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# Kuwait Times **Friday Times**



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NO: 16932- Friday, July 15, 2016

Europe stunned  
as Britain's  
'jester' Boris  
becomes FM

11



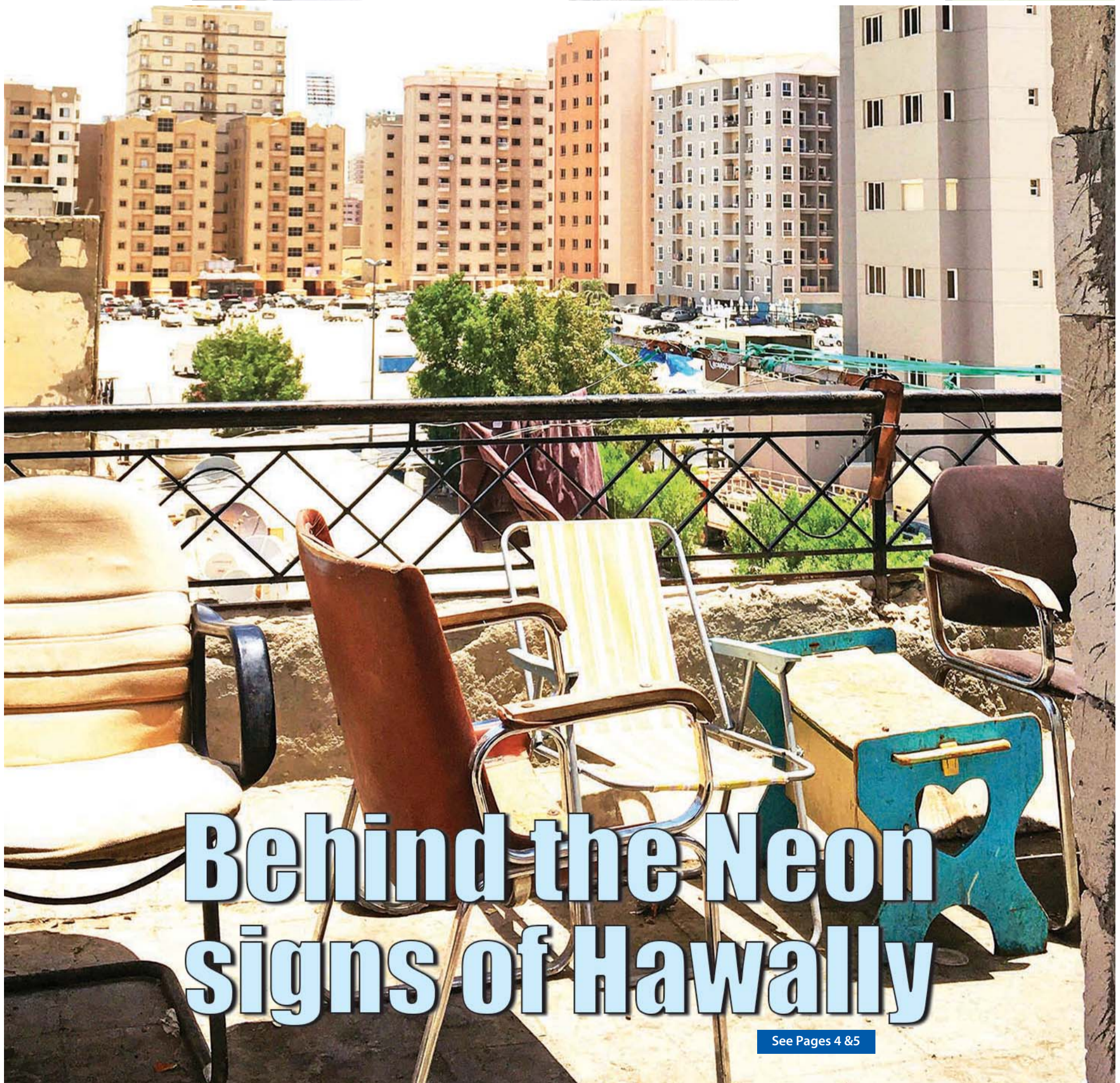
Maori troops  
spearhead  
Bastille Day  
Parade

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Jordan women  
take to football  
pitch to end  
stereotypes

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## Behind the Neon signs of Hawally

See Pages 4 & 5

Local Spotlight

# POKEMON GO



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

It's a new electronic game called Pokemon Go and it has gained millions of users in a very short time. As the game spreads rapidly around the world, Nintendo's worth has gone up by more than \$7.5 billion in less than a week. The number of users of Pokemon Go on Android has reached 60 percent in the US alone. When this game was launched in the first week of July, it represented a significant technical addiction for mobile users, especially in the United States.

Once Nintendo released the new app across the Android and iPhone mobile platforms, the game became the center of attention for gamers across the world. The time users spend on Pokemon Go is 43 minutes a day, which is more than they spend on WhatsApp (30 minutes). This figure is an estimation, because people here are spending more time on these applications including Snapchat.

For those of you who haven't tried Pokemon Go, this is the idea of the game: The application uses the camera of your smartphone and puts Pokemon cartoon characters in your location. You will be track-

The number of users of Pokemon Go on Android has reached 60 percent in the US alone.

ing the movements of Pokemon characters through the camera and try catching them to win more points. You may need to walk long distances in a large geographical area. The application works through the GPS system to identify the places to facilitate the process of finding Pokemon characters.

One of the most important features of the game is that it has merged the virtual and real worlds, as it relies on your location. The game is simple and encourages users to walk, but this could be dangerous because it can be a cause of distraction. After downloading this application, notification alerts will come to you that will use information from your Google account, which some fear is a violation of their privacy.

The journey to find Pokemon Go figures might lead you to private places such as private properties or someone's garden, or even inside a car because there may be Pokemon characters inside. Well, I don't think anyone would welcome a knock on their door by a stranger just to look for Pokemon! Some feel that the game has many benefits. It urges children to go out of their homes to walk and exercise, while others feel it might pose a threat to players and may expose them to accidents while looking at their screens as they walk.

The game is already available in many countries, and I think the parents have a responsibility because no one wants to expose themselves or their children to any possible threat. It would be silly to call the police and complain against Pokemon and be accused of making a prank call and disturbing the authorities!

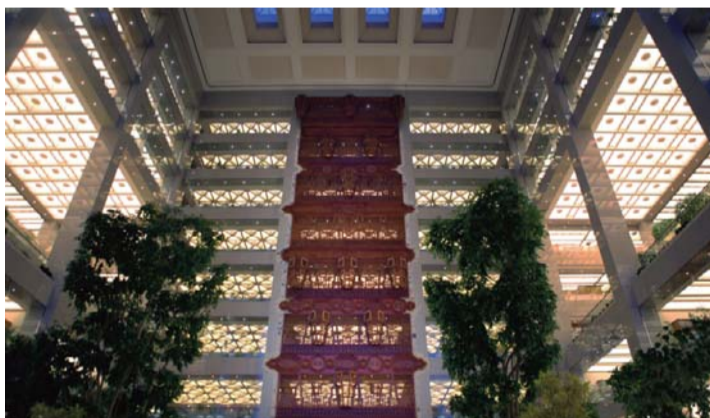
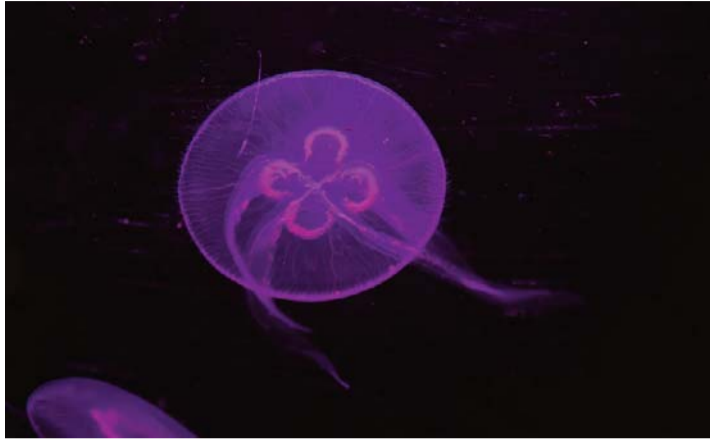


# The Photographer's Eye

## IN FOCUS: PHOTOJOURNALIST YASSER AL ZAYYAT

Kuwait Times is lucky enough to employ several highly qualified and talented photojournalists. In this occasional series, we would like to highlight some of our staff's best work and thank them for their continuous efforts and professional endeavors. Yasser Al-Zayyat is a veteran photojournalist who has worked for the Kuwait Times for 16 years. He has photographed VIPs, important and historical moments in Kuwait's recent history as well as captured the unique, interesting and beautiful in the daily life of the state. This collection of some of his recent work illustrates his diversity of talent and the depth of his photographic eye. — Photos by Yasser Al Zayyat





A collection of some of Yasser Al Zayyat's recent work.

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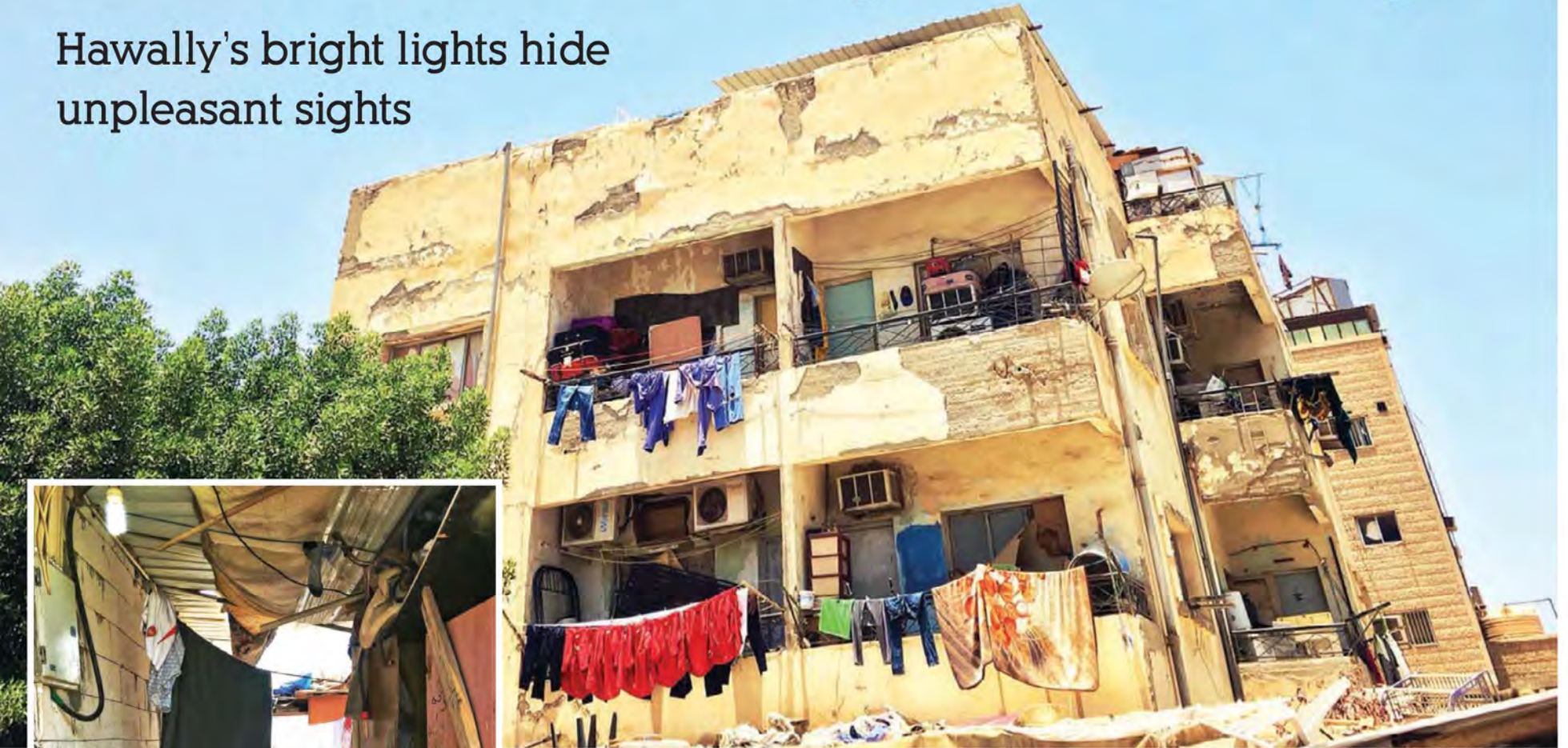
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# Behind the Neon signs of Hawally

Hawally's bright lights hide unpleasant sights



By Athoob Al-Shuaibi

**W**andering through the streets of Hawally, one can easily get distracted by the neon signs of shops, cafes and offices. But these bright lights are mere facades that hide unpleasant sights. The area is situated just seven kilometers from Kuwait City and has more than 164,212 inhabitants, most of whom live in dilapidated houses and rickety buildings, paying KD 80 to 120 for a room in an apartment that is often shared by more than four persons.

The problem is that these buildings are on the verge of collapse. Bad electrical connections and gas cylinders in poorly-structured kitchens are dangerous for occupants, but people are afraid to complain about the conditions so that they are

not evicted. "It's a nasty place to live," a resident of a derelict building told Kuwait Times. But his friend Jirjis has a more rational view. "I've been living in Kuwait since 1993. There's a beautiful thing about Kuwait - the blessing of stability and security. I'm comfortable here, despite how pathetic this place might be," he said. Jirjis shares an apartment with three roommates - Sulaiman, Hatim and Paulus.

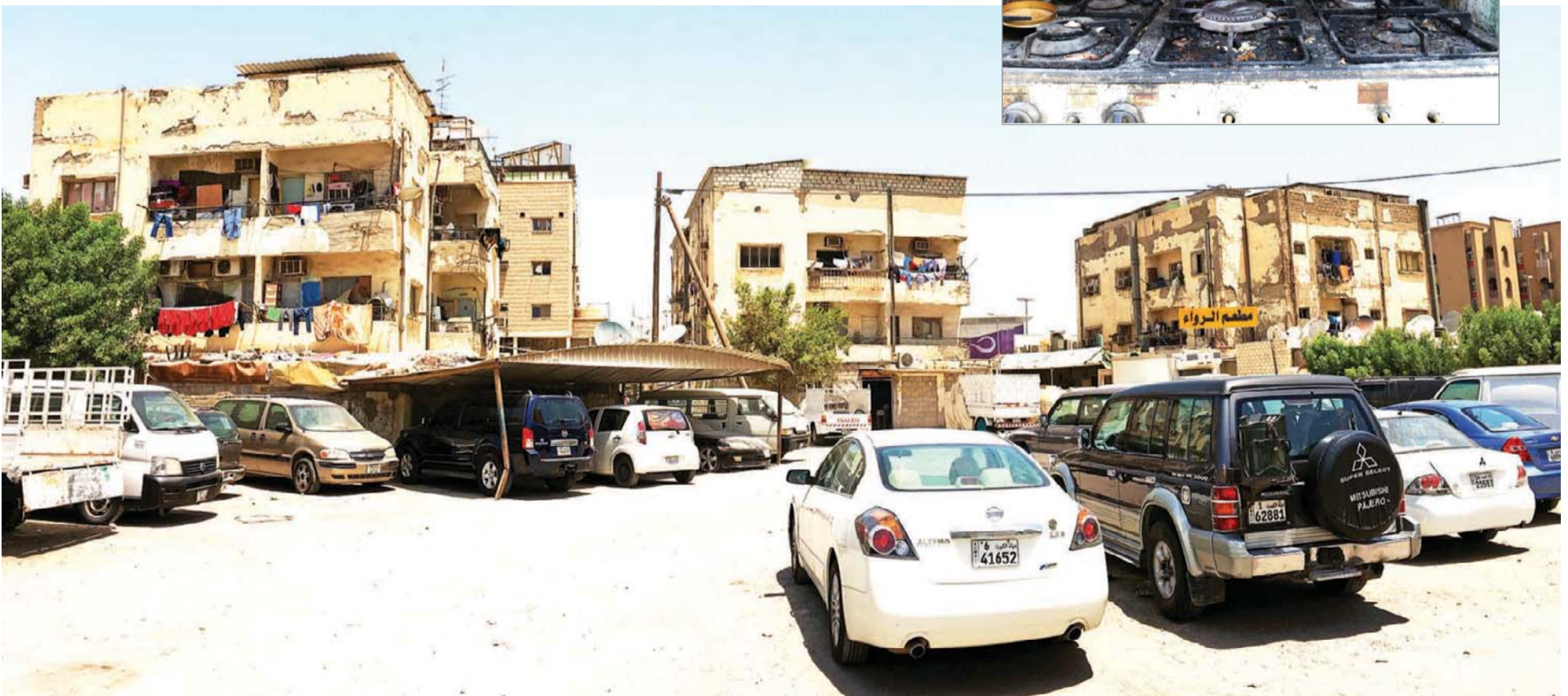
Most of the building's residents are from Egypt and Pakistan, along with a Syrian family that didn't want to speak out. "We are civilized people. We use smartphones to talk to our families and keep us entertained. Also, we like watching Arab soap operas in our free time," said Paulus. The refrigerator is set near the television in the living room because there isn't enough space for it in the tiny kitchen.

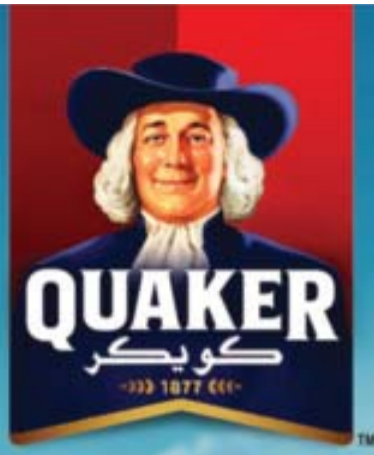




The external chaos is not a genuine reflection of what's happening inside. The residents are organized, respectful and take regular turns to clean their flats. A neighbor told Kuwait Times he has been working for 10 years in Kuwait, and previously had a job at Al-Azhar. "Christians live next to Muslims, and everyone respects each other's beliefs and stays in peace. But we are seriously considering leaving the building in search for another place because it's going to be demolished sooner or later, and we will have to leave eventually. We are not poor - we have jobs and homes in our motherlands. However, our weak salaries make finding a decent apartment very difficult," he said.

Another resident hesitated to speak to Kuwait Times, asking: "What am I going to get in return and what is the purpose of writing such a story?" Probably, he will not gain anything - however, the more attention we draw towards this issue, the more we can encourage decision makers to make the provision of safe and clean housing obligatory for migrant workers to safeguard their dignity and humanity.





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## FM, UNHCR OFFICIAL HOLD TALKS



**KUWAIT:** Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Representative to the GCC Countries Khaled Khalifa. — KUNA

**KUWAIT:** Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Representative to the GCC Countries Khaled Khalifa, at the Foreign Ministry headquarters yesterday. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled congratulated the newly-appointed UNHCR official on

his new post and expressed appreciation to all efforts made by the UN organization to better the lives of refugees everywhere. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Assistant at the Minister's office Ambassador Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, and a number of senior official at the Ministry. — KUNA

## PRESERVING ARAB HERITAGE SITES 'IS VITAL' FOR INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

### PIDF LEADERS ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS TO MAINTAIN SECURITY

**KUWAIT:** The Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) Leaders' Summit concluded a two-day discussions on Wednesday with recommendations aiming to consolidate regional and international cooperation and maintain regional security and stability. Themed "Stewardship for Healthy Oceans and Healthy Nations," the two-day PIDF Leaders' Summit was hosted by Honiara, capital of Solomon Islands.

Kuwait's Ambassador to Australia Najib Al-Bader led the country's delegation to the summit, representing His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The PIDF member states agreed in the summit on a roadmap paving the way for taking measures for preservation of the Pacific region, Al-Bader said. They adopted a host of recommendations on scientific research to monitor climate change and assess its effects, in a bid to curb them as part of the efforts to achieve sustainable development.

The leaders reiterated the role of governments, the civil society organizations and the private sector to counter climate challenges, in line with the Paris Agreement. Established in 2013, the PIDF was created as a space for catalyzing, mobilizing, and mainstreaming action in support of sustainable development through a green economy in the Pacific's island countries. The annual PIDF Summit is the ultimate forum where leaders of public sector, private sector and civil society deliberate and agree on the key policy decisions, including innovative approaches, tools, and accountabilities that advances the forum's vision, mission and purposes. — KUNA

**ANKARA:** Preserving Arab heritage sites is vital for intercultural dialogue, said Kuwait's permanent delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr Meshal Hayat yesterday. During a meeting on the sidelines of the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee, Dr Hayat said that Kuwait's initiative to donate \$100,000 to repair damages in Arab heritage sites in Iraq, Syria, and Libya was part of the GCC state's firm belief that culture played an important role in developing ties amongst peoples. The official lauded UNESCO's continuous efforts to promote heritage sites worldwide, affirming that the organization's support of cultural research and studies was another point of admiration.

Cooperation between UNESCO and Kuwait to preserve Arab heritage and culture is a task of utmost importance, said the Kuwaiti official who affirmed that his country will further develop ties with the international organization within this domain. On her part, Director of UNESCO's World Heritage Center Mechthild Rosler lauded the Kuwaiti initiative, noting that it was one of its kind on the Arab level. Similarly, representatives from the UNESCO center, Kuwait National Council for Culture, Arts, and Letters (NCCAL), and other Arab officials commended the Kuwaiti initiative, saying it will contribute to the development of Arab culture and heritage. — KUNA



**Kuwait's permanent delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr Meshal Hayat delivering his speech. — KUNA**

## News

in brief

### Kuwait, Kazakhstan aim to cement economic ties

**MOSCOW:** Kuwait's Ambassador to Kazakhstan Tariq Al-Faraj has emphasized the depth of Kuwaiti-Kazakh relations, noting that the two countries are looking forward towards stronger ties and broader joint cooperation in various domains. "Kuwaiti-Kazakh economic relations have been undergoing remarkable growth," Al-Faraj said in an interview with Kazakh newspaper Vremya Astana published on Wednesday.



**Kuwait's Ambassador to Kazakhstan Tariq Al-Faraj**

Kazakhstan's open policy has been instrumental in facilitating the development of economic and investment cooperation between the two countries, he said. Al-Faraj recalled the positive impacts of the visit paid by Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev to Kuwait in 1997. During this visit, two agreements were signed to encourage and protect investments as well as to avoid tax duplication, he pointed out. He added that Kuwait has offered a number of financial grants to finance development projects in Kazakhstan. "There is a desire from both sides to carry out joint investment projects," he said, adding that Kuwaiti investors are ready to pour more money for investments in Kazakhstan.

### France to redeploy aircraft carrier to the Gulf against IS

**PARIS:** France's President Francois Hollande said that his country is to redeploy its aircraft carrier, Charles de Gaulle, to the Gulf region in order to bolster the fight against the so-called Islamic State (IS). Speaking at the French Defense Ministry's "Bastille Day" celebrations, Hollande vowed to up the tempo in France's commitment to defeat the terrorist group in Syria and Iraq, after being squeezed recently by Coalition forces and Iraqi offensives that recaptured strategic areas in central Iraq. "France will intensify efforts to support the Iraqis as they try to recapture Mosul and would send more military advisors to help Iraqi forces defeat IS," Hollande said. The Charles de Gaulle has already served in the Indian Ocean and in the Gulf to attack IS targets and spent several months in the region after terror attacks here last year. France is also operating air raids out of bases it has been allowed to use in Jordan and the UAE, using Mirage and Rafale fighter bombers. French air operations against IS account for about five percent of all allied raids against the terrorist group, which has retaliated against France by carrying out terror operations here, most recently in November 2015, when IS-affiliated terrorists killed 130 people and wounded over 400 in a spate of shootings and bombings in and around the French capital.

### BADEA and Ethiopia sign loan agreement for road projects

**KHARTOUM:** The Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) and Ethiopia have signed a loan agreement worth \$15 million to fund the development of some roads in the African country. Director-General of BADEA's office in Khartoum Dr Sidi Ould Tah and Ethiopia's Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation Abdulaziz Mohammed signed the loan agreement. According to a statement issued by the bank, the project of developing roads is part of the Ethiopian government's program aiming to evolve the roads sector. The project will contribute to facilitating the movement of goods, agricultural products and passengers. It also aims to improve the efficiency of traffic safety, save time, cut transportation expenses and alleviate poverty there, it added.

## TRADITIONAL MEDICINE - AN INTEGRAL PART OF KUWAIT SOCIETY

**KUWAIT:** Despite the huge advances in the medical field, many Kuwaitis still seek traditional medicine to heal ailments and diseases using natural ingredients. Some Kuwaitis pursue traditional methods of healing due to the fact modern medicines offer treatments that contain chemicals that have various negative side effects on the body. Speaking about the benefits of traditional medicine, Jassem Bahman, a folk

healer said that he began his career in 1994, learning the roots of the craft from his grandfather.

"Traditional medicine had been around since the dawn of man," said Bahman who stressed that he learned the secrets of his profession through the experience of his ancestors rather than academic means. Bahman noted that Kuwait has always been known for its traditional healers, citing

names such as the late Abdullah Baqr Hajji Ramadan, Mohammad Saeed Al-Kuwaiti, and others who deemed as the forefathers of this method. In addition to the physical aspects, traditional medicine also tended to the ailments of the soul with many healers reciting the Holy Quran as a mean to bring upon tranquility and calmness to patients.

From herbs, seeds, eyeliners, and other materials, traditional healers used what was

necessary to heal the sick, said Bahman who noted that there were both male and female healers in the past that tended to the needs of their patients according to their gender. Bahman admitted that advancement in modern medicine had led traditional medicine to become less prominent; however, he insisted that despite this challenge, healing through traditional means is still sought to this day. — KUNA

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RECRUITS 530 INSTRUCTORS

**KUWAIT:** Some 530 teachers from Jordan, Egypt and Tunisia have been signed for the impending 2016-2017 school year, the Ministry of Education announced yesterday as part of efforts to remedy a dearth of qualified instructors. The Ministry of Interior (Mol) is facilitating the process of issuing work permits to the teachers as they are expected to arrive in the country in August, just in time for the school year, Assistant Undersecretary of Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Education Fahad Al-Ghais said in a press statement. Moreover, he also underscored that the ministry would ensure that all pupils get unhindered access to education, adding that the teachers would be assigned to schools of all levels nationwide. — KUNA



**Assistant Undersecretary of Administrative Affairs at the Ministry of Education Fahad Al-Ghais**



**Kuwaiti ambassador to Tanzania Jassim Al-Najim meets Tanzanian Minister of Health Ummu Mwalimu. —KUNA**

## TANZANIA WELCOMES KUWAIT'S EXPERTISE

**KUWAIT:** Tanzania is eager to tap into the Kuwaiti experience of providing optimum health services to the general public, said Tanzanian Minister of Health Ummu Mwalimu yesterday. This goal of providing up-to-snuff health care to Tanzanian citizens can be achieved by having Tanzanian health providers get appropriate training in their respective fields of medicine in Kuwaiti hospitals and specialized clinics, said the minister, according to a statement issued by the

Kuwaiti embassy in Tanzania.

The minister expressed this view during a meeting she had earlier yesterday with the Kuwaiti ambassador to Tanzania Jassim Al-Najim. She further advocated inviting Kuwaiti medical teams to treat patients and perform delicate operations in Tanzanian hospitals and medical centers. On a related note, she subscribed to the notion of having bilateral exchanges in expertise in the field of social development, particularly on issues dealing with

improving the status of women in society which she felt Kuwait has made impressive strides in. Minister Ummu Mwalimu applauded the work of Kuwaiti charities that have focused on the health and social development sectors in her country. Last March, the health minister attended the opening of a workshop, organized by the Kuwaiti embassy in Tanzania, at which the embassy delivered a sizable number of sewing machines to indigent Tanzanian families. —KUNA

## Kuwait

Heritage



**Flying high from gravity with motorcycles. — KUNA**





## 'WANTED PEOPLE' NABBED

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Weapons detectives have arrested some wanted people accused of possessing firearms. Other suspects were arrested for various criminal and civil cases. In the first case, an unemployed Kuwaiti Mushari Ajeel and an ex-convict were found with firearms and ammunition, all unlicensed. They were arrested in Bneid Al-Qar. Another Kuwaiti, Bader Abbas was arrested in his Saad Al-Abdallah area for drugs related offences. Drugs and paraphernalia were found in his possession. Also he is wanted to serve 18 years and eight months in jail. Jassim Mohammad who is on the wanted list for KD 37,000 debt was arrested in his house while Abdallah Ayed (wanted for a KD 500 debt) was also arrested in the same house. In another case, investigations revealed that a Saudi national, Mubarak Munazzal who is unemployed and lives in Saad Al-Abdallah has an unlicensed fire arms. He was arrested in Jahra area with Captagon pills found on him. In another development, a policeman was arrested for having a pistol (7mm), two magazines and 19 M16 rounds.



### 2133 bottles of liquor discovered

Farwaniya police discovered 2133 bottles of locally made liquor in two buses. An Asian was arrested for selling the liquor. The buses were impounded and sent to concerned authorities.



# GCC LADY ATTACKED

**KUWAIT:** A lady from one of the GCC countries told Adan police that she was beaten by three Kuwaiti ladies. Meanwhile, a Jordanian woman told police she was beaten by her sister. In another development, a Bangladeshi told police that he was attacked and robbed by an unknown person at his work place in Hawally.

### Containers seized

Customs detectives and Northern Ports Department have discovered two containers loaded with cigarettes and tobacco, while one was said to be containing 'spices'. Detectives also found drugs on one of the containers. Suspects have been

called in for questioning.

### 'Sudden death'

The body of a 24-year-old Egyptian has been sent to the coroner to find out the reason for his sudden death. The deceased's father reported his death in the house. —Al Anbaa, Al Rai



Photo shows a white mare horse - a symbol of beauty. Arabian horse is a breed of horse that originated on the Arabian Peninsula. With a distinctive head shape and high tail carriage, the Arabian is one of the most easily recognizable horse breeds in the world. It is also one of the oldest breeds, with archaeological evidence of horses in the Middle East that resemble modern Arabians dating back 4,500 years. — KUNA

# KUWAIT RAISES OIL OSP TO NORTHWEST EUROPE

**LONDON:** Kuwait has raised its official selling price (OSP) for crude sales to Northwest Europe to \$5.75 a barrel in August, from a \$6.15 a barrel discount in July, the Kuwait Petroleum Corp said yesterday. The OSP for the Mediterranean port of Sidi Kerir in Egypt was lowered to dated Brent minus \$5.40 a barrel in August, versus a \$5.25 discount in July. The price to the Mediterranean was unchanged at dated Brent minus \$5.70 a barrel. The OSP to Asia was set at \$1.70 a barrel below the average of Oman/Dubai crude, down 20 cents from July. The OSP to the United States was set at \$1.55 a barrel below the Argus Sour Crude Index on a free-on-board basis from Kuwait.

### Gulf markets mixed

Meanwhile, Gulf markets were mixed yesterday as investors treaded with caution after oil prices dropped the day before, dampening sentiment for riskier

asset classes. Uncertainty weighed on regional stocks in the hours before the Bank of England's first policy meeting since Britain voted to leave the European Union. The Bank's decision to hold rates steady came after Gulf bourses had closed but Riyadh and Cairo were still trading. "There was some excitement ahead of the Bank of England meeting today as investors were expecting a rate cut," said Vijay Harpalani, fund manager at Al Mal Capital in Dubai. "The weakness in oil prices yesterday impacted the sentiment."

Oil prices dropped more than 3 percent on Wednesday after the International Energy Agency (IEA) cautioned that a global supply glut was threatening market recovery. US futures declined as much as 4.4 percent to settle at \$44.75 a barrel. Abu Dhabi's index increased marginally, led by banking stocks. Union National Bank rose 0.2 percent even after the bank, which is 50

percent owned by the Abu Dhabi government, posted a 17.3 percent drop in second-quarter net profit. Dubai's benchmark was down 0.4 percent, weighed by Dubai Islamic Bank. The sharia compliant lender declined 1.9 percent.

In Oman, stocks were mostly down, with the index down 0.9 percent. Oman Telecommunications fell 2.4 percent even as its second quarter profits rose 19.9 percent, Reuters calculations showed. Qatar's index advanced 1 percent led by Commercial Bank of Qatar, the country's third-largest lender by assets, which jumped 2.1 percent. Qatar Electricity and Water Co rose 0.6 percent after the Gulf state's monopoly utility posted a 13.4 percent increase in second-quarter net profit, according to Reuters calculations. Saudi Arabia's Tadawul All-Share Index lost 0.4 percent, while Egypt's EGX 30 Index lost 0.3 percent. — Agencies

Friday Times

# International

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

**US presidential race tied, Clinton hurt by emails**



**Tokyo governor race a fight to save reputation as Olympics host**



**Maori troops spearhead Bastille Day parade**



LONDON: Britain's new Prime Minister Theresa May (L) and her husband Philip John wave outside 10 Downing Street on Wednesday.—AFP

## MAY WIELDS CABINET AXE TO PREPARE FOR BREXIT

### NEW UK PM STAMPS AUTHORITY WITH SWEEPING RESHUFFLE

**LONDON:** New Prime Minister Theresa May showed a ruthless streak yesterday in building a cabinet to lead Britain's exit from the European Union, while her finance minister said he would do whatever was necessary to restore confidence in the economy. The Bank of England kept interest rates unchanged, wrong-footing many investors who had expected the first cut in more than seven years.

But it said it was likely to deliver a stimulus in three weeks' time, once it has assessed the fallout from the June 23 vote for Brexit. The pound rose sharply on the news, while shares fell. A day after replacing David Cameron, May moved to impose her authority with one of the most sweeping government reshuffles for decades. She axed a handful of prominent ministers including Justice Secretary Michael Gove, a leading Brexit campaigner who had staged his own bid for prime minister.

One of her most contentious appointments is Boris Johnson as foreign secretary, who compared the aims of the EU to those of Hitler and Napoleon during the referendum campaign. The surprise choice drew a wither-

ing response from French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, who described the former London mayor as a liar. Three weeks after the shock vote for 'Brexit', May's government faces the complex task of extricating Britain from the 28-nation EU while trying to protect the economy from feared disruption to confidence, trade and investment.

New finance minister Philip Hammond signaled he would take a less aggressive approach to cutting the budget deficit than his predecessor George Osborne, who was dumped on Wednesday. "Markets do need signals of reassurance, they need to know that we will do whatever is necessary to keep the economy on track," Hammond said. "Of course we've got to reduce the deficit further but looking at how and when and at what pace we do that ... is something that we now need to consider in the light of the new circumstances that the economy is facing," he said. May, who had favored a vote to stay in the EU, must now decide when and how to start official divorce proceedings from the other 27 countries, who are pressing her to move quickly to lift the uncertainty now

hanging over them all. In her first words to the nation on Wednesday, she promised to champion social justice and to help ordinary Britons in their struggle to make ends meet. "The government I lead will be driven not be the interests of the privileged few, but by yours. We will do everything we can to give you more control over your lives," she said.

#### Cabinet clearance

Britons chose Brexit despite a barrage of warnings that severing ties would create huge uncertainty and plunge the economy into recession. The winning 'Leave' campaign dismissed what it called 'Project Fear', saying Britain would prosper if it regained independence from Brussels. In one of her first acts, May dismissed finance minister Osborne, a figure synonymous with austerity policies and a leading voice among those who had warned that leaving the EU would spell economic doom.

Yesterday she followed up by removing the justice, education, culture and cabinet office ministers, while the Northern Ireland minister also quit. Veteran right-wingers

David Davis and Liam Fox have been named, respectively, as Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union and head of a new international trade department, both key positions in the arduous negotiations ahead. Asked if Britain would launch the formal process of quitting the EU by the end of this year, finance minister Hammond told LBC radio: "No, that's a decision that we haven't made yet."

He added: "We've now got the key players who will be involved in this decision-making process in place, and when the prime minister has finished making her appointments later today I am sure that we will sit down and start to talk about Britain's negotiating strategy and how we are going to take it forward." Hammond said the decision to vote for Brexit would mean Britain would leave the EU's tariff-free single market, and it would then have to negotiate a new deal as a trading partner rather than a member. "The question is how we negotiate with the European Union not from the point of view of being members but from the point of view of being close neighbors and trade partners," he added.—Reuters

## BREXIT CRISIS TO TEST 'IRON LADIES' MERKEL AND MAY

**BERLIN:** Pragmatic, childless pastors' daughters with killer instincts who were long underestimated by their blustering male peers—the parallels between new British Prime Minister Theresa May and Germany's Angela Merkel are striking at first glance. But analysts warn that resemblance may mask more fundamental differences that will complicate talks on Britain's divorce from the EU, pitting its newest leader against its longest-serving. May took office Wednesday as Britain's second woman to occupy 10 Downing Street after Margaret Thatcher, the "Iron Lady" with whom both she and Merkel have frequently been compared.

Like May, who was depicted this week in a Times cartoon on a blood-stained carpet surrounded by erstwhile rivals with daggers in their backs, Merkel's rise also came after years lying in wait until the time was ripe to snatch the crown. "Beyond being surrounded by immature men who magically commit public harakiri, what May seems to share with Merkel is the caution, the general aura of biding her time," Constanze Stelzenmueller of the Brookings Institution said. "There's also a degree of seriousness about May that I think she shares with Merkel, and after the bonfire of the vanities in the Tory party, that now seems particularly appealing."

### 'Ruthless streak'

The Financial Times as early as 2014 wrote an admiring profile of May entitled "Britain's Angela Merkel?" which said each was a "non-ideological politician with a ruthless streak who gets on with the job". Beyond noting their shared passion for mountain hikes and cooking, it quoted a 2012 interview May gave the Daily Telegraph in which she hailed Merkel's no-nonsense approach. "If you think of what (Merkel)'s achieved, you know, there are still people who don't rate her, are a bit dismissive, perhaps because of the way she looks and dresses. What matters is, what has she actually done?" Germany's top-selling daily Bild asked this week "How much Merkel is in Mrs. Brexit?" and noted the "surprising" number of similarities between the 61-year-old German leader and May, 59.

"Neither is yielding, let alone submissive, in negotiations—both preachers' daughters are seen as strong-willed, almost to the point of stubborn." However it noted that one crucial point of divergence was their stance on migrants, contrasting Merkel's "We will manage" mantra during last year's record refugee influx to Germany with May's "uncompromising" calls for stricter controls on new arrivals to Britain. Bild, which has generally backed Merkel's liberal policy, said May had flirted with "crude right-wing populism" in touting a hardline immigration policy.

May, who discreetly backed the Remain campaign ahead of last month's shock EU referendum result, has said immigration controls would have to be included in any deal for Britain to access the EU's single market. "The key question is whether they can keep their cake and eat it—in other words, single market access and immigration restrictions," Stelzenmueller said. "It would be very, very difficult for Merkel to make that kind of concession. The risk of setting a bad example that then encourages and enables the fragmenting forces in Europe is more than Merkel can responsibly incur."

### 'Save what can be saved'

Merkel called this week for patience with May as she settles in. "I look forward to meeting her," she told SAT.1 television. "(But) there has to be time for the new government to decide 'what relationship do we want to have with the European Union?' We can't define that for them." However Merkel, who is expected to run for a fourth term next year, has urged Britain not to leave the EU in limbo for too long.

Daniela Schwarzer of the German Marshall Fund think tank said Merkel would play a "decisive" role in the upcoming negotiations once Britain has triggered Article 50 to exit the bloc. "Germany has a strong interest in keeping Britain as close to Europe as possible," she said, noting that eight percent of German exports head to the country. Looking ahead, news weekly Der Spiegel said Merkel had "no illusions: (May)'s pragmatism won't make the negotiations any easier", while Bild ran the headline "They must save whatever can be saved". "In the end, the Brexit duo May and Merkel will be sitting across the table from each other during an EU summit night in Brussels, for a final that hopefully will have no losers." — AFP



**TOKYO:** In this file photo, Boris Johnson takes part in a Street Rugby tournament in a Tokyo street. Britain's new top diplomat is shaggy-haired, Latin-spouting Boris Johnson, who in recent months has made insulting and vulgar comments about the presidents of the United States and Turkey. — AP

## EUROPE STUNNED AS BRITAIN'S 'JESTER' BORIS BECOMES FM

**BERLIN:** Dubbed a liar by his French counterpart and lampooned as a "political jester" in European newspapers, chief Brexit campaigner Boris Johnson faced a wave of criticism and mockery yesterday after being named Britain's foreign minister. In a shock move, new Prime Minister Theresa May on Wednesday appointed the eccentric former London mayor, known for his political antics and gaffe-prone style, as the top diplomat to lead the country out of the EU.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said that, as a "Leave" campaigner, Johnson had "lied a lot" and said his appointment "reveals the British political crisis" following the referendum. Ayrault claimed he was not worried about working with Johnson but stressed the need for a "clear, credible and reliable" negotiating partner. The outspoken European Parliament chief Martin Schulz also slammed May's new cabinet, saying it was based on solving internal party splits rather than the national interest.

"The United Kingdom has to break this dangerously vicious cycle which has direct impacts on the rest of Europe," Schulz said. Animosity is widespread in Europe about Johnson, who recently compared the EU's aims to those of Adolf Hitler. After the Brexit vote, European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker labelled Johnson and other Leave campaigners "sad heroes".

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, speaking Wednesday, shortly before the news of Johnson's appointment, said he was outraged by Britain's "irresponsible politicians who first lured the country into Brexit, then ... got out, refused to

take responsibility, and went to go and play cricket". A deputy leader of the German Social Democrats, Ralf Stegner, said Johnson was not known for his diplomatic skills, adding: "Now he'll negotiate the Brexit. Bon Voyage!"

### 'King of Blunder'

Many governments, in line with protocol, congratulated their new counterpart, who will make his diplomatic debut in Brussels next week. A US State Department spokesman told reporters that "we look forward to engage with Boris Johnson" and that the US-UK relationship "goes beyond personalities".

The foreign ministers of Latvia, Estonia and Norway were others who said they looked forward to meeting Johnson. In Russia, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov voiced hopes that "the weightiness of his current position, of course, will certainly prompt a somewhat different rhetoric of a more diplomatic nature." Most newspapers and social media, however, treated the appointment as the latest act in a political theatre of the absurd.

Germany's Handelsblatt called Johnson a "political jester", the daily Sueddeutsche labeled his appointment an example of "British humor", while the French L'Obs news magazine's headline was simply "King of the Blunder". Germany's Die Welt said many initially thought the "bombshell" appointment was a joke. "The fact that Theresa May is ... appointing, of all people, this undiplomatic, unpredictable and disloyal hot-shot as foreign minister seems absurd at first glance," it said. But it also saw the move as calculated, arguing that "the pressure now rests upon him—and his

undoubted ambition—to prove himself".

### 'Poisoned chalice'

Germany news magazine Der Spiegel, in an online commentary headlined "House of Cards in Britain", was withering. "Those who thought the shamelessness with which Britain's political class play their power games could not be surpassed were disabused of that notion yesterday," it said. "Boris Johnson, King of Brexit, has now been rewarded with the post of foreign secretary, having initially stuck his head in the sand after the vote. "Now, finally, there can be no more doubt that British politics is not concerned with the country's welfare, but with haggling for positions, personal ambitions and power plays." In its main article from London, Der Spiegel said Johnson "himself seemed surprised", having been widely regarded as "Britain's greatest bogeyman" after the vote. But it also said May had appointed him "to heal the party and to show the voters... that she takes the referendum outcome seriously".

France's Liberation reminded its readers that Johnson "has never held a ministerial post and a few days ago he pathetically withdrew from the race to lead the Tory Party". "What looks like a promotion could in fact be a poisoned chalice," the left-leaning paper said, adding that "the real negotiations on the Brexit will be managed by a specially created ministry and by the prime minister's cabinet". On social media, writers let rip too, with one tweeting, "A clown as the new foreign minister-comedy or Shakespearean tragedy?" and another proposing that Johnson "recruit Mr Bean as an adviser". — AFP

## IRAN PROTESTS EGYPT MPs' PRESENCE AT OPPOSITION RALLY

**TEHRAN:** Iran has summoned Egypt's top envoy in Tehran to "strongly protest" against the attendance of Egyptian lawmakers at an annual rally of an exiled opposition group, state media said. An Iranian foreign ministry official called the presence of a group of Egyptian MPs at the National Council of Resistance in Iran (NCRI) gathering in France on Saturday "a clear interference in our domestic affairs".

Tehran accused the parliamentarians of supporting the "terrorist group", which includes the former rebel People's Mujahedeen of Iran (MEK). "Egyptian authorities are expected to adopt responsible and principled policies and take steps toward preserving peace and stability in the region," the Iranian official said, quoted late Wednesday by the official IRNA news agency.

It did not identify the envoy but Egypt's diplomatic mission in Tehran is headed by Khalid Emara. Ibrahim Abdel Wahab, an Egyptian lawmaker and member of the foreign relations parliamentary committee, confirmed he had participated in the rally along with nine other Egyptian MPs and public figures. "This is not a formal participation. We received personal invitations and decided to participate to support the Iranian opposition," Abdel Wahab told AFP from Paris, without giving more details.

He confirmed that the parliament deputy speaker Suleiman Wahdan and another member of the defense and national security committee had also attended the rally.

Tehran broke off diplomatic relations with Cairo in 1980 a year after Iran's Islamic revolution, in protest at Egypt's signing of a peace treaty with Israel and hosting of the deposed shah. The two countries maintain only interests sections in each other's capitals. — AFP

## 'I DON'T WANT ANY MORE BLOODSHED IN SOUTH SUDAN': PRESIDENT WANTS TO MEET WITH RIVAL

**JUBA:** South Sudan's President Salva Kiir called on arch-rival Riek Machar yesterday to meet for talks to salvage peace after days of intense gun battles in the capital Juba.

"I don't want any more bloodshed in South Sudan," Kiir said, speaking in public for the first time since fighting erupted on Friday. "I want Dr Riek Machar, the first vice president of the republic, to be near me, so we can chart the way forward."

Kiir spoke at the bullet-scarred presidential palace, standing alongside ceasefire monitoring chief Festus Mogae, a former Botswana president, and African Union special envoy Alpha Oumar Konare, a former president of Mali.

He called for Machar to meet him for talks to save the peace deal but acknowledged the deep mistrust that led to days of intense fighting that has left hundreds dead. "I talked with Dr Machar today, in the morning, and I asked him to come, but it was difficult for him to accept," Kiir said, adding that he did not know Machar's exact whereabouts but that neither he nor his allies were in any danger. "If there was anyone hunting for them, they could find them," Kiir said. "I am ready to protect Dr Machar if he comes." — AFP



**JUBA:** South Sudanese President Salva Kiir (L), flanked by African Union special envoy and former Malian President Alpha Oumar Konare (R), talks to the media yesterday at the presidential palace. — AFP



**SYRIA:** Displaced Syrians from the family of Syrian farmer Ahmad Farhat Ismail, who fled the northern conflict-ridden city Aleppo with his family, rest at their home after collecting tomatoes at a farm in the coastal city of Tartus on July 4, 2016. — AFP

## AIR STRIKES KILL 12 IN REBEL-HELD AREAS OF SYRIA'S ALEPPO

### IS CLAIMS TAKEDOWN OF PLAN

**BEIRUT:** Air strikes killed at least 12 civilians including children in two rebel-held neighborhoods of Syria's Aleppo city yesterday, a monitoring group said. Nine people were killed in the Tariq al-Bab neighborhood, and another three in the district of Salhin in the east of the city, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported.

The Britain-based group said it was unclear whether the strikes were carried out by warplanes of the Syrian government or its ally Russia. Video obtained by AFP of the aftermath of the attack in Salhin showed smoke billowing from the front of a multi-storey building shorn of its facade by the strikes.

The charred skeleton of a car, its windows blown out, sat in front of the building. Civil defense workers battled a

fire sparked by the attack, while civilians with ladders retrieved belongings from the ruins. "Total destruction," said resident Jomaa Hassan, gesturing to a smoking building behind him. "These are civilians: a taxi driver, a municipal worker. These are the terrorists in their eyes." Aleppo city is divided roughly between government control in the west and rebel control in the east.

Last week, government forces advanced to within firing range of the only remaining supply route into the rebel-held east, effectively cutting it off and prompting food shortages and spiraling prices.

### IS group claims Syrian warplane downing

The Islamic State group says it has

shot down a Syrian government plane in the eastern province of Deir el-Zour and that its pilot has been killed. A video released on yesterday by the group's media arm, Amaq, purports to show the plane's wreckage in flames and the body of the pilot, strung up on what appears to be a pole.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported that IS militants shot down a plane near the Deir el-Zour military airport, which is controlled by government forces. The Observatory says the militants later "crucified" the body of the pilot.

It wasn't clear when the plane was downed. IS controls the Deir el-Zour province and parts of the provincial capital with the same name, along with the airport. — Agencies

# MAORI TROOPS SPEARHEAD BASTILLE DAY PARADE

**PARIS:** Bare-chested Maori soldiers joined more than 3,000 other troops and dozens of helicopters and fighters roared overhead as France honored Australia and New Zealand in its Bastille Day parade in Paris yesterday. The sight of six barefoot Maori soldiers in traditional dress with their faces painted brought an exotic touch to the annual parade on the Champs-Elysees avenue. They were part of an 85-strong contingent from New Zealand who marched alongside 140 Australian soldiers to mark their countries' role in the World War I Battle of the Somme, a century ago.

President Francois Hollande arrived in an open-top jeep surrounded by the Republican Guard on horseback to join US Secretary of State John Kerry, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key and Australian Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove in the presidential stand. Jets from the Patrouille de France air display team blasted overhead, flying in the shape of the Eiffel Tower to support Paris's bid to host the 2024 Olympic Games as they trailed red, white and blue smoke behind them. They spearheaded more than 70 jets and helicopters in the skies above the French capital. The pomp and splendour of the parade places the spotlight on the French military, which is involved today on more fronts than at any time in the last half-century.

### Aircraft carrier re-deployed

On the eve of the parade, Hollande said the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier will return to the Middle East "in the autumn" to support Iraqi forces in the fight against the Islamic State group. Iraqi forces are attempting to re-take the Iraqi city of Mosul from IS forces. It will be the third time since the beginning of 2015 that the French carrier has been used to launch airstrikes against IS targets.

Hollande dispatched the carrier to the region in November following the terror attacks on Paris which killed 130 people. Islamic State



**PARIS:** A view taken from a helicopter shows three Mirage 2000N jets from the 'La Fayette' Escadille, flying over the rooftops of Paris during the annual Bastille Day military parade on the Champs-Elysees avenue yesterday. — AFP

claimed responsibility. "We will intensify the army's efforts to support the Iraqis as they try to recapture Mosul," he said. Hollande also announced on Wednesday that France would end its military mission in the strife-torn Central African Republic in October. Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian will go the country in October to officially declare the end of Operation Sangaris, which was launched in December 2013 in a bid to quell violence

between Christian and Muslim militias that left thousands dead and drove half a million people from their homes.

And with Britain set to leave the European Union (EU), Hollande said France would announce a proposal to strengthen European defense policy. "I note that our German friends are also prepared to be involved. We will therefore be able to launch this initiative together," Hollande said. His announcement

came after Germany's defense minister, Ursula von der Leyen, said the EU should take advantage of Britain's vote to leave the bloc to forge a common security policy. London had long "paralyzed" European efforts to have a more closely integrated security policy, Von der Leyen said as she presented Germany's first big-picture defense paper in a decade, pledging Berlin's willingness to play a greater role in the world. — AFP



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**FRESNO:** Police body-camera video released by Fresno Police Department, a police officer points a gun at Dylan Noble, back left, on Wednesday. — AP

## IN VIDEO, MAN IGNORES POLICE DEMANDS AND IS FATALY SHOT

### SHOT FOUR TIMES!

**FRESNO, CALIFORNIA:** Despite demands that he "Show both hands!" and shouts that "You're going to get shot man!" a 19-year-old in California refused to pull one hand from behind his back and to stop walking toward Fresno police. Officers then shot him four times, killing him.

Dramatic and graphic body-camera video shows the man, identified as Dylan Noble, was struck twice after he already had gone down from the first two bullets. "Get on the ground now!" officers continually shout at Noble in the video released by police Wednesday. One yells: "Drop whatever you have in your hand!"

It turned out Noble, who was white, was unarmed and had only a small, empty plastic container with an unknown purpose in his hand, police Chief Jerry Dyer said. Officers, who had been looking for a man with a gun when they pulled him over, had no way of knowing that with his refusal to cooperate, Dyer said.

One officer shot him twice as Noble yelled that he hated his life. He was still moving his arms, and officers were still shouting for him to stop, as he lay on the ground. Another shot from the same officer and a fourth from a second officer finally made him stop.

At a news conference, Dyer acknowledged the video is gruesome, but he said it was important for the public to see. He said he prays it won't spark violence amid simmering anti-police sentiment in Fresno and else-

where. "Tensions are high," Dyer said. "In some cases we are one spark away from a forest fire. And I pray this video doesn't serve as that spark ... This is not a time to become violent."

Dyer said he intended to make the video public last Friday, but he held off because of the shooting deaths of police in Dallas the night before. The video was shown last week to Noble's father and stepfather. Noble's death on June 25 came more than a week before police killed two black men in shootings in Louisiana and Minnesota. Those shootings last week sparked protests around the country.

#### The Video

The video shows Noble first draws officers' attention when he screeched his truck's tires while they were searching for an armed man. Noble pulls into a gas station, and officers order him to put both hands out of the window. Noble puts his left hand out the window, concealing his right hand, and officers shout "both your hands!"

Noble gets out of the truck and walks away from officers, at first putting both hands in the air. He turns around and walks toward officers, raising his left hand but putting his right hand behind his back.

He continues to walk toward officers with his right hand concealed and his left hand in the air when the shots began coming. His mother, who declined to watch the videos, is seek-

ing damages from the city for her son's death.

Stuart Chandler, the attorney for Noble's mother, Veronica Nelson, put out a statement saying that he urged the police chief to release the video Wednesday. "We are pleased to discover from the media that Chief Dyer is belatedly providing the body camera footage to the general public," Chandler said.

Noble's mother and attorney said in a claim filed with the city that the officers used excessive force, and they called the death inexcusable. The claim does not say how much Nelson seeks from the city. Dyer, who has asked the FBI do its own investigation into the shooting, said he has yet to conclude if officers used excessive force. — AP

## US PRESIDENTIAL RACE TIED, CLINTON HURT BY EMAILS

**WASHINGTON:** The US presidential race is tied going into the major parties' national conventions and Democrat Hillary Clinton has been damaged by the FBI investigation into her email use while secretary of state, a new opinion poll showed on Thursday.

The New York Times/CBS News poll showed 67 percent of voters surveyed said Clinton was not honest and trustworthy, up 5 percentage points from a CBS poll conducted last month before the FBI made its findings public.

As Donald Trump prepares to accept the Republican presidential nomination next week, the poll showed him in a dead heat with Clinton in a general election matchup. Each candidate drew 40 percent of the vote, compared with the 6 percentage point lead enjoyed by Clinton in last month's survey, the poll showed.

The margin of error was 3 percentage points in the CBS News/New York Times poll, which was conducted by telephone July 8-12 among a random sample of 1,600 adults nationwide, including 1,358 registered voters.

The survey showed 62 percent of voters surveyed distrust Trump as well. "But Mrs. Clinton's shifting and inaccurate explanations of her email practices at the State Department appear to have resonated more deeply with the electorate," the Times wrote.

FBI Director James Comey said last week Clinton was "extremely careless" in the handling of classified information but the investigation found no evidence she or her colleagues intended to violate laws.

The Times/CBS poll echoes the finding of a Quinnipiac Poll released on Wednesday that showed Trump pulling just ahead of Clinton in the so-called swing states of Florida and Pennsylvania as the former US senator and first lady lost ground on honesty and moral standards.

In contrast to the New York Times/CBS News poll, a Reuters/Ipsos online opinion poll released on Tuesday showed Clinton leading Trump by 13 points at a national level, with 46 percent to Trump's 33 percent support among likely voters. The election is on Nov. 8. — Reuters



**HAMPTON, VIRGINIA:** Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks. — AP

## HUNDREDS RALLY IN CHARLESTON AFTER POLICE SHOOTINGS

**CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA:** Charleston area residents are calling for justice following the shootings of blacks by police in Louisiana and Minnesota last week.

Local media outlets report several hundred people rallied Wednesday evening at a park in downtown Charleston. After the rally broke up, a statement from police said an officer was checked at a hospital after being hit in the chest by an object at an intersection 10 blocks away.

The park is located down the street from Emanuel AME Church where nine black parishioners were shot and killed last year. A white man has been charged in both state and federal courts.

During the rally participants sang "Amazing Grace" and prayed. There have been protests throughout the nation following last week's shootings. Those in South Carolina have generally been peaceful. — AP

# KERRY SEEKS RUSSIAN COOPERATION

## DESPITE DEEP MISGIVINGS



**CLEVELAND:** Cleveland's skyline and the venue of the 2016 Republican National Convention. — AP

### TRUMP'S CONVENTION LINEUP HAS POLS AND CELEBS

**CLEVELAND:** A war hero, a casino mogul and an openly gay high-tech investor are among the scheduled speakers at next week's Republican National Convention, although Donald Trump is relying heavily on the party's establishment to fill out the list. The presumptive presidential nominee has approved a convention program that features at least 20 current or former elected officials, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, a primary rival.

Absent from a list obtained Thursday by The Associated Press are Trump friends from professional sports such as New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady or the celebrities that the New York billionaire's team long suggested would help make this convention unlike any other.

Still, there is no shortage of political outsiders. Peter Thiel, PayPal co-founder, may be the first openly gay speaker featured at a national Republican convention. His appearance comes as party leaders refuse to soften the GOP's formal opposition to gay marriage.

Other speakers will include four of Trump's children, Las Vegas casino owner Phil Ruffin, and actor and former underwear model Antonio Sabàto Jr. College football star Tim Tebow will appear on stage, the campaign confirmed.

Mark Geist and John Tiegen, survivors of the deadly 2012 attack on the American diplomatic consulate in Benghazi, Libya, will speak. "This impressive lineup of veterans, political outsiders, faith leaders and those who know Donald Trump the best - his family and longtime friends - represent a cross-section of real people facing the same challenges as every American household," said Trump spokesman Jason Miller.

Some of the GOP's biggest names are declining to participate in four-day convention, which begins on Monday. Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, and the party's two most recent presidential nominees, John McCain and Mitt Romney, plan to skip the event, as does Ohio Gov. John Kasich, another Trump primary challenger.

Shrugging off such absences, Trump's team suggested the convention lineup would help highlight Trump's outsider appeal. "We are totally over-booked. We have great speakers, we have winners, we have people that aren't only political people," Trump told Fox News Channel on Tuesday. "We have a lot of people that are just champions and winners." He acknowledged in recent days that he'd stick a little closer to tradition. "Look, I have great respect for the institution of the conventions. I mean to me, it's very important. So we're not going to change the wheel," he said on Fox.

Brady was initially floated as a possible speaker, but he won't appear. Neither will former Indiana University basketball coach Bobby Knight or boxing promoter Don King, a Cleveland resident and passionate Trump supporter.

The program will feature people such pro golfer Natalie Gulbis, retired astronaut Eileen Collins, and Ultimate Fighting Championship president Dana White. Former Navy SEAL Marcus Luttrell, author of the book, "Lone Survivor," about a 2005 firefight in Afghanistan, will make an appearance, along with a Wisconsin sheriff, David Clarke, who is a vocal critic of the Black Lives Matter movement.

The convention will highlight religious leaders such as Jerry Falwell Jr. and Haskel Lookstein, the New York rabbi who converted Trump's daughter Ivanka to Judaism.

Trump does not forget his business relationships, giving speaking slots to real estate investor Tom Barrack and even the general manager for Virginia's Trump Winery, Kerry Woolard. — AP

**WASHINGTON:** US Secretary of State John Kerry heads to Moscow on Thursday to again seek closer Russian cooperation in the war against Islamic State in Syria, but he faces strong opposition from defense and intelligence officials who argue that Washington and Moscow have diametrically opposite objectives in the country.

Kerry's trip, which State Department officials say is his second to the Russian capital this year and his third in 12 months, takes place as US-Russian relations have worsened with tit-for-tat diplomatic expulsions, aggressive Russian maneuvers toward US aircraft and vessels, and a disregard for a cessation of hostilities in Syria, where Russia has bombed US-backed rebels.

Relations between Moscow and Washington also remain strained over the Ukraine crisis and what the Kremlin considers NATO's unjustified activities along its borders, raising fears that disagreements could escalate into confrontations, either accidental in Syria or the result of miscalculations in the air and naval encounters from the Baltics to the Black Sea. Yet Kerry, it seems, still hopes for closer collaboration with Russia, to the disbelief of many officials who say the Obama administration has no strategy on how to deal with the challenges Russia poses in Europe and Syria.

"It isn't clear why the secretary of state thinks he can enlist the Russians to support the administration's goals in Syria," said one US intelligence official.

"He's ignoring the fact that the Russians and their Syrian allies have made no distinction between bombing ISIS and killing members of the moderate opposition, including some people that we've trained," the official said, using an acronym for the militant group. "Why would we share intelligence and targeting information with people who've been doing that?"

The targeting problem is compounded by the fact that rebels groups often operate in close proximity with one another and at times have fought both for and against one another. The Nusra Front, an offshoot of al Qaeda, has frequently operated in close proximity to rebels deemed moderate by the West, including some that have received military training and support from the CIA and Arab members of the US-led coalition.

#### Angry spies

US intelligence officers are incensed by the administration's continued overtures to Russia, in part because they say the Russians knew that two rebel camps they bombed this week were far from any Islamic State fighters and housed US-backed rebels or their families.

The first attack, on Monday, killed at least 123 people and injured scores more, many of them CIA-trained rebels and military or intelligence officers from allied Arab countries, said three US intelligence officials. The second, on Tuesday, killed at least 12 rebel fighters at a nearby base, they said. The camps, the officials said, are

in a no-man's-land on Syria's border with Jordan devoid of any Syrian troops or Islamic State fighters, and the Russians attacked it deliberately, the officials said.

It was not immediately possible to seek comment from officials in Moscow. Other officials argue that because the Russians say they, too, are seeking a negotiated end to Syria's civil war - which, according to the United Nations, has claimed some 400,000 lives - Moscow's goal is compatible with that of the United States and its Arab and European allies.

"It's pretty obvious that their agenda is not 100 percent aligned with our own," US Army Lieutenant General Sean MacFarland, the commander of the US-led coalition battling Islamic State, told a small group of reporters in Baghdad on Thursday. "I'd be a little leery about giving too much information to the Russians, but I fully trust that our government officials

Moscow to buy in to a process that could lead to a nationwide cessation of hostilities. "There are areas with regard to Syria and how to resolve the conflict on which we agree," he said. However, he added: "While we have reached those overarching agreements, we have not seen the practical reality on the ground yet."

But even some of Kerry's own State Department subordinates question why their boss is trying to move forward, meeting on Thursday with Russian President Vladimir Putin and on Friday with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov - in Moscow, no less, said one - when US-Russian relations are slipping backward.

The latest evidence of that came on Wednesday, when Russia refused to let Jeff Shell, chairman of the US Broadcasting Board of Governors, which oversees Radio Free Europe and other government-backed news outlets, enter the country.



**PARIS:** French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, right, welcomes US Secretary of State John Kerry on the Champs Elysees avenue before the Bastille Day Parade yesterday. — AP

understand this and know they'll arrive at something that makes sense."

"The Russians want a settlement that would keep (Syrian President Bashar al-Assad or some replacement acceptable to them in power," said a defense official, who like others who discussed the schism in the administration agreed to do so only on condition of anonymity. "The president has said that Assad has got to go, and our allies, especially the Saudis, hold that view very strongly. In fact, they keep asking us why we're cozying up to Moscow."

Assad said in an interview broadcast on Thursday that Russian President Vladimir Putin has never talked to him about leaving power, despite pressure from Washington for Assad to step down. "They never said a single word regarding this," Assad told NBC News when asked whether Putin or Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov had talked to him about a political transition in Syria, where a civil war has raged since 2011.

State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Kerry was going to Russia "yet again" to have "another go" at getting

A board statement said Shell was denied entry and detained in a locked room at Moscow's Sheremetevo Airport for several hours on Tuesday despite having a valid passport and Russian visa.

Accompanied by Russian security officials, he later boarded a flight to Amsterdam and was told he was subject to a "lifetime ban" from Russia.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said Shell had been on a 'stop list' for a long time, adding that he was "one of the organizers of lying anti-Russian propaganda, financed from the American budget, that is implementing the political decisions taken at the very top of the US"

His treatment is consistent with his name being on a blacklist of individuals Russia has decided to block, though Moscow has shrugged off accusations that US officials in Russia were facing increased harassment. Last month, Washington expelled two Russian officials in response to what it described as a Russian policeman's attack on a US diplomat in Moscow earlier that month. — Reuters

## IVORY COAST ARRESTS TWO SOLDIERS FOR SUSPECTED LINKS TO AL QAEDA

**ABIDJAN:** Two soldiers have been arrested in Ivory Coast accused of failing to denounce suspected members of an al Qaeda cell that killed 19 people in a March attack on a beach resort town, military officials said on yesterday.

The raid on Grand Bassam, 40 km from the commercial capital, Abidjan, by al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), the

jihadi group's North African affiliate, was the furthest yet from its traditional desert base. Authorities in Ivory Coast and neighboring Mali have arrested a number of suspects since the attack. Ivory Coast's military prosecutor Colonel Ange Kessi said the soldiers were not accused of participating directly in the Grand Bassam plot. "The two soldiers knew certain members

of the unit that attacked the beach in Grand Bassam and did not signal that to their hierarchy, which is a serious offence under the military code of justice," he said.

They are due to stand trial at the end of August, Kessi added. The attack in Grand Bassam, during which gunmen shot swimmers and sunbathers before storming into several hotels, also harmed French-speak-

ing West Africa's largest economy, a rising star on the continent.

AQIM has killed dozens of people in a series of attacks against high-profile civilian targets in Mali, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast since late last year. It says they are intended as revenge for a 2013 French-led intervention against Islamist groups in Mali. — Reuters

## UN ENVOY EYES RESUMPTION OF SYRIA TALKS IN AUGUST

**GENEVA:** UN mediator Staffan de Mistura yesterday called on Moscow and Washington to push for a resumption of Syrian peace talks, which he hoped could resume next month.

De Mistura told reporters in Geneva he wanted to "ensure that we have enough, sufficient, critical mass in order to give a sufficient chance for a concrete and effective beginning of the third round of the intra-Syrian talks."

The talks "have a target date of August," de Mistura said. "These talks ... are meant to be a credible beginning of a roadmap towards a political transition, so they need to be well-prepared," he said.

De Mistura, who had previously spoken about resuming the talks in July, made his comments as US Secretary of State John Kerry was on his way to Moscow for talks with President Vladimir Putin and test his commitment to the stalled Syrian peace process.

Washington and Moscow have backed a roadmap that calls for a nationwide ceasefire and Geneva-based talks on "political transition." But there has been little progress towards a hoped-for resumption of talks this month, and the prospects for a political transition beginning by August, as laid out in the road map, now appear slim.

De Mistura pointed to the partial ceasefire that Moscow and Washington brokered for Syria in February, saying that when the two "agree on something ... that helps a lot the political process and even the humanitarian process." De Mistura said he hoped Washington and Moscow could help reduce the "non-constructive ambiguity" surrounding the Al-Nusra Front.

Like the Islamic State group, the Al-Nusra Front is defined as a terrorist group by the UN Security Council, but is not party to the much-breached ceasefire. That ambiguity, he said, "has been one of the main problems for the sustainability of the cessation of hostilities." — AFP

## PREPARATION VITAL FOR SUCCESSFUL ARAB SUMMIT

**CAIRO:** The Arab League has stressed the importance of thorough preparation to hold a successful 27th Arab summit in Nouakchott on July 25.

The League's General Secretariat is exerting great efforts to prepare the summit's agenda of main issues facing the Arab World, said Assistant Secretary General for Financial and Administrative Affairs Adnan AlKhudair in a press statement on Thursday.

Preparative meetings will commence on July 20, said Al-Khudair, adding that the meetings will involve officials of the Economic and Social Council, permanent representatives and foreign ministers. — KUNA

## SAUDI KING LEAVES ON HOLIDAY, CROWN PRINCE TO MANAGE AFFAIRS

**DUBAI:** Saudi Arabia's King Salman left the country on holiday yesterday and appointed the crown prince to manage the kingdom's affairs in his absence, state news agency SPA reported.

The statement did not say where King Salman, 80, was travelling or how long he would be absent for. In April 2015 Salman appointed his 56-year-old nephew,

Mohammed bin Nayef, as crown prince and made his young son, Mohammed bin Salman, second in line to rule, a major shift in power towards two princes who have overseen a more assertive stance at a time of regional turmoil. — Reuters



**DAMASCUS:** Syrian official news agency SANA, Syrian President Bashar Assad, left, speaks during an interview with American network NBC News yesterday. — AP

## SYRIA'S ASSAD SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW WHO KILLED MARIE COLVIN LAWSUIT PENDING

**BEIRUTL:** Syrian President Bashar Assad denied in comments aired yesterday that his forces targeted US-born journalist Marie Colvin, a veteran correspondent for The Times who was killed in Syria in 2012, adding that he does not know how she died.

In an interview with NBC News, Assad was asked to comment on a lawsuit filed by Colvin's relatives in US federal court claiming that Syrian government officials targeted and killed Colvin to silence her reporting on Syria and the besieged central city of Homs. "Nobody knows if she (was) killed by missile, or which missile, and where did the missile come from, or how. No one has any evidence," Assad said.

The Syrian president said Colvin entered Syria illegally and "worked with the terrorists," adding that the government cannot be responsible for those who enter the country illegally. Assad's government uses the term "terrorist" for all armed opposition fighters and militants battling his forces, whether they are Western-backed rebels or al-Qaida and other Islamic fighters.

The lawsuit filed last week said Syrian officials launched a rocket attack on a makeshift broadcast studio in a neighborhood of Homs on February 22, 2012,

killing Colvin, along with French photojournalist Remi Ochlik.

Just hours before her death, the 56-year-old Colvin, a native of New York City, had filed another report on the Syrian government's crackdown and its impact on civilians.

The wrongful-death lawsuit filed Saturday in Washington by the Center for Justice and Accountability on behalf of Cathleen Colvin, Marie Colvin's sister,

and Justine Araya-Colvin, the reporter's niece, said the Assad government "hunted down journalists and media activists" who were trying to tell the story of the government's deadly crackdown on Syrian rebels. The Syrian government has contended that its attacks targeted "terrorists." "When you're caught in crossfire somewhere, you cannot tell who killed who ... these are all allegations," Assad said. — AP

## EMIRATI GETS 3-MONTH PRISON SENTENCE OVER INSTAGRAM INSULT

**DUBAI:** A state-owned newspaper in the United Arab Emirates is reporting that an Emirati man has received a three-month prison sentence and a fine after being convicted of insulting his brother on Instagram.

The Arabic-language newspaper Al Etihad reported on Thursday that the man's brother became upset after finding his photo on his brother's Instagram account with an expletive as the caption.

The newspaper says the unidenti-

fied defendant also must pay a 250,000-dirham (\$68,000) fine under the sentence from the Khor Fakkan Court of Misdemeanors. The newspaper says the defendant planned to appeal.

While liberal compared to much of the Middle East, the UAE has tough cybercrime and slander laws under which people can be arrested, imprisoned and deported for taking photographs without the consent of those shown or being insulting. — AP



## INDIA FIRM GIFTS TRUMP 6,000 TEA BAGS TO CLEANSE HIS SOUL

**NEW DELHI:** An Indian company yesterday said it had sent 6,000 green tea bags to White House hopeful Donald Trump, believing they would help him to become "smarter" and cleanse his soul.

The unusual gift—which equals four years supply if drunk four times a day—was from Kolkata-based Te-a-Me Teas, its executive director Sumit Shah told AFP.

Shah also said the company had set up a website where people could tweet a message to Trump and urge him to drink the tea daily. "We firmly believe green tea can do a lot of good to people. We thought green tea will help him (Trump) cleanse his mind, body and soul," he said. "Green tea is also proven to make people smarter. So our message is, please Mr Trump drink the tea. For your sake, for America's sake, for the world's sake."

Trump, a political novice and a real estate tycoon, has riled critics with his radical views on Muslims and immigrants during an often vitriolic presidential campaign. Next week, Trump is set to be formally nominated to run against his Democratic rival, former secretary of state Hillary Clinton.

The Indian tea company said it wanted to instill responsible leadership among famous personalities across the world and denied the move was a publicity gimmick. "We don't even sell in the US. I guess with Trump it's just about the timing (of our gesture)," Shah said. — AFP

## PAKISTAN TO EXECUTE 12 'HARDCORE TERRORISTS'

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan is to execute a dozen "hardcore terrorists" for killing civilians and troops, the army said in a statement Thursday. It said the men were members of the Pakistani Taliban and the sectarian militant group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and that the 12 were tried and convicted by military courts.

Attacks on law enforcement agencies and schools were among the "heinous offences" committed by the men, the statement added.

Pakistan reinstated the death penalty and established military courts as part of a crackdown after suffering its deadliest ever extremist attack, when gunmen stormed a school in the northwest in 2014 leaving more than 150 people dead.

Rights activists have criticized a surge in hangings since the moratorium was lifted—with Pakistan becoming the world's third most prolific executioner in 2015 — and have complained that military trials are neither transparent nor fair. — AFP

## TRUMP TO NAME INDIANA GOV PENCE AS RUNNING MATE

**WASHINGTON:** Republican White House hopeful Donald Trump will name Indiana Governor Mike Pence as his vice presidential running mate today, Roll Call news site reported, a choice that would help the New York businessman appeal to conservatives and could boost his chances in a competitive state.

Roll Call on Thursday cited an unidentified Republican with direct knowledge of the decision to choose Pence, 57, a former US congressman. Reuters has not confirmed the report. — Reuters

# PAKISTAN MILITANT WARNS OF KASHMIR VIOLENCE

**LAHORE:** The founder of Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba warned in an exclusive interview with The Associated Press that violence in Indian-ruled Kashmir will escalate.

Hafiz Saeed, designated a terrorist by the United States with a \$10 million bounty on his head, also said he will lead nationwide demonstrations in Pakistan to force its government to sever ties with the United States if it cannot convince Washington to intervene in the decades old Kashmir dispute.

The U.S.-declared terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba is suspected of carrying out the 2008 Mumbai terror attack and was banned in Pakistan in 2015 but Saeed, who leads its charity arm in Pakistan, travels freely and gives speeches inciting people to attack Western and Indian interests. Indian government has long demanded Islamabad arrest Saeed.

Militants are demanding that the Himalayan state of Kashmir, which is divided between India and Pakistan be united either under Pakistani rule or as an independent country.

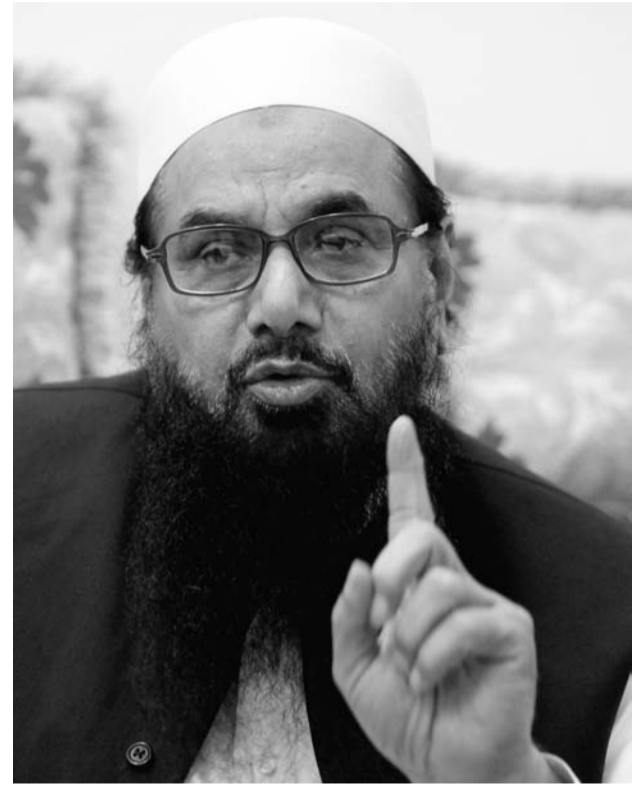
At least 31 people have been killed in Kashmir amid recent street protests after Indian troops last week killed Burhan Wani, a charismatic Kashmiri insurgent. "America is supporting this oppression by India by saying it is an internal matter," Saeed said in the interview, which took place on Wednesday at his home in the eastern city of Lahore. "This has given India encouragement and because of this the killings and violence" will continue.

A Pakistani national, Ajmal Amir Kasab, was the only person arrested in the Mumbai attacks. Kasab testified that he received training at a Lashkar-e-Taiba camp in Muridke, located outside Lahore, where Saeed now lives.

Kasab, who was hanged in India in 2012 for his part in the attacks, also said Saeed was among the inspirational speakers that would visit the training camp.

India has repeatedly demanded Pakistan arrest Saeed but when he has been detained, his incarceration has been brief and Pakistani courts, including its Supreme Court has cleared him of terrorism charges

"Many times I have been arrested on the order of America



**LAHORE:** Hafiz Saeed, leader of Pakistani religious group talks to The Associated Press. — AP

and India . . . (but) the Lahore high court freed me and also my organization saying we were innocent of terrorism charges and did not participate in any terrorist activities," said Saeed. — AP

# BREXITEERS TAKE CONTROL IN BRITAIN'S NEW CABINET

**LONDON:** The appointment of leading Brexit campaigners to her new government emphasizes Prime Minister Theresa May's commitment to pulling Britain out of the EU, despite her own reservations, analysts said yesterday. Taking office three weeks after the vote to leave the bloc, May, who campaigned to stay in the EU, installed "Leave" leader Boris Johnson as foreign minister, despite his history of diplomatic gaffes.

"His appointment is a gamble," said Peter Snowdon, a long-time observer of the ruling Conservative party who co-authored a book on May's predecessor, David Cameron. "She sees him as the frontman of the 'Leave' campaign and also she sees his popularity—even if he is a divisive figure," he said. With EU leaders pressing for a clear timetable on exiting the bloc, May has created a new ministerial job dedicated to Brexit, which she handed to eurosceptic lawmaker David Davis. Another headline critic of the EU, Liam Fox, becomes minister for international trade, reflecting the need to forge new alliances if Britain leaves the EU single market.

The two men are "unlikely to tolerate any backsliding on the promise that 'Brexit means Brexit,'" said Mark Wallace, executive editor of the Tory website Conservative Home. "There will be

Remainers at the top of government," he wrote in a commentary, noting that May's new finance minister Philip Hammond campaigned alongside her to stay in the EU. "These appointments show that true 'Leavers' will be alongside them with specific power over the process of escaping the EU—good news for the 17.4 million voters" who chose Brexit and want to ensure it "really happens".

Nigel Farage, the former leader of the anti-European UK Independence Party (UKIP), said the choice of Fox and Davis was "inspired". He had previously voiced fears that the government might try to renege on the popular vote but said: "I feel more optimistic now." By dividing up responsibility for Brexit, however, Snowdon said May had ensured she could keep overall control. "I suspect May will take a firm grip of her ministers and will lead the strategy," he said. "She will be delegating to such an extent that she will retain the overall direction."

### Containing Boris

The return of Johnson, a charismatic but divisive figure who had seemed finished after pulling out of the race to replace Cameron at the last minute, stunned onlookers. But Simon Usherwood, senior politics lecturer at

the University of Surrey, said it could be a canny move. "May has taken the emblematic Brexiteer and stuck him in a position that plays to his strengths, while also limiting his capacity to cause trouble, either for the UK or for May," he wrote in a blog posting.

In her speech on entering Downing Street, May promised to promote social justice, reflecting the fact that many voters who backed Brexit feel left behind in modern Britain. The departure of George Osborne, Cameron's finance minister for the past six years and an aggressive campaigner for the "Remain" camp, is another boost for the Brexit camp.

May now faces the tough job of extricating Britain from its 43-year membership of the EU. She is under pressure from EU leaders to quickly begin the formal exit process, but she has yet to reveal her timetable. She had said it would not happen until next year. May spoke to the German and French leaders on the phone late Wednesday, and will "probably have informal discussions with other heads of state", Snowdon said. "She doesn't like to rush into decision, she listens to everybody, that was her style of leadership in the interior ministry—there is no reason to change," he said. — AFP

## TOKYO GOVERNOR RACE A FIGHT TO SAVE REPUTATION AS OLYMPICS HOST

**TOKYO:** Campaigning ahead of an election for Tokyo governor kicked off on yesterday, with candidates vying to save the city's reputation as host of the 2020 Summer Olympics after the previous two governors quit due to money scandals.

The June resignation of Yoichi Masuzoe, the second governor to quit after Tokyo won hosting rights in 2013, came just as the Japanese capital ramped up preparations to host the games with barely four years left.

The July 31 poll pits Japan's first female defense minister against a competent but colorless ex-bureaucrat backed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ruling party and a well-known liberal journalist supported by four opposition parties, along with a slate of less-known candidates.

Though the sprawling city of some 13.5 million must deal with an aging society and preparations for a possible earthquake many say is overdue, a major topic at a Tuesday news conference was the Olympics, which Japan hopes to use as a driver for its sluggish economy.

One of the first duties of the new governor will be to accept the Olympic flag in Rio de Janeiro. "Politics and money, a very old problem, arose again, leaving Tokyo leaderless at a time when it faces many issues," said candidate Hiroya Masuda, a former cabinet minister backed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's ruling Liberal Democratic Party. "The first growth strategy I wish to promote is the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. We have stumbled just at the start and need to speed up our preparations."

Yuriko Koike, a former defense and environment minister also running for governor, said the ballooning financial burden of the games, and who will bear it, must be clarified. "The Olympics are right in front of us. I want to use them as a chance to build a new Tokyo for beyond 2020," she added.

Political commentator Atsuo Ito said the poll may also be one of the first indications of how voters feel after Sunday's upper house election, which gave Abe's coalition and allies the two-thirds majority needed to revise the nation's pacifist constitution, a controversial move.

"It's not quite like the UK (Brexit) referendum, but I think a lot of people are annoyed with the result - and this is the first chance to measure their feelings," he said.—Reuters



**TOKYO:** Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) speaks to the media prior to his departure to Mongolia, at Tokyo's Haneda airport.—AFP



**HONG KONG:** Pro-Beijing protesters shout slogans against the United States supporting an international court ruling of the South China Sea outside the US Consulate yesterday.—AP

## EU'S SILENCE ON SOUTH CHINA SEA RULING HIGHLIGHTS INNER DISCORD

### FEARFUL OF ALIENATING

**BRUSSELS:** European governments are torn over how to respond to China's defeat in a legal battle over the South China Sea, fearful of alienating their second-largest trading partner and hampered by a maritime dispute among their own members.

China angrily vowed to ignore the ruling by a court in The Hague dismissing its claim to much of the South China Sea. Its envoy to Washington said the verdict would "intensify conflict and even confrontation", though he also said Beijing remained committed to negotiations in disputes over the vital trade route.

Despite US pressure on the European Union to take a stand on the issue, the bloc has so far been unable to agree a common statement, leaving diplomats to argue over the wording acceptable to all 28 member states.

The EU says it takes no position in the dispute between China and the Philippines, whose accusation that Beijing has violated its economic and sovereign rights was upheld in Tuesday's ruling by a five-judge tribunal under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

But the EU remains concerned by China's militarization of islands and reefs in the South China Sea, through which \$5 trillion in global trade passes every year. It says it wants to see international

law upheld. A maritime dispute between EU members Slovenia and Croatia has hampered the bloc's response. Croatia pulled out of an arbitration process in 2015 at the same court that ruled on the South China Sea case, the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). Croatia wants no mention of UNCLOS in the final statement, leaving other governments frustrated just as senior EU officials head to a summit of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) in Mongolia on Friday, wanting a common position. "We should be able to say that the finding of an international tribunal should be respected," said one diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity because discussions were still underway. "This is not about apportioning blame."

#### Lucrative contracts

Adding to the difficulties, eastern European countries including Hungary have been heavily lobbied by China in recent months. Beijing has offered lucrative contracts and investment in return for supporting the Chinese position on issues ranging from the South China Sea to Beijing's bid to be treated more favourably in trade disputes with Brussels, diplomats say.

Britain and France have been most vocal in calling on China not to escalate tensions in the area, diplomats say. However, British diplomats in Brussels

have taken a lower profile since Britons voted last month to leave the European Union, they say.

Such divisions leave the EU looking timid to speak up for international maritime order and could undermine its standing, some analysts say.

Even though a statement may eventually come, the wording has been significantly watered down in meetings over the past few days, and top EU officials largely side-stepped the issue at an EU-China summit in Beijing this week.

At stake for the EU are China's long-awaited investment in the bloc's new infrastructure fund, negotiations to curtail Beijing's production in steel that European industry says is destroying local jobs and efforts to win European companies greater freedom to invest in China. While Donald Tusk, head of the European Council which represents national governments, did mention the issue in public remarks in Beijing, EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini was careful to say the bloc did not take a stance on sovereignty in South China Sea, although she also urged all countries to respect UNCLOS rulings.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker kept the focus of his public remarks firmly on deepening investment ties and seeking to resolve the issue of steel overproduction.—Reuters

## PHILIPPINE ARMY KILLS 11 MUSLIM REBELS GIRL CAUGHT IN A CROSSFIRE

**MANILA:** Philippine soldiers yesterday killed 11 members of a Muslim guerrilla faction, an army commander said, underscoring volatility in the resource-rich south of the country as a new government seeks ways to end decades of conflict.

Troops battled rebels of the small but violent Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters for

hours on Mindanao island and a 15 year-old girl was caught in crossfire and killed, said Colonel Cirilito Sobejana. "It's very unfortunate," Sobejana told reporters. "In every war, there's really collateral damage. We cannot yet establish whose side had killed the girl."

Sobejana said army helicopters attacked the rebels with rockets and 19 of them were

wounded. On the government side, he said two soldiers were wounded. The largely Christian Philippines has for decades been plagued by insurgencies by Muslim rebels in its southern islands.

The government signed a peace deal with the biggest Muslim rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), in 2014 but

clashes still occur with smaller groups, such as the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, which broke away from the MILF in 2008.

The peace pact with the MILF has yet to be concluded and new President Rodrigo Duterte has been trying to bring together all factions to promote a broad peace in the south.—Reuters

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

# Lifestyle

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Friday Times

This file picture shows costumed performers dressed as Pikachu, the popular animation Pokemon series character, attending a promotional event at the Yokohama Dance Parade in Yokohama. With Pokemon-mania sweeping the planet, Nintendo's nascent shift into mobile gaming has proved a massive hit, vindicating the Japanese videogame giant's decision to unshackle itself from a long-standing consoles-only policy.— AFP

## Unique, Roman-era mosaic of Hercules' Labors to go to museum

## Coconuts over Coconuts

If you've been following me for a bit, you'll definitely know how much I love this fruit. I am, hands down, one of its biggest supporters. This article will help you understand how you can work this miracle fruit into your diet, your health care, your skin and well, basically everything.

I love the extra virgin coconut oil. I used it on my body during pregnancy and now I use it on my baby Sasha as a after bath moisturizer. This oil is a light moisturizer and your skin absorbs it real quick. It contains Vitamin E which prevent premature aging and wrinkling of the skin. I use this oil as a leave in conditioner from time to time and work it into my scalp to save my hair from all the damage I cause.

While the benefits of this oil for external use are countless, we also incorporate it into our diets. You should try scrambled eggs or stir fried vegetables in coconut oil. It is delicious. It definitely adds the extra flavor to your recipes. Another great habit is of drinking coconut water to stay hydrated. Ladies, if you all are into those smoothie diets, please use coconut water or coconut milk in your smoothies to make them extra delicious. If you are lactose intolerant, you have Coconut milk (lite) to the rescue.

Coconut water is rich in potassium and has been trending lately as a natural sports drink but make sure you're buying one without any added sugar. It is perfect for staying hydrated during light workouts. There are other ways you can include coconut into your diets, such as coconut flour for baking and coconut flakes that can be included into your cereal bowl or just for a little light snacking. I haven't tried it but heard positive feedbacks from those who have. If you like pancakes, I'd suggest looking in how coconut syrup is made start including this syrup with every dessert you have.

Coconut flour is known to have health benefits for people who suffer from diabetes so they can have their dessert with a little less guilt. If you believe in aroma therapy, the fragrance of coconut is known to slower your heart rate, helping you de-stress as this scent blunts your natural "fight or flight" response. The fragrance reminds me of summer, so, stock up on those coconut scented candles and essential oils. Have I gone too overboard with coconuts? I can't really help it, it is one of those miracle fruits that's natural and abundant!



In this file photo, singer Alicia Keys performs at the Italian State RAI TV program "Che Tempo che Fa, in Milan, Italy. — AP photos



Actress Taraji P. Henson accepts the Lucy Award for Excellence in Television at the Women in Film 2016 Crystal + Lucy Awards at the Beverly Hilton.

## Keys calls on famous friends to star in racial justice video

Alicia Keys and a host of other stars, including Beyoncé, Bono, Rihanna, Taraji P. Henson and Chris Rock, appear in a powerful video released Wednesday that describes "23 ways you could be killed if you are black in America." The video made the social media rounds after its release on Mic.com, spawning its own hashtag, 23Ways, and thousands of shares and comments. In black and white, it juxtaposes 23 artists with photos of 23 black victims of violence, with each star noting the acts that led to their deaths, mainly after interactions with police.

Many of the deaths led to intense anger and frustration among African-Americans, and kicked off protests that grew into the Black Lives Matter movement. In an interview Wednesday, Keys said she was inspired by a Mic.com story earlier this month written by Jamilah King under the headline: "23 Everyday Actions Punishable by Death if You're Black in America." It was written after Alton Sterling was killed by police in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, after an altercation caught on video by a bystander. The story's approach, listing everyday things like laughing, sitting in your car, attending a birthday party, was Keys' call to action.

"It was just so powerful because it was all just so trivial," she said. "I just felt so devastated and frustrated and angry, saddened and disappointed. Those are the same feelings that we all feel." Keys said it was easy to round up enough of her famous artist friends to hit the 23 mark. "Each and every person I reached out to responded so quickly," she said. "They were feeling exactly how I'm feeling and they were just ready." Keys begins the video with, "Failing to signal a lane change," followed by a photo of Sandra Bland, who died in jail after being stopped by police during a traffic stop (authorities ruled it a suicide). Beyoncé is next up with, "Riding in your girlfriend's car with a child in the back," and an image appears of Philando Castile, who was shot by police last week in Minnesota; his girlfriend livestreamed the aftermath.

Rock stares into the camera to say, "Running to the bathroom in your own apartment," followed by the face of Ramarley Graham, an 18-year-old shot in the Bronx by a police officer in 2012. Pink, Bono, Janelle Monáe, Adam Levine, Common, Queen Latifah, Kevin Hart, Jada Pinkett Smith, Jennifer Hudson and Keys' husband Swizz Beatz are among the other artists to appear. Keys and her We Are Here organization call at the end of the video for signatures on a petition demanding President Barack Obama and Congress to work for "radical transformation to heal the long history of systemic racism so that all Americans have the equal right to live and to pursue happiness." In a few hours, the online petition had nearly 50,000 signatures. "When we get 100,000 we're going to walk that petition directly to the White House," Keys said. "I'm going to get as many as those 23 as possible." — AP



In this file photo, Rihanna arrives at the Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas.

## David Bowie's private art collection to go on display and sale

David Bowie's private art collection, including works by Henry Moore and Damien Hirst, will go on display to the public for the first time before heading for auction later this year, Sotheby's said yesterday. The "Bowie/Collector" three-part sale in November will feature around 400 items from the pop icon's private collection and is seen fetching "in excess of 10 million pounds" (\$13.24 million), a spokeswoman for the auction house said. Bowie, who died aged 69 in January, straddled the worlds of music, fashion, drama and art for five decades, and was known for some of the most innovative songs of his generation. However his art collector side "was something he kept almost entirely hidden from public view", Sotheby's said.

"Eclectic, unscripted, understated: David Bowie's collection offers a unique insight into the personal world of one of the 20th century's greatest creative spirits," Oliver Barker, Sotheby's Europe chairman, said in a statement. Among works to be featured is late American artist Jean-Michel Basquiat's "Air Power" painting, estimated between 2.5 million and 3.5 million pounds, and Hirst's kaleidoscopic "Beautiful, Shattering, Slashing, Violent, Pinky, Hacking, Sphincter Painting", seen fetching 250,000-350,000 pounds.

There are also sculptures and design furniture, including a 1960s record player by Italian brothers Achille and Pier Giacomo Castiglioni. The collection will be exhibited at Sotheby's galleries in London in early November. Before that, the auction house will hold previews around the world. —Reuters



This file photo shows Axl Rose of US hard rock band Guns N' Roses performing during a concert in Bangalore. — AFP

## Guns N' Roses expand reunion tour to Latin America

**G**uns N' Roses, whose key members Axl Rose and Slash have reunited after two decades, announced Wednesday they were taking their long-in-the-making tour to Latin America. The hard rock legends, on one of the highest-profile summer tours of the United States and Canada, announced 10 shows in Latin America starting on October 27 at the vast Estadio Monumental in Lima, Peru. Guns N' Roses will play five dates in cities across Brazil and one show each in Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Costa Rica, where the tour will end at San Jose's National Stadium on November 26.

The concerts notably include a November 4 show at the River Plate Stadium in Buenos Aires—the scene of the last concert of the band in July 1993 before Slash and Rose parted ways. The band said on its website that more dates in Latin America were in the works. Guns N' Roses already played two

dates in Mexico City in April at the start of the reunion, which included southern California's Coachella festival. The schedule allows Rose to complete the North American tour of AC/DC, where he has replaced longtime singer Brian Johnson who was told he risked permanent hearing damage if he kept performing.

Guns N' Roses burst on the international scene with 1987's "Appetite for Destruction," which remains the top-selling debut album in history, as fans took to Rose's raw anger and Slash's intricate guitar. But personality conflicts long riveted the band and Slash and Rose had refused lucrative offers to reunite until this year. Izzy Stradlin, the rhythm guitarist and writer of some of the band's best-known songs, has declined to participate in the reunion. — AFP

## Zoe Saldana blasts Bond writer over Idris Elba snub

**U**S actress Zoe Saldana launched a four-letter tirade Wednesday apparently aimed at James Bond writer Anthony Horowitz, after the novelist said Idris Elba was "too street" to play the fictional spy. Saldana, 38, who appears with Elba in the upcoming "Star Trek Beyond," described English mystery writer Horowitz as a "coward" and a "hypocrite" over the comments made in a newspaper interview last year. "What kind of ignorant comment to make is that? Just say 'I don't see James Bond as a black man.' I would respect that more than hiding behind some cowardly, stupid answer," Saldana said in an interview with AFP.

Saldana, in Los Angeles to promote the latest installment of the "Star Trek" franchise which opens in the United States on July 22, said she was angered by the comments by "one of the writers" of Bond that Elba was "thuggish." She didn't name him, but was almost certainly referring to 61-year-old Horowitz, who was commissioned by the estate of Bond creator Ian Fleming to write the 2015 novel "Trigger Mortis."

Horowitz was asked in an interview published by Britain's Daily Mail in August last year for his thoughts on 43-year-old Elba, the favorite at the time to replace outgoing Bond actor Daniel Craig. "For me, Idris Elba is a bit too rough to play the part. It's not a color issue. I think he is probably a bit too street for Bond. Is it a question of being suave? Yeah," he was quoted as saying. — AFP



This file photo shows US actress Zoe Saldana attending the European premiere of the film "Guardians of the Galaxy" in central London. — AFP

## Ex-boyfriend blasts Taylor Swift after song revelation

**W**hen Taylor Swift and Calvin Harris—two of the biggest names in music—split up, they tried to keep their breakup amicable. No longer. Harris on Wednesday denounced his ex-girlfriend as a bully after it was revealed that she co-wrote his recent hit "This Is What You Came For," which features Rihanna on vocals. "I figure if you're happy in your new relationship you should focus on that instead of trying to tear your ex bf down for something to do," the Scottish DJ wrote on Twitter, alluding to Swift's blossoming romance with English actor Tom Hiddleston.

Harris also hit a potential sore spot by referring to Swift's famed bad blood with fellow US pop superstar Katy Perry. "I know you're off tour and you need someone new to try and bury like Katy ETC but I'm not that guy, sorry. I won't allow it," he tweeted. "This Is What You Came For," featuring Harris' signature house music sound with a tropical touch, was credited as written by him with "Nils Sjoberg." Several celebrity news outlets quoted Swift's representatives as saying she actually co-wrote the song but did not want to be identified so their relationship would not overshadow the song.

The song may have triggered the break-up, gossip site TMZ said, as Swift became angry when Harris told an interviewer he had never discussed collaborating with his then-girlfriend. They announced their break-up several days later. Harris appeared polite at the time, saying "a huge amount of love and respect" remained between them. Swift has been spotted around the world with Hiddleston in the past month. The theater actor went on to appear in Marvel Comics films such as "Thor" and "The Avengers" as well as Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris." As for the real Nils Sjoberg, a man by the name who works at a hotel in Gothenburg, Sweden told the New York Post that he had no problem with being credited on the song. — AFP



This file photo shows Calvin Harris attending the 2015 Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada. — AFP



## 1960's icon Jane Birkin to be celebrated by Locarno Film Festival

**J**ane Birkin, the British actress, singer and muse known for roles in films by Michelangelo Antonioni, Jean-Luc Godard, and Agnes Varda, among others - as well as for the Birkin Bag by Hermes - will be celebrated by the upcoming Locarno Film Festival. Birkin, who is 69, is expected to attend the Swiss fest dedicated to indie and auteur cinema which in a statement hailed her as "a transgressive voice, persona and epitome of panache in the 1960s." Her career took off when she was 20 with Antonioni's "Blow Up," in which she played a nude model.

Followed films with Jacques Rivette, Godard, Varda, and Alain Resnais, among others. Birkin is also famous for her 1969 duet with Serge Gainsbourg, her husband at the time, in worldwide hit, "Je t'aime... moi non plus." The song segued into a film with the same title, directed by Gainsbourg. The Locarno tribute will comprise screenings of a new short in which Birkin stars titled "La femme et le TGV," by young Swiss director

Timo von Gunten; of Birkin-directed "Boxes" in which she also appears alongside Geraldine Chaplin and Michel Piccoli; and 1980 incest drama La fille prodigue ("The Prodigal Daughter") by Jacques Doillon, her second husband.

New York's Film Society of Lincoln Center earlier this year paid tribute to Birkin with the "Jane and Charlotte Forever," screenings series which celebrated her acting career and the career of her daughter, Charlotte Gainsbourg. Earlier this month Birkin was forced to cancel a planned July 9 concert with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra in Shanghai, after being denied a Chinese visa. While authorities reportedly gave no explanation, it is believed that she was denied entry into China because of her activism in fighting human rights abuses. Birkin is a member of Amnesty International and the International Human Rights Federation. The 69th edition of Locarno will run August 3-13. — Reuters

Men's Fashion Week



The Gypsy Sport 2016 collection is modeled during Men's Fashion Week in New York, Tuesday, July 12, 2016. — AP photos

Reach for a skirt for the holiday party circuit

Are you confused what to wear in holiday parties and that inevitable task of trying to make your wardrobe stretch without breaking the bank on fancy dresses you'll wear rarely the rest of the year. Why not turn to skirt dressing instead? "Skirts are definitely happening for cocktail dressing," said Meg Cuna, the fashion expert at the style site Popsugar. "It's a less traditional way to dress for the holidays but it gives you so many more options and combinations to work with." Look no further than Kim Kardashian and other influencers, including Lydia Hearst and Alexa Chung, for ways to elevate a skirt. "Skirts are great way to get the most variations out of your holiday party pieces," said Connie Wang, fashion features director at Refinery29.

Some tips on how to dress up a skirt for the holidays:

Mix and match

Wang suggests wearing a stiffer skirt on top of a flowier dress. Try a slim pencil in a below-the-knee style over a slip dress. "It's a creative way to layer. Or cinch a longer-length skirt and a fitted top together with a wide Wonder Woman-style belt for a femme fatale silhouette," she said. Last year's peplum-style skirts and high-low hemlines have been replaced by long, sinewy silhouettes like the below-the-knee pencil, long, fringed styles and pleated, asymmetrical crepe skirts, Wang added.

"Wear them with high-necked cropped shirts or an off-the-shoulder blouse and your flashiest shoes," she said. Or pair a mini skirt with a feminine blouse that has a bow at the neck and wear a

killer pair of sky high boots, Cuna suggests. Go for prints, and pay attention to fabric. Choose silk, brocade, lace or cashmere touches, she said.

Simple elegance

Skirts can lend a simple elegance over the bling of a beaded or sequined cocktail dress. There's a '70s vibe that plays on fabrics over embellishments. "I'm sort of loving the feminine skirts and the cozy tops, especially when it's starting to get a little chilly out," Hearst said. For cocktails, Chung added: "I'd wear a leather pencil skirt and I'd wear some kind of big frilly blouse and a stiletto."

Elongate the look

Ken Downing, fashion director and senior vice president of Neiman Marcus, said you can't go wrong by lowering hems. "I really love a maxi and I love a midi this season. I think that a longer hemline looks really good to the eye. Something that has a little bit more fluidity is really the news," he said. Where your hem falls "depends on what legs you've got," Chung said. "A mini skirt's wonderful if you want to feel racy. I'm 32 and the hemlines are getting lower."

Accessories are key

Downing is a fan of chunky heeled boots. "I like to see the leg covered right now," he said. If sparkle is what you're after, try a

sequin knit skirt with bright crystal jewelry. "Crystal jewelry for day looks so chic," Downing said. If you're looking for focus, glamorize from the waist up. Wear a gray flannel suit skirt with suede boots and a top with a touch of embellishment. Scarves never go out of style. A skinny one with beads or fringe - looped once around the neck - can dress up a skirt outfit, Cuna said.

Individualize the look

There's freedom in skirt dressing, Chung said, and a slice of midriff is definitely on the table. "I don't believe in any limitations or rules, so if you're comfortable with showing some skin then go for it," she said. Grab a choker to dress up a skirt look, Cuna said. They don't have to cost a lot and come in metals, velvet, suede and an array of colors.

"It's nice to bring in some shine around your neck with everything from gold chains to wearing a statement piece," she said. "We really love a pair of statement earrings right now. Just comb your hair back in a really simple low ponytail and let a pair of giant, sparkly earrings be the centerpiece of your look." — AP

# Israel find may help solve mystery of biblical Philistines

An archaeological discovery announced in Israel may help solve an enduring biblical mystery: Where did the ancient Philistines come from? The Philistines left behind plenty of pottery. But part of the mystery surrounding the ancient people was that very little biological trace of them had been found - until 2013. That's when archaeologists excavating the site of the biblical city of Ashkelon found what they say is the first Philistine cemetery ever discovered. They say they have uncovered the remains of more than 200 people there.

The discovery was finally unveiled Sunday at the close of a 30-year excavation by the Leon Levy Expedition, a team of archaeologists from Harvard University, Boston College, Wheaton College in Illinois and Troy University in Alabama. The team is now performing DNA, radiocarbon and other tests on bone samples uncovered at the cemetery, dating back to between the 11th and the 8th centuries BC, to help resolve a debate about the Philistines' geographical origins. The archaeologists have not announced any conclusions, saying they are taking advantage of recent advances in DNA testing to get the most accurate results.

"After decades of studying what Philistines left behind, we have finally come face to face with the people themselves," said Daniel M. Master, professor of archaeology at Wheaton College and one of the leaders of the excavation. "With this discovery we are close to unlock-



ing the secrets of their origins." A few human remains at Philistine sites had been discovered in past years, but they provided too small a sample to draw conclusions, he added. The archaeologists kept the discovery a secret for three years until the end of their dig because of a unique hazard of archaeology in modern-day Israel: they did not want to attract ultra-Orthodox Jewish protesters, Master said.

#### Religious prohibition

"We had to bite our tongues for a long time," Master said. In the past, the ultra-Orthodox have staged demonstrations at excavations where

human remains are found, arguing that the remains could be Jewish and that disturbing them would violate a religious prohibition. The Leon Levy Expedition itself faced ultra-Orthodox demonstrators in the 1990s, during the excavation of a Canaanite burial site. In the Bible, the Philistines are depicted as the ancient Israelites' archenemy, a foreign people who migrated from lands to the west and settled in five main cities in Philistia, in today's southern Israel and the Gaza Strip.

The most famous Philistine was Goliath, the fearsome warrior who was slain by a young King David. The Philistines' legacy lives on in the

name Palestine, the term the Romans gave to the region in the 2nd century, and which is used today by Palestinians. Archaeologists and biblical scholars have long believed the Philistines came from the Aegean region, based on pottery found in excavations of Philistine sites. But scholars have debated where exactly in the Aegean region the Philistines came from: Mainland Greece, the islands of Crete or Cyprus, or even Anatolia, in modern-day Turkey.

The bones might hold the answers, said archaeologist Yossi Garfinkel, an Israeli expert on the period who did not participate in the dig. He called the cemetery find "a very significant discovery indeed." The excavation of the cemetery has also shed light on Philistine burial practices. The Philistines buried their dead with perfume bottles, placed near the face. Near the legs were jars that likely held oil, wine or food. In some cases, archaeologists found the dead were buried wearing necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and even toe rings. Some were buried with their weapons. "This is how Philistines treated their dead, and it's the code book to decoding everything," said archaeologist Adam Aja, a participant in the dig. Finds from the cemetery went on display Sunday in an Israel Museum exhibition held at the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum in Jerusalem. — AP



An archeologist sprays water on a mosaic depicting Hercules in the southern coastal city of Larnaca, Cyprus, yesterday. — AP photos



Journalists and archeologists cast shadows over the mosaic depicting Hercules.

## Unique, Roman-era mosaic of Hercules' Labors to go to museum

A newly uncovered Roman-era mosaic in Cyprus depicting Hercules' Labors will be transferred to a new, dedicated wing of a museum in the coastal town of Larnaca, where crews accidentally discovered it while working on the sewage system, a Cypriot official said yesterday. The 19 meter by 7 meter (62 foot by 23 foot) mosaic cannot stay in place because it would incur damage from water and the elements, communications minister Marios Demetriades said after visiting the site.

"It's a unique mosaic and we have to exhibit it in the most appropriate way," he said. The mosaic appears to be part of a baths complex, Antiquities Department Chief Marina Solomidou-Ieronymidou said, adding that it has five sections but only two have been fully uncovered. Crews may have to encroach on private property to unearth more of the baths complex. Solomidou-Ieronymidou said it's the first time that a mosaic has been discovered on the eastern Mediterranean island depicting the 12 Labors of Hercules, difficult tasks that the mythological

demi-god had to perform as penance for killing his wife and children when the goddess Hera made him temporarily insane.

The Antiquities Department says the mosaic's discovery offers important evidence that ancient Kition, on which modern-day Larnaca is built, played a significant role in the establishment of Roman culture in the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. Very few remains of Roman-era structures have been found in the city. Cyprus is also famed for floor mosaics from a 2nd-century AD Roman villa in the western coastal town of Paphos that featured the ancient Greek god of wine, Dionysos. Cyprus was under Roman control from 31 BC to the 4th century AD. Its earliest known inhabitants date back some 11,000 years ago. The island had been colonized by Mycenaean Greeks in the 11th century BC and had been ruled by the Assyrians, Egyptians, Persians, Byzantines, Lusignians, Venetians and Ottoman Turks. Cyprus gained independence from British rule in 1960. — AP

## Egypt displays oldest papyrus, accounts on pyramid-builders

The Egyptian Museum in Cairo has put on display the country's oldest papyruses, which date back 4,500 years, detailing the daily life of the pyramid-builders. The items are from the 4th Dynasty of King Khufu, or Cheops as he was also known, for whom the Great Pyramid of Giza was built as a tomb.

Egypt's Antiquities Minister Khaled El-Anany told reporters yesterday as the exhibition was unveiled that the papyruses were discovered in 2013 in the port of Wadi El-Jarf. The port is located 119 kilometers, or 74 miles, from the city of Suez. El-Anany says "these are the oldest" papyruses in Egypt. Museum chief Tarek Tawfiq says the papyruses depict the daily routine of the workers, who also transferred building material from the Red Sea port to Giza. — AP

# This microwaved version of **claypot fish** is healthy and delicious

By Melissa D'Arabian

**Y**ears ago I was traveling alone for work in New York City, and I popped into a random restaurant across the street from my hotel. I asked for a menu recommendation from my waiter, and he insisted on a claypot fish, a simple dish of cod, tomatoes, onion, potatoes and lemon baked in a small cazuela, or clay pot.

I was skeptical, but completely hooked at first bite: fresh, simple, comforting all at once. The veggies created a light aromatic broth that steamed the fish gently to delicate perfection. The simple meal was so good, in fact, that I went back the second night of my trip and ordered the exact same thing. In a city with more must-try restaurants than I could ever hope to visit, repeat visits mean something.

I've made various versions of claypot fish myself over the years, using cute

tapas-style dishes I bought while visiting Barcelona, and I've loved every one of them. I was exploring the (crazy?) idea of making uber-fast meals in the microwave, and immediately claypot fish came to mind: could a covered glass dish provide the right environment to quickly steam the fish correctly, and avoid the rubbery-results one might expect from a microwaved meal?

The short answer is yes! The trick is not to overcook the fish, even by a minute, so check the fish frequently. I use a glass dish, so admittedly it's missing the charm and earthy flavor of the cazuela, but this microwaved version of claypot fish is legit delicious. It's versatile (feel free to swap in some of your favorite ingredients or herbs), healthy, and full of vitamins and lean protein. Plus, anytime you can get dinner on the table in under 15 minutes is one less night you'll be tempted to swing by the drive-thru. And that is a huge win for both your health and your wallet.

## WEEKNIGHT CLAYPOT FISH



### Ingredients

Start to Finish: 15 minutes

Yield: 4 servings

1 pound fingerling potatoes

4 fillets of Dover sole, or other white fish, such as cod or flounder, about 1 pound

3 roma tomatoes, diced

3 tablespoons lemon juice

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 cloves garlic, minced

1/4 cup chopped red onion

2 tablespoons capers (or briny olives)

Chopped parsley, for garnish

### Preparation

Pierce the fingerling potatoes two or three times each with a fork and place in a glass microwave-safe dish with cover. Fill with enough water to cover about one-fourth the way up the potatoes (about 1/2 cup water) and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Microwave for 10 minutes. Potatoes should be firm but with some give. Season the fish fillets with a little salt and pepper and lay on top of the par-cooked potatoes. In a small bowl,

mix together the tomatoes, lemon juice, olive oil, garlic, onion and capers. Spoon on top of the fish. Cover and microwave for 5 minutes. Check for doneness - fish should be opaque. If not done, microwave for another minute or two, but check every thirty seconds. Let sit for a minute or two and then serve. Sprinkle with chopped parsley.

Nutrition information per serving: 273 calories; 88 calories from fat; 10g fat (2g saturated; 0g trans fats); 71mg cholesterol; 572mg sodium; 24g carbohydrate; 4g fiber; 3g sugar; 22g protein.—AP



# Water:

## The Fountain of Youth

By Aisha Al Zabin

Not a day goes by without my mother's voice in my head asking, "Are you drinking enough water?" The truth is - I have never liked the taste of plain water. I never drank more than a glass a day. My hydration came purely from coffee, juice and soda. You can imagine the state my skin was in as a teenager. I wouldn't get pimples on my face, but when I broke out it was ugly. My back would get covered in acne and they turned into dark scars. My hair was dull and falling out by the handful. I slumped into major bouts of depression.

It was only until I reached my mid 20's that I began to understand the real benefits of being properly hydrated. While working as a Microbiologist at Al Amiri Hospital I had a Filipino colleague. This woman was in her forties, but looked no older than thirty! She never wore a drop of makeup. I remember her skin was so clear, you could practically see through it. She was always happy and energetic. One thing that never left her side was a huge bottle of water. I remember casually asking her about it, secretly and desperately wanting to know what her secret was to your youthful appearance. She said she drank two large glasses of water upon waking, and her daily water intake totaled to two and a half liters per day! I wished I could be like her.



Fast forward 7 years, I finally decided to give water a shot. I slowly weaned myself away from coffee and sugary drinks and started drinking only water. After a while, I got used to the blandness of water and started enjoying it. I bought the largest thermos I could find which holds 750ml. I vowed to drink at least two full thermoses a day. The thermos and I were inseparable. The benefits of drinking water were instant. In one day you will notice a change in your skin. The changes I saw in my body after drinking water were:

- Improved skin elasticity and plump moist skin
- Reduction in the appearance of spider veins
- Clear sparkly eyes
- Stronger cognitive function
- Increased energy levels
- Shiny hair
- Clear shiny skin
- Shiny nails
- Increased blood circulation

These are just some of the things that improved after drinking water. It helps to remember that our bodies are composed of 70% water and our organs need water to function. Our blood needs water to carry nutrients and oxygen to all parts of our bodies.

### Symptoms of dehydration include:

Thirst  
Sleepiness and fatigue  
Irritability  
Dry skin  
Headaches  
Constipation  
Low blood pressure  
Urinating only once a day

If you have two or more of these symptoms, you should probably be drinking more water. I am bombarded daily with questions from followers about my skin care routine. I keep answering with the same sentence: Drink more water. Lotions and potions do very little for your skin on the outside, but hydrating from the inside is the key to perfect skin. To make water taste more bearable, mix it with a little bit of cranberry juice. Trust me, if you want to discover the fountain of youth - consume more water on a regular basis. It's that simple!



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Friday Times

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

Kids

Color me!



By Mary L Gavin

**B**eing fit is a way of saying a person eats well, gets a lot of physical activity (exercise), and has a healthy weight. If you're fit, your body works well, feels good, and can do all the things you want to do, like run around with your friends. Some steps only parents can take - such as serving healthy meals or deciding to take the family on a nature hike. But kids can take charge, too, when it comes to health.

Here are five rules to live by, if you're a kid who wants to be fit. The trick is to follow these rules most of the time, knowing that some days (like your birthday) might call for cake and ice cream.

**1. Eat a Variety of Foods**

You may have a favorite food, but the best choice is to eat a variety. If you eat different foods, you're more likely to get the nutrients your body needs. Taste new foods and old ones you haven't tried for a while. Some foods, such as green veggies, are more pleasing the older you get. Shoot for at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day - two fruits and three vegetables.

**2. Drink Water & Milk**

When you're really thirsty, cold water is the best thirst-quencher. And there's a reason your school cafeteria offers cartons of milk. Kids need calcium to build strong bones, and milk is a great source of this mineral. How much do kids need? If you are younger than 9 years old, drink 2 cups of milk a day, or its equivalent. If you're older than 9 years old, aim for 3

cups of milk per day, or its equivalent. You can mix it up by having milk and some other calcium-rich dairy foods.

**3. Listen to Your Body**

What does it feel like to be full? When you're eating, notice how your body feels and when your stomach feels comfortably full. Sometimes, people eat too much because they don't notice when they need to stop eating. Eating too much can make you feel uncomfortable and, over a period of time, can lead to unhealthy weight gain.

**4. Limit Screen Time**

What's screen time? It's the amount of time you spend watching TV or DVDs, playing video games (console systems or handheld games), and using a smart phone, tablet, or computer. The more time you spend on these sitting-down activities, the less time available for active stuff, like basketball, bike riding, and swimming. Try to spend no more than 2 hours a day on screen time, not counting computer use related to school and educational activities.

**5. Be Active**

One job you have as a kid - and it's a fun one - is that you get to figure out which activities you like best. Not everyone loves baseball or soccer. Maybe your passion is karate, or kickball, or dancing. Ask your parents to help you do your favorite activities regularly. Find ways to be active every day. You might even write down a list of fun stuff to do, so you can refer to it when your mom or dad says it's time to stop watching TV or playing computer games!



SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION

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

ACTIVITY



Toilet roll butterfly

What you need:

- \* 1 x empty toilet roll
- \* 1 x piece of colored craft paper
- \* 2 x pipe cleaners
- \* 1 x free printable butterfly wings
- \* 2 x googly craft eyes

- \* pencil
- \* scissors
- \* glue
- \* stapler or sticky tape

Activity:

1. Print out the free butterfly wing printable and color it in. Alternatively you could print it out onto colored craft paper.
2. Wrap the toilet roll in colored craft paper, glue it in place.
3. Now use sticky tape to attach the wings to the toilet roll body.
4. Make two springy antennae by winding each pipe cleaner around a pencil, then slide the pencil out. Use sticky tape or a stapler to attach the butterfly's antennae.
5. Glue on two googly craft eyes.
6. Ta daa! Goodbye toilet roll, hello butterfly!





## KIDS RECIPES



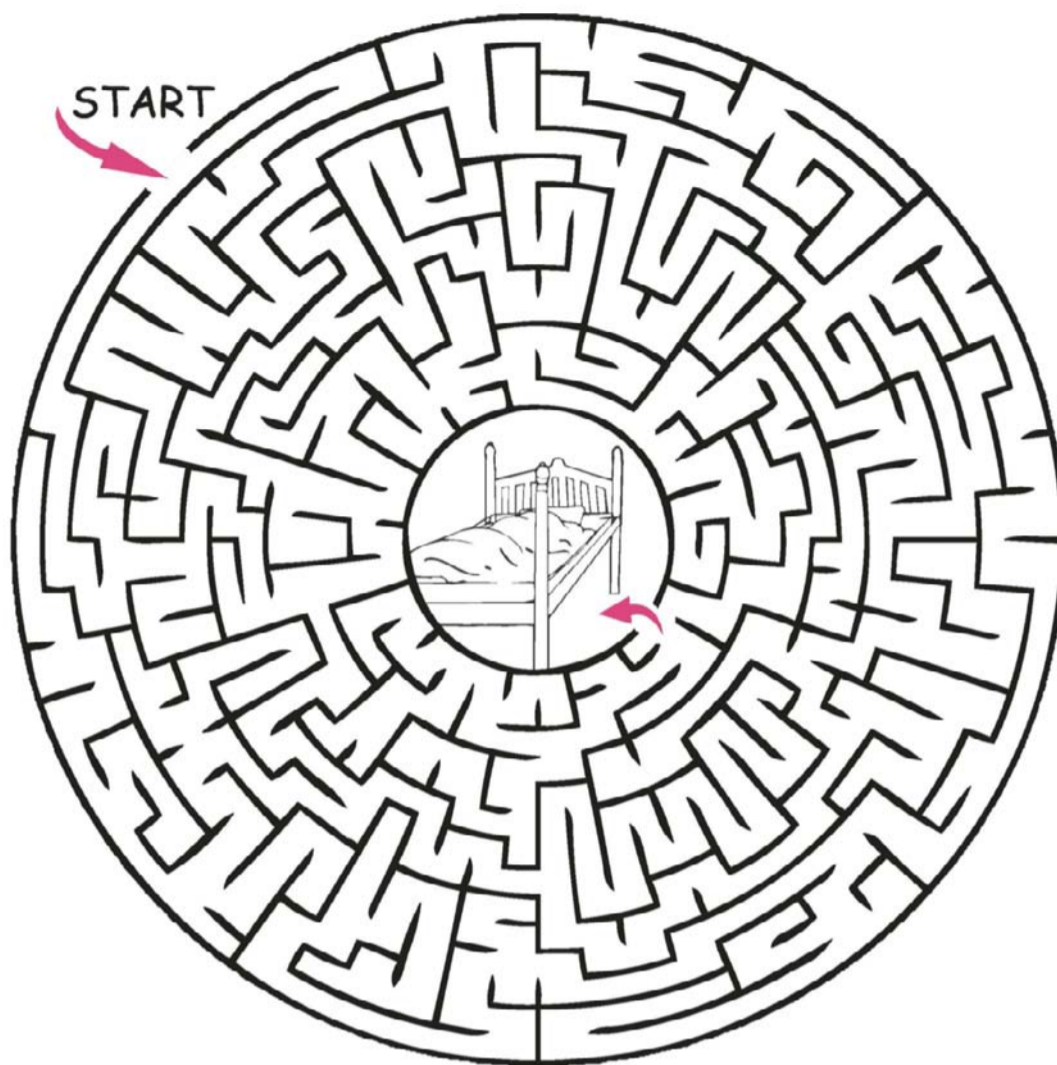
### Avocado dip with Turkish chips

#### Ingredients:

- \* 450g loaf Turkish bread
- \* Olive oil cooking spray
- Avocado dip
- \* 2 avocados, peeled, stones removed
- \* 1 small lime, juiced
- \* 1 tomato, finely chopped
- \* 1 garlic clove, crushed
- \* 3 green onions, thinly sliced

#### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Cut bread into 4 pieces. Cut each piece in half through the centre. Roll out each piece of bread with a rolling pin to flatten slightly. Cut into short fingers. Arrange bread on 2 baking trays. Spray lightly with oil. Bake for 15 minutes, or until toasted.
2. Make dip: Use a fork to mash avocados until almost smooth. Stir in lime juice, tomato, garlic and green onions. Season with salt and pepper.
3. Serve avocado dip with Turkish chips.



## BEACH WORD SEARCH

DRNEAMESMLSBTBE  
 RRTAHBAELSIUIUN  
 SSACCIUERERKUEE  
 NEXULIHCLZFISBG  
 LBSBGSLSSTBNGSH  
 BAOSAESAIOINCI  
 MACEAAFNPJAZIKY  
 TJSICLDIWGRCHLG  
 LNWDPAQVLPQZTAV  
 XLNTLOWNPVPRAWN  
 GAUSXIRWUHVXBDT  
 SKLGFMLTXSHEVRM  
 NOITACAVWAVESAN  
 PCDNSEBTPYXWSOJ  
 QBDCGRSZWLBDRL

- |              |             |            |           |
|--------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Bathing Suit | Pelican     | Scuba      | Surfboard |
| Bikini       | Sailboat    | Seagull    | Tropical  |
| Boardwalk    | Sandals     | Seashell   | Vacation  |
| Lifeguard    | Sand Castle | Sunglasses | Waves     |

### DID YOU KNOW?



- Rabbits and parrots can see behind themselves without even moving their heads!
- Butterflies taste food by standing on top of it! Their taste receptors are in their feet unlike humans who have most on their tongue.
- Most of the dust in your home is actually dead skin! Yuck!
- Although the Stegosaurus dinosaur was over 9 meters long, its brain was only the size of a walnut.
- Humans get a little taller in space because there is no gravity pulling down on them.
- Because of the unusual shape of their legs, kangaroos and emus struggle to walk backwards.
- A hippopotamus may seem huge but it can still run faster than a man.
- Even if an analog clock is broken, at least it shows the correct time twice a day.
- Sneezing with your eyes open is impossible.
- The trickiest tongue twister in the English language is apparently "Sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick". Give it a try and see for yourself.

### JOKES

- Q: What did the tree wear to the pool party?**  
**A:** Swimming trunks!
- Q: What did the beaver say to the tree?**  
**A:** It's been nice gnawing you!
- Q: Why did the leaf go to the doctor?**  
**A:** It was feeling green!
- Q: What is a tree's least favorite month?**  
**A:** Sep-timber!
- Q: What kind of tree can fit into your hand?**  
**A:** A palm tree!
- Q: How do trees get on the internet?**  
**A:** They log in.





# Friday Times Travel



## RAS AL KHAIMAH: Tapping into the Arabian spirit

**T**he United Arab Emirates (UAE) is one of the Middle East's most peaceful countries - a wealthy and stable hub that's developing at an astonishing pace. It's a young country, founded only in 1971 as a federation of seven emirates, of which superlative-craving Dubai usually captures all the headlines. Yet, only an hour's drive from this glamour-city, the northernmost emirate Ras Al Khaimah (short: RAK) connects visitors with a more traditional and authentic Arabian experience.

Nowhere in the country is the landscape more diverse than this beguiling blend of sandy beaches, sprawling lagoons, mangrove forests, desert, hot mineral springs, and date farms, all backed by the mighty massif of the Hajar

Mountains. Archaeological evidence reveals that the area has been settled for more than 7000 years and reached a heyday after the 14th century AD as a strategic port, trading town and pottery production centre known as Julfar.

Until recently, Ras Al Khaimah seemed too modest to capitalize on its marvelous assets, but times are a-changing. Especially in the southern part of the emirate, where a new clutch of alluring beachfront hotels and resorts, along with a golf course, a manmade island and the emirate's first yacht harbor, now vie for a bigger slice of the country's tourism cake. With quiet but determined ambition, Ras Al Khaimah is slowly but surely coming into its own. Here are some of the emirate's top draws.

## Camel races

**F**or a quintessential Arabian experience, there's nothing quite like attending a camel race, a sport deeply ingrained in the Emirati soul. It's a truly exhilarating sight when dozens of one-humped dromedaries fly out of their pens and onto the dirt track, jostling for position in a lumbering gallop toward the finish line. Fastened to their backs are 'robot jockeys' with remote-controlled whips operated by their owners while driving their SUVs on a separate track alongside the animals. Racing season runs from October to April. RAK's track is near the village of Digdaga.



## Jazirat Al Hamra

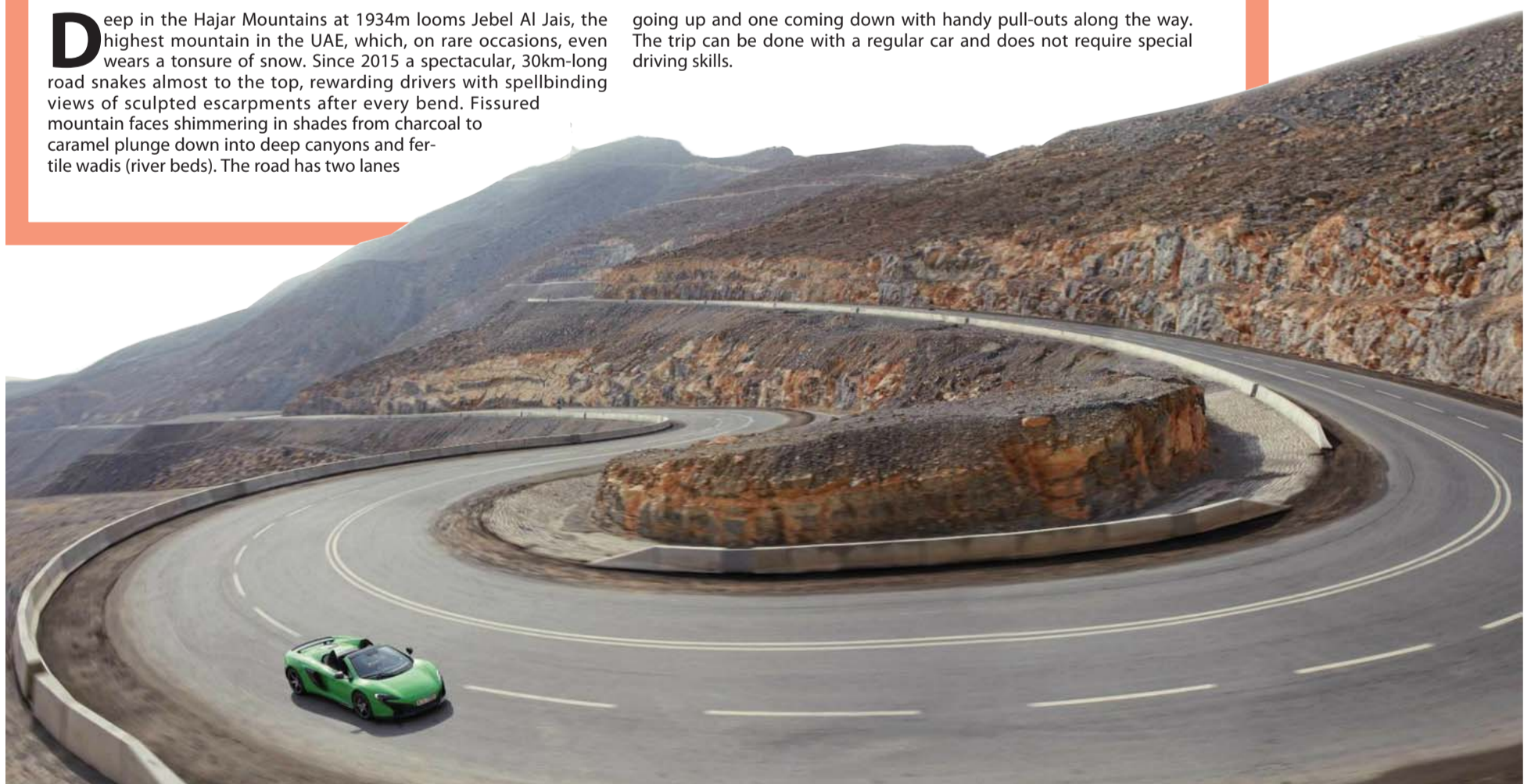
**F**uture meets past in southern RAK, where the villas and hotel towers of the sparkling Al Hamra development cast their shadow over the ghost village of Jazirat Al Hamra, one of the oldest coastal settlements in the UAE. For centuries, its residents subsided on fishing, pearling and trading but, with modern times

encroaching after the discovery of oil, they traded their ancient mud and coral houses for modern digs in the late 1960s. Today about 100 of these crumbling buildings - homes, shops, mosques - bear silent witness to a simpler life.

## Jebel Al Jais Mountain Road

**D**eep in the Hajar Mountains at 1934m looms Jebel Al Jais, the highest mountain in the UAE, which, on rare occasions, even wears a tonsure of snow. Since 2015 a spectacular, 30km-long road snakes almost to the top, rewarding drivers with spellbinding views of sculpted escarpments after every bend. Fissured mountain faces shimmering in shades from charcoal to caramel plunge down into deep canyons and fertile wadis (river beds). The road has two lanes

going up and one coming down with handy pull-outs along the way. The trip can be done with a regular car and does not require special driving skills.



## Iceland Water Park



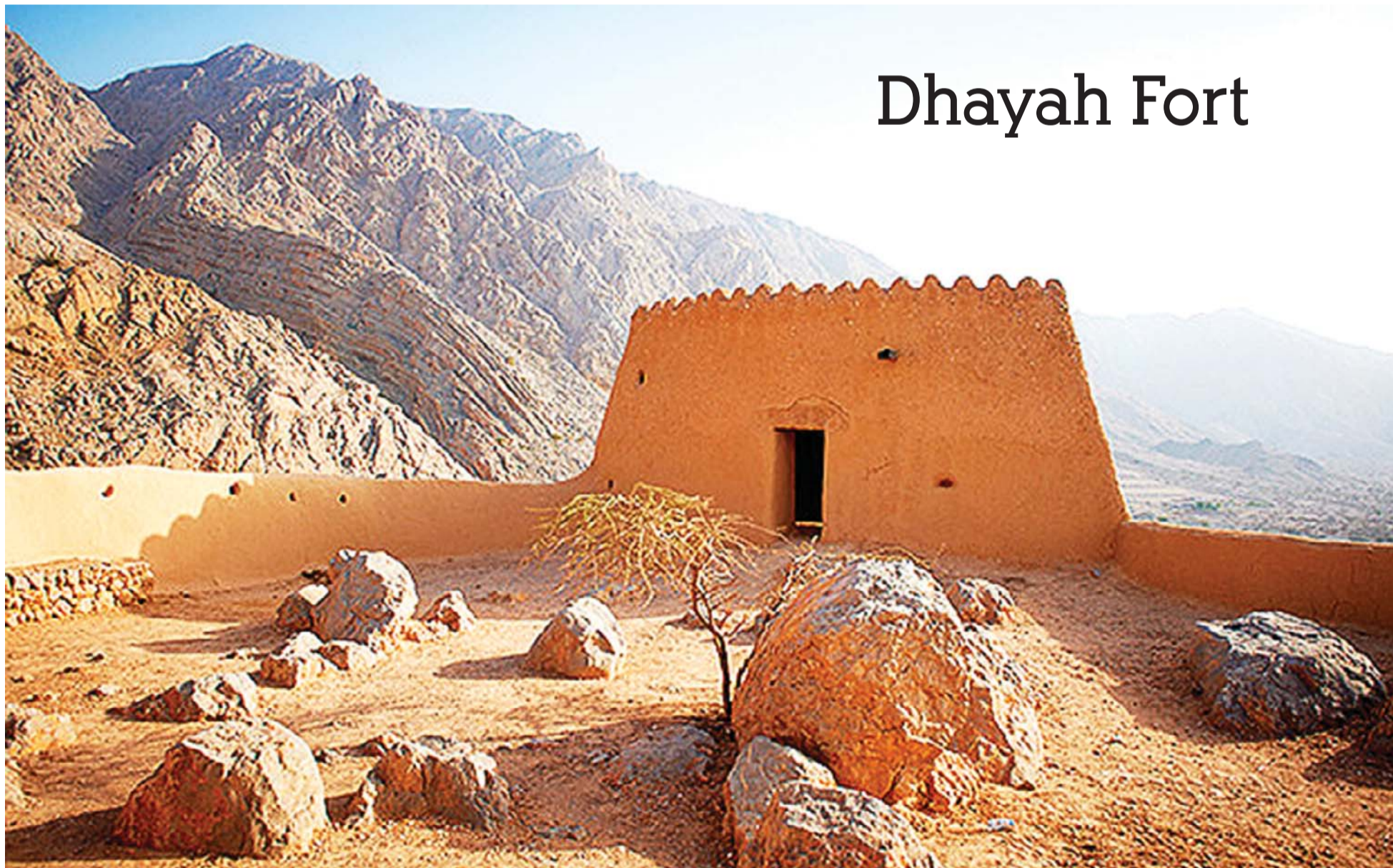
**P**enguins in the desert? Fret not! The tuxedoed denizens of the polar-themed Iceland Water Park ([icelandwaterpark.com](http://icelandwaterpark.com)) are in no danger of dying from dehydration for one good reason: they're made of plastic. Still, one can almost hear them cheering on the park's visitors who scuttle down water slides from tame to terrifying, brave monster waves, get pummeled by a thunderous 40m-high waterfall or drenched by a giant tipping bucket. A fun place for the family to keep cool on a hot day!

**Khatt Hot Springs**

Visiting thermal mineral springs may seem a strange thing to do in the scorching desert, but insiders know that a dip in the sulphur-laced waters in the village of Khatt goes a long way towards soothing the stresses nibbling at your psyche, not to mention aching bones. The springs feed both the spa of the Golden Tulip Khatt Springs Resort ([goldentulipkhattsprings.com](http://goldentulipkhattsprings.com)), a fortress-shaped respite draped over a hillside, and the public Harmony Ayurveda Centre at the bottom of the hill. The latter has two pebble-floored pools - one for men and one for women - along with a long list of massages and other pampering options.

**RAK National Museum**

Thanks to its strategic location near the Strait of Hormuz, Ras Al Khaimah can look back on a particularly colorful history, including attacks by pirates; occupation by the Persians, Portuguese and British; and trading with such far-flung countries as China and India. Coins, pottery, pearls, weapons and other artifacts unearthed in numerous archaeological digs have yielded evidence of all these periods. They are now proudly displayed in the national museum, housed in the beautifully restored fort that served as the residence of RAK's ruling family from the 1820s until 1964 and later went through stints as a police station and prison.



## Dhayah Fort

**R**as Al Khaimah is riddled with ancient fortifications, but Dhayah Fort has the distinction of being the only one cradling a mountain top. Already in the 16th century was this prominent spot used to fend off raiders. The stratagem proved successful until 1819 when the fort became the last bastion in the region to fall to British cannon attacks. Today, steep but well-built steps

lead up to the restored structure which consists of two watchtowers and a crenulated wall wrapped around a courtyard. From such lofty heights the 360-degree view is predictably fabulous and takes in the Gulf, the city centre, the Hajar Mountains and a sprawling date palm plantation at the foot of the hill.

— [www.lonelyplanet.com](http://www.lonelyplanet.com)

WORD SEARCH

Farm 1

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

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

- |          |            |             |
|----------|------------|-------------|
| BALER    | FARMER     | PRODUCE     |
| BARN     | FERTILIZER | SOW         |
| BUTTER   | GRAIN      | TRACTOR     |
| CAT      | HARROW     | TURKEYS     |
| CHICKENS | HAY        | WEATHERVANE |
| CREAM    | HOUSE      | WEEDS       |
| DAIRY    | MILK       | WELL        |
| EGGS     | PLOW       |             |

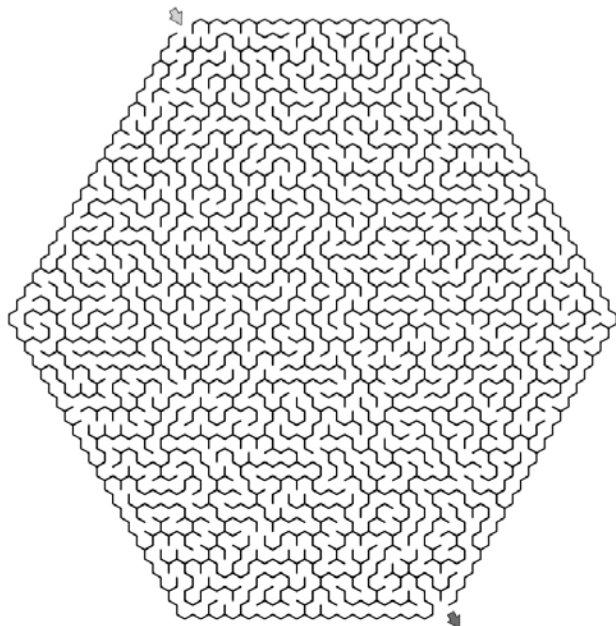
Yesterday's Solution

Musical Instruments 3 - Solution

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

- |           |            |               |
|-----------|------------|---------------|
| ACCORDION | FLUGELHORN | MOCENO        |
| BAGPIPES  | GONG       | PENNY WHISTLE |
| BASS      | HARMONICA  | SAXOPHONE     |
| CASTANETS | JEWS HARP  | STRUMSTICK    |
| CELLO     | LAOUTA     | TARKA         |
| CORNET    | LUTE       | TRUMPET       |
| CYMBAL    | MANDOLIN   | VIOLIN        |
| FIFE      | MELODEON   |               |

CHALLENGING MAZE



CROSSWORD 1312

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15				16							17			
18				19					20	21				
22			23		24				25	26				
27					28		29			30				
			31					32				33	34	
35	36	37		38	39		40		41			42		
43			44		45	46		47		48				
49					50							51		
52				53				54	55		56			
		57				58	59	60			61			
62	63		64				65				66			
67		68			69	70			71			72	73	74
75					76		77	78			79			
80					81					82			83	
84					85									86

ACROSS

- A group of countries in special alliance.
- French architect who introduced the mansard roof (1598-1666).
- A person active in party politics.
- Similar to the striped mullet and takes its place in the Caribbean region.
- Small genus of bitter-rooted herbs of eastern North America and Asia.
- Any of various primates with short tails or no tail at all.
- (botany) Of or relating to the axil.
- English theoretical physicist who applied relativity theory to quantum mechanics and predicted the existence of antimatter and the positron (1902-1984).
- A city of central China.
- A state in the United States in the central Pacific on the Hawaiian Islands.
- A unit of apothecary weight equal to an eighth of an ounce or to 60 grains.
- Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
- Disgraceful gossip about the private lives of other people.
- United States swimmer who in 1926 became the first woman to swim the English Channel (1903-).
- A colorless odorless inert gaseous element occurring in the earth's atmosphere in trace amounts.
- The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy.
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects.
- A complete metric system of units of measurement for scientists.
- Any of various Spanish fortresses or palaces built by the Moors.
- The persistence of a sound after its source has stopped.
- The capital and chief port of Qatar.
- Saudi Arabian minister of petroleum who was a central figure in the creation of OPEC (born in 1930).
- A branch of the Tai languages.
- Electronic warfare undertaken to insure effective friendly use of the electromagnetic spectrum in spite of the enemy's use of electronic warfare.
- The most common computer memory which can be used by programs to perform necessary tasks while the computer is on.
- (Judaism) Not conforming to dietary laws.
- Aromatic bulb used as seasoning.
- The brightest star in Virgo.
- An impudent or insolent rejoinder.
- The blood group whose red cells carry both the A and B antigens.
- An uproarious party.
- A port city of south central Ukraine on an arm of the Black Sea.
- (Chinese and Japanese) Treatment of symptoms by applying pressure with the fingers to specific pressure points on the body.
- A member of an Indian people formerly living along the Gulf coast of Louisiana and Texas.
- An enclosed space.
- A cotton fabric with a satiny finish.
- Submerged aquatic plant having narrow leaves and small flowers.
- How long something has existed.
- Oldest known reptiles.
- Small cubes with 1 to 6 spots on the faces.
- (informal) Roused to anger.
- A great raja.
- Bulky grayish-brown eagle with a short wedge-shaped white tail.

DOWN

- (informal usage) A general feeling of boredom and dissatisfaction.
- Of a pale purple color.
- United States conductor (born in Japan in 1935).
- Type genus of the Carangidae.
- Genus of sticky herbs with yellow flowers open in morning or evening but closed in bright light.
- American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
- A student who studies excessively.
- A fixed look with eyes open wide v 1.
- A department of Greece in the central Peloponnese.
- A state in New England.
- Anterior pituitary hormone that stimulates the function of the thyroid gland.
- United States baseball player.
- Large elliptical brightly colored deep-sea fish of Atlantic and Pacific and Mediterranean.
- A Russian river.
- A deep bow.
- In the Roman calendar.
- Composed of or covered with relatively large particles.
- 16 ounces.
- The process of remembering (especially the process of recovering information by mental effort).
- Type genus of the Danaidae.
- Shrubs and trees of southern hemisphere having aromatic foliage.
- A dull persistent (usually moderately intense) pain.
- Green algae common in freshwater lakes of limestone districts.
- The content of cognition.
- Psychoactive substance present in marijuana.
- City in northwestern Jordan.
- A member of the Iroquoian people formerly living east of Lake Ontario.
- United States newspaper publisher (1858-1935).
- Before noon.
- The floating wreckage of a ship.
- A large group of islands in the south Pacific including Melanesia and Micronesia and Polynesia (and sometimes Australasia and the Malay Archipelago).
- Strong woody fibers obtained especially from the phloem of from various plants.
- Port city on southern Honshu on Osaka Bay.
- A radioactive metallic element that is similar to tellurium and bismuth.
- A state in the Rocky Mountains.
- God of wealth and love.
- The capital and largest city of Yemen.
- Made agreeably cold (especially by ice).
- The capital and largest city of Yemen.
- A state in the western United States.
- An officer who acts as military assistant to a more senior officer.
- A set of two similar things considered as a unit.
- Chief port of Yemen.
- A federal agency established to coordinate programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environment.
- The rate at which red blood cells settle out in a tube of blood under standardized conditions.
- A person who announces and plays popular recorded music.

Yesterday's Solution

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

Daily SuDoku

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

Yesterday's Solution

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



- 03:25 Wildest Africa
- 04:15 Gator Boys
- 05:02 Treehouse Masters
- 05:49 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 06:12 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 06:36 Swamp Brothers
- 07:00 Swamp Brothers
- 07:25 Too Cute!
- 08:15 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 08:40 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 09:10 Treehouse Masters
- 10:05 Tanked
- 11:00 Too Cute!
- 11:55 Bondi Vet
- 12:50 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 13:15 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 13:45 Gator Boys
- 14:40 Treehouse Masters
- 15:35 Tanked
- 16:30 Wildest Africa
- 17:25 River Monsters: Lair Of Giants
- 18:20 River Monsters
- 19:15 Tanked
- 20:10 Wildest Africa
- 21:05 Treehouse Masters
- 22:00 River Monsters
- 22:55 Gator Boys
- 23:50 River Monsters: Lair Of Giants
- 00:45 I'm Alive
- 01:40 River Monsters
- 02:35 Tanked



- 03:45 I Want My Wife Back
- 04:10 Doctors
- 04:40 Eastenders
- 05:15 Sinbad
- 06:00 Holby City
- 06:55 Doctors
- 07:25 Doctors
- 07:55 Eastenders
- 08:25 Eastenders
- 08:55 Call The Midwife
- 09:50 Father Brown
- 10:35 Stella
- 11:20 Stella
- 12:10 Stella
- 12:55 Casualty
- 13:50 Holby City
- 14:45 Doctors
- 15:15 Eastenders
- 15:50 Doctor Who
- 16:40 Doctor Who
- 17:25 Doctor Who
- 18:15 Doctors
- 18:45 Doctors



- 03:40 Extreme Collectors
- 04:05 Auction Hunters
- 04:30 Storage Hunters UK
- 05:00 How Things Work
- 06:00 Mythbusters
- 06:50 Man vs Expert
- 07:40 Incredible Engineering
- Blunders: Fixed
- 08:30 Diamond River Hunters
- 09:20 Venom Hunters
- 10:10 Dive Wars Australia
- 11:00 What On Earth?
- 11:50 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 12:40 Manhunt With Joel Lambert
- 13:30 Fast N' Loud
- 14:20 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
- 15:10 Street Outlaws
- 16:00 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 16:50 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 17:40 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 18:30 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 19:20 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 20:10 Marooned With Ed Stafford
- 21:00 Fast N' Loud
- 21:50 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
- 22:40 Street Outlaws
- 23:30 Sonic Sea
- 01:10 Fast N' Loud
- 02:00 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
- 02:50 Street Outlaws



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

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



- 03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:48 Henry Danger
- 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 04:36 The Haunted Hathaways
- 05:00 Max & Shred
- 05:24 Henry Danger
- 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 06:36 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 07:48 Winx Club
- 08:12 The Loud House
- 08:36 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 09:24 Harvey Beaks
- 09:48 Henry Danger
- 10:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 10:36 The Haunted Hathaways
- 11:00 Winx Club
- 11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants

- 11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 12:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 13:00 Harvey Beaks
- 13:24 The Loud House
- 13:48 Get Blake
- 14:12 Rabbids Invasion
- 14:36 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 15:00 Game Shakers
- 15:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 17:00 Sanjay And Craig
- 19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 19:24 Game Shakers
- 19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 20:36 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



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

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



- 03:00 Untamed & Uncut
- 03:50 Ultimate Survival
- 04:40 How It's Made
- 05:05 How It's Made
- 05:30 Dirty Jobs
- 06:20 Mythbusters
- 07:00 Doki
- 07:25 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 07:50 My Cat From Hell
- 08:40 How It's Made
- 09:05 How It's Made
- 09:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 10:20 Mythbusters
- 11:10 Bondi Vet
- 12:00 My Cat From Hell
- 12:50 Ultimate Survival
- 13:40 How It's Made
- 14:05 How It's Made
- 14:30 Dirty Jobs
- 15:20 Mythbusters
- 16:10 Doki
- 16:35 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
- 17:00 Troy
- 17:50 Race To Escape
- 18:40 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 19:30 Mythbusters
- 20:20 How It's Made
- 20:45 How It's Made

- 21:10 Troy
- 22:00 Race To Escape
- 22:50 Untamed & Uncut
- 23:40 Ultimate Survival
- 00:30 Mythbusters
- 01:20 Troy
- 02:10 Race To Escape



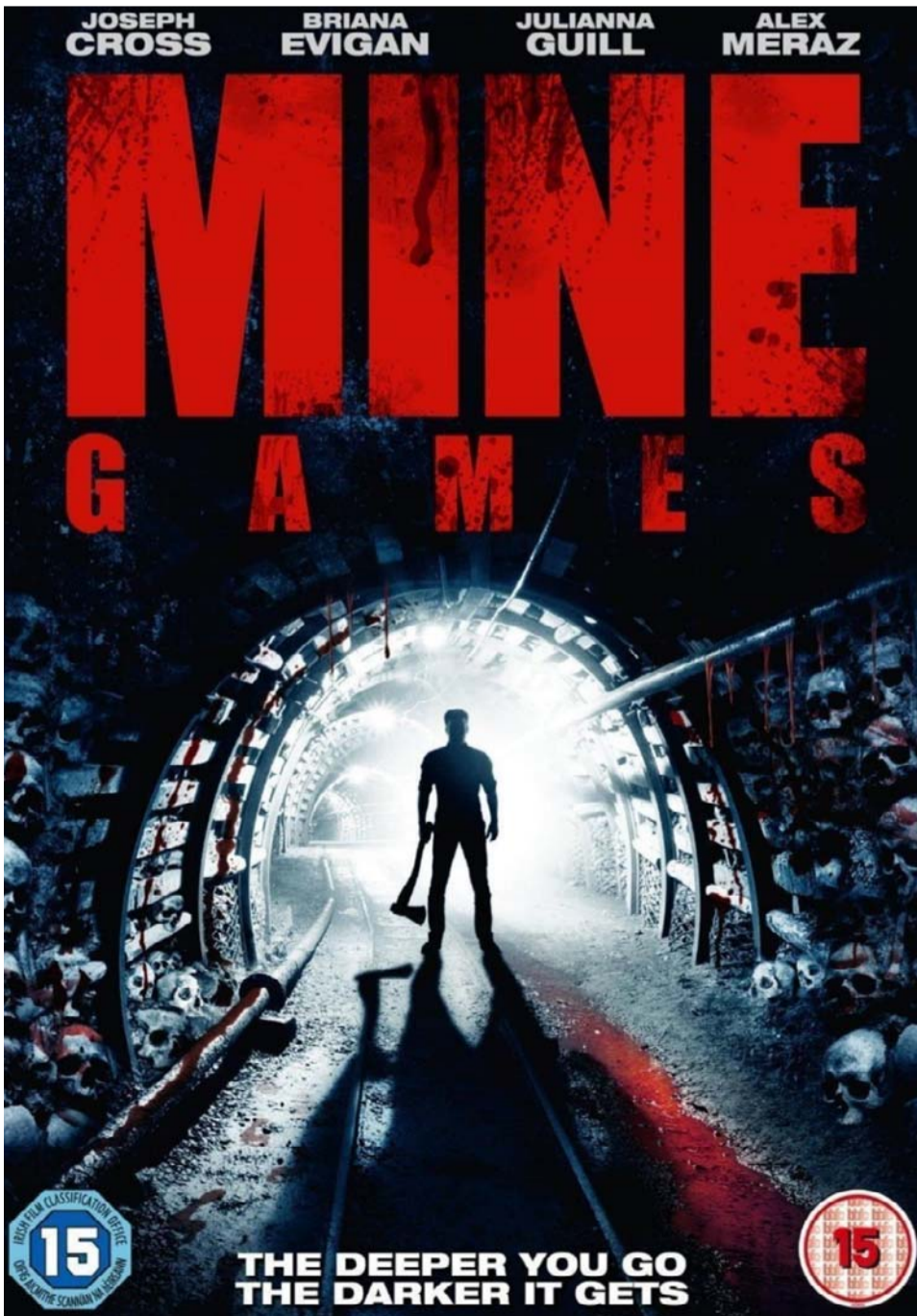
- 03:00 Discovery ID
- 09:00 Discovery ID
- 21:00 Discovery ID
- Discovery ID Xtra
- 03:00 Murder Among Friends
- 03:48 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 04:36 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 05:24 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 06:12 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 07:00 Obsession: Dark Desires
- 07:50 Obsession: Dark Desires
- 08:40 Obsession: Dark Desires
- 09:30 Obsession: Dark Desires
- 10:20 Southern Fried Homicide
- 11:10 Heartbreakers
- 12:00 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 12:50 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 13:40 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 14:30 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
- 15:20 Southern Fried Homicide
- 16:10 Murder Comes To Town
- 17:00 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 17:50 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 18:40 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 19:30 On The Case With Paula Zahn
- 20:20 Southern Fried Homicide
- 21:10 A Crime To Remember
- 22:00 Obsession: Dark Desires
- 22:50 Sex Sent Me To The Slammer
- 23:15 Sex Sent Me To The Slammer



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



- 03:10 Henry Hugglemonster
- 03:20 Calimero
- 03:35 Zou
- 03:45 Loopdidoo
- 04:00 Art Attack
- 04:25 Henry Hugglemonster
- 04:35 Calimero
- 04:50 Zou
- 05:00 Loopdidoo
- 05:15 Art Attack
- 05:35 Henry Hugglemonster
- 05:50 Calimero
- 06:00 Zou
- 06:20 Loopdidoo
- 06:35 Art Attack
- 07:00 The Hive
- 07:10 Zou
- 07:25 Loopdidoo
- 07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 08:05 Sofia The First
- 08:30 Miles From Tomorrow
- 08:45 PJ Masks
- 09:10 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 09:35 Doc McStuffins
- 10:00 Sofia The First
- 10:30 Goldie & Bear
- 10:55 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
- 11:25 The Lion Guard
- 11:50 Miles From Tomorrow
- 12:15 Henry Hugglemonster
- 12:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 12:55 Miles From Tomorrow
- 13:00 Sofia The First
- 13:30 Doc McStuffins
- 13:55 Miles From Tomorrow
- 14:25 The Lion Guard
- 14:50 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 15:20 Doc McStuffins
- 15:45 Jake And The Neverland Pirates
- 16:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 16:30 Doc McStuffins
- 16:55 Sofia The First
- 17:25 Goldie & Bear
- 17:50 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
- 18:20 The Lion Guard
- 18:45 Miles From Tomorrow
- 19:00 PJ Masks
- 19:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 20:00 Doc McStuffins
- 20:30 Sofia The First
- 21:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
- 21:30 PJ Masks
- 22:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 22:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
- 22:45 Minnie's Bow-Toons
- 23:05 Henry Hugglemonster
- 23:20 Calimero
- 23:35 Zou
- 23:50 Loopdidoo
- 00:05 Art Attack
- 00:30 Henry Hugglemonster
- 00:45 Calimero
- 01:00 Zou
- 01:15 Loopdidoo
- 01:30 Art Attack
- 02:00 Calimero
- 02:15 Zou
- 02:30 Loopdidoo
- 02:45 Art Attack
- 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: The Mother Of All Villains
- 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
- 12:35 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
- 13:00 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
- 13:30 Mighty Med: The Mother Of All Villains
- 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
- 16:55 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
- 19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 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
- 22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse
- 23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA



MINE GAMES ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION



FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

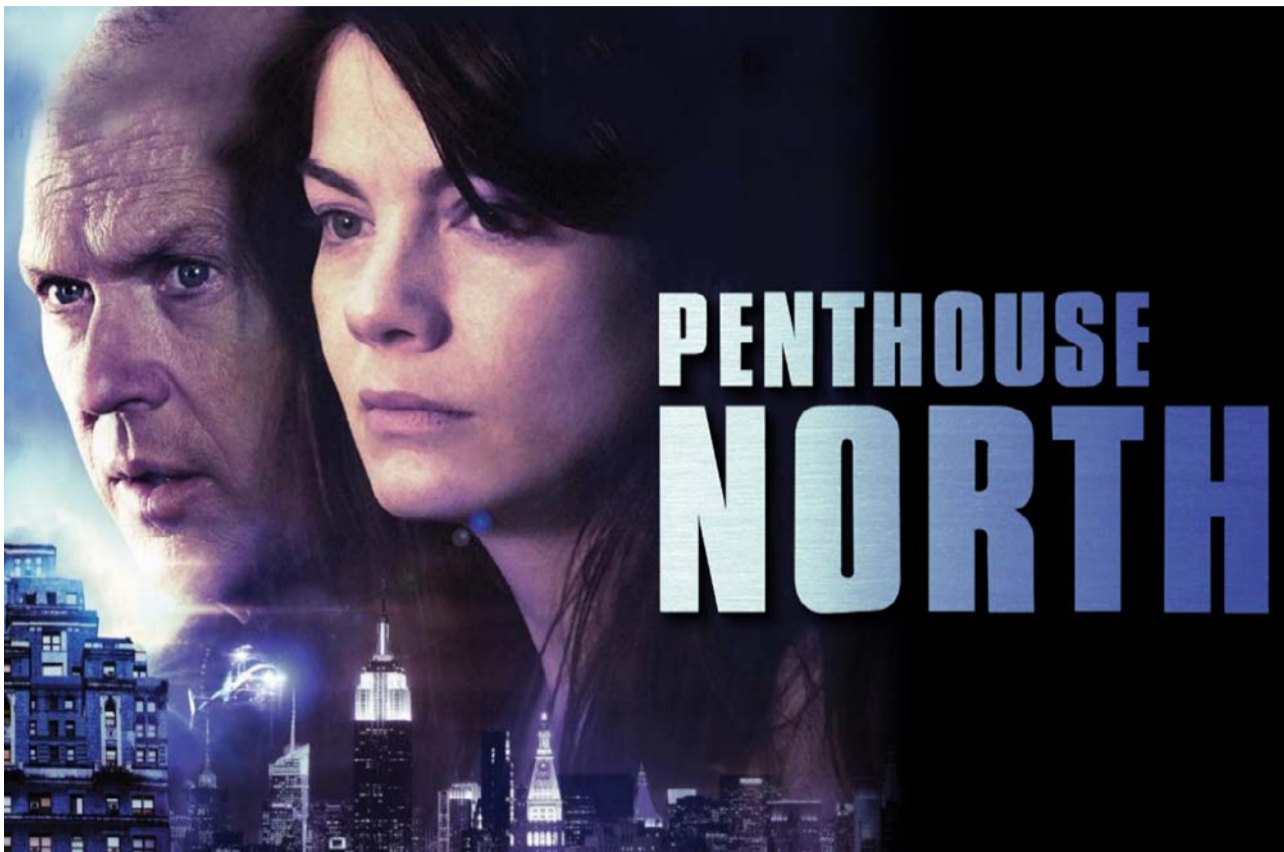
- 06:00 Guy's Grocery Games
- 07:00 Man Fire Food
- 07:30 Man Fire Food
- 08:00 Chopped
- 09:00 Barefoot Contessa
- 09:30 Barefoot Contessa
- 10:00 The Kitchen
- 11:00 Trisha's Southern Kitchen
- 11:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen
- 12:00 Chopped
- 13:00 Guy's Big Bite
- 13:30 Guy's Big Bite
- 14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 15:00 Man Fire Food
- 15:30 Man Fire Food
- 16:00 Chopped
- 17:00 The Kitchen
- 18:00 Trisha's Southern Kitchen
- 18:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen
- 19:00 Chopped
- 20:00 Man v Food
- 20:30 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
- 21:00 Cutthroat Kitchen
- 22:00 Chopped South Africa
- 23:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 23:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 00:00 Iron Chef America
- 01:00 Cutthroat Kitchen
- 02:00 Chopped South Africa



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



- 03:25 Don't Tell The Bride
- 04:20 The Syndicate
- 05:15 Come Dine With Me Couples
- 06:10 The Doctor Blake Mysteries
- 07:05 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
- 08:00 Don't Tell The Bride
- 08:55 The Syndicate
- 09:50 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 Coronation Street
- 15:10 Tracey Ullman's Show
- 15:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
- 16:30 Don't Tell The Bride
- 17:25 Together
- 17:55 Emmerdale
- 18:20 Emmerdale
- 18:45 Coronation Street
- 19:00 Coronation Street
- 19:10 Coronation Street
- 19:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
- 20:30 Don't Tell The Bride
- 21:25 Together



# PENTHOUSE NORTH

## PENTHOUSE NORTH ON OSN MOVIES HD

- 21:55 Coronation Street
- 22:20 Coronation Street
- 22:50 Emmerdale
- 23:40 The Doctor Blake Mysteries



- 03:00 Two And A Half Men
- 03:30 Two And A Half Men
- 04:00 Better With You
- 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 05:30 I Hate My Teenage Daughter
- 06:00 George Lopez
- 06:30 The Bernie Mac Show
- 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 08:00 Better With You
- 08:30 I Hate My Teenage Daughter
- 09:00 Two And A Half Men
- 09:30 Suburgatory
- 09:30 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
- 13:00 I Hate My Teenage Daughter
- 13:30 The Bernie Mac Show
- 14:00 Two And A Half Men
- 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
- 18:00 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 18:30 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 19:00 2 Broke Girls
- 19:30 New Girl
- 20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 21:00 Dr. Ken
- 21:30 Modern Family
- 22:00 It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia
- 22:30 Louie
- 23:00 Life In Pieces
- 23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 00:30 Dr. Ken
- 01:00 Modern Family
- 01:30 It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia
- 02:00 Louie
- 02:30 Life In Pieces



- 03:00 The Leftovers
- 04:00 Carnivale
- 05:00 Live From Baghdad
- 07:00 Undefeated
- 09:00 Hot Coffee

- 10:30 All The Way
- 12:45 The Jack Bull
- 14:45 Frequently Asked Questions About Time Travel
- 16:15 Cheaters
- 18:00 Any Given Wednesday With Bill Simmons
- 18:30 Last Week Tonight With John Oliver
- 19:00 11.22.63
- 20:00 Six Feet Under
- 21:00 True Blood
- 22:00 Vinyl
- 23:00 Tell Me You Love Me
- 00:00 11.22.63
- 01:00 Six Feet Under
- 02:00 True Blood



- 03:00 Second Chance
- 04:00 Good Morning America
- 06:00 The Art Of More
- 07:00 Rosewood
- 08:00 The Blacklist
- 09:00 Supergirl
- 10:00 Second Chance
- 11:00 Rosewood
- 12:00 The Blacklist
- 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 14:00 Live Good Morning America
- 16:00 Mr. Robot
- 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 18:00 The Blacklist
- 19:00 Supergirl
- 20:00 Shark Tank
- 21:00 Suits
- 22:00 Downton Abbey
- 23:00 Outlander
- 00:00 Rosewood
- 01:00 Suits
- 02:00 Downton Abbey



- 04:15 Mine Games
- 06:00 I, Robot
- 08:00 The Package
- 10:00 Hours
- 12:00 Reclaim
- 14:00 I, Robot
- 16:00 Turbulence
- 18:00 Hours
- 20:00 Four Brothers
- 22:00 Army Of Darkness
- 00:00 Let Us Prey
- 02:00 Reign Of Assassins



- 04:00 Indian Summer
- 06:00 Hope Springs
- 08:00 My Father The Hero
- 10:00 Indian Summer

- 12:00 Romy And Michelle's High School Reunion
- 14:00 Man Of The House
- 16:00 My Father The Hero
- 17:45 Raising Helen
- 20:00 Idiocracy
- 22:00 The Hooligan Factory
- 00:00 Dom Hemingway
- 01:45 Raising Helen



- 03:00 The Kid
- 05:00 Atlantis: The Lost Empire
- 06:45 The Parent Trap
- 09:00 Brave
- 11:00 Big Hero 6
- 13:00 Eight Below
- 15:00 Monsters Inc
- 17:00 Cinderella
- 19:00 National Treasure
- 21:15 National Treasure 2: Book Of Secrets
- 23:15 Cinderella
- 00:45 National Treasure



- 03:00 The Brass Teapot
- 04:45 Blood
- 06:30 Fearless
- 09:00 The Truth About Emanuel
- 11:00 Won't Back Down
- 13:00 Happiness
- 15:00 Romeo & Juliet
- 17:00 The Truth About Emanuel
- 19:00 Tracks
- 21:00 Jack Strong
- 23:15 The People vs Larry Flynt
- 01:30 Happiness



- 04:00 Penthouse North
- 05:30 Louder Than Words
- 07:15 Love, Rosie
- 09:00 The Judge
- 11:30 Taken 3
- 13:30 My Old Lady
- 15:15 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This
- 17:00 The Good Lie
- 19:00 Pitch Perfect 2
- 21:00 Ricki And The Flash
- 23:00 The November Man



- 04:30 Bamse And The City Of Thieves

- 06:00 Pixies
- 08:00 Moomins And The Comet Chase
- 09:45 Scooby-Doo! Moon Monster Madness
- 11:15 When Marnie Was There
- 13:00 Pim And Pom: The Big Adventure
- 14:30 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble
- 16:00 K-9 Adventures: Legend Of The Lost Gold
- 18:00 Scooby-Doo! Moon Monster Madness
- 20:00 The Unbeatables
- 22:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble
- 23:30 K-9 Adventures: Legend Of The Lost Gold
- 01:15 Moomins And The Comet Chase
- 02:45 The Unbeatables



- 04:30 The Giver
- 06:15 Left Behind
- 08:15 Until She Came Along
- 10:00 The Book Of Life
- 12:00 Insurgent
- 14:15 The Grand Seduction
- 16:15 Until She Came Along
- 18:00 The Two Faces Of January
- 20:00 Cut Bank
- 22:00 Child 44
- 00:30 Cop Car
- 02:15 The Two Faces Of January
- 03:45 Dark Water
- 05:30 Ladder 49
- 07:30 Ballistica
- 09:00 The Sixth Sense
- 10:45 Deep Rising
- 12:30 The Woman In Black
- 14:15 Coyote Ugly
- 16:00 The Proposal
- 18:00 Instinct
- 20:00 Battlefield Earth
- 22:00 Starship Troopers
- 00:15 Jack
- 02:15 Greenberg



- 04:00 Good Will Hunting
- 06:15 Beautiful
- 08:30 I Am Number Four
- 10:30 Father Of The Bride Part II
- 12:30 Sister Act 2: Back In The Habit
- 14:30 Goal II: Living The Dream
- 16:30 My Bollywood Bride
- 18:15 Dawn Of The Dead
- 20:00 Thor 2: The Dark World
- 22:00 Mission To Mars



- 03:00 Private Practice
- 04:00 Making Mr.Right
- 05:00 How I Met Your Mother
- 05:30 How I Met Your Mother
- 06:00 The Simpsons
- 06:30 The Simpsons
- 07:00 Bones
- 08:00 American Idol
- 09:00 American Idol
- 10:00 Private Practice
- 11:00 Private Practice
- 12:00 Making Mr.Right
- 13:00 How I Met Your Mother
- 13:30 How I Met Your Mother
- 14:00 The Simpsons
- 14:30 The Simpsons
- 15:00 Bones
- 16:00 American Idol
- 17:00 Cougar Town
- 17:30 Cougar Town
- 18:00 Desperate Housewives
- 19:00 Desperate Housewives
- 20:00 Fit For Fashion
- 21:00 American Idol
- 22:00 American Idol
- 23:00 American Idol
- 00:00 Private Practice
- 01:00 Making Mr.Right
- 02:00 Desperate Housewives



- 03:15 Your Style In His Hands
- 04:00 Belief
- 04:45 Little People, Big World
- 05:10 Little People, Big World
- 05:35 Cake Boss
- 06:00 Say Yes To The Dress
- 06:25 Cake Boss
- 06:50 Cake Boss
- 07:15 Cake Boss
- 07:40 Cake Boss
- 08:05 The Face UK
- 08:55 The Face UK
- 09:45 Little People, Big World: Wedding Farm
- 10:35 Nida'a
- 11:25 Say Yes To The Dress
- 11:50 Say Yes To The Dress
- 12:15 Say Yes To The Dress
- 12:40 Say Yes To The Dress
- 13:05 Say Yes To The Dress
- 13:30 Oprah's Master Class
- 14:20 Belief
- 15:10 Little People, Big World
- 15:35 Little People, Big World
- 16:00 Little People, Big World
- 16:25 Little People, Big World
- 16:50 Little People, Big World
- 17:15 Billion Dollar Hotel
- 18:05 Ugly House To Lovely House
- 18:55 Cake Boss
- 19:20 Say Yes To The Dress ãi Bridesmaids
- 19:45 Say Yes To The Dress ãi Bridesmaids
- 20:10 Sister Wives
- 21:00 Jill & Jessa: Counting On
- 21:50 Kate Plus 8
- 22:40 Little People, Big World: Wedding Farm
- 23:30 Breaking Amish
- 00:20 My Giant Life
- 01:10 My 600-Lb Life: Where Are They Now?
- 02:00 Shock Trauma: Edge Of Life
- 02:25 Shock Trauma: Edge Of Life
- 02:50 Monsters Inside Me



- 03:05 The Wolfpack
- 04:35 Movie Talk
- 05:00 Battle For Britain
- 05:20 The Strongest Man
- 07:00 Charge!
- 08:35 The Overbrook Brothers
- 10:10 Made In China
- 11:40 Produced By George Martin
- 13:10 Discovering: Lennon
- 14:00 Flex Is Kings
- 15:30 The Overbrook Brothers
- 17:10 Made In China
- 18:40 Produced By George Martin
- 20:10 Discovering: Lennon
- 21:00 Writers' Room
- 21:30 Hollywood's Best Film Directors
- 22:00 Stinking Heaven
- 23:10 LOL
- 23:40 Cole



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

You could be in demand today, especially with superiors or in relation to your work. You may find that you enjoy your job or the responsibility it entails more than usual. Material things and the whole concept of value take on more importance for you just now. Financial security and enjoying the finer things in life are experiences that assume a high priority. Your energies run effectively toward making yourself felt in the material, tangible outer world. You are an action person who gains the attention of others and seems to get things moving. The circumstances of your life suggest extroversion. Careful-this no-nonsense approach makes it difficult to get close to you. Hum while you walk this evening-practice good breathing... Oxygen!



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

Another smooth day should allow you to devote some time to catching up with unfinished business. Interactions with authority figures or older people may prove to be informative. Working with-rather than against-the flow should be easy to do. Your ambitions go hand-in-hand with communication and using the mind. You may find yourself more agreeable today than usual. A dialogue with an older person may take place. Having and appreciating things of beauty and value play a big role in your life now. Provided you do not spend all your funds on the fancy things that catch your eye, this can be a financially favorable period. Have some fun this evening by helping a child learn how to use anger to a positive ending. Praise his or her effort.



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

Someone could challenge you on a very sensitive issue today, resulting in an argument or, at the least, a very intense discussion. You may touch upon very emotional parts of you and find yourself analyzing circumstances. This would be a good place to look for helpful input or positive information. You may have fun with a class that teaches organizational skills. If this class is offered to the public take a friend or family member so that you can work together to keep organized. You will see a change in your habits and feel pride for the changes you implement. A family member plans a special event and may ask for your help this evening. Keep your internal monologue upbeat and positive; you will enjoy the interaction.



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

Communications, computers and the whole electronic revolution are topics of conversation today. New, easy, small, having great potential and fun to work with, computers have never been so full of possibilities. You are driven and passionate in your pursuit of change and inner growth. This ceaseless analytical activity, while central to your nature, may be the source of discomfort to others. You could come up with new solutions or inventions or revive an outdated technique. Someone close to you understands you and is supportive of your ideas. Reunions with old friends, through the mail, phone calls or drop-by visits, are possible this evening. This is a real time for communications with loved ones.



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

This is a good day to solve problems. You will find a way around almost any obstacle and are in control and able to guide yourself with ease. Your sense of inner direction is good and should lead to opportunities. You are in top form when choosing or helping others to choose business ventures. Your keen business sense is never sharper than when you are working with or for others-a group, corporation, etc. You are able to find some nonessential project in the workplace and end up saving the company a great deal of money-just look. Your actions will receive support from higher-ups as well as from co-workers around you. Opportunities are available for social interactions this evening.



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

Good for you-you have found new ways to serve others and are learning many new things about better dieting, health tactics and ecology, etc. New or alternate lifestyles and new ways to make a living may interest you at this time. You may discover that people enjoy hearing what you have to say and a good living could be made in selling guidance! Some of your vacation time could be spent in this type of research. You are economy personified, always able to salvage and redeem. You like to tend and care for people, and particularly, for the good earth. You would do well to set aside time to create a vegetable garden, if there is room. To relax by gardening is a most rewarding type of activity. Pottery gardens also work well. Answers are there-don't push.



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

Your career always seems to get the support you need and today is no exception. You seem to understand what the public wants and mass marketing could be a natural for you. You are an impartial thinker, democratic to the point of being impersonal. Fascinated by the latest technology, you may have some very original ideas. Always thinking of the world as one unit, you are idealistic and believe in putting into practice what is preached. You make a meaningful event out of plain talk. Creative careers such as advertising, hair design and jewelry making are wonderful professions for you to consider. You may have mastered the idea of positive thinking and could probably talk someone into feeling better, eventually creating a healing.



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

There could be a sense of challenge this morning. You may not find the support available just now. Some sort of temporary obstacle may appear that could become frustrating. This is a good day, however, to get your busywork done and to dive into some personal business of your own. This afternoon a bit of exercise may take you away from the morning difficulties and make answers easier to find. You are able to create new ideas and workable solutions to some ongoing difficulty. However, it is not time to deliver your ideas yet; put them on paper first. Conversations of an inspiring kind may be in order this evening. A loved one wants you to be happy. This could mean a trip to the ice cream store or perhaps a simple back rub.



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

Broadening your intellectual and spiritual horizons takes on a high priority. Being in touch with ideas and people on a grand scale keeps your mind busy. There could be an important errand or project for you to deal with this afternoon-there could be travel. Circumstances should work together to help create successes for you. This is a good time to project your image. Do not go overboard in your activities-find some rest and relaxation times, so as to refocus your thoughts. This evening you will find a time of nostalgia-perhaps there is also a need for security and a sense of roots. Family, home, relatives and real estate play a big part in your life now. A special time with your loved one is possible this evening-do not rush.



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

Business presentations or lectures absorb most of your energy today. You could have difficulty getting your ideas across, sometimes feeling inadequate in matters that require logic. You may have doubts about those who talk too much and seem long on ideas. If you are cooped up in a vehicle for much of the day, or sitting at a desk for long periods, you might want to stretch your legs and walk around a bit. One can always benefit from the boost in energy that this little exercise helps to create. A breath of fresh air is in order. If you are in a shopping center this evening, you may be tempted to purchase items that might not really be what you wanted. Ask questions, compare prices and talk to some owners of the item in question.



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

You appear perhaps more sophisticated than usual this day. You may be preparing for a job interview, either within your company or outside of the company for which you work. You are ready for your interview and the decision will be up to you because you make a good impression. Now is the time to make yourself known. You could find that you are called upon to repeatedly step up and complete projects that others felt they could not accomplish. This is because you value your ability to intuitively know just what to do to get things accomplished. Diet, exercise and work are becoming more important and you set out to somehow make it fun. You may want to do some research on renting a cabin in a rustic place for your vacation.



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

The characteristic of the cycle you have just begun is thinking, learning and communicating with style. Intellectual creativity is highlighted and your social connections have a flair of drama to them. There may be some competition in obtaining a job change within your company. Keep applying for the interesting jobs that become available; higher-ups will see just how serious you are. You could add to your chances, however, by working up a proposal of sorts that says how your talents could add to the business. Winning the admiration of others for the things you say or write and the way you do it, takes on more importance in your life. Marriage or a serious relationship takes on a more secure feeling-especially if you are both investing in property.

**COUNTRY CODES**

Afghanistan	0093	Kuwait	00965
Albania	00355	Kyrgyzstan	00996
Algeria	00213	Laos	00856
Andorra	00376	Latvia	00371
Angola	00244	Lebanon	00961
Anguilla	001264	Liberia	00231
Antigua	001268	Libya	00218
Argentina	0054	Lithuania	00370
Armenia	00374	Luxembourg	00352
Australia	0061	Macau	00853
Austria	0043	Macedonia	00389
Bahamas	001242	Madagascar	00261
Bahrain	00973	Majorca	0034
Bangladesh	00880	Malawi	00265
Barbados	001246	Malaysia	0060
Belarus	00375	Maldives	00960
Belgium	0032	Mali	00223
Belize	00501	Malta	00356
Benin	00229	Marshall Islands	00692
Bermuda	001441	Martinique	00596
Bhutan	00975	Mauritania	00222
Bolivia	00591	Mauritius	00230
Bosnia	00387	Mayotte	00269
Botswana	00267	Mexico	0052
Brazil	0055	Micronesia	00691
Brunei	00673	Moldova	00373
Bulgaria	00359	Monaco	00377
Burkina	00226	Mongolia	00976
Burundi	00257	Montserrat	001664
Cambodia	00855	Morocco	00212
Cameroon	00237	Mozambique	00258
Canada	001	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Cape Verde	00238	Namibia	00264
Cayman Islands	001345	Nepal	00977
Central African Republic	00236	Netherlands (Holland)	0031
Chad	00235	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Chile	0056	New Caledonia	00687
China	0086	New Zealand	0064
Colombia	0057	Nicaragua	00505
Comoros	00269	Nigar	00227
Congo	00242	Nigeria	00234
Cook Islands	00682	Niue	00683
Costa Rica	00506	Norfolk Island	00672
Croatia	00385	Northern Ireland (UK)	0044
Cuba	0053	North Korea	00850
Cyprus	00357	Norway	0047
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Oman	00968
Czech Republic	00420	Pakistan	0092
Denmark	0045	Palau	00680
Diego Garcia	00246	Panama	00507
Djibouti	00253	Papua New Guinea	00675
Dominica	001767	Paraguay	00595
Dominican Republic	001809	Peru	0051
Ecuador	00593	Philippines	0063
Egypt	0020	Poland	0048
El Salvador	00503	Portugal	00351
England (UK)	0044	Puerto Rico	001787
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Qatar	00974
Eritrea	00291	Romania	0040
Estonia	00372	Russian Federation	007
Ethiopia	00251	Rwanda	00250
Falkland Islands	00500	Saint Helena	00290
Faroe Islands	00298	Saint Kitts	001869
Fiji	00679	Saint Lucia	001758
Finland	00358	Saint Pierre	00508
France	0033	Saint Vincent	001784
French Guiana	00594	Samoa US	00684
French Polynesia	00689	Samoa West	00685
Gabon	00241	San Marino	00378
Gambia	00220	Sao Tome	00239
Georgia	00995	Saudi Arabia	00966
Germany	0049	Scotland (UK)	0044
Ghana	00233	Senegal	00221
Gibraltar	00350	Seychelles	00284
Greece	0030	Sierra Leone	00232
Greenland	00299	Singapore	0065
Grenada	001473	Slovakia	00421
Guadeloupe	00590	Slovenia	00386
Guam	001671	Solomon Islands	00677
Guatemala	00502	Somalia	00252
Guinea	00224	South Africa	0027
Guyana	00592	South Korea	0082
Haiti	00509	Spain	0034
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Sri Lanka	0094
Honduras	00504	Sudan	00249
Hong Kong	00852	Suriname	00597
Hungary	0036	Swaziland	00268
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Sweden	0046
Iceland	00354	Switzerland	0041
India	0091	Syria	00963
Indian Ocean	00873	Taiwan	00886
Indonesia	0062	Tanzania	00255
Iran	0098	Thailand	0066
Iraq	00964	Toga	00228
Ireland	00353	Tonga	00676
Italy	0039	Tokelau	00690
Ivory Coast	00225	Trinidad	001868
Jamaica	001876	Tunisia	00216
Japan	0081	Turkey	0090
Jordan	00962	Tuvalu	00688
Kazakhstan	007	Uganda	00256
Kenya	00254	Ukraine	00380
Kiribati	00686	United Arab Emirates	00976

# FIRST VIRUS-HUNTER IN SPACE WILL TEST DNA-DECODING DEVICE

## FIRST DNA DECODING OR SEQUENCING IN ORBIT WITH A POCKET-SIZE DEVICE

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida:** The first virus-hunter in space is all set to conduct some cosmic, new DNA research. Newly arrived space station astronaut Kate Rubins will attempt to complete the first full-blown DNA decoding, or "sequencing," in orbit with a pocket-size device that should be delivered next week. "We're really interested in how this works in microgravity. It's never been done before," she said in an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday, four days after arriving at the International Space Station.

She said the benefits of DNA sequencing in space are huge. She noted it also could prove useful in remote locations on Earth. The device will arrive at the orbiting lab on the next SpaceX delivery. Liftoff is scheduled for early Monday morning from Cape Canaveral. Trained as a professional virus-hunter, Rubins traveled to Congo for her research before becoming an astronaut in 2009. She wore top-level biosafety suits for her work with Ebola, smallpox and other deadly viruses on Earth, but won't need such extreme precautions when she fires up the device in space.

### Extreme and bizarre

At the space station, Rubins will be working with harmless test samples: bacteria, a virus and a mouse genome. "We've got a lot of safety folks on the ground making sure that nothing dangerous gets on board," said the first-time space flier. Researchers initially wanted to fly "extreme and bizarre" samples, but decided to stick with well-sequenced, well-understood genomes for easy comparison, said Sarah

Wallace, a microbiologist at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Control tests will be conducted on Earth, including by aquanauts who will move into an underwater habitat next week off the

study viruses.

"Altogether, it's an extremely exciting research package and a great capability on board station," Rubins said. Researchers will better understand bone loss and microbial

### DNA sequencer

NASA is interested in another potential application: The detection of life. Officials acknowledge more development would be needed for that capability at Mars and elsewhere. The miniaturized biomolecule sequencer, called MinION by its maker in England, is less than 4 inches long and just 4 ounces including a USB cable. It hooks up to a laptop or electronic tablet. "Picture your smartphone and cut that in half," Wallace said.

The results will be beamed down following each experiment and analyzed by researchers on Earth. Microbiologists are particularly interested in how the liquid test samples will behave in weightlessness, especially if bubbles form. Although the device is meant to be foolproof and used by anyone on the crew, "we are so fortunate to have Kate up there" to perform the first tests, Wallace noted. Rubins was heavily involved with the study from the beginning.

Following this initial \$45,000 experiment, the DNA sequencer will remain on board for possible further use - conceivably even for diagnosing astronaut health in the off-chance of an infectious outbreak. Oxford Nanopore Technologies, the company behind the experiment, said the device going to space is the same model already used by more than 1,000 scientists in 30 countries. Rubins arrived at the space station on Saturday, along with a Russian and Japanese, for a four-month stay. They launched from Kazakhstan on a Russian rocket.—AP



**FILE PHOTO: This undated image made available by Oxford Nanopore Technologies, shows the company's MinION DNA sequencer.—AP**

coast of Key Largo, Florida. The machine is already commercially available. A DNA sequencer reveals the order of chemical building blocks along a stretch of DNA. That sequence contains the hereditary information that's passed from one generation of organisms to the next. Among other things, that can be useful to identify and

changes in space, Rubins noted, thanks to this new research. "But it also actually has a benefit for the Earth-based research as well," she said. "When we do things in a remote environment up here, we can understand how these technologies might work in remote places on Earth that don't have access to good medical care."

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THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF





Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem

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## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (14/07/2016 TO 20/07/2016)

<b>SHARQIA-1</b> CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS SULTAN- HINDI INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE NOW YOU SEE ME 2	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 6:15 PM 9:30 PM 12:05 AM
<b>SHARQIA-2</b> GHOSTBUSTERS GHOSTBUSTERS FINDING DORY -3D GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GHOSTBUSTERS	1:00 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM
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### CHANGE OF NAME

I, Jayaraman Sekar holder of Indian Passport No. K7934219, residing at D.No. 215 a Middle street, Thevarkan Danallur Village Kulikarai Post Kudavasal Taluk, Tanjore district, hereby changed my name to Jayaraman Ravichandran. (C 5188)

I, Nagarajan Arumugam Shetty, Passport No. H0113366, issued at Kuwait on 26.11.2008. Father name: Arumugam Marudan Shetty, residing at Post Box No.

### URGENTLY REQUIRED

## CASHIER

Super Service Auto Care Company

- Requirements:
- Updated CV.
  - Transferable visa 18.
  - 3 years experience in the same field.
  - Must be Bilingual.
  - Be able to join the team immediately.

Kindly send the CVs to [jobneedkw@outlook.com](mailto:jobneedkw@outlook.com)

28506, Safat 13146 Kuwait. Shall henceforth be known as Nagarajan Arumugam. (C 5189) 14-7-2016

### PRAYER TIMINGS

<b>Fajr:</b>	<b>03:25</b>
<b>Shorook</b>	<b>04:58</b>
<b>Duhr:</b>	<b>11:54</b>
<b>Asr:</b>	<b>15:28</b>
<b>Maghrib:</b>	<b>18:49</b>
<b>Isha:</b>	<b>20:19</b>



## Hospitals

<b>Sabah Hospital</b>	<b>24812000</b>
<b>Amiri Hospital</b>	<b>22450005</b>
<b>Maternity Hospital</b>	<b>24843100</b>
<b>Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital</b>	<b>25312700</b>
<b>Chest Hospital</b>	<b>24849400</b>
<b>Farwaniya Hospital</b>	<b>24892010</b>
<b>Adan Hospital</b>	<b>23940620</b>
<b>Ibn Sina Hospital</b>	<b>24840300</b>
<b>Al-Razi Hospital</b>	<b>24846000</b>
<b>Physiotherapy Hospital</b>	<b>24874330/9</b>

## Clinics

<b>Kaizen center</b>	<b>25716707</b>
<b>Rawda</b>	<b>22517733</b>
<b>Adaliya</b>	<b>22517144</b>
<b>Khaldiya</b>	<b>24848075</b>
<b>Kaifan</b>	<b>24849807</b>
<b>Shamiya</b>	<b>24848913</b>
<b>Shuwaikh</b>	<b>24814507</b>
<b>Abdullah Salem</b>	<b>22549134</b>
<b>Nuzha</b>	<b>22526804</b>
<b>Industrial Shuwaikh</b>	<b>24814764</b>
<b>Qadsiya</b>	<b>22515088</b>
<b>Dasmah</b>	<b>22532265</b>
<b>Bneid Al-Gar</b>	<b>22531908</b>
<b>Shaab</b>	<b>22518752</b>
<b>Qibla</b>	<b>22459381</b>

# Friday Times BUSINESS

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

## JPMORGAN'S EARNINGS SURPASS FORECASTS

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Asia markets soar again

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LONDON: Pedestrians walk past the Bank of England (BOE) in the City of London. — AFP

# BANK OF ENGLAND OPTS AGAINST RATE CUT

## DESPITE CLEAR EVIDENCE OF ECONOMIC DAMAGE

**LONDON:** The Bank of England surprised financial markets by opting against a cut in interest rates yesterday, despite clear evidence of the initial economic damage caused by the country's vote last month to leave the European Union. The bank said it was too soon to know the full impact of the Brexit vote - even though the housing market already shows signs of struggling and business confidence has plummeted. However, it did signal that it could cut rates at its meeting in early August after receiving additional data on how the economy is faring in the wake of the June 23 referendum.

The recently battered British pound, which fell to a 31-year low against the dollar in the aftermath of the vote, rallied following the bank's announcement. The pound was up 1.4 percent at \$1.3308 and 1.5 percent firmer at 1.20 Euros. Bank of England Gov Mark Carney and seven other policymakers at the central bank chose to keep policy on hold on Thursday, including maintaining the benchmark rate - so-called Bank Rate - at 0.5 percent. Only Gertjan Vlieghe voted to reduce it a quarter of a percentage point to 0.25 percent.

### Heading for recession

Most economists had expected a cut to shore up the British economy, which policymakers conceded has already taken a hit. Many economists think Britain could now be heading for a recession later this year as the uncertainty over the country's future dents household spending and business investment. In the statement accompanying its decision, the rate-setting committee noted there were early indications that firms were delaying investment projects and postponing recruitment, and that the housing market has weakened. "Taken together, these indicators suggest economic activity is likely to weaken in the near term," the bank said. But the bank said it was too early to know for certain.

"Most members of the committee expect monetary policy to be loosened in August," the bank said. "The precise size and nature of any stimulatory measures will be determined during the August forecast and Inflation Report." The decision to hold fire comes after weeks of political uncertainty that has unnerved investors in global markets and clouded Britain's economic

outlook. Some of that uncertainty ended on Wednesday when Theresa May became Britain's new prime minister. One of her first acts was to appoint Philip Hammond as the country's new Treasury chief. Hammond tried to sound a reassuring note, pledging that he would not introduce an emergency national budget. "Britain is open for business," Hammond told Sky News. "We are not turning our back on the world." Hammond was due to meet Carney on Thursday to "assess where we are."

### Asset-purchase program

As well as keeping borrowing rates unchanged, the committee also chose to keep its asset-purchase program unchanged at 375 billion pounds (\$500 billion). Bank policymakers hinted at an expansion of that program, which is designed to keep market interest rates low and encourage financial institutions to lend, is possible ahead of their next decision on August 4. "The committee discussed various easing options and combinations thereof," the bank said in a statement.

Many in the markets had been anticipating a stimulus of some sort at Thursday's meeting after recent comments from Carney. He had warned of trouble before the vote and said recently that the negative impacts of the EU exit vote had begun to crystallize. A plunge in consumer confidence as measured by market research firm GfK and evidence of markedly reduced business sentiment offered the backdrop for action sooner rather than later. And home sales plummeted in June, according to a report released Thursday by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

According to Aberdeen Asset Management Economist Paul Diggie, Carney and his peers on the MPC appear to be biding their time. "The Bank of England has decided that patience is a virtue," he said. But others say that the decision to hold off might only compound the confusion. "The lack of clear direction is more likely to add to economic uncertainty and therefore be detrimental to demand and the economy," said Angus Armstrong, the director of macroeconomics at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. — AP

## QATAR AIRWAYS TO PURCHASE 49 PERCENT OF MERIDIANA

**DOHA:** Qatar Airways is to buy 49 percent of Meridiana in a move that could bolster the Italian carrier's ability to compete in the European market. The agreement was reached at the Farnborough International Airshow and the deal will close in early October, subject to certain conditions, Qatar Airways said in a statement yesterday. The airline gave no further detail on the conditions or the price.

Meridiana had asked labor unions to agree to 900 job cuts nearly half its workforce as part of a planned partnership with Qatar Airways, a person involved in the talks told Reuters in February. Last month, the Italian government, unions and Meridiana reached an agreement opening the way for the deal to go ahead. The agreement included the loss of about 400 jobs, union officials said. Meridiana, which offers flights to

and from the island of Sardinia and other destinations in Italy and elsewhere, is owned by the Aga Khan, a businessman and spiritual leader of the Ismaili Muslims. The airline is operating under a government-sponsored restructuring plan to help turn it around.

"Partnering with Meridiana would only make Meridiana prosper, grow and actually increase the working population of Meridiana," Qatar Airlines Chief

Executive Akbar Al-Baker said in April. "But for the initial period there will be some pain on the part of employees," he said. Qatar Airways holds around a 15 percent stake in British Airways parent IAG and has been open to making further investments to help to expand its reach. The Middle East carrier is also considering taking a 25-49 percent stake in Morocco's Royal Air Maroc, Baker has said. — Reuters

## INDIA FIRM TCS BOOKS QUARTERLY PROFIT RISE

**MUMBAI:** India's biggest IT sourcing firm Tata Consultancy Services reported better-than-expected quarterly earnings yesterday, boosted by rising demand for its cloud computing services. The firm, based in India's financial capital Mumbai, said net profit for the three months to June 30 rose to 63.17 billion rupees (\$944 million) from 57.09 billion rupees for the same period a year ago.

That was above the 60.6 billion-rupee average from a survey of analysts' estimates compiled by Bloomberg News and marked an increase of over nine percent on-year. "Strong execution and accelerating customer adoption of Cloud, Big Data & Analytics has driven broad-based growth across key markets and industries," TCS chief executive N. Chandrasekaran said in a statement. "Our investments in platforms are gaining significant traction as customers look to boost business agility and enhance their time-to-market advantage to gain a competitive edge."

Chandrasekaran told a press conference he remained optimistic about future earnings and said the firm recorded digital revenues at 15.9 percent in the first quarter.

TCS added 17,792 new employees during the just-ended quarter. India has become a back office to the world as companies, especially in developed nations, have subcontracted work to firms such as TCS, taking advantage of the country's skilled English-speaking workforce.

The flagship industry has made India a top business destination by offering software development and information technology, engineering and design and other services. TCS competitor Infosys is due to release its quarterly results today. — AFP



**MUMBAI:** In this Friday, June 17, 2016, file photo, Chairman of Tata Group, Cyrus Mistry, speaks during the annual general meeting of Tata Consultancy Services. — AP



**SEOUL:** A shopper looks at clothes next to discount sale signs at a store. — AP

## S KOREA'S CENTRAL BANK LOWERS GROWTH OUTLOOK CITING BRITAIN'S DECISION TO LEAVE EU

**SEOUL:** South Korea's central bank lowered its growth outlook on Asia's fourth-largest economy yesterday, citing Britain's decision to leave the European Union. South Korea's economy will likely expand 2.7 percent this year, compared with its April prediction of 2.8 percent, Bank of Korea said. Next year, it will eke out 2.9 percent growth.

The downward revision follows the Finance Ministry's outlook cut last month. It confirms worries that South Korea's once dynamic economy will go through a period of slow growth. The bank blamed a drag in the global economic recovery due to increased uncertainties caused by Britain's decision to leave the EU. South Korea's export to Britain is not significant but the referendum outcome dented investor sentiment.

Encouraging companies to spend more was a key challenge for policymakers during the first half of this year, but South Korean companies were reluctant to make big investments because of weak global demand, oversupplies in some industries and dim outlook in the global economy. Companies are expected to sharply cut their capital investment for the rest of

the year as Britain's EU departure and restructuring at local shipbuilders created more uncertainties.

The outlook for household income conditions is also not optimistic, though the bank noted that growth in construction investment was one bright spot. Spending on constructing buildings was expected to strengthen thanks to gains in new residential buildings. Also yesterday, Bank of Korea policymakers left the policy rate at a record low of 1.25 percent, after lowering the rate last month. The rate cut came shortly after South Korea's finance ministry introduced stimulus measures to cushion the impact on job markets as efforts to restructure loss-making shipbuilding companies would lead to a surge in unemployment rates.

The consumer price index will likely see a soft growth at about 1 percent this year, according to Bank of Korea, much lower than its inflation target of 2 percent. Some economists believe that the policymakers would cut the key rate once again this year amid a low inflationary pressure and weak corporate sentiment. — AP

## UAE BANK WARNS ON CREDIT GROWTH

**ABU DHABI/DUBAI:** Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank (ADIB) warned yesterday it was restricting the amount of new credit it was extending due to an increase in defaults across its business lines. The message from the emirate's largest Islamic bank is perhaps the most stark yet of the impact on the banking sector in the United Arab Emirates from reduced government spending as a result of lower oil prices.

This came after the bank posted a 1 percent rise in second-quarter net profit to 507.5 million Dirhams (\$138.2 million), a result which beat the

forecasts of analysts at EFG Hermes and Arqaam Capital. It came on the same day another Abu Dhabi lender, Union National Bank, reported a fourth successive quarter of lower earnings due to the difficult market conditions. In a statement announcing ADIB's results, Chief Executive Tirad Al-Mahmoud said it remained concerned about the levels of economic activity and growth in the region and in the world's major markets.

"Our concern is further exacerbated by the rising levels of defaults in an increasing number of client segments and industry sectors in the

markets in which we operate," said Mahmoud after the bank set aside 234 million Dirhams as provisions for bad loans in the second quarter, up 33.6 percent year on year.

"As a result, we continue to forecast modest new customer financing growth and, where credit extension is targeted, will continue our practice of only doing so in such a manner that the risk related returns are commensurate with our long-term regulatory capital needs and return of shareholders equity goals."

Net customer financing stood at 79.7 billion

Dirhams on June 30, up 6.9 percent year on year but only 1.6 percent higher since the end of 2015. Income from traditional banking practices was 982.3 million Dirhams, up 6.9 percent on the same three months of 2015. The bank's earnings received greater support from its income from investments and foreign exchange, which grew 28.2 percent to 204.3 million Dirhams and 16.1 percent to 43.7 million Dirhams respectively. As part of its cost-cutting measures, the bank reduced headcount in the UAE by 110 to 2,349 in the second quarter of 2016, it said. — Reuters

## CALIFORNIA DECLINES VOLKSWAGEN RECALL

**CALIFORNIA:** The California Air Resources Board has rejected Volkswagen's plan to recall vehicles with 3-liter diesel engines, calling the proposal incomplete and deficient. The German automaker has agreed to spend up to \$15.3 billion to settle consumer lawsuits and government allegations that diesel cars with smaller 2-liter engines cheated on US emissions tests.

But California said Wednesday that Volkswagen hasn't provided a full description of devices that turn off pollution controls on the 3-liter engines, and its proposed plan doesn't let CARB fully evaluate whether it would even fix the emissions. The California regulator will continue talks with Volkswagen and the Environmental Protection Agency to reach a solution that "fully mitigates the excess emissions." An EPA spokesperson said that the agency is working closely with CARB and agrees with California that "VW has not presented an approvable proposed recall plan for the 3-liter diesel vehicles."

A Volkswagen representative called the announcement a "procedural step under California state law," and said the automaker will continue to work closely with the EPA and CARB to reach a solution "as quickly as possible." California's action is limited to 3-liter diesel passenger cars for model years 2009 to 2016 sold in California, about 16,000 Volkswagens, Audis and Porsches in all. About 85,000 VW 3-liter diesel vehicles that cheat on emissions are on roadways nationwide. — AP



**NEW YORK:** In this Monday, Oct 21, 2013, file photo, the JPMorgan Chase logo is displayed at their headquarters. — AP

## JPMORGAN'S EARNINGS SURPASS FORECASTS AS REVENUE JUMPS

### BANK ABLE TO KEEP CUTTING EXPENSES

**NEW YORK:** JPMorgan Chase & Co. reported solid second-quarter earnings yesterday as trading revenue jumped. The bank was also able to continue cutting expenses. The largest US bank by assets earned \$5.67 billion after payments to preferred shareholders, down slightly from a profit of \$5.78 billion in the same period a year earlier. On a per share basis, the bank earned \$1.55, compared with \$1.54 a year earlier as the amount of shares outstanding decreased.

JPMorgan's results topped Wall Street's expectations. Analysts expected earnings of \$1.42 per share, according to FactSet. "JPMorgan Chase continued to perform well in all of our major businesses," JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon said in prepared remarks. The bank's two largest divisions, consumer banking and investment banking, both reported solid growth. Within investment banking, JPMorgan's trading division did particularly well. Revenue there climbed 13 percent from a year earlier, to \$6.5 billion. Fixed income trading revenue soared 35 percent, while revenue from stock trading rose 2 percent.

Marianne Lake, JPMorgan's chief financial officer, said there were several reasons for the jump in trading revenue. Trading maintained momentum through the second half of June, instead of tapering off as it has done so historically, possibly as a result of the U.K.'s vote to leave the European Union. The bank also benefited from oil prices stabilizing and bond prices rising sharply this quarter. It remains too

soon to tell whether JPMorgan will move its European operations out of London to another part of Europe as a result of the vote, Lake said.

"We would like to believe that we would continue to have our European franchise headquartered in London, but it's too early to say," Lake said in a conference call with reporters. In JPMorgan's consumer bank, net revenue gained 4 percent to \$11.45 billion as deposits and loans grew. Customers used their credit cards more and kept higher balances on their cards, a signal that Americans are feeling confident

enough to take on increasing amounts of debt again.

The bank also appears to be opening up lending to a larger number of consumers as well. While the bank's credit charge offs rose in the quarter, Lake said that was largely due to the bank "opening the credit box," a term used by bankers to say they are making loans to people who wouldn't have qualified before. Net revenue rose to \$25.21 billion from \$24.53 billion in the same period a year earlier. JPMorgan's stock rose 2.8 percent in pre-market trading yesterday. — AP

## CUBA EYES 'REFORMS'

**HAVANA:** Cuba announced Wednesday it was reshuffling leadership at its economy ministry so its current chief could focus on making reforms. Economic Minister Marino Murillo, 55, has been in the post since 2014 and implemented some small changes away from the top-down, Soviet-style economy that the country's had for more than five decades.

Notably, the ranks of state workers have been reduced, as thousands of Cubans try out jobs on a longer list of legal self-employment opportunities under President Raul Castro. However, the changes have not had broad impact. Most people still work for the state, oxen still plow fields and food production is spotty. Cash-strapped Cuba is unable to get credit from

international markets, and needs to restructure its international debt. The Council of State said it was putting Vice President Ricardo Cabrisas, 79, at the Economy Ministry's helm, so Murillo could "focus on work related to updating the Cuban social and economic model (economic reforms)."

Cuba has been hard hit by the inability of Venezuela, its key political ally in the region, to provide crucial economic support. Venezuela's oil-dependent economy is in crisis due to the low price of crude and management issues. The United States and Cuba restored diplomatic ties in July 2015 but most US economic sanctions on Havana have not been removed by the Republican-run US Congress. — AFP

## US JOBLESS CLAIMS HOLD STEADY AT LOWER LEVELS

**WASHINGTON:** A modest number of Americans filed new claims for US unemployment insurance benefits last week, fresh evidence of steady improvement in the jobs market, government data showed yesterday. Initial jobless claims, a sign of the level of layoffs, held near a three-month low for the second week running, the Labor Department said.

Claims were unchanged at 254,000 in the week ending July 9 from the prior week's unrevised level. Claims have held below 300,000 for 71 straight weeks, the longest streak since 1973. The economy added a robust 287,000 jobs in June, quelling concerns about a broader US economic slowdown. Monthly job growth has slowed this year from the 2015 pace but remains strong enough to keep the unemployment rate declining, analysts said. It was 4.9 percent last month. The four-week moving average of initial jobless claims fell last week by 5,750 to 259,000. A year ago it was 280,250. "We see no reason to expect any change in the trend, which remains extraordinarily low," said Ian Shepherdson of Pantheon Macroeconomics. "But low claims are not alone enough to ensure big payroll gains every month, because they tell us nothing about short-term shifts in hiring." — AFP



**FLORIDA:** In this Tuesday, Oct 6, 2015, file photo, a military veteran, right, talks with a Career Source Broward veterans outreach representative about employment opportunities at a job fair in Pembroke Pines. — AP

## CHINA LIKELY HACKED US BANK REGULATOR

**WASHINGTON:** The Chinese government is believed to have infiltrated computers belonging to a US banking regulator, which employees then tried to cover up, a Congressional report released Wednesday said. The computer system at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), which guarantees US banking deposits, was "hacked by a foreign government, likely the Chinese" the document said.

According to the report, which was released by the Republican-led Science, Space and Technology Committee, the agency then tried to hide the attacks. "The FDIC's repeated unwillingness to be open and transparent with the committee's investigation raises serious concerns about whether the agency is still attempting to shield information from production to Congress," the report said.

According to the committee, the first hacking was detected in 2010, and the problem reared its head again in 2011 and 2013. "In all, 12 workstations were compromised and 10 FDIC servers were penetrated and infected by a virus created by a hacker," the committee said. "Even the former chairwoman's computer" had been compromised, it added. National Security Agency chief Michael Rogers told Congress in April that Chinese hackers remain "engaged in activity directed against US companies." He said that the "jury is still out" on whether China then passes the intel to the business world. FDIC chairman Martin Gruenberg will be grilled before the committee on Thursday. Interim inspector general Fred Gibson will also testify. — AFP

## MESSAGING APP LINE GAMBLES ON STICKERS

**TOKYO:** A year ago, Siobhan Stollznow would have scoffed at the idea of using cartoon characters instead of words to chat with friends on her smartphone—until she got hooked on messaging app Line. The Australian student is now one of millions of converts to Line's huge assortment of animated "stickers", which some too-busy-to-text fans rely on to express their feelings—a kind of animated language.

"I was surprised at first. How can you have a conversation through stickers?" said the 22-year-old at a store in Tokyo's Harajuku district which sells mugs, t-shirts and other merchandise decorated with Line's cutesy characters. "I guess it kind of grew on me...Each (character) has got their unique personality." Japan-based Line is betting on those stickers as it kicks off a dual New York-Tokyo stock listing from Thursday, after an initial public offering worth about \$1.3 billion, expected to be one of the year's biggest share sales.

The company, owned by South Korea's Naver Corporation, is going public to finance an expansion aimed at boosting its roster of 218 million active monthly users—and help it compete with larger rivals WhatsApp and China's WeChat. Most Line users are in a handful of countries, including Japan, Thailand, and Indonesia, and so is looking to tap other markets such as the US and Europe where it is not a major player. Nanako, a 25-year-old tech industry worker from San Francisco, will be taking back good words about Line to the US—along with some socks and a cup decorated with her favourite character, a yellow duck named Sally.

"The stickers are so good at explaining how we feel," she said at the retail store in Tokyo's youth fashion district. Line can also be used to make free calls, send no-charge instant messages, and post photos or short videos, along with a host of other paid-services. —AFP



**NEW YORK:** Japanese messaging app Line has its IPO at the New York Stock Exchange yesterday. — AP



**TOKYO:** People walk past an electronic stock indicator of a securities firm in Tokyo showing Japan's Nikkei that closed nearly 1 percent higher at 16,385.89 yesterday. — AP

# ASIA MARKETS SOAR AGAIN

## THE GAINS EXTEND A GLOBAL ADVANCE

**HONG KONG:** Japanese stocks led a broad rally on Asian markets yesterday, posting a fourth straight gain as investors took heart from another record close on Wall Street, while the pound rose ahead of a key central bank meeting. The Nikkei index has now wiped out all the losses sustained after Britain's shock vote to leave the EU, while the yen sank further as traders await details on promised government economic stimulus.

The gains extend a global advance this week fuelled by talk of growth-boosting measures from central banks and governments around the world. Tokyo has been the stand-out performer with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe expected to unveil a new round of spending as the world's number three economy limps along. The Nikkei 225 ended one percent higher, helped by another fall in the value of the yen, which has been buffeted by the prospect that more stimulus cash will be flooding financial markets.

The dollar bought 105.50 yen in the afternoon, up from 104.52 yen in New York Wednesday. Gaming giant Nintendo ended another 16 percent higher thanks to the huge success of its Pokemon Go game. The firm has now soared more than 60 percent since last Thursday's close. However, analysts say there is still some linger-

ing nervousness on trading floors.

"Investors remain very skittish and it won't take much to rattle sentiment," James Audiss, a senior investment adviser at Shaw and Partners in Sydney, told Bloomberg News. "We're watching the yen-dollar rate really closely." The pound rose to \$1.3226 from \$1.3144 in New York, hours before a Bank of England policy meeting many expect will see a cut in interest rates from an already record low 0.5 percent to 0.25 percent, or even zero, as it tries to plot a course after the Brexit vote.

It is also well up from the levels below \$1.28 touched last week, thanks to the surprisingly quick change of leadership of the ruling Conservative party, with Theresa May taking over from David Cameron as prime minister. The news provided traders with some much-needed stability following Cameron's resignation immediately after losing the June 23 referendum.

### China woes

Hong Kong rose 1.1 percent but Shanghai ended down 0.2 percent, a day after China unveiled data showing imports and exports both fell last month, reinforcing worries about the slowing economy. The figures bode ill for Friday's release of second-quarter

economic growth figures, which is expected to come in at a seven-year low of 6.6 percent, according to a survey by AFP.

China's Yuan dropped to its lowest in nearly six years on the back of the trade data. The unit was at 6.6878 against the dollar yesterday—just off levels last reached in November 2010. "All eyes are on China's economic data for the second quarter—if the numbers turn out to be weak, the Yuan may depreciate beyond 6.7 per dollar," Andy Ji, a foreign-exchange strategist at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, said. Elsewhere, Sydney edged up 0.4 percent and Seoul added 0.2 percent, while Wellington and Taipei also posted gains.

On Wall Street, the Dow and S&P 500 posted new records after a Federal Reserve report described the US economy as still modestly growing with signs of a slowdown in consumer spending.

Oil prices rebounded following a 4.5 percent slump Wednesday caused by a smaller-than-forecast drop in US inventories. In afternoon Asian trade West Texas Intermediate was up 0.9 percent at \$45.17 and Brent added 0.7 percent to \$46.60. In early European trade London added 0.9 percent, Paris put on one percent and Frankfurt surged 1.4 percent. — AFP



## DELTA'S 2Q PROFIT RISES DESPITE REVENUE DROP

**DALLAS:** Delta Air Lines Inc.'s second-quarter profit beat expectations despite lower revenue, and the company plans to limit its growth in a bid to push fares higher. Lower fuel prices have helped airlines earn big profits. That continued at Delta, which said yesterday that net income for the April-to-June quarter was \$1.55 billion, up 4 percent from a year ago. But airline stocks have fallen this year - Delta's shares began yesterday down 22 percent in 2016 - because investors are skittish about a long slump in revenue per mile.

So-called unit revenue has been sliding for more than a year because cheaper fuel encouraged airlines to add flights and seats faster than demand could absorb, leading to lower average ticket prices. Delta's unit revenue tumbled nearly 5 percent in the second quarter. Meanwhile, oil prices have increased since hitting a decade-long low in February. While jet fuel is still much cheaper than it was two years ago, Delta CEO Ed Bastian said the year-to-year savings from falling fuel prices are mostly in the past.

Because of that, Bastian said in a statement issued with the earnings report, "it is important to achieving our long-term financial targets that we get unit revenues back to a positive trajectory." One step in that direction: Delta will grow its passenger-carrying capacity just 1 percent in the fourth quarter, half the increase it had been planning. Delta will cut planned flying between the US and the UK by a surprisingly large 6 percent. That is an important business-travel route, and Delta said it was scaling back in reaction to soft fares, the drop in the British pound, and uncertainty about the economic fallout from the UK's decision to leave the European Union.

The economic fate of Britain is doubly important to Delta because it owns 49 percent of British carrier Virgin Atlantic. For the second quarter, Delta said that excluding one-time items, its adjusted profit was \$1.47 per share. Thirteen analysts surveyed by FactSet predicted \$1.42. Revenue fell 2 percent to \$10.45 billion, below the analysts' forecast of \$10.48 billion. Delta shares dipped 17 cents to \$39.73 in premarket trading 30 minutes before the market open. Its shares have fallen more than 9 percent over the past year. — AP



**SEATTLE:** In this Sunday, March 6, 2016, photo, a Delta Air Lines Boeing 757 flies overhead. — AP

# COURT RULES ON GM CLAIMS

## DANGEROUS IGNITION EXPOSES AUTOMAKER TO LIABILITIES

**DETROIT:** A federal appeals court ruling that General Motors can't use its 2009 bankruptcy to fend off lawsuits over faulty and dangerous ignition switches exposes the automaker to billions in additional liabilities, according to legal experts. The 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan on Wednesday ruled that GM knew about the defective switches when it entered bankruptcy seven years ago but kept them secret from the bankruptcy court. By failing to disclose the problems, GM prevented crash victims from making claims or contesting the bankruptcy provisions, robbing them of due process, the court ruled.

In a 74-page opinion, a three-judge panel said that GM essentially asked the court to reward it for concealing claims. "We decline to do so," the court said. Under terms of the government-funded bankruptcy, the company that emerged, referred to as New GM, was indemnified against most claims against the pre-bankruptcy company, or Old GM. Retired US Bankruptcy Judge Robert Gerber ruled in April 2015 that most ignition-switch claimants could not sue New GM for damages because the company should emerge from bankruptcy free of claims against Old GM.

But the appeals court overturned most of that decision and allowed hundreds of pre-bankruptcy claims to proceed, including some lawsuits alleging that GM's actions caused the value of its cars to drop. "I think GM now has to think about its potential exposure as being in the billions," said Erik Gordon, a lawyer and professor at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. Steve Berman, a lead attorney in the loss-of-value cases, said the appeals court ruled the bankruptcy order doesn't protect New GM from claims that it misrepresented the safety of cars made by pre-bankruptcy GM. The appeals judges, he said, determined that Old GM knew that the cars could stall and air bags wouldn't work but didn't reveal those facts during the bankruptcy.

Gerber's ruling took away legal rights of crash victims because they never got a chance to contest the bankruptcy seven years ago, yet they were barred from suing New GM after the defective switches were disclosed, said William Weintraub, an attorney representing ignition switch accident plaintiffs. "The only person who could



**ROSEWELL:** In this Thursday, Jan 10, 2013, file photo, the logo for General Motors decorates the entrance at the site of a GM information technology center. — AP

effectively make an argument in 2009 is somebody who bought a time machine," Weintraub said.

### Thousands on hold

About 1,000 death and injury lawsuits were put on hold waiting for the appeals court to rule, said Robert Hilliard, another attorney in the case. General Motors' filings with securities regulators say there are another 101 US lawsuits pending that allege that GM's actions caused vehicle values to decline. Gordon said the loss-of-value cases will be difficult to prove, but the death and injury cases are problematic for GM.

General Motors Co said Wednesday that it was reviewing the impact of the ruling, which the company said does not decide whether claims are valid. "Many of the claims we face have been brought on behalf of car owners who want to be compensated even though they have not suffered any loss," a company statement said.

The ignition switches, which were put in small cars like the Chevrolet Cobalt, can slip out of the run position and cause cars to stall unexpectedly. They are linked to at least 124 deaths and 275 injuries. In its ruling, the appeals court said that the desire to move GM through bankruptcy quickly to avoid its collapse was "laudable," but it doesn't do away with basic constitutional principles. It took only 40 days for the bankruptcy to end, an unprecedented period at the time. "Due process applies even in a company's moment of crisis," the court wrote.

The ruling also could affect 399 injury and death cases settled for GM by compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg for a total of \$594.5 million. GM says those who settled gave up their legal rights to sue the company, but Hilliard said he will look into whether some of those claims could be reopened in light of the court's ruling. — AP

## EU ANTITRUST PROBES INCLUDE GOOGLE ADS

**BRUSSELS:** The European Union has opened a new front in its battle with Google, accusing the technology giant of abusing its dominant position in the online search market to benefit its own comparison shopping and advertising business. The EU's executive branch is already investigating whether Google gives preferential treatment to its own products

in its Android operating system.

"Google has come up with many innovative products that have made a difference to our lives," EU Antitrust Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said Thursday. "But that doesn't give Google the right to deny other companies the chance to compete and innovate." Vestager said Commission's preliminary probe has

revealed that Google has "unduly favored its own comparison shopping service in its general search result pages." This, she added, means that "consumers may not see the most relevant results to their search queries." Separately, Vestager said the Commission has expressed concern that Google is hindering rivals by limiting their ability to place search

adverts on third-party websites.

She asked Google and its parent company Alphabet to respond to the findings within 10 weeks. "But if our investigations conclude that Google has broken EU antitrust rules, the Commission has a duty to act to protect European consumers and fair competition on European markets," she said. — AP

## MOST OLYMPICS USE ONE POSTER, RIO GOES WITH COLLECTION OF 13

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Most Olympics have only one official poster. The Rio de Janeiro Games will have 13, a collection meant to showcase the diversity of Latin America's largest country. The collection, composed by 12 Brazilian artists and a Colombian, went on display on Tuesday at the Museum of Tomorrow, the modernist ship-like building designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava and set in Rio's renovated port area.

Carla Camurati, director of culture for the Rio Olympics, said the posters were meant

to highlight the variations in a country of 200 million that is made up former African slaves, native peoples, Europeans from Portugal and across Europe, Japanese - and mixtures of many more.

"It's really hard for us in Brazil to choose one artist to represent the Olympic Games, or represent the official posters," Camurati said at the unveiling. "The important thing for us and the Olympic Games is to show Brazil as it is, with the colors, with the brightness, with the beauty of the mixture of people that we have here; the mixture of

roots that we have."

The posters - mostly in hues of bright yellow, green, red and blue - focus on some of Rio's classic images: a muscled runner on Copacabana Beach, a dark-skinned youth in a Rio favela - or slum - and motifs tied to fish, nature and the sea.

Others show off the Olympics images - the five rings and the torch. Several are pure abstractions playing with swirls of colors. One looks at the varied grids of sports fields, and another is merely white specks sprayed across a black background.

The Colombian artist is Olga Amaral. Brazilians include the street artist Kobra, the painter Juarez Machado and artist-architect Gringo Cardia.

Camurati said the posters will remain in the museum until July 22. They go then to Deodoro in northern Rio, the second-largest cluster of Olympic venues. After that, they'll find permanent homes in area schools.

"What we have here is a collection," Camurati said. "One for each taste. One for each person. One for each part of the country." —AP



**SYDNEY:** In this June 1, 2016, photo the Australia women's rugby sevens team poses with their world champions trophy in Sydney. The Australian women's team, a mix-and-match ensemble of athletes from other sports, enters the Olympic sevens tournament as world champions, a rare achievement in a series previously ruled by New Zealand. — AP

## DOPING CRACKDOWNS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION: FELIX

**LOS ANGELES:** The crackdown on athletes caught up in recent doping scandals is a step in the right direction for the sport, Allyson Felix says, but the American sprinter is still worried it will not be a level playing field at next month's Rio Olympics. The 30-year-old qualified for her fourth Olympics earlier this month but will not be gunning for a 200-400 metres double after finishing fourth over the shorter distance at the U.S. trials in Oregon.

Athletics has been under the spotlight due to a doping scandal that saw Russia banned from competing in the sport at the Rio Games after a World Anti-Doping Agency report uncovered systematic abuse in the country.

Kenya's team were also in danger of missing Rio before their government passed legislation that complied with anti-doping codes. "The number of scandals we see now just shows the real issues that are there in sports," Felix told reporters in Beverley Hills. "I would say that my confidence isn't high to think that there are not real issues.

"I would hope that the playing field is more level (but) it is very hard to deal with as a clean athlete. "You are going to the biggest race of your life and you hope that that is a clean race. But can you say that you are a 100 percent that you are sure?"

"I don't think that you can say that," Felix said athletics was working hard to clean up the sport. "It is hard ... but I hope we are moving in the right direction," she added. "I think that exposing athletes that are happening now is I think is a step in the right direction." Felix, who won the 200 at the London Games in 2012, had been attempting to do a 200-400 double at Rio but battled an ankle injury in the leadup to the trials in Oregon. The injury had affected her conditioning and she failed to qualify for the 200 by 0.01 seconds.— Reuters

## WARATAHS MINDFUL OF CHASING BONUS POINT TO SEAL PLAYOFF SPOT

**WELLINGTON:** The New South Wales Waratahs face the ultimate dilemma in their final Super Rugby clash of the regular season against the Auckland Blues at Eden Park, knowing they not only need to win, but win well to ensure themselves of advancing to the playoffs.

The problem, however, is if they play the game chasing the bonus point, they could well end up on the wrong end of a big defeat, as the ACT Brumbies found out last week in Auckland.

"To go there with a mindset that we're just going to play helter-skelter rugby would be foolish," Waratahs coach Daryl Gibson told reporters in Sydney yesterday.

"Our first priority is to win the game and then search for that bonus point." The message should resonate. The Waratahs are second in the Australian conference, locked on 39 points, the same as the Brumbies, who face the last-placed Western Force in Canberra on Saturday. Only one of the two sides will advance to the quarter-finals as the winner of the Australian conference with the Waikato Chiefs (51), Canterbury Crusaders (50), Otago Highlanders (48) and Wellington Hurricanes (48) having locked up four of the five places available to the Australasian group.

Despite Gibson's reservations, the

Waratahs have looked the most dangerous of the five Australian teams in Super Rugby this season, with their players looking to put team mates into space by off-loading in the tackle.

That approach had paid some dividends for the 2014 champions, notably a 45-25 victory over the Waikato Chiefs before the June international break, though flyhalf Bernard Foley was aware they needed to be more effective.

"There's a couple of times we've probably let teams off the hook by playing that sort of style," Foley told reporters. "But it's something we've been persisting with and it's something we're not going to shy away from."

Foley, however, was well aware that if they did not get their defensive pattern and structures right they could suffer the same fate as the Brumbies, who lost 40-15 against the Blues last week.

"I think the Blues can really feed off the crowd atmosphere, especially when they play an attractive style of rugby," he added. "That's where we've talked about our defensive systems and our structures in nullifying their attacking threats and in that regard you take away the crowd."

The Brumbies will have the luxury of knowing exactly what they need to do when they face the Force about 24

hours after the Waratahs' game.

They were, however, taking nothing for granted. "If we don't turn up especially this weekend it could be the end of it for us," prop Scott Sio told the Brumbies' website.

"We're going to have to make sure that our execution across the board is good." While the New Zealand sides have already sealed their playoffs spots, the fact they play each other this weekend will ultimately determine their final finishing places.

The Crusaders host the Hurricanes in Christchurch in the early game on Saturday before the Chiefs travel to Dunedin for their clash against the Highlanders.

The table-topping Lions have already sealed the African group and have rested several players for their trip to Buenos Aires, which could backfire if they don't secure a win against the Jaguares. Any one of the four New Zealand sides could overtake them as top qualifier and secure home advantage for the final. The Sharks (39) hold the advantage for the wildcard from the African group as they face the last-placed Sunwolves, though they could still be overtaken by the Bulls (37), who are away to the Cheetahs in Bloemfontein. — Reuters

## GHOST OF VICTORIES PAST RETURN TO HAUNT KOREAN CHAMPIONS

**SEOUL:** As the rest of the world's top women golfers were playing for millions of dollars in prize money at the US Open last week, South Korea's Ko Jin-young was half a world away dreaming of what might have been.

One of the brightest young talents in women's golf, Ko made her mark on the world stage by finishing second at last year's British Open and has risen to 33rd in the world despite playing outside the US circuit, where events offer far more money and world ranking points than the domestic Korean Tour. While Ko received an invitation to the US Open, the most prestigious tournament in women's golf, and one she dearly wanted to play, there was one thing holding her back - the threat of a \$100,000 fine from the KLPGA.

The 21-year-old, who won the 2015 Chojung Sparkling-Yongpyong Resort Open with SBS, was a victim of the KLPGA's "Defending Champion" rule, which demands golfers repay all the prize money from a tournament they win if they do not come back the following year.

Aimed at discouraging players from taking up invitations to foreign tournaments when the dates clash with Korean events, the KLPGA told Reuters 'Regulation 14:2' helped the Tour flourish by giving sponsors value for money and bringing in more fans.

"It is a player's duty to defend their title," the KLPGA told Reuters by telephone. "The regulation is a promise to fans that the champion will be back next year. It also makes sponsors happy to have the champion come back.

"Appearing in a tournament as a defending champion is an honour for a player." That honour can sometimes become a burden, however. Players have had to turn down invites to high-profile foreign tournaments including the US Open where this year's champion Brittany Lang pocketed \$810,000 from the \$4.5 million prize pot.

The KLPGA said that, to date, it had never had cause to impose the fine, suggesting Korean players take their defending champion duties very seriously.

That or they are unwilling to repay the prize money. With domestic tours around the world losing many of their top players to the lucrative US and European circuits, the KLPGA is not alone in threatening financial sanctions on those who do not defend their titles.

"The Japanese LPGA has a similar rule," the KLPGA said. A spokesman for the Ladies Professional Golfers' Association of Japan told Reuters they did have a similar rule, though players face a fine of only 1 million yen (\$9,739) if they do not defend their titles.

If the tournament clashes with one of the five global majors then the fine is not levied.

**'RIDICULOUS' RULE**

Caddie Dean Herden, who carries the bag for Ko, told Reuters it was "absolutely ridiculous" the Korean Tour does not make an exception for players given invitations to majors.

"Am I hearing this right?" asked Herden, who has caddied on men's and women's tours around the world for the last 23 years. "A rule that forces a player to return all her prize money if she does not defend her title from the year before ... because the KLPGA put the tournament on the same week as a major? This is ridiculous."

Herden's bio reads like a "Who's Who" of Korean golfing greats. He guided Chun In-gee (2015) and Ryu So-yeon (2011) to US Open wins, and racked up 24 tournament victories worldwide with former world number one Shin Ji-yai.

The Korean Tour's structure made it a terrific incubator for producing top-class players who can thrive on any circuit around the world, said Herden.

"But what the KLPGA has to understand is that the only reason the Tour is where it is now is because of Korean major winners," he added.

"After In-gee won the US Open last year she became twice as popular and crowds were huge here in Korea in the second half of the year."

Herden sympathised with the KLPGA in some respects, in that it had a duty to protect the Tour and that the increasing popularity of Korean players had brought opportunities in Japan, Europe and the United States.

But global major championships were scheduled at least two years in advance, while the KLPGA calendar is typically released in February for the year ahead, he said, therefore there was no reason for the local Tour to schedule events that will clash. "When you think about it, it's actually the KLPGA who should pay a fine for scheduling an event during the week of a world major such as the U.S. Open in the first place," he added. — Reuters



**TROON:** Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland tees off the 1st during the first round of the British Open Golf Championship at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, Scotland, yesterday. — AP

## REED SETS PACE AT TROON AS OOSTHUIZEN CLAIMS ACE

**TROON:** Patrick Reed of the United States laid down an early marker in the British Open on Thursday after an impressive opening round of 66 gave him the clubhouse lead at Royal Troon. The 25-year-old Texan sits at five under par, one shot clear from his fellow American Justin Thomas after both made the most of the conditions on a glorious day on Scotland's west coast.

Texan Reed, 25, signalled his intent when he holed his approach shot for an eagle two at the par-four third. He then added birdies at the fourth, sixth and seventh to reach the turn in 31, but bogeyed the 10th and 13th and did well to come home in level-par 35. The stiff breeze blowing in from the Firth of Clyde has made life particularly difficult on the back nine, and Reed admitted his relief at coming through his round in such a strong position.

"It doesn't matter if the wind is blowing or not, that back nine is tough," said the former Junior Open winner. "It's one of these golf courses that allows you to get off to a quick start, allows you to get almost overconfident and cocky, and all of a sudden you get a little too careless on the back nine and you can go shoot 31-41." His compatriot Thomas also handled the conditions expertly to put himself in contention.

Appearing in his first Open championship, the 23-year-old scored an

excellent four-under-par round of 67 after beginning his day with birdies at each of the first four holes.

He had seven birdies altogether along with a bogey five at the 10th and a double-bogey six at the 15th. England's Justin Rose also moved into contention with a three-under-par round of 68.

It is the American players who have history on their side in the 145th Open though, with the last six winners at Troon all coming from the United States. Jordan Spieth, winner of the Masters and US Open last year, opened with an unremarkable 71 that featured three birdies and three bogeys. This week's favourite, US Open champion Dustin Johnson, was due to begin his opening round just after 2pm local time (1300 GMT) in a group with Germany's Martin Kaymer and home hope Russell Knox. The other members of the so-called 'Big Four'-world number one Jason Day and 2014 Open champion Rory McIlroy-were out on the course earlier in the day.

**HOLE IN ONE**

South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen bagged the first hole-in-one of the week when his tee shot at the par-three 14th landed at the front of the green and dropped in.

The 2010 Open winner has recent

form of such exploits having also managed a stunning ace at the Masters in Augusta in April.

Oosthuizen finished level par for the day after shooting a 71. Other players found the going rather tougher, with 2001 Open champion David Duval of the United States shooting an 11-over-par round of 82. He had reached the turn level par, but promptly bogeyed the 10th and then had a nine at the par-four 11th, which is only separated from the Glasgow to Ayr railway line by a four-foot high stone wall. Things never got better after that.

Scottish veteran Sandy Lyle, the 1985 Open champion, fared even worse, shooting an 85 that featured 10 bogeys, a double-bogey and a triple-bogey, as well as one birdie.

His compatriot Colin Montgomerie had the honour of hitting the first shot of the championship at 6:35am local time (0535 GMT) in front of enthusiastic galleries.

Now 53 and seen as one of the best players never to win a major, Montgomerie came through qualifying for this year's Open in his home town. He recovered from a double-bogey six at the first to shoot a respectable 71. "I tell you what, a lot better players than me in the world of golf would have taken 71 after being 2-over at the first," he said. — AFP



LOS ANGELES: NBA basketball player LeBron James, of the Cleveland Cavaliers, accepts the award for best NBA player at the ESPY Awards at the Microsoft Theater on Wednesday, in Los Angeles. — AP

# LEBRON JAMES LEADS CALL TO END GUN VIOLENCE AT ESPY AWARDS

LOS ANGELES: LeBron James won five trophies, including best male athlete and best NBA player, at the ESPY Awards on Wednesday night when frivolity gave way to a James-led call to end gun violence and racial profiling.

The show honoring the year's best athletes and sports moments opened on a somber note, with James and fellow NBA stars Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul and Dwyane Wade standing four abreast on stage addressing the recent shootings of blacks by white police officers.

"The urgency to create change is at an all-time high," Anthony said.

Paul, the nephew of a police officer, recited the names of several men who have been killed.

Wade urged a stop to racial profiling, a shoot-to-kill mentality and "not seeing the value of black and brown bodies."

"Enough is enough," he said.

James echoed Wade, noting, "We all feel helpless and frustrated by the violence." James urged his fellow pros to educate themselves and renounce violence while using their resources and time to

help strengthen and rebuild their communities.

"We all to have do better," he said.

## RECORD-BREAKING PERFORMANCE

Golden State star Stephen Curry thanked the quartet for their message while accepting the night's first award for record-breaking performance. He hit 402 3-pointers during the regular season.

James won male athlete and championship performance for the third time in his career and his fifth trophy as top NBA player. He shared the team and best moment awards with his Cavaliers teammates, who upset Golden State to deliver the first championship for Cleveland in 52 years.

In accepting best moment, James brought teammates Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love on stage, where he saluted Pro Football Hall of Famer Jim Brown for his early social activism in the hardscrabble city. Breanna Stewart won best female athlete on her third try, beating WNBA MVP Elena Delle Donne and two Olympians, swimmer Katie Ledecky and gymnast

Simone Biles. Stewart helped UConn win a fourth straight NCAA basketball championship before going to the WNBA.

In her speech, Stewart called for equality for female athletes.

"Female athletes don't receive half the fame. I know everyone in this room loves and supports women and girls in sports and wants to be a part of that change, right?" she said. "Equality for all takes each of us making an effort. Together let's be better."

WWE star John Cena hosted the show from Microsoft Theater in downtown Los Angeles.

In one of the night's most emotional moments, Zaezion Dobson, a 15-year-old high school football player from Knoxville, Tennessee, was honored posthumously with the Arthur Ashe Courage Award for giving his life to shield two young women from gunfire last year. His mother, Zenobia Dobson, and two brothers accepted the trophy from Curry, with last year's honoree Caitlyn Jenner joining the standing ovation.

Dobson told the audience four months after her son's death his 12-year-old cousin was killed in a drive-by shooting on his way home from a basketball game where Zaezion was honored.

## APPLAUD

"I'm here to fight back," Dobson said. "We as a country need to take a stand to consider the effects of gun violence on the families throughout America."

Tears welled in the eyes of several athletes who applauded her comments.

"We need to rewrite laws to make it harder for people to get guns," Dobson said. "All the athletes in this room, you have a lot of power. People look up to you, I know Zaezion did. I urge you to think tonight about why he died and what you can do tomorrow to prevent the next innocent man or woman from being lost." — AP



LOS ANGELES: NBA basketball player Stephen Curry, of the Golden State Warriors, right and Ayesha Curry arrive at the ESPY Awards at the Microsoft Theater on Wednesday, in Los Angeles. — AP

## DUNCAN THANKS TEAM-MATES IN LETTER

LOS ANGELES: Tim Duncan, the San Antonio Spurs talisman who retired on Monday after 19 seasons and five NBA titles, thanked fans and team-mates Wednesday in a letter posted on the Spurs website. Duncan, 40, hadn't spoken publicly since the Spurs announced he was retiring. He spent his entire career with San Antonio, who made him the number one overall selection in the 1997 NBA draft.

"If asked to write a script for my career 19 years ago, there is no way I would've been able to dream up this journey," wrote Duncan, who led the Spurs to titles in 1999, 2003, 2006, 2007 and 2014.

"I stand here at the end of this ride and look back in awe of what I've experienced. The wins and losses will be remembered, but what I'll remember most are the people: The fans inside the arena and out, the staff and coaches who pushed me and held me together, the teammates (and even opponents) who will be life-long friends, sharing my ups and downs with family and close friends, and, most importantly, the snapshots of my kids growing up and levering in watching Dad work.

"Thank you to the city of San Antonio for the love and the support over these years. Thank you to the fans all over the world." Duncan, a native of the Virgin Islands, was a three-time NBA Finals Most Valuable Player and a two-time regular season MVP. Duncan, together with Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili, formed one of the most successful trios in NBA history. They hold the league record for regular season wins (575) and post-season wins (126).

Although he opted to go out without fanfare—just as he played—Duncan did speak Wednesday with an interviewer from Vi Vid Streaming radio of the Virgin Islands, opening up on his thoughts about retirement. "I started not enjoying myself as much. It wasn't fun as much," Duncan said of the decision. "When it's not fun anymore, I'm done." — AFP

## LIST OF WINNERS AT ESPY AWARDS

LOS ANGELES: Winners at the ESPY Awards presented Wednesday night:

**Male Athlete:** LeBron James, Cleveland Cavaliers

**Female Athlete:** Breanna Stewart, UConn

**Record-Breaking Performance:** Stephen Curry, Golden State Warriors

**Breakthrough Athlete:** Jake Arrieta, Chicago Cubs  
**Play:** Aaron Rodgers' Hail Mary to Richard Rodgers, Green Bay Packers

**Moment:** City of Cleveland wins first title in 52 years

**Upset:** Holly Holm over Ronda Rousey, UFC

**Comeback Athlete:** Eric Berry, Kansas City Chiefs

**Team:** Cleveland Cavaliers

**Championship Performance:** LeBron James

**Game:** NBA Finals, Game 7

**Coach:** Tyronn Lue, Cleveland Cavaliers

**NBA Player:** LeBron James

**MLB Player:** Bryce Harper, Washington Nationals

**NFL Player:** Cam Newton, Carolina Panthers

**NHL Player:** Sidney Crosby, Pittsburgh Penguins

**Male College Athlete:** Buddy Hield, Oklahoma

**Female College Athlete:** Breanna Stewart, UConn

**Male Tennis Player:** Novak Djokovic

**Female Tennis Player:** Serena Williams

**Male Action Sports Athlete:** Ryan Dungey

**Female Action Sports Athlete:** Jamie Anderson

**Male Athlete with a Disability:** Richard Browne

**Female Athlete with a Disability:** Tatyana McFadden

**International Athlete:** Cristiano Ronaldo, soccer

**Best MLS player:** Sebastian Giovinco, Toronto FC

**WNBA Player:** Maya Moore, Minnesota Lynx

**Driver:** Kyle Busch

**Male Golfer:** Jordan Spieth

**Female Golfer:** Lydia Ko

**Jockey:** Mario Gutierrez

**Bowler:** Jason Belmonte

**Fighter:** Conor McGregor

## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Jimmy V Award for Perseverance:** Craig Sager

**Arthur Ashe Award for Courage:** Zaezion Dobson

**Pat Tillman Award for Service:** Sgt. Elizabeth Marks

**Icon Award:** Kobe Bryant, Peyton Manning and Abby Wambach. — AP



## KUWAIT MEETS MALAYSIA IN DAVIS CUP TODAY

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** Davis Cup competition will start today between Kuwait and Malaysia, which is hosted by Kuwait and will last until Sunday, under the supervision of the International Tennis Federation, under the Kuwait flag.

The tournament will be held at Yarmouk Sports Club, and Kuwait team will include Abdallah Muqaddas, Mohammad Al-Ghareeb, Abdelrahman Al-Awadhi and Hamid Al-Sulaiteen. The team captain is Adel Al-Shatti.

Malaysian team includes Mohammad Marzouqi, Sayyed Mohammad Najeeb,

Mohammad Ashaari bin Zainalabideen and Hao Shing Kuai, while the team captain is Mouldai bin Jama. ITF sent its international referee Khalid Al-Sarjani to supervise event activities. Meanwhile, ITF will honor Kuwait's Mohammad Al-Ghareeb in appreciation of his efforts representing Kuwait in Davis Cup for 20

years. This honoring is the first of its kind to a Kuwaiti, Gulf or an Arab player. It will be in the presence of Kuwait Tennis Association board members, coaches and supervisors in Kuwait clubs. Kuwaiti Tennis Federation held a dinner in honor of the Malaysian delegation in the presence of ITF representative Khalid Al-Sarjani.

## MISBAH HOLDS FIRM AS PAKISTAN STRUGGLE

**LONDON:** Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq survived as top-order wickets fell around him on the first day of the first Test against England at Lord's yesterday. At tea, Pakistan were 158 for four with number five Misbah, who won the toss, 48 not out after all the top four had returned to the Pavilion.

Asad Shafiq was unbeaten on 12 as Mohammad Amir, listed to come in at number eight, waited to make his return to Test cricket at Lord's—the scene of his spot-fixing crime. Misbah won the toss on a sunny day, with the pitch at Lord's a notoriously good surface for batsmen.

Jake Ball, given a debut in place of James Anderson after the selectors decided against risking England's all-time leading wicket-taker following a shoulder injury, appealed for leg before against Masood with his second delivery in Test cricket.

Umpire Kumar Dharmasena said not out and an unsuccessful England review confirmed the ball had pitched outside leg stump.

Hafeez was lucky on 11 when an edge off Stuart Broad, forming an all-Nottinghamshire new-ball pairing with Ball, was dropped by third slip James Vince, who couldn't hold a low chance to his left.

### WOAKES DOUBLE

But first-change Chris Woakes removed both openers with a burst of two wickets for five runs in 16 balls. A rising delivery had left-hander Masood, playing away from his body, caught behind by Jonny Bairstow for seven.

The same combination then dismissed Hafeez for 40. Hafeez's 59-ball innings, including eight fours, ended when he tried to work to leg a short ball from the Warwickshire all-rounder that swung away a touch only to get a top edge, with Bairstow holding the skyed chance. Pakistan were now 51 for two. They had moved on to 76 for two at lunch but Azhar Ali had failed to add to his interval score of seven not out when he was literally knocked off his feet by a Ball yorker and given out lbw by Dharmasena.

The batsman reviewed and Ball, presented with his England cap before play by his uncle



**LONDON:** England's Jake Ball (L) celebrates taking the wicket of Pakistan's Azhar Ali for seven runs on the first day of the first Test cricket match between England and Pakistan at Lord's cricket ground in London, yesterday.— AFP

Bruce French, the former England wicket-keeper, had a nervous wait for his first Test wicket.

But this time, thanks to a tight 'umpire's call' verdict showing the ball clipping leg stump, technology worked in Ball's favour.

Pakistan were now 77 for three but veterans Younis and Misbah, as they had done so often before, steadied the innings.

Their cause was helped when Misbah was dropped on 16 by Joe Root, who grassed a tough slip chance off fast bowler Steven Finn.

Younis struck several elegant drives in his innings but he gave his wicket away on 33 when he clipped Broad straight to Moeen Ali at square leg to end a stand of 57 with Misbah

that had taken Pakistan to 134 for four.

Misbah, playing in his first Test at Lord's at the advanced age of 42, was not in control of a gloved hook off Broad but looked much better in forcing him through point for four.

Earlier, as expected, left-arm quick Amir was selected for his first Test appearance since the infamous 'spot-fixing' clash against England at Lord's in 2010.

That match saw Amir and Pakistan new-ball partner Mohammad Asif deliberately bowl no-balls on the instructions of then captain Salman Butt as part of a newspaper 'sting' operation. All three received five-year bans from cricket and jail terms.— AFP

## MURALI HEADS TO RIVAL AUSTRALIA CAMP TO PLOT AGAINST S LANKA

**COLOMBO:** Keen to beat Sri Lanka in their own spin game, Australia have roped in local spin great Muttiah Muralitharan to help their slow bowlers ahead of the three-test series beginning at Pallekele later this month.

The 44-year-old former off-spinner, still the highest wicket-taker in test cricket with 800 scalps, had a similar short-term consulting stint with Australia in 2014. "Murali's got a lot of experience in Sri Lanka," Australia captain Steve Smith said. "He took a truckload of wickets."

"It's great to have someone like that helping our spinners in this series - to give us that insight. He's been really good around the group so far, and he's enjoying his time with us." Muralitharan, who has been seen working with Australian spinners Nathan Lyon and Steve O'Keefe in the nets, said he was looking for such short-term jobs and had no problems helping the visitors plot against his own country.

"I'm not involved in Sri Lankan cricket at all because there are (other) people who are involved," Muralitharan, a perennial thorn in Australia's flesh during his playing days, told Cricket Australia website.

"Then, on and off, Australia offered me twice so I said 'why not' because you are passing on the knowledge to other people. It doesn't matter whether it's your country or other people. "I think giving quality time to my family is most important, that's why I take smaller jobs - two weeks, three weeks... those sort of jobs are not available in Sri Lanka."

Australia were confident opener David Warner, recovering from a broken left index finger, will be fit for the series opener at Pallekele.—Reuters

## CHRIS FROOME VOWS TO HOLD BACK FOR TIME-TRIAL

**MONTPELLIER:** Tour de France leader Chris Froome said he won't be going all guns blazing up Mont Ventoux yesterday as he wants to save energy for Friday's time-trial.

Thursday's 12th stage, finishing on iconic mountain Mont Ventoux, is expected to produce a crucial battle in the fight for overall victory. But with a 37km individual time-trial to come the next day, Froome said he'll be keeping his powder dry. "To win, not on top of but halfway up, on the Ventoux stage really is something special," said the 31-year-old Briton, who claimed a stage victory on the mythical climb in 2013, when he won his first of two Tours.

"It's certainly at the back of all our minds that it's the time-trial the next day. "Whoever goes really deep on Ventoux will pay the price the day after. "Every consecutive GC (general classification) days you have to think of the day after, and any big efforts are going to cost you the next day. "That's certainly on my radar. Maybe my rivals are approaching it differently and going for the maximum advantage on Ventoux and trying to hold it in the time-trial." However, it is twice now that Froome has put in a big effort at the end of stages when normally overall contenders are merely trying to stay safe and conserve energy. He's gained time on both those stages — 23sec on stage seven and 12sec on Wednesday, bonuses included—but acknowledged that the extra effort could work against him.

"I was asking myself that today (Wednesday) in the last 10km, wondering if it was worth expending that energy," admitted Froome. "But in this moment, I'm going to take any advantage I can get knowing that Nairo (Quintana) in particular is really strong in the third week. "If I can take any seconds in this point, I will." Young Briton Adam Yates is second overall but now 28sec behind Froome. "I expected guys to attack (on Wednesday) but I didn't expect Froome to be one of them," said the 23-year-old Orica climber.

"The way he takes seconds every day, he'll be hard to beat. "Tomorrow (Thursday) I'll just do my thing. If I'm on a good day, I'll ride at the front."

### MANY MOUNTAINS

Quintana certainly hasn't lost confidence despite drifting out to 35sec off Froome's lead. The 26-year-old Colombian is convinced he will be able to take back that time and more later on in the race, in particular four Alpine stages after next week's rest day. "He (Froome) took advantage of this moment and took some seconds but nothing has been decided yet," said Quintana. "The race is still on and there are lots of days left in the Tour, many mountains and the two time-trials."

Third-placed Dan Martin is now 31sec off the lead but he was happy not to lose more time to Froome on Wednesday. And the Irishman thanked his time-trial specialist team-mate Tony Martin for guiding him safely to the finish. "With 15 kilometres to go, things became totally crazy, but Tony saved me at that point and rode five kilometres in the wind for me," he said. "I lost some time on Froome, but so did everybody else, and to be quite frank it's a small gap, not the end of the world." — AFP



**MONTPELLIER:** Great Britain's Christopher Froome (R), wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, shakes hands with France's Thibaut Pinot (2nd L), wearing the best climber's polka dot jersey, as they wait with France's Arthur Vichot (L), England's Adam Yates (C), wearing the best young's white jersey and Slovakia's Peter Sagan (2nd R), wearing the best sprinter's green jersey, prior to the start the 178 km twelfth stage of the 103rd edition of the Tour de France. — AFP



**AMMAN:** Robbie Johnson (C), the British head coach of Jordan's women's under-17 national football team, gestures during a training session on June 22, 2016 in the capital Amman. FIFA's U-17 Women's World Cup will kick off on September 30 in Jordan, the first time a Middle Eastern country hosts an international women's football competition. —AFP

## JORDAN WOMEN TAKE TO FOOTBALL PITCH TO END STEREOTYPES

**AMMAN:** Line's dream is about to become a reality, the 14-year-old Jordanian girl will make history later this year when she takes part in her first ever football world cup. FIFA's U-17 Women's World Cup will kick off on September 30 in Jordan, the first time a Middle Eastern country hosts an international women's football competition.

Line and 20 other girl footballers, including devout Muslims their heads covered by a scarf, have been practising hard for the tournament with a British coach. "Here in Jordan... it was frowned upon to see a girl play football. But now things have changed," Line said. She still remembers how she defied social conventions in the conservative kingdom when at a younger age she decided to join the boys of her neighbourhood in a game of football.

Jordan—a key ally of the West—is a Muslim country with a Christian minority but both communities are weighed down by religious and social constraints like other nations in the Middle East.

For decades football was hands off for women but that changed in 2005 when the Jordanian federation-headed by Prince Ali, a half-brother of King Abdullah II-formed the first national female team. Ali, an ex-vice president of FIFA who ran but failed to be elected president of football's world governing body, is credited with having helped Jordan's bid to host the under-17 girls' tournament.

In May, FIFA said on its website that the first Jordanian women players who took to the pitch more than a decade ago "have impressed" and "did not disappoint". British coach Robbie Johnson is confident that the under-17 girls team will shine at the upcoming world cup.

### BREAK STEREOTYPES

"This particular group are certainly keen to make a mark and certainly put the Middle East on the map," Johnson

told AFP as he worked the girls on one practice night. "It can be definitely the start of something to say to women, particularly in the Middle East or in the Gulf states as well: Look you can actually play and compete," he said.

The girls' training for the big day is tough. Line—a striker—and teammates listen carefully as the coach details his strategy with specific instructions to the wingers and goalkeepers, while parents sit back and watch the practice unfold.

"My goal is to get these players as competitive as possible and then who knows what may happen," said Johnson. Organisers of the tournament say it will reverberate beyond the pitch and contribute to change in Jordan and the wider Arab world. "We are using football like a platform for social change," said Samar Nassar, a former member of Jordan's national swimming team who heads the kingdom's organising committee. The upcoming tournament "is an opportunity to create a durable heritage for Jordan and the region," that would help challenge stereotypes and empower women, she said. Line agrees. Football "has taught me many things. I feel more

responsible and I have become more sociable."

### 'UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE'

Jordanian female athlete Yasmee Khair, is one such woman whose name is linked to change. A gymnast who won several awards over the years and the nickname "the kingdom's butterfly", Khair was among the first women football players to play for Jordan. FIFA chose her as "ambassador" of the under-17 world cup.

Her mission is two-fold, to promote the tournament and raise awareness of girls' football. "I speak to girls a lot. I tell them they must live this rich and unforgettable experience," she said. Khair said the beginnings of women's football in 2005 was tough. "We had to face a lot of difficulties but bit by bit things began to change," she said, recalling how interest in female football grew in Jordan "especially that we won more tournaments than the men". On its webpage, FIFA quoted Khader Eid, a former coach of the women's national team, recalling some of the hurdles that had to be overcome.—AFP



**AMMAN:** Members of Jordan's women's under-17 national football team trains on June 22, 2016 in the capital Amman. — AFP

## WALES OVERTAKE ENGLAND IN FIFA WORLD RANKINGS

**LONDON:** Propelled by an impressive European Championship campaign, Wales climbed 15 places to move into 11th, two places ahead of England, in the FIFA world rankings released yesterday.

Chris Coleman's charges reached the last four in France in Wales' first major tournament since 1958 and lost to eventual winners Portugal. England, the 1966 World Cup winners, exited in the round of 16 after a humili-

ating defeat to Iceland which saw them drop two places to 13th.

Iceland, the smallest nation ever to have qualified for the European Championship, with a population of 330,000, saw their fairy-tale run end in the quarter-finals but saw their rankings jump 12 places to 22.

There were no changes in the top five rankings with Copa America finalists Argentina retaining top spot, followed by

Belgium, Colombia, Germany and Chile. Five times World champions Brazil, who failed to progress past the group stages of Copa America for the first time since 1987, are on the brink of dropping out of the top 10, ranked at ninth, ahead of Italy.

European Championship finalists France jumped 10 places to move to 7th, one place behind winners Portugal.

Top 10 (last month's positions in brackets)

1. Argentina (1)
2. Belgium (2)
3. Colombia (3)
4. Germany (4)
5. Chile (5)
6. Portugal (8)
7. France (17)
8. Spain (6)
9. Brazil (7)
10. Italy (12). — Reuters

## DEMPSEY SPARKS SURGE, SOUNDERS BEAT FC DALLAS

**SEATTLE:** Andreas Ivanschitz knew a game like this was coming for the Seattle Sounders. It came in a big way Wednesday night against the best team in MLS. Clint Dempsey, Ivanschitz and Jordan Morris scored during a 15-minute span of the first half and the Sounders routed league-leading FC Dallas 5-0 to snap a four-game winless streak.

Joevin Jones and Cristian Roldan added second-half goals for the Sounders (6-10-2), who started the night with the lowest goal total in the league (14).

Ivanschitz, an Austrian midfielder, helped set up the first goal when his shot led to a Seattle penalty kick, then scored the second, and assisted on the fifth.

"It was a perfect night. It feels great for us," Ivanschitz said. "After so many games where we ended up losing and were pretty disappointed because we played great and didn't score, it was a frustrating time for us. But this win tonight is well deserved because we started pretty well, we were on our front foot, we pressed them pretty high, and we finished up our chances."

Dempsey scored in the 6th minute when he drilled a penalty kick past goalkeeper Chris Seitz for his third goal of the year. The PK was set up when defender Maynor Figueroa was called for an intentional hand ball on a shot by Ivanschitz just outside of the 6-yard box and shown the red card. Dempsey's kick went high into the right side of the net, with Seitz leaping the opposite way.

That halted a 321-minute shutout streak for Dallas (11-6-4). Seattle had not scored on its home field since a 2-0 victory against San Jose on May 7 - a drought of 277 minutes.

Ivanschitz increased the lead to 2-0 in the 18th minute. Osvaldo Alonso sent a long through ball toward the top of the penalty area. Ivanschitz and Dallas' Atiba Harris both went for it, Ivanschitz got there first and chipped a shot over the onrushing Seitz and watched it bounce into the net for his third of the season. Just four minutes later, Morris pushed it to 3-0 with his team-leading seventh. Dempsey sent a ball into the box, and Morris met it at the top right corner of the 6, sending it into the far left corner.

"It was very important to have those moments to have a good start at home," Ivanschitz said. "In the last games, we always had the first chances in the game, but didn't score." Jones scored in the 61st, his second of the season, followed by Roldan in the 73rd. Roldan, who played his college ball at nearby University of Washington, notched his first MLS goal.

"We always felt if we got a goal, maybe those floodgates would open up," said Sounders coach Sigi Schmid, whose team hadn't scored that many since a 6-2 win against Columbus in August 2011. "And they opened up a little bit for us today." Dallas coach Oscar Pareja, whose team played its second game in six nights on the road, didn't start three of his leading scorers: Michael Barrios (six goals), Fabian Castillo (five) and Maximiliano Urruti (four). Barrios came in to start the second half, and Castillo entered in the 61st minute.

"We needed to choose tonight. We have a game in three days at home, and we just came from San Jose," Pareja said. "We have a (US) Open Cup game in the middle of next week, and that's an important tournament for us, and after that, we have Colorado away."

"Seattle had a lot of intensity and did a lot of good things," Pareja added. "And for those moments, we couldn't find the rhythm of the game. We have to give them credit." —AP



**LONDON:** Chelsea's newly appointed Italian manager Antonio Conte holds a Chelsea football shirt as he poses for photographs on the pitch at the club's Stamford Bridge stadium in London yesterday. —AFP

## CONTE HOPES TO LIGHT A FIRE UNDER THE PREMIER LEAGUE

**LONDON:** Antonio Conte says he hopes Chelsea under his stewardship will light up the Premier League title race this season. The 46-year-old who guided Italy to the quarter-finals of Euro 2016 only losing on penalties to world champions Germany said Chelsea may not be top of everyone's list to challenge for the crown after finishing 10th in their title defence last term.

"We are under-rated a bit, and might slip under the radar, but I hope there's a small flame flickering here that can hopefully grow into a blazing inferno," said Conte at his unveiling to the media at Stamford Bridge yesterday.

The Italian who rejected the opportunity to follow the example of predecessor 'Special One' Jose Mourinho and give himself a nickname said a club the size of Chelsea shouldn't be scrabbling around in mid-table. "When you are a player, a footballer, or a manager of a great club like Chelsea, you must play to win," said Conte, who also took the opportunity to confirm Chelsea icon John Terry would be club captain. "To win. To win the title. Or to fight and, at the end, to compete with the other teams to win the title and reach your

targets. "I know that this league is very, very difficult because there are six or seven teams who can win the title. For this reason, this situation is very exciting for me. It excites me, this situation."

"We know that, this year, it won't be easy for us because if we think about the last season and 10th position... Last season was a bad season, yes? "I know, that there is only one team who wins the title. But we must stay there at the end of the season, to fight for the title and be there for the Champions League. Chelsea belongs in the Champions League, and we must stay there." Conte, whose animated behaviour on the touchline was one of the more memorable features of the Euro, refused to compare himself to Mourinho. "It's always tough to compare people," said Conte, who as a hard-working midfielder helped Juventus win five Serie A titles and to the Champions League trophy.

"There are certain managers who are winners. On that I would agree with you. "Regardless of the job they do, some coaches have a winning mentality besides their working methods and philosophies. "There are winners in

football, but not everyone has that in them. Those who do are, indeed, special." Conte, though, dismissed the suggestion with Pep Guardiola and Jurgen Klopp also managing Premier League teams-Manchester City and Liverpool respectively-the coming season would be dominated by personalities in the dug-out.

"In this league there are many, many players with great talent. Fantastic players. Also there are good managers," said Conte. "For me, I'm very happy to be compared with them, but in this tournament it's not a challenge between managers. Between great teams, between great players... these are the most important things."

"There are also great managers, good managers, but the most important things when there is a game, Chelsea v United, City, Liverpool, Arsenal... Tottenham also. All teams."

Conte, who guided Juventus to three successive Serie A titles before assuming the Italy role after the 2014 World Cup, said he didn't know whether the challenge he faced at Chelsea was any greater than the one he had taken on at Juventus.—AFP

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016



LOS ANGELES: NFL player J. J. Watt (L) and alpine ski racer Lindsey Vonn speak onstage during the 2016 ESPYS at Microsoft Theater on Wednesday in Los Angeles, California. — AFP

# LEBRON JAMES LEADS CALL TO END GUN VIOLENCE AT ESPY AWARDS