driven by higher food prices, economists said, adding the rate was uncomfortably higher than the central bank's target. Outgoing Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan has set a medium-term goal of controlling inflation at five percent by March 2017."Indian consumer price inflation held steady in June, but... the scope for further monetary loosening still looks very limited," said Shilan Shah, an economist at London-based Capital Economics. Rajan will be chairing his last monetary policy review meeting in Mumbai on August 9 before he steps down as governor. The popular RBI chief shocked markets last month when he announced that he would be returning to academia after his first term wraps up in September.

#### CITIBANK TO CLOSE KEY VENEZUELA PAYMENT ACCOUNT

**CARACAS:** Citibank plans to close the account Venezuela uses to make international payments, President Nicolas Maduro said Monday, accusing the US-based bank of mounting a "financial blockade." "Citibank, with no warning or communication, says that it is going to close the Central Bank and Bank Of Venezuela account. That is what you call a financial blockade," the embattled president said in televised remarks. He said the move amounted to an "inquisition" by US President Barack Obama's administration.

Citibank did not immediately respond to a message by AFP seeking comment. Maduro said his South American nation, a major oil producer, uses the account to make payments "within 24 hours, to other accounts in the United States and worldwide." Maduro's socialist government has often claimed that US interests and local business elites were trying to undermine his state-led economy and prevent Venezuela's access to international credit.

#### 'Nobody stops Venezuela!'

"Do you think they are going to stop us by putting in place a financial blockade? No, ladies and gentlemen, nobody stops Venezuela! With Citibank or without it, we are moving forward. With Kimberly or without, we are moving." Venezuela's government said just hours earlier that it would take over operations at facilities where US consumer goods giant Kimberly-Clark recently shut down, citing unworkable economic conditions.

The American company announced on

Saturday it would cease production, saying that it was impossible to get enough hard currency to buy raw materials, and that inflation was surging. "We are going to sign, at the workers' request... to authorize immediate occupation of the workplace known as Kimberly-Clark de Venezuela... by its workers," Labor Minister Oswaldo Vera said at the facility's plant in the central city of Maracay. The

country's economy has been hard hit by the plunging value of its main export, oil. Analysts also criticize its state-led economy of gross mismanagement leading to shortages of food and basic goods such as toilet paper and diapers.

Vera signed the document to loud cheershe said machines would be back in operation within hours. Also Monday, Maduro



CARACAS: View of cash machines at a branch of US Citibank in Caracas. Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro has accused Citibank of mounting a 'financial blockade' on the country after the US bank decided to close the government's international payments account with it.—AFP

announced that he and Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino were leading a new plan to reverse the severe shortages of basic goods in the country. "All control of supply in the county is in my hands and the hands of Padrino," Maduro said, adding that other ministers would answer to the "presidential command" of the "civic-military union." The project would concentrate on efficient production of commodities and new ways for distributing basics such as food and medicine. In a sign of Maduro's concern at mounting social unrest, the president on Thursday replaced the head of the National Guard.

#### Months of political crisis

The Venezuelan opposition launched efforts to remove the president via a referendum after winning control of the legislature in January. But Maduro has challenged his rivals through the Supreme Court, which the opposition claims he controls. The government has already filed a case in the court against the referendum bid. The national electoral board has said it will announce by July 26 whether enough signatures have been authenticated in an initial petition calling for the recall referendum. If that happens, Maduro's opponents must, in the next stage of the months-long process, collect four million more signatures to call a full referendum on his removal. The opposition is rushing to complete the recall process by January 10, the cutoff date to trigger new elections. After that date, a successful recall vote would simply hand power to Maduro's hand-picked vice president. —AFP

# BOE'S CARNEY HINTS AGAIN AT MORE STIMULUS AFTER BREXIT

#### BANK OF ENGLAND COULD ACT TO HEAD OFF SLOWDOWN

**LONDON:** Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said yesterday that a hit to Britain's economy from last month's decision by voters to leave the European Union could prompt the Bank to act, hinting again that more stimulus is on the way. "If the outlook has worsened, to use that term, in the judgment of the MPC there always could be monetary response if that is consistent with its remit," Carney told lawmakers. Carney and his fellow members of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee, who have previously warned of a material hit to Britain's economy from a Brexit vote, are meeting this week, meaning they are not supposed to talk about the outlook for interest rates in detail.

The Bank is due to announce whether it has cut rates or taken other action tomorrow. Carney has previously given a more explicit signal that the BoE will act to cushion the impact of the vote. A week after the June 23 referendum, he said he expected the Bank to pump more stimulus into the economy over the summer. Sterling, which hit a one-week high against the US dollar earlier yesterday buoyed by the quicker-than-expected appointment of a new British prime minister, added to its gains as Carney and other BoE officials spoke yesterday.

Investors expect the BoE to cut interest rates below their already record low of 0.5 percent as soon as tomorrow. However, many economists have said the Bank might wait until its next policy announcement on Aug 4 when it will have a better sense of the impact of the "Leave" decision on the economy. Sam Hill, an economist with RBC Capital Markets,



LONDON: Governor of the Bank of England Mark Carney, speaks during the Bank of England Financial Stability Report press conference, at the

said he believed Carney's comment, within the limits of what he can say immediately before a policy announcement, was in line with his previous steer about further stimulus soon. "I don't discern a change in stance from the speech," Hill said.

#### **Extraordinary criticism**

Carney also said yesterday that some of the pre-referendum criticism of the BoE, for its decision to spell out the economic risks of leaving the EU, had been "extraordinary in all senses of the word". He denied being influenced by finance minister George Osborne, one of the leaders of the "Remain" campaign, and said he did not decide in advance what position the Bank's most important policy-making committees should take on the vote which resulted in a decision to leave the bloc.

"I did not prejudge the minds of those policy committees, nor could I. That's not the way the system works, that is not the way the system is set up," he said. Before the referendum, the Bank said a Brexit vote could cause a material slowdown in the economy. Carney said in May there was a chance of a recession, angering some leading "Leave" supporters. One pro-Brexit law-maker called on him to resign although senior "Leave" campaigners quickly sought to defuse the tensions after the vote.

The chief investment officer of BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, said yesterday that Britain will fall into recession over the coming year. In his appearance in parliament, Carney said it remained to be seen whether the BoE's decision to reduce a capital burden on banks and encourage lending would be met with increased demand for loans from businesses and households. "It won't be supply constrained, it won't be a credit crunch, it will be a function of the overall economic outlook, which will be determined by decisions away from the financial sector," he said.—Reuters



the high-ceiling space has racks stacked with large tins of tomato sauce, toilet paper and cooking oil by the gallon. —AP

#### CUBA OPENS 'FIRST WHOLESALE STORE'

HAVANA: Cuba has opened a shop in Havana that could eventually operate as the Communist-ruled island's first wholesale store for the fledgling private sector, offering products in bulk at lower prices than in expensive retail outlets. So far, Zona+, where produce is piled up to the ceiling like in a warehouse, is offering only a handful of goods in large quantities at slightly discounted rates. Shop employees said that was an experiment.

They said the plan was for Zona+ to sell everything in bulk at a discount, catering in particular to the small businesses that have flourished since President Raul Castro started reforming the Soviet-style command economy. Officials at CIMEX, the state commercial corporation that owns Zona+, declined to comment and the store manager said he had been asked to give no more interviews, after he told local media the aim was to become a wholesale store. Cuban authorities are often secretive about their economic plans.

"Some products already have a 20 percent discount, not all," said shop employee Ulysses Abreu, 26, pointing to the 2.5-kg (5-pound) tins of tomatoes. "But they are studying whether to sell all products at 20 percent in the future." One employee, who declined to be named for fear of retribution, said one idea was to offer a 10 percent discount on purchases worth between \$500 and \$1,000, and a 20 percent discount on purchases above

Shoppers at Zona+ said it already had an advantage on other stores because it was uncharacteristically well-stocked. Cuba's supermarkets are often half-empty and supply problems look set to increase as the government said last week it would cut

planned imports this year by 15 percent. Cuba's new entrepreneurs have long complained that a gaping hole in Castro's reforms is the lack of a wholesale market. Restaurant owners, hairdressers and snack-store owners have to buy their produce in supermarkets at the same marked-up prices as consumers.

The government announced in April that some cooperatives would be able to buy supplies directly from government producers and wholesale outlets for the first time but it did not say the reform would extend to the private sector. Cuba often likes to experiment with measures before making them official and extending them across the country. Reforms can also be reversed. Cuba decided at a secretive Communist Party congress earlier this year to eliminate licenses for private wholesale agricultural food distribution. —Reuters

#### EU LAUNCHES SANCTIONS PROCEDURE AGAINST SPAIN, PORTUGAL ON DEFICITS

**BRUSSELS:** Euro-zone finance ministers agreed yesterday to officially begin a sanctions procedure against Spain and Portugal for doing too little to fix their rule-breaking deficits. The ministers "found that Portugal and Spain had not taken effective action in response to its recommendations on measures to correct their excessive deficits", a statement said. The decision "will trigger sanctions under the excessive deficit procedure."

Spain and Portugal now have 10 days to lobby the EU to impose no penalty. The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, will consider their arguments and must decide on sanctions within 20 days. Under EU rules, the commission could impose fines of up to 0.2 percent of gross domestic product on euro-zone countries that repeatedly ignore the deficit limits-but to date it has not dared to use its full power.

The ministers took the unprecedented step despite fears that too much austerity by Brussels will further stoke anti-EU populism after the Brexit vote. "The rules are the rules," said French Finance Minister Michel Sapin, ahead of the talks with his EU counterparts. However, he said these should only be applied "intelligently" as he urged the EU to take the specific situation of each country into consideration. Hit hard by the euro-zone debt crisis, Spain and Portugal have been under the EU's excessive deficit procedure since 2009 because of recurrent fiscal holes. —AFP

#### CARMAKERS' SHARES ZOOM

**FRANKFURT:** Shares in German carmakers were leading the pack yesterday, driving the overall stock market higher on the back of better-than-expected results for Daimler and strong sales for BMW. Daimler shares shot up 4.87 percent to an intraday high of 57.91 euros, BMW shares jumped by 4.53 percent to 73.21 euros and Volkswagen shares raced ahead by 3.89 percent to 117.70 euros. The overall blue-chip DAX 30 index was up 1.3 percent. Daimler, which owns the prestigious Mercedes brand, had surprised the markets late Monday with a better-than-expected operating profit for the second quarter.

While consensus forecasts had been penciling in earnings before interest and tax (EBIT) of 3.65 billion euros (\$4.0 billion) for the period from April to June, Daimler said it booked a quarterly profit of 3.97 billion euros, despite various one-off charges. "Compared to the first quarter, EBIT soared by 48 percent," said Equinet analyst Holger Schmidt. "After a weak start into the year which had been burdened by a couple of issues and most notably the ramp up of the new E-class, it looks like Daimler is now running at full steam," Schmidt said.

Daimler is scheduled to publish its full second-quarter results on July 21. Close rival BMW announced that it sold 1.16 million vehicles worldwide in the first six months, an increase of 5.8 percent over the same period a year earlier, driven by robust demand in Europe and Asia.—AFP



# STOCKS, STERLING RALLY ON STIMULUS HOPES

#### Italian banks rally on hopes of deal on bad loans

fourth straight day of gains and the yen broke below its post-Brexit low yesterday as easing political tensions in Britain, stimulus hopes and a record high close for US stocks boosted risk appetite. S&P 500 index futures, up 0.5 percent, pointed to further gains on Wall Street yesterday. Europe's STOXX 600 rose 1 percent, helped by strong gains in Daimler and Unicredit, while sterling jumped 1.3 percent against the dollar, pulling further away from a 31-year low hit last

was set to become prime minister on Wednesday, offering some relief from the political uncertainty that has dogged the market since the country voted to leave the European Union last month. Second-quarter earnings season, for which investor expectations are low, got off to a bright start in the US with aluminum producer Alcoa beating estimates overnight. In Europe, shares in Daimler jumped 5 percent after the German automaker posted encourag-

**LONDON:** European shares were on track for a week.In Britain, interior minister Theresa May ing results and reiterated its full-year outlook, allaying some concerns about the impact of Brexit.

Italian banks, a focus of investor concerns in Europe, got a boost yesterday with Unicredit jumping nearly 7 percent after the bank took steps to strengthen its capital position by selling a stake an online broker. Italian government borrowing costs edged lower yesterday, narrowing the gap with benchmark Germany, as Rome moved closer to a deal to safeguard the coun-

65,110,007

try's struggling banks. "If there is some way in which Italy's banks can offload their inventory of bad loans then that would be seen as very positive for the economy and, in turn, allow government spreads to tighten further," Mizuho strategist Peter Chatwell said.

#### Risk appetite returns

Earlier, Asian shares extended gains, partly on expectations of more policy stimulus, particularly in Japan. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe signaled a fresh round of fiscal stimulus after a victory for his ruling coalition in upper house elections, sending the yen lower and stocks higher. Traders in London said former US Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke's presence in Tokyo had boosted expectations of more monetary easing too.

The BOJ is still far from achieving its inflation target despite adopting negative rates earlier this year in addition to its asset buying program. "The market is now priced for more than 10 trillion yen (of extra stimulus), but it will be more about the fiscal-monetary coordination that is driving markets," said Hans Redeker, head of currency strategy at Morgan Stanley, suggesting that figure would rise in light of Abe's comments.

The dollar rose 1 percent to 103.92 yen, its highest level since June 24, when the British referendum result roiled global markets. The euro jumped more than 1 percent to 115 yen. In commodities, oil prices recovered from two-month lows as a brief halt in Iraqi crude loadings threatened to tighten supplies. Brent crude was at \$47.72 per barrel, up more than 3 percent from its last close. US West Texas Intermediate crude was up \$1.30 at \$46.05 a barrel. Prices of basic metals including zinc, aluminum and nickel got a boost after Goldman Sachs lifted its forecasts on expectations of tighter supplies in the sec-

ond half of the year. —Reuters



TOKYO: A man looks at a quotation board flashing share prices and the Nikkei key index of the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) in front of a securities company in Tokyo yesterday. — AFP

**Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report** 

Tuesday	12	July	20	10
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Index:	Change		Closing	Last Closing	High	Low
Price index		12.28	5,377.76	5,365-47	5,377.75	5,357.04
Weighted Index		40.94	349.05	349.19	348.57	347.07
KCSOK 115	Ŧ	-3.01	798.57	801.58	803.06	790.20

349.19	348 57	347.07
801.58	803.06	790.29

	347.07	347.07		Value (KWO)			9,956,641		
	790.20	790.20		Frades		2,226			
urity	High	Low	Volume	Value (KE)	Trades	Lant	Change		

MUMBER	98	96	29000	2,167	- 6	949	_	8.0
KARUS	41.0	39.5	2,367	94		40.5	_	4.0
IPG .	300	300	7,000	2.240	- 1	800		19.8
NAPESCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	790	_	6.0
ENERGYH	48.0	45.5	349,100	16,164	18	42.0	-	6.0
0PI	40.5	40.0	886,728	30,800	20	40.5	_	6.0
ADAR	0.0	0.0	0	10	0	100	-	6.0
Oli & Gas			1,260,105	84,363	-48	210.01	4	4.00
RPOUC	172	170	150	26	-	170	_	4.0
BPCC	5110	500	91.010	46.176	12	510	-	10.0
ALKIDUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	700	-	8.0
ALGURAIN	190	190	90,049	17,679	Ť	100	_	- 11
Banks Materials		199	184,208	43.881	22	946.33	-	4.79
DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN			188,000	10.00	- 64	1900-24	-	10.79
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	386	_	6.0
ROTRI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	-	6.0
CABLE	3070	3070	9,490	3,511	2	300	w	-10.0
SHIP	108	190	11,869	1,867	- 6	158	*	-8.0
PCIEM	960	960	160	108		960		20.0
PAPER	0.0	0.0	0		0	285	_	4.0
MIRIC	0.0	0.0			0	599	-	9.0
ACROO	2190	2570	10	3	2	290		6.0
G-GAHC	2990	2190	360		- 1	250		4.0
HOC	0.0	0.0	0	- 0	0	142	-	0.0
KBMMC	0.0	0.0	0	- 0	0	240	_	4.0
NICEM	206	206	1,875	266	- 1	204		3.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	403	-	6.0
NOCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	10.6	-	6.0
GYPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	162	-	0.0
SALBOOKH	69	68	87,001	5,907	102	400		1.0
AGUTY	475	470	310,796	146,506	198	470	-	4.0
EDU	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	-	4.0
CUEANITYS	40.0	39.0	67,256	0,400	- 6	200.0		-5.5
MON.	43.0	43:0	4,197	160	- 2	43.0	*	4.0
KCPC	176	170	6,242	1,061	3	174		4.0
HUMANSOFT	0.0	0.0		0	0	1,400	-	4.0
NAFAIS	0.0	6.0		0	0	174	-	4.0
SAFWAN	2115	3/15	3,305	1,041	- 1	2/15	-	0.0
arc	32.0	28.5	311,5800	9601	7	201.0		2.0
MUUNDEEN	26.5	20:0	1,979,511	51,513	37	291.5	-	6.0
0.00	0.0	0.0		0		800	-	4.0
MITOICI	61	59	1,109,710	66,436	46	60	-	4.0
UPAC	0.0	6.0		- 0	- 0	800	-	4.0
ALAF00	204	2100	145,429	29,310	57	3902	-	4.0
MUBARRAG	60	59	200,500	13,800		500	Ŧ	-5.0
LOGISTICS	0.0	0.0		0	0	79	-	6.0
SICIEM	770	79	100,000	7.900	- 1	798	_	0.0

AND MICH.	101.07	10107	- 10	101	107	11774	_	10.00
DAFWARE	3115	3/15	3,30%	1,041	1	346	_	6.0
BFC:	32.0	28.5	311,560	9601	7	202:01	4	2.0
MUUNDEEM	26.5	26.0	1,979,011	51,513	307	294.5	-	0.0
34940	0.0	0.0			0	800	-	0.0
MITOIO	61	59	1,108,790	66,436	46	60	-	4.0
JPAG.	0.0	0.0			0	400	-	4.0
MUNITOD	204	2100	140,429	29,310	107	2002	-	6.0
WUBARINAD:	60	59	200,500	13,800		500	Ŧ	4.0
OGHETHICS.	0.0	0.0		- 0	0	79	-	6.0
NCXENA.	79	79	100,000	7,900	- 1	79	-	0.0
SCEMI	24	73	126,300	9.336		73	w	4.6
340	0.0	0.0			0	73	-	9.0
CEMI	76	73	111,000	0.127	- 6	79	-	0.0
RIKINIC	0.0	0.0		- 0	0	940	-	0.0
MARIC	0.0	0.0		0	0	79	_	0.0
ndustrials			4,300,246	383,421	121	10005.87	.8.	0.51
OSH .	6.0	0.0		- 0	0	160	_	4.0
eta-	0.0	0.0		0	0	64	-	9.0
WPGG:	0.0	0.0		- 0	0	104	-	9.0
CATTL	260	100	110,000	21,808	103	100	w	-4.0
DARKEN	0.0	0.0		- 6	0	124	_	6.0
POWLT	0.0	0.0		- 0	- 0	176	_	6.0
1000	2,500	2,480	1223,415	2013,949	7	2,800		20.0
Consumer Goods			202,415	305,657	200	9927.56	T	40.79

Consumer Service			11,196,700	471,429	286	994.42	7	48,40
Meccan	1,100	1,080	191,107	163,918	54	1,000	7	-29
UFIG	0.0	0.0		0	0	100	-	
DMMH	47.5	45.0	10,540,073	479,011	341	46.0	Ŧ	-0
ALRIM	0.0	0.0		0		100	-	
PUTUREKIO	1/10	108	13,000	1,610	- 3	108	Ŧ	-4
SOOR	108	108	7,161	772	- 4	100	_	
JAZIEERA	880	880	568	5000	- 2	880	Ŧ	-29
MUNTAZMHAT	89	88	80,100	7,101	- 4	80	Ŧ	-4
OULAFUEL	108	108	17,790	1,902	7	100	-	
EARC	0.0	0.0			0	100	-	
CYAS	0.0	0.0		0		3005	-	
CABUETY	0.0	0.0		0		286	-	
BULTAN	61	56	385,871	22,997	21	40		- 1
кнот	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	3000	-	
CON	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,680		

VIVA	930	9/30	39,136	36,396	32	900	w	-10
Telecommunicati	one		1,962,204	586,679	100	606.72	A	1.60
NOK	5/70	500	5,006,136	3,147,689	130	560	Ŧ	-10
GBK	228	228	625,000	1119,700	94	228	Ŧ	48
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	4500	-	
ABK	0.0	6.0		0	- 0	800	_	
ALMUTAHED	400	3665	19,505	7,870	- 6	306	_	
108	100	186	49;157	9.221	- 6	100	Ŧ	-81
BURG	309	326	283,527	902,746	10	328	-	
KEN	460	400	3,865,878	1,794,948	107	460		
BOVETOW	385	325	089-864	21/7,846	28	380	_	
AUB	190	188	150101,7114	94,282	94	100	-	
THMR	35.5	34.5	189,000	6,588	91	26.0	-	
WARBABANK	170	168	100,000	107,810	40	168	_	
Ganito			15,754,232	5,475,980	288	294.50	Ŧ	4.16

HITSTILLES

							_	
KINS	286	286	4,200	1,197	2:	2015	Ŧ	-6
GMS	0.0	0.0		0	- 0	710	_	6.6
APVS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	465	-	9.0
WINES	106	106	3,000	318	- 1	106	Ŧ	4.0
KUWIATRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	190		6.0
FTH	50	50	221	11	1	500	4.	2.5
WETHAD	0.0	0.0	0	0		28.5	-	0.0
BROKENT	0.0	0.0	0	- 0		200	-	0.0
Insurance			7,421	1,536	4	1017.62	Ŧ	-0.40

вокоик	35.5	34.5	309698	11,009	15	34.5		48.5
KIRE	50	50	296,364	15,354	9	50	-	0.0
URIC	98	97	16,160	1,790	9	98		5.0
NRE	87	62	2,794,776	236,246	91	67		6.0
SAE	380	366	300,784	106,798	2	380		6.0
TAM	960	950	620	341	- 1	880	_	0.0
AREEC	138	138	260	36	- 1	138	_	0.0
MASSALEH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	43.6	-	0.0
AAABREC	32.0	38.6	215,054	6,777	- 6	31.5	_	9.6
ERESCO	49.5	49.5	60,000	2,979	2	49.5	7	4.5
MADANEE	750	740	469,142	262,666	39	7190		10.0
INDACESKE	00	69	1,366	96	- 1	68	7	40.0
MVESTORS	25.5	31.5	1.0736071	28,071	19	21.6	_	0.0
IRC:	29.0	39.5	1/11,000	3,764	- 4	29.6	- 44	1.0
ALTUMPUL.	75	75	46,500	3,450	- 1	76	_	0.0
SANUMAN	0.0	0.0	0	9	9	25.6	-	9.0
AAYANRE	65	62	1,378,911	88,521	38	46		3.0
AIGAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	60	_	0.0
ALAGARIA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	20.5	_	0.0
MAZHUK.	118	118	436,000	51,440	10	1118	_	0.0
AGNIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	91.0	_	9.6
THEMAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	_	9.6
TILIMBA	30.0	30.0	2:500	101	- 1	39.0	_	0.0
TAAMREER	25.5	25.5	5,000	108	- 1	21.6	_	9.0
ARKAN	84	84	6.800	573	- 1	84		4.0
ARGAN	9.9	0.0	0	9	9	160	_	9.6
ABYAAR	20.0	32.6	636,062	14,504	16	23.0	_	9.0
MUNICIPAAT	166	96	896,169	47,289	10	96		2.6
FIRSTOUGIA	68	63	1,090,003	21,410	80	98		5.0
KBT	39.5	38.0	T12,000	27,908	18	39.0	Ŧ	41.0
REAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	198	_	0.0
MENA.	39.0	30.0	76,676	1,579	- 4	20.0	_	9.0
AUMUDION	30.0	39.0	4,084,490	120,354	72	29.6		1.0
SERVINE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.0	_	0.0
REMAL.	34.0	30.6	76,000	2:547	3-	34.0		1.0
AWU	71	71	20.062	1,424	3	71		2.0
Real Catalie			10,000,000	1,202,403	479	840.32		9.27
KIMW	88	82	96,281	8,190	- 4	- 14	Ŧ	-518
FACIL	179	177	43,202	7,416	12	109		2.0
IFA:	28.5	27.5	2,059,348	57,671	39	28.6		0.6
NIMY	100	98	706,679	70,305	50	99	_	0.0
KIPRIOJ	500	495	803,940	408,758	34	500	_	0.0
0.01407	45.4	40.0	4 400 986	400,040	9.00	40.0	-	- 11

AND PROPERTY OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	200.10	200.00	4,004,400	100,004	5.00	200.00		100
MANAGEZ	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	25.0	-	0.0
REMAL.	34.0	30.6	76,000	2,547	3-	34.0		1.0
AWU	71	71	20,062	1,434	3	71		2.0
Real Exterior			10,000,000	1,202,493	479	840.32		9.27
KIMY	88	62	96,281	8,790	4	111	Ŧ	-548
FACIL.	176	172	43,202	7,416	12	126		2.0
IFA.	28.5	37.6	2,050,348	57,671	30	28.6		0.6
NIMY	1002	98	P06,879	70,305	190	199	-	0.0
KIPRIOLI	500	495	803,940	408,758	34	500	-	0.0
DOMBT	40.5	41.5	1,407,300	60,040	30	40.0		1.0
SIDOM	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	40.5	-	0.0
86C	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	62	-	0.0
ARZAN	30.0	38.0	886	27	21	32.0	-	0.0
MARKAZ	811	81	6,641	508	- 1			4.0
KIMEPIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	25.0	-	0.0
AUJAMANN	49.5	48.0	6,000	294	31	49.0		0.8
ALIOLA	54	94	3,000,966	199,190	79	88	-	0.0
AUMAU.	28.0	27.5	969,900	26,510	29	28.0		0.0
084	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	27.0	-	0.0
AACCARE	30.6	30.0	1,401,420	44,896	25	32.6	-	0.0
BAYANINIY	34.5	30.6	1,216,916	40,702	48	34.5		1.6
OSIONA.	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	46.0	-	9.8
KIFIC:	37.0	37.0	24,680	913	- 4	87.6	-	9.0
KARADO	0.10	9.9	9	0	9	79	-	9.0
NIH	87	9.0	141,200	901	9	88	w	49.0
IDALAM	35.0	30.0	382,600	11,619	9	31.0		0.8
MADAR:	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	12.5	-	0.0
ALDEERA	307.5	38.0	16,568	654	P	37.0	-	0.0
AUSALASS	45.0	40.6	1,199,617	47,000	20	41.0		9.8
EKTTITAB	40.0	30.5	209,455	6,326	16	28.6		9.8
AUMANONNA	48.5	48.0	21,010	1,800	- 4	48.5		0.6
NOOR	42.6	40.0	2.902,504	121,018	1011	41.0		5.0
TABIENN	9.0	0.0	0	0	0	530	-	9.0
E365H	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,500	-	9.0
TAIBA.	0.0	0.0	0	0	- 0	76	-	0.0
KSHC	30.0	38.6	108,000	3,432	7	32.0	-	0.0
ASINA.	0.0	0.0	0	0	(0)	39.0		0.0
SMARKS	34.6	30.6	503,000	10,974	16	34.0	_	0.0
ADMINING.	21.0	21.0	2:000	40	- 1	21.0	-	9.6
ALL PARTINAZ	67	67	50,000	3,350	2	67	-	0.0
MANAZIEL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	15.0	-	0.0
NINO	116	714	200,464	20,541	- 11	116	-	0.0
BIIHC	29.5	28.5	762,407	21,985	16	29.8		1.0
BENERICY	9.9	0.0	9	0	9	19.0	_	0.0
AGHC	62	61	100,600	6,234	- 6	- 61	w	44
KPPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	47.6		0.0
TAHBBUAT	48.0	47.0	14,000	10079	10	47.0		42.8

investment leads	errogenite.			0	0	1001.97	-	0.00
ASC	340	340	10	3	-	240	_	5.0
0906	0.0	0.0	0	ö	- 0	106	-	9.0
FUTURE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	_	9.6
HARRATODAM	47.0	45.0	400	10	2	47.0	_	0.0
Technology			410	32	- 1	981.62		4.84
SANAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	_	9.6
AFAG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	_	9.0
ALSHAMEL	9.0	0.0	0	0	0	400	_	9.0
EFFECT	40.0	40.0	91,700	448	2	40.0	w	40.0
AJWAN	30.0	29.0	120,318	3,490	- 4	30.0	Ŧ	40.0
MASAKEN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	21	_	0.0
DALGAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	586	_	0.0
ALEID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	98	_	0.0
MOAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,200	_	0.0
PLEK	42.0	42.0	10	0	- 1	42.0	4	2.0
THURAYOA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0
NOLINIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	33.5	_	0.0
AMAM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	49.5	_	9.0
Parallel Warket			101,521	3:856	Ŧ	1260.77		-1.50

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## OIL BOUNCES BACK

#### HEDGE FUNDS CUT BULLISH OIL BETS

**LONDON:** Crude futures bounced back from two-month lows yesterday, helped by a weaker dollar, but an oil stocks overhang and a drop in bullish bets by investors weighed on prices. Brent crude was at \$47.36 per barrel at 1022 GMT, up \$1.11 or 2.3 percent. US West Texas Intermediate crude was up 87 cents at \$45.63 a barrel. Saudi Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih said yesterday the oil industry needed a price above \$50 per barrel to sustain investments but added that downward pressure would prevail because of an inventory glut.

"We need a price higher than \$50 to achieve balance in oil markets in the long term," Falih told German business daily Handelsblatt. "But there are still excess stocks on the market - hundreds of millions of barrels of surplus oil. It will take a long time to reduce this inventory overhang," he added. Oil prices fell to a two-month low on Monday on renewed fears of oversupply. Yesterday, commodity and stock prices rose as the dollar index dropped 0.4 percent. The UK pound bounced back from a 31-year low amid easing political tensions in Britain and as hopes for stimulus measures boosted risk appetite.

A brief suspension of tanker loading

in Iraq and conflicting reports of new attacks in Nigeria also bolstered prices. On the downside, a Reuters poll showed that China's economic growth likely cooled to a seven-year low in the second quarter as the industrial sector lost steam and a boost from financial services faded. China's top oil firm CNPC said it saw the country's oil consumption rising to 670 million tons by 2027 from 520 million in 2014, implying annual growth of just 2 percent.

Hedge funds cutting their exposure to oil prices have also contributed to bearish sentiment, resulting in a 12 percent fall in Brent prices from their June peak above \$52 per barrel. "Oil prices could rally each time macro sentiment recovers on expectations of yet another round of quantitative easing, but for now the path of least resistance seems to be lower in the near term," analyst Virendra Chauhan of Energy Aspects told the Reuters Global Oil Forum. Energy Aspects cut its third-quarter Brent forecast to \$52 from \$55 a barrel. Physical markets were weak, with Asian refiners processing less crude as they grapple with margins that plunged to five-year lows as refined products flooded the region. — Reuters

# GOLD EDGES LOWER

**LONDON:** Gold edged lower yesterday as global equities rallied on easing political uncertainty in Britain and hopes for more economic stimulus measures, which in turn curbed demand for assets perceived as a haven. Spot gold was down 0.2 percent at \$1,352.06 an ounce by 0940 GMT after falling nearly one percent on Monday, which was its biggest decline in almost two weeks, US gold was down 0.1 percent at

\$1,355.30 an ounce. "Tensions in Britain are easing for now, as the country will soon have a new prime minister," ActivTrades chief analyst Carlo Alberto de Casa said. "With the British pound gaining some ground, demand for gold and other safe havens is also decreasing," De Casa said, adding that the next support level for gold was around \$1,340 an ounce. Gold has gained about \$100 an ounce since the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union, as worried investors piled their cash into safehaven assets.

However, Asian stocks hit a 2-1/2month peak yesterday and European shares were on track for a fourth straight day of gains on hopes of more stimulus from global policymakers. Japan's ruling coalition fanned expectations of more fiscal stimulus, while the Bank of England could cut rates as soon as Thursday following its monthly policy meeting. Markets were also assessing whether

the latest US jobs data has boosted the prospects for an interest rate increase by the US Federal Reserve. Gold came under pressure after strong US non-farm payrolls data on Friday boosted some expectations for a US rate rise.

Kansas City Federal Reserve President Esther George said on Monday that US interest rates were too low and signaled she could be ready to resume her push within the Fed's rate-setting committee for rate increases. Lower rates tend to boost gold prices because they cut the opportunity cost of holding nonyielding bullion while weighing on the dollar, in which it the metal priced. "Not too long ago, gold prices would have withered on prospects of higher stock prices, but not this time around; investors are thinking that the spate of monetary easing is likely to persist for some time to come, keeping both gold and equities fairly well supported," INTL FCStone said in a note.

The European Central Bank will not ease monetary policy any further at its meeting next week, according to an overwhelming majority of respondents in a Reuters poll of euro money market traders. Silver was up 0.6 pct at \$20.41 an ounce. Platinum, which rose to a 13-month high of \$1,104.10 on Monday, fell for the first time in two weeks, down 0.1 percent at \$1,099 an ounce. Palladium was up 0.6 percent at \$623.92 per ounce. — Reuters

#### HEDGE FUNDS PUSH **OIL PRICES LOWER**

**LONDON:** Continued hedge fund liquidation of former bullish bets on oil and the establishment of new short positions have kept crude prices on the defensive over the last month. Hedge funds and other money managers cut their bullish bets on crude oil by another 22 million barrels over the seven days ending on July 5. Hedge funds have cut their net long position in crude futures and options by almost a quarter, from 633 million barrels to 485 million, over the last four weeks. Hedge fund long positions have been cut by 77 million barrels from 769 million to 693 million barrels, according to the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission and Intercontinental Exchange. At the same time, short positions jumped by 72 million barrels from 136 million to 208 million barrels, as at least some managers anticipated the reversal in prices. In the most recent week, most of the adjustment came from the short side of the market, where hedge funds increased short positions by 23 million barrels. Hedge funds accumulated a record position in crude futures and options between the start of the year and the end of April.

Speculative positioning anticipated and helped accelerate the rebalancing of the oil market during the first half of the year. But the concentration of positions created a substantial risk of at least a partial reversal once prices stopped rising. Benchmark Brent crude prices have fallen by more than \$5 per barrel, 10 percent, over the last four weeks as positions have been liquidated. There has been a close correlation between the accumulation and liquidation of hedge fund positions and the movement in crude oil prices since the start of 2015. The correspondence between hedge fund short positions and the movement in US crude prices has been particularly pronounced.

Declining prices have been blamed on various factors including Britain's Brexit referendum as well as concerns about slowing oil demand and an easing of supply interruptions. In reality, momentum trading,

with traders chasing ever-rising prices, was an important contributor to the rise in oil prices between January and May. Once the momentum was broken, it was highly likely prices would pull back somewhat as traders sought to lock in past gains ("Oil prices under pressure as hedge funds adjust positions", Reuters, Jun 20). By late May and early June, it was clear the upward momentum in prices had stalled and the risk of reversal began rising ("Oil rally loses momentum", Reuters, May 10).

#### **Price floor?**

Hedge funds still have a relatively large net long position in crude oil futures and options, even after the recent wave of selling, so the current liquidation cycle could still have some way to run. But the underlying supply-demand balance has tightened significantly since the start of 2016 as a result of continued consumption growth and the impact of supply disruptions and investment cutbacks. Most analysts now see the market close to balance throughout the remainder of 2016 and 2017 with price risks tilted to the upside towards the end of the period. The tightening outlook for the supply-demand balance over the next 2-3 years should provide some support for oil prices even if hedge funds continue to cut their positions in the near term.

Nearly all the weakness in oil prices has been concentrated in nearby futures and options contracts, where most hedge fund positions are concentrated, while prices for contracts in 2018 and beyond have held steady. The price of the Brent calendar strip for 2018 has fallen by just \$1 per barrel over the last four weeks while the calendar strip for 2019 is basically unchanged and the strip for 2020 has actually risen by 50 cents. Provided the US and global economies avoid a recession, the rebalancing process is set to continue, which should limit the near-term downside for oil prices and point to further increases between 2017 and 2019. — Reuters



# **Blue** Citizenship

#### NISSAN CUTS CARBON DIOXIDE **EMISSIONS BY 22.4 PERCENT**

**DUBAI**: Nissan Motor Co Ltd published its annual Sustainability Report showing that the global automaker's carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions have fallen by 22.4% over the past decade. Nissan's success in reducing emissions, promoting zero-emission vehicles and saving energy at its facilities has made it the highest-performing automotive company tracked by the Carbon Disclosure Project, which works with thousands of companies to tackle climate change.

Hitoshi Kawaguchi, Nissan Chief Sustainability Officer, said: "We aim to deliver further environmental progress in addition to promoting all electric vehicles and pursuing efficiency, on energy and resource diversity, efficiency and recycling in the current year, as part of the Nissan Green Program. This reflects the continued efforts of all Nissan employees and partners, in line with our mid-term corporate objectives."

Improvements in sustainability reflect initiatives such as the Nissan Energy Saving Collaboration (NESCO), which measures energy loss at Nissan plants. Last year, the company also formed a new team -Resource NESCO - with a mandate to improve water usage and increase the use of recycled materials by 25% for newlylaunched models in fiscal 2016. Progress on sustainability at Nissan has accelerated thanks to the success of the Nissan Green Program, first introduced in 2002. The most recent version, NGP2016, set ambitious targets to cut Nissan's environmental impact and resource consumption by 2016.

#### **Carbon footprint minimization**

The latest Sustainability Report showed that the level of CO2 reduction at Nissan facilities represented a 22.4% improvement over the levels in FY2005. Nissan's measures to reduce emissions include the following: Nissan UK has installed 19,000 solar panels to join 10 wind turbines at its Sunderland plant, generating enough power to build more than 31,000 cars every year. The power derived from the solar panels and wind turbines accounts for 7% of the plant's total usage. Nissan Mexico's use of renewable energy sources, including wind power energy and biomass, accounts for 50 % of the energy used at the Aguascalientes plant since 2013.

Among new methods to increase clean energy use in Japan by 8% to 16%, Nissan improved energy procurement at manufacturing plants that require a large volume of electricity, including the Technical Center, Tochigi Plant, Oppama Plant, Yokohama Plant and Zama Operation Center. Efforts to reduce energy consumption and emissions at facilities coincided with continued innovation in the development of zero-emission vehicles. Nissan was among the first auto makers to address the world's environmental concerns, as well as the expectations of the next generation of customers, with the launch of the LEAF, the world's best-selling electric vehicle (EV).

#### Zero emission penetration

More than 200,000 Nissan LEAFs have been sold since the vehicle was introduced. The company has also enhanced the consumer appeal of zero-emission vehicles with initiatives such as: The "No Charge to Charge" program in the United States, which provides free access to charging stations for two years with the lease or purchase of a new LEAF, has expanded to 15 cities, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland.

In Europe, Nissan partnered with the power management specialists, Eaton, to ensure that the batteries that power electric vehicles work to mitigate the impact of climate change long after the life of the car. This is achieved by creating commercially viable energy storage and control centers that provide a sustainable 'second life' for Nissan's lithium-ion batteries after their automotive usage. Nissan partnered with Enel, Europe's second-largest power company, to develop an innovative Vehicle 2 Grid system that allows drivers as well as energy users to operate as individual "energy hubs" with the ability to use, store and return electricity in excess to the grid.

Electricity stored within the LEAF's highcapacity lithium-ion batteries can be supplied safely and conveniently to a home through the LEAF to Home power supply system. In FY2015, 1119 charging stations were installed at domestic sites in Nissan throughout Japan to expand EV usage for commuting. In the Middle East, Nissan signed a historic MoU in June 2016 with the Greater Amman Municipality in Jordan as part of a landmark initiative to provide the Kingdom with its first 100 Nissan LEAF and Nissan e-NV200 electric vehicles. The vehicles will be operated by Amman's Al Mumayaz Taxi Company in Jordan and will be the first electric vehicles of their kind to be used in the Middle East.

Nissan is dedicated to improving in four main areas: zero-emission vehicle penetration, fuel-efficient vehicle expansion, corporate carbon footprint minimization and new natural resource use minimization. The Sustainability Report details the achievements of Nissan's eight sustainability strategies, covering environment, safety, philanthropy, quality, value chain, employees, economic contribution, corporate governance and internal controls.

# YEN SHEDS POST-BREXIT GAINS

## Japan Stimulus hopes boost risk play

**LONDON:** The yen hit its lowest in nearly three weeks against the dollar yesterday and shed 1.4 percent versus the euro, as a weekend election victory by Japan's ruling coalition paved the way for more stimulus, bolstering risk sentiment.

Gains in global stock markets saw investors cut holdings in the yen, which rose on safe-haven demand after Britain's vote to leave the European Union fuelled worries about global growth. But yesterday's drop saw it erase those gains.

The dollar rose 1 percent to 103.92 yen, its strongest since June 24, when the British referendum result roiled global markets. The euro jumped to 115.37 yen also its highest since June 24. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Monday that he will instruct Economy Minister Nobuteru Ishihara to start work on compiling a fiscal stimulus package. Ishihara said yesterday the government will submit a supplementary budget in the autumn. Ishihara said he would start discussions on the package's size. The minister said the government may issue construction bonds, which are earmarked for public works projects. Ruling party sources had told Reuters before the election that the government was ready to spend more than 10 trillion yen. Another focus is whether the Bank of Japan will expand monetary stimulus at its meeting in late July. Traders said former Federal Reserve chief Ben Bernanke's presence in Tokyo had boosted expectations that the BOJ was preparing for more easing. The BOJ adopted negative rates earlier this year in addition to its asset buying program, but is far from achieving its inflation target. "Bernanke, who initiated QE3, is visiting the BOJ, inflating markets with expectations that the BOJ is accompanying the fiscal stimulus with ultraloose policies," said Hans Redeker, head of currency strategy at Morgan Stanley.

#### Bigger risk appetite

Commodity currencies including the Australian and New Zealand dollar jumped as stocks extended gains. The New Zealand dollar hit a 14-month high of \$0.7318 while the Australian dollar rose 1.5 percent against its US counterpart Sterling rose sharply with interior minister Theresa May set to become Britain's prime minister today, easing political tensions that had ratcheted up after the Brexit vote.

The pound rose 1.5 percent to \$1.3188, pulling further away from a 31-year low of \$1.2798 struck last week, though investors remain uncertain about May's approach to negotiating Britain's exit from the EU. Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said yesterday the Bank, whose monetary policy committee meets tomorrow, was ready to provide more stimulus to cushion the economy. "We see more downside for the pound both tomorrow and the months ahead," said Josh O'Byrne, currency strategist at Citi, adding he expected a quarter-percentage-point interest rate cut this week and some liquidity or credit support next month. — Reuters



#### INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE

SECOND CHAPTER FEATURES FOUR HAMILTON TIMEPIECES

**KUWAIT:** Hamilton Watches, recognized for their innovative and precise timepieces, as well as their leading role in the worlds of aviation and cinema return to the big screen this summer in 20th Century Fox's new blockbuster, Independence Day: Resurgence, twenty years after the first movie Independence Day.

#### **Independence Day: Resurgence**

We always knew they were coming back. After 'Independence Day' redefined the event movie genre, the next epic chapter delivers global spectacle on an unimaginable scale. Using recovered alien technology, the nations of Earth have collaborated on an immense defense program to protect the planet. But nothing can prepare us for the aliens' advanced and unprecedented force. Only the ingenuity of a few brave men and women can bring our world back from the brink of extinction.

The film is directed by Roland Emmerich, who directed the first chapter, as well as other blockbusters such as The Day After Tomorrow. Independence Day: Resurgence stars Liam Hemsworth, Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, Maika Monroe, Travis Trope, William Fichtner, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Judd Hirsch, Jessie Usher, Sela Ward, Brent Spiner, Vivica A Fox, and Angelababy. Independence Day: Resurgence will be released globally in cinemas starting June 22nd.

#### **#TimeMatters**

Time matters as the world unites to save the planet against alien invasion and human destruction. Fighting from the skies is pilot Jake Morrison, played by Liam Hemsworth, and wearing a robust Khaki X-Wind automatic chronograph. Built for adventure and proudly supporting its military heritage, this powerful timepiece is perfectly adapted for all defense missions. The pushers on the 44 millimeter stainless steel case are uniquely built to form an X, while the brown calf leather strap ads a stylish vintage touch. Inside, its automatic movement powers chronograph and day-date functions, as well as a drift-angle calculator created specifically for pilots so they can measure crosswinds. Even when using alien technology, keeping track of time is essential, and the Hamilton Khaki X-Wind will scrupulously answer the need for precision.

The action-packed Independence Day: Resurgence also stars some other Hamilton timepieces worn by additional cast members, starting with Jeff Goldblum wearing an elegant Jazzmaster automatic with GMT function to keep track of time in the different cities during the alien invasion. A Thinomatic can be seen on the wrist of Bill Pullman, and James A. Woods will be wearing a Khaki Pilot Automatic Chronograph, selected for their timekeeping precision and military-inspired design - because #TimeMatters when the earth is under attack.



Hamilton's presence in Independence Day: Resurgence is the latest in over 450 movie placements for Hamilton. The first collaboration was 65 years ago when the brand's watches first appeared in The Frogmen. Since then, Hamilton has worked closely with costume designers and prop masters to supply watches to filmmakers. Due to its continued involvement with Hollywood, Hamilton recognizes the wide spectrum of opportunities associated to the red carpet. With this in mind, the brand created the Hamilton Behind The Camera Awards. held in both Los Angeles and Shanghai. The awards pay tribute to the brilliant off-screen talents that contribute to the quality of a motion picture and to the lasting impression it makes on its audience.

#### Sri Lanka RAISES \$1.5 BN **DESPITE BREXIT** VOLATILITY

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka yesterday announced that it had raised \$1.5 billion through a bond issue which was nearly four times oversubscribed despite volatility triggered by Britain's to leave the European Union. The Central Bank of Sri Lanka said orders totaled \$5.5 billion for the \$1.5 billion bond issue on Monday. Sri Lanka offered \$500 million in bonds with a tenure of 5.5 years and \$1 billion for a period of 10 years. The shorter term debt was priced just below 6.125 percent while the longer tenure was at 7.125 percent, the bank said, adding that the rate was well within its anticipated interest rate.

"Despite the high volatility in the global financial markets following the historic United Kingdom referendum in June regarding their membership of the European Union, the bonds saw strong interests from a wide range of high quality investors," the bank said. Sri Lanka has already appointed a high-powered panel to study the effects of Brexit on its \$82 billion economy as 10 per cent of its exports to Britain are under European Union trade concessions. Sri Lanka's new government secured a \$1.5 billion IMF bailout last month to address its balance of payments crisis after a spending spree to increase public sector salaries last year.

President Maithripala Sirisena's administration sought an IMF bailout immediately after taking power in January last year, but the fund turned down the request, saying Sri Lanka's reserves were at a comfortable level then. However, the government faced a balance of payments crisis after it implemented its election pledges of lower fuel and utility prices. Sri Lanka enjoyed impressive economic growth rates averaging more than 8.0 percent for two years after a prolonged civil war ended in 2009. But the pace has since slowed, falling to 4.8 percent in 2015, down from 4.9 in the previous year, according to official data. — AFP

## FROM WOODEN GLASSES TO HONEY, GREEKS INNOVATING TO SURVIVE

ATHENS: If necessity is the mother of invention, eight years of a crippling recession and dwindling work prospects has compelled at least some Greeks to reboot, switch professions and innovate to survive. From the island of Syros, handmade wooden spectacle frames are proving a hit with hipsters in Europe and beyond. Gold-infused organic honey from the rolling hills of Evoia in the east is finding favour with upmarket clients in the United States, London, Hong Kong and the United

And in an Athens suburb, a carpenter turned to his lifetime hobby of crafting fishing spearguns after his business faltered. His first client was from Russia. Dimitris Hatzirodos, whose spearguns retail between 450 and 1,500 euros, said the crisis is forcing Greeks to think outside the box. "When things get tough it gets you thinking, you start thinking differently. When things are easy nobody ever makes difficult choices," he says, sitting in the workshop that he and his brother inherited from their

More than 400,000 Greeks have emigrated abroad since the country's financial crisis started in 2009. Those who stayed are lucky to find jobs-a quarter of the population is unemployed, and earnings have fallen on average 40 percent. National output has fallen by a guarter since 2008. Periklis Therrios, 36, briefly migrated to Canada. But home beckoned. He and his partner Eleni Vakondiou, 37, turned to making hand-crafted spectacle frames around 2012, some of them using recycled materials. The idea came over a coffee, after earlier endeavours with furniture flopped.

"It was very difficult, and there were many times when we thought about giving up, but we believed in our efforts, we believed that we would make a product that could stand on its own in the market," said Vakondiou. "There were moments when our (food) cabinets at home were empty because whatever income we had went towards research and development," she says. From a small workshop on Syros the couple started with a production of 350 pairs a year. They say they are now on track to making 2,000 this year, retailing for between 250 and 300 euros.

#### At least we tried

In Evoia, in the heart of the Greek countryside, Yannis Karypidis and Stevi Theodorou administer beehives left by Theodorou's grandfather. Last year they sold 60,000 jars of organic honey. Production has already exceeded 70,000 jars for the first half of 2016. Former advertising executive and accountant Karypidis, 35, said the couple had decided to move to the United Kingdom, but a last trip to Evoia changed their minds. "We said to ourselves 'if it works it works, if it doesn't it doesn't, but at least we tried it and got it out of our minds and we could then move on to something else," said Karypidis. Stayia Farm now produces 16 different types of honey mixtures, probably most noted for one infused with gold flakes. "It's a product for refined tastes ... it's not something you can find in a supermarket," Karypidis says. The product retails at between 35 and 50 euros overseas.

loannis Kaplanis, director general of the government-affiliated Hellenic Industrial Property Organization, known as OBI, says Greece has the talent but also needs an institutional framework for encouraging patents and financing start-ups. "There is a critical mass of inventors in the country which must be tapped, transformed into a commodity which will foster growth," he said, adding: 'There needs to be financing from businesses or from funds. This link does not exist." Karypidis and other small business people who have made it agree their success has been all self-generated and speak of government involvement as more of a hindrance than a help.

In typical Greek style, Karypidis did not receive any financing and instead tapped the know-how of his and his wife's extended family. Therrios and Vakondiou used crowd fundingmostly raised through Greek donations-to get started. "The difficulty in Greece right now is to maintain (a business)," said Karypidis. "The expenses, the taxes that exist make it really difficult to keep a small- or medium-sized business going." Speargun-maker Hatzirodos said he is happy to be "bringing even a euro" into Greece, but resents what many call a heavy-handed and shortsighted approach to taxes to keep the country financially afloat. "This country is the most blessed country there is, but the people who run it just don't deserve it," he said.— Reuters

# Cadillac XT5 Initiates New Series of Cadillac Luxury Crossovers



KUWAIT — Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons Automotive, the exclusive distributor of Cadillac vehicles in Kuwait, proudly unveiled the first-ever 2017 Crossover Touring 5 (XT5,) a comprehensively upgraded luxury crossover and the cornerstone of a new series of crossovers in the brand's ongoing expansion. The XT5 ushers the next chapter in elevating the Cadillac brand: it is bold, distinctive, sophisticated with superb driving dynamics. This new crossover perfectly reflects Cadillac's positioning in the luxury automotive marketplace, particularly in Kuwait.

The Cadillac XT5 is completely new, residing on a unique chassis and structure, embodying the company's expertise for lightweight and agile driving dynamics. The new XT5 is 278 pounds (126 kg) lighter than the current SRX, featuring rear-seat legroom increase of 3.2 in. (8.1 cm) as well. Additionally, the rear seat reclines and slides fore and aft. This was achieved using many of the techniques applied on the Cadillac CTS and ATS sport sedans - the lightest cars in their respective segments. This includes the use of laser welding, ultra high-strength steel and advanced analytics that ensure a stronger structure, and excellent crash performance with less overall bulk.

The XT5 also brings a new level of sophistication to showcase Cadillac's evolving design language, sporting a strong visual presence with propor-



tions that convey the driving experience and the lightweight construction underneath the surface. There is a lean, taut, liquid quality to the surfaces with flowing, uninterrupted lines separated by crisp edges. The XT5's interior is based on a philosophy of clean, modern elegance and craftsmanship, evident by the interior surfaces inside the XT5, which are wider and more horizontal in orientation, emphasizing efficient use of space. Like all Cadillac models, the interior is assembled with cut-and-sewn wrapped panels, rather than molded surfaces typical of mainstream vehicles.

Meanwhile, advanced powertrains add to efficiency and dynamics; with SAE-certified peak output of 310-horsepower and 271 lb-ft of torque, the new V6 uses variable valve timing for strong response and smooth power delivery. Cadillac's new Stop/Start technology automatically stop and start the engine when the vehicle is at rest in



while enhancing the quietness expected of a luxury vehicle. A new 8-speed automatic transmission is standard for the XT5, which also debuts Electronic Precision Shift - the first electronically controlled transmission shifter for a Cadillac, which reduces noise and vibration, and allows further use of the cabin space with a storage space beneath the center console. In

traffic stops, saving fuel and reducing emissions,

more powerful processor provides best-ever response and accuracy. The XT5 features an integrated wireless charger for mobile devices, with a slot designed into the center console. Like all Cadillac models in 2016, XT5 features 4G-wireless connectivity with a standard integrated Wi-Fi hotspot and standard Apple CarPlay and Android Auto for simpler in-car phone integration. An optional color reconfigurable Heads-Up Display is available. Cadillac's signature LED light pipes are standard inside and out, while full LED headlamps are optional. A Surround Vision feature enables a "bird's eye" view of the perimeter around the car to assist in parking.



addition, the advanced "twin clutch" all-wheel drive system continuously and automatically delivers excellent traction across a variety of conditions, such as providing enhanced stability in dry weather.

The first-ever XT5 proudly includes Cadillac's latest production systems for connectivity and safety. Featuring Cadillac's patented new industry-leading Rear Camera Mirror system, which enhances the driver's rear vision by 300 percent, using a video display applied over the conventional inside rearview mirror. A high dynamic range camera records wider images behind the car, streams the image to video processing software which "removes" obstacles such as the roof, rear pillars and rear seat passengers, projecting an unobstructed view to a Liquid Crystal Display. In addition, XT5 features Cadillac's Driver Awareness and Driver Assist packages to aid vision and Premium Care Program

Yusuf Ahmed Alghanim & Sons Automotive furthers Cadillac's superiority by showcasing the company's commitment to enhance customers' unique Cadillac experience by offering customers peace of mind with a comprehensive insurance program. In addition, all Cadillac owners will enjoy service and maintenance for four years or 100,000 km, warranty for 4 years or 100,000 km, 24-hour roadside assistance anywhere in the Middle East for four years (unlimited miles) plus a courtesy transportation and a replacement vehicle upon availability.

Customers are invited to discover and enjoy an engaging test-drive experience of the first-ever Cadillac XT5 by visiting the Cadillac showroom at Safat Alghanim in Al Rai today.





NEW YORK: A group of friends play Pokemon Go on their smartphones at Union Square, in New York City. — AFP

#### POKEMON GO CRAZE CRASHES AUSSIE SERVERS, DRAWS POLICE WARNINGS

**SYDNEY:** High demand for the mobile augmented-reality game Pokemon Go crashed the app's servers in Australia yesterday, while attracting safety and trespassing warnings from police. The game has been a huge hit with players since it was rolled out in Australia, New Zealand and the United States late last week, with more than five million downloads on the Android Google Play app store. It has also topped Apple's app charts.

A Pokemon "walk" in Sydney on Sunday saw thousands of gamers descend on the iconic harbor, chasing virtual cartoon character monsters around the Opera House and Botanical Gardens with their mobile phones. "(Western Australia) Police have received numerous reports of Pokemon around the state. Rest assured - we're gonna catch 'em all!" quipped the police force on Facebook, using the game's tagline.

#### Pokestop

But they warned that "I was collecting Pokemon' is not a legal defense against a charge of trespass, so be sure that you have permission to enter an area or building." Officers in the northern city of Darwin also took to the social media website to advise users that while their police station featured as a "Pokestop"-locations where players can pick up supplies-gamers did not have to

enter it to get the items. In Sydney and Melbourne, where "Pokemon" has been trending high on Twitter, users complained about crashed servers, with one posting: "Twitter = moral support group for when #pokemongo server goes down".

"Finally the world has found something to unite about. Our collective trauma of the #PokemonGo server being down," another user wrote. Guy Blomberg, who arranged the Sydney "walk", said he hoped to organize larger get-togethers at the Oz Comic-Con and PAX Australia video game conventions, which he helps run, later this year."Even on the train this morning, there were other people playing, so I leant over and went, 'What have you caught today?," he told AFP."It's a great conversation starter."

The app's popularity has sent shares in Nintendo, which has invested in the game's developer Niantic after it was spun off from tech giant Google, soaring by more than 40 percent over three trading sessions in Japan. "It is a truly incredible offering," chief market strategist at IG Chris Weston wrote in a note yesterday." Still, as someone who missed the original Pokemon craze, I am finding the idea of millennia's transfixed on their phones through the streets of Melbourne like a scene from 'The Walking Dead' quite concerning."—AFP



SAN FRANCISCO: A sign outside of Kawika Ocean Beach Deli advertises Pokemon Go related activities to passersby in San Francisco. — AP

# POKEMON GO SMARTPHONE GAME LEADS WOMAN TO BODY IN RIVER

RIVERTON, Wyoming: Authorities in central Wyoming are investigating after a woman playing the popular smartphone game Pokemon Go found a man's body in a river. Shayla Wiggens told the Riverton Ranger newspaper that she spotted the body in the Wind River near the city of Riverton on Friday while playing the new game. It sends players to real-world locations to capture virtual creatures.

Fremont County Undersheriff Ryan Lee says the death appears to be accidental and possibly a drowning. He says evidence indicates the man went into the water where he was found. The victim hasn't been identified pending an autopsy. Lee says the FBI is helping in the investigation. It comes as police in Missouri say four teens used Pokemon Go to lure victims to a location and rob them.—AP

# JAPAN MESSAGING APP LINE SET FOR YEAR'S TOP TECH IPO

**TOKYO:** Japan-based messaging app Line said Monday it could raise more than \$1.0 billion in one of the year's biggest share sales, as it makes its market debut this week. The company, looking to expand on booming popularity among smartphone users in Asia, priced its shares at a top-of-the-range 3,300 yen (\$32), suggesting strong demand for the sale. Based on that price, the initial public offering will raise 115.5 billion (\$1.14 billion) through the sale of 35 million shares. An option to sell more shares could put the IPO on course to raise a total of \$1.3 billion.

Line, owned by South Korea's Naver, starts trading in New York on Thursday and in Tokyo Friday. The sale, valuing the firm at about \$6.9 billion, is the biggest technology IPO this year, Bloomberg News reported, and the largest so far in Tokyo. The popular app lets users make free calls, send instant messages, and post photos or short videos, along with a host of other paid services. It combines attributes from Facebook, Skype and WhatsApp, with games and a mobile

payment service also on offer. Line's messaging service launched in 2011 after the quake-tsunami tragedy damaged Japan's telecoms infrastructure nationwide, forcing people to use online resources to communicate. It is best known for letting users send each other cute cartoon "stickers", and is hugely popular in Japan, particularly among teenagers. The app has a strong presence in Asian markets such as Thailand, Taiwan and Indonesia, as well as some Spanish-speaking nations, including Spain and Mexico.

Line said it would use proceeds from the stock offering to help it expand in Asia, and tap the US and European markets where it's not a major player. The sale comes two years after the firm initially announced plans to list that were later shelved, reportedly because of disagreements over the sale between Line and its South Korean owner. Line's offering would be the biggest in Tokyo since Japan Post made its long-awaited trading debut in November with a share sale that topped \$11.5 billion. — AFP

# NEW DATA-SHARING RULES FOR EU AND US ADOPTED

#### NEW PRIVACY SHIELD IMPOSES STRICTER OBLIGATIONS

**BRUSSELS:** New rules governing trans-Atlantic data transfers were formally approved yesterday, months after Europe's top court ruled against the previous arrangements amid concerns over the surveillance activities of US intelligence agencies. The European Union and the US say the new Privacy Shield imposes stricter obligations on American companies, including the likes of Facebook and Apple, to safeguard the personal data of individuals, from health matters through to social media activities.

Critics argue that the new framework doesn't go far enough, that the consumer protections are not strong enough and that the possibility of blanket surveillance from US agencies remains. As part of the deal, the US government has assured that any access on national security grounds by public authorities to personal data transferred under the new arrangements will be subject to "clear conditions, limitations, oversight and preventing generalized access."

The two sides say that includes stronger monitoring and enforcement by the US Department of Commerce and Federal Trade Commission including increased cooperation with European authorities. Under the terms of the new deal, there will be an annual joint review of the pact and those who think their data has been misused has a route for complaint. And the US will appoint a new official - an ombudsman based at the State Department responsible for following up on European complaints.

#### Milestone for privacy

"The approval of the Privacy Shield is a milestone for privacy at a time when the sharing of data is driving growth in every sector, from advanced manufacturing to advertising," US Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker said in Brussels at the launch of the data-sharing pact. "For businesses, the free flow of data makes it possible for a startup in Silicon Valley to hire programmers in the Czech Republic, or a manufacturer in Germany to collaborate with a research lab in Tennessee," she added.

The deal potentially brings an end to a period of uncertainty for businesses following last October's decision by the European Court of Justice that the previous Safe Harbor pact was invalid because it did not adequately protect consumers when their data



BRUSSELS: EU Justice Commissioner Vera Jourova listens to a question during a news conference in the Commission Berlaymont building in Brussels, Belgium.

was stored in the US. The pact, which had been used by around 4,500 companies, had allowed the easy transfer of data from the EU by having US companies promise to provide privacy protections equivalent to those in the EU.

The EU court's ruling that the pact was invalid opened up the possibility that data privacy officers across the 28-country EU might be inundated by complaints by consumers worried about their privacy. "The adoption of Privacy Shield will enhance legal certainty for thousands of businesses on both sides of the Atlantic while providing an adequate level of protection for citizens' data," Markus J Beyrer, the director general of lobby group Business Europe. "Trans-Atlantic data flows are fundamental to the success of the European economy and today's decision will support job creation across industry."

#### Robust new system

Concerns over the privacy of data transfers had been stoked by the spying revelations made by Edward Snowden, a former contractor at the US National Security Agency. Snowden's revelations had prompted the complaint to the court from Max Schrems, an Austrian law student. Schrems said yes-



BRUSSELS: US Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker speaks during a news conference in the Commission Berlaymont building in Brussels, Belgium. — AP photos

terday that the new arrangements don't go far enough and argued that the requirements on the US authorities are not equivalent to those that exist in the EU.

"It is little more than a little upgrade to Safe Harbor," he said. "It is very likely to fail again ... This deal is bad for users, which will not enjoy proper privacy protections and bad for businesses, which have to deal with a legally unstable solution." Schrems' view was echoed by Jan Philipp Albrecht, the home affairs and data protection spokesman for the Greens in the European Parliament, who said the European Commission "signed a blank cheque for the transfer of personal data of EU citizens to the US, without delivering equivalent data protection

Both Pritzker and Vera Jourova, the European Commissioner for Justice, said they are confident that the new deal will stand up to any court challenge. "The EU-US Privacy Shield is a robust new system to protect the personal data of Europeans and ensure legal certainty for business," Jourova said. "It brings stronger data protection standards that are better enforced, safeguards on government access, and easier redress for individuals in case of complaints."—AP

# APPLE'S MAC NO LONGER BUCKING PC INDUSTRY'S SALES SLIDE

**SAN FRANCISCO:** After defying industry trends in recent years, Apple is feeling the slowdown in global purchases of laptop and desktop computers. Apple shipped 4 to 8 percent fewer Mac computers during the second quarter of 2016, compared with a year earlier, according to new estimates from two research firms - even while some of its bigger rivals managed to find growth in the PC business.

Apple enjoyed steady increases in Mac sales for most of 2014 and 2015, while the rest of the PC market was in a slump. Although the leading PC-makers sell more units, Apple's Macs tend to command both higher prices and consumer loyalty. But Apple Inc has been reporting a dip in Mac unit sales since the end of last year, and estimates released Monday suggest that trend is continuing.

#### Overall business

Analysts estimate Apple shipped 4.4 million to 4.6 million Macs in the quarter ending June 30.PC sales overall have been declining for the last four years, as more consumers and businesses turn to smartphones and other gadgets. Global PC shipments fell to 62.4 million in the last quarter, down 4.5 percent from a year earlier, according to researchers at International Data Corp. Analysts at a second firm, Gartner, estimated that drop at 5.2 percent.

Lenovo, the world's biggest PC-maker, saw shipments fall more than 2 percent around the world, to 13.2 million, despite a strong showing in the United States. But HP, Dell and ASUS all increased their shipments during the last quarter, according to both research firms. Analysts said those companies benefited from a healthy US market, consumer interest in new laptops running Google's Chrome software, and seasonal purchases by public agencies.

Microsoft's new Windows 10 software hasn't given PC sales much of a boost. Analysts say that could change in coming months, as the end of a promotional offer means consumers will no longer be able to upgrade older Windows machines for free. Some Apple fans say an update for the popular MacBook Pro laptop is overdue, while the Cupertino, California, company has been promoting its iPad Pro tablet, which works with a detachable keyboard.

Apple enjoyed eight consecutive quarters of year-on-year Mac sales increases before posting a 4 percent drop in units sold during the last three months of 2015. That was followed by a 12 percent drop in the first quarter of this year. Macs are a small part of Apple's overall business, however, since the company makes most of its money from iPhones. Apple will report second-quarter sales on July 26.—AP



DETROIT, Michigan: This file photo shows General Motors President Dan Ammann speaking on the eve of The North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Michigan. — AFP

#### GM SEES SELF-DRIVING CARS AS GRADUAL ROLLOUT

**WASHINGTON:** General Motors believes in autonomous vehicles as a safer mode of transport, and expects the technology to come more quickly than most people think, a top executive said Monday. "There isn't going to be a particular moment or day when we see it-it will unfold in a gradual way, but it will be a lot faster than people are expecting," said GM president Dan Ammann at the Fortune Brainstorm Tech conference in Colorado.

Amman declined to comment on the fatal accident involving a Tesla electric car in semi-autonomous driving mode but said GM believes the technology will lead to safer roads."It's our fundamental belief that autonomous technology will lead to lower fatalities," Ammann said. Amman, appearing on stage with Lyft co-founder John Zimmer, said the auto giant's strategy on autonomous cars is linked with the ride-sharing startup in which GM has invested some \$500 million. "We think ridesharing is interesting and we think autonomous vehicles are interesting and we think we can put the two together" with Lyft, he said.

Zimmer said autonomous driving technology is a key element in Lyft's long-term vision of changing the model of car ownership. He said that in the United States alone, spending on car ownership amounts to some \$2 trillion annually "so we believe in cities that the majority of that spend will transform to transportation as a service." Earlier Monday, GM and Lyft announced an expansion of their deal allowing Lyft drivers to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Denver. The companies said Lyft drivers would also be able to use the soon-to-be-launched Chevrolet Bolt electric vehicle.—AFP

# CBS, TWITTER ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP FOR CONVENTION

**NEW YORK:** Twitter says it will live-stream CBS News' online coverage of the Republican and Democratic conventions later this month, a first for the social media outlet. People will be able to watch video of the conventions on mobile devices and desktops alongside a feed of political tweets, the company said on Monday. The GOP convention in Cleveland begins on July 18, with the Democrats in Philadelphia the following week.



Besides being the latest example of Twitter's foray into video, the announcement is a major shot of exposure for CBSN, which is CBS News' two-year-old live online stream. "It makes us first among equals if you're looking for convention video," said David Rhodes, CBS News president. NBC News also announced Monday that the broadcast network will offer one hour of prime-time news coverage on each of the four nights of the conventions, identical to ABC's plans divulged last week. CBS hasn't announced its plans, but is likely to do the same.

That in itself is a reflection of increased interest. In 2012, ABC, CBS and NBC had convention coverage on three of the four nights of each convention. CBSN's Josh Elliott, Elaine Quijano and Vladimir Duthiers will

anchor the coverage on Twitter. Other CBS News anchors and reporters also will appear on the stream during hours the network is not in news coverage. CBSN does not simulcast CBS News' television broadcast. Although CBS does not say how many people watch its live stream, it claims steady growth. The Twitter exposure should attract viewers much like channel surfing does on television, Rhodes said.

Since Twitter said that some of the early primary debates attracted some 4 million tweets apiece, there should be an audience available. Twitter experimented with video during the recent Wimbledon tennis tournament and has announced plans to beam some NFL games this fall. Political news has driven big ratings for cable news network's this year, which will likely offer near-nonstop convention coverage. With delegates opposed to Republican Donald Trump still talking about objecting to his nomination, and the long candidacy of Democrat Bernie Sanders, the conventions offer less predictability than in the recent past.

It's somewhat unusual for the networks to be announcing their coverage plans so late, and there's a reason for that. Rhodes said the parties, particularly the Republicans, have been less forthcoming about their own schedules than in recent election cycles. "We don't want anybody just to assume that we're going to flip a switch and they're going to be able to program to millions of people without any filter," he said. Rhodes said delaying an announcement of the network plans gives broadcasters some leverage in getting information about convention planning from the parties.—AP

#### CLINICS ASK JUDGE TO BLOCK NEW ALABAMA ABORTION RESTRICTIONS

MONTGOMERY, Alabama: Lawyers for abortion providers have asked a federal judge to block new Alabama laws that ban abortion clinics near schools as well as the procedure most commonly used in the second trimester. The American Civil Liberties Union filed a request for a temporary restraining order before the laws go into effect August 1. The group said the location restriction would close two of the state's busiest abortion clinics, while the procedure ban would severely curtail second-trimester abortion access in Alabama.

"In recent years, the State of Alabama has engaged in relentless attacks on abortion rights, enacting a

multitude of restrictions designed to shut down clinics and impose burdens on women seeking abortion services," ACLU lawyers wrote in the July 6 request to block the law. US District Judge Myron Thompson held a Monday telephone conference on the request, but has not issued a ruling. Alabama Gov Robert Bentley in May signed into law a ban on abortion clinics within 2,000 feet of public K-8 schools. He also approved a ban of a common second-trimester abortion procedure known as dilation & evacuation, or D&E.

The location bill targeted the Alabama Women's Center for Reproductive Alternatives in Huntsville. The clinic moved to a new location in 2013 in order to

comply with a new state law requiring clinics to meet the same building code requirements as outpatient surgical centers. The new location is down the street from a K-8 magnet school. The restriction could also affect a Tuscaloosa women's clinic. The clinic is more than a mile's drive to the nearest school. However, its property and the school's campus back up to the same

According to Alabama Department of Public Health data, the Huntsville and Tuscaloosa clinics performed 5,833 abortions in 2014, 72 percent of all abortions in the state that year. Legislation supporters said abortion clinics should not be close to schools. Dilation & evacuation, or surgical abortions, are used in the majority of procedures in the second trimester, after 13 weeks of pregnancy, according to the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

In the procedure, the cervix and the contents of the uterus are removed. Alabama lawmakers who supported the bill called surgical abortion "barbaric" and likened it to medieval forms of punishment. Legislation opponents called the bill an attempt to interfere with a woman's medical decisions. Similar procedure bans were enacted in Kansas and Oklahoma but those laws were temporarily blocked by the courts. — AP

# AUSTRIAN BIOTECH PLANS ZIKA VACCINE CLINICAL TRIALS

#### BIOSCIENCE SIGNED A LICENSE DEAL WITH THE FRENCH RESEARCH INSTITUTE

AUSTRIA: An Austrian biotech company working with the Institute Pasteur said yesterday it planned to start clinical trials with an experimental Zika vaccine in the next 12 months, marking a further acceleration of research in the field. Themis Bioscience has signed a license deal with the French research institute giving it extensive rights to the Zika vaccine candidate, which is based on established measles vaccine

More than a dozen small biotech firms and

against mosquito-borne Zika, which has been linked to birth defects and neurological disorders, although most work is at a very early stage. Erich Tauber, chief executive of Themis, believes his company's project will benefit from the proven track record behind the technology used to immunize against measles. French drug maker Sanofi, the only big drug maker working on a Zika shot, last week struck a deal with the US Army to speed up the development of another

other organizations are working on vaccines vaccine, which should be ready for testing on

humans in October. Global health officials are racing to better understand the Zika virus, which has caused a major outbreak that began in Brazil last year and has spread to many countries in the Americas. The World Health Organization has said there is strong scientific consensus that Zika is a cause of the birth defect microcephaly, or small heads in babies, as well as Guillain-Barre syndrome, a neurological disorder. — Reuters



INDIA: Indian para-military force soldiers plant saplings on the outskirts of Allahabad, India. — AP

# INDIA STATE AIMS TO PLANT 50 MILLION TREES IN A DAY

LUCKNOW, India: Hundreds of thousands of people in India's most populous state jostled for space Monday as they attempted to plant 50 million trees over 24 hours in hopes of shattering the world record. Officials in Uttar Pradesh distributed millions of saplings to be planted across the state to help India's efforts to increase its forest cover, and to get into Guinness World Records for the most trees planted in a day. The current record is 847,275, set in Pakistan in 2013.

More than 800,000 people, including students, lawmakers, government officials, housewives and volunteers from nonprofit organizations, headed out Monday to plant the saplings at designated spots along country roads and highways, rail tracks and forest lands. Uttar Pradesh's top elected official, Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav, said that planting 50 million trees would spread awareness and enthusiasm about afforestation and environmental conservation.

"The world has realized that serious efforts are needed to reduce carbon emissions to mitigate the effects of global climate change. Uttar Pradesh has made a beginning in this regard," Yadav told volunteers in the city of Kannauj, 250 kilometers (155 miles) southwest of the state capital, Lucknow. India's government is encouraging all 29 states to start tree-planting drives to increase the country's forest cover as part of commitments made at last year's climate change summit in Paris.

The government has designated more than \$6.2 billion for tree-planting across the country, in keeping with its pledge to push India's forest cover to 95 million hectares by 2030. In Lucknow's Kukrail Reserve Forest, eighth-grader Shashwat Rai said he was planting a "peepal," using the local name for the fig species Ficus religiosa. "I've read in a book that this tree releases maximum oxygen," Rai said. "There is so much pollution in the city, we need trees that produce oxygen."

Shashwat said he would be checking on the tree frequently. "I don't want this plant to die," he said. The long-term survival of trees planted in such mass campaigns remains a concern, officials said. Senior forest official Sanjeev Saran said the sites where the trees have been planted would be monitored through aerial photographs taken at regular intervals to check how many of the saplings were thriving. Usually, only 60 percent of saplings survive, with the rest succumbing to disease or lack of water, officials said. Meanwhile, auditors from Guinness World Records were moving around in the state to check on the numbers. "We are trying to maintain full transparency," Saran said. "They are out in the field and are supervising the plantation drive," he said. "We do not know who they are or where they are at this point in time. They are working incognito, and this suits us." Last year, Uttar Pradesh entered Guinness World Records for the largest distribution of saplings by donating more than 1 million trees that were planted at 10 locations in the state. — AP



MINNESOTA: Adele fans arrived for her show at Xcel Energy Center in pouring rain in St. Paul, Minnesota. — AP

#### STORMS, TORNADOES CAUSE DAMAGE IN NORTH-CENTRAL MINNESOTA

LITCHFIELD, Minnesota: At least two tornadoes, torrential rain and powerful winds damaged homes, forced the evacuation of a nursing home and flooded highways in north-central Minnesota. Up to 20 homes were damaged by a tornado in Meeker County on Monday afternoon, authorities said. The communities of Litchfield and nearby Watkins were hard hit by the storms. Fifty residents were removed from the Hilltop Health Care Center in Watkins after the home lost part of its roof. The American Red Cross said it is assisting the evacuees.

In Litchfield, about 70 miles west of Minneapolis, Mayor Keith Johnson said there was serious damage, but that no one was injured. "I've lived in this town 52 years and I've never seen a storm like this in our community," Johnson said. Diane Kelbing tells KARE-TV she and her husband heard the tornado warning siren, left their home and raced to their mobile home park shelter. "Well, the garage is gone, the shed is gone, the snowmobile trailer is gone. We've got a snow plow in the tree," Kelbing said.

Audrey Schoenberg took shelter at a near by restaurant after a tornado flipped her home off its foundation. "I'm numb. I'm numb. I don't know really what I do feel right now. It's quite a shock to see that everything is gone," she said. Law enforcement also reported a tornado touchdown around 6:30 p.m. Monday three miles east of Rockville, in Stearns County, according to the National Weather Service. The storms generated a deluge of heavy rain causing the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office to advise against travel late Monday because of flooding.

In St Cloud, powerful rain flooded street and left some motorists stranded in high water. In a Baxter industrial park, a foot of water covered the roadways. The National Weather Service reported 11 inches of rain fell in the east-central Minnesota city of Sturgeon Lake. The agency also issued a flash flood warning for much of northwestern Wisconsin after as much as 9 inches of rain fell in some areas. Parts of eight counties were under the flash flood warning until early yesterday morning. The weather service said it received reports from law enforcement that state, county and local roads were under water in the warned areas, including Grantsburg, Spooner, Hayward, Ashland, Iron River and Trego. — AP

#### ACTION NEEDED AS DECLINE IN HIV CASES STALLS, AIDS AGENCY SAYS

LONDON: Global efforts to prevent the spread of HIV infection must be stepped up after a long-term decline in the number of new cases in adults stalled, the United Nations AIDS agency warned on yesterday. In a report on the worldwide epidemic, UNAIDS said an estimated 1.9 million adults had become infected with HIV every year for at least the past five years. Globally, some 36.7 million were now infected. New HIV infections among adults were now rising in Eastern Europe, central Asia, the Caribbean and Middle East and North Africa, the report said.

"We are sounding the alarm," said Michel Sidibe, executive director of UNAIDS. "The power of prevention is not being realized. If there is a resurgence in new HIV infections now, the epidemic will become impossible to control. The world needs to take urgent and immediate action." The epidemic of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) that causes AIDS has had a devastating impact since it began some 35 years ago.

Since then, 35 million people have died from AIDS-related illnesses and an estimated 78 million have become infected with HIV. The World Health Organization says all people diagnosed with HIV should have immediate access to antiretroviral AIDS drugs, which hold the virus in check and give patients a good chance of a long and relatively healthy life. But the UNAIDS report found only around 17 million patients worldwide - less than half of those diagnosed as HIV positive - are currently on treatment.

The UNAIDS report said significant progress had been made in stopping new HIV infections among children, with new cases down by more than 70 percent since 2001. But the decline in new infections among adults had stalled, at a time when donor funding for the fight against AIDS had dropped to its lowest levels since 2010, it said. International donor contributions fell from a peak of \$9.7 billion in 2013 to \$8.1 billion in 2015. — Reuters

#### TANZANIA SEIZED \$2 MILLION WORTH OF ELEPHANT IVORY

TANZANIA: Tanzanian police said yesterday it had seized elephant ivory worth more than \$2 million and arrested nine suspected smugglers in June in an operation supported by Interpol and police forces in the region. Poaching has risen in recent years across sub-Saharan Africa. Gangs kill elephants and rhinos, both endangered animals, and ship their tusks and horns to Asia for use in ornaments and medicines.

"We were able to seize 666 pieces of elephant ivory, weighing 1,279 kilograms valued at 4.6 billion shillings (\$2.11 million)," Diwani Athuman, director of criminal investigation, said in a statement. Among the suspects arrested were two citizens of Guinea and one Ugandan. Interpol and police forces in eastern and southern Africa took part in the operation, he said. The elephant population in Tanzania shrank to around 43,000 in 2014 from 110,000 in 2009, according to a census released last year, with conservationists blaming "industrialscale" poaching. The rhino population is much smaller.

The East African country relies heavily on revenues from safari tourism and new President John Magufuli has pledged to root out poaching as part of a wider war on corruption. A prominent Chinese businesswoman Yang Feng Glan, 66, dubbed the "Ivory Queen", is facing trial in Tanzania on charges of running a elephant ivory smuggling network. — Reuters

# SKY HIGH BILLS LEAVE NIGERIAN MOTHERS AND NEWBORNS TRAPPED IN HOSPITALS

**UMUAHIA, Nigeria:** Four months after giving birth in Umuahia, the capital of Nigeria's southeastern Abia state, 23-year-old single mother Amarachi Amadi is still in hospital with her baby girl. While the mother and her daughter are in good health, they are not allowed to leave the public hospital until Amadi settles the 543,000 naira (\$1,900) bill for their care.

Amadi, who makes a living selling stones to construction workers for 40 naira (\$0.15) per sack, fears she may never be able to clear her debt - leaving her and her baby trapped in the Umuahia Federal Medical Centre (FMC) for the foreseeable future. "I have really suffered ... and they do not allow me to go out," said Amadi, who relies on her mother to bring food into the hospital and to help her care for her baby, Oluebubechi.

New mothers like Amadi are stuck in maternity wards across Nigeria - forbidden from leaving until their debts are settled. Known as Awaiting Bill Settlement (ABS) patients, these women are responsible for looking after and feeding themselves and their newborns. Few Nigerians have health insurance, leaving many patients clinging to the hope their bills will be waived by hospital directors or covered by visiting well-wishers.

Meanwhile, whenever the maternity ward at the hospital is full, many ABS patients are forced to sleep on the floor. "Sometimes, we place all the babies on one bed while the mothers sleep in chairs," said one nurse, who asked not to be named as she was not authorized by the hospital to speak. "Some babies have stayed here until they started crawling," the nurse said, adding that some mothers had managed to escape the hospital with their babies when no one was watching.

#### **Hoping for charity**

Like Amadi, nine other nursing mothers in the FMC's maternity ward are stuck in limbo, having been discharged by the doctors but trapped within the hospital grounds by their debts. Janet Moses, 19, said the father of her twin boys had stopped visiting or answering her calls over the past month. She believes he has been scared off by the bill. No one visits Moses or brings her food, so she depends on other patients to share their meals with her.

Other patients on the ward are slightly

more fortunate. Adaku Mmaduabuchi, a 25year-old housewife who gave birth to her first child in May, is brought meals daily by her husband. But they too have been struggling to pay off their debt. "I have been phoning my friends and relatives to see if anyone can lend me the money," said her husband, Ihunze, who has so far only paid a third of the 200,000 naira (\$700) they owe.

There are a large number of ABS patients at the FMC due to the hospital's policy of treating every patient who arrives, regardless of whether they can afford to pay upfront for their treatment, said Chuku Abali, the director of the hospital. Abali said he frequently waives the bills of the hospital's patients, many of whom are nursing mothers, with amounts ranging from 10,000 naira (\$35) to

1.5 million naira (\$5,300). "But if we continue to run on charity, we will fold. Things have to be paid for," Abali told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Many patients wait in the hope that philanthropists, who sometimes visit during Easter and Christmas holidays, will clear their debts when they next visit, the hospital director said. "We also conduct investigations to find

out if patients have any relatives who can afford to pay, then we write to them."

#### **Call for insurance**

Other hospitals, like the University College Hospital (UCH) in the southwestern city of Ibadan, are taking a more novel approach when it comes to dealing with their ABS patients. The UCH has set up a fund which allows hospital staff to make voluntary monthly contributions from their salaries towards patients' bills. Abandoned teenage mothers are given priority. Yet these contributions alone are not enough to solve the problem, said Adefemi Afolabi, the UCH's deputy director. "There is no day I get to my table without seeing letters from people applying for cancellation of bills," Afolabi said. The health ministry announced plans earlier this year to build 10,000 health clinics across the country, which could provide maternity care at a lower cost, according to Afolabi. "The government also needs to extend the National Health Insurance Scheme so it goes to the grassroots," he said. "Only government workers and some private workers are entitled to it." — Reuters

#### PREGNANCY MULTIVITS 'UNNECESSARY EXPENSE' FOR MOST: EXPERTS

PARIS: Multivitamins and mineral supplements in pregnancy are an "unnecessary expense" with no proven benefits for most well-nourished women or their babies, said a review of science data yesterday. Sold at about 18 Euros (\$20) per month, these supplements are heavily marketed to women in all stages of pregnancy as a means of warding off health problems, said the analysis.

Pregnant women are a soft target for products which promise to give their baby the best start in life "regardless of cost", said the authors. And while daily doses of a B vitamin called folic acid, and vitamin D to a lesser degree, are known to be beneficial, there is no evidence that cocktails stuffed full

of other vitamins are protective. Some may even be harmful, said the paper: high doses of vitamin A can harm a developing fetus.

#### Relatively inexpensive

Multivitamin and mineral supplements typically contain 20 or more active ingredients. "We found no evidence to recommend that all pregnant women should take prenatal multi-nutrient supplements beyond the nationally (British) advised folic acid and vitamin D supplements, generic versions of which can be purchased relatively inexpensively," said the review authors. The analysis was published in the Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin, which

informs British doctors and pharmacists about treatment and disease management.

The focus, said the paper, should be on promoting a healthy diet and boosting access to folic acid supplements for lower income women. "For most women who are planning to become pregnant or who are pregnant, complex multivitamin and mineral preparations promoted for use during pregnancy are unlikely to be needed and are an unnecessary expense," the authors wrote.

The team had reviewed published research on folic acid, vitamin D, iron, vitamins C, E and A, and multivitamin supplements in a review of official British guidelines for pregnant women. The guide-

lines recommend 400 micrograms of folic acid daily until 12 weeks of pregnancy, and 10 micrograms of vitamin D throughout pregnancy and breastfeeding.

Much of the evidence on which marketing claims are based, come from studies in low-income countries where pregnant women are more likely to be malnourished, said the authors. Folic acid, a synthetic version of folate, is used to fortify flour and bread to reduce birth defects of the brain, spine or spinal cord-so-called neural tube defects. Vitamin D is found in some foods and can be synthesized by the body when the skin is exposed to ultraviolet light. It has been linked to a healthy heart and bones. — AFP

# THUMB SUCKERS LESS PRONE TO ALLERGIES: NZ STUDY

**WELLINGTON:** Infants who suck their thumbs or bite their nails appear less prone to allergies as adults, New Zealand researchers have found. Their findings support the theory that early-life exposure to microbial organisms reduces the risk of developing allergies, Otago University scientists concluded. A study, published this week in the US journal Pediatrics, recorded the thumb-sucking and nail-biting habits of 1,037 children when they were aged five, seven, nine and 11 years old.

Researchers then followed up by giving them allergy skin prick tests when they were aged 13 and 32. They found 49 percent of 13-year-olds who did not suck their thumb or bite their nails tested positive to at least one allergy, compared to 38 percent who practiced one of the habits. The allergy level fell to 31 percent for children who did both. The findings remained the

same when participants were 32-years-old, regardless of factors such as parental history of allergies, pet ownership or being

"It suggests that being exposed to microbes as a child reduces your risk of developing allergies," lead researcher Bob Hancox said. However, despite the laboratory skin-test results, the researchers said there was no evidence the habits reduced the risk of "real world" diseases linked to allergies.

"Although thumb-suckers and nail-biters had fewer allergies on skin testing, we found no difference in their risk for developing allergic diseases such as asthma or hay fever," they said. They added: "We do not suggest that children should be encouraged to take up these habits, because it is unclear if there is a true health benefit." — AFP



KAZIRANGA: In this photograph, an Indian one-horned rhino crosses a path in Kaziranga National Park, some 250kms east of Guwahati. — AFP

# NO SILVER LINING IN CLIMATE STUDY

PARIS: Clouds, which act as thermal regulators for Earth, have altered in character and global distribution due to climate change, and could in turn make warming worse, a study said Monday. A trawl of satellite images has revealed reduced cloudiness in Earth's temperate mid-latitude zones, which lie between the poles and subtropics in both hemispheres, accompanied by a poleward expansion of the subtropical dry zones.

The tops of clouds everywhere rose higher, according to data that stretched over more than two decades from the early 1980s. "These cloud changes enhance absorption of solar radiation by the Earth and reduce emission of thermal radiation to space," said a statement from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego, which took part in the study.

#### Changes in cloud distribution

"This exacerbates global warming caused by increasing greenhouse gas concentration." Clouds regulate Earth's temperature by reflecting some solar radiation back into space before it can hit the ground, while also acting as a blanket to limit heat loss from the planet at night. How they are affected by climate change, and how they influence global warming in return, "has been one of the biggest areas of uncertainty for scientists attempting to understand current climate and forecast future trends,"

said Scripps. Satellites originally designed to monitor Earth's weather are not stable enough to reliably track cloud changes over decades. But the team figured out a way to "correct" the data by removing confounding factors such as satellite orbit, instrument calibration and the degradation of sensors. The record revealed clear changes in cloud distribution, which the team then compared to a history of Earth-warming greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.

"They concluded that the behavior of clouds they observed is consistent with a human-caused increase in greenhouse gas concentrations," said the statement. There was no similar correlation with other potential influences such as ozone levels, human-created aerosols, or natural changes in solar radiation. Another factor on clouds was two major volcanic eruptions-the 1982 El Chichon eruption in Mexico and the 1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, which would have had a net cooling effect on the planet for a few years at a time.

Volcanoes spew out sunlight-reflecting ash and dust which have a short-term cooling effect on the planet. "Barring another volcanic event of this sort, the scientists expect the cloud trends to continue in the future as the planet continues to warm due to increasing greenhouse gas concentrations," said the statement. — AFP

# RARE INDIAN RHINOS FACE THREAT FROM POACHERS

The poaching network has become more systematic, stronger, more efficient

**KAZIRANGA:** As night falls over the lush plains of India's Kaziranga national park, a small group of lightly armed forest guards sets out on foot to protect the world's largest population of one-horned rhinos. These men with their ageing rifles and small plastic torches are on the front line of the battle against increasingly sophisticated international poaching networks that prey on the rare animals, entering the park under cover of darkness to kill them for their horns.

A decade ago, India had all but declared victory over poaching in Kaziranga, a 430-square-kilometre protected area of forest in the northeastern state of Assam that is home to around 2,500 rhinos. But recent years have seen an alarming upsurge in the slaughter of the animals, whose horn is highly prized in neighboring China and in Vietnam. At least a dozen rhinos have been poached in Kaziranga in the first six months of this year, more than twice the number killed in the whole of 2006.

"The poaching network has become more systematic, stronger, more efficient," said Amit Sharma, senior coordinator for rhino conservation at WWF India, who blames a surge in demand that has seen prices top \$100,000 per kilo for the final product. "The value of a horn has shot up like anything, that is why people are ready to risk their lives," he added. Park rangers say they are woefully under-equipped to deal with the modern, sophisticated weapons used by the poachers, including AK47s and night-vision goggles.

Many of the myriad insurgent groups operating in India's restive northeast are involved in the trade, which passes through the neighboring state of Nagaland into Myanmar before being smuggled to China. The issue is hugely emotive in Assam, where the rhino is both a source of pride and a big tourist draw. It hit global headlines in April, when a rhino was poached on the very day that Britain's Prince William and his wife Kate visited the national park.

"Many years ago you would see rhinos everywhere around here," said local villager Damayanti Chhetri. "The poachers have no heart." Local people are a vital source of information for the park rangers, providing tip-offs about upcoming poaching raids. But some are also in the pay of the poachers, who rely on their knowledge of the local terrain, according to one senior forest official. "Locals know every corner of the park. Huge money is involved. It is a risky job, and still they do it," said the official.

#### Shoot on sight

The risks are high. Kaziranga's forest guards have the right to shoot suspected poachers on sight, and dozens have been killed over the last decade. The policy is controversial, but they argue it is justified as no one is allowed to enter the park without permission. "If we see someone, without any enquiry we can shoot. We will presume that he is a poacher," said one guard who had killed a suspected poacher.

Two years ago Dipen Sawra, a 35-year-old father of two, failed to return home after a forest guard

offered him work cutting firewood. He was later found dead with a bullet wound to the head. "They were good friends, he (the guard) used to come and drink tea with us here," his father Vikari Sawra told AFP at the family's small mud and straw home. "We never thought something like this would happen," he said.

The family say they never received a death certificate or the results of the post-mortem. The guard was arrested on a murder charge, but was later released, and his case is still pending. "I'm old, I can't work, and I have no money for lawyers," said Vikari Sawra. "I lost my most precious thing and I have no money to fight a case."

#### Cover-up

Assam's new forests minister Pramila Rani Brahma told AFP in Guwahati that local poverty was fuelling the trade in rhino horn. But she has also ordered an investigation into forest officials suspected of collusion with the poachers. Last month she suspended Kaziranga's director after he failed to inform her a rhino had been killed while she visited the park.

A few weeks earlier, police arrested two forest guards on suspicion of covering up poaching after the corpse of a rhino was found buried in the park, its horn removed. WWF India's Sharma does not believe park authorities are complicit in the trade, but says the pressure they are under may be leading them to cover up incidents of poaching. — AFP



Kuwait 📤 Times 248 33 199







#### GULF PROGRAMMING CONTEST TAKES PLACE IN KUWAIT FOR THE FIRST TIME

ulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) hosted the Sixth Gulf Programming Contest which took place on March 23rd and 24th on its campus. The competition, which was sponsored by Boubyan Bank and Zain and organized by the Computer Science Department at GUST, took place in Kuwait for the first time.

GPC 2016 is an opportunity for university students from around the region majoring in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Management Information Systems, or any IT related subjects to display their abilities in programming and problem solving. The teams were given ten programming problems to solve using one PC only during a five hour period

The team Travelling Salesmen from Khalifa

University of UAE was selected to represent their university at the ACM regional and world programming contests in 2017. This competition is considered the world's largest global competitive, educative, and scientific in computer programming that attracts a growing number of the best IT students from around the world.

Dr Tahir Ali, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and coach of the GUST team, said "I am so proud of our students for participating in such a high profile and competitive event. I also commend them for their hospitality and sportsmanship, and hope that they do better next year." GPC 2016 in Kuwait hosted 31 teams from 11universities from across the Gulf Region. Next year's competition is expected to take place at the same time at March 2017.

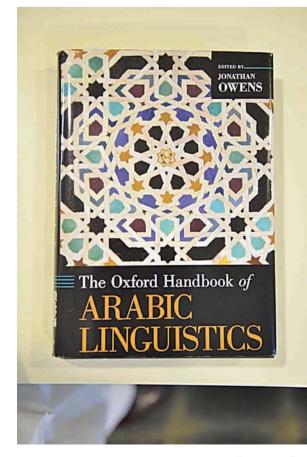
















#### GUST HOLDS LECTURE ON ARABIC LINGUISTICS

ulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) held a lecture on Tuesday, April 26th titled "Linguistic Principles: Why Should We Study Arab Grammarians?". The lecture was given by Dr Jonathan Owens from the University of Bayreuth in Germany, and was organized

by Dr Talal Al-Jassar, a Lecturer in Arabic Language and Linguistic at the College of Arts of Kuwait University.

Arts of Kuwait University.

The lecture aimed to inform students on the interest of the western studies about Arabic grammar; the speaker explored the Arabic linguistic traditions by explaining

the methodology of famous Arab linguists, such as Ibn Al-Sarraj, Ibn Al-Anbari and Sibawaih, and compared it to similar ideas from contemporary western linguistic logic. Following his lecture, Dr Owens presented a copy of his book, "The Handbook of Arabic Linguistics", to Library Director

Shobhita Kohli.

Dr Jonathan Owens is a renowned Professor and a widely published author in the field of Arabic Linguistics. His past experience includes working with the Center for Advanced Study of Language as a Senior Research Scientist at the

University of Maryland in the United Sates. As well as teaching in numerous Arabic speaking countries and Sub-Saharan Africa, such as Libya, Jordan and Nigeria. Dr Owens is currently the President of Arab Studies at the University of Bayreuth in Germany.





#### EQUATE SHARES THE JOY OF EID WITH CHILDREN

QUATE Petrochemical Company, Kuwait's first international joint-venture in this industry, shared the joy of Eid Al-Fitr with several children throughout Kuwait. For the third consecutive year, EQUATE presented a number of giveaways to children at the Kuwait Association for the Care of Children in Hospital (KACCH), as well as members of Children's Home which includes orphans under the care of the Ministry of Social Affairs & Labor.

EQUATE Senior Executive for Corporate Communications & Government Affairs Abeer Al-Omar said, "Our partnerships with KACCH and the Children's Home are part of ongoing initiatives by EQUATE Sustainability Program.

Investing in the future of children, as part of the human capital, is a cornerstone for sustainability in Kuwait and beyond." Al-Omar, who also heads EQUATE Sustainability Committee, added, "Such partnerships are an expression of our commitment to all stakeholders for the benefit of the society as a whole. This is simply one of the pillars for 'Partners in Success." The activities were conducted with the participation of EQUATE Sustainability Committee Members Shirin Kamshad and Asrar Mohammad.

On her part, Asrar Mohammad said, "Sharing the joy of Eid is an extension of our continuous efforts to support the society.

Throughout the years, because of its belief in future generations, EQUATE has launched a number of initiatives aimed at children to ensure overall sustainability through direct interaction." During 2012, EQUATE and KACCH launched Painting Smiles (PS) campaign to create community awareness about children receiving medical care in hospitals. PS included an art exhibition for selling paintings by those children and Kuwaiti artists where all proceedings went to KACCH. In addition, since 2014, EQUATE's partnership with the Children Home has included a number of initiatives, including visits and giveaway distribution.







#### THE 10TH POETRY SLAM CONTEST

he 10th Poetry Slam Contest will be held on Saturday on 16th July, 2016 in Fintas. Doors will be opened at 7pm. For more information and reservation please call 6657-6408. The contest begins by 8:30pm. All Poets must be registered no later than 15th July, 2016. Poems must be approved for contest. Poetry Slam is a forum where artistic verbal creations compete. If you think you have what it takes to walk away with 1st place, then voice up - Poetry Slam Contest is open for Kuwaitis and expatriates.

#### What's On - Submission Guidelines

All photos submitted for What's On should be minimum 200dpi. Articles must be in plain text and should include name and phone numbers. Articles and photos that fail to meet these requirements will not be published.

Please send them to news@kuwaittimes.net



# BIRTHDAY WISHES TO YASMIN SYED

appy 11th birthday to our sweet daughter Yasmin Syed. Best Wishes from mom, dad, brother Syed Danial and sister Aisha Syed. We wish you, all the happiness and success in your life.







RIMAL RESORT CELEBRATED EID HOLIDAYS WITH CHILDREN



Wildest Africa 03:25 Gator Boys Treehouse Masters 05:02 05:49 Restoration Wild **Swamp Brothers** 07:00 Swamp Brothers 07:25 Too Cute! 07:50 Too Cute! Pint-Sized 08:15 Restoration Wild Treehouse Masters 09:10 10:05 Tanked 11:00 Too Cute! 11:55 Bondi Vet 12:50 Restoration Wild

**Gator Boys** Treehouse Masters 14:40 Tanked Wildest Africa 16:30 River Monsters: Year Of 17:25 Beasts 18:20 Bondi Vet 19:15 Tanked 20:10 Wildest Africa

13:45

21:05

22:00

22:55 **Gator Boys** 23:50 River Monsters: Year Of Beasts 00:45 **Great Animal Escapes** 01:10 **Great Animal Escapes** 01:40 Bondi Vet

Bondi Vet

Treehouse Masters

# BBC

03:35 04:30 **Doctors** Doctor Who 05:00 Casualty 06:55 Doctors 07:25 Doctors 07:55 Father Brown 08:40 **Upstairs Downstairs** 09:35 Doctor Who **Doctors** 11:10 Doctors 11:40 Father Brown 12:25 **Upstairs Downstairs** 13:20 Doctor Who 14:25 Doctors **Doctors** 15:30 Father Brown 16:20 **Upstairs Downstairs** 17:15 Sinbad 18:00 Doctors 18:30 Eastenders 19:05 Father Brown 20:00 New Tricks 21:00 New Tricks 21:55 Ripper Street 22:50 Bedlam 23:40 Doctors 00:10 Eastenders



New Tricks

New Tricks

00:45

01:35

Extreme Collectors Storage Wars Canada 04:05 Storage Hunters UK How Things Work 05:00 06:00 Alaska: The Last Frontier Junkyard Empire Fast N' Loud: Demolition

Theater 08:30 Extreme Collectors Storage Wars Canada 08:55 09:20 Storage Hunters UK How Things Work Diamond River Hunters 11:25 Venom Hunters Dive Wars Australia **Extreme Collectors** 13:05 13:30 Storage Wars Canad 13:55 Storage Hunters UK Alaska: The Last Frontier

Junkyard Empire Fat N' Furious: Rolling 15:10 16:00 How Things Work 16:50 Mythbusters 17:40 18:30 Man vs Expert Manhunt With Joel Lambert 19:20 **Auction Hunters** 20:10 Storage Hunters UK 20:35 Mythbusters 21:00 Man vs Weird 21:50 22:40 Wheels That Fail

Wheels That Fail

Fat N' Furious: Rolling

Junkvard Empire 00:20 Mythbusters 01:10 Man vs Weird 02:50 Wheels That Fail Discovery

23:05

23:30

#### 03:00 **Untamed & Uncut** How It's Made

05:30 Dirty Jobs Mythbusters 06:20 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild 07:25 07:50 My Cat From Hell Hów It's Made How It's Made 09:05 What Could Possibly Go 09:30 Mythbusters 10:20 Bondi Vet 11:10 My Cat From Hell 12:50 Ultimate Survival 13:40 How It's Made

How It's Made Dirty Jobs Mythbusters 14:30 15:20 Dick'n' Dom Go Wild 16:35 Zoltan The Wolfman 17:00 17:50 Africa's Trees Of Life 18:40 What Could Possibly Go Wrong 19:30 Mythbusters 20:20 How It's Made

How It's Made 20:45 21:10 Zoltan The Wolfman 22:00 Africa's Trees Of Life 22:50 **Untamed & Uncut** Ultimate Survival 00:30 **Mythbusters** Zoltan The Wolfman 01:20 Africa's Trees Of Life



03:00 Disappeared Murder Comes To Town 03:48 07:00 Nowhere To Hide 10:20 Love The Way You Lie True Crime With Aphrodite Jones

12:00 Murder Comes To Town Love The Way You Lie 16:10 California Investigato 17:00 Obsession: Dark Desires 20:20 Southern Fried Homicide 21:10 Heartbreakers 22:00

**Deadly Sins** 22:50 Obsession: Dark Desires 23:40 True Crime With Aphrodite

**Jones** 

01:20

Scorned: Crimes Of Passion **Deadly Sins** 

The Hive 03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch Hank Zipzer Binny And The Ghost 04:35 05:00 Violetta The Hive 05:50 Mouk

06:00

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01:40

Teenage Witch

Teenage Witch

Teenage Witch

03:20 Calimero

03:45 Loopdidoo

04:00 Art Attack

04:35 Calimero

05:00 Loopdidoo

05:15 Art Attack

06:20 Loopdidoo

06:35 Art Attack

07:00 The Hive

07:25 Loopdidoo

08:45 PI Masks

09:35 Doc McStuffins

10:00 Sofia The First

10:30 Goldie & Bear

11:25 The Lion Guard

04:50 Zou

06:00 Zou

07:10 Zou

Ladybug And Cat Noir

Backstage

Liv And Maddie

Girl Meets World

Miraculous Tales Of

Disney Mickey Mouse

Miraculous Tales Of

Best Friends Whenever

Austin & Ally

Bunk'd

Jessie

Ladybug And Cat Noir

Jessie

Ladybug And Cat Noir

Violetta

Backstage

Alex & Co.

Girl Meets World

Best Friends Whenever

Liv And Maddie

Austin & Ally

Bunk'd

Backstage

Hank Zipze

Violetta

The Hive

Hank Zipzer

03:10 Henry Hugglemonster

04:25 Henry Hugglemonster

05:35 Henry Hugglemonster

07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 08:05 Sofia The First

08:30 Miles From Tomorrow

09:10 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

Miles From Tomorrow

12:15 Henry Hugglemonster 12:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

12:55 Minnie's Bow-Toons

Sofia The First

13:55 Miles From Tomorrow

The Lion Guard

14:50 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 15:20 Doc McStuffins

16:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

Sofia The First

The Lion Guard

19:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

22:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

22:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

22:45 Minnie's Bow-Toons

23:05 Henry Hugglemonster

18:45 Miles From Tomorrov

Jake And The Never Land Pirates

Jake And The Never Land Pirates

17:50 Jake And The Never Land Pirates

13:30 Doc McStuffins

16:30 Doc McStuffins

17:25 Goldie & Bear

19:00 PJ Masks

21:30 PJ Masks

22:50 Zou

23:35 Zou

23:20 Calimero

23:50 Loopdidoo

20:00 Doc McStuffins

20:30 Sofia The First

Violetta

Good Luck Charlie

H2O: Just Add Water

Binny And The Ghost

Sabrina Secrets Of A

Sabrina Secrets Of A

Binny And The Ghost

Sabrina Secrets Of A

Binny And The Ghost

ISNEW &

Jessie

Shake It Up

Austin & Ally

Gravity Falls

Hank Zipzer Sofia The First Disney Mickey Mouse **Gravity Falls** Miraculous Tales Of

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 Supa Strikas 08:40 Mighty Med: How The Mighty

00:05 Art Attack

00:45 Calimero 01:00 Zou

01:15 Loopdidoo 01:30 Art Attack

02:00 Calimero

02:30 Loopdidoo

02:15 Zou

00:30 Henry Hugglemonster

Have Fallen 09:35 Lab Rats: Bionic Island 10:00 K.C. Undercover 10:25 K.C. Undercover 10:50 Supa Strikas 11:20 Supa Strikas 11:45 Kirby Buckets 12:10 Kirby Buckets
12:35 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything 13:00 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much

Everything
13:30 Mighty Med: How The Mighty Have Fallen 14:20 Phineas And Ferb 14:45 Phineas And Ferb 15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse 15:15 Mighty Med 15:40 The 7D 15:50 The 7D 16:05 Lab Rats: Bionic Island 16:30 Pickle And Peanut Penn Zero: Part Time Hero 17:25 K.C. Undercover 17:50 Star vs The Forces Of Evil 18:15 Lab Rats: Bionic Island 18:40 K.C. Undercover Disney Mickey Mouse 19:05

19:10 Annedroids 19:35 Phineas And Ferb 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: Bionic Island 22:10 Mighty Med

Disney Mickey Mouse

23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am



03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 04:00 Man Fire Food 05:00 Chopped 06:00 Guy's Grocery Games 07:00 Man Fire Food 08:00 Chopped 09:00 Barefoot Contessa 10:00 The Kitchen 11:00 Trisha's Southern Kitchen 12:00 Chopped Guy's Big Bite

14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 15:00 Man Fire Food 15:30 Man Fire Food 16:00 Chopped 17:00 The Kitchen Trisha's Southern Kitchen 18:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen 19:00 Chopped

Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives Jake And The Never Land Pirates 20:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 21:00 Chopped 22:00 All Star Academy 23:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 23:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

00:00 Iron Chef America 01:00 Chopped 02:00 All Star Academy

03:25 Code Of A Killer 04:20 It's Not Rocket Science Come Dine With Me Couples 06:10 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 07:05 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 08:00 Code Of A Killer 08:55 It's Not Rocket Science Come Dine With Me Couples

10:40 The Chase 11:35 Masterpiece With Alan **Titchmarsh** 12:30 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 13:25 Emmerdale 13:50 Emmerdale 14:20 Coronation Street 14:45 Come Dine With Me Couples 15:35 Masterpiece With Alan

18:20 Emmerdale 18:45 Emmerdale 19:10 Coronation Street 19:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 20:30 Midsomer Murders 22:20 Coronation Street 22:50 Emmerdale 23:15 Emmerdale 23:40 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 00:35 Emmerdale 01:00 Emmerdale 01:30 Eggheads 02:00 Coronation Street

16:30 Midsomer Murders

nickelodeon HD 03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

03:48 Henry Danger 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 04:36 The Haunted Hathaways 05:00 Max & Shred 05:24 Henry Danger 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants 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

The Haunted Hathaways 11:00 Winx Club 11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants SpongeBob SquarePants 12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles12:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 13:00 Harvey Beaks 13:24 The Loud House 13:48 Get Blake 14:12 Rabbids Invasion 14:36 100 Things To Do Before High

School 15:00 Game Shakers 15:24 The Loud House 15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 16:36 Harvey Beaks 17:00 Sanjay And Craig 17:24 Harvey Beaks 17:48 The Loud House

18:12 Henry Danger Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School 19:24 Game Shakers 19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

21:24 Breadwinners 21:48 Breadwinners 22:12 Sanjay And Craig 22:36 Sanjay And Craig 23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants 23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants 23:48 Henry Danger

00:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 00:36 Max & Shred 01:00 The Haunted Hathaways 01:24 Sanjay And Craig 01:48 Sanjay And Craig

02:12 SpongeBob SquarePants 02:36 SpongeBob SquarePants

ON FIRST III

COMEDY 03:00 Living With Fran

03:30 Mad Love 04:00 Better With You 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 05:30 Hank 06:00 George Lopez 06:30 The Bernie Mac Show

07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers 08:00 Better With You 08:30 Hank 09:00 Living With Fran 09:30 Suburgatory 10:00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine

10:30 The Bernie Mac Show 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 12:00 George Lopez 12:30 Better With You

14:00 Mad Love 14:30 Suburgatory 15:00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 15:30 Dr. Ken 16:00 Modern Family 16:30 George Lopez 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers

13:30 The Bernie Mac Show

13:00 Hank

18:00 Living With Fran 18:30 Mad Love 19:00 Suburgatory 19:30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 21:00 Dr. Ken

21:30 Modern Family 22:00 Ballers 22:30 Bordertown 23:00 Life In Pieces
23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers 00:30 Dr. Ken 01:00 Modern Family

INTO THE STORM. ON OSN MOVIES ACTON HD

01:30 Ballers 02:00 Bordertown



MORE 03:00 Preacher

04:00 Entourage 04:30 Entourage 05:00 An American Girl: Chrissa Stands

23:00 House Of Saddam

01:00 Six Feet Under

02:00 True Blood

11:00 Rosewood

12:00 The Blacklist

18:00 The Blacklist

20:00 Once Upon A Time

19:00 Supergirl

13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show

14:00 Live Good Morning America

17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show

16:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.

00:00 The Wire

04:00 Biker Boyz 06:00 Legendary: Tomb Of The 06:45 When Trumpets Fade 08:30 Sometimes In April Dragon 11:00 Yesterday 13:00 Primo 14:30 Dinner With Friends

08:00 Into The Storm 09:45 Need For Speed 12:00 Biker Boyz 14:00 Wrath 16:15 Habla Texas 17:15 Yesterday 19:00 The Wire 20:00 Sabotage 20:00 Six Feet Under

16:00 Into The Storm 17:45 Need For Speed 22:00 Colors 21:00 True Blood 00:00 No Tell Motel 22:00 Olive Kitteridge 01:45 The Blood Lands

> OM MOVIES HID COMEDY 04:00 Grosse Pointe Blank

21:00 Suits

01:00 Suits

22:00 Rush Hou

00:00 Rosewood

02:00 Rush Hou

MOVIES HD

**ACTION** 

ON FIRST HID 06:00 Bottle Rocket 08:00 Blended 03:00 Better Call Saul 10:00 Grosse Pointe Blank 04:00 Good Morning America 12:00 500 Days Of Summer 06:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D. 14:00 Father Hood 16:00 Rlended 18:00 Spy Hard 08:00 The Blacklist 09:00 Supergirl 22:00 Adult World 10:00 Castle

> **OVI** MOVIES DRAMA

03:00 Extracted

00:00 Wanderlust

02:00 Hits

LEGENDARY- TOMB OF THE DRAGON ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD 07:00 Fast Girls 09:00 The Fold 11:00 Barefoot Second Chance 13:00 1911 15:00 The Signal

ODVIDE FILMS PRESENTS A HICKLIFHED PILMS PRODUCTION TONE OF THE DRAGON'
REASOCIATION WITH PARTNINGS FILM RIGUSTRY BYEST TREST FIC BILLIFIG DECINEDAM INTERNATIONAL HEBIA OD HICK MARK THE EYEZ FACE BY AND HICKIESE CASTING BY LIGHTA BEION DRECTOR OF FROTOGRAPHY SHUT HAND PRODUCTION DESIGN HUMFRIDLY JACOBS PRODUCED BY CHRIS HILL BRIEF AND HUTTHEW HUMFRS WRITTEN BY ANDY BRIGGS - OBSCTED BY ERIC STYLES (AUL CREETS ARE NOW CONTRACTURE)

egendary

17:00 The Fold

21:00 Kill The Messenger 23:00 The Snitch Cartel

18:45 The Reluctant Fundamentalist

01:00 The Fold

02:45 The Reluctant Fundamentalist

**OM** MOVIES HD

FAMILY 03:00 The Mighty Ducks 05:00 Aladdin 07:00 The Country Bears 09:00 Ratatouille 11:00 Asterix: The Mansions Of The

13:00 Race To Witch Mountain 15:00 Up 17:00 The Adventurer: The Curse Of The Midas Box

19:00 Marvel's Planet Hulk 21:00 D2:The Mighty Ducks 23:00 The Adventurer:The Curse Of The Midas Box

01:00 Marvel's Planet Hulk

ON MOVIES HD **FESTIVAL** 

04:00 A Civil Action 06:00 The Horse Whisperer 09:00 One Fine Day 11:00 Listen To Me Marlon 13:00 A Civil Action

15:00 Philomena 17:00 One Fine Day 19:00 The Guardian 21:30 About Time 00:00 Twice Born

02:30 Medicine Man

sundance 03:55 Died Young, Stayed Pretty05:30 Bob And The Trees **ON** MOVIES HIP

Jackson

03:15 Under The Tuscan Sun

05:15 The Horse Whisperer

08:00 Unbreakable

09:45 Hope Springs 11:15 Face Off

16:00 Ladder 49

13:30 The Lone Ranger

20:00 The Sixth Sense

03:00 Low Winter Sun

05:00 CougarTown 06:00 The Simpsons

08:00 American Idol

13:00 CougarTown

14:00 The Simpsons

16:00 American Idol

10:00 Low Winter Sun

07:00 Bones

15:00 Bones

19:00 Castle

18:00 3 (Three)

20:00 Fashion Star

00:00 American Idol 02:00 3 (Three)

21:00 How I Met Your Mother 22:00 The Simpsons

07:00 Circles 08:50 Mi Amiga Del Parque

12:00 All On The Line

18:30 A Sea Turtle Story

18:45 Circles 20:35 Mi Amiga Del Parque

22:00 The Crossing Guard

01:50 Freddie Mercury: The Great

Sun Records 17:10 Maravilla

Pretender

11:35 Day In The Life: Samuel L.

13:00 Theatreland 13:30 Elliott Smith: Heaven Adores You

15:15 Good Rockin'Tonight: Legacy

22:00 Coyote Ugly

01:15 Deep Rising

18:00 Under The Tuscan Sun

RLD HD

03:00 Survivor 05:00 The Imitation Game 07:00 5 Flights Up

09:00 Survivor 11:00 Life Of A King

13:00 About Alex 15:00 Make Your Move 17:00 Big Game 18:45 Unbroker

21:00 Return To Sender 23:00 The Gambler 01:00 LuckyThem

**OF** MOVIES HD KIDS

04:15 Jungle Book: Mowgli's 06:00 The Adventures Of Don Quixote 08:00 MiffyThe Movie 10:00 Memory Loss 13:00 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants 14:30 Bolts And Blip

16:00 Harriet The Spy 18:00 Memory Loss 20:00 Egon And Donci 22:00 Bolts And Blip 23:30 Harriet The Spy 02:45 Egon And Donci

03:30 Snow White And The Huntsman 05:45 Selma 08:00 The Cobbler

09:45 Paranoia 11:45 Oblivion 14:00 Breathless

15:45 The Cobble 17:30 Divergent 20:00 Words And Pictures

10:10 Little People, Big World 10:35 Jon & Kate Plus 8 11:00 Jon & Kate Plus 8 11:25 Cake Boss

04:45 Little People, Big World

15:10 Little People, Big World







**Bridesmaids** 

09:45 Little People, Big World

11:50 Say Yes To The Dress,Äì **Bridesmaids** 12:15 Say Yes To The Dress,Äì

Bridesmaids 12:40 The Face UK 13:30 Ugly House To Lovely House 14:20 Billion Dollar Hotel





# CLASSIFIEDS

Kuwait Times

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016



#### Flight Schedule Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

	Arrival Fligh	hts on Wednesday 13/7/2016	6	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50
THY	772 239	Istanbul	00:10	JZR JZR	357 177	Mashhad Dubai	17:30	PYA ETD	2397	BUZ	10:00 10:05
JZR JZR	239 267	Amman Beirut	00:20 00:30	JZR JZR	777	Jeddah	17:45 17:50	IRC	302 6522	Abu Dhabi Lamerd	10:05
FDK	803	Damascus	00:35	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55	IRA	664	Shiraz	10:25
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	SYR	341	Damascus	18:00	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
DLH QTR	635 1086	Doha Doha	01:00 01:15	JZR MSR	483 620	Istanbul Cairo	18:20 18:30	FDB IRM	056 1189	Dubai Mashhad	10:40 10:55
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35	KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35	CCE	342	Sharm el-Sheikh	11:10
RJA THY	642 1464	Amman Istanbul	01:45 01:50	KAC KAC	742 542	Dammam Cairo	18:50 18:55	KAC KAC	175 561	Frankfurt/Geneva Amman	11:15 11:20
KKK	750	TZX	01:50	KAC	618	Doha	18:55	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35
PYA	2396	ENV	02:00	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	JZR	356	Mashhad	11:40
KKK GFA	6506	Istanbul	02:05 02:15	GFA KAC	217	Bahrain Paris/Rome	19:05	AXB MEA	890 405	Mangalore	11:55 12:00
CEB	211 018	Bahrain Manila	02:15	FDB	166 063	Dubai	19:05 19:10	KAC	541	Beirut Cairo	12:05
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	KAC	103	London	12:10
MSC	405	Sohag	02:30	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15	UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
THY THY	1404 768	AYT Istanbul	02:30 02:50	MSR JAI	606 572	Luxor Mumbai	19:30 19:35	JZR IAW	776 158	Jeddah Al Najaf	12:15 12:55
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:45	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
RJA FDB	644	Amman	03:10	FDB KAC	059 102	Dubai New York/London	19:50 19:55	FDB JZR	076 786	Dubai	13:10 13:20
MSR	067 612	Dubai Cairo	03:15 03:15	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05	SAW	702	Riyadh Damascus	13:35
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	KNE	381	Taif	20:10	FEG	932	Alexandria	13:55
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
KAC JZR	544 555	Cairo Alexandria	03:40 04:15	OMA JZR	647 189	Muscat Dubai	20:20 20:25	THY UAE	767 872	Istanbul Dubai	14:10 14:15
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35	IRC	6512	ABD	14:25
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55	CLX	792	Hanoi	14:30
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05	KNE	382	Taif	14:55
JZR KAC	529 412	Asyut Manila/Bangkok	06:00 06:30	UAE JAD	859 309	Dubai Amman	21:15 21:20	KAC MSR	773 576	Riyadh Sharm el-Sheikh	15:00 15:00
BAW	157	London	06:40	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
FDB JZR	5061	Dubai	07:15 07:25	QTR GFA	1082 219	Doha Bahrain	21:55 22:00	FDB QTR	058 1079	Dubai Doha	15:05 15:15
KAC	503 382	Luxor Delhi	07:25	KAC	564	Amman	22:05	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	KAC	741	Dammam	15:30
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15	SVA	503	Madinah/Jeddah	15:45
KAC FDB	204 053	Lahore Dubai	07:40 07:50	AIC MSC	975 501	Chennai/Goa Alexandria	22:25 22:30	JZR KAC	189 613	Dubai Bahrain	15:50 16:00
KAC	302	Mumbai	07.50	BBC	043	Dhaka	22:40	KNE	684	Madinah	16:00
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	JZR	185	Dubai	22:55	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	MSC	403	Asyut	23:10	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
KAC KAC	286 332	Dhaka Trivandrum	08:05 08:15	rbg Jai	555 574	Alexandria Mumbai	23:15 23:20	ETD KAC	304 563	Abu Dhabi Amman	16:20 16:30
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30	NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KAC UAE	362 855	Colombo Dubai	08:20 08:25	KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	23:40	TBM FDB	6314 052	Mashhad Dubai	17:00 17:00
ETD			06:25					FDB			17.00
	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00		Departure Fli	ahts on Wednesday 13/7/20	16	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
ABY	301 125	Sharjah	09:00 09:05	Airlines	Flt	ghts on Wednesday 13/7/20 Route	Time	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
ABY IRC	125 6511	Sharjah ABD	09:05 09:15	AIC	<b>Flt</b> 988	Route Hyderabad/Chennai	<b>Time</b> 00:05	QTR MSC	1073 508	Doha HRG	17:25 17:30
ABY IRC QTR	125 6511 1070	Sharjah ABD Doha	09:05 09:15 09:20	AIC MSC	<b>Flt</b> 988 404	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut	<b>Time</b> 00:05 00:10	QTR MSC UAE	1073 508 858	Doha HRG Dubai	17:25 17:30 17:40
ABY IRC	125 6511	Sharjah ABD	09:05 09:15	AIC	<b>Flt</b> 988	Route Hyderabad/Chennai	<b>Time</b> 00:05	QTR MSC	1073 508	Doha HRG	17:25 17:30
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD	Flt 988 404 1540 573 302	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR	1073 508 858 527 511 184	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR	Flt 988 404 1540 573 302 615	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB	Flt 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:40 10:55	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK	FIt 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:35 01:15 01:35 01:40	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH	FIt 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 00:15 01:35 01:40 02:00	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR KAC SYR	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 00:15 01:35 01:40	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:45 11:00 11:25 11:50 11:55	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Damascus Damascus Amman Cairo Damascus	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR JZR IAW FDB JZR	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:55 02:55 02:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Damascus	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR JZR IAW FDB	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:45 11:00 11:25 11:50 11:55	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Damascus	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:30 19:50 19:50 19:55
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR SAW UAE FEG	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul TZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Istanbul	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC ABY	1073 508 858 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Doha Bahrain Cairo Sharjah	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:30 19:50 19:55 19:55
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR SAW UAE FEG MSR	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:00	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY KAC	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul TZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC ABY KAC	1073 508 858 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Cairo Colombo Sharjah Dhaka	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:50 19:50 19:50 19:55 20:30
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR IAW FDB JZR SAW UAE FEG MSR THY	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:40 10:40 10:55 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:00 13:10	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY KAC RJA	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418 645	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul IZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul TZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila Amman	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC ABY	1073 508 858 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:30 19:50 19:55 19:55
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR JZR IAW FDB JZR SAW UAE FEG MSR THY CLX IRC	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766 792 6521	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul Luxembourg Lamerd	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:40 11:25 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:00 13:15	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY KAC RJA OMA FDB	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul TZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:55	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC MSR FDB UAE	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283 619 060 876	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:50 19:50 19:50 19:55 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:35
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR SAW UAE FEG MSR THY CLX IRC KAC	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766 792 6521 792	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul Luxembourg Lamerd Madinah	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:50 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:00 13:10 13:15	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH ETH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY KAC RJA OMA FDB ETD	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418 645 644 068 306	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Istanbul Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:55 04:05 04:05	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR JZR KAC SYR QTR JZR MSR GFA FDB KAC ABY KAC MSR FDB UAE JAI	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283 619 060 876 571	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Cairo Sahrain Dubai Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai Dubai Mumbai	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:30 19:50 19:55 19:55 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:35 20:35
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ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CUAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR IAW FDB JZR VAE FEG MSR THY CLX IRC KAC KAC KAC KAC KAC KAC KAC KAC KAC KA	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766 792 6521 792 231 1078 672 575 057 221 500 512 540 257	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai AI Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul Luxembourg Lamerd Madinah Riyadh Doha Dubai Sharm el-Sheikh Dubai Bahrain Jeddah Mashhad Sharm el-Sheikh Beirut	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:55 12:25 12:35 12:45 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:30 13:10 13:15 13:35 13:45 14:00 14:05 14:05 14:15 14:20 14:30 14:50 14:50	AIC MSC JZR JAI JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH THY PGT KKK MSC UAE THY KAA FDB ETD MSR KKK PGT RCEB JZR THY FEG QTR	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418 645 644 068 306 613 6505 861 1077 019 560 1465 954 643 1087	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul ISTAV Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Istanbul Stanbul Manila Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Stanbul Stanbul Asyut Amman Aman Manila Sohag Istanbul Asyut Amman Doha	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:55 04:05 04:05 04:10 04:15 04:20 04:30 04:35 04:50 05:00 06:00 06:00 06:25 06:30	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAW GFA JZR KAC SYR GFA JZR KAC SYR MSR GFA MSR	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283 619 060 876 571 331 634 343 543 351 232 554 403 648 1089 171	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai Mumbai Trivandrum Doha Chennai Cairo Kochi Riyadh Alexandria Beirut Muscat Doha Bahrain	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:50 19:50 19:55 19:55 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:35 20:35 20:45 20:50 20:55 21:00 21:10 21:15 21:15 21:15 21:45 21:50
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ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CCE UAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR KAC KNE QTR KAC MSR FDB GFA SVA KAC JZR KAC KAC JZR KAC OMA	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766 792 6521 792 231 1078 672 575 057 221 500 512 540 257 788 683 645	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai Al Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul Luxembourg Lamerd Madinah Riyadh Doha Dubai Sharm el-Sheikh Dubai Bahrain Jeddah Mashhad Sharm el-Sheikh Beirut Jeddah Mashhad Sharm el-Sheikh Beirut Jeddah Madinah Muscat	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:55 12:25 12:30 12:35 12:45 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:00 13:10 13:15 13:35 13:45 14:00 14:05 14:15 14:20 14:20 14:30 14:30 14:50 15:05 15:10	AIC MSC JZR JAD MSR FDB FDK THY DLH ETHY PGK MSC UHY KASO WASE THAC AOMA FTD MSR KKK PGTR FEA QTR THAC ACT THAC ACT THAC ACT STAC THAC ACT THAC THAC	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418 645 644 068 306 613 6505 861 1077 019 560 1465 954 643 1087 771 212 240	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul Istanbul ITZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Istanbul Stanbul Asyut Amman Doha Istanbul Asyut Amman Doha Istanbul Bahrain Amman	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:55 04:05 04:10 04:15 04:20 04:35 04:35 04:50 05:00 06:00 06:00 06:00 06:25 06:30 06:55	QTR MSC UAC ISVA JZR SAGR JZR SYTR MSR GDB KASR FDAE JAACH KAC KAC DHX DHX DHX BTD DHX BTD BTD	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283 619 060 876 571 331 634 343 543 351 232 554 403 648 1089 171 5054 308	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai Dubai Mumbai Trivandrum Doha Chennai Cairo Kochi Riyadh Alexandria Beirut Muscat Doha Bahrain Dubai Behrain Dubai Abu Dhabi	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:55 19:20 19:30 19:50 19:55 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:35 20:35 20:35 20:45 20:50 20:55 21:00 21:10 21:15 21:15 21:45 21:55 21:55
ABY IRC QTR IRA IRM FDB CUAE GFA AXB MEA JZR IAW FDB JZR IAW FDB JZR VAE FEG MSR THY CLX KNE GFA SVA KAC KNE FDA SVA KAC KNE FDB	125 6511 1070 665 1188 055 341 873 213 890 404 561 165 157 075 241 701 871 953 610 766 792 6521 792 231 1078 672 231 1078 672 575 057 221 500 512 540 257 788 683 645 303	Sharjah ABD Doha Shiraz Mashhad Dubai Alexandria Dubai Bahrain Mangalore/Bahrain Beirut Sohag Dubai AI Najaf Dubai Amman Damascus Dubai Asyut Cairo Istanbul Luxembourg Lamerd Madinah Riyadh Doha Dubai Sharm el-Sheikh Dubai Bahrain Jeddah Mashhad Sharm el-Sheikh Beirut Jeddah Madinah Muscat Abu Dhabi	09:05 09:15 09:20 09:25 09:40 09:50 10:00 10:40 10:55 11:00 11:25 11:55 12:25 12:35 12:45 12:35 12:45 12:55 13:30 13:10 13:15 13:35 13:45 14:00 14:05 14:05 14:15 14:20 14:30 14:50 15:00 15:10	AIC MSC JZR JAD MSR FDB JZR FDK THY DLH THY PGT KKSC UAE THY KAA OMA FDB MSR KKK PGT QTR THY GFA QTR THY GFA FDB	Fit 988 404 1540 573 302 615 072 502 804 773 635 621 765 859 751 406 854 769 418 645 644 068 306 613 6505 861 1077 019 560 1465 954 643 1087 771 212 240 070	Route Hyderabad/Chennai Asyut Cairo Mumbai Amman Cairo Dubai Luxor Damascus Istanbul Frankfurt Addis Ababa Istanbul ITZX Sohag Dubai Istanbul Manila Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Istanbul Stanbul Manila Amman Muscat Dubai Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Stanbul Stanbul Istanbul Abu Dhabi Cairo Istanbul Stanbul Doha Manila Sohag Istanbul Asyut Amman Doha Istanbul Bahrain Amman	Time 00:05 00:10 00:20 00:25 00:25 00:30 00:30 00:30 01:15 01:35 01:40 02:00 02:45 02:45 02:45 02:55 03:30 03:45 03:45 03:45 03:55 04:05 04:10 04:15 04:20 04:30 04:35 04:50 05:00 06:00 06:05 06:55 06:50 06:55 07:05	QTR MSC UAE IRC SVA JZR SAFA JZR JZR SAFA JZR SAFA JZR MSR GFDB KAC MSR FDB KAC MSR FDB KAC DLH KAC C KNE MEA OMA QTHX FDD ALK	1073 508 858 527 511 184 706 216 538 238 1801 342 1081 124 621 218 064 361 124 283 619 060 876 571 331 634 343 543 351 232 554 403 648 1089 171 5054 308 300 230	Doha HRG Dubai Mashhad Riyadh Dubai Damascus Bahrain Cairo Amman Cairo Damascus Doha Bahrain Cairo Bahrain Colombo Sharjah Dhaka Alexandria Dubai Dubai Mumbai Trivandrum Doha Chennai Cairo Kochi Riyadh Alexandria Beirut Muscat Doha Bahrain Dubai Bahrain Colombo	17:25 17:30 17:40 17:50 18:15 18:20 18:20 18:20 18:30 18:45 18:55 19:00 19:05 19:20 19:30 19:55 19:55 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:30 20:35 20:45 20:55 20:45 20:55 21:00 21:10 21:15 21:15 21:15 21:15 21:55 21:55 22:00 22:20
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Gastrologis	ts						
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Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030						
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#### PRAYER TIMINGS

THAILI	IIVIII4GS
Fajr:	03:24
Shorook	04:57
Duhr:	11:54
Asr:	15:28
Maghrib:	18:50
Isha:	20:20



#### **INTERNATIONAL CALLS**



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Afghanistan	0093	Guadeloupe	00590
Albania	00355	Guam	001671
Algeria	00213	Guatemala	00502
Andorra	00376	Guinea	00224
Angola Anguilla	00244	Guyana Haiti	00592
Antiga	001268	Holland (Netherlands)	
Argentina	0054	Honduras	00504
Armenia	00374	Hong Kong	00852
Australia	0061	Hungary	0036
Austria	0043	Ibiza (Spain)	0034 00354
Azerbaijan Bahamas	001242	India	00354
Bahrain	00973	Indian Ocean	00873
Bangladesh	08800	Indonesia	0062
Barbados	001246	Iran	0098
Belarus	00375	Iraq	00964
Belgium Belize	0032	Ireland Italy	00353
Benin	00301	Ivory Coast	00225
Bermuda	001441	Jamaica	001876
Bhutan	00975	Japan	0081
Bolivia	00591	Jordan	00962
Bosnia	00387	Kazakhstan	007
Botswana Brazil	00267 0055	Kenya Kiribati	00254 00686
Brunei	00673	Kuwait	00965
Bulgaria	00359	Kyrgyzstan	00996
Burkina	00226	Laos	00856
Burundi	00257	Latvia	00371
Cambodia	00855	Lebanon	00961
Cameroon Canada	00237	Liberia Libya	00231
Canada Cape Verde	00238	Lesotho	00216
Cayman Islands	001345	Lithuania	00370
Central African	00236	Luxembourg	00352
Chad	00235	Macau	00853
Chile	0056	Macedonia	00389
China Colombia	0086 0057	Madagascar Majorca	00261
Comoros	00269	Malawi	00265
Congo	00242	Malaysia	0060
Cook Islands	00682	Maldives	00960
Costa Rica	00506	Mali	00223
Croatia Cuba	00385	Malta Marshall Islands	00356 00692
Cyprus	00357	Martinique	00596
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Mauritania	00222
Czech Republic	00420	Mauritius	00230
Denmark	0045	Mayotte	00269
Diego Garcia	00246	Mexico	0052
Djibouti Dominica	00253 001767	Micronesia Moldova	00691 00373
Dominican Republic		Monaco	00373
Ecuador	00593	Mongolia	00976
Egypt	0020	Montserrat	001664
El Salvador	00503	Morocco	00212
England (UK) Equatorial Guinea	0044	Mozambique Myanmar (Burma)	00258 0095
Eritrea	00240	Namibia	00264
Estonia	00372	Nepal	00977
Ethiopia	00251	Netherlands	0031
Falkland Islands	00500	Netherlands Antilles	
Faroe Islands	00298	New Caledonia	00687
Fiji Finland	00679 00358	New Zealand Nicaragua	0064 00505
France	0033	Nigar	00227
French Guiana	00594	Nigeria	00234
French Polynesia	00689	Niue	00683
Gabon	00241	Norfolk Island	00672
Gambia	00220	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Georgia Germany	00995	North Korea Norway	00850 0047
Ghana	0049	Oman	00968
Gibraltar	00350	Pakistan	0092
Greece	0030	Palau	00680
Greenland	00299	Panama	00507

Greenland

Papua New Guinea 00675 001473 Grenada

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#### **CROSSWORD 1310**

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Either of two large muscles of the chest. 5. (Judaism) Not conforming to dietary laws.
- 12. The act of hauling something (as a vehi-
- cle) by means of a hitch or rope. 15. The content of cognition.
- 16. Any of various forms of aluminum oxide occurring naturally as corundum.
- 17. Any of various primates with short tails or no tail at all.
- 18. A landlocked mountainous republic in southeast central Asia north of Afghanistan.
- 19. Slanderous defamation. 20. The basic unit of money in Albania.
- 21. Type genus of the Amiidae.
- 22. The univalent hydrocarbon radical C2H5 derived from ethane by the removal of one hydrogen atom.
- 24. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
- 26. Informal terms for a mother.
- 28. A Mid-Atlantic state.
- 29. 1/10 gram.
- 31. A cephalosporin that can be given parenterally (trade name Zinacef) or orally by tablets (trade name Ceftin).
- 34. A port town on the Atlantic coast of
- Portugal southeast of Lisbon. 39. A unit of surface area equal to 100
- square meters. 41. The capital of Lombardy in northern Italy.
- 42. Of or relating to or characteristic of
- death. 47. (of wine) Tainted in flavor by a cork con-
- taining excess tannin.
- 48. The act of invading. 49. An associate degree in nursing.
- 51. The cry made by sheep.
- 52. Robber flies. 53. United States film actress who appeared
- in many films with Spencer Tracy (born in
- 1909). 56. Divisible by two.
- 58. A soft white precious univalent metallic element having the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any metal.
- 59. A feudal lord or baron in Scotland 62. The cardinal number that is the sum of
- eight and one.
- 64. Having the slant of a bevel. 68. Bottle that has a narrow neck.
- 71. Ancient Hebrew unit of liquid measure = 1.5 gallons.
- 75. Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar.
- 76. A rapid bustling commotion. 77. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug
- (trade name Lodine). 78. A barrier constructed to contain the
- flow or water or to keep out the sea. 79. Time for Earth to make a complete rota-
- tion on its axis.
- 80. Correspond in vowel sounds. 81. A loose sleeveless outer garment made
- from aba cloth.

#### DOWN

- 1. (Middle East) Usually small round bread that can open into a pocket for filling. 2. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls.
- 3. The basic unit of money in Ghana.
- 4. A mountain peak in the Andes in Bolivia
- (21,391 feet high).
- 5. The income arising from land or other property.

- 6. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object). 7. Abounding in rushes.
- 8. An annual award for outstanding achievements in television.
- 9. United States comedian and film actor (1880-1946).
- 10. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.
- 11. Not easy. 12. A fine grained mineral having a soft soapy feel and consisting of hydrated mag-
- nesium silicate. 13. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the
- sale of petroleum. 14. Flightless New Zealand rail of thievish disposition having short wings each with a
- spur used in fighting. 23. A proinflammatory cytokine that is produced by white blood cells (monocytes and
- macrophages). 25. An artificial language intended for inter-
- national use as an auxiliary language. 27. Containing or expressing accusation.
- 30. A crystalline rock that can be cut and polished for jewelry.
- 32. Metal shackles.
- 33. Italian architect who pioneered in the use of reinforced concrete (1891-1979).
- 35. A local and habitual twitching especially in the face.
- 36. Found along western Atlantic coast.
- 37. The capital of Turkey. 38. A city in east central China.
- 40. A unit of force equal to the force that imparts an acceleration of 1 cm/sec/sec to a mass of 1 gram.
- 43. Natural qualities or talents. 44. An officer who acts as military assistant
- to a more senior officer.
- 45. (used of especially horses) Having a brownish coat thickly sprinkled with white
- 46. United States naval officer and historian (1840-1914).
- 50. The compass point that is one point north of northeast.
- 54. A short introductory essay preceding the text of a book.
- 55. Any of numerous local fertility and nature deities worshipped by ancient
- Semitic peoples. 57. A period of the year marked by special
- events or activities in some field. 60. A member of a seafaring group of North American Indians who lived on the Pacific coast of British Columbia and southwestern Alaska.
- 61. Cause annoyance in.
- 63. (Irish) Chief god of the Tuatha De Danann.
- 65. Informal or slang terms for mentally irregular.
- 66. (Greek mythology) God of love.
- 67. Panel forming the lower part of an inte-
- rior wall when it is finished differently from
- the rest. 69. Someone who works (or provides work-
- ers) during a strike. 70. God of love and erotic desire.
- 72. Relating to or characteristic of or occur-
- ring on the sea or ships. 73. Leaf or strip from a leaf of the talipot
- palm used in India for writing paper. 74. Tastelessness by virtue of being cheap

Yesterday's Solution

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#### **STAR TRACK**

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

This is a very nice day, perhaps filled with some appreciation for all that is beautiful and fine. Perhaps you noticed the clouds or the sunrise coming into work this morning. You appreciate life! You have a sense of value that may find you lavishing affection on those near you-whether they are in the workplace or at home. You might feel love or value for an older person today. It may take a little research to find someone to share in this responsibility but be patient . . . Someone will be grateful you asked. It may be a phone call is all that is needed. This evening, you may enjoy getting away from routine and doing something completely different. You have great personal magnetism. You are never dull. You enjoy money, influence and politics, too.



#### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

More important than an external discovery today is the inner discovery of a big improvement you have made recently. This could be your ability to rise above some circumstance in the workplace and create a better condition that will help you work more efficiently. You have managed to successfully stop an old habit; others notice. Today you can see real growth in many different areas of your life and you set an example for others to follow. Be proud of your hard work and keep up the good efforts. Refinement and relationships are the keys to emotional satisfaction and you enjoy every opportunity to develop those relationships. You find time this evening to call around and get ideas for the next great fun gathering.



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

Expect a change for the better in the workplace. Some long-term goal that you have been working toward now seems to be falling into place and taking shape. You can almost see the bank where you will deposit your money. Making your mind quiet, you are able to listen better than most. You could teach, perform meditations or express yourself in some creative way. You are in love with mystery, secrets and intrigue, anything but that which is open or superficial. You are never dull. Like a fish in water, when in the limelight or in a group, you have an innate social charm. This evening could be a time in which you and a loved one are able to make vacation plans, or get together with friends and enjoy their vacation stories. Learn from their mistakes.



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

You have such an outpouring of insights that having a conversation with you can be a real experience. Your mind works like lightning. Organizing and administering people and projects will make up most of your workday. Expect a change for the better in the workplace. You may have a little trouble concentrating if you are attending a lecture this afternoon so a recording device would not be a bad idea, if allowed. Also, keeping notes will help you when you return to the subject for study. A birthday celebration, with perhaps a backyard barbecue, may be the activity at the end of your day. It would be good to respond to any of your text or phone messages as soon as possible. Celebrate today!



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

Everything totals to a value and brings out your remarkable and unusual qualities. Your problem-solving techniques are unique and you do well when you use your own special techniques to find the root of whatever went wrong and make the right corrections. You may find that someone close to you is supportive of your ideas. You have a history of finding and correcting with no repeats. You are a born charmer with an innate love and appreciation for other people, especially children. You could be called upon to give decorating suggestions to your friends as your own person, workspace and home quarters are always appealing. You will display your sense of color, music and art-you are a connoisseur of things bright and kind.



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

The key to understanding the circumstances in which you find yourself these days can be found in the environment or support system that surrounds you. You are very much the creature of habit and habitat. The encircling network of friends, relationships and whatnot is crucial to your happiness and success, or lack thereof. You are nourished in great measure by the atmosphere and conditions that you are able to create. Remember that you are in control of what surrounds you. You will enjoy being on the go, perhaps, running errands or making deliveries. This evening as you look around your home, think about how much power you have in creating your surroundings. Look for a compromise that will allow you more contribution and input.

#### Musical Instruments 3 Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

**Wordsearch Puzzle** 

X S H K N I L O I V F S K M V K A PKMXTARKATGCBAKQC AEAWVRTEELINOJCPC CTNRLZUNNTUVOAORO IUDNZARMSOESSGBAR NLOCYOBMPEHTKAKHD OLLECWUMXEAPGXQSI M B I Z J R H O Y N T P O X P W O RTNWTLNIECIWKXVEN AZYSAEKTSPSFNKAJO **HSKBCBSIETAIDLJSD** SLAOUTASCMLFQEEHR OSMELODEONLEAJLSW

SQCNROHLEGULFOPIV

ACCORDION **BAGPIPES BASS CASTANETS** CELLO CORNET CYMBAL

FIFE

GONG HARMONICA **JEWS HARP** LAOUTA LUTE MANDOLIN MELODEON

FLUGELHORN MOCENO PENNY WHISTLE SAXOPHONE STRUMSTICK **TARKA** TRUMPET VIOLIN

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

You are concerned with connections and communication of all kinds today-letters, wires, telephones, voice, thoughts, writing and mental processes in general. Appointments with people that are members of places like the chamber of commerce in your city may be important to your company as they go through some important changes. You have a fine understanding and sensitivity about the needs of others just now and are in a good position to communicate concerning groups and society. You could be most persuasive with others and persuasive in speech and communication. Refinement and relationships are the keys to emotional satisfaction now. Harmony and beauty are deeply satisfying. You may find a romantic connection tonight.



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

An important decision in the workplace requires some time for research or review-delay taking any sort of action for now. If your business does not have a good library, you may be near enough to a city library or law library to spend a little time in this search for answers. Fine-tuning your emotional attitude brings a great deal of positive growth. You are pleased as you look back on the recent changes. You like to visit or communicate with others and today you learn about a new writer that can continue to be helpful to your future growth. You and your many friends enjoy an evening together and you may find that before the evening is over you look over a calendar to make future plans-perhaps a regular get-together is in order.



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

You may feel left out or passed over this morning. This is of short duration. It may be more reasonable to move in the opposite direction than the direction that everyone else is going just now. After you have had a little snack and a bit of caffeine, you will be ready to tackle whatever is set before you this day. This is a time during which you may be able to break through and move ahead with your ambitions and general life's purpose. You could receive unexpected help from someone older or from authority figures. A man or teacher could appear. Your inner resources and emotions are accented and this evening there are opportunities to be with those you



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

love. You are most original when concentrating on areas of work and family.

You are probably most happy in your profession, especially since you see that your work can benefit society as well as yourself. You do a lot to fulfill the popular stereotype of a genius-obviously some of the things you think and say are brilliant. However, instead of having others understand you today, there is a chance to understand those around you. This is a favorable time to weigh the pros and cons of any business venture or investment. Resist the temptation to live beyond your means and you will be pleased with the balance in your account at the end of each month. Your whole world may seem trancelike or dreamy as you work to create your own poetry and art. Movies or easy music may prove very enjoyable this evening.



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

As you step back to take a look at where you are in your place of business and where you want to be in the future, new ideas may surface. Sometimes a change that is needed just stands out like a sore thumb. You have the eye for setting things in their right place or creating a better situation than was previously available. This may mean a better way to help customers or a clever way to check out product safety or any other number of improvements. Your management and directional abilities are in high focus. You can find new ways to relate and may also be innovative in marriage and social conventions. You are the ideal candidate to take care of some political project right now. Pool your talents with others in order to find some answers.

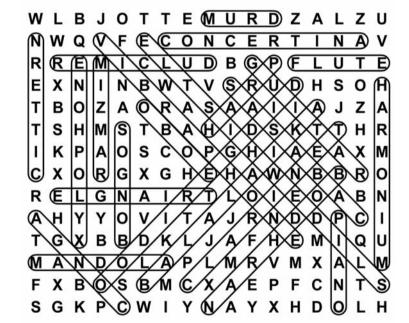


#### Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You may be very forceful in what you say and think. With all of this emotional energy, you could speak or communicate very well. You have determined mental drive. There is a lot of liveliness behind what you think. You can make quick decisions. Today, you could speak before thinking. Communicate with your feelings and strength but do not forget compassion. You are always up front and manage to spend a lot of time in the spotlight in social situations. Since you are a natural teacher, others find it easy to learn from you. You are very animated and it is easy for you to convey your ideas or get them across to people of all ages. This is a good time to consider some form of story writing with the purpose of becoming a published writer.

#### Yesterday's Solution

#### Musical Instruments 2 - Solution



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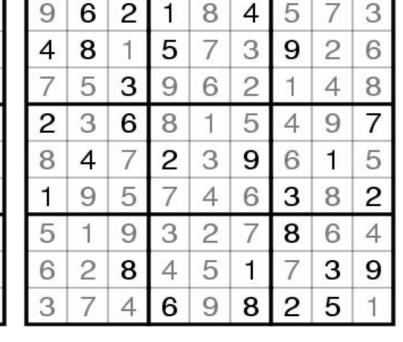
**DIDGERIDOO** DRUM **DULCIMER FLUTE GUITAR HARMONIUM** HARP **MANDOLA** 

MIZMAR OBOE **PIANO** SLIDE WHISTLE TRIANGLE **VIBRAPHONE XYLOPHONE** 

#### **Daily SuDoku**

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#### Yesterday's Solution











- Volcanoes are openings in the Earth's surface. When they are active they can let ash, gas and hot magma escape in sometimes violent and spectacular eruptions.
- The word volcano originally comes from the name of the Roman god of fire, Vulcan.
- Volcanoes are usually located where tectonic plates meet. This is especially true for the Pacific Ring of Fire, an area around the Pacific Ocean where over 75% of the volcanoes on Earth are found.
- While most volcanoes form near tectonic boundaries, they can also form in areas that contain abnormally hot rock inside the Earth. Known as mantle plumes, these hotspots are found at a number of locations around the globe with the most notable being in Hawaii.
- Hot liquid rock under the Earth's surface is known as magma, it is called lava after it comes out of a volcano.
- Some famous volcanic eruptions of modern times include Mount Krakatoa in 1883, Novarupta in 1912, Mount St Helens in 1980 and Mt Pinatubo in
- While we certainly have some big volcanoes here on Earth, the biggest known volcano in our solar system is actually on Mars. Its name is Olympus Mons and it measures a whooping 600km wide and 21 km hiah.
- The object with the most volcanic activity in our

- solar system is lo, one of Jupiter's moons. Covered in volcanoes, its surface is constantly changing to the large amount of volcanic activity.
- Most people think of volcanoes as large cone shaped mountains but that is just one type, others feature wide plateaus, fissure vents (cracks were lava emerges) and bulging dome shapes.
- There are also volcanoes found on the ocean floor and even under icecaps, such as those found in Iceland.
- Volcanoes can be active, dormant (recent historical activity but now quiet) or extinct (no activity in historical times and unlikely to erupt again). While these terms are useful, scientists are more likely to describe volcanoes by characteristics such a how they formed, how they erupt and what their shape is.
- Common volcanic gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen sulfide.
- Volcanic eruptions can send ash high into the air, over 30km above the Earth's surface.
- Large volcanic eruptions can reflect radiation from the Sun and drop average temperatures on Earth by around half a degree. There have been several examples of this over the last century.
- Pumice is a unique volcanic rock (igneous) that can float in water. It can also be used as an abrasive and is sometimes used in beauty salons for removing dry skin.

#### **Fennec Fox**

found in the Sahara of North Africa. Its most distinctive feature is its unusually large ears, which also serve to dissipate heat. Its name comes from the Arabic word fanak, which means fox. The fennec is the smallest species of canid. Its coat, ears, and kidney functions have adapted to high-temperature, lowwater, desert environments. In addition, its hearing is sensitive enough to hear prey moving underground. It mainly eats insects, small mammals, and birds.

The fennec has a life span of up to 14 years in captivity. Its main predators are the African varieties of eagle owl. Families of fennecs dig out dens in sand for habitation and protection, which can be as large as 120 m2 and adjoin the dens of other families. Precise population figures are not known but are estimated from the frequency of sightings; these indicate that the animal is currently not threatened by extinction. Knowledge of social interactions is limited to information gathered from captive animals. The species is usually assigned to the genus Vulpes; however, this is debated due to differences between the fennec fox and other fox species. The fennec's fur is prized by the indigenous peoples of North Africa, and in some parts of the world, the animal is considered an exotic pet.

#### **Social behavior**

Information on fennec fox social behavior is mainly based on captive animals. The basic social unit is thought to be a mated pair and their offspring, and the young of the previous year are believed to remain in the family even after a new litter is born. Playing behavior is common, including among adults of the species. Fennec foxes make a variety of sounds, including barking, a purring sound similar to that of a domestic cat, and a snarl if threatened.

Captive animals engage in highly social behavior, typically resting while in contact with each other. They have been seen to bury feces by pushing soil with their noses or hind feet when in captivity. Much remains unknown of their basic ecology and behavior in the wild, and a 2004 report by the International Union for Conservation of Nature stated that "indepth study of the species, with particular emphasis on habitat use and population dynamics in the wild, is overdue."

#### Habitat

The species is found in North Africa and Asia. The range is from Morocco through to Egypt, as far south as northern Niger and as far east as the Sinai Peninsula and Kuwait. A fennec fox's typical den is dug in sand, either in open areas or places sheltered by plants with stable sand dunes considered to be their ideal habitat. In compacted soils, dens can be up to 120 square meters, with up to 15 different entrances. In some cases different families interconnect their dens, or locate them close together. In soft, looser sand, dens tend to be simpler with only one entrance leading to a single chamber.

#### **Predators**

The fennec fox's main predators are the various African varieties of eagle owl. Other possible predators include caracals, jackals, striped hyenas, and the

he fennec fox or fennec is a small nocturnal fox — saluki, a greyhound-like domestic dog local to the area. However, fennec foxes are considered very difficult to capture, and reports of predators other than the eagle owl are considered to be anecdotal and questionable.

Fennec foxes are commonly trapped for sale to the pet trade and for fur by the human population of Northern Africa. In southern Morocco in particular, their meat is not eaten because it is considered to be foul smelling.



#### As pets

The fennec fox is bred commercially as an exotic house pet. Breeders tend to remove the young kits from the mother to hand-rear, as owners prefer tamer and more handle able foxes, thereby making them more expensive.

The species is classified a "small wild/exotic canid" by the United States Department of Agriculture, along with the coyote, dingo, jackal, and Arctic fox, and is considered the only species of fox, other than the domesticated silver fox, which can properly be kept as a pet. Although it cannot be considered domesticated, it can be kept in a domestic setting similar to dogs or cats. A breeders' registry has been set up in the United States to avoid any problems associated with inbreeding. The legality of owning a fennec fox varies by jurisdiction, as with many exotic pets.

#### Q: Why was the computer cold? A: It left its Windows open!

- Q: Why was there a bug in the computer? **A:** Because it was looking for a byte to eat?
- Q: Why did the computer squeak?
- **A:** Because someone stepped on its mouse! Q: What do you get when you cross a computer

and a life guard? A: A screensaver!

**SPOOKY BAT DECORATION** 

Q: Where do all the cool mice live? A: In their mouse pads!

Q: What do you get when you cross a computer

with an elephant? A: Lots of memory!

#### What you need:

- 1 x bat printable template \* Pencils or crayons
- \* 1 x a4 sheet of black card
- \* 2 x googly craft eyes
- **Activity:**
- 1. Once you've printed out the spooky bat template, you can make your own fun!
- 2. Color the template in with pencils or crayons 3. Trace it onto black card and make a black bat
- 4. Make a slightly more detailed bat by adding
- googly craft eyes and white fangs. 5. For best effect, make lots of bats and then string them from your front porch on halloween.
- 6. To add a hanging string, just staple a piece of wool or string to the bat's head.



#### PEAR, COCONUT AND RASPBERRY SPELT MUFFINS

#### **Ingredients:**

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- \* 280g (2 cups) white spelt flour
- \* 1 tablespoon baking powder \* 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- \* 35g (1/2 cup) shredded coconut \* 140g (2/3 cup) raw sugar, plus 1 tablespoon extra
- \* 2 eggs \* 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- \* 125ml (1/2 cup) milk
- \* 80ml (1/3 cup) vegetable oil \* 1 small firm ripe pear, cored, grated
- \* 85g (2/3 cup) frozen raspberries

#### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180∞C or 160∞C fan forced. Line a 12 hole 80ml (1/3 cup) capacity muffin tin with paper cases. Sift the flour, baking powder and cinnamon into a large bowl. Add the coconut and sugar, stir to

2. Whisk the eggs, vanilla, milk and oil together. Add



the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients, stir until just combined. Stir through the pear and raspberries. 3. Divide mixture between prepared muffin holes. Sprinkle tops with a little extra raw sugar. Bake in pre-heated oven for 20 - 25 minutes or until golden brown.

#### **SUDOKU**

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# 'Putin tours' retrace Russian leader's life in Saint Petersburg



A picture shows people walking outside the Spaso-Preobrazhensky (Transfiguration) Cathedral, where Vladimir Putin was baptized, in central Saint Petersburg. — AFP photos



Photo shows a woman as she crosses the courtyard of a building where Vladimir Putin lived in central Saint Petersburg.

Petersburg with a group in tow, Georgy Rusanov stops in front of the grey building of the city's oldest maternity hospital-the first attraction on his Vladimir Putin walking tour. "This is where Vladimir Putin was born on October 7, 1952," he announces to the small crowd, a mix of curious Russians and a Russian-American couple. "Volodya was not a model child," Rusanov continues using the diminutive version of Vladimir, to giggles from his audience, as he walks along Baskov Street, the stomping ground of the Russian president in his early years.

Saint Petersburg is known for its White Nights when the sun never fully sets, gilded

palaces and elegant parks, but the 63-year-old Russian leader and native of Russia's second largest city has created a market of his own. Putin was born and lived in the city previously named Leningrad for some 40 years, excluding his time as a KGB officer in East Germany, before moving to Moscow in the mid-1990s. Rusanov launched his Putin tour several years ago. Since then he has seen more foreigners turn up, he says, while colleagues are planning Putin tours of their own.

"It is popular, especially with foreign tourists," he says. His tour promises to show a courtyard where the president "chased rats" as a boy and another where he had his "first date" with his

now ex-wife Lyudmila. Rusanov insists the tour has no political affiliation but paints an unequivocally positive picture of Putin, whose ratings have soared above 80 percent since Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea from Ukraine. "This is the local headquarters of the FSB, the former KGB, where Vladimir Putin was recruited in 1975 after being one of the best students at the Saint Petersburg University law faculty," Rusanov says at the foot of the imposing building. Putin decided to become an agent after watching a spy film as a boy, he says.

**'Enigmatic' Putin**In his 16 years in power, Putin has remark-

ably managed to keep his private life a tightly-guarded secret, despite allegations of high-level nepotism and corruption. Publications that dared to investigate the activities of his two daughters, Yekaterina and Maria, or his love life, have been shut down or seen major staff shakeups, though the Kremlin always denies any meddling. Putin's impenetrable secrecy is part of the allure that keeps Rusanov's business going. "The tour lets people see a more human side of him, beyond official business," he says. "Putin is an enigmatic person," said Sam Roberts, a 45-year-old American who came on the tour with his Russian wife Galina to better

understand the Russian leader and his politics,

which often leave the West guessing.

"He interests me a lot, and he interests the United States, where we don't know much about him," he said. A surge in interest from foreign tourists is encouraging other guides to launch Putin tours of their own. "I want to try leading these tours for Chinese tourists, I'm sure this will be a hit," said Ilya Ivannikov, 28, who came on Rusanov's walk to gain experience in Putin geography. Russian visitors to the city also said they enjoyed the walk. "My friend and I are fans of our president," said Anna Kuznetsova, a visitor from the town of Kaluga southwest of Moscow. "I share many of his views," she added. — AFP

#### Airbnb event to feature Paltrow, Kutcher



In this file photo, actor Ashton Kutcher attends the Museum of the Moving Image's 2016 Industry Tribute in New York. — AP photos

wyneth Paltrow, Ashton Kutcher and "Eat Pray Love" author Elizabeth Gilbert are scheduled to speak in November at a three-day event sponsored by Airbnb in Los Angeles. Last year, the Airbnb Open drew 5,000 Airbnb hosts from 110 countries. The event, scheduled Nov 17-19, will be the company's third annual gathering. The company says it's expanding the scope of the Open to welcome hosts and guests who use Airbnb as well as locals from Los Angeles. The forum is designed to explore the future of travel and hospitality, including topics like making connections and tips for successful hosting.

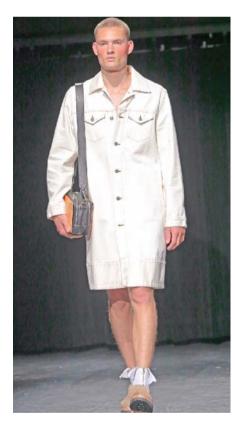
Other speakers include film producer Brian Grazer, who won an Oscar for "A Beautiful Mind"; Toms shoes founder Blake Mycoskie; and restaurateur Danny Meyer, along with Airbnb's founders. Kutcher is an investor in Airbnb and a number of other tech startups. Paltrow has stayed in glamorous high-end Airbnbs while traveling. The Open will also include a closing event with live music and a market, with limited tickets for the public to attend.

Details of the event were announced as Airbnb has come under fire in cities ranging from New Orleans to Chicago to New York. Critics say short-term vacation rental sites like Airbnb are helping to drive up housing costs because landlords can make more money renting by the night than renting long-term residential housing. Airbnb insists that most of its hosts are individuals making ends meet by occasionally renting out a room or their homes. Some critics also complain that tourists hurt the quality of life in residential neighborhoods by throwing rowdy parties and taking up parking spots. Anaheim, California, home to Disneyland, recently decided to ban short-term rentals like those



Actress Gwyneth Paltrow poses for photographers before Chanel's Spring-Summer 2016 Haute Couture fashion collection in Paris.

# Men's fashion week kicks off third season in New York



en's fashion week in New York kicked off its third season Monday with a presentation by Perry Ellis, whose athletic, casual take is expected to mark a number of spring-summer 2017 collections. Dozens of designers from Michael Kors to Tommy Hilfiger will present creations over the course of around 60 catwalk shows and presentations, which are expected to conjure a minimalist, relaxed and utilitarian look. Not all designers will be participating, however. Steven Cox and Daniel Silver, the creative duo behind





Duckie Brown, will be sitting out the season, after presenting a mere six-look collection in February.

"I think it's great that New York can have its own fashion week for men's, or men's and women's together," Silver told The New York Times. "But we did two shows a year





for 13 years... we just decided this is maybe a moment for us not to do a show," he said, lamenting that during fashion week, "we nurture business, we don't nurture creativity." Below are some of the week's expected presentations and shows: Tuesday: Joseph Abboud, Tim Coppens, Garciavelez, Stampd, Michael Kors, Loris Diran, Robert Geller, Carlos Campos, Cadet, Gypsy Sport, Brett Johnson and Ovadia & Sons.

Wednesday: Passavant and Lee, Nick Graham, Kenneth Ning, John Elliott, Nautica, Assembly New York, Rochambeau and Tommy Hilfiger. Thursday: Todd Snyder, Palmiers du Mal, Katama, Timo Weiland and John Varvatos. — AFP





Fashion from the Linder 2016 collection is modeled during Men's Fashion Week in New York. — AP photos



This combination of file photos shows singer Taylor Swift (Top) in the press room at the 58th Grammy Awards and (Bottom from left to right) Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson, Niall Horan, and Harry Styles of One Direction at the 2015 American

# **Faylor Swift**tops Forbes highest paid celebrity list

highest paid celebrities, earning \$170 million mainly thanks to her hugely successful "1989" world tour. The "Shake It Off" singer, 26, came ahead of boy band One Direction, currently on a break, who took second place with \$110 million. "The pop superstar smashed the Rolling Stones' North American touring record, grossing quarter-billion dollars in total for her 1989 World Tour," Forbes said in a statement.

With earnings of \$95 million, American

inger Taylor Swift has topped this year's Forbes list of the world's 100 author James Patterson came in third. US television personality Dr Phil McGraw and Real Madrid soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo were tied fourth with earnings of \$88 million, the magazine said. The other top 10 spots were held by American comedian Kevin Hart, British singer Adele and Barcelona footballer Lionel Messi alongside US radio hosts Howard Stern and Rush Limbaugh. "The world's 100 highest-paid celebrities pulled in \$5.1 billion pretax over the past 12 months, more than the GDP of Belize, Gambia and Bhutan combined," Forbes said.— Reuters



# Transgender pop band and dancers shake up India's prejudices

ransgender people in India have traditionally been an invisible minority in India, seen only at traffic lights begging for alms or blessing newlyweds and newborn babies. But a pop band of transgender women is on the soundtrack of the latest Bollywood blockbuster, showing that two years after a landmark judgment gave transgender people equal rights, they are more widely accepted, even as jobs are scarce and biases remain.

A song by 6 Pack Band, comprising six transgender women, features in the Salman Khan-starrer "Sultan" released last week. Their other songs, released earlier in the year, have also featured Bollywood stars and had millions of views on YouTube.

"Transgender people are worse off than other minorities in the country - they are not even on the radar," said Ashish Patil, head of Y-Films, an arm of Bollywood production house Yash Raj Films, that put the band together. "This was an effort to get the community front and centre, and get people talking. I decided, why not do it with song and dance, which are so integral to their tradition," he said. India has about 2 million transgender people. In 2014, the country's Supreme Court ruled that they had equal rights under the law, and granted legal status to the third gender.

Alongside the right to marry and inherit property, they are also eligible for quotas in jobs and educational institutions. Transgender women, known as hijras, have long been considered auspicious, and their blessings are sought at weddings and births. Yet abuse and exploitation are common. Often thrown out of their homes by their families, many lack a formal education and are denied jobs. So they are forced into sex work, begging, or dancing at weddings to make ends meet.

To address gender and sexuality in a more accessible manner, Abhina Aher, a transgender rights activist, founded the Dancing Queens in Mumbai a few years ago. The group of transgender and gay people uses dance for advocacy, as well as to earn a living. The Dancing Queens - "because we're called queens, and we dance", Aher said - perform at weddings and corporate events. "Since we began performing, there has been greater acknowledgment, greater visibility and greater respect for us, for the community," said Aher, a trained kathak dancer. "While the law was very welcome, there is still a gap between the rights on paper and what happens on the street. There is still violence, there still aren't enough job opportunities," Aher said.

#### Social welfare

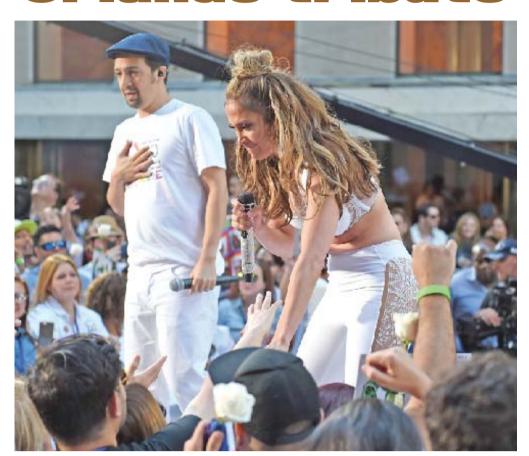
The eastern state of Odisha last month became the first in the country to give transgender people social welfare benefits such as pension and housing. India is also revising its rehabilitation scheme for forced or bonded labourers to include transgender people. There have been other efforts to integrate them. In Thane, near Mumbai, more than 1,000 transgender people have been trained by the police and designated as Friends of the Police to help with traffic control and crowd management. But it is the 6 Pack Band that has had the most glamorous outing yet. Their first song, Hum Hain Happy, a cover of the Pharrell Williams hit Happy, was released in January this year. — Reuters

# Jennifer Lopez, Miranda release Orlando tribute

pop diva Jennifer Lopez and Broadway superstar Lin-Manuel Miranda on Monday put out a musical tribute to victims of the Orlando nightclub attack, with proceeds going to charity. "Love Make the World Go Round" is tinged with an uptempo synthpop beat and resilient messages, such as when Lopez sings, "Those who hate us and fear us cannot keep us down." Lopez and Miranda, who had teased the song a week ago, performed it on NBC's "Today" show on a brilliant New York summer day to fans outside Rockefeller Center.

The pair, who will also play on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" on Tuesday night, put the song on sale over iTunes. The title of "Love Make the World Go Round" comes from a Tony Awards acceptance speech by Miranda, who has created one of Broadway's biggest hits in years with "Hamilton." Miranda acted for the last time in the trailblazing hip-hop musical on Saturday, with the cast's final performance attended by celebrities ranging from Lopez to filmmaker Spike Lee to US Secretary of State John Kerry.

Lopez and Miranda are both of Puerto Rican origin. Many of the victims of the June 12 attack were also Hispanic. Forty-nine people were killed and another 53 injured when gunman Omar Mateen attacked the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. The mass shooting was the deadliest in modern US history. Proceeds from the song will go to the Hispanic Foundation's Somos Orlando fund, which will provide mental health services to survivors. Lopez also took part in a more mournful charity song, "Hands," which came out last week and features a range of stars including Gwen Stefani, Britney Spears, Mary J Blige and Imagine Dragons. — AFP



'Hamilton' creator and star Lin-Manuel Miranda and Jennifer Lopez perform 'Love Will Make The World Go Round', their tribute to the victims of the 11 June gun attack at the Orlando. — AFP

# Cranston goes undercover in drug war drama



In this image released by Broad Green Pictures, Diane Kruger, left, and Bryan Cranston appear in a scene from, "The Infiltrator." — AP

■here's no shortage of drug trade dramas on the big and small screens, and Bryan Cranston has the unique misfortune of having been in one of the best. It makes his decision to go anywhere near that genre again a curious choice. "The Infiltrator," starring Cranston as an undercover agent who loses track of himself in the glamour of the lie, is not "Breaking Bad," nor is it trying to be. Yet the shadow of that defining, once-in-alifetime role continues to follow the actor as he reaches beyond Walter White. The film is actually based on a true story - that of federal agent Bob Mazur (Cranston), who in the mid-1980s collected evidence around the money laundering practices of the bigwigs in the drug trade for a number of years by posing as Bob Musella, a fancy business man with mob ties.

He followed the money in the most literal sense, befriending those in the drug business and the crooked bankers embroiled in the operation of shuffling the dirty money around legitimate institutions. The years-long operation led to the arrest and indictment of 85 big time criminals. But for such an extraordinary story, "The Infiltrator," from director Brad Furman, feels very by the books. That's not necessarily a bad thing for those looking for a straightforward crime drama. But passable is not enough to stand out in this already overcrowded genre. It's framed as a "one last job" for Mazur, a family man who dabbles in undercover work that has been getting a little dangerous.

#### 'The Big Short'

He's skeptical of his partner Emir (John Leguizamo, who was in Furman's "The Lincoln Lawyer" with Cranston), a fellow undercover agent in it for the thrills, but it's his job and he's going to see it through. And whaddaya know, Mazur finds out he kind of likes living the high life as Musella - the expensive clothes and cars, the marbled mansions, the all-night parties and the power of being a trusted insider in the high-stakes hustle. He indulges in nearly everything except for women, which gets him in a bit of trouble when he declines a paid-for prostitute because he says he's engaged. His boss (Amy Ryan) then has to back up his lie by assigning a green agent, Kathy Ertz (Diane Kruger), to pose as Musella's fiancÈ.

Kruger's Kathy is frustratingly underused. She's little more than eye candy in Bob's game and then Furman expects us to care when the film inserts a scene between her and Mazur's real wife Evelyn (Juliet Aubrey) where Kathy has to pick up Mazur's real wedding tux for his fake wedding as Musella. I wish there had been a narrative break here like they used in "The Big Short" to tell the audience that yes, this preposterous encounter really did happen. Because the clumsy way in which it's executed not only doesn't achieve the emotional depth it thinks it does, but is a glaring and borderline offensive contrivance rooted in some retrograde assumptions about women.

#### Feels underdeveloped

"The Infiltrator" might have done well to take a page from "Argo," which knew to let the characters service the story, instead of using the story to service the character. Cranston is good and fearsome as Mazur, but he still feels underdeveloped. Also, "The Infiltrator" often feels more manipulative than informative, like the late-in-the-game entry of Pablo Escobar confidant Roberto Alcaino (Benjamin Bratt) and his loving family which sparks a crisis of conscience in Mazur as the clock ticks down to the big bust.

Defaulting to "big and movie-like" just makes everything feel cliched, when interesting and true would have been more than sufficient. "The Infiltrator," a Broad Green Pictures release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "strong violence, language throughout, some sexual content and drug material." Running time: 127 minutes. Two stars out of four. — AP

# Javier Bardem eyed for Frankenstein role in Universal's monster Universe

aving already filled its upcoming monster universe with A-list talent including Tom Cruise, Johnny Depp and Russell Crowe, Universal is now eyeing another star to revive a famous character. Sources tell Variety that Javier Bardem is in talks to star as Frankenstein in Universal's classic monster movie series. It's currently unknown which monster feature Bardem would first appear in. Cruise and Javier Bardem Crowe's "The Mummy," the first

film in the monster series, is nearly done with filming.

Universal is also developing a "Bride of Frankenstein" feature, but sources indicate that Bardem's Frankenstein would likely appear in another monster pic first with the



passed on the part, which opened the door for Crowe. Bardem was most recently seen in Sean Penn's "The Last Face" and is currently filming Darren Aronofsky's untitled film opposite Jennifer Lawrence. He also has "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales,"

universe.

possibility of getting a spin-off

down the road. Related

Universal Dates Third Monster

Movie for 2019 Last summer,

the studio tapped Alex Kurtzman ("Star Trek") and

Chris Morgan to help develop

the monster pics as connected

approached about playing the

Dr. Jekyll role opposite Cruise

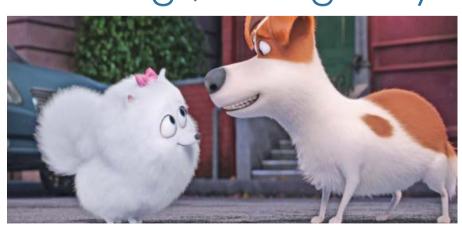
in "The Mummy," but ultimately

Ironically, Bardem had been



In this image released by Universal Pictures, from left, characters Max, voiced by Louis CK, Duke, voiced by Eric Stonestreet, and Katie, voiced by Ellie Kemper, appear in a scene from, "The Secret Lives of Pets." — AP

# 'Pets' fetches big earnings, sinking Dory



In this image released by Universal Pictures, Gidget, voiced by Jenny Slate, left, and Max, voiced by Louis CK, appear in a scene from, 'The Secret Lives of Pets.' —AP

fter a three-week reign, the beloved fish Dory's top box office spot has gone to the dogs-literally. "The Secret Life of Pets" racked up an impressive \$103.2 million in its debut weekend, according to industry tracker Exhibitor Relations, raking in five times the earnings of its closest competition to nab first place. It's the third-biggest premiere for an animated film, behind "Finding Dory" and "Minions."

The Illumination-produced comedy centers on the misadventures of two canines unleashed on the streets of New York, featuring the voices of comedian Louis CK and Eric Stonestreet. "The Legend of Tarzan," starring Alexander Skarsgard and Margot Robbie, clung to number two for the second straight week, making \$21.6 million. After floating on top of the charts since its record-breaking June 8 premiere, "Finding Dory" sank to third place with \$20.3 million.

The sequel to the 2003 hit "Finding Nemo" earned \$135.1 million its debut weekend, and experts project the comedy will hit \$1 billion this summer. "Max and Dave Need Wedding Dates" about hard-partying brothers searching online for plus-ones opened at \$16.6 million, taking fourth place. Fifth with \$11.7 million was "The Purge: Election Year", a dystopian thriller in which the government has sanctioned an annual night of lawlessness, violence and murder.

Rounding out the top 10 films of the week-

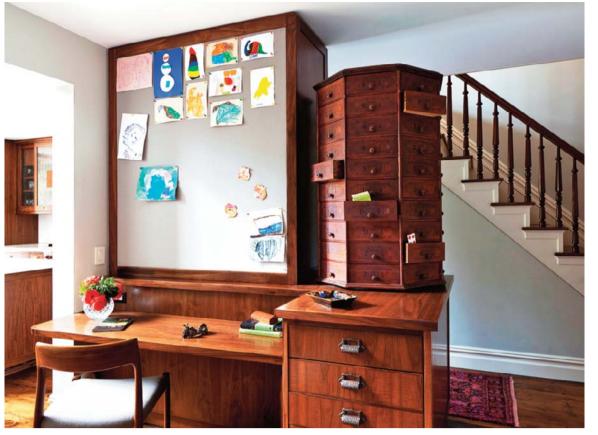
end were: "Central Intelligence" (\$8.1 million) "Independence Day: Resurgence" (\$7.7 mil-

'The BFG" (\$7.6 million)

"The Shallows" (\$4.8 million) "Sultan" (\$2.2 million) —AFP FEATURES







This photo provided by HGTV.com shows a boy's bathroom This photo shows a home work space designed by Tamara Eaton featuring an oversized pin-board extending all the way to the ceiling, perfect for displaying all the newest kids artwork coming in.

# Four ideas for hanging on to school-year memories and artwork

n crisp September afternoons, kids often come home from school bearing armfuls of classroom art. The evenings often bring comments about their day's events and sometimes hilarious descriptions of their world. Parents are sure they'll save and remember all those paper creations and memorable words. But the pace of life soon takes over, and even organized moms and dads can end up

It's worth creating a system to manage the flow because school artwork can quickly pile up, says Laura Russell, founder of the craft blog makelifelovely.com and a mother of four. With just a bit of creative effort, you can also find ways to hold onto all those funny comments you'll want to remember years from now. As a new school year begins, here are four easy projects to help do that:

#### Follow them with photos

You can build on the trend of snapping and posting "first day of school" photos by adding written notes in your kids' own handwriting, says Kayla Kitts, special projects editor at HGTV.com. Take a photo on that first day, and that evening have kids write out a page listing their current dreams and favorites. Include five or 10 questions about anything you'd like: the career they'd love to have someday, their favorite school lunch, best friend, favorite class. Have them write it out n their own handwriting to preserve that too, says Kitts. Then scan or photograph the page.

Do the same on the day before their December holiday break, and again during the final week of school. Then supplement those three photos and images of their written surveys with other photos from school events or candid shots with friends, or scans of their school artwork. Lay it all out in a photo book you can order online. "It's a really cool book to give grandparents," Kitts says, and is a keepsake your child will enjoy in the future. At the end of elementary school, you can easily create a book that includes these photos and written comments as a gift to a special teacher.

#### Winnow their work

Russell begins each year by setting aside a big file-folder box for each child. She labels one hanging folder for each month, with some spares in case files fill up before a month ends. If that level of organization sounds too ambitious, keep a large plastic bin handy. "Stuff all the art in there," Russell says, and go through it periodically, asking each child which pieces

Once you've pared things down to their favorites and yours, Russell suggests slipping the art into plastic sleeves in a three-ring binder. Her kids love thumbing through their binders from past school years.

"While I'm in charge of the books now and don't let the kids pull them out unless I'm sitting with them, I plan on giving them their books when they're older," she says. Another suggestion for storing and celebrating art: "Scan the favorite pieces as they come home. From those scans you can make a slideshow for each year of school," Russell says. "Life is short, ful way to tie generations together."

#### Save their sayings

Buy a paper date book for each child (it can be for the current calendar year or for the 18 months that begin in July and run through the end of next year). Make sure the book offers writing space for each day - ideally half a page. Keep the book in a high-traffic spot at home with a pen attached. When one of the kids says something that you'll want to remember, write it on that day's page. Then, during the weekends, ask your child to describe the previous week at school. If they wish, they can also draw pictures. It's a wonderfully analog way to preserve a school year in our digital world.

A twist on that: Kitts suggests keeping a few glass jars around the house, along with slips of blank paper and a pen. When your child thinks of something they want to preserve, have them jot it down, write the date on it and put it in a jar. You can do the same. Whether it's a jar, book or even a note typed into your phone, "just write down those precious memories now," Russell says. "We think we'll never forget those precious words and how old our kids were when they said them, but the fact is that we do forget."

#### Have a rotating display of their art in their rooms

Kitts suggests hanging a few empty frames in various sizes filled with a thin sheet of cork on your child's bedroom wall. Place pushpins in the corners of each frame. When your child brings home art they're excited about, pin it into a frame. The pins make it easy to rotate artwork in and out.

If the walls are already full, try hanging a length of twine and use clothespins to hang a rotating selection of school art work. Useful move as the year wears on: Each time you reach into the bin of creations to select something new to display, choose a few items to discard. — AP

# Ask a Designer: Snazzy staircases



Photo provided by Brian Patrick Flynn shows a staircase designed by Flynn for HGTV.com. In this entryway the stair risers are wallpapered in contrasting patterns, bringing a dose of style and personality to a space that is often overlooked in many homes. — AP photos

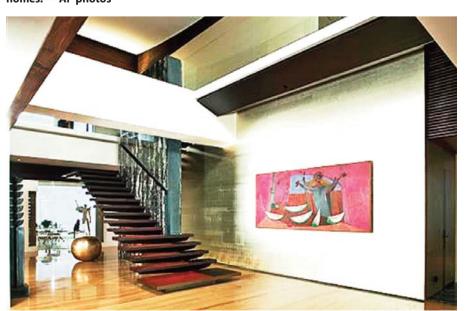


Photo provided by Bradfield and Tobin, shows a striking staircase designed by the New York-based design firm Bradfield and Tobin which has leather treads on the stairs rather than traditional carpet.

e give lots of thoughts to decorating rooms but often overlook the staircase, despite the fact that in many homes it's the first thing people see when they walk in the door. Staircase areas can be "a great spot to introduce your personal style," says Brian Patrick Flynn, who designed HGTV's "Dream Home 2016," the design network's annual house giveaway.

A bold paint color that might be overpowering in a large living room can be perfect used on the tiny risers between steps. And a rug pattern that "might seem kind of wild in a room" can add a nice pop of style when used as a slender runner down the center of a staircase, says Bethany Willard, lead designer and founder at the Pittsburgh-based interior design firm Studio 1049. "The simplicity of a staircase allows for a bit of fun," she says. Here, Flynn, Willard and designer Roric Tobin of the New York design firm B&T Global share advice on creating an inviting, stylish staircase that blends with the rest of a home's decor.

#### Assess the banister

It doesn't have to be expensive to replace a boring bannister with something snappier. "If it's something historical that has beauty, there's no sense in ripping it out," Tobin says. But if it doesn't serve the space, change it. Or consider painting or otherwise updating the banister. "Just putting some thought into that detail, Willard says, "can really personalize the space."

#### **Showcase your favorites**

"Stairwells, often considered dead space, are ideal for showcasing collections," says Flynn. "I prefer to mix different frames in a variety of wood finishes and metals, and then throw in three-dimensional objects as well to break up the rigid lines. "When all else fails, I say stick with black-and-white photos, and if you're using art, pay close attention to how palettes play between each piece. If you have 11 pieces and eight of them have similar palettes, maybe use the other three in a different room."

For an entrance stairway, Tobin suggests aiming for a look that's appealing but not overpowering. Perhaps three or four prints by the same artist, he says, that form "a cohesive, pared-down collection ... not too distracting."

#### **Embrace bold patterns and color**

Tobin recommends using bold, large-scale print wall coverings to "really draw your eye up the staircase." Homeowners often assume that small-print patterns will look best, he says, but they can be boring. One option he likes is a flocked wall covering with some metallic sheen, which offers warmth and classic style but can also look contemporary if the print is modern.

Bold patterns are also great for stair risers (the portion of the stairway perpendicular to the steps). You can stencil a pattern on the risers with paint, which can easily be painted over if you decide the pattern isn't for you. Or paint them one or several rich colors.

Willard has a client who chose to paint her risers in various shades of green - lightest at the top and darkest at the bottom, in a sort of ombre effect. Flynn is a fan of wallpapering risers, then covering each one with a sheet of clear acrylic for durability. And if you're sure that patterned risers are for you, go for an even more permanent approach by adding ceramic tile work in a pattern you love.

#### Blend style and function

Runners and stair treads are another place to add color or pattern. "Stairwell runners in masculine prints are becoming popular in all sorts of homes," says Flynn. And they serve a practical purpose: Bare wood can look good but be noisy and slippery. Most of Tobin's clients opt for stair runners or treads to eliminate noise. These are traditionally made of carpet, but Tobin suggests considering other materials. For a client in Mexico City, he added leather stair treads.

#### Finishing touches

Make sure lighting fixtures are right for your staircase and that the light is flattering, Willard suggests. "That can be such an inexpensive change and an update that makes a lot of difference," she says. And you don't have to wait for the winter holidays to add decorations. As summer ends, consider "adding a touch of fall with baskets at the end of the stairs in autumnal tones," says Flynn, "then keeping sweaters and knit caps out as accessories." — AP

# Paris: An obstacle course for wheelchair users

amien Birambeau has spent most of his life in a wheelchair-and for most of that time he has had trouble getting around Paris, his home town. Despite being one of the world's top tourist destinations, the French capital is a veritable obstacle course for people in wheelchairstourists and residents alike. Compared to London, where one in four Underground stations have step-free access, Paris lags far behind in efforts to accommodate people with reduced mobility. "Some people just abandon the idea of going out," said the 43-year-old Birambeau, who suffers from muscular dystrophy.

Tucked away on a side street in eastern Paris are the offices of J'Accede, Birambeau's startup that helps people locate accessible sites and businesses in and around the capital. "When I was six, we knew something was wrong with me. At age 10, I was in a wheelchair," said Birambeau, whose spacious ground-floor office doubles as his home. Of the city's 16 Metro lines, only line 14 — the newest one, opened in 1998 — is completely accessible with lifts and step-free access for wheelchair-bound people. The city's transport authority RATP says that while stairs make most Metro stations off limits to the disabled, the situation is better with buses and commuter trains. "All of the buses in Paris are accessible, meaning 70 percent of their stops are accessible for people in a wheelchair," Marie Christine Raoult, RATP's accessibility specialist, told AFP.

#### 'Invisible'

Many businesses are not adapted for wheelchair users in a city where steps abound, notably at entrances, and Paris's many old historic buildings pose daunting architectural challenges to efforts to render them accessible. Birambeau's own family was forced to move to an apartment building with a lift when he was a child. And the accessibility issue prevented him from attending the same school as his brother. "I was the only one in a wheelchair," he said. "At the time, people weren't used to handicapped people. We were invisible in a way."

Since the 1970s, people like Birambeau have become more "visible" and the government has taken note. In February 2005, it passed a law guaranteeing rights for the disabled, who today make up nearly one-fifth of France's 65 million residents. The new legislation was hailed as a turning point, notably for the two to three percent disabled who are wheelchair-bound-about 400,000 people.

And while the situation has improved-with specially adapted public toilets, handicapped parking places and an official, multilingual website listing parks, theatres, cinemas, stores, swimming pools and other accessible city facilities-progress has been slow. The 2005 law led to requirements for businesses to make their premises more accessible, said Paris-based disability lawyer Alexandra Grevin. Firms were given 10 years-until 2015 — to submit their accessibility plans, he said, and then another three years to implement them, installing ramps and other physical adaptations.

#### 'A vicious cycle'

Yet still, "nine out of 10 shops are not accessible," said Charlotte de Vilmorin, founder of Wheeliz, a Paris-based organization that helps people find adapted vehicles around France. "Paris is one of the most difficult places to live in a wheelchair," said the 26-year-old, who has been in one all her life. While many want to make their shops more accessible, she said, the stringent requirements for access ramps, handle bars and other details are not easy to meet during an economic slump. "Wheelchair users just can't go out, so people do not see wheelchair users.

Because they do not see them, they do not see the need for accessibility," she said. Sometimes, "when I call a shop to ask if it is accessible they don't know, because they don't even know what accessible means." Both Vilmorin and Birambeau are clearly filling a niche as their businesses thrive. Launched in May 2015, Wheeliz now has 2,700 subscribers and in January it won a 50,000 euro (\$56,000) social innovation prize from the European Commission. "It's a universal need-to be able to go wherever you want," Vilmorin said. — AFP



This file photo shows a disabled man in a wheelchair distributing flyers at the top of a metro station stairs in Paris. — AFP

#### FEATURES



A shaggy throw rug made from recycled sheet scraps.

—AP photos



This undated photo provided by Sadie Seasongoods shows a silverware organizer made into a jewelry holder.



holders which look like flowers, being used as a great way to customize standard string lights.



Photo provided by Target shows a door storage device.



Recycled old magazine pages used to frame a cork board.



Photo shows Room Essentials XL twin sheets that have a handy built-in pocket to stash phones, notepads, etc for students who draw the lofted bed in the dorm room, the feature saves climbing up and down to reach a nightstand.



Photo provided by Target shows a scenic tapestry.

# Dorm Decor Hacks: Fun ideas to add flair to the basic box

oving into a dorm is one of college life's most exciting milestones; it's the first time many kids are living away from the comfy confines of home. But the thrill can wane when the dormitory door opens. Most dorm rooms are pretty basic, with plain furniture and institutional floors and walls. So how do you take a room from spartan to snazzy when most of the budget is going to meal plans and books? "No matter how small and cramped your dorm room may be, you can still find cute ways to store all your stuff - without spending a ton on organizers and decor," say Seventeen magazine editor Kristin Koch.

She and stylist Sarah Newell suggest creating a floating shelf out of a magazine file box, and turning clear plastic paint cans into storage for hair accessories or school supplies. Repurposing and rethinking are the keys to good hacks. Tikva Morrow is editor in chief at Hometalk.com, a New York-based do-it-yourself home and garden website. She says it's tempting to load up on kitschy decor, but that's a budget sucker.

#### Colorful tape

"DIY some pretty embellishments of your own instead," she suggests. "Bring along a few rolls of washi tape for wall decor and picture displays, and make a few large prints for walls." Decorative tape and fabric can also be used to jazz up shelving and built-ins. Is that your roommate's laptop charger, or yours? Identify the cords and accessories by wrapping them with colorful tape, advises stylist and HGTV.com contributor Michelle Edgemont. She also suggests adding the tape to a plain Jane table, or closet door. Look online for instructions on how to make no-sew or simple-sew pillows with old T-shirts or sweaters.

"Cute throw pillows are easy to make, and even a headboard can be DIY-ed using a large piece of cardboard, some fabric and a hot glue gun," Morrow says. Shower stall caddies can be hung on a door or wall to corral loose items, says Gurl.com's Jessica Booth. And organization blogger Laura Wittman of Alberta, Canada, says shower-curtain rings can turn ordinary hangers into scarf and belt organizers. Or use the rings to hang fabric or curtains over existing dorm blinds, personalizing your windows. Dorm floors are pretty institutional, but students don't want to spend on nice rugs that will get lots of wear and tear. On Hometalk.com, Brooke Bock of Tyrone, Pennsylvania, shares how she made a shaggy throw rug using a piece of non-slip rug matting and

oving into a dorm is one of college life's most exciting milestones; it's the first time many kids are living away from the comfy confines of turning a silverware tray into a jewelry holder using paint, stencils and cup hooks.



A custom faux flower bouquet made out of Post-it Notes, and can be used to pretty up a drab dorm space.

#### Extra sticky notepads

A silverware tray tucked into a drawer makes good hideaway storage for keys, ID cards, sunglasses and electronics. Design duo Zest It Up in Atascadero, California, suggests creating an artsy, no-maintenance indoor garden by painting smooth rocks and planting them as faux cacti in a cool pot. In many dorms, beds are on lofts over desks or storage areas, says Target stylist (and recent UCLA graduate) Tiffany Ma. She recommends using Target's Room Essentials Micro Fiber Sheets with side pockets: "It's like having your own floating nightstand to hold your phone, tablet, book or glasses. You can get your exercise walking to class, instead of climbing up and down from your bunk."

The retailer's also got an over-the-door, full-length mirror with built-in organizer. "There's nothing more boring than the typical cinder-block dorm-room wall -

they're almost impossible to nail or screw into, plus you don't want to get in trouble for marking them up," Ma says. Consider a colorful tapestry or a mural photo-printed with a "view": a city at night, a scene from some far-

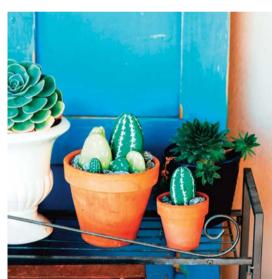


Photo provided by Zest it Up shows painted rocks that resemble cacti.

away land, a serene nature-scape. Attach the cloth with non-marking adhesive strips.

When you're doing the school-supply run, grab some extra sticky notepads. Pinterest is full of ideas for wall art made with the sticky notes. And instructions for crafting decorative flowers are at www.post-it.com . Or create a framed corkboard or mirror using rolled-up magazine pages and Mod Podge. Using a paper punch, turn metallic or paper cupcake holders into frilly foils for string lights; Los Angeles designer Emma Jeffery shows you how at www.fiskars.com . — AP







Photos provided by The New York Botanical Garden shows kids take part in gardening inside the Family Garden at The New York Botanical Garden in New York. — AP

# When summer ends, kids' ties to nature don't have to

he start of the school year doesn't have to mean the end of time outdoors. Many parents, teachers and schools are finding ways to keep kids connected to nature all year. "It may be even more important for kids to be connected to nature during the school year than just in the summer," says Richard Louv, author of the new "Vitamin N: The Essential Guide to a Nature-Rich Life" (Algonquin Books) and the best-selling "Last Child in the Woods" (Algonquin, 2008). "Amid all the focus on technology, we've been missing something quite elemental," Louv says. Just a walk through an urban park, he says, can help kids' performance in school. "I can't tell you how many times teachers who bring their classes into natural settings say that the troublemaker in class is the very one that turns out to have leadership qualities in the woods," he says.

Sarah Milligan-Toffler, executive director of the Children and Nature Network, a Minneapolis-based non-profit, says that getting kids connected to nature doesn't have to mean a major outing. "There is something about natural environ-

ments that is really stress-reducing," she says, "even if it's just 10 minutes a day in a neighborhood park or planting a pollinator garden." Many botanical gardens, parks and nature centers offer after-school and weekend programs, and are helping schools bring environmental awareness into the classroom, too.

#### Regional identity

Schools in Mamaroneck, New York, for example, have worked with a local nature preserve in the last few years to get kids from preschool to high school outside for science, says the district's assistant superintendent for curriculum, Annie Ward. "I know we're in a time of standards, and so forth, but how do we help kids grow up with a sense of place, of regional identity?" she says. "Especially now, with all these issues being talked about - the rise of technology, of kids being hyper-scheduled - there's particular power in being outside, in being close, careful observers of the natural world. There's a

sense of calm and a sense of being unplugged."

Naturalists come to school and prepare kids and teachers for field trips, Ward says. Third-graders go to a nearby Long Island Sound beach to learn about tidal ecosystems. Fifth graders take pond samples to study under microscopes. High school students in an advanced placement environment class helped to remove invasive plants from a meadow at the preserve. Nationally, a federal program, Every Kid in the Park, offers free admission to national parks and other public lands to the families of all fourth graders. And many schools are beginning to realize the value of green schoolyards or gardens. "Schools are public lands accessible to children, and too often the yards consist of a blacktop that's locked up at night," says Milligan-Toffler.

#### An aquarium or terrarium

Louv's latest book outlines ways that families can advocate for more green space in schools and form networks of families

interested in getting outdoors. Particularly for older kids, he notes, outings are more enticing if their peers go too. For parents looking for places to go as a family, Nature Rocks, a program of the Nature Conservancy, has a website where you plug in your location and the weather, and it will list ideas. The Children and Nature Network also lists on its website groups interested in getting outdoors.

Louv notes that kids don't need to come inside just because of cold or rain; they just need to dress accordingly. In winter, he suggests, carry a fold-up magnifying glass to examine snowflakes; build igloos or snow forts; or go sledding or snowshoeing. And even when kids are stuck indoors, they can start a windowsill garden, or put together an aquarium or terrarium. "It isn't about going back to nature, but forward," he says. — AP



Spanish matador Alberto Lopez Simon performs a pass to a Jandilla's bull during the fifth corrida of the San Fermin Festival in Pamplona. The festival is a symbol of the Spanish culture that attracts thousands of tourists to watch the bull runs despite heavy condemnation from animal rights groups.—AFP

# Van Gogh's 'suicide gun' on display at Amsterdam museum

ew exhibition yesterday focusing on vincent's final 18 months of mental anguish before he shot himself in 1890, including the suspected gun he used in his suicide. Called "On the Verge of Insanity", the exhibition seeks to answer questions like why Van Gogh cut off his ear, and the precise nature of his mental illness that ultimately led to his death in Auvers-sur-Oise near Paris at the age of 37.

One of the most interesting exhibition pieces is the smallcalibre revolver believed to have been the actual weapon Van Gogh used to shoot himself in the chest. "The small, badly corroded revolver from a private collection and being

msterdam's renowned Van Gogh Museum unveiled a shown for the first time, might be the weapon with which nation why the bullet fired at close range glanced off Van phical question," it added. Van Gogh's portrait of Rey is also van Gogh sought to end his life, the van Gogh Museum said. Vincent shot himself on July 29, 1890 and managed to stumble back to the inn where he was staying before succumbing to his wound 30 hours later. At the time the suicide weapon was not found.

Around 1960 an Auvers farmer working on his land discovered the rusty gun, a 7.0 mm pocket revolver of the "Lefaucheux a broche" type in the fields where Van Gogh shot himself. "The degree of corrosion suggested that the weapon lay in the ground for 50-60 years," the museum said in a statement. "Its limited firepower offers a possible expla-

Gogn's rib," it added. "The bullet was deflected downwards and was lodged too deep to be removed without danger, as a result of which Van Gogh died of his wound some 30 hours

Another fascinating exhibition piece is a recently-discovered letter from doctor Felix Rey, the physician who treated Van Gogh in hospital after he cut off his left ear while living in the southern French town of Arles. "Rey's letter includes drawings showing that Van Gogh cut off the whole of his left ear and not, as was long believed, just part of it," the museum said. "The discovery brings to an end a long-standing biogra-

on display for the first time at the museum, as well as a raft of previously unexhibited documents about his illness. "On the Verge of Insanity" however shows that Van Gogh's art "ought not to be viewed as a product of his illness, but arose in spite of his condition," the museum said. The exhibition runs from July 15 to September 25. — AFP

# Hidden angel mosaic at Bethlehem shrine sees the light

t was hidden for decades at the church on the site where Jesus Christ is believed to have been born until conservationists uncovered it-an ancient mosaic of an angel. Since 2013, Italian restorationists have been working with the Palestinian government in a mammoth effort to restore the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank-hailed by Christians as built on the site where Jesus was born.

The roof and windows have been restored and mosaics that had become barely visible over centuries have been painstakingly brought back to full color, one tiny tile at a time. In the course of the work they were surprised to uncover an angel that had been hidden under plaster for decades. With thermal cameras, similar to those used by

the military at night, they scanned the walls to see if there was anything behind them, said Giammarco Piacenti, CEO of the Piacenti restoration company which is leading the work. "In that part it was completely different, you could see the angel. We said 'what is this? It can't be an angel," he

After peeling back the plaster they uncovered the mosaic, bringing the number of angels in the church to seven. Its outstretched hand is pointing in the direction of the cave where Jesus is believed to have been born. And the discovery has already spawned a myth after the excavator who discovered it, who happened to be Piacenti's niece, became pregnant shortly afterwards. "All the family speak about how the angel (blessed her)," he laughed.



An ancient angel mosaic on a wall in the upper part of the Church of the Nativity.

taking place in 1478, according to Piacenti. **Limited funding** "From a historical, artistic and spiritual point of view, it is everything," said Piacenti. "The centre of the world-this is everything." Issa Hazboun, a Christian Palestinian engineer and a member of the project construction management team, says the redevelopment of the site is a source of "pride" not just for him but for Christians across the Middle East. Christians have been targeted in Syria, Iraq and other parts of the region in recent years, with millions fleeing

The church, which sees more than two million visitors

on good years, was originally built in 339 AD but rebuilt in

the sixth century after being destroyed in a fire. Infighting

between the three churches involved in running the site

had prevented redevelopment, with the last renovations

Palestinian Christians, too, complain of ill treatment by Israel, and Israeli forces recently began extending a separation wall through the West Bank in the area near Bethlehem. "Of course (Christians across the region) will be very happy-the birthplace of the Messiah is being renovated," Hazboun told AFP. "We are happy they are going to see how the work is going."

The ongoing restoration, however, is threatened by limited funding, with the Palestinian authorities looking for a further 7.5 million euros (\$8.3 million) on top of the nearly 10 million euros (\$11 million) already received. There are 50 sixth-century columns to be restored, most of which have barely visible paintings of crusader figures, with wealthy donors being asked to "adopt a column", Piacenti said. Ida Molinaro, a restorer, is painstakingly bringing back the color to one column. Each costs 50,000 euros (\$55,000) to restore. Because of the religious importance of the site, it has not been closed down during the work, so renovators have to work around throngs of tourists and monks, a situation she admits can be tough. "Living in a restoration site 24 hours per day in contact with tourists and priests of different religions is challenging, both psychologically and in terms of work, but at the end it gives you a lot," Molinaro said. If the necessary funding is found, the renovations are due to be completed in 2018. — AFP



An ancient mosaic on a wall in the upper part of the Church of the Nativity, which was uncovered during restoration works by Italian experts at the site, in the biblical West Bank town of Bethlehem. — AFP photos



Giammarco Piacenti, CEO of the Piacenti restoration company, inspects a renovated mosaic wall inside the Church of the Nativity.



A close up shot shows mosaic cubes used to renovate the antique walls inside the Church of the Nativity.

An Italian expert renovates an old painting on one of the major columns inside the Church of the Nativity.