

Sabah Al-Salem University - the future of education



300 killed in South Sudan violence



'Happy Gymnastics' replacing grind of strict training



150 Files

AT LEAST 84 KILLED IN NICE TRUCK RAMPAGE

TRUCK ATTACKER PLOUGHS INTO CROWD; KUWAIT CONDEMNS NICE TERROR



Min 35°
Max 49°



NICE: Policemen walk on the site where a truck drove into a crowd watching a fireworks display on the Promenade des Anglais seafront in the French Riviera town of Nice yesterday. (Right) Photo shows the truck, riddled with bullets. — AP (See Pages 8&9)

KUWAIT WARNS POKEMON GO USERS

'SENSITIVE LANDMARKS, LOCATIONS' OFF LIMITS

KUWAIT: Kuwait is saying "no" to "Pokemon Go" in certain places. The tiny oil-rich state's Interior Ministry issued a statement yesterday warning users of the smash mobile phone application from taking pictures of any vital government, military or security location. It also warned users not to pounce on Pikachus or chase Charmanders at mosques, shopping centers, malls and oil installations.

Lt Gen Sulaiman Al-Fahad at the ministry said: "No excuses will be accepted by anyone claiming ignorance of the law." Though "Pokemon Go" hasn't officially come to nations in the Arabian Gulf, many have downloaded the app. Authorities in the United Arab Emirates also have warned users to be careful while chasing digital critters in the augmented reality game.

UAE issues warnings

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates warned yesterday that criminals could exploit users of the smash hit virtual reality Pokemon Go game and other apps to hack their phones and spy on their movements. The warning comes after Australian police said that a couple

playing Pokemon Go were threatened at gunpoint in a park south of Sydney and blamed the game for a wave of crimes, traffic violations and complaints.

The wildly popular mobile app, which is based on a 1990s Nintendo game, has created a global frenzy as players roam the real world looking for cartoon monsters. The game requires the phone to transmit its location via GPS and uses its camera which the UAE's Telecommunications Regulatory Authority warned "violates the user's privacy" and could lead "criminals" to spread viruses.

The TRA said Pokemon Go could result in users being spied upon and urged players not to activate their phone cameras at home or in other private areas. Pokemon Go works in the UAE but cannot yet be downloaded from local app stores. The National daily reported this week a warning from Abu Dhabi police of the dangers of using mobile apps while walking in the city. The TRA said that it is still "reviewing the effects and dangers that... these games and apps have on society" before making a decision on whether to release Pokemon Go locally. — Agencies



KUWAIT: Photo shows a Pokemon Go user near the Kuwait Towers in Kuwait City. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

NICE: An attacker at the wheel of a heavy truck ploughed into crowds celebrating Bastille Day in the French city of Nice, killing at least 84 people and injuring scores more in what President Francois Hollande called a terrorist act. The driver, identified by a police source as a 31-year-old Tunisian-born Frenchman, also appeared to open fire before officers shot him dead. The man was not on the watch list of French intelligence services, but was known to the police in connection with common crimes such as theft and violence, the source said.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said 18 people were in a critical condition after the attack on Thursday night, when the white truck zigzagged along the seafront Promenade des Anglais as a fireworks display marking the French National day ended just after 10:30 pm. According to one city official, the truck careened on for up to two km. Several children were among the dead. "People went down like ninepins," Jacques, who runs Le Queenie restaurant on the seafront, told France Info radio.

The attack seemed so far to be the work of a lone assailant. Hollande said in a pre-dawn address that he was calling up military and police reservists to relieve forces worn out by enforcing a state of emergency begun in November after Islamic State gunmen and suicide bombers struck Paris entertainment spots on a Friday evening, killing 130 people.

Only hours earlier he had announced the emergency would be lifted by the end of July. Following the attack, he said it would be extended by a further three months. "France is filled with sadness by this new tragedy," Hollande said. "There's no denying the terrorist nature of this attack." Major events in France have been guarded by troops and armed police since the Nov. 13 attacks.

But it appeared to have taken many minutes to halt the progress of the truck as it tore along pavements and a pedestrian zone.

Continued on Page 2



KUWAIT: Injured fireman Fahad Mansour left Kuwait yesterday morning heading to one of the private hospitals in Germany for treatment. Mansour was accompanied by a specialized medical team. Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah has voiced pride of the acts of heroism by Kuwaitis who make precious sacrifices for their country and people. Lance corporal Fahd Mansour Al-Fereeh got injured while trying to put out a fire the first day of Eid Al-Fitr. — Photos by Hanan Saadoun

AT LEAST 84 KILLED IN NICE TRUCK...

Continued from Page 1

One witness said she thought the attacker was firing a gun as he drove. "I saw this enormous white truck go past at top speed," said Suzy Wargniez, a local woman aged 65 who was watching from a cafe on the promenade. "It was shooting, shooting." A local government official said weapons and grenades were later found inside the rented vehicle. Nice-Matin newspaper said on Twitter that police were searching the attacker's home in the Nice neighborhood of Abattoirs. It gave no source of the information.

Kuwaitis 'safe'

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry expressed Kuwait's condemnation of the terrorist attack which hit the city of Nice in France. A source at the Ministry expressed utter contempt towards the attack which occurred on the eve of France's national celebration. The Kuwaiti leadership and people stand in solidarity with France against terrorism, said the source who expressed condolences towards the victims of the attack and also wished the swift recovery of those injured during the incident. Kuwait's Ambassador to France Sami Mohammad Al-Suleiman yesterday said there were no Kuwaitis among the victims of the truck attack that hit the coastal French city of Nice. Intensive contacts by the embassy in Paris revealed that no Kuwaitis were found among the innocent victims of the criminal Nice attack, Al-Suleiman added in a statement. The embassy efforts were made upon directives by Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and follow-up by Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Suleiman Al-Jarallah, through an emergency team formed in the aftermath of the attack.

IS targets France

After the Paris attacks, Islamic State said France and all nations following its path would remain at the top of its list of targets as long as they continued "their crusader campaign", referring to action against the group in Iraq and Syria. France is conducting air strikes and Special Forces operations against Islamic State, as well as training Iraqi government and Kurdish forces. "We will further

strengthen our actions in Syria and Iraq," Hollande said, calling the tragedy on the day that France marks the 1789 revolutionary storming of the Bastille prison in Paris an attack on liberty by fanatics who despised human rights.

Dawn broke yesterday with pavements smeared with dried blood. Smashed children's strollers, an uneaten baguette and other debris were strewn about the promenade. Small areas were screened off and what appeared to be bodies covered in blankets were visible through the gaps. The truck was still where it came to rest, its windscreen riddled with bullets. There had been no claim of responsibility as of yesterday morning.

The truck careered into families and friends listening to an orchestra or strolling above the beach on the Mediterranean Sea towards the grand, century-old Hotel Negresco. Bystander Franck Sidoli said he had seen people go down. "Then the truck stopped, we were just five meters away. A woman was there, she lost her son. Her son was on the ground, bleeding," he told Reuters at the scene. Police told residents of the city to stay indoors as they conducted further operations. Officials in Italy, just 30 km away, said frontier controls were being stepped up.

The Paris attack in November was the bloodiest among a number in France and Belgium in the past two years. On Sunday, a weary nation had breathed a sigh of relief that the month-long Euro 2016 soccer tournament had ended without incident. Four months ago, Belgian Islamists linked to the Paris attackers killed 32 people in Brussels. Vehicle attacks have been used by isolated members of militant groups in recent years, notably in Israel, though never to such devastating effect.

Riders on the Tour de France, the top event on the international cycling calendar, observed a minute's silence before Thursday's 13th stage began. Security has been tightened for the three-week event, which is watched by huge crowds lining the route. US President Barack Obama condemned what he said "appears to be a horrific terrorist attack". Others joining him included German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Pope Francis, Spain, Sweden, NATO and the United Nations Security Council. — Agencies

OBITUARY



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Your sudden demise has created a vacuum and immense loss for IDF. Your strong visionary leadership, humility, dedicated services will continue to guide us through the path you had chosen for the IDF to the heights you visualised.

A condolence meeting will be held at the Indian Embassy Auditorium at 6 pm on Saturday July 16 to pay respects to the departed soul.

Indian Doctors Forum - Kuwait



Photos show the proposed final design for Sabah Al-Salem University City. —KUNA photos

SABAH AL-SALEM UNIVERSITY - THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT: Sabah Al-Salem University City, considered as the future of education in Kuwait, will be offering world class education and facilities equipped with the most advanced learning tools. Speaking on this occasion, Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Essa said yesterday that this great project is one of the leading educational projects in the region, adding that Kuwait was in need for it because it was the only country in the region, if not in the world, with only one public university and that is Kuwait University (KU).

Al-Essa added that the construction on the main campus is expected to finish by year 2019 where it can accommodate around 40,000 students with only the college of medicine remaining under construction. Sabah Al-Salem University City is named after the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah. It will include 13 faculties with three extra sites for future faculties. Sabah Al-Salem University City is located in Al-Shdadiya area, south-west of Kuwait City. Approximately 6 million square meters plot was allocated to the new University City. — KUNA



KUWAIT DIGEST

CAN TERRORISM
EVER WIN?

By Pani J Anthony

Modern world has become a hotbed of hatred, violence and terrorism. Civilization has not made many people different from brutal animals. Terrorism brings nothing, but ruin and disaster; it builds nothing but tombs; multiplies orphans and widows and leaves behind a long trail of misery, starvation and sickness. During the days of terrorism affectionate brothers part, friendship receives smashing blows and love cools down.

The assassination of great leaders and killings of the innocents again confirm what is fast becoming a postulate in world politics - terrorism is a parricide that recoils on its parents. From the selective killings of politicians and police functionaries, terrorism has graduated to the stage of senseless massacres of innocent civilians. The old anarchist concept of propaganda by deed, it is learned, inspires the blast everywhere.

Terrorism takes many forms. The most common form is found in senseless killing of innocents. Anyone who has a gun in his hands and loses his sense of balance takes it into his head that he must use his gun against anyone, unmindful of whether the latter is a known enemy or a stranger. There is another class of terrorism where some are interested in looting banks, petrol bunkers or other places where they can lay their hands on easy money. While in the act of looting, they do not hesitate to kill people who might stand in their way.

Political terrorism has become a widespread disease all over the world. People and nations have forgotten that solutions to political problems and disputes can never be obtained by terroristic activities but only through negotiations. Terrorists do not understand or they are not aware of the fact that terrorism does not pay. It is a double-edged weapon, which can affect both sides. And it is the most dangerous calamity known to the society, an engine of tyranny and a danger to civilization. No religion or prophet favors terrorism; it settles nothing, but unsettles everything. It breeds violence that does good to none.

To get back to the roots of today's terrorist upsurges, the ruling powers in the world cannot justify themselves by simply blaming the others and arms traders alone, but there are devaluing the concept of democracy and oppressing their own people. In a democratic set up, anyone with a grievance has first to get a hearing.

Only the spirit of love, tolerance, mutual understanding and generosity of heart can remove terrorism. The people should be trained in the art of purposeful and peaceful life. They must be made understand that life is the precious gift and it cannot be put an end in this inhuman manner. Terrorists attract the young - mostly unemployed - by boxes of money and bottles of honey and life-long promises. The youth too, without thinking about their future and of their motherland, join hands with the terrorists for momentary gratification. Behind this bitter reality remains unemployment, lack of hope for future and erosion of ethical values in society.

International terrorism has become a reality. It disturbs us to see that more and more youth take to terrorism abandoning the civilized life. Terrorism has swallowed our very hope for the future. One wonders if the youth believe that they can establish freedom and amity with violence. Accountability in public life has gone with the wind and the youth have lost the hope of a promising future. Restoring faith in life is the need of the hour. A radical change in policy approach can't wait. And who other than the youth can carry that torch of hope?

Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: Photo shows the Alwatiya - a part of Kuwait's traditional neighborhood. — KUNA

Crime

Report

WATER OR ALCOHOL?

KUWAIT: An Indian has been sent to Drugs Control General Department. The suspect had 36 bottles of alcohol with him which he claimed were bottles of water. The Indian was driving his car when Ahmadi patrol officers asked him to stop for a search. He told police that he was carrying bottles of water but when checked, they were found to be locally made liquor.

Missing vehicle

A bedoon reported to Abu Halaifa Police Station about his stolen car. He said a man who took his car for a test-drive disappeared with it. Authorities have launched an investigation.

Liquor factory busted

Capital policemen have busted a large liquor factory in Surra area. Farwaniya Security Director Brig Saleh Al-Enezi arrested an Indian man selling liquor in Farwaniya. He confessed that there is a factory in Surra. Capital Detectives Director Colonel Khalid Khamees formed a task force stormed the place. 120 bags with liquor bottles were confiscated.

Drug suspect nabbed

Hawally police arrested a citizen in an abnormal condition and found 14 hashish packs in his possession. Police noticed a strange car with a reckless driver along the Fahaheel Road. The car was stopped to question the driver. A security source said preliminary investigations showed that the suspect was smoking hashish.

Indian commits 'suicide'

The body of an Indian has been recovered by the coroner after he hanged himself in the company's bathroom in Mina Abdallah scrap yard. An employee at the company called police and told them he found his colleague in the bathroom. Police and paramedics rushed to the area, and found out the Indian was dead. Criminal investigation has been launched. — Al Rai

News

in brief

Kuwait rider snatches 1st
place in equestrian event

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti rider Ali Al-Kharafi snatched the first place in the first round of 125cm high jumping category of the Zuidwolde equestrian competition, held in the Netherlands. Al-Kharafi jumped the hurdles without mistakes at 32.08 seconds. Meanwhile, Al-Kharafi came second in the 135cm high jumping contest after a fierce competition with the Dutch rider who was ranked first. On this occasion, Al-Kharafi expressed his delight with his win and outstanding performance in the competition. Over 100 riders from the around the world are taking part in Zuidwolde competition.

Arab Interior Ministers
urge greater interaction

TUNIS: The Council of Arab Interior Ministers have called for increased interaction amongst tourist entities in efforts to prop up the tourism industry in the region. In a statement issued at the conclusion of the seventh Arab conference on tourist security, the council highlighted the importance of having a well-equipped and adept security apparatus to better deal with mishaps. Moreover, the conference also yielded suggestions of setting up special applications on smart phones that would enable security apparatuses to keep in touch with tourists, which would in turn, enhance tourist security and safety.

Arab League to grant
S Sudan 'observer status'

KHARTOUM: The Arab League will work to reach a consensus on granting South Sudan special observer status, a position that entitles the fledgling nation to express its opinion but denies it voting rights. The Arab League's Secretary General Ahmed Abu Al-Gheit made those remarks to the press on Wednesday after a meeting with Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir in the Sudanese capital, his first visit as Arab League chief to the impoverished African nation. Moreover, he noted that the situation in Sudan would take precedence in the upcoming Arab summit, noting that the Arab League would stand by the country at all times. Meanwhile, Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Obaidallah Mohammad said that his country would cooperate with the Arab League, which would in turn, bolster bilateral ties. He also added that the meeting tackled issues that run the gamut from the conflict in Darfur to Arab food security.



KFH ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-RABEH DRAW



KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the winners of the first draw of Al-Rabeh account that took place at Avenues mall amidst huge participation and attendance. The draw was conducted under the supervision of representatives of the Ministry of Commerce where KFH revealed 3 winners of two 2016 Range Rover's and 3 KG of Gold. The winners are Sulaiman Ali Alsaied and Aisha Abdullah Bandar of 2016 Range Rover's for each, while Khalaf Mohammad Al-Sabti won 3 KG of Gold.

Amidst exciting and suspense atmospheres, Private Banking General Manager at

KFH, Waleed Khaled Mandani handed out the prizes to the winners. The big event also witnessed a number of competitions and winners in addition to some folkloric performance. Al-Rabeh salary account, which was launched last February, is an investment savings account based on Mudaraba sharia principle that gives clients annual profit distributions. Clients can open this account at any of KFH 64 branches around Kuwait.

It is noteworthy that the account is offered for individuals who transfer their salaries and manage their personal accounts with the ability to save and invest. Al-Rabeh account is

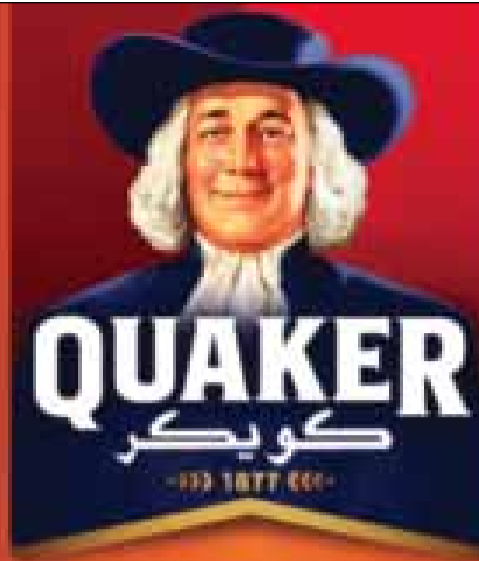
available for individuals in KD and it requires salary transfer as a prerequisite.

With regards to the prizes campaign terms and conditions, KFH gives away two Range Rover's 2016 HSE for the first two winners and a 3 KG Gold for the third winner in quarterly draws to be held in the months of January, April, July, and October, providing that clients should have deposited 3 salaries in the three months prior to the draw, yet their minimum monthly balance is not less than KD 50 by the end of each month, bearing in mind that each KD 50 in the account entitles clients to one entry in the draw, thus

more money in an account means more chances to win.

KFH is keen on improving its banking products and services in line with clients' requirement in efforts to achieve customer satisfaction and cater more closely for their needs. KFH endeavors to offer unique advantages and valuable prizes stemming from its continuing endeavors to offer outstanding products and services that address clients' requirements and meet their aspirations, yet consolidate Bank's prestigious status and excellence in offering products as per the highest standards of quality.





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بدون إضافة غلوتينومات
لحمي الصوديوم

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International

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016

Screams, flying debris as truck ploughs into crowd

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At least 300 killed in S Sudan violence

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'Ghost schools' haunt Pakistan despite boost

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INDIANA: File photo shows US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump (right) and Indiana Governor Mike Pence taking the stage during a campaign rally at Grant Park Event Center in Westfield, Indiana. —AFP

IS PENCE! TRUMP ANNOUNCES HIS VP

PENCE - THE 'MOST EXTREME PICK': CLINTON'S CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump has chosen Indiana Gov Mike Pence as his running mate, adding political experience and conservative bona fides to his Republican presidential ticket. Trump announced his decision on Twitter yesterday morning, capping a frenzied 24 hours of speculation about his choice. A news conference was set for today for the two men who will take on Hillary Clinton and her Democratic running mate in November.

Trump offered the vice presidential spot to Pence on Thursday, and the governor boarded a plane for New York in anticipation of the announcement, according to a Republican with knowledge of the process. But shortly after Pence arrived, Trump abruptly said he was postponing an announcement because of the deadly attack in Nice, France, that left more than 80 people dead. The delay sparked speculation that the notoriously unpredictable Trump might make a last minute change.

But the businessman put those questions to rest yesterday when he tweeted that he

was "pleased" to announce Pence as his No 2. Pence, a staunchly conservative 57-year-old, served six terms in Congress before being elected governor and could help Trump navigate Capitol Hill. He is well-regarded by evangelical Christians, particularly after signing a law that critics said would allow businesses to deny service to gay people for religious reasons. Clinton's campaign moved quickly to paint Pence as the "most extreme pick in a generation." "By picking Mike Pence as his running mate, Donald Trump has doubled down on some of his most disturbing beliefs by choosing an incredibly divisive and unpopular running mate," said John Podesta, Clinton's campaign chairman. Pence rose to the top of Trump's list in recent days as the two men spent more time together. Pence was the favored choice of many Republican leaders, as well as some top advisers in Trump's campaign, reflecting a desire to see the real estate mogul add a more traditional politician to the ticket.

Pence's re-election prospects in Indiana

added to the drama surrounding Trump's decision. State law prohibits candidates from being on ballots in two contests, and Pence faced a noon Friday deadline for withdrawing from the governor's race. Trump's announcement came about an hour before that deadline. Minutes after Trump tweeted, one of the governor's aides filed the paperwork with the Indiana Secretary of State's office.

Since taking office in 2013, Pence has presided over Indiana's improving economy and falling unemployment rate, which Republicans credit to the state's low taxes, limited regulation and pro business climate. Yet his popularity at home has tumbled and re-election was not guaranteed. During his years in Congress, Pence was known for a calm demeanor and conservative record. He deepened his ties to evangelical Christians and other conservatives last year when he signed the law affecting gays.

But his support for the measure led to a revolt from the business community, which joined gay rights advocates in successfully

pushing for changes to the law. It also turned off some moderate Republicans, helping derail Pence's own presidential ambitions. Trump's hectic decision-making process was made more complicated by the fact that the businessman was in California Thursday for a series of fundraisers, isolated from nearly all of his closest advisers, including his three adult children and his campaign chairman, Paul Manafort.

Frustration among Trump and his advisers mounted because of news reports that Pence was the pick, sending top aides scrambling to insist no final decision had been made. The billionaire said in a series of television interviews Thursday night that he'd not yet settled on a "final, final" choice, leaving open the possibility the unpredictable presumptive nominee could change his mind. But Manafort dismissed suggestions in an interview on Fox News Channel that Trump was having second thoughts about his choice. He said Trump was planning on making an announcement this weekend.—AP

France mourns as deadly



NICE: People lay flowers in the street of Nice to pay tribute to the victims the day after a gunman smashed a truck into a crowd of revelers celebrating Bastille Day, killing at least 84 people. — AFP

SCREAMS, FLYING DEBRIS AS TRUCK PLOUGHS INTO CROWD

FRANCE MOURNS AS TERROR ATTACK ROCKS NICE

NICE: Terrified revelers screamed as a truck careered into a crowd of fireworks spectators in Nice, turning Bastille Day celebrations into a night of horror. AFP correspondent Robert Holloway was among the crowds celebrating France's national day on Nice's Promenade des Anglais when the nightmare began. He had to shield his face from flying debris as the truck plunged two kilometers along the French Riviera resort's palm-fringed beachfront, mowing people down in its wake.

"It was absolute chaos," Holloway said. "We saw people hit and bits of debris flying around. I had to protect my face from flying debris." At least 80 people have been killed in what French President Francois Hollande has branded a terrorist attack. Bodies lay covered in sheets on what is usually a bustling seven-kilometer strip curving along Nice's clear blue coast, attracting tourists from the world over.

A child's doll lay abandoned next to one of the dead, as Hollande confirmed that several children were among the vic-

tims. In the early hours of Friday, the truck itself sat finally immobilized in front of the luxury Palais de la Mediterranee hotel, badly damaged with its tyres burst and multiple bullet holes in its windscreen. The driver had fired a pistol several times before being shot dead by police, regional chief Christian Estrosi said.

'All hell broke loose'

A witness named Nader told BFM television he had seen the whole attack from start to finish, and had initially thought the driver had "lost control". "I was in the street. He stopped just in front of me after he (crushed) a lot of people," he said. "We were trying to speak to the driver to get him to stop. He looked nervous. There was a girl under the car, he smashed her. The guy next to me pulled her out," he said in broken English.

Nader said he saw the driver pull out a gun and start shooting at police. "They killed him and his head was out the window." People screamed and scattered as

the truck veered down the beachfront where thousands of adults and children had gathered for the fireworks. "For a big truck like that to get actually onto the promenade and then to go in a fairly straight line along there, looked to me like a very deliberate act," Holloway said.

"It was about 100 meters from me and I had a few seconds to get out of the way." Several witnesses described how people hurled themselves off the promenade onto the beach below to escape the path of the truck. Marie, a 37-year-old security guard at the nearby beachfront Massena Museum which itself hosted Bastille Day festivities just hours before the attack—described the panic as people tried to flee. "We saw hundreds of people rushing to get shelter," she said, still stunned. "There were children, people got trampled."

A single high-heeled shoe lay on a nearby road, lost in the panic. The city streets were quiet as dawn approached, with the exception of the many soldiers and mem-

bers of the security forces out on patrol. Witness Roy Calley, who said he lived 200 meters from the promenade, told the BBC there was "all hell breaking loose" and the situation was "pretty horrendous". "It was a celebratory atmosphere, it was fun, people were enjoying themselves. Suddenly I heard a huge, what I can only describe as maybe an explosion or a crash. A lot of people were screaming. That was followed by what I thought were maybe gunshots."

David Cody, a producer for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation who was at the scene, added: "People were tripping over in the commotion, there was a lot of panic. "People were trying to get into hotels, any businesses that were open, trying to take shelter, because it was unclear what was happening. "With each bang that we heard behind us, people perhaps started to go a bit faster, people were tripping over. It was a very chaotic scene." Earlier in the evening, as the crowds enjoyed the fireworks, lightning had flashed in the skies over Nice.—AFP

terror attack rocks Nice

NICE TRUCK ATTACK REFLECTS 'NEW NORMAL' FOR EUROPE

BRUSSELS: European leaders and security chiefs have a sobering message after the Bastille Day killings in Nice: such lone attacks using ordinary vehicles are nearly impossible to prevent and can be carried out by almost anyone. "We have moved into a new era," said Prime Minister Manuel Valls. "And France will have to live with terrorism." His Belgian counterpart, Charles Michel, said in Brussels—where Islamic State militants staged attacks in March and where they planned last November's Paris attacks—that "zero risk does not exist." "We are now faced with a different modus operandi," he said in the Belgian capital which, like cities in France, is still on a state of high alert with troops and heavily armed police

on the streets and on guard at major public events. Belgium has anticipated such risks, Michel said, and is ready to protect its own national day festivities next Thursday. A local, 31-year-old, Tunisian-born Frenchman with a record of violence but unknown to counter-terrorism agencies drove the rented heavy truck for 2 km along the palm-fringed Promenade des Anglais seafront, which was closed to traffic and thronged with thousands of revelers watching fireworks.

"What can you do against this?" Andre Jacob, former head of counter-terrorism at Belgium's State Security service told Reuters. "It's impossible to prevent. Even if there were clues." That the attacker could run over and kill 84 people reflects

not only the surprise, the density of the crowds and the lethal weight and speed of the vehicle, creating a far deadlier impact than many similar ramming attacks. It also speaks to a lack of barriers on the road and the limited firepower of the police on duty.

Some 25 bullet holes spattered the windshield of the truck, standing where it stopped and the driver was shot dead. The glass had not shattered. There was no indication it was armored, so it appeared to have been hit mainly by police officers armed with standard issue pistols rather than the high-power automatic rifles carried by troops and sued by some police during emergencies.

"We're not in the United States, we're not in

cowboy country," Jacob said, underlining that security forces on the scene would have had limited time to react and then had to try to hit a fast-moving target without killing innocent people. "It's right the police have weapons for use in the city and don't wander around with Kalashnikovs (assault rifles) and grenades and so on."

Though ramming attacks by vehicles have become more common in various parts of the world, many have been associated with attempts to blow them up—a common tactic in Iraq but also used in a makeshift, abortive way at Glasgow Airport in 2007. Israel has seen a number in recent years, mainly where lone Arabs have driven into pedestrians or bus stops. — Reuters



NICE: Parents of victims embrace each other near the scene of a truck attack in Nice, southern France yesterday. — AP



NICE: People stand behind a police barricade (right) set up at the site in Nice where a gunman smashed a truck into a crowd of revelers celebrating Bastille Day, killing at least 84 people. — AFP



NICE: Forensics officers and policemen look for evidences near a truck on the Promenade des Anglais seafront in the French Riviera town of Nice yesterday, after it drove into a crowd watching a fireworks display. —AFP

WHEN VEHICLES BECOME WEAPONS

PARIS: Transforming a vehicle into a simple but deadly weapon of terror—as happened to such bloody effect in Nice on Thursday—is a tactic well known to intelligence agencies. A truck smashed into revelers celebrating France's Bastille Day, killing at least 84 and injuring scores as it ploughed two kilometers through the crowd. In Israel and the Palestinian territories, car-ramming attacks have featured heavily in a wave of violence that has killed at least 215 Palestinians, 34 Israelis, two Americans, an Eritrean and a Sudanese since October last year.

Western authorities have had to deal with three similar attacks in recent years: two in Britain and another in Canada. In May 2013, two Islamists smashed their car into British soldier Lee Rigby before attempting to behead him on a London street in broad daylight. The pair, who were of Nigerian heritage, said they attacked the 25-year-old fusilier to avenge the deaths of Muslims at the hands of British troops.

Religious extremist

Just 18 months later, a man claiming to be acting in the name of radical jihad ran over and killed Canadian soldier Patrice Vincent, also injuring a second man. Shortly after, the

25-year-old Muslim convert, Martin Couture-Rouleau, called the police emergency line to dedicate his attack to the cause of jihad. And in June 2007, two men in a burning jeep smashed into the main terminal building at Scotland's Glasgow Airport.

One of the men was jailed for life, with the judge describing him as a "religious extremist". For several years, extremist groups such as Islamic State and Al-Qaeda have exhorted followers via videos or messages to carry out such attacks using whatever comes to hand. In September 2014, Abu Mohammed al-Adnani, an IS spokesman who Western intelligence agencies have dubbed the group's "attacks minister", issued chilling instructions that some have since apparently followed.

"If you cannot (detonate) a bomb or (fire) a bullet, arrange to meet alone with a French or an American infidel and bash his skull in with a rock, slaughter him with a knife, run him over with your car, throw him off a cliff, strangle him, or inject him with poison," he said. Al-Adnani said there was no need to "consult anyone" as all unbelievers are fair game: "It is immaterial if the infidel is a combatant or a civilian... They are both enemies. The blood of both is permitted."—AFP

SHOCK, HORROR, COMFORT OF STRANGERS IN NICE

NICE: The living held their hands. They knew they were dead, but they would not let them go. Hours after unspeakable horror was visited on families who had gathered to watch the Bastille Day fireworks on the seafront in Nice, the dead still lay scattered where they fell across the Promenade des Anglais. Here and there people sat with them, sometimes alone, sometimes in a little huddles of family and friends.

Some had only the comfort of strangers, after the lorry's murderous passage. And one victim, a small child who like so many others had been allowed to stay up late to see the fireworks, lay dead on the tarmac with a doll at its side. "You would think you could do something to help by being there," said Tarubi Wahid Mosta, who tried to do what he could in the aftermath of the attack. "But we were useless."

The dead remained under sheets as the massive investigation began. "All these families who have already spent a long time at their sides are likely given the horrible number of the dead to spend hours on the ground holding the cold hands of bodies dismembered by the truck. You can't even speak to them or comfort them," the actor wrote on his Facebook page. "That is the hardest thing, to be useless at such a horrible moment."

One photograph he posted shows a headscarfed woman kneeling over a body. "In the middle of all this is a Muslim family (real Muslims), one of whom did not escape this

crazy lorry," he said. "Once again everyone has been touched, whether they were believers or not." Outside a Nice hospital a grieving family later told reporters that their mother, a devout Muslim, had been the first of the lorry's 84 victims.

Long after dawn broke some of the victims were still lying on the promenade covered by blue and white sheets as the first of the morning joggers set out along the Bay of Angels. Nice is a town that likes to party, that was built to a great extent as a playground for the European aristocracy and industrialists who wintered on the French Riviera in the late 19th century.

Its carnival is the third biggest in the world after Venice and Rio. Like the carnival, the Bastille Day fireworks display is a huge family occasion, with children allowed to stay up well after their normal bedtimes to enjoy the spectacle. Several children were among the dead, French President Francois Hollande said. Authorities later confirmed that around 50 were hurt, many seriously.

Such was the violence with which the lorry tore through the crowds that a family was separated from its eight-month-old baby that had been in a pushchair. He was found by a young woman who brought him home with her and reunited him with his parents after they posted a picture of the boy on Facebook, a family friend told AFP. —AFP

SPAIN, 'A BOMB TESTING GROUND' FOR WWII

BENASAL, Spain: Teenager Angel Bertran had just gone out to work in fields of hazelnut trees when Spain's civil war burst into his small town with the arrival of Nazi bomber planes. It was May 25, 1938. Bertran, then just 15, was heading to the countryside outside Benasal, a town of around 1,000 residents in the eastern province of Castellon where a mountain range separates Spain's Mediterranean coast from its central plains.

"Suddenly three planes flew by, not very high. They turned towards the town and nosedived," Bertran, now 93, recalls as he sits in a rustic wooden chair in the living room of his home. "They lined up and dropped their bombs. They fell very quickly, making a loud whistling sound. Within seconds you could only see dust." He stops talking and thinks for a moment before adding in a broken voice: "When I returned to the town, everything was destroyed." Photographs from the time show entire blocks of Benasal reduced to rubble, the dome and roof of the baroque church blown open. At least 13 people were killed, victims of a new war tactic: air bombardments.

Absolute panic

Spain's 1936-39 civil war pitted an elected leftist government against right-wing forces that rose up under General Francisco Franco, who went on to win and presided over a nearly 40-year dictatorship. It was the first war where "aviation played a crucial role", said Barcelona University historian Joan Villarroya. Planes bombed systematically the battlefield as well as the civilian population to "cause terror and break morale", he said. Hospitals, schools, theatres, markets and even churches became military targets. Historians estimate that at least 10,000 people were killed across the country in the air raids during the 1936-39 war. The vast majority of the dead were opponents of Franco's forces, who were backed by Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy. The soldiers loyal to the Socialist-led government known as Republicans received help from the Soviet Union, but it was much more limited. In November 1936 Madrid became the first European capital to be bombed by planes.

The following year the town of Guernica in the northern Basque region was wiped out by aircraft from Hitler's "Condor Legion" sent to Spain to support Franco, an atrocity immortalized in Picasso's haunting anti-war masterpiece named after the town. At the same time Italian aircraft based in Mallorca bombed Spain's Mediterranean coast, especially Barcelona where 2,500 people were killed. Spain was for them "a test ground for World War Two," said history professor Josep Sanchez Cervello of Tarragona's Rovira i Virgili University. "They wanted to see what would be the effect of bombs on the civilian population. It was absolute panic."

Stuka experiment

Benasal suffered one of these experiments, the testing of the Junker-87, or Stuka, a German dive bomber that served the Axis forces in World War Two. For decades no one explained why Benasal was targeted. It was an unimportant town, without troops and 30 kilometers (20 miles) from the nearest front. But in 2011 Oscar Vives, a university professor who lives in Benasal, found a German military report titled "Images of the Effects of 500 kilogram bombs". The report proved that Benasal and three other nearby towns were used to test the dive bombers. At least 40 people died "because of an experiment, of weapons testing," said Vives. Time has not erased the memories. Now aged 90, Rosa Soligo says she was in bed when the bombs landed near her house. She recalls hearing her mother scream and "a loud noise" as part of the building came crashing down.

"When they pulled us out of the rubble our bodies were covered in blood because of the injuries but fortunately they were not very serious," she said. The German dive bombers returned three days later but there were no longer any inhabitants left in Benasal. Everyone had fled.

Punished by history

"We lived in caves for days, for fear that they would return. We suffered a lot... a lot," Soligo said. The effects of the air bombings can be seen still in the town of Corbera de Ebro in the northeastern region of Catalunya near the Ebro River, the site of the bloodiest battle of the war which paved the way for victory by Franco's forces. Corbera was "completely leveled" by the insurgents, said professor Sanchez Cervello.

The town was engulfed in fire and smoke for weeks, and was called "the eternal flame", said local historian and high school teacher Joan Antonio Montana who provides tours of the ruins of Corbera. Only the bell tower and facade of the town's baroque church survived. After the war the surviving residents moved down the hill and rebuilt their town. The original town was left in rubble as a memorial to a "town punished by history".—AFP



JUBA: Soldiers stand guard outside the bullet-scarred main gate of the presidential palace in Juba, where clashes between rival units this week left scores dead and set off battles elsewhere in the city.—AFP

AT LEAST 300 KILLED IN S SUDAN VIOLENCE

RECENT VIOLENCE TRIGGERED THE CIVIL WAR

GENEVA: At least 300 people have been killed in four days of intense gun battles in the capital of South Sudan and 42,000 have fled the city, the UN said yesterday. The recent violence in Juba echoed the fighting that triggered the civil war and marks a fresh blow to last year's peace deal to end the bitter conflict that began when President Salva Kiir accused ex-rebel and now Vice President Riek Machar of plotting a coup.

"It's over 300 deaths since August 8," said World Health Organization spokesman Tarik Jasarevic. The UN however said it did not have the number of injured. The July 8-11 violence had left "42,000 internally displaced" in the world's youngest nation, said William Spindler, the spokesman for the UN refugee agency. "The number of refugees in neighboring countries is now 835,000," he said.

However, the International Organization for Migration said many people were returning. "Humanitarian access to affected people has improved dramatically since Monday. But this can only be sustained if the ceasefire holds", said John McCue, IOM South Sudan Head of Operations. Machar's sacking as vice-president in 2013 set off a cycle of retaliatory killings that split the poverty-stricken, landlocked country along ethnic lines and drove more than two million out of their homes.

The conflict has been characterized by horrific rights abuses, including gang rapes, the wholesale burning of villages and cannibalism. According to the UN, there were some 114,000 South

Sudanese refugees in neighboring countries before December 2013 but

that figure has ballooned to 835,000 now.—AFP

FRAGILE PEACE IN NIGERIA, DESPITE REMOTE PARTS

KANO, Nigeria: Nigeria's military has clawed back swathes of territory held by Boko Haram, opening up routes once infested with Islamist fighters, allowing life to resume for people in the remote region. But locals in the north-east say the Islamists are still a security risk and far from defeated, sounding a note of caution to government and military claims that victory is near.

Aid agencies meanwhile have said parts of Borno state remain inaccessible, highlighting the threat of severe acute malnutrition and even famine to tens of thousands of people. Certainly there has been progress compared to 2014, when the militants controlled territory the size of Belgium with a self-declared caliphate that threatened Nigeria's sovereignty.

Last week the military announced the reopening of the strategic 140-kilometre trade route linking the Borno state capital Maiduguri to Gamboru on the border with Cameroon. Trucks laden with goods and passenger vehicles have since been plying the road under military escort and a state government committee has been formed to oversee transportation.

"From our records over 5,000 people

have returned to Gamboru in the past week following the reopening of the route," one official on the committee, who asked not to be identified, told AFP. "We have so far organized two trips to Gamboru involving 100 articulated trucks and 116 passenger vehicles." Boko Haram seized Gamboru in August 2014, forcing thousands to flee to Fotokol on the other side of the river that forms the border with Cameroon. Chadian forces, who have been involved in the regional counter-insurgency, retook Gamboru in February 2015, after intense fighting that left hundreds of insurgents dead. Residents began returning the following month and since the road reopened, there has been "a huge influx" of people from Maiduguri, said resident Umar Ari.

"Commercial activities are fast picking up with the resumption of supply of goods from Maiduguri. Some people have started rebuilding their homes," he added. "Residents of Gamboru have resumed work on their farms that have been lying fallow for two crop seasons." But it is a fragile peace, as Boko Haram is still attacking villages and Nigerian troops in the region.—AFP

MURDER VICTIM'S FAMILY FACE BEEF PROBE

NEW DELHI: The family of a Muslim man lynched in India over rumors he had eaten beef could face criminal charges after they were accused of slaughtering a cow—a taboo in the mainly Hindu country. Around 100 people dragged Mohammad Akhlaq, 50, from his house in Uttar Pradesh state last year and beat him to death in a case that horrified the nation and fuelled concerns of a rise in religious intolerance.

His family has consistently denied the rumors and police have arrested 19 local people over the killing. But on Thursday a local court ruled that there was enough evidence to investigate Akhlaq's wife and adult

children for allegedly killing a cow, according to lawyers for both sides. Cow slaughter is a criminal offence in many Indian states, including Uttar Pradesh, and the court made its decision after receiving a petition from a group of local residents.

Unfortunate incident

"The court accepted the petition mainly on the basis of the government report which confirmed the recovery of beef and key eye witnesses who saw them slaughtering a calf," said Rajiv Tyagi, a lawyer for the petitioners. Police investigating Akhlaq's murder were initially reported to have found beef at his

home, though it later emerged that the meat was found on a nearby rubbish dump.

Local police said they expected to receive the court order by Friday evening and would then register a case. "We will then launch a formal investigation and further action will be taken on merit," said Dharmendra Singh Yadav, a senior officer. Yusuf Saifi, acting for the Akhlaq family, said they would appeal the decision in a higher court. Cow slaughter carries a maximum jail sentence of seven years jail and a fine of up to 10,000 rupees (\$150) in Uttar Pradesh.

Akhlaq's murder fuelled concerns that religious intolerance may be growing under

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party government. Critics accuse the Hindu nationalist government of having failed to protect minorities since it came to power at general elections in May 2014 and say Hindu hardliners were emboldened by Modi's victory.

It took the prime minister several weeks to respond to the attack, in which Akhlaq's son was also severely injured. He eventually described the incident as "unfortunate". While the majority of India's 1.2 billion population is Hindu, the country is also home to sizeable Muslim, Christian and Buddhist minorities.—AFP

GHOST SCHOOLS HAUNT PAKISTAN DESPITE BUDGET BOOST: STUDY

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's education budget has doubled in recent years—to almost as much as the military's—but literacy and dropout rates remain abysmal and "ghost schools" persist, a new report said. A staggering 24 million children are not in school and more than half of eight-year-olds cannot read despite the budget growing twofold to \$7.5 billion in the last six years, the report from the US-based Wilson Center released Thursday found.

Pakistan's poor report card comes even as the number of so-called ghost schools—which receive funding but have no teachers or students—has declined in some areas. Nationwide there were fewer ghost schools than in the early 2000s when up to 20 percent of all schools across the country were empty, the study called "Pakistan's Education Crisis: The Real Story" said.

Education crisis

The United States, Britain and the World Bank have poured money into Pakistan's stagnating public education sector, seen as a key weapon against religious extremism and rising income inequality. But the number of children out of school today is second only to Nigeria, and the South Asian country of about 200 million people has an adult literacy rate of 56.4 percent as many parents see little use in putting their children in school, the report added.

It found that although combined spending in the public and private education sectors was above four percent—the globally accepted benchmark for education spending—money was not being spent wisely. "Pakistan's education crisis does not come down to how much the country spends, but how the money is spent," said report author Nadia Naviwala. "Pakistan needs to spend better, not simply spend more." She added education spending was almost on a par with the powerful military, which has a budget of \$8.2 billion for 2016.

The study registered that there had been improvements despite some setbacks. In Punjab, the country's most populous province, teacher absenteeism dropped from 20 percent to six percent between 2010 and 2015. But the rise in funding—mainly spent on salary boosts for teachers—has had little effect. In Sindh province, standardized test scores of fifth and sixth graders, or children aged 10 and 11, showed zero improvement between 2012 and 2014. Improvements in other provinces were also marginal. Britain's development agency is the primary donor, giving \$150 million in 2016, or about two percent of Pakistan's overall education budget.—AFP



INDIA: Indian paramilitary soldiers stand guard during a curfew in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir, yesterday.—AP

INDIAN TROOPS, PROTESTERS CLASH IN KASHMIR DESPITE LOCKDOWN

THOUSANDS WITHHELD FROM FRIDAY PRAYERS

SRINAGAR: Protests against Indian rule erupted in dozens of places in divided Kashmir, even as authorities prevented tens of thousands of people from offering Friday prayers in big mosques with a lockdown in place for a seventh straight day. Government forces armed with automatic rifles and in riot gear fanned across villages and towns ordering residents to stay indoors. But after people prayed in smaller, neighborhood mosques, protests occurred and police reported clashes between protesters and police and paramilitary soldiers.

Troops fired tear gas to disperse rock-throwing crowds who chanted pro-freedom and anti-India slogans. In one village army troops opened fire and wounded at least two protesters after hundreds of villagers attacked them with stones, said a police officer who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to talk to reporters. The largest protests in recent years erupted last weekend after Indian troops killed the popular, young leader of the largest rebel group fighting against Indian rule.

The clashes have killed at least 32 people, mostly teens and young men, and a policeman. Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan, and most people in India's portion resent the Indian troop presence and want independence or a merger with Pakistan. Pakistan denies India's accusations it arms and trains Kashmiri rebels. Since the 1990s, more than 68,000 people have been killed in Kashmir's uprising against Indian rule and the subsequent Indian military crackdown.

Black day

Yesterday, Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif vowed that his country would continue extending political moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris. He urged his countrymen to observe "black day" on Tuesday to express solidarity with "Kashmiris who are facing atrocities at the hands of Indian forces." In a statement released by Sharif's office, the prime minister said a joint meeting of the National Assembly and the Senate will be convened to discuss Kashmir.

Meanwhile, a team of New Delhi eye specialists who went to help expressed concern over the use of pellet guns by Indian security forces. At least 100 people required eye surgery, with doctors saying most will lose partial or complete eyesight. Sudershan Khokhar, an ophthalmologist from the premier New Delhi-based All India Institute of Medical Sciences, said he had not witnessed so many injured at one time in three decades. "During wartime, I think you will get such injuries," the Indian Express newspaper quoted Khokhar as saying. "It (pellet guns) shouldn't be used here or anywhere."

Officials said at least 1,500 injured have been treated in hospitals for various injuries. At least 150 police and soldiers have been injured. The protests were ignited by the death of Burhan Wani, who was killed by Indian forces in a gun battle and had been the face of Kashmir's militancy. Sharif paid tributes to Wani yesterday saying he was a "soldier of independence" and that "Kashmiris will ultimately get their right (of self-determination)."—AP

CHINA CHARGES 3 ACTIVISTS IN SWEEPING CRACKDOWN

BEIJING: Chinese prosecutors yesterday said they had formally charged a prominent human rights lawyer and three activists with “subverting state power” a year after detaining them in a sweeping crackdown. Attorney Zhou Shifeng and activists Hu Shigen, Gou Hongguo and Zhai Yanmin will almost certainly face trial, following the announcement by prosecutors in the northern city of Tianjin on their verified micro blog. The men have been held since last July when more than 200 lawyers and activists were detained in a swoop on those who had taken on civil rights cases considered sensitive by China’s tightly controlled courts.

Around a dozen are still being held without access to independent lawyers or family members, accused by police of subverting state power. The crackdown has sparked international condemnation, with the United Nations’ human rights commissioner as well as the

European Union, United States and human rights groups calling for the lawyers to be freed. The law firm at the centre of the crackdown, Fengrui, had defended dissident intellectuals and sought to draw public support using social media and banner-waving protests outside court houses.

The state subversion charges against the men can result in a maximum sentence of life in prison. Zhou provided legal aid to families of children poisoned by milk powder in a 2008 scandal and as an employee of Fengrui defended an 81-year-old writer detained for criticizing the ruling Communist party in a case last year. State media has branded the firm a “criminal gang” and accused its lawyers of disrupting court hearings.

The official Xinhua news agency cited police as saying last year that Zhai “organized multiple mass

protests to influence court sentences”. Hu and Gou are both Christian activists associated with “underground” churches in northern China. Under President Xi Jinping, China has tightened controls on civil society, and the 709 crackdown-named after July 9, the day when a large number of activists were detained—represents its largest-scale operation in years.

The wives and family members of the lawyers and activists last week wrote a public letter accusing state security of “harassment” on the anniversary of their loved ones going missing. Zhai’s wife Li Ermin told AFP that police officers beat her after she travelled to Tianjin to try to locate her spouse. Gou’s wife Fan Lili said her cash savings and bank cards had been confiscated after her husband was detained, and police pressured her landlord to force her and her newborn baby to move out of their flat. — AFP



SEOUL: Residents block a bus carrying South Korean Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn in Seongju, South Korea, yesterday. — AP

S KOREA PM PELTED WITH BOTTLES OVER MISSILE SITE

‘WE OPPOSE THE THAAD DEPLOYMENT WITH OUR LIVES’

SEOUL: Angry residents in a rural South Korean town threw eggs and water bottles at the prime minister and blocked him for more than six hours yesterday to protest a plan to deploy an advanced US missile defense system in their neighborhood. Earlier this week, South Korea announced that the missile system called Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, will be placed in the southeastern farming town of Seongju by the end of next year to better cope with North Korean threats.

Seongju residents launched protests, saying they fear possible health hazards from the missile system. Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn, accompanied by the defense minister and others, visited Seongju to try to explain the decision to residents but was immediately disrupted by jeers. Some hurled eggs and water bottles, shouting “We oppose (the THAAD deployment) with our lives,” according to TV footage. A senior police officer was injured on his forehead.

Hwang didn’t appear to be directly hit

by any objects as security guards and aides used umbrellas and bags to protect him. But his suit jacket was tainted by eggs and he evacuated to a town hall office. When he and the others came out of the building into a minibus, they were surrounded by hundreds of protesters, some using tractors. Hwang was held in the bus for more than six hours. South Korean officials have dismissed as groundless a belief that THAAD radar systems emit electromagnetic waves that can cause health problems.

Physical measures

Defense officials say the US system is harmless if people stay at least 100 meters (yards) away from it. Seongju residents criticized the government for unilaterally deciding on the deployment without consulting them. About 200 Seongju residents made a protest visit to Seoul’s Defense Ministry on Wednesday, and some wrote letters of complaint in blood. A group of 13 local leaders went on a hunger strike. Defense Minister Han Min Koo told resi-

dents Wednesday he would personally stand in front of the radars to prove they aren’t harmful.

The planned missile deployment drew an angry response from North Korea and China. North Korea has threatened unspecified “physical” measures in retaliation while China suspects the system would help US radars track its missiles. Russia also opposes the deployment. US and South Korean officials have said the THAAD system only targets North Korea, not China or anyone else.

Seoul and Washington began their formal discussions on the THAAD deployment after North Korea conducted a fourth nuclear test and carried about a long-range rocket launch earlier this year. The United States has about 28,500 troops in South Korea as deterrence against potential aggression from North Korea. American-led UN troops fought alongside South Korea during the 1950-53 Korean War while China assisted North Korea. — AP

CHINA’S COASTGUARD HALTS FILIPINO BOATS

MANILA: China’s coastguard has prevented Filipino boats from fishing around the hotly contested Scarborough Shoal, Philippine officials said yesterday, after Beijing kept a promise to ignore a court ruling voiding its vast South China Sea claims. A dispute over the shoal, 124 nautical miles northwest of the Philippines mainland was one of Manila’s main reasons for bringing international legal action against China in 2013.

Military officials and fishermen in northwest province of Pangasinan said Chinese coastguard vessels remained in place at Scarborough and were still preventing fishermen from entering the shoal’s lagoon. Many boats had stayed away until the situation was clearer, officials said. “The fishermen here have a wait-and-see attitude and are feeling their pulse whether it is safe to go to Scarborough,” Luis Madarang, an official responsible for fishing in Infanta town, said by phone.

“We are not stopping them but cautioned them to stay away from any trouble in the area. It will not help the situation if they will challenge the Chinese who are still there.” A local television crew joined a fishing boat to try to reach the Scarborough Shoal in what a news anchor said was fishermen testing China’s compliance of the ruling on Thursday. Footage from ABS-CBN news showed a handful of black-clad Chinese coastguard on a dinghy approaching the Filipino boat and using a megaphone to tell them to leave.

Pressure to enforce

The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague ruled on Tuesday ruled that because it has rocks above high tide, Scarborough Shoal was entitled to 12 miles of territorial sea, although it did not say who owns it. They acknowledged that fishermen from many nations, including the Philippines and China, have traditionally fished there said China had “unlawfully prevented” Filipino fishermen from operating their after seizing Scarborough in 2012.

Since then, Filipino fishermen have found different jobs, trawled elsewhere, or played a dangerous game of chicken with Chinese vessels which have been accused of chasing, ramming or blasting them with water cannon. China refused to participate in the arbitration, saying the case was illegal, the panel lacked jurisdiction and that it had 2,000 years of history in the South China Sea.

Asked whether China was currently allowing Philippines fishermen to fish around Scarborough Shoal, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said the decision of the court would have no effect on China’s South China Sea policy. Yesterday, China’s official air force micro blog ran a picture of a plane flying over a reef. It did not say when or where the picture was taken, but Chinese media identified it as Scarborough Shoal.

The Pangasinan fishermen are seen by many Filipinos as victims of Chinese bullying. Their plight has recently attracted much media attention and the government has come under pressure to help them by enforcing the court ruling. How it intends to do that is so far unclear. “China will hold on to that shoal, for sure, and deny our fishermen access,” said a senior navy commander who has previously joined diplomatic missions to China. He declined to be named because he was not authorized to speak to media.

“It’s best for the government to negotiate with China.” The court made clear that although the shoal was located within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, it would still have to share it with other countries. But there appeared to be confusion among some fishing communities and officials about a ruling that was overwhelmingly in the Philippines’ favor. — Reuters

MAN DEAD AFTER FIRING AT BALTIMORE OFFICERS

'THIS ISN'T THE FIRST POLICE SHOOTING INVOLVING SOMEONE ARMED'

BALTIMORE: Baltimore police officers responding to the sound of gunshots near an apartment building fatally shot a man who fired at them with an AR-15-style rifle, authorities said early yesterday. No officers or anyone else was wounded in the shooting Thursday night in a neighborhood on the city's west side, police spokesman TJ Smith said. He added that it wasn't immediately clear why the man had started shooting.

Four plainclothes officers riding in an unmarked Nissan Altima with the windows rolled down heard gunfire coming from the building about 9:30 pm Thursday, Smith said at a news briefing. The officers drove toward the sound and when they arrived, they saw a man shooting an AR-15-style weapon, according to Smith. Smith said the man started firing toward the officers, and two returned fire.

The suspect was shot at least once and retreated to the apartment building, where he was found on the second-floor landing, according to the spokesman. He didn't immediately identify the officers, the man or the races of those involved. Smith held up a picture of what he said was the rifle that was recovered afterward. The shooting comes a week after police shootings of two black men, one in Louisiana and the other in Minnesota, stoked outrage among many in the African-American community and protests around the country.

Tensions also were heightened in the US by last week's killing of five police officers in Dallas by a black gunman. Smith said the early shooting scene was chaotic as officers drove toward the sound of the gunfire. Officers, who Smith said initially thought there might have been more than one suspect involved, surrounded the building and searched the area. He said authorities found the gun in a tree line just behind the apartment complex and the suspect inside on the second level



with at least one bullet wound to his upper body.

Theory

The man was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead, Smith said. He said police still have many questions so early in the investigation. "We don't have a victim ... No one has come forward and said, 'Hey, I was being shot at,'" he said. The possibility that the man was trying to lure officers to the scene with the gunfire is a "theory" police are looking into, Smith added. "Officers were drawn due to gunfire; were they specifically drawn there by him if they might have known they

were in the area? We don't know the answer to that yet, but that's something that we're trying to figure out," Smith said. While the officers were in plainclothes, they also were wearing outer tactical vests that were marked "police" on the front and back, he said. Smith said the crime scene processing would take several hours and he asked anyone in the area at the time of the shootings to come forward and speak with investigators. He added that he expected more information to be released later in the afternoon. "There are a number of shell casings from this AR-15-style weapon on scene," he said. Smith also said the two officers who fired

their weapons were being placed on administrative duties as is routine in such cases. This isn't the first police shooting in Baltimore involving someone armed with a semi-automatic rifle. In March, a man and his 18-year-old son died after police say plainclothes officers opened fire on them when they found them aiming guns at someone across a street. Police said special operations unit officers were patrolling in an unmarked car when they happened upon Matthew Wood Jr and his son, Kimani Johnson, who had gotten out of a vehicle and were armed with a semi-automatic rifle and a handgun.—AP



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TRUMP'S PLANS AGGRAVATE OPEN WOUNDS IN MEXICO

TIJUANA, Mexico: Maurilio Salcido takes off his hat to press as close as possible to the wall dividing Mexico and the United States, setting eyes on his son for the first time in 15 years. Salcido, 80, has dressed up in his Sunday best for the visit, even though he and his son can only see each other's silhouettes through the tight metal mesh that forms the wall in Friendship Park, along the border between Tijuana and San Diego.

Walls, barbed wire or other barriers currently divide Mexico and the United States along one-third of their 3,145-kilometer (nearly 2,000-mile) border. If Donald Trump is elected president of the United States,

that could expand to the entire border. Trump, who is due to be confirmed as the Republican party's presidential candidate next week, kicked off his campaign in June 2015 vowing to build a wall to keep out Mexicans.

His tirades against Mexican immigrants-whom he described that day as drug dealers, criminals and rapists-and his promised border wall have since become constant rallying cries on the campaign trail, as the bombastic billionaire has surged from long-shot outsider to presumptive nominee. "It's going to be a big, fat, beautiful wall," Trump shouted recently to cheering supporters in California, repeating his vow

to force Mexico to pay for the barrier.

The border has changed markedly since Salcido worked in the United States as a "bracero," or migrant farm worker, in the 1950s, when there were no walls between the two neighbors. The slight, deeply tanned retiree said he was just happy to have seen his son for the first time since the latter left for "the other side." Salcido and his daughter, grandson and daughter-in-law took a bus 2,000 kilometers from their home state of Durango to this strip of beach at the western end of the border, where dozens of Mexican families reunite each weekend across a translucent wall, closely watched by the US Border Patrol.

"Now we're going home happy," he said.

Rush for papers

The Border Patrol lets Mexican immigrants speak with their families across the wall in Friendship Park every Saturday and Sunday morning, no papers required. It is the only portion of the border where such an arrangement exists. Olga Soto, who was at the wall to see her son, said she feared what a Trump presidency could bring. Soto lived in San Diego as an undocumented migrant for years, leaving her 15-year-old son David behind when she returned home in 2012 to care for a sick relative. — AFP



PHOENIX: Margarito Castro, father of Manuel "Manny" Castro Garcia, 19, stands next to his son's grave at a cemetery in Phoenix. — AP

SERIAL KILLER SHOOTER LEAVES TRAIL OF GRIEF, FEAR IN PHOENIX

SUSPECT STARTS SHOOTING AND FLEES IN HIS VEHICLE

PHOENIX: In a blue-collar Phoenix neighborhood known for gang and drug violence, Margarito Castro's 19-year-old son Manny was learning to be a welder just like his father. Father and son carpooled together to work until June 10, when Manny was shot dead as he sat in his car in front of his girlfriend's house by a suspect identified this week as the city's first serial killer in a decade.

Now Margarito Castro goes to visit Manuel "Manny" Castro Garcia's grave daily, mystified why someone targeted his son and six other people since March. Police say all were killed by a thin, lanky man with a handgun who is probably in his 20s and that there is no known motive. He is possibly Hispanic, like many of the 208,000 people living in the Maryvale neighborhood where all but one of the killings happened after dark and just before dawn.

Random shootings

Shootings often ring out at night in Maryvale, a neighborhood of strip malls

and auto parts stores where most of the stucco single-story homes feature bars on windows and chain-link fences protecting yards. People who don't live in the neighborhood frequently avoid driving through it at night, but Margarito Castro said his son never got involved with crime or gangs. And a police detective who went through the young man's belongings and pored over his social media accounts told Castro he couldn't figure out why someone would want to kill his son.

"He was a good boy," Castro said from under the shade of a tree in the cemetery, where he tries to stay half an hour on every visit despite temperatures hitting 110 degrees. The six killings in Maryvale - and one in another working class neighborhood about 10 miles away - come after six people were killed and 19 wounded in 2005-2006 series of seemingly random shootings that terrorized Phoenix.

But those happened all around the sprawling city of 1.5 million spanning more than 500 square miles. Airport janitor Dale

Hausner and his roommate Sam Dietman, a petty criminal, were given life sentences. Hausner committed suicide in prison by overdosing three years ago. All of the latest victims were Hispanic or black, and one was a 12-year-old girl. The men and women were shot outside homes as they stood or sat in cars by a suspect or suspects firing a handgun from inside a car described as both light and dark or while on foot near the victims and then fleeing in the car, police said.

"We're talking about people outside of residential areas or outside of a home in the street, next to the street, with a description of a suspect that drives up, gets out, almost without any prior contact just starts shooting and then flees in that vehicle," Phoenix police Sgt. Jonathan Howard said. He added: "Everybody has reported one person. Some of our witnesses have reported that they believe there were additional people or another person in the car, and certainly we're keeping an open mind." — AP

CHANGES TO VOTING LAWS COULD PUT BALLOTS AT RISK

RALEIGH, North Carolina: On Election Day in 2014, Joetta Teal went to work at a polling station in Lumberton, North Carolina. Like all poll workers, she was required to stay until voting booths closed, so she decided to cast her own vote there. That was a mistake, she later discovered. What she didn't know was that under a 2013 state law she had to vote in the precinct where she lived. The polling station where she voted was not in her precinct, so her vote was not counted.

A Reuters review of Republican-backed changes to North Carolina's voting rules indicates as many as 29,000 votes might not be counted in this year's November 8 presidential election if a federal appeals court upholds the 2013 law. Besides banning voters from voting outside their assigned precinct on Election Day, the law also prevents them from registering the same day they vote during the early voting period.

Prevent voter fraud

The US Justice Department says the law was designed to disproportionately affect minority groups, who are more likely to vote out of precinct and use same-day registration. Backers of the law deny this and say it will prevent voter fraud. The battleground state has a recent history of close races that have hinged on just a few thousand votes. Barack Obama, a Democrat, won North Carolina by just 14,177 votes in 2008. In 2012, Mitt Romney, a Republican, narrowly carried the state by a margin of just 2.04 percent.

Reuters reviewed state election board data showing the number of North Carolinians who made use of out-of-precinct voting and same-day registration in previous elections, including March's state nominating contest, or primary, when voters nominated their preferred presidential candidate. The Reuters analysis includes some assumptions. For 29,000 votes to go uncounted on November 8, North Carolinians would need to vote in the same numbers and in the same ways they have in previous elections, including the March primary.

In that primary, after a court temporarily ordered a stay on the bans, 6,387 North Carolinians voted out of their assigned precinct and 22,501 registered the same day they voted. The North Carolina Board of Elections did not respond to requests for comment on Reuters' findings. North Carolina Senator Bob Rucho, a Republican who backed the law, declined to comment specifically on the findings but disputed the notion that the law suppressed votes, saying the increased turnout between the 2010 and 2014 elections shows it has not had a disparate impact on minority voters.

"How can it show voter suppression when more black voters voted and more white voters voted, and there was more opportunity, and there are more black voters registered than there were before?" Turnout between those elections did rise by 1.8 percentage points for black voters and by 1.1 percentage points for white voters, according to data the state election board entered as evidence in court. Advocacy group Democracy North Carolina, however, said their poll monitors saw many people attempting to vote out of precinct in 2014 who were told by officials their ballots would not count, and as a result cast no vote.

And it says 23,500 voters would have used same-day registration to vote in 2014 if it had not been banned, basing its findings on a review of election board data, hundreds of hotline calls, and the observations of more than 300 poll monitors. North Carolina Board of Elections executive director Kim Strach said her office looked into claims of voters being turned away "but generally did not find statewide evidence of it." — Reuters

Kuwait Times BUSINESS

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016

United to pay \$2.25M fine,
won't be charged in
flight case

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Nice attack a new strike
against French tourism

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Property owners: Get off
my lawn, Pokemon!

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Boeing: 100 years of
flight, in peace and war

19



NEW YORK: This Oct. 4, 2014, file photo, shows the facade of the New York Stock Exchange.—AP

STOCKS ARE RISING ON WALL STREET FOR 6TH DAY

NEW YORK: Stocks are rising modestly in early morning trading yesterday as the market extends a winning streak into a sixth day. Bond yields climbed again as investors felt more comfortable moving money out of low-risk assets. Raw material suppliers and health care stocks led the advances.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones industrial average rose 29 points, or 0.2 percent, to 18,535 at 10:28 a.m. Eastern time. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 2 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,165. The Nasdaq composite was flat at 5,033.

SUPPLEMENT SURGE: Herbalife rose \$9.21, or nearly 16 percent, to \$68.57 after the supplements company agreed to pay \$200 million to resolve allegations by the federal government that it deceived consumers. Herbalife avoided charges that it operated as a pyramid scheme, as was alleged investor Bill Ackman.

BANK BLUES: Wells Fargo fell \$1.10, or 2 percent, to \$47.84 after the consumer banking giant reported that second-quarter earnings fell from a year ago.

ATTACK IN FRANCE: Trading was subdued in Europe after a man drove a truck into crowds celebrating Bastille Day along the beachfront of Nice, killing at least 84 people.

EUROPE SLIPS: France's CAC-40 was down 0.5 percent while Germany's DAX fell 0.2 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 was 0.1 percent lower.

TRAVEL SLUMP: Travel-related stocks fell in the wake of the attack. Cruise operator Royal Caribbean fell \$1.26, or 1.8 percent, to \$70.63 and Delta Air Lines fell 59 cents, or 1.4 percent, to \$40.38.

CHINA GROWTH: The Chinese government says its economy expanded at a steady 6.7 percent rate in the April-June period as spending on construction by state-owned companies in the world's second-largest economy helped compensate for weak private sector demand.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 0.7 percent. The Hang Seng index in Hong Kong climbed 0.5 percent and South Korea's Kospi index added 0.4 percent.

BONDS AND CURRENCIES: Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.59 percent from 1.54 percent. The euro fell to \$1.1076 from \$1.1123 and the dollar rose to 105.93 yen from 105.43 yen.

ENERGY: Benchmark US crude rose 38 cents to \$46.06 a barrel in New York, while Brent crude, a standard for international oil prices, rose 44 cents to \$47.81 a barrel in London.—AP

EMPLOYEES GIVE CEO A NEW CAR AFTER HE SHARED THE WEALTH

SEATTLE: The employees of a company whose boss gave them a well-publicized big raise have bought him a new Tesla. The Seattle Times reports that Gravity Payments CEO Dan Price posted the news of the gift on Facebook Thursday, saying "Gravity employees saved up and pitched in over the past six months and bought me my dream car."

Gravity spokesman Ryan Pirkle said the

gift was thought up and organized by an employee who was one of those most impacted by Price's decision last year to raise to \$70,000 the annual salary for all the more than 130 people who work at the company that processes credit-card payments. At the time Price said he would also make \$70,000, dropping his salary from more than \$1 million annually.—AP

US RETAIL SALES POST SOLID RISE IN JUNE

WASHINGTON: US retail sales posted a healthy increase in June, another sign that consumer spending picked up in the spring.

The Commerce Department says sales at retailers and restaurants rose 0.6 percent from May after, after a 0.2 percent climb in May. Sales were up 2.7 percent from a year earlier. Excluding volatile spending on cars and auto parts, sales were up 0.7

percent. Spending on building materials and gardening supplies surged 3.9 percent, the most since April 2010. Consumers got off to a slow start this year, which is one reason the economy grew at a lackluster 1.1 percent annual pace from January through March. Economists expect spending to drive faster growth from April through June and the rest of the year.—AP

RWANDA HARNESSES LAKE 'DEMONS' TO POWER THE ECONOMY

FIRMS ACROSS AFRICA SAY POWER SHORTAGES HURT INVESTMENT

LAKE KIVU: Rwandans blame the "demons" of Lake Kivu for the deaths of fisherman and others who have occasionally disappeared on one of Africa's great expanses of water in the heart of the continent. Now Rwanda is turning the methane gas which can bubble up from the lake bed, sometimes with fatal consequences, into a lifeline by generating electricity to help businesses expand and light up a nation with a chronic power shortage. Across Africa, governments are struggling to increase power capacity and expand grids to meet the demands of growing populations with rising aspirations. Poor electricity supplies are often cited as one of the biggest hurdles to investment.

Rwanda's KivuWatt plant, which started in May, is part of a network of projects aimed at providing 70 percent of the 11 million population with power from the grid or off-grid by 2018, up from 25 percent now. Much will come from renewable resources. "The country cannot grow if you don't have power," Jarmo Gummerus, country manager for the plant developed by US company ContourGlobal, told Reuters on the lush shores of Lake Kivu, where a hi-tech barge gathers methane from the depths.

Rwanda, one of Africa's poorest nations but also among its fastest growing, is harnessing its limited solar, peat and hydro resources to curb the landlocked country's fuel import bill while keeping power flowing to spur on industry and create jobs. Lake Kivu's methane has now been added to the list of its emerging resources, formed from biogas created by decomposing matter on the bed of the lake that is trapped by a layer of mineral-rich water flowing off nearby volcanic soil.

Left untapped, it could one day explode or,

as in the case of another lake in Cameroon, poison inhabitants on shore if it bubbles up in large quantities, experts say. Locals say it has already claimed unsuspecting victims on the lake. "There is a story that there are demons in the lake," said Gummerus. Highly-combustible methane is extracted from other toxic gas that is mixed with it, he said. "It just kills almost immediately so it's a very dangerous," he added. His company is now carefully extracting the methane to power a 26 megawatt (MW) plant, with plans to increase that to 100 MW by 2020 at a cost of about \$500 million to \$600 million. Despite that hefty investment, using domestic resources is a boon for a nation which has to truck all imports into the country about 1,400 km (870 miles) through Kenya or Tanzania, often along traffic-clogged roads that are poorly maintained.

Powering business

"Our power is much cheaper than the alternative which would be putting in diesel or heavy fuel," Gummerus said, adding the methane could also be processed for to sell as cooking gas. Eventually, Rwanda could generate about 350 MW from methane, with a similar potential in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which shares the lake. Congo yet to tap the gas supplies. The start-up of the KivuWatt plant is already benefiting local businesses in the region of rolling green hills and volcanic peaks, which the government wants to promote as a tourist destination.

"When I built this hotel in 2013, we could have power cuts every three hours, at least, but nowadays we have electricity 24/7," said Jerome Musomandera, owner of the Kivu Plaza Hotel, one of a number next to the lake. Some other hotels said they had yet to feel

the benefit, but were hopeful that they would soon be able to unplug private stand-by generators and enjoy lower bills from grid power. As it adds more supply, state-run Rwanda Energy Group (REG) is in talks with the regulator on lowering tariffs to help the poor and support industry, its chief executive Jean Bosco Mugiraneza said.

Rwanda now charges 17 US cents per kilowatt hour (kwh) for industry and 21 cents for others. Mugiraneza did not say how much costs could fall by. Rwanda's installed power capacity is now 190 MW and set to rise by the end of July to 205 MW, once a new peat-burning plant being tested is linked up. The aim is 583 MW by 2018, a goal Mugiraneza admits Rwanda would have to "work hard" to achieve. "The government alone cannot

afford to finance those 563 MW; that is why private investments are needed," he said.

KivuWatt was a pioneer by negotiating the first private power purchase agreement, helping pave the way for others. Other deals that have been signed include one with US firm Symbion Power, which plans a methane plant too. Another firm, Ignite Power, is helping the government to provide off-grid rooftop solar power panels to 250,000 households by 2018. As well as helping meet Rwanda's national generation ambitions, Gummerus said the KivuWatt plant was boosting the local economy in the Kibuye region around the lake. "If you came here eight years back when I came, there was nothing," he said. "It gives confidence for people to come and invest in Kibuye." — Reuters



TOKYO: Line Corp. president and chief executive officer Takeshi Idezawa rings a bell during the ceremony for the company's listing at the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday.—AFP

CITIGROUP'S PROFIT FALLS 17 PERCENT, STILL BEATS FORECASTS

NEW YORK: Citigroup's earnings fell 17 percent in the second quarter, hurt by weak results in consumer banking as interest rates remain extremely low, making lending less profitable. The results still beat analysts' forecasts.

The New York-based financial conglomerate reported net income of \$4 billion, or \$1.25 per share, compared with \$4.85 billion, or \$1.51 per share, in the same period the year earlier. The results beat the \$1.10 per share analysts had expected, according to FactSet.

Revenue fell 10 percent to \$17.54 billion, beating the \$17.52 billion analysts expected. Citigroup's shares rose 1 percent in premarket trading yesterday.—AP



NEW YORK: A Citibank sign hangs above a branch office.—AP

CHINA'S 2Q ECONOMIC GROWTH STEADY, SIGNALING STABILIZATION

POLICIES PAYING OFF

HONG KONG: China's economic growth held steady in the most recent quarter, suggesting policies meant to counter the slowdown in the world's second biggest economy are paying off for the moment. The economy expanded at a 6.7 percent annual pace in the April-June period compared with a year earlier, according to data released Friday that generally matched expectations.

That pace matched the first quarter's level, which was already the lowest since early 2009, when growth slumped to 6.2 percent amid the turmoil of the global financial crisis. China's economy posted its slowest annual growth in a quarter century of 6.9 percent last year and is expected to slow further this year, with officials targeting a 6.5 percent-7 percent expansion.

Growth is slowing as China's communist leaders seek to wean the economy off manufacturing, exports and wasteful and inefficient spending on infrastructure. They want growth to be centered on self-sustaining services and private consumption but the transition is proving to be tricky.

What officials have to say

Officials in Beijing have responded to

the unexpectedly sharp downturn of the past few years by rolling out their usual policy tools. Policymakers have held interest rates at record lows since October and loosened bank restrictions. The government has also ramped up



BEIJING: National Bureau of Statistics spokesman Sheng Laiyun speaks during a press conference on the economy yesterday.—AP

spending on public infrastructure projects. "The national economy has achieved moderate but steady and sound development, which has laid down a solid foundation for achieving the annual economic development tar-

get," National Bureau of Statistics spokesman Sheng Laiyun said at a press briefing. "However we must be aware that the domestic and external conditions are still complicated and severe and the downward economic pressure remains."

Other data released by the statistics agency painted a mixed picture.

Retail sales accelerated in June, rising 10.6 percent from a year earlier, while industrial production expanded at a faster rate of 6.2 percent for the month. However, fixed asset investment for the January-June period grew 9 percent, less than the 9.4 percent rate in the first five months of the year.

Analysts said that while government policies have helped stabilize the economy, the effect might not last.

"With stimulus still feeding through, growth is more likely to accelerate than slow in the next few quarters," Daniel Martin and Mark Williams of Capital Economics said in a report. "However, as worries about the outlook have diminished, so has the likelihood of further stimulus. Any turnaround would therefore be short-lived and, with structural issues still unresolved, a renewed slowdown over the next couple of years is looking increasingly likely." —AP

A YEAR ON, NO BUSINESS AS USUAL AT AUSTRIAN BORDER

THINGS ARE FAR FROM NORMAL

NICKELSDORF, AUSTRIA: It's holiday season at Nickelsdorf on Austria's border with Hungary as families hit the highway. But although the huge numbers of refugees seen here a year ago have gone, things are far from normal.

Police officers in fluorescent jackets in the July sunshine stand at the border. They wave through the car with the bikes on the back, but the van with the tinted windows is pulled over and checked. The "West Balkans route" that saw hundreds of thousands of migrants pass through Austria in 2015 is closed, and a deal between Turkey and the European Union has dramatically slowed the influx. However, around 50,000 migrants remain stuck in Greece, and many are turning to alternative routes and to people smugglers to get them into western Europe—hence the Austrian police activity. Until recently, police were intercepting between 400 and 500 people sneaking into Austria every week. As of June 1, 4,073 had been intercepted, not much less than the 4,546 in the same period last year. Authorities want in particular to prevent a repeat of last August when a truck carrying the decomposing bodies of 71 migrants was found on the side of the motorway—a horrific low-point in last year's drama.

Since July 1, checks have even been stepped up, causing major traffic jams at this border—a frontier within Europe's Schengen zone where until recently, goods and people could pass freely. "The intensification was decided on when we realised that the number of migrants being intercepted reached the same level as last year," said Daniela Landauer, a local police spokeswoman. "This was a sign that smuggler activity has not slowed down," Landauer told AFP.

'Inhumane' Hungary

One who made it through is Bashar, a 22-year-old Afghan, who spent several months in Athens before making it to Austria in June, but not before he was obliged to apply for asylum in Hungary. "I am afraid they are going to send me back (to Hungary)," the young man told AFP by phone from an asylum centre in western Austria. According to EU rules, this is what should happen. For now he can rest easy. An Austrian court ruled last September that refugees could not be sent back because of "inhumane conditions" in Hungary. And in any case Hungary refuses to take anybody back. But this may change. Austria's centrist government, under pressure from a resurgent far-right, has for several weeks been pressing Prime Minister Viktor Orban's government to change its policy. And at the same time, Vienna is making preparations to close its borders completely, including at the Brenner Pass on the frontier to Italy, another major entry point. At Nickelsdorf, several dozen temporary office buildings—so far completely empty—have been put in place.

The closures are meant to kick into force once the number of migrants coming into Austria this year hits 37,500. At that point—so far, 22,135 have entered—Vienna has said it will turn people away. To allow this to happen, Austria's abrasive new Interior Minister Wolfgang Sobotka is pressing for parliament to approve the necessary "emergency decree". Sobotka insists Austria has no other choice while "so many other European Union members fail to do their part" to stop the influx. "We cannot shoulder the whole world's burden," he said earlier this year. Neighboring Hungary may yet save him the bother, however. Since July 5 Hungary's police and army have been forcibly returning to Serbia any migrants found within eight kilometres (five miles) of the border—prompting outrage from rights groups. —AFP



NICKELSDORF, AUSTRIA : Vans and cars wait in line to be controlled at the Austrian-Hungarian border of Nickelsdorf on July 12, 2016.—AFP

OLYMPICS MARKETERS GO FOR THE GOLD

NEW YORK: Prepare to be inspired. After all, it's Olympic ad time. Olympics marketers from Coca-Cola to Samsung are pulling out all the stops this summer, stuffing scores of athletes into ads and telling tearjerker stories. Coke's ads play on "gold" moments when athletes have a Coke together. An ad for Samsung shows the road to Rio for a runner from South Sudan, the newest country to be recognized by the International Olympic Committee. A Visa ad, customized for different countries around the world, shows a bevy of athletes carpooling to Rio. And P&G continues its "Thank You Mom" campaign with ads focused on how mothers have helped Olympic athletes along the way.

Sponsor challenges

The rah-rah campaigns mask an unsettling truth: It's tough out there for an Olympic marketer. The games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, face a number of big problems ranging from the Zika virus to political upheaval. So companies are opting for campaigns that aim to capitalize on the emotional appeal of the Olympics without lingering too heavily on the specifics of Rio or Brazil.

There's an additional challenge. A new rule allows non-sponsors—that is, companies who haven't paid the International Olympic Committee for the privilege of using Olympic trademarks in their ads and other perks—to make greater use of Olympic athletes in ads. All that means a lot of risk, given that sponsoring the Olympics costs about \$100 million to \$200 million over four years. But that hefty price tag has a reward, too: an estimated 20 million viewers every evening on NBC over the three week stretch of the Olympics.

More competition

To protect that major investment by

sponsors, the Olympic committee long prohibited anyone but sponsors from using Olympic athletes or Olympic rings or logos in ads. But the age of social media made enforcement increasingly difficult, so this year the rules have relaxed.

Advertisers could apply in January to use Olympic athletes in their ads, though they were required to start their campaigns in March and still couldn't use official Olympic terminology or logos. Under Armor has been the most high-profile brand to make use of the looser restrictions, and features swimmer Michael Phelps and other Olympians in ads. Others, including General Mills, Gatorade and Asics, have also applied to advertise under the looser regulation, known as Rule 40.

"Rule 40 is changing the landscape. More advertisers are able to use the Olympics, so sponsors are trying different approaches to stand out," said Villanova marketing professor Charles Taylor.

Athletes aplenty

One way they're doing so is by featuring more athletes in their ads.

Coke's campaign features 79 athletes from 23 countries, including new footage of 24 athletes such as US swimmer Nathan Adrian and Australian hurdler Michelle Jennek. The teen-targeted ads show athletes on and off the field sharing a Coke and having memorable moments like a stolen kiss, dubbed "Gold moments."

"The campaign idea is 'Gold' is a feeling anyone can taste," said Rodolfo Echeverria, a Coca-Cola vice president in charge of advertising.

Visa's "The Carpool to Rio" campaign features 15 athletes, including New Zealand shot putter Valerie Adams and US swimmer Missy Franklin. The ad shows off Visa pay-

ment technology, such as its mobile app and another swiping a credit card at an automated entrance gate to pay for a ferry. The ad, which is airing in 38 countries, was adapted for 14 different markets by using athletes and styles of payments specific to particular locales.

"It's very much anchored in all the different things Visa can do," said Chris Curtin, Visa's brand marketing officer.

That multi-athlete strategy lets Olympic marketers avoid the problems that can occur if they bank too heavily on individual athletes. In the most infamous case, then-Olympic sponsor Reebok made little known decathletes Dan O'Brien and Dave Johnson into household names leading up to the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. Posing the question, "Who will be the world's greatest athlete, Dan or Dave?," the campaign had to be modified after O'Brien failed to qualify for the games.

Get out your hankies

Of course, it's always possible just to focus more on athletes' inspirational and tearjerker stories than their Olympic achievement. Samsung's "Chant" ad showcases Margret Rumar Hassan, a 19 year old runner from South Sudan. The ad shows the South Sudanese, a new country in the Olympics, chanting her name and cheering her on. The tagline is "Proud sponsor of those who defy barriers."

"This Olympics the focus is on telling human stories... the technology doesn't take center stage," said Pio Schunker, Samsung's global head of marketing.

And P&G is continuing its crowd-pleasing "Thank You Mom" ads with the tagline "Proud sponsor of moms" that started running in 2010. One of the latest showcases US gymnast Simone Biles and her adoptive mother; it's already garnered more than 2 million views on YouTube.—AP

BUFFETT DELIVERS ANNUAL GIFTS WORTH \$2.86B TO 5 CHARITIES

OMAHA, NEBRASKA: Investor Warren Buffett has delivered his annual donation of Berkshire Hathaway stock to five charities as part of his plan to gradually give away his fortune.

The gifts of Class B Berkshire stock that Buffett disclosed Thursday were worth roughly \$2.86 billion. More than 19.6 million Berkshire shares were donated.

The biggest share went to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Buffett also gave Class B Berkshire shares to his own foundation and to the foundations run by each of his three children.

Buffett has been giving away blocks of Berkshire stock since 2006. This year's donation was slightly more than last year's \$2.8 billion giveaway. Fewer shares were involved but Berkshire's stock price has increased.—AP

PROPERTY OWNERS: GET OFF MY LAWN, POKEMON!

THEY WANT THEIR LOCATIONS REMOVED FROM THE 'POKE-VERSE'

LOS ANGELES: As throngs of "Pokemon Go" players traipse around to real-world landmarks in pursuit of digital monsters, some ticked-off property owners are asking to have their locations in the fictional Poke-verse removed.

For Valerie Janovic, a 19-year-old psychology major at Brandeis University, the game went too far when the image of a poison-gas-emitting pocket monster called "Koffing" was pictured near the US Holocaust museum's exhibit on World War II gas chamber victims. Her online petition to have the site removed from the game has collected more than 4,500 supporters by Thursday.

"I just don't think people should be playing a game where people remember people who suffered and were tortured and who died," she says.

Besides the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, several churches and cemeteries including Arlington National Cemetery want their in-game

locations removed to keep crowds of players away.

The incentives to roam

The addictive, location-aware smartphone game gives digital incentives like "Pokeballs" as rewards for visiting real places. The locations, known as "Pokestops" and "Gyms," are based on landmarks submitted by players of Niantic's earlier game, "Ingress."

Niantic offers a form to request exclusion, but it's neither automatic nor guaranteed. It's a mystery how quickly, if at all, Niantic will respond. Several requesters said they got a stock response saying, "Thank you for reporting this PokéStop/Gym. We will review and take appropriate action."

At first, web designer Boon Sheridan was just mildly annoyed at the traffic and cars that blocked the driveway to an old church that has become his home in Holyoke, Massachusetts. It was labeled a "Gym" where players pit their

Pokemon, or pocket monsters, against each other in battle. His attitude changed when his virtually obsessed visitors began leaving behind physical trash. "There's a lovely public park across the street so we've suggested (the developers) adjust the GPS coordinates," he said.

At the East Renton Community Church in Renton, Washington, players have come by day and night, sometimes leaving the gates open, a potential invitation to criminal activity, office manager Rona Heenk said. "We can't possibly monitor it all the time, and we don't have a way to discern whether or not the adults who are coming to play the game are just here to play or 'casing' our location," Heenk said.

Mobile Memorial Gardens, a cemetery in Mobile, Alabama, had a dozen gamers show up Wednesday, some walking around burial plots with cell-phones in hand, others driving aimlessly down roads. President Timothy Claiborne said he's all for people having fun, but would prefer they have it at a local park. "This is private," he said. "I owe it to the families we serve to provide a sense of decorum here." Ryan Calo, a University of Washington law professor, said private property owners may adopt a "Pokemon No Go" policy and bar players from physically entering their building or grounds. But he said there's no legal right to compel the game's creators to remove a location from its lines of code.

"It's important to note that the Pokemon are not there on the property," he said. "What's happening is that a particular location triggers the display of a digital monster on your phone. The monster is only on your phone." Niantic, which has Japanese game company Nintendo as a major investor, didn't respond to requests for comment.

Retail benefits

To be sure, gaining designation in the game as a "Pokestop" or "Gym" can be beneficial. Cafe owners have set up in-game lures to attract unique digital creatures in the hopes potential patrons with real money chase them into the store. The Adventure Park playground in a forested part of Maryland invited "Pokemon Go" players to come to take advantage of its lures this weekend and get \$5 off admission.

Niantic CEO John Hanke told The Financial Times that the company was sell sponsored locations in the game, much like it did with its previous game.

Clever coders like Manmeet Gill, a 13-year-old high school student in Sydney, Australia, even found evidence in the "Pokemon Go" app code that burger giant McDonald's may be preparing to sponsor locations in the game. Included in the code is text that reads "Sponsor.Mcdonalds.POKEMON_STORE" and a logo of its double arches. Although McDonald's spokeswoman Lisa McComb said she didn't have any news to share, Gill said it was "highly unlikely" such code was there by accident. — AP



NEWARK, NEW JERSEY: David Samson, center, former Port Authority of New York and New Jersey chairman, leaves Federal Court after a hearing on Thursday. Samson pleaded guilty Thursday to using his post to get United Airlines to run direct flights to South Carolina so that he could more easily visit his vacation home. — AP

UNITED TO PAY \$2.25M FINE, WON'T BE CHARGED IN FLIGHT CASE

NEW JERSEY: United Airlines will pay a \$2.25 million fine but won't be charged in connection with a special flight from Newark, New Jersey, that benefited the former head of the agency that runs the airport.

United Continental Holdings Inc. said Thursday that it reached a non-prosecution agreement with the US attorney's office for New Jersey. The agreement was accompanied by a narrative that described how United executives were pressured into adding a flight between Newark Liberty International Airport and Columbia, South Carolina, near where former Port Authority Chairman David Samson and his wife had a vacation home.

The executives knew that the route would lose money. They gave it fast-track approval anyway, however, because they were warned that failing to please Samson could hold up a new hangar that United wanted at the Newark airport.

The flight was canceled days after Samson resigned in 2014. On Thursday, Samson pleaded guilty to a corruption charge, and a former lobbyist for United, Jamie Fox, was charged with conspiracy to commit bribery.

As a result of company and federal investigations, United ousted CEO Jeff Smisek and two other top executives last September. Smisek's replacement, Oscar Munoz, said Thursday that the airline will make sure it acts ethically and gains people's trust.

The agreement

The agreement between United and the US attorney's office calls on the company to cooperate by providing documents and helping prosecutors get statements or testimony from airline employees and directors until all related investigations and prosecutions are closed. It is not clear, however, whether any other individuals will face charges. "Our investigation is largely complete and we continue to cooperate with the government," said United spokeswoman Megan McCarthy.

An appendix to the agreement details months of discussions between United executives and the Port Authority about the route.

At a September 2011 dinner with four United employees including a "senior executive" from the airline's Chicago headquarters who had power to approve routes, the Port Authority official, who is unnamed but is clearly Samson, mentioned that United should fly between Newark and Columbia, South Carolina.

At least one of the United executives understood that the official wanted the route "only because it would be more convenient for him to travel to (his) house in South Carolina," according to the narrative.

United studied the route and concluded it would lose money. Two months later, United officials were surprised when their proposal for a new hangar for widebody aircraft at Newark was not on the agenda of the Port Authority board. A lobbyist hired by United to work with the Port Authority reported that the Port Authority official was holding up the hangar approval because the airline had not started Newark-Columbia service. — AP



ANCHORAGE, ALASKA: A sign at the National Weather Service informs "Pokemon Go" players that it's illegal to trespass on federal property. — AP



ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, MARYLAND: This file photo taken on March 25, 2016 shows Air Force One, a Boeing 747, landing at Andrews Air Force Base.—AP

BOEING: 100 YEARS OF FLIGHT, IN PEACE AND WAR

ALSO EYES RIVALS

NEW YORK: A pioneer in commercial air travel and a major player in building military aircraft, Boeing's 100-year history coincides with many of the defining moments in US and global history.

1916: William Boeing starts the Pacific Aero Products Co., which was renamed after its founder a year later. Boeing's first planes, the Model C wooden seaplanes, were sold to the US Navy for World War I, establishing a key alliance with the US military.

1927: Boeing creates its own airline, Boeing Air Transport, for transporting mail with its Model 40 biplanes. The model would become the first Boeing airplane to carry passengers.

1934: Boeing, accused of monopolistic practices, is forced to break up into three entities: United Technologies, United Airlines and Boeing. Founder William Boeing divests his holdings in the company.

1937: Boeing delivers the first B-17s to the US Army Air Corps, the giant "Flying Fortress" bomber that played a central role in the Allied victory in World War II.

1941: The British Royal Air Force takes delivery of B-17s, giving them their first taste of combat.

1954: The massive jet-powered B-52 Stratofortress becomes the US military's symbol of power in the Cold War, to hold a key place in the US Air Force up through today.

1958: Pan Am, the leading US airline, unveils the Boeing 707, which soon became the first commercially successful jet airliner. Television ads showed well-heeled passengers sipping red wine and enjoying vibration-free travel, a sign of the post-war US economic boom.

1962: Boeing introduces the CH-47

Chinook helicopter, used in troop movement and battlefield resupply prominently in the Vietnam War.

1969: The Boeing-built Saturn V rocket propels astronaut Neil Armstrong to the moon.

1970: The 400 passenger 747 Jumbo Jet, more than twice as large as the 707, is launched to dominate international air travel and cargo over the next decades.

1970: Boeing archrival Airbus is created originally as a joint effort of the German and French governments.

1977: Two 747s collide on the runway of the Canary Islands, killing 583 passengers in the deadliest plane crash in history. The accident sparked sweeping upgrades to international safety regulations.

1987: Boeing is added to the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the prestigious index of blue chip companies.

1997: Boeing acquires American archrival McDonnell Douglas for \$13.3 billion, slimming the field of major commercial aircraft makers to just two, Boeing and Airbus, and beefing up its capacity as an international weapons maker.

2001: Boeing picks Chicago as its new corporate headquarters after the midwestern city offers up some \$60 million in tax incentives to move from Seattle, the company's production base.

2011: After numerous delays, Boeing's newest passenger jet, the widebody Dreamliner, completes its first commercial flight from Narita, Japan to Hong Kong. The planes, known for fuel efficiency, were later grounded due to an overheating problem with the lithium-ion batteries.

Rivalry with Airbus

Boeing, creator of some of the world's

most iconic aircraft of the 20th century, commemorates its centennial Friday facing multiple challenges to remain at the forefront of global aerospace innovation.

At the top of the list is European archrival Airbus, which has topped Boeing in commercial orders in recent years and made inroads into the American market by building planes on US shores.

Boeing also faces tough going in defense, having lost a US contract for the long range strike bomber to Northrop Grumman, and another from the US and allies for a joint strike fighter to Lockheed Martin.

That leaves Boeing with only the delay-plagued KC-46 tanker program for the US Air Force, a deal it controversially wrested out of Airbus' hands. "Boeing's biggest challenge is Airbus," said Loren Thompson, chief operating officer of the Lexington Institute. "Whether Boeing keeps up or beats Airbus will determine the future of the company."

To stay strong in defense, Boeing must beef up its operations in maintenance of military vehicles, analysts say. In space travel, another longtime core activity, Boeing faces upstarts like SpaceX, which has been aggressive on price.

"Technologically they are positioned, but they are not well positioned in terms of pricing" in space travel, said Marco Caceres of Teal Group. "They are going to have to figure out how to become leaner, or otherwise they won't be able to compete for much longer."

Boeing insists it will stay at the top. Chief executive Dennis Muilenburg told USA Today in June that it is building a rocket that will let man set foot on Mars. "It's about 50 percent bigger than the

Saturn V that took humans to the moon," he said.

Boeing also faces obstacles on Capitol Hill, where lawmakers have sought to block a controversial contract to sell some \$25 billion in planes to Iran. That came after a lengthy fight over the Export-Import Bank weakened an institution that has long supported Boeing.

Global Icon

Still, analysts say Boeing continues to have cache as a "global icon," as Teal Group's Richard Aboulafia put it. Boeing had revenues of \$96 billion in 2015 and has a multi-year backlog of orders for a civil aviation market that it believes will be worth nearly \$6 trillion over the next 20 years. First founded July 15 in 1916 in Seattle by William Boeing as the Pacific Aero Products Co., Boeing has evolved into the biggest exporter in the United States.

The company grew rapidly during and after World War I, expanding into air transport, but was broken up by the US government in 1934 on antitrust grounds. William Boeing sold his holdings in the company. The company's ability to survive without its founder positioned it for growth when World War II sparked huge demand for its B-17 and B-29 bombers.

Strong US military demand for the subsequent B-47 and B-52 bombers boosted Boeing during the Cold War. Growth was then fueled by a succession of popular commercial planes unveiled in later decades, especially the famous Boeing 747. But today's competitive landscape also includes smaller rivals, such as Canada's Bombardier and China's Comac.—AP



NICE: Flowers put near the site of the deadly attack on the Promenade des Anglais seafront in the French Riviera city of Nice, after a gunman smashed a truck through a crowd celebrating Bastille Day, killing at least 84 and injuring dozens of children in what President Francois Hollande called a 'terrorist' attack. — AFP

NICE ATTACK A NEW STRIKE AGAINST FRENCH TOURISM

SECOND POPULAR DESTINATION IN FRANCE HIT

PARIS: In striking the jewel of the French Riviera on a national holiday the truck attack on Nice delivered a new blow to France's tourism sector already reeling from repeated terror attacks. A gunman drove a 19-tonne truck into a crowd of revelers following Bastille Day fireworks Thursday evening, killing at least 84 people in what President Francois Hollande declared a "terrorist" attack.

The place of the attack was a top tourist destination: The palm-lined Promenade des Anglais along the Mediterranean coast in the city which is the number two destination in France behind Paris.

The attack was the third major strike against France in less than 18 months. It comes eight months after Islamic

State gunmen and suicide bombers attacked bars, restaurants, a concert hall and the national stadium in Paris, killing 130 people. In January last year 17 were killed in another attack at various sites including the offices of the Charlie Hebdo magazine and a Jewish supermarket in Paris.

Georges Panayotis, head of the MKG hotel and tourism consultancy, expressed concern about the effect the repeated attacks were having on the industry. "This is no longer a classic terrorism situation where a couple of months is enough following an attack for economic activity to recover," said Panayotis.

The successive attacks and high number of victims "will dissuade tourists for a certain time". The French govern-

ment had just held this week its first meeting of a special government-industry committee headed by Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault to try to find ways to help the sector recover.

The number of tourists arriving on regular flights has fallen by 5.8 percent since January, including by 11 percent in Paris. The number of hotel nights foreigners spend in Paris is expected to be down around 20 percent for the prime summer season, tourism minister Matthias Fekl said in a recent interview with TourMag.

The tourism industry is critically important for France, the world's top tourism destination that welcomed nearly 84.5 million visitors last year. The sector accounts for 7 percent of the economy and directly and indirectly employs two million people.

Travel sector shares took a beating on Friday, including shares in hotel group AccorHotels and Europcar rental agency, which both fell around 4 percent in a Paris market down around 0.8 percent overall.

The attack on Nice may nip in the bud an increase in tourists to destinations outside Paris, which was partially supported by France's successful hosting of the Euro 2016 football championships in June and July.

Tourist arrivals by plane outside of Paris were up by 11 percent in the first 10 days of July, thanks in part to a jump in last minute travellers from a number of European nations. "We've had a flood of cancellations since last night," said Denis Cippoloni, head of the hotel association in Nice. "I went near the Promenade des Anglais this morning," he told AFP. "Usually it is lively and animated, but silence reigned." — AFP

IRISH BID FOR BREXIT BUSINESS HOBBLED BY HOUSING, TRANSPORT WOES

DUBLIN: Ireland has gone on a charm offensive following Britain's vote to leave the EU, hoping to woo London-based financial institutions despite fears Dublin is ill-equipped for an influx of high-flying executives.

Martin Shanahan, head of inward investment agency IDA Ireland, said he expected British companies in all industries that depend on access to the EU market to relocate some services to countries within the bloc.

As the race to secure such business heats up, Ireland is honing its pitch. "Make no mistake, any investment that becomes mobile as a result of a UK exit from the EU, we are in the market for that business," Shanahan told AFP.

Dublin is just one of the cities hoping to poach some of London's investment bankers, with Frankfurt, Paris, Luxembourg and Amsterdam also aiming to reap some of Brexit's spoils. As the only other EU member where English is the first language, Ireland believes it is best placed to host City of London exiles. Among its other attractions, the IDA cites the fact that Dublin is just an hour's flight from London, Ireland's legal system is similar to that of Britain, the country has a well-educated workforce and it boasts a low 12.5-percent corporation tax rate.

City on the Liffey

Dublin already has its own financial hub—the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) situated on the banks of the Liffey river, which has been in business for three decades and employs around 30,000 people.

In one of the first such announcements, British investment fund manager Fidelity last week said it would move 100 jobs from London to Dublin, while stressing the decision was made before the Brexit referendum.

But not everyone is convinced that Dublin is a little London in the making. Paul McAuliffe, chairman of Dublin City Council's Economic Development and Enterprise Committee warned that the city's "creaking" infrastructure made it unfit to cater for a corporate influx. "One man remarked to me recently that if even one percent of London's economic activities migrated here, we would be absolutely crippled and I would have to agree with his assessment," he told AFP. McAuliffe relates a litany of shortcomings, from a dearth of properties for sale or rent, patchy public transport that causes daily traffic gridlock to the existence of a single runway at Dublin Airport.

Housing shortage

School places are also hard to come by in some areas and the long underfunded water supply network, while sustained by generous rainfall, is creaking at the seams.

In 2015, an annual Web Summit that used to attract tens of thousands of heavy-hitters from the global tech world announced it was decamping from Dublin to Portugal to ensure participants had access to hot showers and wifi, among other staples. "After three years of asking and asking we still don't have even one single page outlining even a basic committed plan for the city," the event's frustrated co-founder Paddy Cosgrave told the government.

The IDA chief played down the problems, pointing out that investment from abroad had added 19,000 new jobs last year and that the economy, which rebounded from years of austerity to post a staggering 26.3 percent growth last year, is in rude good health.

The emergence of a "Silicon Docks" tech hub in Dublin, housing European operations for giants like Google, Facebook and LinkedIn has added to the housing backlog. "There are pinch points, particularly in housing but this is now top of the government agenda and will be addressed," Shanahan said.

A senior IFSC-based finance executive said a shortage of experienced traders in Dublin would also see it struggle to compete. "There is certainly no reserve pool of experienced forex traders in Dublin so relocation of first-line services on the asset management side would mean recruitment in London," the executive said, speaking on condition of anonymity. At the moment, such hires were only happening at the rate of "ones and twos," he added. The IFSC trader was under no illusions about Dublin's ability to take advantage of a London "Brexodus". "Although the IDA will have the red carpet out, the city simply couldn't cope with any significant influx of City executives." — AFP

US BUSINESS INVENTORIES ROSE SLIGHTLY IN MAY

WASHINGTON: Inventories held by US businesses rose modestly in May, as retailers stocked up to meet customer demand.

The Commerce Department said yesterday US business inventories rose 0.2 percent in May after edging up 0.1 percent in April. Sales rose 0.2 percent. Manufacturers, pinched by weak global demand and a strong dollar that makes their products costlier in world markets, left inventories unchanged. Over the past year, factory inventories were down 3.0 percent.

Meanwhile, retailers raised inventories by 0.5 percent in May and 6 percent over the past year, a sign

they are confident that American shoppers will continue to spend.

Auto dealers expanded inventories by 0.7 percent, furniture and appliance stores by 0.5 percent and sellers of building materials and garden supplies by 1.1 percent. But department stores cut inventories by 0.7 percent.

A slowdown in restocking empty shelves has dragged down economic growth three straight quarters and helped limit growth to a lackluster 1.1 percent annual pace from January through March. Growth is expected to pick up in the second quarter on a rebound in consumer spending. — AP

Weekender

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016

This picture shows an Indonesian child reading a book delivered on a 'moving library' via horseback, run by Ridwan Sururi in Serang, a quiet hamlet fringed by rice fields and a volcano on Indonesia's main island of Java. — AFP photos

Horseback library serves Indonesia's remote readers

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Katy Perry returns with message of unity



File photo shows US singer Katy Perry posing as she arrives for the amfAR's 23rd Cinema Against AIDS Gala at the Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in Cap d'Antibes, France. — AFP

Pop superstar Katy Perry re-emerged yesterday after a quiet spell with a song of unity as part of the television coverage of the 2016 Rio Olympics. The singer-one of the most successful artists of her generation-offered her first new music since her blockbuster 2013 album "Prism" with the song "Rise." A midtempo electronic track, "Rise" takes on a triumphant tone befitting sports competitions, a change from the giddier pop feel of Perry's biggest hits.

"When you think the final nail is in / Think again / Don't be surprised / I will still rise," Perry sings on the song. The song will feature in the coverage of the Olympics opening ceremony on August 5 on NBC television, which has the lucrative contract to broadcast the Summer Games in the United States. A video for "Rise" produced with NBC will also appear before movies in more than 20,000 cinemas across the United States, her label said. Perry said the song had been "brewing" inside her for years but that she saw it as timely in light of troubles around the world.

"I was inspired to finish it now, rather than save it for my next album, because now more than ever, there is a need for our world to unite," she said in a statement. "I know that together we can rise above the fear in our country, and around the world. 'I can't think of a better example than the Olympic athletes, as they gather in Rio with their strength and fearlessness, to remind us how we ALL can come together, with the resolve to be the best we can be.'"

Perry released the song yesterday as an exclusive on Apple's iTunes and the tech giant's streaming service Apple Music. At age 31, Perry has already achieved phenomenal success and is the most followed person on Twitter, with more than 90 million followers. She has released a string of viral singles including "Roar," "Teenage Dream," "Firework" and "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)."

But Perry has had a comparatively quiet 2016 as she works on a new album. She finished a 151-date global tour in October last year in Costa Rica, although she has since then performed to support Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. — AFP

Rihanna's France concert canceled after attack in Nice

Rihanna's concert in Nice, France, has been canceled following the Bastille Day attack in the French Riviera city that killed at least 77 people and injured upwards of 100 more. Rihanna was in Nice at the time of the attack, but her rep confirmed to Billboard that "she's safe." Christian Estrosi, the former mayor of Nice and current president of the PACA region, tweeted the news on Thursday. He also announced that the Nice Jazz Festival has also been canceled, and that flags would be flown at half mast in the city yesterday.

Rihanna was set to play at the Allianz Stadium in Nice last night as part of her Anti World Tour. She's next scheduled to perform Sunday night at the Commerzbank Arena in Frankfurt, Germany. A Bastille Day celebration turned fatal Thursday when a 15-meter truck drove into a crowd that had gathered for fireworks. The driver of the vehicle, which also had explosives and weapons inside, was killed. Related 'Fifty Shades' Sequel Filming in Nice During Terrorist Attack President Obama condemned the attack as a "horrific act of terrorism," and the anti-terrorism unit in France has launched an investigation. It's the second-deadliest attack in France since World War II—the terrorist attacks on Nov 13 of last year killed 130 people. — Reuters



In this file photo, Rihanna arrives on stage to perform "Love On The Brain" at the Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas. — AP

Bollywood bad boy Khan's unstoppable box office appeal

He's been accused of killing a homeless man, shooting dead an endangered animal and assaulting a former Miss World but it seems nothing can stop the box office appeal of Bollywood bad boy Salman Khan. The Indian superstar's latest blockbuster smashed records this week, just over a fortnight after he sparked fresh controversy by saying his



Indian Bollywood actor Salman Khan hosts the reality show 'Bigg Boss Na' in Lonavala. — AFP

heavy training schedule for the film left him feeling "like a raped woman." "Sultan", in which Khan plays an ageing wrestler, enjoyed the highest-grossing opening weekend in Hindi cinema history, proving that for his legions of fans the body-building actor can do no wrong.

"I watch every Salman film. I love him. He is the reason I am in this profession,"

Abhishek, a buff Mumbai fitness trainer, told AFP. The actor known as "bhai", meaning "brother" in Hindi, enjoys a cult-like status in star-obsessed India, with the majority of his devotees young men who envy Khan for being unmarried at 50. They are largely from Mumbai's mass of migrant workers who eke out a hardscrabble living in the sprawling financial capital but dream of a more glamorous life.

Invariably, they emulate his hairstyle and fashion, wearing pirated t-shirts emblazoned with Khan's charity "Being Human". At weekends they gather outside his home where Khan waves at fans from his balcony. "He has always been the poster boy of a large section of the youth population," filmmaker Nikkhil Advani, who directed Khan in 2007 romantic drama "Salaam E Ishq", told AFP. The majority are not on Twitter and are immune to social media outcries such as the one Khan sparked last month when his rape analogy made to a local news site went viral. Khan has not apologised for the comments, as demanded by India's National Commission for Women, but his father Bollywood screenwriter Salim Khan made an apology of sorts on his son's behalf.

Hit-and-run case

Khan has starred in more than 100 films and television shows since his first hit "Maine Pyar Kiya" (I Fell in Love) in the 1980s. But his personal life has long been dogged by controversy. Although he was cleared last year of killing a homeless man in a late-night hit-and-run crash in 2002, that decision is now being challenged in the Supreme Court. Khan is also battling allegations he used unlicensed arms to shoot an endangered Indian antelope for which he spent a week behind bars in 1998. — AFP



In this file photo, Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones performs at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis. — AP

Jagger, 72, to become father for eighth time

Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger, 72, is to become a father again for the eighth time. A spokesman for the veteran rock band on Friday confirmed media reports saying that Jagger's girlfriend, 29-year-old American ballerina Melanie Hamrick, was pregnant.

Jagger, who turns 73 on July 26, already has seven children. He became a great-grandfather in 2014. Jagger's band mate Ronnie Wood became a father again at the age of 68 in May, when his wife Sally, 38, gave birth to twin girls. — Reuters

New JFK Jr documentary looks back at 'America's prince'

America's prince is getting a new documentary. "I Am JFK Jr - A Tribute to a Good Man," which hits select theaters on July 22, captures the fascination with John F Kennedy Jr, from his early days toddling around the White House to his death in a plane crash in 1999. Network Entertainment's Derik Murray made the film in the mold of his other "I Am" movies, including "I Am Bruce Lee," "I Am Chris Farley" and "I Am Evel Knievel." It also airs on Spike TV at 9 pm EDT on Aug 1, and a DVD release is set for Aug 16.

The film captures JFK Jr as "John John," the tousle-haired toddler of the late President John F Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, saluting his father's casket after the 1963 assassination. Highlights include his time as an assistant district attorney in New York City, his 1988 People magazine "Sexiest Man Alive" cover, and his 1995 debut as

publisher of the splashy but short-lived magazine George. Interspersed are snippets of interviews with celebrities and politicians who knew him well.

They include supermodel Cindy Crawford, who famously posed as a midriff-baring George Washington - complete with powdered wig - for the inaugural issue of George; actor Robert De Niro; boxer Mike Tyson; journalist Christiane Amanpour; Hustler magazine publisher Larry Flynt; former Brown University roommate Chris Oberbeck; Grateful Dead songwriter John Perry Barlow; and others.

Not surprisingly, the film focuses on JFK Jr's death at age 38 on July 16, 1999, when the single-engine private plane he was piloting from New Jersey to Martha's Vineyard en route to a family wedding on Cape Cod crashed into the Atlantic. Killed with Kennedy were his wife, Carolyn Bessette, and her sister, Lauren Bessette. Friends, acquaintances and pundits reflect on a life cut short and speculate what he might have become. President, for instance? A clip of an interview that JFK Jr gave to Oprah Winfrey is telling. She insists he surely must have thought about running for office, and he responds, somewhat coyly, "There is this great weight of expectation and anticipation." But maybe not. "John was smart enough to

know, 'I'm junior. I'm not my father,'" another presidential son, Michael Reagan, says in the film. "I believe that he had greatness in him," CNN journalist Chris Cuomo tells the producers. "And I don't give a damn if that meant anything about politics." — AP



In this Oct 15, 1962 file photo, John F Kennedy, Jr, son of the president, watches from the rose garden with his mother Jacqueline Kennedy as his father gives a formal greeting to Algerian Premier Ahmed Ben Bella during ceremony on the White House grounds in Washington.



In this Nov 25, 1963 file photo, three-year-old John F Kennedy Jr, salutes his father's casket in Washington, three days after the president was assassinated in Dallas. — AP photos



In this 1963 file photo, US President John F Kennedy holds hands with his son, John F Kennedy Jr, outside the White House in Washington.



In this Dec 8, 1960 file photo, President John F Kennedy and first lady Jacqueline Kennedy pose at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington with their son, John F Kennedy Jr, following a baptism for the infant.



In this February 1975 file photo, John F Kennedy Jr, son of the late US President John F Kennedy, carries his snow skis while visiting a Massachusetts ski resort with the family of his uncle, Sen Edward Kennedy.



In this Sept 7, 1995 file photo, John F Kennedy Jr, co-founder and editor-in-chief of the politics-as-lifestyle George magazine, unveils the magazine's first cover in New York.



In this Nov 11, 1963 file photo, John Kennedy Jr, jumps in the back seat of the presidential limousine while waiting for his father to take part in Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, Va.



This picture shows Indonesian children sorting books from a book shelf on Germanis as Ridwan Sururi (back left-in hat) compiles a list for his "moving library" for villagers in Serang, a quiet hamlet fringed by rice fields and a volcano on Indonesia's main island of Java. — AFP photos

Horseback library

serves Indonesia's remote readers

Astride his white mare, a wide-brimmed hat shielding his eyes, Ridwan Sururi looks more cowboy than librarian as he winds towards the hilltop village, his horse Luna saddled with books. Their arrival sends ripples of excitement through Serang, a quiet hamlet fringed by rice fields and a volcano on Indonesia's main island of Java. "The horse library!" children shriek, sprinting towards the mosque where Luna is tethered. Slung over her saddle are two handmade wooden boxes filled with books.

For many there, this unique mobile library is their only link to books. There is no traditional library nearby, and stores are miles away in big cities. It's a problem for villages

across the sprawling Indonesian archipelago. Sururi, a 43-year-old professional horse groomer, devised a unique way to encourage reading in his district. Armed with Luna, one of several horses under his care, and about 100 books donated from a friend, Sururi began road-testing his novel mobile library in early 2015, unsure if it would succeed.

It was a huge hit. In no time, the father of four was fielding requests from schools and villages further afield, eager crowds greeting him on arrival. "The kids are always waiting for my horse and I," Sururi told AFP. "Sometimes they even form a queue, waiting a very long time just to borrow a book."



Indonesian children reading books from a "moving library" run by Ridwan Sururi in Serang.



Ridwan Sururi selecting books for villagers to read as he runs a "moving library" in Serang.



Indonesian children sorting through books from a book shelf on Germanis as Ridwan Sururi (left-in hat) compiles a list for his "moving library".



Ridwan Sururi riding Germanis, followed by Luna, two horses dedicated for his "moving library" he runs for villagers in Serang.

Broadening horizons

In Serang, enthusiastic youngsters flick through picture books, young adult titles and even some classics in English. Some shyly pet Luna while waiting their turn to browse. Sururi believes the gentle nature of his six-year-old mare helps attract children, and pique an early interest in the books. "The horse makes me happy," said ten-year-old Arif, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, before settling in to read a book titled

"Wild Animals". But it's not just children discovering a love for reading via this charitable community library. Adults are almost just as enthusiastic, many pausing work and emerging from their homes as Sururi and Luna pass through the narrow lanes of one village. 17-year-old Warianti, perusing titles alongside her elderly mothers, said villagers of all ages benefited from Sururi's visits, as most did not have time to source books elsewhere.

"The horse library helps increase the



Indonesian children reading books brought on a "moving library" run by Ridwan Sururi (not pictured) and his two horses.

knowledge of local women through reading," she told AFP. Adult literacy rates in Indonesia have climbed steadily in recent years, reaching nearly 96 percent in 2013, according to data from the ministry of education. But some provinces remain far behind others. Central Java, where Sururi makes his rounds, is lagging in the bottom third nationwide. Nearly five percent-or close to one million-adults in this mainly rural province remain illiterate. Sururi is aware of this, growing up in Central

Java without access to a great deal of books.

But the altruistic stable hand never underestimated the importance of reading, leading to his free-of-charge mobile book loaning service. "That's the aim of the horse library, so that everyone can broaden their horizons, gain knowledge, become more intelligent," he said.

Sense of pride

Outside his simple home, Sururi has cleared an area where he dreams of building a permanent library, one stocked with many books and-perhaps one day-a computer. But for now, everything is done by hand. The spines of all books are clearly labelled with a code for identification, and he keeps meticulous records so books are returned on time. Like a conventional library, books can be borrowed free of charge but cannot be loaned forever. In Serang, Sururi checks his notebook and tells one boy he needs to first return an outstanding title before loaning another. The young student sprints off home, returning a short while later clutching the forgotten item, relieved to see his pick of choice remains untouched on the shelf.

Once the flurry of borrowing is over, the children settle down in small circles, bearing their new books with pride as Sururi packs up for another week. Soon the air is filled with the sound of dozens of children reading aloud, older pupils helping their younger friends with difficult words or phrases. "When I see kids chasing my horse I feel so proud," Sururi said. "I feel like I'm needed, and that's hugely satisfying." — AFP



Ridwan Sururi (center) managing books on Luna, a horse dedicated for his "moving library".



Ridwan Sururi (right) taking care of Luna, a horse dedicated for his "moving library".



Indonesian villagers with their books to read they received from a "moving library".

Massimo Bottura, chef of the world's best restaurant



Photo shows a commis chef preparing a dish in the kitchen of the "Osteria Francescana" restaurant in Modena.



Photo shows tables in the "Osteria Francescana" restaurant in Modena.

His father wanted him to become a lawyer, and he nearly did. But Massimo Bottura's obsession with cooking instead has paid off: His restaurant, the Osteria Francescana, may have put the noses of conservative Italian chefs out of joint, but it now boasts the title "best in the world". Set in the heart of Modena in north-



Italian chef Massimo Bottura posing in his restaurant "Osteria Francescana".

ern Italy, the Osteria already boasted three Michelin stars before it snapped up first prize at the World's 50 Best Restaurants Awards in June

thanks to a creative cuisine that reinvents Italian traditional dishes. Winning was a "very emotional" experience, Bottura told AFP, though he said one of the main differences between first and second place on the prestigious list was "the number of interviews" he is now asked to give.

With its blue-grey walls, taupe carpet, artworks on the walls and photographs of the singer Edith Piaf, there are just 12 tables and most diners come for the tasting menu, with its 220 euro (\$245) price tag. The fare may be world class but this osteria does not take itself too seriously. A wax sculpture of a security guard by American artist Duane Hanson startles diners at the front entrance. The levity continues once seated. Dish names include "An eel swimming up the Po River" and "Yellow is bello". Bespectacled Bottura, 53, worked on one of his signature creations, "Memory of a mortadella sandwich", for four years.

'Follow your palate'

"I rely on my past, but I look at it critically and without nostalgia, because I want to bring the best of the past into the future," he says. He says he has always "sought to look at the world from under the table, with the eyes of a child stealing the pasta his grandmother" is making from

scratch. The kitchen-and the table he hid under while his grandmother fought off his quick-fingered brothers with a rolling pin-became "my safety place". When he was 23-years old Bottura, who was famous for rustling up culinary delights for his friends, dropped his law studies to open a Trattoria in Campazzo, in the countryside around Modena in the Po River Valley. On his days off, he would study with French chef Georges Cogny, who had a restaurant two hours away. "He said to me: 'always follow your palate, because you have a great palate which will make Modena known around the world'". Two years and an interlude in New York later, it was another Frenchman that changed his destiny, Alain Ducasse.

After the Provencal food guru came to Bottura's Trattoria, the Italian ended up going to work for him in Monte Carlo for a time. Ducasse had a huge influence on him: "He taught me to be obsessed: Obsessed with quality ingredients, obsessed with detail".

Back in Modena in 1995, he opened the Osteria. Never satisfied, he jumped at the chance five years later to learn from another great master, Spanish giant Ferran Adria. Adria taught Bottura the "freedom to be creative", to think that "a sardine can be worth as

much as a lobster, but it all depends on whose hands it is in."

'Mouthfuls of passion'

Bottura begins with local products and messes around with traditional recipes, drawing for inspiration on everything from his childhood kitchen to poetry, art and music, "compressing my passions into mouthfuls". His philosophy and creations at first perplexed and even angered Italy's culinary old guard. "It's ironic isn't it? Ten years ago they wanted to string me up in the main square because I 'destroyed' our grandmothers' recipes". With the world prize in the bag, Bottura turns his mind back to his social projects, particularly his war on food waste.

His next big gig will see him set up a caffetteria in Rio which will transform leftover food from the Olympic Games Village into free meals for the poor living in the Brazilian city's favelas. Everything the excitable chef does comes with the support of his American wife Lara Gilmore, who left New York for him and gave the ok for his Spanish adventure even though she was pregnant at the time. "I fell in love with Massimo's kitchen before actually falling in love with him," she says. "He really got me with his creamy velvet artichoke soup". — AFP

Beauty on the beast: Thai painter uses buffalo as canvas

Buffalo is a byword for stupidity in Thai culture and an insult often doled out by city dwellers to denigrate their rural compatriots. But one photographer is taking on the stereotype-and Thailand's ulcerous social divide-by elevating the beast to art. "Buffalo are the symbol of our country's labor class, they should be respected," says Maitree Siriboon, the 33-year-old who has been layering colorful coats of paint on dozens of buffaloes in his rice-farming village.

Photos of the lumbering animals, many bearing references to famous works of art, are now on display in an airy Bangkok gallery space.

The exhibit is loaded with symbolism in a country wracked by a political struggle between the urban elite and a rural majority hungry for a greater slice of the eco-



nomic pie. Bangkokians have long used "buffalo" as a pejorative term to put down farmers and rural migrants who have flocked to the capital for low-paid work.

"We still use the word buffalo with a rude and negative connotation that means uneducated person," Maitree told AFP, sporting a traditional sarong from a poor northeast region known as Isaan. He is hoping to encourage fellow Isaan people to take pride in their distinct dialect and culture, which has closer links with neighboring Laos.

"From my own experiences, I used to be mocked and looked down on because of my face and flat nose," he said of his time in Bangkok. "But people have to understand that Thais come from different ethnicities... we should build our own pride so that the society will accept us." — AFP



A man holds a large format camera at the photographic studio of the late Benin photographer Cosme Dossa in Porto-Novo. —AFP photos



A history of Benin in 15,000 photographs

A thick layer of dust covered the boxes containing photographer Cosme Dossa's life's work at his family home in Benin's capital Porto-Novo. Found in no particular order on the floor and on tables, termites had also eaten their way in. But despite such unpromising conditions, 15,000 negatives were discovered inside, well-preserved in their protective sleeves. To his family's delight, the boxes contained a pictorial treasure trove of marriages, burials, graduations and everyday scenes from the dying days of colonial rule and early days of independence.

More than 600 black and white prints had to be delicately cleaned with cotton, then mounted on non-acidic paper. Astonishingly, the Dossa family had little idea what they had in their midst. "We never knew that these photos would be interesting and contribute to history and the country's heritage," said one of Dossa's sons, Jean-Claude, who still lives at the family home. Now, his father's work is forming the basis of an archive project that aims to preserve the West African nation's past for generations to come.

Lack of awareness

The man in charge of doing just that is Franck Ogou, a passionate history archivist at the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA, school of African heritage) in the administrative capital. He said Jean-Claude Dossa's ignorance of the value of old photographs was not unusual and persuaded them to collaborate on a program to save the images for the nation. "Archiving isn't taken seriously in our country," he complained. "It's disappearing and if archives disappear, so do chunks of Benin's history." Cosme Dossa, who learned photography on a correspondence

course, died in 2003 and for more than 10 years his life's work gathered dust in his studio. His children "weren't aware of this heritage", he said. "His equipment from the time was even sold off. We had to buy it back," he added.

Scenes of life

Everything is now kept safely at the EPA, which is based in one of the few remaining examples of colorful Afro-Brazilian-style houses still standing in Porto-Novo. One perfectly preserved photo was taken in a studio in 1962 and depicts a man with a proud smile holding his two wives around their waists, all in their smartest local dress for the occasion. Dossa moved around Benin taking portraits and recording daily life until the late 1970s. The country gained independence in 1960.

In one slightly yellowed frame from 1973, two young girls with Afro hairstyles and dress-makers' tape measures around their necks, flank their boss who is sitting at her sewing machine. The apprentices hold their certificates tightly while their close relations dressed in loincloths surround them. "Cosme Dossa got people to pose to bring out their worth," said Ogou. "For me he's one of the best photographers of Dahomey (Benin's name until 1975)."

Rare images

Dossa was also the official photographer of Hubert Maga, Benin's first president after independence from France in 1960. He can be made out on numbered negatives in a dark suit with tails receiving the French authorities at the governor's palace in Porto-Novo on August 1, 1960 — independence day. Ogou maintains these are among only a few images of such ceremonies

still in Benin. The others are in France's national archives or private collections in Europe and the United States. "We have to save our heritage so the generations to come have an idea of the history of our people," he said.

As part of that plan, the huge collection has been digitised for a website aimed mainly at researchers-www.photoafricaine.org-before being sent to Benin's national archives. First the photos, which are fragile in the humid, tropical conditions, have to be preserved. Lack of fund-

ing for heritage bodies has put a brake on the development of archives in Benin, as it has across the rest of Africa. The EPA, which self-financed its program with up to 21,000 euros (\$23,000), expects 10 other West African countries to have similar private collections. Money is needed but most of all a recognition of the value of the treasures and also the people behind them. Jean-Claude Dossa said: "The most important thing is that he (his father) is known about and recognized." — AFP



UNESCO adds four new sites to World Heritage list

The UN's cultural agency on Friday added four new sites in Iran, India, China and Micronesia to its World Heritage list. The sites named by UNESCO include the so-called qanat water systems in Iran, the Zuojiang Huashan rock art cultural landscape in China and the archaeological site of Nalanda Mahavihara in India. The landscape in China is all that remains today of the bronze age culture known as "bronze drum" after its most characteristic artifacts—once prevalent across the country's south, the agency said in a statement.

The site in Iran is an example of an ancient water-supply system known as qanat-suited for the most arid areas. The fourth site is Nan Madol—a ceremonial center of eastern Micronesia in the Federated States of Micronesia containing mediaeval palaces and tombs. The Micronesian site is a series of 99 artificial islets built with walls of basalt and coral boulders. It was, however, immediately placed on UNESCO's list of heritage-in-danger.

The UN agency warned threats to the site were notably the construction of navigation channels which was leading to the uncontrolled growth of the mangrove, making the historic edifices more fragile. The heritage-in-danger list is intended to highlight the risks facing world heritage sites that need protection and allows the committee to allocate immediate support from the World Heritage Fund. UNESCO named the old towns of Djenné in Mali and Shakhristabz in Uzbekistan on Wednesday on its heritage-in-danger list during its 40th meeting of its World Heritage Committee in Istanbul.

All five of Libya's World Heritage sites were named on Thursday by the agency as at risk of damage from the civil war that continues to rage in the country. Meanwhile, the complex of churches and holy sites in the Georgian town of Mtskheta was removed from the in-danger list, where it had been listed since 2009. The meeting will end on July 20. — AFP



Photo shows boxes of negatives for large format camera at the photographic studio.



Women model creations by a local designer Eliana Paco, at the government palace in La Paz, Bolivia, Thursday. The fashion show is designed to promote the Andean style and beauty of Aymara women, who are commonly called Cholitas in Bolivian slang. —AP photos

The Andean

Style & Beauty





Kloss 'loves' wearing t-shirts cheaper than coffee



Karlie Kloss

Karlie Kloss "loves" to find t-shirts cheaper than the price of a coffee. The 23-year-old model - who made her modeling breakthrough aged 14 when she posed for her first editorial photoshoot - has admitted she likes to pair high end garments with cheaper options, which are less expensive than a hot drink, because she thinks it is "cooler" to mix her garments. Speaking about her style, the blonde beauty said: "I like to pair highs and lows. Something a great designer bag with my favorite Express blouse and my favorite sneakers. I think that's the way that women dress today. 'I think it's like modern and cooler when you mix. I don't think anybody really wears outfits, outfits. 'I love high-waisted anything because you just feel tucked in. It's a great feeling. I'm a t-shirt and jeans girl, I really am."

And the catwalk icon - who has modeled for lingerie giant Victoria's Secret, Oscar De La Renta, and Dior - has admitted she has always been a bargain hunter and grew up shopping for "affordable" items with her sisters. She explained: "I grew up going to the mall with my sisters for fun. I love finding pieces that are really chic and cool but affordable, like a t-shirt that costs less than my coffee. That's the way that I shop and that's what I think is coolest." Meanwhile, Karlie - who has been announced as the ambassador for the jeans brand Express - believes it is the hardest thing to find a good-fitting pair of denim jeans. Speaking to PEOPLE about her fashion difficulty, she said: "I think denim is a really hard thing to master. I feel like when you find the perfect pair of jeans, no matter where you find them, when you find the pair that fits your body, that flatters whatever it is you want, buy multiple pairs of them. That's what I do. I just think good denim is hard to come by and when you find it, invest."

— Bang Showbiz

Women model creations by a local designer Eliana Paco, at the government palace in La Paz, Bolivia, Thursday. The fashion show is designed to promote the Andean style and beauty of Aymara women, who are commonly called Cholitas in Bolivian slang. —AP photos



FARNBOROUGH: Photo shows the Boeing F/A-18 Super Hornet - a twin-engine, supersonic, all weather multi-role fighter at the Farnborough Airshow. — AFP

JETMAKERS SHRUG OFF DEMAND RISKS AFTER MIXED FARNBOROUGH AIRBUS, BOEING UPGRADE LONG-TERM DEMAND FORECASTS

FARNBOROUGH: When a freak English summer storm flooded exhibition halls at this week's Farnborough Airshow, the stiff-lipped announcer told sodden aerospace executives: "Please do not panic: we will not evacuate at this stage." It was a message meant to reassure, but not exactly guaranteed to inspire confidence. After a chaotic and storm-ridden show, "keep calm and carry on" is also the message from the world's major jetmakers as they cling to bullish long-term forecasts despite economic and political concerns overshadowing aviation markets.

Airbus, Boeing and Embraer all upgraded their demand forecasts this week. But orders were slower than some expected, with several airlines said to be holding off making decisions. "People ask if this is showing the end of the cycle. I just have to say that ... we are on track as an industry for another good sales year and certainly on track for some really impressive delivery numbers," said Boeing marketing vice-president Randy Tinseth.

As Farnborough organizers rued their inadequate weather preparations, order announcements flowed in corporate chalets. But they were reliant on a few players such as AirAsia boss Tony Fernandes, and some analysts say there are signs that while the jet industry remains standing, the roof is starting to leak. That is especially true of wide-body long-haul jets, with the market struggling to absorb deliveries later this decade.

Although Airbus started the show

with a high-profile order of A350 jets from Virgin Atlantic and Boeing expanded its 787 Dreamliner presence in China, there were relatively few orders for the industry's big jets, and none for the Boeing 777. According to Deloitte, Farnborough and its sister Paris air show, held every other year, have produced an average of just over a quarter of annual airplane orders over the past decade. That suggests this year's event might have produced close to 400 deals to be on trend. Instead, the total of firm deals was 216, though still-provisional ones would more than double that.

Weighing the risks

Now, the greater test is whether orders will hold intact and whether manufacturers can learn from past mistakes on production and deliver their record backlog of jet orders smoothly. Deloitte says 13 percent of the industry's massive order book is vulnerable to deferral or cancellation but that jetmakers are cushioned by backlogs which have swelled to 6-10 years from 3-5 years, thanks in part to deliberate overbooking.

Several industry sources say the second half of that backlog is flimsier than the first and that many buyers have more flexibility than planemakers would like to admit publicly. "Are they orders or cheap options? That is what we are going to find out," said Richard Aboulafia of US-based Teal Group. Although manufacturers say deferrals have not yet risen, industry sources say they are spending more time monitor-

ing customers to watch for any risk to near-term deliveries.

The S&P Aerospace and Defense index rose 1 percent in the past week, slightly underperforming a 1.6 percent market rise. "People are twitchy, but they are not quite sure why they are twitchy because there isn't much evidence to support it," said Jefferies analyst Sandy Morris. Still, the trade part of the show opened and closed with reminders of deeper political and economic risks to jet demand, which is sensitive to business confidence and consumption. Britain's David Cameron opened the show as prime minister only to find his departure from office, following a referendum defeat, accelerated when Theresa May emerged as his successor.

Two weeks after Britain's decision to leave the European Union, online travel bookings to and from the UK remain down, according to online travel agent Tripsta. Any prolonged dip could unsettle jet buyers with large UK coverage like Emirates. News late Thursday of a truck attack in France, killing over 80 people, also tragically underscored security risks cited by some executives, worried too about Middle East instability, tensions between the West and Russia and weak Latin American economies. However, Airbus sales chief John Leahy said the industry had coped with a series of shocks. Only one - the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States - made an appreciable dent in a long-term trend of air traffic doubling every 15 years, he said. — Reuters

MESSAGING APP LINE SKYROCKETS IN TRADING DEBUT

TOKYO: Messaging app Line rocketed in its Tokyo trading debut yesterday after an eye-popping jump in New York, as investors cheered the year's biggest technology share sale. The new listing burst out of the blocks at the start of its first trading day, which was delayed as buy orders swamped sell orders, rising more than 50 percent immediately. By the close the firm was up 32 percent at 4,345 yen (\$41), valuing it at around \$8.6 billion. The surge followed Japan-based Line new shares roaring to life in New York, where they kicked off trading Thursday after the \$1.3 billion IPO.

The sizzling dual-listing suggested investors are betting Line can hold its own in a field crowded with mobile messaging services such as Facebook Messenger, WeChat and WhatsApp. But the company, which grew out of Japan's 2011 quake-tsunami disaster, could face challenges boosting its popularity beyond Asia and some Spanish language markets, analysts said. "Investors are giving Line high marks for its growth potential and the IPO should boost its name recognition," said Hideki Yasuda, an analyst at Ace Research Institute in Tokyo. "But Line already has a big number of users and I think it will be tough for them to increase that."

"What investors are focused on now is what Line will do with that large number of users to expand its growth through advertising revenue, for example." Line, which is owned by South Korea's Naver Corp., debuted in New York where its stock ended up 27 percent. Line sold 35 million shares in all-about two thirds in the United States and said it would exercise an option to sell another five million, underscoring strong demand. Line's service lets users make free calls, send instant messages and post photos or short videos, along with a host of other paid services. It combines attributes from Facebook, Skype and WhatsApp with games and a mobile payment service also on offer.

Stickers and stocks

But what has set it apart so far is a huge assortment of cartoon "stickers", which some too-busy-to-text fans rely on to communicate-a kind of animated language. The stickers are hugely popular in Japan, especially among teenagers, and Line has been able to make money off them. "If someone shares some good news with me, I can send them a sticker like 'awesome!' or alternatively 'I am depressed' when something sad happens," said Line devotee Akiko Mura before trading started yesterday. "You can express yourself not only in words but also in images." The company counts about 218 million active monthly users-notably fewer than its bigger rivals-and is strongest in Japan, Thailand, Taiwan and Indonesia, but has relatively little presence in the US and Europe. Line said proceeds from the share sale would initially be earmarked for developing in markets where it has already has a strong foothold. But "we listed in the US to underline how we want our user base to be global", Line chief executive Takeshi Idezawa told a news briefing in Tokyo. "The IPO gives use the resources to expand our business." — AFP

FACEBOOK HELPS FIND BABY LOST IN NICE TERROR ATTACK

NICE: An eight-month-old baby boy lost in the chaos after a truck rammed into a crowd in the French Riviera city of Nice killing at least 84 people was tracked down through Facebook yesterday. Tiava Banner-who said she was not the mother of the baby-sent out an appeal on Facebook looking for any information on the whereabouts of the child who had been lost in his blue stroller when the rampaging truck sent hundreds fleeing in panic as they watched Bastille Day fireworks. The post was shared thousands of times until it was updated with: "Found! Thank you Facebook and all those who helped us."

A member of the family contacted by AFP yesterday said: "A young woman found him and took him home with her. She then went online and found the photo of the baby on Facebook." The woman then contacted the baby's parents. Dozens of other people appealed through social media to find missing loved ones. "We are worried to death", "We haven't heard from him since he went to see the fireworks", were some of the messages. Many of the missing were children and teenagers. Authorities said yesterday that two children were among the dead and around 50 children were in hospital. — AFP

POKEMON GO: ONLY FOR THE BRAVE IN LAGOS

LAGOS: It's safe to say Nintendo's hit mobile game Pokemon Go is more suited for playing in the clean, well-lit streets of San Francisco or the impeccably-maintained parks of New York. Anarchic Lagos on the other hand, with its seemingly suicidal motorcyclists, festering sewage and prowling thieves, doesn't appear to be the ideal place to go hunting virtual creatures. But some locals in the West African megacity think nothing of braving the chaos to catch them all. "Here it's like Mad Max, you've gotta be sharp or else there will be some injuries," Timi Ajiboye, a 23-year-old software developer said.

"Sometimes it's just not safe to bring out your phone. If you do, thieves will come at you like flies," added Ajiboye's younger brother Tade. Playing may be dangerous yet Nigeria has its perks, insisted the 19-year-old electrical engineering student at the University of Lagos. "There's so much rare Pokemon here because it's not a mainstream country," Tade said. "Fortunately for me, I live here." The 19-year-old explained that he's seen "quite a few Bulbasaur" though hasn't been able

to catch the green dinosaur-like species since "they are very stubborn".

Like many other players around the world, the Ajiboye brothers found a way to download the game when it was released early this July, despite it being officially available only in the United States, Australia and New Zealand. The enthusiastic uptake is a sign of the mobile revolution happening in Nigeria, which is Africa's largest mobile market. Companies have committed to 3G coverage in 90 per cent of the country and are starting a fibre network roll-out in six cities, according to Bloomberg News.

Signal fog

Not long ago, playing Pokemon Go would have been unthinkable in Lagos, which is infamous for its patchy mobile coverage. Though things have improved, most Nigerians still carry two, even three mobile phones subscribed to different networks to circumvent the headaches of dropped calls and lagging internet. In a perfect world, Tade says he would have the game installed on both his Android

and Apple phones, carry an internet dongle and power bank to charge flat batteries. He would also wear holographic glasses so he could experience three-dimensional Pokemon similar to when Princess Leia appeared as a blue apparition in the film "Star Wars". With its wide-spread mobile network coverage and relative security, the sprawling University of Lagos campus is quickly becoming a breeding ground for aspiring Pokemon "trainers". — AFP



LAGOS, Nigeria: Esther Mustapha (left) and her friend Oyinbecks Olajide use the Pokemon Go application on their mobile on the campus grounds of the University of Lagos. — AFP

IN CHINA, FEARS THAT POKEMON GO MAY AID LOCATING MILITARY BASES

BEIJING: Not everyone loves Pokemon GO, the mobile game that has become an instant hit around the world since a limited release just a week ago. The augmented reality game, in which players walk around real-life neighborhoods to hunt and catch virtual cartoon characters on their smartphone screens, has been blamed in the United States for several robberies of distracted mobile phone users and car crashes. A US senator has asked the developers of the game to clarify its data privacy protections.

And although the game is not available in China, the world's biggest smartphone and online gaming market, some people there fear it could become a Trojan horse for offensive action by the United States and Japan. "Don't play Pokemon GO!!!" said user Pitaorenzhe on Chinese microblogging site Weibo. "It's so the US and Japan can explore China's secret bases!" The conspiracy theory is that Japan's Nintendo Co Ltd, which part owns the Pokemon franchise, and America's Google can work out where Chinese military bases are by seeing where users can't go to capture Pokemon characters.

The game relies on Google services such as Maps. The theory is that if Nintendo places rare Pokemon in areas where they see players aren't going, and nobody attempts to capture the creature, it can be deduced that the location has restricted access and could be a military zone. "Then, when war breaks out, Japan and the US can easily target their guided missiles, and China will have been destroyed by the invasion of a Japanese-American game," said a social media post circulated on Weibo. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said he was unaware of reports that the game could be a security risk and that he didn't have time to play with such things. He gave no further details. Other government ministries did not respond to faxed questions about the game.

Undeterred fans

But the calls for a boycott, and the fact that Pokemon GO hasn't even been released in China, have not deterred fans. "I really looked forward to playing the Pokemon artificial reality game since they first announced it. I really liked Pokemon as a kid," said Gan Tian, a 22-year-old student at Tsinghua University. She plays an unofficial version with an artificial map based on countries where the game is available. But for many others in the country, playing is proving a challenge. Not only is the game not on Chinese app stores, but Google services are blocked in China. Nintendo has given no indication as to when or whether Pokemon GO will be released in China. Niantic, the lab that developed the game, declined to comment on Friday on an eventual launch. Chief executive John Hanke said in an interview that it would be technically possible to launch in China, but noted a host of complex rules and restrictions. — Reuters

POKEMON GO PLAYERS HELD AT GUNPOINT IN AUSTRALIA PARK

POKEMON GO UNDERSCORES NINTENDO'S RICH CHARACTERS, VISION

SYDNEY: A couple playing Pokemon Go were threatened at gunpoint in a town park south of Sydney, Australian police said yesterday, as they blamed the game for a wave of crimes, traffic violations and complaints. Two masked men carrying a rifle held up the couple who had gone to the park in the small town Wednesday night to search for virtual "pocket monsters". The would-be robbers fled empty handed and New South Wales state police said there was "nothing to suggest" that they had lured the 29-year-olds to the park using the app's geolocation feature.

The wildly popular mobile app, which is based on a 1990s Nintendo game, has created a global frenzy as players roam the real world looking for cartoon monsters and was launched in Australia last week. Separately two 17-year-olds were fined for playing the game while behind the wheel in a Sydney suburb, two days after police in Western Australia state said a patrol vehicle had to swerve to avoiding hitting a girl who was looking down at her phone while playing the game.

"We turned round and spoke to her and she said she was addicted to the game," acting Sergeant Daniel Fitzgerald told Perth local newspaper group Community News. "Pokemon is dangerous," the police force tweeted after the incident. Similar frustrations were expressed by police in Tasmania state, who said there was an increase in the "number of calls about suspicious vehicles and behavior and people driving while using mobile phones, with the explanation that drivers are 'looking for Pokemon'".

"Police are urging people to be aware that even if it's a rare Pokemon,

driving dangerously is just not worth it," Tasmania Police added. Local residents in the western Sydney suburb of Rhodes have also called police, complaining of "complete chaos" and "massive levels of noise" after midnight at a park where Pokemon players were congregating, the Sydney Morning Herald reported. A young New Zealander reportedly quit his job in a cafe to chase virtual Pokemon characters around the country. Tom Currie, 24, told MediaWorks' Newshub he had booked numerous bus trips so he could catch "some awesome Pokemon on the way".

Characters, vision

Meanwhile, Nintendo suffered as a latecomer to smartphone games but is seeing the deep wealth of its franchise characters pay off with the success of "Pokemon Go," even without a launch yet in Japan. The Japanese game maker was starting to look like a casualty of history until the game was launched in the US earlier this month. Not anymore. Nintendo Co.'s management missed both the online and mobile revolutions. The popularity of "Pokemon Go" says much about the untapped value of cultural properties - at least when you're lucky enough to deploy them in the right place at the right time.

"Nintendo might have been slow to adapt to the smartphone era, but now that it's doing it, it's doing it in full force and showing tremendous power," said Hiroyuki Kubota, a financial analyst. The windfall from what Kubota dubs "Pokenomics" could help reverse Nintendo's fortunes, although some analysts think its impact on the company's revenues will be limited because the game is free apart from certain rev-

enue-earning features, he said.

Nintendo's original Pokemon game featured adventurous wanderings through a fantasy world to collect cute, imaginary monsters. "Pokemon Go" involves finding digital creatures that pop up in the screen of your mobile device as you move about the real world. In the US, where it is extremely popular, some people have injured themselves in pursuit of the monsters, falling or getting distracted while driving.

The augmented-reality game could boost recognition for Nintendo's brand that likely will trickle down to other sales, including analog items like Pokemon cards or dolls, income from Pokemon movies, and other Nintendo games such as Donkey Kong, Kubota said. Nintendo's stock has surged since "Pokemon Go" became available in the US, recently trading at about 26,500 yen (\$250) a share in Tokyo, up more than 40 percent from its levels before "Pokemon Go."

Staff at Nintendo, which also owns the Super Mario and Zelda franchises, appear simply baffled by the overseas craze, referring all queries on "Pokemon Go" to its affiliate Pokemon. The affiliate company refused a request for an interview with founder Tsunekazu Ishihara, saying it was turning down all such requests. A spokeswoman did answer basic questions, such as denying the company has decided on a launch date for "Pokemon Go" in Japan. Anticipation is running high, with rumors circulating the game might be coming to Japan sometime this week. Online, many Japanese are questioning why Americans are having all the fun even though Pokemon originated in Japan. — Agencies



03:25 Wildest Africa
04:15 Gator Boys
05:02 Treehouse Masters
05:49 River Monsters
06:36 Swamp Brothers
07:00 Swamp Brothers
07:25 Treehouse Masters
08:15 Treehouse Masters
09:10 Treehouse Masters
10:05 Treehouse Masters
11:00 Dog TV
11:55 Snake Sheila
12:20 Snake Sheila
12:50 Wildest Africa
13:45 Wildest Africa
14:40 Wildest Africa
15:35 Wildest Africa
16:30 Wildest Africa
17:25 Wildest Africa
18:20 Saving Rhino Phila
19:15 Restoration Wild
20:10 Bondi Vet
21:05 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
21:30 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
22:00 Ivory Wars
22:55 Snake Sheila
23:20 Snake Sheila
23:50 Gator Boys
00:45 Gator Boys
01:40 Wildest Africa
02:35 Wildest Africa



03:00 Ideal
03:35 I Want My Wife Back
04:05 Father Brown
05:00 Doctors
09:00 Eastenders
11:05 Doctor Who
13:25 Casualty
14:15 Doctors
14:45 Doctors
15:20 Death In Paradise
17:10 Father Brown
18:00 Doctors
18:30 Eastenders
19:05 Father Brown
20:05 Call The Midwife
21:00 New Tricks
22:00 New Tricks
22:55 Undercover
23:50 Doctors
00:25 Eastenders
00:55 Father Brown
01:45 Call The Midwife
02:40 New Tricks



03:40 How Do They Do It?
04:05 How Do They Do It?
06:00 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
06:50 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
07:40 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
08:30 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
09:20 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
10:10 Gold Divers
11:00 Pacific Warriors
11:50 Outback Truckers
12:40 Storage Wars Canada
13:55 Auction Hunters
14:20 Auction Hunters
14:45 Storage Hunters UK
15:10 Storage Hunters UK
16:50 Alaskan Bush People
17:40 The Last Alaskans
18:30 Mythbusters
19:20 Man vs Expert
20:10 Incredible Engineering Blunders: Fixed
21:00 Alaskan Bush People
21:50 The Last Alaskans
22:40 Siberian Cut
23:30 Shocking Survival Videos
00:45 Marooned With Ed Stafford
02:25 Marooned With Ed Stafford



03:23 Paw Patrol
03:46 Paw Patrol
04:10 Wanda And The Alien
04:19 Wanda And The Alien

04:30 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
04:53 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
05:16 Blaze And The Monster Machines
05:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
06:00 Paw Patrol
06:13 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
06:36 Dora The Explorer
07:00 Wanda And The Alien
07:11 Zack & Quack
07:22 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
07:46 Blaze And The Monster Machines
08:10 Paw Patrol
08:35 Shimmer And Shine
08:58 Dora The Explorer
09:22 Little Charmers
09:32 Paw Patrol
09:57 Bubble Guppies
10:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
10:42 Roary The Racing Car
10:52 Team Umizoomi
11:15 Louie
11:22 Louie
11:30 Ni Hao, Kai-Lan
11:53 Olive The Ostrich
11:58 Olive The Ostrich
12:03 Max & Ruby
12:26 Wanda And The Alien
12:37 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
12:48 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
13:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines
13:22 Blaze And The Monster Machines
13:45 Zack & Quack
13:55 Zack & Quack
14:05 Team Umizoomi
14:28 Louie
14:35 Louie
14:42 Louie

14:48 Paw Patrol
14:58 Paw Patrol
15:23 Paw Patrol
15:46 Paw Patrol
16:10 Wanda And The Alien
16:19 Wanda And The Alien
16:30 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
16:53 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
17:16 Blaze And The Monster Machines
17:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
18:00 Paw Patrol
18:13 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
18:36 Dora The Explorer
19:00 Wanda And The Alien
19:11 Zack & Quack
19:22 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
19:46 Blaze And The Monster Machines
20:10 Shimmer And Shine
20:35 Shimmer And Shine
20:58 Dora The Explorer
21:22 Little Charmers
21:32 Paw Patrol
21:57 Bubble Guppies
22:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
22:42 Roary The Racing Car
22:52 Team Umizoomi
23:15 Louie
23:22 Louie
23:30 Ni Hao, Kai-Lan
23:53 Olive The Ostrich
23:58 Olive The Ostrich
00:03 Max & Ruby
00:26 Wanda And The Alien
00:37 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
00:48 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
01:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines
01:22 Blaze And The Monster Machines



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 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
08:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
09:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
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 The Loud House
15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
16:36 Harvey Beaks
17:00 Sanjay And Craig
17:24 Harvey Beaks
17:48 The Loud House
18:12 Henry Danger
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn



TESTAMENT OF YOUTH ON OSN MOVIES HD FESTIVAL

32 TV LISTINGS

19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
19:24 Game Shakers
19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants



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 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
07:25 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild
07:50 Doki
08:15 Doki
08:40 My Cat From Hell
09:30 My Cat From Hell
10:20 My Cat From Hell
11:10 My Cat From Hell
12:00 My Cat From Hell
12:50 Mythbusters
13:40 Mythbusters
14:30 Mythbusters
15:20 Mythbusters
16:10 Mythbusters
17:00 Ultimate Survival
17:50 Ultimate Survival
18:40 Race To Escape
19:30 Troy
20:20 Lost & Found With Mike & Jesse
21:10 Deadliest Space Weather
21:35 Deadliest Space Weather
22:00 Untamed & Uncut
22:50 Untamed & Uncut
23:40 Bermuda Triangle Exposed
00:30 Ultimate Survival
01:20 Ultimate Survival
02:10 Dirty Jobs



03:00 Vanity Fair Confidential
03:48 On The Case With Paula Zahn
04:36 On The Case With Paula Zahn
05:24 On The Case With Paula Zahn
06:12 On The Case With Paula Zahn
07:00 On The Case With Paula Zahn
10:20 Dr. G: Medical Examiner
11:10 On The Case With Paula Zahn
12:00 Nowhere To Hide
12:50 Nowhere To Hide
13:40 Nowhere To Hide
14:30 Nowhere To Hide
15:20 On The Case With Paula Zahn
16:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
17:00 California Investigator
17:25 California Investigator
17:50 Heartbreakers
18:40 Murder Comes To Town
19:30 A Crime To Remember
20:20 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
21:10 Web Of Lies
22:00 I'd Kill For You
22:50 A Haunting
23:40 The Haunted
00:30 Redrum
01:20 Redrum
02:10 Scorned: Crimes Of Passion



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 Minnie's Bow-Toons
13:00 Sofia The First
13:30 Sofia The First
13:55 Sofia The First
14:25 Sofia The First
14:50 Sofia The First
15:20 Sofia The First
15:45 Goldie & Bear
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
22:50 Zou
23:05 Henry Hugglemonster
23:20 Calimero
23:35 Zou
23:50 Loopdidoo
00:05 Art Attack
00:30 Henry Hugglemonster
00:45 Calimero
01:00 Zou
01:15 Loopdidoo
01:30 Art Attack
02:00 Calimero
02:15 Zou
02:30 Loopdidoo
02:45 Art Attack



03:15 The Hive
03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
04:10 Hank Zipzer
04:35 Binny And The Ghost
05:00 Violetta
05:45 The Hive
05:50 Mouk
06:00 Hank Zipzer
06:25 Sofia The First
06:50 Disney Mickey Mouse
06:55 Gravity Falls
07:20 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
07:45 Backstage
08:10 Bunk'd
08:35 Jessie
09:00 Jessie
09:25 Liv And Maddie
09:50 Liv And Maddie
10:15 Austin & Ally
10:40 A Bug's Life
12:20 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
12:45 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
13:10 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
13:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
14:00 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
14:25 Austin & Ally
14:50 Austin & Ally
15:15 Descendants Wicked World
15:20 Liv And Maddie
15:45 Liv And Maddie
16:10 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
16:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
17:00 Gravity Falls
17:25 Gravity Falls
17:50 The 7D
18:00 Brother Bear 2
19:30 Bunk'd



03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
03:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
04:00 Man Fire Food
04:30 Man Fire Food
05:00 Chopped
06:00 Guy's Grocery Games

07:00 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
07:30 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
08:00 Chopped
09:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes
10:00 The Kitchen
11:00 Siba's Table
11:30 Siba's Table
12:00 The Pioneer Woman
12:30 The Pioneer Woman
13:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
13:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
15:00 Chopped
16:00 Man Fire Food
16:30 Man Fire Food
17:00 Guy's Big Bite
17:30 Guy's Big Bite
18:00 Siba's Table
18:30 Siba's Table
19:00 Ace Of Cakes
19:30 Ace Of Cakes
20:00 Chopped
21:00 All Star Academy
22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
23:00 Ace Of Cakes
23:30 Ace Of Cakes
00:00 Chopped
01:00 All Star Academy
02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
02:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives



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 Dicking
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 Dicking



03:05 Emmerdale
03:30 Emmerdale
03:55 Coronation Street
04:20 Coronation Street
04:45 Coronation Street
06:20 Tracey Ullman's Show
06:45 Don't Tell The Bride
07:40 Don't Tell The Bride
08:35 It's Not Rocket Science
09:30 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
10:20 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
11:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
12:00 Midsomer Murders
13:40 Code Of A Killer
14:30 The Syndicate
15:25 It's Not Rocket Science
16:15 Together
16:45 Tracey Ullman's Show
17:10 Don't Tell The Bride
18:05 Don't Tell The Bride
19:00 The Syndicate
19:55 Together
20:25 Tracey Ullman's Show
20:50 It's Not Rocket Science
21:45 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
22:40 Coronation Street
23:10 Coronation Street



THE BERLIN FILE ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

01:05 Coronation Street
01:30 Coronation Street
02:00 Coronation Street
02:30 Coronation Street



03:00 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
03:30 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
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 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
09:30 2 Broke Girls
10:00 New Girl
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 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
14:30 2 Broke Girls
15:00 New Girl
15:30 Dr. Ken
16:00 Modern Family
16:30 George Lopez
17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
18:00 Living With Fran
18:30 Uncle Buck
19:00 Baby Daddy
19:30 Crowded
20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
21:00 Dr. Ken
21:30 Modern Family
22:00 Saturday Night Live
23:00 Life In Pieces
23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers
00:30 Dr. Ken
01:00 Modern Family
01:30 Saturday Night Live
02:30 Life In Pieces

03:00 Vinyl
04:00 Tell Me You Love Me
05:00 The Jack Bull
07:00 Frequently Asked Questions About Time Travel
08:30 Cheaters

10:30 The Life And Death Of Peter Sellers
12:45 If God Is Willing And Da Creek Don't Rise
14:45 If God Is Willing And Da Creek Don't Rise
16:45 The Life And Death Of Peter Sellers
19:00 11.22.63
20:00 Six Feet Under
21:00 The Bastard Executioner
22:00 Ja'mie: Private School Girl
22:30 The Brink
23:00 HBO Comedy Half-Hour
23:30 Def Poetry Jam
00:00 11.22.63
01:00 Six Feet Under



03:00 Outlander
04:00 Good Morning America
06:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
07:00 Rosewood
08:00 The Blacklist
09:00 Supergirl
10:00 Shark Tank
11:00 Rosewood
12:00 The Blacklist
13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
14:00 Shark Tank
15:00 Live Good Morning America
16:00 Suits
17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
18:00 The Blacklist
19:00 Downton Abbey
20:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
21:00 Suits
22:00 Graceland
23:00 Agent X
00:00 Rosewood
01:00 Suits



04:00 Reclaim
06:00 The Berlin File
08:00 Turbulence
10:00 Flightplan
12:00 Big Ass Spider!
14:00 Metro
16:00 The Berlin File
18:00 Flightplan
19:45 The Expendables 3
22:00 Let The Bullets Fly
00:15 The Equalizer
02:30 Flightplan



04:00 Man Of The House
06:00 My Father The Hero
08:00 Bringing Down The House
10:00 Man Of The House

12:00 Raising Helen
14:15 Nitro Circus: The Movie
16:00 Bringing Down The House
18:00 The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy
20:00 The Foot Fist Way
22:00 Hot Tub Time Machine 2
00:00 Good Luck Chuck
02:00 The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy



03:00 National Treasure 2: Book Of Secrets
05:15 Big Hero 6
07:00 Eight Below
09:00 Monsters Inc
11:00 Eragon
13:00 Ice Age: The Meltdown
15:00 Monsters University
17:00 American Girl: Saige Paints The Sky
19:00 Tooth Fairy
21:00 The Chronicles Of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch...
23:15 American Girl: Saige Paints The Sky



03:00 Romeo & Juliet
05:00 Tracks
07:00 Jack Strong
09:15 Monkey Kingdom
10:45 Romeo & Juliet
12:45 Testament Of Youth
15:00 Paradise
17:30 Monkey Kingdom
19:00 Black Nativity
21:00 What's Love Got To Do With It
23:00 Summer Of Sam
01:30 Monkey Kingdom



03:00 The Good Lie
05:00 My Old Lady
07:00 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This
09:00 The Good Lie
11:00 Ricki And The Flash
13:00 What If
15:00 Still Alice
16:45 The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
19:00 Whiplash
21:00 No Escape
23:00 Ex Machina



04:30 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble

06:00 Scooby-Doo! Moon Monster Madness
08:00 Marco Macaco
09:45 Jock The Hero Dog
11:15 K-9 Adventures: Legend Of The Lost Gold
12:45 The Unbeatables
14:30 Ploddy Police Car On The Case
16:00 Justice League vs. Bizarro League
18:00 Jock The Hero Dog
20:00 The Tale Of The Princess Kaguya
22:15 Ploddy Police Car On The Case
23:45 Justice League vs. Bizarro League
18:00 Jock The Hero Dog
20:00 The Tale Of The Princess Kaguya



04:00 Until She Came Along
06:00 The Grand Seduction
08:00 The Single Moms Club
10:00 Parkland
12:00 The Two Faces Of January
14:00 The Last 5 Years
16:00 The Single Moms Club
18:00 The Forger
19:45 Snowpiercer
22:00 Dark House
00:00 Dope
02:00 The Single Moms Club



03:00 Blood Ties
05:15 The Silent Mountain
07:00 Escape
09:00 Memories
11:00 The Silent Mountain
13:00 A Mother Betrayed
15:00 Filly Brown
17:00 Memories
19:00 The Double
21:00 71



04:15 Starship Troopers
06:30 The Proposal
08:30 The Woman In Black
10:15 Instinct
12:30 Battlefield Earth
14:30 Dark Water
16:15 Jack
18:15 Greenberg
20:00 Saving Mr. Banks
22:15 Surrogates



03:00 Desperate Housewives
04:00 Fit For Fashion
05:00 Cougar Town
05:30 Cougar Town
06:00 Cougar Town
06:30 Cougar Town
07:00 3 (Three)
08:00 Grey's Anatomy
09:00 Grey's Anatomy
10:00 Desperate Housewives
11:00 Desperate Housewives
12:00 Fit For Fashion
13:00 Cougar Town
13:30 Cougar Town
14:00 Mom vs. Matchmaker
14:30 Mom vs. Matchmaker
15:00 The Bridge
16:00 American Idol
17:00 How I Met Your Mother
17:30 How I Met Your Mother
18:00 The Listener
19:00 The Listener
20:00 The Listener
21:00 How I Met Your Mother
21:30 How I Met Your Mother
22:00 Private Practice
23:00 Private Practice
00:00 3 (Three)
01:00 American Idol
02:00 The Listener



03:35 Are You Fitter Than A Pensioner?
04:20 Your Style In His Hands
05:10 Your Style In His Hands
06:00 Say Yes To The Dress
06:25 Ugly House To Lovely House
07:15 Billion Dollar Hotel
08:05 The Face UK
08:55 The Face UK
09:45 Are You Fitter Than A Pensioner?
10:35 My Giant Life
11:25 Jon & Kate Plus 8
12:15 Jon & Kate Plus 8
12:40 Jon & Kate Plus 8
13:05 Jon & Kate Plus 8
13:30 Nida'a
14:20 Oprah's Master Class
15:10 Cake Boss
15:35 Cake Boss
16:00 Cake Boss
16:25 Cake Boss
16:50 Cake Boss
17:15 Are You Fitter Than A Pensioner?
18:05 Belief
18:55 Cake Boss
19:20 My Giant Life
20:10 Nida'a
21:00 Oprah's Master Class
21:50 Belief
22:40 Monsters Inside Me
23:30 My Weight Is Killing Me
00:20 Little And Looking For Love
01:10 Single Dad Seeking...
02:50 Extreme Couponing
19:20 My Giant Life
20:10 Nida'a
21:00 Oprah's Master Class
21:50 Belief
22:40 Monsters Inside Me
23:30 My Weight Is Killing Me
00:20 Little And Looking For Love
01:10 Single Dad Seeking...
02:50 Extreme Couponing



03:55 Flex Is Kings
05:25 Charge!
07:00 All On The Line
08:00 Miss Firecracker
09:40 Christmas, Again
11:00 Sensation: The Story Of The Who's Tommy
12:00 Marc Bolan: The Final Word
12:55 The Journey
14:35 Letter's From The South
16:20 Miss Firecracker
18:00 In Conversation With
18:30 Sensation: The Story Of The Who's Tommy
19:30 Marc Bolan: The Final Word
20:25 Chorus
22:00 The King
23:40 The Journey
01:20 Christmas, Again
02:40 Above Freezing

Naturally sweet granola bars are sure to be a hit with kids

By Meera Sodha

Once upon a time, my Indian grandma was left in charge of packing school lunches for my sisters and me. We were sent off to school with some potato curry and a garlic chutney so fierce my eyebrows twitched on the bus all the way to

school and I couldn't bear to open the Tupperware in fear of what might be unleashed on my friends.

After that, I outlawed traditional Indian food in my packed lunches, setting my mother free to get creative with Anglo-Indian dishes that became family favorites. This granola bar using dates, coconut and

peanuts is among the recipes she created. It doesn't use sugar, instead relying on dates and honey as sweeteners.

The dates add a lovely fudgy texture and the oats and peanuts give slow release energy which will keep your kids (and you) going for a few hours. Cinnamon and ginger, in a nod to India, are used in small amounts to

add a hint of warmth and extra flavor.

Mum used to make it in big batches on a Sunday and fill the house with the most divine smells, which would creep under the door while I was doing my homework. For the rest of the week, I'd look forward to packed lunches knowing what I was going to get.

DATE, COCONUT AND PEANUT GRANOLA BAR



Preparation

Grease and line an 8-inch square baking pan and pre-heat the oven to 325 degrees. Add the butter, dates, honey, coconut, ginger and cinnamon to a deep saucepan and heat over a low flame until butter and honey melt, stirring occasionally.

Stir in the oats and chopped peanuts until mixed, then spread evenly into the baking pan. Pat the top down with a spoon to smooth the top and drizzle top with honey. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until brown and firm on top. Cool before cutting into squares. These bars will keep for up to a week in an airtight tin.

Nutrition information per serving

200 calories; 107 calories from fat; 12 g fat (7 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 15 mg cholesterol; 11 mg sodium; 23 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 13 g sugar; 3 g protein.

Ingredients

Start to finish: 40 minutes

Servings: 16

1-1/4 sticks butter, unsalted
1 cup dates, pitted and chopped
1/3 cup honey, plus more to drizzle
1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger
1 cup desiccated coconut
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 cups rolled oats
1/2 cup roasted unsalted peanuts, chopped

16 SATURDAY
JULY 2016

Cooking on Deadline: Asian beef-and-mushroom burgers

By Katie Workman

In grilling season, there's probably no food more popular than burgers. And while many kinds of burgers have become mainstream, from turkey to tuna to vegetarian, beef remains king. But what if you could have the taste and juiciness of beef while cutting back on a bit of the fat? The answer: Add in some mushrooms. When chopped, mushrooms (either cooked or raw) have a similar texture to ground meat, and blend right in. It's a nice way to lighten up a summertime staple.

And then there's ponzu sauce, with which I've recently become a little besotted. Ponzu is a citrus-based sauce used often in Japanese cooking. It is salty and tangy, made from vinegar, mirin (a low-alcohol rice wine), seaweed and fish flakes (please, don't be turned off), and it has

just a wonderful flavor. The citrus most commonly added is either juice or zest from yuzu or sudachi, two fruits from East Asia. Ponzu sauce is often drizzled over foods for a finishing touch, or used as a dip, but here it's blended into the meat and mushrooms for yet another layer of umami (Japanese for "savory").

Both ponzu sauce and wasabi paste (or wasabi powder, which can be blended with water to make a paste) are available at Asian markets and in the Asian aisle of well-stocked supermarkets. For these burgers, the wasabi mayo is optional. They also would be great with ketchup or mustard, and of course lettuce, onion and tomato. A last cooking tip: Chilling the burgers before grilling them helps them hold their shape. They also are great seared up in a pan, and hold together even better.

Preparation

1. In a large skillet, heat the olive oil. When the oil's hot, add the mushrooms to the skillet. Season with salt and pepper. Sauté until the mushrooms release any liquid and it evaporates, and the mushrooms begin to turn nicely browned, about 8 to 10 minutes in all. Transfer the mushrooms to a plate and cool to room temperature.

2. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, 3 tablespoons ponzu sauce, garlic and ginger. Finely chop the cooled mushrooms using a knife or by pulsing in the food processor, and then add them along with the beef to the bowl. Use your hands to gently mix until well combined.

3. Form the mixture into six patties, and use your thumbs to make slight indentations in the center of each burger. (That will cause them to end up flat when they cook.) Refrigerate the burgers for at least an hour, preferably two or three, to let them firm up. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise with the wasabi paste. Adjust the level of heat to your taste, adding more mayo or wasabi paste as needed. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

4. Preheat the grill to medium high. Grill the burgers for 4 to 5 minutes on each side, turning them carefully with a large spatula, until they are done to your liking.

Ingredients

Start to finish: 2 hours

Servings: 6 burgers

Asian Burgers:

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 pound shiitake or baby Portobello mushrooms, sliced
Kosher or coarse salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
3 tablespoons ponzu sauce, plus more for brushing
2 large eggs
2 teaspoons minced garlic
4 teaspoons grated ginger
2 pounds ground beef
Wasabi Mayonnaise (optional):
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 teaspoon wasabi paste, or to taste
6 hamburger buns
Lettuce
Sliced tomatoes
Sliced onions

Alternatively, heat a large, nonstick pan over medium high heat and sear the burgers 4 to 5 minutes on each side. Brush the tops lightly with the additional ponzu sauce. Serve on the buns (toasted if you wish) with the wasabi cream, lettuce, tomatoes, onions or anything you like! — AP

SIERRA LEONE STOPS MANDATORY TESTING OF CORPSES FOR EBOLA

FREETOWN: Sierra Leone declared yesterday that it would stop the mandatory testing of all dead bodies for the Ebola virus, lifting a restriction put in place at the end of an outbreak that claimed thousands of lives. The World Health Organization said on March 17 there were no more known cases of the virus in the country, which surfaced in neighboring Guinea before spreading to Sierra Leone in May 2014. Swabs of saliva were ordered to be systematically taken from any recently deceased person from November 2015, as part of a period of heightened surveillance following the successful containment of the virus.

From now on however, the director of Sierra Leone's Public Health Emergency Operation Centre Foday Dfae said "only deaths that meet the criteria set by the Ministry of Health will be investigated and swabbed", rather than every single corpse. "We still want people to report all deaths so that we can (maintain) surveillance and monitor all infectious diseases, which is a key to prevent any outbreak materializing," he cautioned. Ebola, one of the world's deadliest viruses, is spread through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person showing symptoms such as fever or vomiting.

The virus is infectious even after a victim has died, putting at risk people caring for the sick or handling corpses. The disease is best contained by limiting exposure through patient isolation and safe burials.



SIERRA LEONE: This file photo shows Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) medical staff wearing protective clothing treat the body of an Ebola victim at their facility in Kailahun. — AFP

"We are now focusing our attention to step up working with communities to prevent any future outbreak," Dfae said. The epidemic infected a reported

28,600 people across the three hardest-hit nations, half of which were recorded in Sierra Leone, with the rest in Liberia and Guinea. — AFP

INDONESIA ORDERS OVERHAUL OF DRUG AGENCY AFTER FAKE VACCINE SCANDAL

'WE CAN'T BE HALF-HEARTED WITH THIS VACCINE PROBLEM'

JAKARTA: Indonesia yesterday ordered an immediate overhaul of the food and drug monitoring agency, a month after police uncovered a syndicate selling fake imported child vaccines to hospitals, pharmacies and clinics over the past decade. The scandal sparked a public uproar and exposed major government deficiencies in ensuring drug safety amid a boom in Indonesia's health industry. Investigators continue to unravel how widespread the reach of a drug-making ring that sold fake booster vaccines for hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough to health facilities in Jakarta and the island of Java. No illnesses or deaths have been directly linked to the fake vaccines.

"We can't be half-hearted with this vaccine problem, and yesterday the president decided

to immediately restructure the (food and drug agency)" Cabinet Secretary Pramono Anung said in a statement. "With this we hope that this kind of thing won't be repeated." The Food and Drugs Agency (FDA) has come under particular fire after officials said they were aware of the fake vaccine problem as early as 2013. But little was done until a police investigation earlier this year exposed the syndicate, leading to at least 18 arrests so far.

Under pressure from parliament, the health ministry on Thursday published the names of 14 more health facilities around Jakarta that administered the fake vaccines, prompting crowds of parents at hospitals demanding information on whether their children were victims. Health authorities have sought to reassure

parents that the fake vaccines were not harmful and their children could get re-vaccinated under a government program to be launched next week.

Police uncovered the syndicate after a pharmacist in Bekasi, near Jakarta, was arrested in May for selling medicine without a license. The drugs turned out to be fake and led to the arrest of more than a dozen distributors and makers of the fake vaccines. Investigators said they were also questioning doctors and hospital managers in the case. "In some cases, directors signed the purchases of these vaccines, which means we need to evaluate management," Health Minister Nila Moeloek told MetroTV. "We must be thorough. We have to finish this." — Reuters

JAPAN WATCHDOG WARNS MEN AGAINST QUICK FORESKIN SNIP

TOKYO: A consumer group is warning Japanese men to exercise extreme caution before undergoing foreskin surgery after a spate of eye-watering mishaps on the operating table. In a report definitely not for the squeamish, the National Consumer Affairs Centre (NCAC) revealed customer service and other bodies received over a thousand complaints across Japan between fiscal 2011 and 2015. They were spurred by complications caused by men opting to treat phimosis — a narrowing of the foreskin's opening that prevents it from being fully retracted — with a quick snip.

A large proportion of the 1,092 complaints came from patients in their teens to thirties, said the NCAC, which is consequently advising men to think carefully before going under the knife. The painful issues caused by surgical blunders included swelling, heavy bleeding, tissue decay and erectile dysfunction, the NCAC explained in a report that will make many readers wince. Among those left hopping mad were men who answered advertisements offering phimosis surgery for between around \$500 and \$1,000, only to be told by clinics that "cheap surgery could cause a shabby appearance" to the penis, according to the report.

Subsequently, many of those establishments recommended procedures costing over \$10,000 with numerous patients signing paperwork and undergoing surgery the same day. "Ask for a full explanation of the risks involved," the NCAC website advises. "Avoid unnecessary medical procedures and think seriously before agreeing to surgery on the same day as diagnosis unless in an emergency." The report also mentions that further side effects from heavy-handed surgery included anxiety, and concludes that the pitfalls of opting to use cut-price clinics far outweigh any potential saving. — AFP

FIRST CASE OF ZIKA SPREAD BY SEX FROM WOMAN TO MAN

NEW YORK: The first known case of a woman spreading the Zika virus to a man during unprotected sex was reported yesterday in New York City, health authorities said. Until now, experts were aware only of cases in which men spread the virus to their partners during sex, as well as transmission by mosquito bites. The New York case involved a "non-pregnant woman in her twenties who reported she had engaged in a single event of condom less vaginal intercourse with a male partner the day she returned to New York City from travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission," the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

Its report did not specify where the woman may have been infected. The next day, she developed fever, back pain, swelling and numbness and tingling in her hands and feet. She tested positive for Zika, a typically mosquito-borne virus that is spreading rapidly through the Caribbean and Latin America. Her male partner said he had not traveled outside the United States during the prior year. He also said he did not have any other recent sexual partners and had not been bitten by mosquitoes in the week before his illness.

"The New York City report of female-to-male sexual transmission of Zika virus infection is the first documented case of sexual transmission of Zika from a woman to her sex partner and adds to the growing body of knowledge about the sexual transmission of Zika," the CDC said. Zika can cause birth defects, including the brain and skull deformity known as microcephaly. — AFP



PARIS: This picture shows Anna-Bella Failloux, director of a laboratory at the Institut Pasteur in Paris researching the spread of mosquito-borne diseases, points to an aquarium in a temperature-controlled room swarming with *Aedes albopictus*, an invasive mosquito species that has colonized 20 countries in southern Europe since 1990 and is a potential vector for the Zika virus, during an interview in Paris. — AFP

HEAVY PEOPLE MAY DIE UP TO 3 YEARS EARLY

'YOU SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WEIGHT'

LONDON: Being too heavy may cost you your life - literally. Scientists say overweight people die one year earlier than expected and that moderately obese people die up to three years prematurely. Doctors have long warned that being overweight can lead to health complications including heart disease, stroke and cancer, and previous studies have already found that extra pounds can take years off your life, based mostly on data from Europe and North America.

In the new study, which the authors say is the largest-ever such analysis, researchers sifted through data for nearly 4 million non-smoking adults in 32 countries published from 1970 to last year. They compared the risk of death to people's body mass index, or BMI, a measure of body fat that is calculated using height and weight. They defined a BMI from 18.5 to 25 as normal, 25-30 as overweight, 30-35 as moderately obese and over 40 as severely obese. A person who is 5 foot 4 is considered obese at a weight of 174 pounds or more.

Excess risk

Overweight people lose a year of life on average and moderately overweight people lose 3 years, said Richard Peto of Oxford University, one of the study authors. A previous study found that being severely obese could cost as much as 8 years of life. The study also found that being obese is far more dangerous for men than for women. "The



NEW YORK: This file photo shows an overweight man in New York. — AP

excess risk of premature death is about three times as big for a man who gets fat as for a woman who gets fat," Peto said. Men tend to be higher risk for earlier death in general, and the risk worsens when obesity is added to the equation, he said.

According to the World Health Organization, 15 percent of women worldwide and 11 percent of men are obese. Overall, the WHO estimates that more than 1 billion adults are overweight and another 600 million people are obese. Carrying too much weight is now second to smoking as a cause of premature death in North America and Europe; smoking causes about a quarter of all premature deaths there while being too heavy now causes about 14

to 20 percent of such deaths. Peto acknowledged that more is needed than to simply advise people to lose weight, because dropping even a few pounds and keeping them off is notoriously difficult.

"It might be easier to recommend that people try very hard not to put on weight in the first place, particularly before they hit middle age," he said. Tam Fry, spokesman for Britain's National Obesity Forum, said the new study was further proof of the dangers of tipping the scales. "We've known for some time that if you're not looking after yourself, then being fat will kill you," Fry said. "If you don't want to die earlier, then you should take steps to do something about your weight." — AP

OBAMA TO SIGN BILL TO BATTLE HEROIN ADDICTION

New YORK: US President Barack Obama will sign legislation passed by Congress aimed at combating a nationwide epidemic of heroin and other opioid addictions, the White House said on Wednesday. After months of wrangling, the Senate voted overwhelmingly on Wednesday, 92-2, to pass the bill that has also been approved by the US House of Representatives.

The measure aims to help communities develop treatment and overdose programs at a time when fewer than half the estimated 2.2 million Americans who need help for opioid abuse are receiving it, according to the US Centers for Human and Health Services. The White House said in a statement the bill "falls far short" of the necessary funding, but Obama would sign it "because some action is better than none."

Republican Senator Rob Portman of Ohio, a leading proponent of the legislation, said that it marked "the first time that we've treated addiction like the disease that it is, which will help put an end to the stigma that has surrounded addiction for too long." While its passage marked a rare bipartisan effort in this election year, Democrats complained that it does not provide enough resources to effectively address the drug problem.

"This bill is like a Hollywood movie set - something that appears real on the surface but has no substance and no life behind its facade," said Senator Charles Schumer of New York, the No. 3 Senate Democrat. US deaths from drug overdoses hit a record high in 2014, propelled by abuse of prescription painkillers and heroin, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 28,000 people died from opioid overdose in 2014. At least half, HHS said, of those deaths involved a prescription opioid. Among the common prescription drugs are oxycodone, hydrocodone, and fentanyl that are used for pain treatment. Heroin-related deaths have also increased sharply, more than tripling since 2010. In 2014, more than 10,500 people died from heroin, the agency said. The bill authorizes \$181 million a year for new programs it creates. Democrats said that with disagreements in Congress over next year's funding for HHS, it was uncertain whether the money contained in the bipartisan bill actually would be delivered. — Reuters

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF





Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem
استشاري أطفال
M.B. Bch. FRCP. FAAP. PEM



Al-Jabriya - Block 1A - St. 1 - Mazaya Building - 15th Floor - Clinic B - Tel.: 22269369 - Fax: 22269368



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

SHARQIA-1 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	GHOSTBUSTERS GHOSTBUSTERS GHOSTBUSTERS NOW YOU SEE ME 2 NOW YOU SEE ME 2	2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
SHARQIA-2 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	MARINA-2 TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS	12:45 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM
SHARQIA-3 FINDING DORY FINDING DORY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM	MARINA-3 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE FINDING DORY FINDING DORY FINDING DORY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE	1:00 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM
MUHALAB-1 TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS SULTAN- HINDI ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB NOW YOU SEE ME 2	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM	AVENUES-1 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI NOW YOU SEE ME 2	11:45 AM 2:00 PM 5:15 PM 8:30 PM 11:45 PM
MUHALAB-2 FINDING DORY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS FINDING DORY INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM	AVENUES-2 GHOSTBUSTERS -4DX TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS -4DX GHOSTBUSTERS -4DX GHOSTBUSTERS -4DX TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS -4DX GHOSTBUSTERS -4DX	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 4:30 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:05 AM
MUHALAB-3 FINDING DORY -3D GHOSTBUSTERS FINDING DORY -3D GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM	AVENUES-3 FINDING DORY ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB 360° 1 FINDING DORY -3D FINDING DORY -3D FINDING DORY -3D FINDING DORY -3D FINDING DORY KILL COMMAND	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:15 PM 6:45 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM 12:15 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:30 PM
FANAR-1 GHOSTBUSTERS GHOSTBUSTERS ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB	12:00 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	360° 2 SULTAN- HINDI NO FRI FINDING DORY FRI SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI	12:45 PM 1:30 PM 4:00 PM 7:30 PM 11:00 PM
FANAR-2 NOW YOU SEE ME 2 NOW YOU SEE ME 2 INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE FINDING DORY -3D INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE NOW YOU SEE ME 2	11:45 AM 2:30 PM 5:15 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:30 AM	360° 3 FINDING DORY INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:15 PM 6:45 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM
FANAR-3 FINDING DORY FINDING DORY SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI SULTAN- HINDI	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 8:30 PM 11:45 PM	AL-KOUT.1 GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GHOSTBUSTERS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE	1:00 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:00 PM 12:15 AM
FANAR-4 GHOSTBUSTERS MARAUDERS GHOSTBUSTERS MARAUDERS GHOSTBUSTERS MARAUDERS	1:00 PM 3:15 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	AL-KOUT.2 TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS NOW YOU SEE ME 2 ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB ABU SHANAB NOW YOU SEE ME 2	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM
FANAR-5 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 6:15 PM 8:30 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM	AL-KOUT.3 FINDING DORY -3D TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS -3D FINDING DORY -3D FINDING DORY -3D TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: OUT OF THE SHADOWS -3D	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM
MARINA-1 GHOSTBUSTERS	12:15 PM		

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shaik Madar (old name), Passport No. P0377626, R/o, D.No. 28/83, Bhavani Nagar, Bethal Colony, Rayachoty Town & Mandal, YSR Kadapa Dist., A.P. hereby changed my name as Pathan Haroon Khan S/o P.Azeez Khan (new name). (C 5190) 16-7-2016

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

PRAYER TIMINGS

Fajr: 03:25

Shorook 04:58

Duhr: 11:54

Asr: 15:28

Maghrib: 18:49

Isha: 20:19

Hospitals

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

Clinics

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



DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page
(www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

Arrival Flights on Saturday 16/7/2016

Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10
JZR	239	Amman	00:20
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30
KKK	718	Istanbul	00:35
CLX	852	Luxembourg	00:35
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55
DLH	635	Doha	01:00
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30
SAI	441	Lahore	01:30
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40
RJA	642	Amman	01:45
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:05
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25
THY	768	Istanbul	02:50
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05
RJA	644	Amman	03:10
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40
KAC	514	Tehran	03:50
THY	1416	Bursa	04:05
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00
DXH	170	Bahrain	05:10
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00
SYR	341	Damascus	06:00
PAL	668	Manila	/Dubai
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30
BAW	157	London	06:40
JZR	563	Sohag	06:55
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40
KAC	204	Lahore	07:40
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20
RJA	648	Amman	09:30
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40
SAW	703	Damascus	09:45
CCE	341	Alexandria	10:00
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40
IRM	1188	Mashhad	11:10
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50
IAW	157	Al Najaf	11:55
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25
JZR	241	Amman	12:30
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45
FEG	933	Sohag	12:55
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00
RJD	132	Abu Dhabi	13:05
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10
KKK	712	ABD	13:50
FBA	831	Al Najaf	13:50
BON	101	Sarajevo	13:55
KAC	672	Dubai	14:00
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:00
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05
MSR	575	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:15
FDB	057	Dubai	14:20
GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20
JZR	779	Jeddah	14:25
KAC	512	Mashhad	14:30
MSC	507	HRG	14:45
KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50
KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00
KNE	683	Madinah	15:05
ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10
OMA	645	Muscat	15:10
ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35
UAE	857	Dubai	15:45
NIA	251	Alexandria	15:50
RJA	640	Amman	16:00
FDB	051	Dubai	16:10
QTR	1072	Doha	16:15
JZR	535	Cairo	16:20
JZR	257	Beirut	16:25
JZR	787	Riyadh	16:45
KAC	562	Amman	16:55
KAC	680	Muscat	16:55
KAC	118	New York	17:00
SAW	707	Latakia	17:05

IRA	669	Mashhad	17:10
SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15
JZR	357	Mashhad	17:30
GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30
JZR	177	Dubai	17:45
KAC	792	Madinah	17:45
JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50
SVA	500	Jeddah	17:55
QTR	1080	Doha	17:55
KAC	176	Geneva/Frankfurt	18:20
KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35
KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35
KAC	502	Beirut	18:35
IRM	1180	Mashhad	18:45
KAC	742	Dammam	18:50
CLX	856	Luxembourg	18:50
KAC	542	Cairo	18:55
KAC	618	Doha	18:55
KAC	104	London	19:00
GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05
UAE	875	Dubai	19:05
FDB	063	Dubai	19:10
KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10
ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15
MSR	620	Cairo	19:20
JAV	621	Amman	19:25
JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35
KAC	674	Dubai	19:45
FDB	059	Dubai	19:50
DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05
ABY	121	Sharjah	20:10
KNE	381	Taif	20:10
MEA	402	Beirut	20:15
OMA	647	Muscat	20:20
JZR	189	Dubai	20:25
MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30
QTR	1088	Doha	20:35
FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55
KAC	174	Munich	20:55
ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05
UAE	859	Dubai	21:15
ALK	229	Colombo	21:20
KLM	415	Amsterdam	21:25
THY	764	Istanbul	21:30
KAC	676	Dubai	21:35
FDB	8053	Dubai	21:40
QTR	1082	Doha	21:55
GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00
KAC	564	Amman	22:05
NIA	151	Cairo	22:10
ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10
JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15
AIC	987	Chennai/Hyderabad	22:25
JZR	185	Dubai	22:55
JAI	574	Mumbai	23:20
JZR	513	Sharm el-Sheikh	23:30
MSR	614	Cairo	23:30
FDB	071	Dubai	23:35
JAD	301	Amman	23:45

Departure Flights on Saturday 16/7/2016

Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
AIC	976	Goa/Chennai	00:05
BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10
JZR	1540	Cairo	00:20
JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25
MSR	615	Cairo	00:30
FDB	072	Dubai	00:30
JZR	562	Sohag	00:30
PIA	240	Sialkot	00:40
MSC	416	Sohag	01:05
KLM	413	Amsterdam	01:05
JZR	502	Luxor	01:15
KKK	719	ADB	01:35
THY	773	Istanbul	01:40
DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00
CLX	852	Sharjah	02:05
SAI	442	Lahore	02:30
ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45
THY	765	Istanbul	02:45
PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55
UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
THY	769	Istanbul	03:45
RJA	645	Amman	03:55
MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00
OMA	644	Muscat	04:05
FDB	068	Dubai	04:05
ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10
MSR	613	Cairo	04:15
KKK	6505	Istanbul	04:20
PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30
QTR	1077	Doha	04:35
THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00
FEG	934	Sohag	06:00
RJA	643	Amman	06:25
QTR	1087	Doha	06:30
THY	771	Istanbul	06:45
GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50
JZR	240	Amman	06:55
SYR	342	Damascus	07:00
FDB	070	Dubai	07:05
JZR	164	Dubai	07:15
FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55
BAW	156	London	08:25
FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
KAC	173	Munich	08:35
KAC	511	Mashhad	08:40
SVA	513	Riyadh	08:50
KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50
JZR	778	Jeddah	08:50

JZR	256	Beirut	09:05
KAC	671	Dubai	09:15
KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30
JZR	534	Cairo	09:30
ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
UAE	856	Dubai	09:50
KAC	101	London/New York	10:00
ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05
RJA	649	Amman	10:15
QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
FDB	056	Dubai	10:40
SAW	708	Latakia	10:45
KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
CCE	342	Sharm el-Sheikh	11:10
KAC	561	Amman	11:20
KAC	679	Muscat	11:25
KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25
GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35
JZR	356	Mashhad	11:40
KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
RBG	554	Alexandria	12:10
JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15
IRM	1189	Mashhad	12:20
IAW	158	Al Najaf	12:55
KAC	791	Madinah	13:00
KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
FDB	076	Dubai	13:10
JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
JZR	786	Riyadh	13:20
MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30
RJD	133	Abu Dhabi	13:50
FEG	932	Alexandria	13:55
MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
THY	767	Istanbul	14:10
UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
KKK	713	Bursa	14:50
KNE	382	Taif	14:55
MSR	576	Sharm el-Sheikh	15:00
KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
FBA	832	Al Najaf	15:10
QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
KAC	617	Doha	15:15
KAC	741	Dammam	15:30
MSC	508	HRG	15:45
JZR	189	Dubai	15:50
KNE	684	Madinah	16:00
KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
BON	102	Sarajevo	16:05
OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
KAC	563	Amman	16:30
NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
RJA	641	Amman	16:55
FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
KAC	675	Dubai	17:00
JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
JZR	512	Sharm el-Sheikh	17:15
QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
IRA	666	Esfahan	18:10
SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
KAC	1801	Cairo	18:55
QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
JZR	238	Amman	19:15
JZR	124	Bahrain	19:20
SVA	505	Jeddah	19:25
KAC	285	Dhaka	19:40
GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
IRM	1181	Mashhad	20:00
CLX	856	Hong Kong	20:20
MSR	621	Cairo	20:20
JAV	622	Amman	20:25
FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
DLH	634	Doha	20:50
ABY	122	Sharjah	20:50
KAC	353	BLR	20:55
KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
MSR	607	Luxor	21:30
QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
FDB	5054	Dubai	21:55
ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
KLM	415	Dammam/Amsterdam	22:25
THY	1413	TZX	22:25
KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55

Word Search Puzzles

Farm 2 - Word Search

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

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

BALES
BULL
CATTLE
CORN
COW
CROP
DOG
FARMHAND
FENCE
HARVEST
HENS
HORSE
LAND
LIVESTOCK
PASTURE
PIGS
ROOSTER
SEEDS
SOIL
STABLES
TILL
TROUGH
WHEAT

Yesterday's Solution

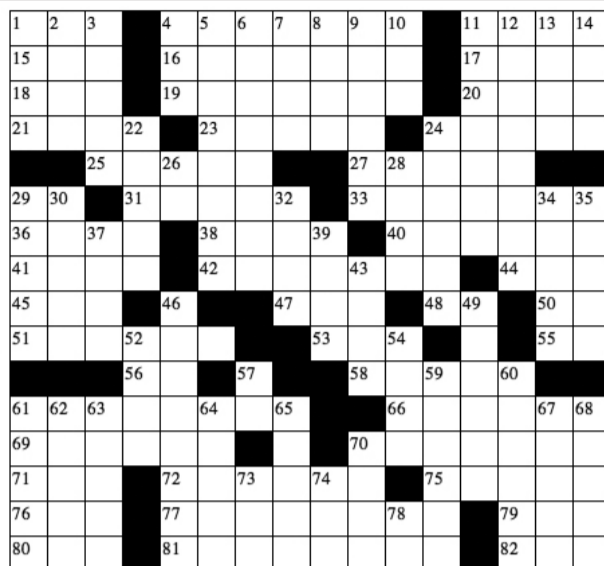
Large Print Word Search Puzzles

Farm 1 - Solution

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

CROSSWORD 1313



ACROSS

1. The federal agency that insures residential mortgages.
4. (linguistics) Belonging to the class of nouns that denote living beings.
11. An antidepressant drug that acts by blocking the reuptake of serotonin so that more serotonin is available to act on receptors in the brain.
15. The basic unit of money in Albania.
16. Of or relating to the gonads.
17. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers.
18. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
19. Entangle or catch in in or as if in a mesh.
20. French poet and novelist and dramatist.
21. Used as a Hindi courtesy title.
23. A city on the River Aire in West Yorkshire in northern England.
25. A member of the Nahuatl people who established an empire in Mexico that was overthrown by Cortes in 1519.
27. Having the leading position or higher score in a contest.
29. 1,000,000,000 periods per second.
31. A Muslim woman of high rank in India or Pakistan.
33. A public toilet in a military area.
36. The inner and longer of the two bones of the human forearm.
38. A river that rises in northeastern Turkey (near the source of the Euphrates) and flows generally eastward through Armenia to the Caspian Sea.
40. A genus of Scolopacidae.
41. The expression on a person's face.
42. Eye disease consisting of an opaque white spot on the cornea.
44. An affirmative.
45. A unit of pressure.
47. The upper side of the thighs of a seated person.
48. A person who announces and plays popular recorded music.
50. A ductile gray metallic element of the lanthanide series.
51. A horse-drawn carriage in India.
53. A young woman making her debut into society.
55. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object).
56. (Greek mythology) A maiden seduced by Zeus.
58. Spicy fruit of the cubeb vine.
61. A building that would be hard to escape from if it were to catch fire.
66. United States writer of poems and plays about racial conflict (born in 1934).
69. Medium-sized penguins occurring in large colonies on the Adelie coast of Antarctica.

DOWN

71. The habitation of wild animals.
72. Sexual pleasure obtained by inflicting harm (physical or psychological) on others.
75. Any of numerous low-growing cushion-forming plants of the genus Draba having rosette-forming leaves and terminal racemes of small flowers with scapose or leafy stems.
76. Take in solid food.
77. The triad of divinities of later Hinduism.
79. A woolen cap of Scottish origin.
80. A chronic skin disease occurring primarily in women between the ages of 20 and 40.
81. Pertaining to or containing or similar to ammonia.
82. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

1. Loose or flaccid body fat.
2. Goddess of the dead and queen of the underworld.
3. Jordan's port.
4. How long something has existed.
5. Not regulated or sanctioned by law.
6. Not firm or firmly fixed.
7. Long coarse hair growing from the crest of the animal's neck.
8. (Babylonian) God of storms and wind.
9. Of or relating to or near the tarsus of the foot.
10. An extension at the end and at right angles to the main building.
11. Extremely large treelike cactus of desert regions of southwestern United States having a thick columnar sparsely branched trunk bearing white flowers and edible red pulpy fruit.
12. In a sturdy manner.
13. East Indian cereal grass whose seed yield a somewhat bitter flour, a staple in the Orient.
14. Extremely robust.
22. A member of a Turkic people of Uzbekistan and neighboring areas.
24. The cardinal number that is the sum of three and one.
26. A brittle silver-white metalloid element that is related to selenium and sulfur.
28. A complex red organic pigment containing iron and other atoms to which oxygen binds.
30. Artifact made by weaving or felting or knitting or crocheting natural or synthetic fibers.
32. A heavy long-handled hammer used to drive stakes or wedges.
34. A daughter of your brother or sister.
35. An upright tripod for displaying something (usually an artist's canvas).
37. Acute ulceration of the mucous membranes of the mouth or genitals.
39. Any of a number of fishes of the family Carangidae.
43. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
46. Eukaryotic one-celled living organisms distinct from multicellular plants and animals.
49. Someone who jeers or mocks or treats something with contempt or calls out in derision.
52. The basic unit of money in Cambodia.
54. A lymph node that is inflamed and swollen because of plague or gonorrhea or tuberculosis.
57. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
59. Being a bard or relating to a bard's poetry.
60. When dried yields a hard substance used e.g. in golf balls.
62. Conforming to an ultimate standard of perfection or excellence.
63. Income from capital investment paid in a series of regular payments.
64. Arm again.
65. (informal) The best of its kind n.
67. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
68. Small terrestrial lizard of warm regions of the Old World.
70. A form of magnetic resonance imaging of the brain that registers blood flow to functioning areas of the brain.
73. Lacking in light.
74. A typical star that is the source of light and heat for the planets in the solar system.
78. A hard gray lustrous metallic element that is highly corrosion-resistant.

Daily SuDoku

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

easy

Yesterday's Solution

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

hard

Yesterday's Solution

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

RED SOX ACQUIRES ALL-STAR POMERANZ

BOSTON: The Boston Red Sox acquired All-Star Drew Pomeranz from the San Diego Padres on Thursday night, adding a third left-hander to the rotation as they push to return to the playoffs after consecutive last-place finishes. Boston sent Anderson Espinoza to San Diego. The 18-year-old righty was ranked the No. 15 prospect in the country by Baseball America. "We think (Pomeranz) makes us better now," president of baseball operations Dave Dombrowski said in a conference call with reporters. "We know there's a sacrifice for the future."

Pomeranz, 27, who will make his Boston debut Wednesday, is 8-7 with a 2.47 ERA in 17 starts for San Diego this season. He pitched a scoreless inning in Tuesday night in the All-Star game. "He's not an easy guy to deal," Padres general manager A.J. Preller said. "Any time you have a left-handed starter who performs the way he has, resulting in an All-Star berth, you have to feel very good about the return that you're getting. I think it says a lot to Espinoza as far as what our guys thought about him. From that standpoint, we looked at it that it's something where we're getting a premium guy."

Pomeranz joins fellow lefties David Price and Eduardo Rodriguez in a Boston rotation that includes Rick Porcello and AL ERA leader Steven Wright. Except for Wright, all have been inconsistent this season, and injuries to closer Craig Kimbrel and setup man Junichi Tazawa threatened to further strain the rotation. "There are only a couple of pitchers we thought had a chance to be available that we thought would give us an upgrade on our pitching staff," Dombrowski said.

It's the fourth trade in a week for Dombrowski, who also made a big splash in the offseason by signing Price to a seven-year, \$217 million free-agent contract. The Red Sox acquired third baseman Aaron Hill from Milwaukee, second baseman Michael Martinez from Cleveland and righty Brad Ziegler over the last seven days without giving up any major leaguers. They have also managed to hang onto most of their top prospects. Espinoza was 5-8 with a 4.38 ERA in 17 starts for Single-A Greenville this season. — AP

KOBE BRYANT SLIMED AFTER WINNING KIDS CHOICE PRIZE

LOS ANGELES: Retired Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant was given the traditional golden sliming at the Kids Choice Sport awards on Thursday after picking up the "Legend" prize. The 37-year-old was presented with the award, an orange blimp with a bushy mohawk, by American actress and singer Zendaya in Los Angeles before four jets emerged from the stage to douse the 18-time All Star in slime.

Bryant brought down the curtain on his standout 20-year career with a 60-point showing in his final game against the Utah Jazz in April. He won five NBA Championships with the Lakers, two NBA Finals MVP awards and two Olympic gold medals for the United States. Former England soccer captain David Beckham and ex New York Yankee shortstop Derek Jeter are previous winners of the Kids Choice 'Legend' prize that comes with a gold sliming. — Reuters



LOS ANGELES: Retired NBA basketball player and Legend Award recipient Kobe Bryant poses after being "slimed" onstage during the 2016 Kids' Choice Sports Awards at Pauley Pavilion. — AP



LAS VEGAS: Brooklyn Nets' Rondae Hollis Jefferson, left, guards Philadelphia 76ers' Brandon Paul during the second half of an NBA summer league basketball game. — AP

QUARTERFINAL MATCHES SET AT NBA SUMMER LEAGUE

LAS VEGAS: A look at play Thursday at the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas:

CAVALIERS 88, LAKERS 80

Jordan McRae had 36 points and nine rebounds, and the Cavaliers used a big second half to knock off the third-seeded Lakers. Kay Felder added 20 points for the No. 14 seed Cavaliers, who outscored the Lakers 52-28 in the second half after trailing by 16 points at halftime. They will face sixth-seeded Brooklyn in the quarterfinals. D'Angelo Russell scored 19 points for the Lakers, who had won their first three games. No. 2 pick Brandon Ingram was 4 of 12 from the field for 13 points.

RAPTORS 75, WARRIORS 69

Norman Powell scored 17 points as the top-seeded Raptors improved to 4-0 and advanced to Saturday's quarterfinals. Toronto will face No. 24 Minnesota, which knocked off eighth-seeded Memphis earlier Thursday. Second-round rookie Patrick McCaw scored 28 points for the Warriors, making five 3-pointers.

BULLS 86, MAVERICKS 73

Bobby Portis had 19 points and eight rebounds as Chicago remained unbeaten and moved into the quarterfinals. Cristiano Felicio made all six

shots and finished with 15 points and eight rebounds for the No. 2 seed. Jerian Grant had 13 points and six assists, while college player of the year Denzel Valentine added 11 points. The Bulls face No. 7 Washington next. Justin Anderson had 17 points for the Mavericks.

SUNS 77, HEAT 74

Tyler Ulis scored 20 points as the fifth-seeded Suns moved into the quarterfinals. Dragan Bender, the No. 4 overall pick, shot just 3 for 13 from the field but finished with 10 points and nine rebounds. Victor Rudd led No. 12 Miami with 24 points on 8-for-13 shooting. Damion Lee missed a 3-pointer that would have tied it with 0.2 seconds left. Phoenix meets No. 4 Denver next.

NETS 87, 76ERS 84

Sean Kilpatrick scored 24 points, and Chris McCullough and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson added 13 apiece for the Nets. Brooklyn, the No. 6 seed, improved to 3-1 and moves into Saturday's quarterfinals to face No. 14 Cleveland. No. 1 pick Ben Simmons didn't play for the 76ers, seeded 22nd. They fell to 1-4.

WIZARDS 71, HAWKS 60

Kelly Oubre Jr scored 22 points to

provide some of the only offense in the Wizards' ugly victory. Both teams were 23 of 64 (36 percent), but the Wizards woke up in the second half after scoring just 25 points in the first two quarters. Atlanta fell apart after halftime, managing just 23 points after scoring 23 in the second quarter. The No. 7 Wizards will play No. 2 Chicago in Saturday's quarterfinals. Brandon Ashley scored 12 points for the Hawks and Taurean Prince, had 10 points but shot just 2 for 10 for the No. 10 seed.

TIMBERWOLVES 89, GRIZZLIES 85

Tyus Jones had 26 points and 10 assists as the Timberwolves knocked off the No. 8 seeds. Minnesota, seeded No. 24, pulled out a game that featured 13 ties and seven lead changes. Levi Randolph had 26 points for Memphis, but his 3-pointer in the final seconds was the Grizzlies' only basket in the final three minutes.

NUGGETS 80, JAZZ 60

Jamal Murray scored 20 points and the Nuggets broke open a close game with a big third quarter on their way to the quarterfinals. The fourth-seeded Nuggets outscored Utah 27-12 in the third quarter after leading by just four points at halftime. Jimmer Fredette added 12 points. — AP



TROON: Phil Mickelson of the United States plays a shot from the light rough on the 12th fairway during the second round of the British Open Golf Championship at the Royal Troon Golf Club. — AP

MICKELSON RETAINS ADVANTAGE ON MISERABLE DAY AT TROON

TROON: Phil Mickelson followed his stunning opening round with a solid 69 in miserable weather conditions at Royal Troon yesterday to lead the British Open at 10 under par. The American had led overnight after equaling the lowest ever round in a major championship when he shot 63 in glorious conditions on Thursday afternoon. He was back out early yesterday morning and this time had to deal with the wind and, above all, rain that left the players and the course on Scotland's west coast sodden.

But he still thrived, with three bogeys on the front nine, including at the short eighth, the Postage Stamp, when he almost holed his tee shot. He also birdied the short 14th, although there was a dropped shot, his first of the week-at the 12th and another bogey at 15 that brought him back a little closer to the pack.

"I thought it was a good round to back up the low round yesterday. I made one or two bad swings that led to bogeys but for the most part I kept the ball in play and played stress-free golf," said the American, who won the Open at Muirfield in 2013 and admitted he enjoyed the unpleasant conditions that can constitute a Scottish summer.

"I was actually more worried about yesterday's round than I was about these coming rounds because I feel very comfortable in the conditions to be able to shoot a number, shoot a good score. "I was worried about guys going low on the beautiful day and then not keeping pace, so yesterday's round was a big round for me to ultimately set the pace, and not lose too much ground, because I felt like I'd be best prepared for days like today."

Stenson makes move

As it is Mickelson leads in the clubhouse by one shot from Henrik Stenson after the Swede produced a stunning second-round 65 to go to nine-under overall. The effort, which equalled his lowest ever round at a major, featured seven birdies and just one bogey and gave him every chance of finally winning at a major this weekend. Also looking good in the clubhouse was his fellow Scandinavian Soren Kjeldsen of Denmark, who scored a three-under-par 68 to move to seven-under heading into the weekend.

Reigning champion Zach Johnson is still in the running to become the first player to win the Claret Jug in successive years since

Pdraig Harrington in 2007 and 2008. He had a one-over 70 to go to five-under overall, although for the second day running Johnson bogeyed the last, one of four dropped shots in his round.

The favorite coming into the weekend, US Open champion Dustin Johnson, had an unremarkable opening round of 71 but he produced an eventful 69 yesterday to go to two-under. The American had six birdies, including three in a row from the 15th, but marred his card with double-bogey sixes at the seventh and the treacherous 11th. "I felt like I swung it really well all day. Hit a lot of great shots, so I'm looking forward to this weekend," Johnson said.

South Africa's Charl Schwartzel, the former Masters champion, shot a stellar five-under-par 66 featuring seven birdies to go to four-under overall heading into the weekend. Rory McIlroy, who was two-under overnight, Jordan Spieth and world number one Jason Day were among those with afternoon tee-times yesterday. They were all hoping that the filthy weather, with rain and low cloud obscuring the mountainous Isle of Arran out in the Firth of Clyde, would clear up. — AFP

TRADE DEADLINE ON HORIZON FOR INDECISIVE MLB TEAMS

NEW YORK: The All-Star Game has come and gone and it is back to business in Major League Baseball, both on and off the diamond as teams ponder whether it is time to buy or sell talent with the Aug. 1 trade deadline looming. All 30 clubs return to action yesterday following the All-Star break for a second-half push that will settle berths in the postseason playoffs leading to the World Series.

Impactful players including Brewers catcher Jonathan Lucroy, slugger Jay Bruce of the Reds, Oakland starting pitcher Rich Hill and Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman are among presumed trade targets of contenders. Last year, eventual World Series champions Kansas City Royals added starting pitcher Johnny Cueto and versatile regular Ben Zobrist, and National League pennant winning New York Mets turned their season around by adding slugger Yoenis Cespedes.

It takes two to tango, of course, so struggling teams such as the Oakland A's, Tampa Bay Rays and Cincinnati Reds are taking hard looks at their rosters with their future in mind. Eighteen clubs are within five games of a playoff spot with three division titles and two wildcard berths at stake in both the American and National League. With demand strong, promising prospects could be changing hands in order to get an instant boost, giving teams on the bubble a delicate dilemma.

In-house relievers

One such club is the New York Yankees, who after adding Cuban fireballer Chapman to in-house relievers Andrew Miller and Dellin Betances in a pre-season trade with Cincinnati, have a troika of top-rate closer candidates. The Yankees (44-44) cherish their winning tradition and 27 World Series crowns but stand 5-1/2 games out of a wildcard berth with six teams to leap over and have been keen to get younger on the field.

Among their aged veterans is 39-year-old outfielder Carlos Beltran, who is enjoying a standout season with 19 home runs and becomes a free agent next year. Among teams that figure to be in the market for starting pitching are the AL-West leading Texas Rangers, AL-East leading Baltimore Orioles and their division rivals the Boston Red Sox. NL West-leading Giants and NL Central frontrunners the Chicago Cubs could use an end-of-game reliever. Available starters could come from the Rays (34-54), who may be tempted to swap Matt Moore, Drew Smyly or Jake Odorizzi for promising players, while Jeremy Hellickson of the Phillies and Drew Pomeranz of San Diego be moved for the right price.

Oakland outfielder Josh Reddick and third baseman Danny Valencia, along with Angels' third baseman Yunel Escobar and perhaps three-time All-Star Carlos Gonzalez of the Rockies are other trade options for offensively-needy contenders. The Mets, Giants and Dodgers in the National League and the American League Central-leading Indians and division rival Kansas City could be looking to beef-up their attacks. The blueprint for a playoff run is imprinted on the braintrusts of title dreamers, emboldened by the 2015 Royals and Mets, and Toronto's charge to the AL Championship Series after adding slugging shortstop Troy Tulowitzki and starter David Price. Who wants to build this season's powerhouse? — Reuters

WARATAHS ON BRINK AFTER ANOTHER LOSS

WELLINGTON: The NSW Waratahs slumped to a 34-28 loss against the Auckland Blues yesterday but maintain a slim chance of reaching the finals after earning a consolation bonus point. The Waratahs were outscored five tries to four as the Blues staunchly defended their lead, bouncing back whenever the Sydneysiders looked like reeling them in.

NSW entered the match level with the ACT Brumbies on 39 points at the top of the Australian conference and desperate to claw ahead of their rivals. The Australian conference winner will make the playoffs but the season will be over for the runner-up, with final placings decided when the

Brumbies play the Western Force today. The loss means the Waratahs, the 2014 champions, need the Force to spring a massive upset against the Brumbies. "You never know, stranger things have happened... we'll wait and see," captain Michael Hooper said.

The result means the Blues, who are rebuilding under coach Tana Umaga, have won 14 of their last 16 matches against Australian Super Rugby sides at Eden Park. They also defeated the Brumbies last week, meaning the bottom placed New Zealand side has defeated the top two Australian sides in the past fortnight. Wet conditions hampered the Waratahs' pre-

ferred running rugby style and they initially struggled with turnovers and knock-ons but built pressure through the forwards.

They were rewarded with a penalty try in the 22 minutes after their dominant scrum drew a string of infringement from the Blues. But the Aucklanders hit back four minutes later when Patrick Tuipulotu latched onto Tevita Li's pass and crashed over in the corner. The Blues then took a 12-7 lead with a penalty try of their own when NSW collapsed a driving maul as the Blues were bearing down on the line and poised to score. Referee Mike Fraser awarded the third penalty try of the match early in the second half, this time to the

Waratahs after more scrum woes for the Blues. But they were able to hit back again almost immediately when Piers Francis went on a jinking run and weaved past five tacklers before touching down. A penalty extended the Blues' lead to 22-14 and they looked like running away with the game before Israel Folau burst into open space for the Waratahs third try. The tit-for-tat scoring continued with Malani Nanai adding a fourth for the Blues, then Angus Ta'avao doing the same for the Waratahs. George Moala finally sealed it for the Blues in the 76th minute after the Waratahs' defence was stretched by a line-out drive. — AFP

'HAPPY GYMNASTICS' REPLACING GRIND OF STRICT STUDY, TRAINING

CHINA CHANGING STANCE ON CHILD GYMNASTS

SHANGHAI: In a room full of bright-colored cubes and giant mattresses, giggling children climb bars, try somersaults and walk gingerly on a low balance beam. Some stand on their hands, showing off their bellies under the guidance of four coaches. It was pure fun for 8-year-old Lucy Huang, a chubby-cheeked, cheerful and talkative girl. Her parents have modest goals for her progress: they hope the lessons help her stay fit, improve her balance, and help brain development. "I love it here because there's lots of fun. I love doing flips forward and backward, and I like the rings," she said in one breath while sitting on the balance beam, her legs dangling.

The scene in downtown Shanghai might be common in western countries but is a rare sight in China, where parents have eschewed gymnastics lessons for their children. The mere mention of gymnastics usually evokes stereotypical, decades-old images of little boys and girls tearfully practicing splits, living away from home under the watch of strict coaches, all for the chance at an Olympic gold. This summer, Chinese athletes that primarily grew up in the decades-old state sports system are still expected to dazzle the world and scoop up dozens of medals when the Summer Games open in Rio de Janeiro. But at home there are strong efforts to reform the state-led system, which is struggling to recruit the next generation of stars despite its glorious records of churning out hundreds of Olympic gold medalists and world champions.

"The current system is to rally national resources to train a few to win the Olympic golds and win honors for the country," said Xiong Xiaozheng, a retired sports professor in Beijing. "But this strategy no longer works with today's society, and is losing its advantages." Without change, China's spot among the world's elite in sports is in danger.

National pride

Established in the 1950s, China's state-led sports training system was tasked with rallying national pride. The poor, communist country was in need of international accolades, and bringing potential stars into one place was a cost-efficient way to train athletes. "When the country did not have the resources to popularize any sport, when families were still struggling to feed themselves, the only way to train top athletes was to pool all the resources the country had then," said Ye Zhennan, who will travel to Rio as manager for China's national gymnastics team.

For a long time, it worked. The system pushed China into top place in the gold medal hunt, peaking in the 2008 Beijing Olympics with 51 golds. Four years later, China grabbed 38 golds in London, trailing only behind the sports powerhouse United States. In the system, local governments scout out potential talent at very young ages, often in pre-school. The children are separated from their families but corralled in state sports schools - overseen by sports authorities rather than education officials - to go through strict training programs for the sole purpose of winning world titles or Olympic golds.

The young athletes must go through rounds of elimination as they advance to the city team, the provincial team and eventually the national team. They must reach the top of the podium at the Olympics, or are considered failures. "The path is extremely narrow," recalled Cheng Liang, a former national all-around champion in artistic

gymnastics. Because of injuries, he dropped out before the 1996 Atlanta Games. Less than one percent of athletes reach the apex and are generously rewarded with fame and cash. They become household names, or even national heroes, with glowing reports published in state media. Those who fall off the path often find themselves tossed back into a bewildering society with inadequate academic preparations or social skills. "Training is always the top priority, instead of school," Cheng said.

Chinese families, especially poor rural households, were willing to send their children to the all-expenses-paid sports schools, and young athletes eliminated usually were able to find jobs in a state-planned economy. But after decades of rapid growth, China has become the world's second largest economy. Its people have much fatter wallets and far more life choices for themselves and their children. Sports schools, and their slim shot at success, are not as alluring. Add to that allegations that China has used underage gymnasts - they were ordered to return a bronze medal won in the Sydney Games - and parents decide to opt out. "Parents these days want their children to enjoy a normal life," Cheng said.

It is a far fetch to think Lucy, the giggly girl in the Shanghai gym, and her playmates may one day compete for China on a world stage. Yet the reason she can learn gymnastics at all is a reflection of changes that have made the sport recreation, instead of a career choice.

Criticism of the state system has grown louder in the past decade, as members of the Chinese public are increasingly rebelling against the notoriously ruthless, rigid training regimes, exploitation of young athletes, and proclivity for dishonest practices such as game rigging. Taking cues from gymnastics powerhouses such as the United States and Japan, Chinese sports officials believe the answer lies with popularizing sports.

Public eye

Already, Beijing has ordered the country's football association to be divested from the government and has issued policies to promote the sport on school campuses. The country has commercialized football and basketball through



SHANGHAI: In this photo taken Thursday, June 16, 2016, a young child practices on still rings at the Xuhui Sports School near the slogans "Set ambitious goals from young". — AP photos

leagues, with varying degrees of success. Road running and swimming are also beginning to take root among the public and are especially popular with members of China's growing middle class. Gymnastics is a bigger challenge. Chinese officials must popularize the sport after decades of keeping it from the public, reserved only for a chosen few.

"In the public eye, gymnastics is an elite sport. How can you popularize a sport that is widely considered to be extremely difficult, tiring and dangerous?" said Wang Tongjie, director of gymnastics at China's General Administration of Sport. There are only 7,000 registered Chinese gymnasts, Wang said. The United States - with a population only one-fourth of China's - has nearly 150,000 competing gymnasts at all levels. There is a huge gap in talent between China's national team and the feeder teams at the provincial level, said Ye. The national team taps the country's best to come up with 10 top gymnasts, a number small enough to achieve, for the Olympics, he said.

Team China is covered for now. The future is not so certain.

"What we have is about to become broken, but the new system is yet to be established," Ye said. He points to a former powerhouse that failed to qualify for Rio as a team this year as a tale of caution. "If we don't change, we will be like Romania." His Olympic fortunes faded, and Cheng, the former national champion, moved to Alberta, Canada, in 1998 to work for a gym club. There, he was taken aback by what he saw: Kids of all sizes, some fat and slow, all learning skills. Gymnastics did not have to be an elite sport at all. "I saw everybody doing gymnastics, and I realized this is a sport for everybody. It's a fundamental sport," Cheng said.

Sensing the changes in China, Cheng started to look for opportunities after the 2008 Beijing Olympics. By 2012, Cheng set up China's first private gym club in the eastern city of Changzhou, catering to toddlers and children. He and his brother opened two more in Shanghai in late 2015 and signed up 300 members within six months. Annual membership costs more than \$2,000, but local families with decent incomes see the membership as a good investment in their children.

Reforms at state sports schools are also under discussion. Wang said the plan is to gradually turn state sports schools over to education authorities, so the young athletes will no longer only focus on sports. They will instead become students that must meet the same expectations as their peers. "We have to change the public opinion of the sport, and we've found it necessary to put the word 'happy' before gymnastics," Wang said. "The word 'happy' may be superfluous in western countries to describe this sport, but if we don't do so, the public won't even give it a try but turn away at the mention of gymnastics." If the reforms are successful, the path toward Olympic gold will still be paved with sweat, rigor and sacrifice. But there will be a difference. "By then, we will have athletes who really want to do it themselves and who can truly experience the joy of the sport, instead of those in the past who went into the field because the country asked them to do it," Wang said. — AP



SHANGHAI: In this photo taken Thursday, June 16, 2016, a young gymnast trains near the Chinese national flag at the Xuhui Sports School.

AFRICAN DISCUS CHAMP OUT OF RIO FOR DOPING

JOHANNESBURG: African discus champion Victor Hogan was dropped from South Africa's Olympic team on Thursday after he failed a doping test and was banned for two years. South African anti-doping agency chief executive Khalid Galant said in a text message to the Associated Press that Hogan tested positive for methylhexanamine at the national championships in April, when he threw a personal best of 67.62 meters. His B sample also tested positive, and Hogan's sanction was decided on Tuesday. Hogan did not contest the findings, Galant said in the message.

Hogan's doping ban was embarrassing for Athletics South Africa after it announced last week that all its events this season were free of doping. ASA said on Thursday that Hogan was axed from the Olympic team. Hogan is a three-time African champion and retained his title at the continental championships last month in Durban, South Africa, two months after the failed test. ASA must now consider if Hogan, who turns 27 this month, should be stripped of any titles, Galant said. Hogan was 13th at last year's world championships and fifth in the 2013 words. He was ranked No. 6 in the

world ahead of the Olympics.

South Africa will send 137 athletes to the Rio de Janeiro Games, with its team headlined by medal contenders Caster Semenya, Wayde van Niekerk, and Chad le Clos. Semenya has been in dominant form this season in the 800 meters and appears the outright favorite for gold at Rio. She will concentrate solely on the 800 at the Olympics, the South African Olympic Committee said, after Semenya suggested she might double up and also compete in the 400. She's qualified for both. Semenya was the 2009 world champion at the age of 18 before a

gender-test scandal led to her being sidelined for nearly a year by the IAAF. She won silver medals at the 2011 world championships and 2012 London Olympics. Van Niekerk is the world champion in the 400 meters.

Le Clos won gold in the 200-meter butterfly and silver in the 100 butterfly at the London Games. He's set to renew his Olympic rivalry with Michael Phelps in Rio. South Africa also has a strong chance of a medal in rugby sevens. Nine-time major winner Gary Player, who is 80, will be the coach of the South African Olympic golf team. — AP



BRASILIA: Brazil's acting President Michel Temer, left, talks with Brazilian Olympic Committee President Carlos Nuzman as his Chief of Staff Eliseu Padilha stands between them, as they hold a ceremony for their country's Olympic athletes at Planalto presidential palace. — AP

FOREIGN LEADERS SLOW TO COMMIT TO RIO OPENING

RIO DE JANEIRO: Many top foreign leaders have been slow to commit to attending the opening ceremony of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics amid Brazil's political turmoil and a stream of bad news engulfing South America's first games. Top politicians who do show up could face a diplomatic quandary when the games open in three weeks. President Dilma Rousseff has been suspended and faces an impeachment trial, which could conclude days after the Olympics end. She has said she hopes to attend, meaning she would join interim president Michel Temer as the main faces of the host nation.

"If you are a top world leader, whose hand would you shake in the middle of such uncertainty?" Maristella Basso, a professor of international law at the University of Sao Paulo, told The Associated Press. "It is a bizarre situation. The best that foreign leaders can do is to send a letter and stay home to avoid any embarrassment. It won't be a party occasion for Brazil anyway, look at the mess."

No numbers

An early prediction that 100 heads of state or government could be on hand at the Aug 5 ceremony has not been repeated for weeks. The Brazilian foreign ministry declined to offer numbers, and said a list would be published just the before the games open. Organizing committee spokesman Mario Andradá said he did not know how many leaders would attend. The Brazilian news website UOL puts the number at 45 and lists United Nations Secretary-General Ban-ki Moon as a confirmed guest.

France is an exception. France's embassy in Brasilia told AP that President Francois Hollande will attend the opening ceremony. Paris is a candidate to host the 2024 games. Italy's embassy also confirmed that Prime Minister Matteo Renzi would attend. Rome is another 2024 candidate. The United States embassy did not say if President Barack Obama would attend. Brazilian media has reported that Secretary of State John Kerry is the American official most likely to be at

Maracana Stadium. First Lady Michelle Obama represented the US at London's opening ceremony in 2012.

China, one of Brazil's main trade partners, did not reply to AP's request for information. Brazilian media say China will send Vice Premier Liu Yandong, who is in charge of education and sports. She ranks far below President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang. Beijing is host to the 2022 Winter Olympics.

Even Argentina, Brazil's main partner in the region, has yet to confirm the presence of President Mauricio Macri, although its embassy in Brasilia says he is expected to come. Japan has also not confirmed its delegation. However, Japan would seem likely to send a top-ranking representative with Tokyo the next host of the Summer Games. Britain, which held the last Summer Olympics, has just changed its prime minister and its representative is in doubt. Russia is another question mark. Many Russian athletes have been caught up in a giant doping scandal. — AP

LOCAL HERO SINGH BULLISH AHEAD OF ASIA SHOWDOWN

NEW DELHI: Indian Olympic hero Vijender Singh set his sights on challenging for boxing's super middleweight world title yesterday on the eve of his showdown with Australia's Kerry Hope for Asian supremacy. Singh, who became the first Indian to ever win a boxing medal by taking home bronze from the 2008 Olympics, is so far unbeaten in his six bouts since turning professional last year. But he faces his toughest challenge yet on Saturday night in the Indian capital New Delhi when he takes on Hope for the vacant title of WBO Asia-Pacific Super Middleweight champion.

Hailing from the next-door state of Haryana, the 30-year-old can expect raucous support from a packed house at Delhi's Thagaraj stadium when he takes on the experienced left-hander Hope. A bullish Singh, who has won all of his bouts as a pro by knockout, told reporters that he not only expected to be crowned champion of Asia but that Saturday's fight would pave the way for a tilt at the world title. "It will open the door for world title bouts... It's one more step towards the world title," Singh told reporters after the official weigh-in.

It will be Singh's first bout in Delhi for six years and marks a return to the same city where he enjoyed medal success in the 2010 Commonwealth Games. "I can't wait for tomorrow," said Singh. Hope will be no pushover however, having racked up 23 wins from 30 bouts and he has been on the professional circuit for over a decade. "Been there, done that. The pressure is on this guy. I know what it's like being in your hometown," the 34-year-old Hope said about the home favorite. — AFP



NEW DELHI: Indian Boxer Vijender Singh (L) and Australian Boxer Kerry Hope pose after the official weigh-in for the WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight title. — AFP



TOP PLAYERS TO TRAVEL TO MANCHESTER WITH VIVA

KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, announced that the top 16 qualifying players will be travelling to Manchester, England, to practice at Manchester United Academy's ground, from 16 July until 24 July, 2016.

Players were selected from over 300 participants who joined the MUSS tryouts, held in last April, and will get the opportunity to travel to Manchester United, UK to join a training camp to be educated and trained by famous

soccer team coaches. A team from VIVA in addition to professionals and coaches will accompany the players to take care of them and ensure their safety.

Commenting on this occasion, Mr Ayman Salem Al-Mutairi, Corporate Communications Senior Manager at VIVA said: "We are looking forward to an exciting trip with this group of young players, as they have shown great potential and are keen to learn more. We are very pleased to have been able to support

these young athletes in bringing them closer to their dream of becoming professional football players." He added: "MUSS is one of the initiatives that VIVA aims to support the youth through it, enhance their skills and grant them the opportunity to learn and communicate with international and professional coaches to earn the needed experience that lead them to fulfill their dreams."

A judging committee from Manchester United Soccer School chose the top 16 play-

ers. Each of them were judged based on their foot-balling capability and talent, physical fitness, discipline, their communication skills amongst each other as players and their general conduct on and off the field. The training program focused on different technical areas, such as dribbling, short passing, turning and finishing. The programs were also designed to develop young players in other fields, such as tactical understanding, and mental, physical and social growth.

PAKISTAN HITS LOW POINT WITH QUALIFYING DEBACLE

LAHORE: Pakistan's sporting decline has left the vast South Asian nation that once prided itself on producing the world's best hockey and squash players facing up to an Olympics for which none of its athletes have qualified. While cricket remains a wildly popular game in Pakistan, a nation of almost 200 million people, most other sports have shrunk in popularity as the successes of the 1980s and early 1990s have become a distant memory.

In dilapidated gyms and crumbling sports fields Pakistani athletes lament the dated equipment and obsolete training methods which leave them struggling against foreign foes who adhere to the latest science-based techniques. Female athletes have an even bigger mountain to climb: most young girls in the deeply conservative Muslim nation are pressured by their families to stop exercising in public, while those with family backing face the wrath of their communities. "We are behind the rest of the world," said Inam Butt, a Pakistani wrestling champion who won gold at the 2010 Commonwealth Games. "Our budget, training and facilities are just nothing. How can we compete?" Butt, like other athletes, says the future will remain bleak until Pakistan's government starts pouring money into sport.

1980s training methods

Those in charge of promoting sport in Pakistan despair. The grassroots system is almost non-existent, children in schools rarely play a sport which is not cricket, and top athletes seldom compete against the world's best as cash-strapped federations cannot afford to send them abroad. Waqar Ahmed, deputy director of the Pakistan Sports Board, said federations also cannot afford to hire top coaches familiar with scientific training techniques and end up relying on Pakistani trainers with "obsolete" methods from the 1980s.—Reuters

YASIR STRIKES AFTER AMIR DENIED AGAINST ENGLAND

LONDON: Yasir Shah restored Pakistan's grip on the first Test after the returning Mohammad Amir was twice denied the wicket of England captain Alastair Cook on yesterday's second day at Lord's. At tea, England were 153 for four in reply to Pakistan's first innings 339, a deficit of 186 runs. Cook was 75 not out, having gone past India great Sunil Gavaskar's record of 9,607 runs to become Test cricket's highest-scoring opener.

Jonny Bairstow was unbeaten on one after leg-spinner Shah accounted for Joe Root (48), James Vince (16) and the recalled Gary Ballance (six). Amir, making his return to Test cricket at Lord's—the scene of his 2010 spot-fixing crime which saw him given a five-year ban from cricket and a jail term for deliberately bowling no balls as part of a betting scam, opened the attack. What made the fact it was Cook who was twice deprived off his bowling all the more poignant, was that the England skipper had said that if it was down to him, all fixers, including Amir, would be banned for life.

Pat on the back

Left-arm quick Amir, who served a five-year ban and was given a jail sentence for his part in the spot-fixing row, should first have had Cook out for 22. Cook was drawn forward by an excellent delivery only for first slip Mohammad Hafeez to drop the routine catch. It was a similar story when Cook, now on 55, again edged Amir but wicket-keeper Sarfraz Ahmed, going slightly to his left, floored the two-handed chance. It was a miss that revived memories of former Pakistan gloveman Kamran Akmal's worst blunders.

Amir screamed in frustration before sharing a wry smile with captain Misbah-ul-Haq, who gave the 24-year-old paceman a consoling pat on the back. After the early loss of opener Alex Hales, Cook and new number three Root shared a stand of 110. Cook, belying his reputation as a steady run-maker, struck three fours in

four balls as Rahat Ali strayed onto the left-hander's pads. Root joined in with five fours, including a classic straight drive off Rahat. But Yasir turned the tide after lunch when he had Root carelessly hole out off a miscued sweep.

Vince and the recalled Ballance, both failing to 'pick' Yasir, were lbw as he the spinner—who returned from a three-month drugs ban after this year's World Twenty20 — took two for two in eight balls. Earlier, England all-rounder Chris Woakes took a Test-best six for 70 as Pakistan,

282 for six overnight, were bowled out for 339. Misbah only added four to his overnight 110 not out before he was bowled by Stuart Broad after the 42-year-old had become the oldest player in 82 years to make a Test century on Thursday. Amir, booed by a small section of a capacity crowd as he walked out to bat, inside edged his first ball in Test cricket in six years, from Broad, for four. He was last man out for 12, caught in the slip off Broad, who took three for 71. — AFP



LONDON: Pakistan's Yasir Shah celebrates taking the wicket of England's James Vince for 16 runs on the second day of the first Test cricket match between England and Pakistan at Lord's cricket ground. — AFP

SPORTS WORLD PAYS TRIBUTE TO NICE VICTIMS

PARIS: France Davis Cup captain Yannick Noah, riders at the Tour de France and golfers at the British Open led tributes yesterday from the world of sport to the victims of the Nice terror attack. The Tour's 13th stage only went ahead amid heightened security after Thursday night's truck attack on the French Riviera city which killed at least 84 people. Organizers declared cycling's blue riband event in mourning, with a minute's silence held at the start of the time trial stage at Bourg-Saint-Andeol.

Another silent tribute will be held at the end of the day's riding at La Caverne du Pont d'Arc in the Ardeche region. "We want this day to be dignified in homage to the victims," said Tour director Christian Prudhomme. Defending champion and race leader Chris Froome took to Twitter to express his sorrow. "Thoughts are with those affected by the horrific terror attack in Nice," the Briton wrote, alongside a picture of the French flag. At Royal Troon, golfers wore black ribbons on their caps for the

second round of the Open Championship. The French flag flew at half mast over one of the stands around the 18th green at Troon on Scotland's west coast.

'Pray for Nice'

France's Clement Sordet, who lives in Nice, sported the message 'Pray for Nice'. "My thoughts are with the families and the victims. I woke up at 4am and tried to find out what had been going on, mainly on the radio," Sordet said at the end of his round. "The attack happened less than 500 metres from where I live. My girlfriend's family come from there."

A minute's silence was also observed at Roscoff, on the Brittany coast on the first day of the Tour de France sailing regatta, which finishes on July 31 in the stricken Riviera resort of Nice. The attack cast a pall over France's quarter-final Davis Cup clash in the Czech Republic.

"We woke up in sadness. We are all affected so much,"

France captain Noah, on the verge of tears, told journalists before the tie in the eastern Czech town of Trinec. The French tennis great described the Bastille Day massacre as a heavy blow "for us, for our country, for all who are trying to give happiness." "Pray for Nice," read a sign held by French fans, accompanied by a red heart. The French team and officials stood together wearing black ribbons on their jackets. They joined fans in singing the French national anthem, La Marseillaise, after a minute's silence.

Spain's Rafael Nadal paid tribute in a message in French. "I've heard the news, and I am horrified by what's happened in Nice. Support to the French people, to all the victims and their families" the 14-time major winner tweeted. La Liga giants Real Madrid and Barcelona expressed their sorrow. European champions Real "deeply regret the attack in Nice and want to convey our solidarity with the victims, families and all the French people". — AFP



STEGERSBACH: Leicester City's Italian manager Claudio Ranieri gestures during a public training session of Leicester City. — AFP

LEICESTER BOSS RANIERI TELLS KANTE - MAKE YOUR MIND UP

STEGERSBACH, Austria: Leicester City manager Claudio Ranieri has called on French midfielder enforcer N'Golo Kante to decide quickly on his future as the Premier League champions plan the defence of their title. Kante's future is uncertain with a new contract from Leicester on the table amid interest from a host of rival clubs including Chelsea. Ranieri has warned he does not want to be left waiting for a decision from the 25-year-old, who was one of the stand-out stars of last season's title triumph and emerged with credit at Euro 2016 although he didn't get to play in the 1-0 defeat in the final against Portugal.

"We offered a new contract to him, he went away because he wanted to finish Euro 2016, and now there is so much speculation around him," said Ranieri at Leicester's pre-season training camp in Austria. "I don't want to lose him but I can understand if he wants to go. "I would like now to be sure who stays with me or not, because the friendly matches start now and I have to start to manage and change

and try things."

Ranieri has made regular calls to 25-year-old Kante, who has a release clause of around £20 million (\$26.6m, 23.9m euros) in his contract and is understood to be being monitored by European champions Real Madrid as well as Chelsea. "Maybe it is not Chelsea, maybe it is another team who made the Champions League," said Ranieri. But Ranieri is more bullish about his chances of keeping Riyad Mahrez, who was crowned PFA player of the year for his eye-catching displays last season. The Algeria international has also been at the centre of summer transfer speculation but Ranieri does not expect him to leave the King Power Stadium. "I am very confident with him," said the Italian. "He stays here with us. "He enjoys it and is not a man saying 'coach I want to go'. He is happy."

Confident Ranieri

Meanwhile, Ranieri is still to sign a new contract of his own despite leading the club to a fairytale title win last season. The 64-

year-old believes he will agree a new deal before the start of the season but insists the negotiations between his representatives and sporting director Jon Rudkin are not a pressing concern. He signed a three-year agreement last summer but is likely to be rewarded for last season's title success with a four-year contract.

"I think before we start the season I will sign, but I signed one year ago," said the former Chelsea manager. "I think I will sign but it's not important for me." One man who has signed a new deal is Jamie Vardy, whose goals fired Leicester to the title. He turned down the chance to join Arsenal and instead penned a four-year contract with the Foxes. He and Kante have been given extra time off after playing at Euro 2016, but Ranieri says Vardy's new contract has already boosted the squad. "It is unbelievable," said Ranieri. "It was fantastic because Jamie is our point of reference, or one of our points of reference. "Of course all his teammates are happy and gave us a lot of energy to have another good season." — AFP

NANI LOOKS TO SPARK SUCCESS AT VALENCIA

MADRID: Nani, who was recently crowned European champion with Portugal, wants to help bring the good times back to new club Valencia. The Spanish side struggled this past season and ended the La Liga campaign with just 44 points and in 12th place, their worst finish in three decades. Valencia have paid Fenerbahce Nani's 8.5 million euro (\$9.47 million) buyout clause and he has moved to Spain on a three-year deal, just 12 months after leaving Manchester United.

"People think that when you win an important championship, you relax," Nani said at his unveiling at the Mestalla stadium, which was attended by 12,000 fans. "But that is not my thinking. I'm very eager. This is a big club, with great fans. I want to be a part of this great club. "My aim is to contribute in the best possible way, to help in every game I play and try to achieve our aims."

Valencia are accustomed to finishing high in the standings and playing in Europe, with back-to-back appearances in the Champions League final in 1999 and 2000 and a 2004 UEFA Cup success, among their notable achievements. Their disappointing 2015-16 campaign has meant they will not play in a continental competition this season.

"It's normal that big clubs in the world go through bad years, the same thing happened to Manchester United and now they are better," said Nani. "The same has happened to Valencia. We hope to return the club to the level it deserves as soon as possible." Portugal's Euro 2016 final triumph over hosts France was still at the front of Nani's thoughts. "The European Championship was a unique experience, we made history," he said. "It was a dream come true and now I'm delighted because I have a new chapter to look forward to, with new aims to achieve. "I'm going to try to be happy like I was with my country and in the other clubs that I've played at. "Valencia is the best option for me. It has been at world level. It's an ideal club for me to be happy and prove my level. I wanted to play in La Liga." — Reuters



VALENCIA: Valencia's new player Portuguese Luis Carlos Almeida de Cunha 'Nani' poses during his Official presentation. — AFP

WILMOTS TAKES BLAME FOR BELGIAN DISAPPOINTMENT

BRUSSELS: Belgium have parted company with their coach Marc Wilmots after a Euro 2016 quarter-final elimination to Wales fell short of expectations, federation president Fran ois De Keesmaecker said yesterday. With top quality players throughout the side such as goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, and mid-fielders Eden Hazard and Kevin de Bruyn hopes for Europe's top rated side were sky high going into the Euros in France. "Our target was at least the semi-finals," De Keesmaecker said.

Instead an opening day 2-0 defeat to Italy and elimination to outsiders Wales 3-1 in the quarter-finals exposed a collective weakness the federation

felt was down to the coach. "This group should be capable of much better results at a big tournament," De Keesmaecker told a press conference in Brussels. "We did not achieve our objectives at this Euro. We need a fresh start." Wilmots also oversaw the side that were beaten by Argentina in the quarter-finals at the 2014 World Cup and his charges were second only to Argentina in the FIFA rankings going into the Euro.

Known as a hard man Wilmots, a box-to-box midfielder in his youth, is one of the rare players to have featured at four World Cups. "We'll need someone with a great deal of experience, who has achieved

results at the international level," De Keesmaecker said when asked what kind of profile a new national handler might have. In 51 matches at the helm Wilmots oversaw 34 wins, nine defeats and eight draws. "When you are talked about among one of the teams who can win a tournament, and you lose in the quarter-finals twice in two years, of course it leaves a bad taste in your mouth," Wilmots said after the Wales result he described as the biggest disappointment of his career. Heavily criticized by sections of the Belgian press-Wilmots had refused to take an immediate decision on whether he would continue as coach. — AFP

PAYET PLEDGES FUTURE '100%' TO WEST HAM

LONDON: France playmaker Dimitri Payet handed West Ham a huge boost ahead of the new Premier League season by telling the club he is "100 per cent staying" with the Hammers. Payet had been linked with a move away from West Ham after backing up a superb debut season in England with several impressive performances for his country as France reached the final of Euro 2016. But the 29-year-old, who signed a new long-term contract through until 2021 in February, insisted he was fully committed to staying at West Ham.

"I've heard about all the interest and I'm flattered. But I love West Ham," Payet told The Sun. "We had a fantastic season and I can't wait to play in the Olympic Stadium. "I'm 100 per cent staying at West Ham, I love the club. I can tell the Hammers fans that." Payet scored 12 goals and provided 13 assists and was named the club's player of the year as West Ham finished seventh, their highest league finish since the 2001-02 season.

On Monday, West Ham co-chairman David Gold told the BBC that potential suitors would have to pay at least £50million (\$65 million, 58 million euros) to pull Payet away from the club. The London club will play their first competitive match at the Olympic Stadium against Shakhtyor Soligorsk of Belarus or Slovenia's NK Domzale in the third qualifying round of the Europa League. West Ham are due to host the first leg on July 28, but the Hammers have requested UEFA reverse the fixtures with the ground hosting the London Diamond League athletics meeting July 22-23. The second leg is scheduled for August 4. — AFP



Dimitri Payet



BARCELONA: In this June 2, 2016 file photo, Barcelona soccer player Lionel Messi, center, leaves a court. — AP

BARCELONA SLAMMED FOR MESSI SUPPORT AFTER FRAUD VERDICT

BARCELONA: Barcelona has drawn widespread criticism for its campaign to support Lionel Messi after a court found the Argentine forward and his father guilty of tax fraud. Barcelona launched its social media campaign following last week's court verdict that found Messi and his father guilty of defrauding the Spanish state of 4.1 million Euros (\$4.6 million). Neither man is expected to go to jail despite being sentenced to 21 months in prison because courts in Spain often suspend sentences under two years for first-time offenders.

The slogan "We Are All Leo Messi" is a play on the public awareness campaign by Spain's tax authorities "We Are All The Tax Office." That is meant to encourage people to pay their due in a country still struggling to recover from an economic recession that has left unemployment at more than 20 percent. "The campaign invites all of Barcelona's fans to show the best player in the world their unconditional support," Barcelona said. "We want to transmit to Leo that he isn't alone."

The club also posted a video of several dozen of its employees gathered together with hands raised in a show of support for Messi. Widely panned in Spanish newspapers and online,

Barcelona's campaign has earned a rebuke from Spain's government. "I am not Leo Messi. I haven't committed a fiscal crime," acting Justice Minister Rafael Catala said Thursday. The president of Spain's Higher Sports Council, the country's leading sports authority, has also blasted the league champions for their rally call. "If the campaign intends to make a complaint of some type against the judicial ruling, then it is completely incorrect," council president Miguel Cardenal said. "We have to respect and honor the (court's) decision. You can't have campaigns of this type in order to disagree with a court ruling."

Irresponsible campaign

A worker's union that represents Spanish tax inspectors has asked Barcelona to end the campaign, calling it "irresponsible." "The best thing for the club and the player would have been to accept the ruling and move on," said Carlos Cruzado, the president of the union Gestha. "But this campaign is destroying the educational work that must be carried out to make citizens conscientious (of their fiscal responsibilities.)" Messi and his father deny any wrongdoing and have said they will appeal the verdict to a higher

court in Madrid.

While his club has launched its campaign to back him, photos of Messi spending his vacation on a yacht have appeared this week in Spanish newspapers. Those photos of Messi soaking up the sun in a bathing suit have spawned several jokes on social media about how he must be "suffering." The spokesman for Barcelona's board of directors, Josep Vives, has defended both Messi and the club's campaign.

"In similar cases, we haven't seen attacks like those Leo Messi is receiving," Vives said. "It's obvious that we can't tolerate this derision of our player. "We have found ourselves in a controversy because it appears that FC Barcelona is defending tax fraud. What we are defending is a person that is being treated unjustly." Besides his club, the Spanish league's president has also said he believes Messi is innocent. "I hope that the Supreme Court revokes the ruling because Messi is not a delinquent and shouldn't be found guilty," league president Javier Tebas said. "I have interpreted the campaign as meaning that Messi shouldn't worry, and so he knows that his club is with him." Messi is not the only player to have gotten into trouble over taxes. — AP

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LA CAVERNE DU PONT-D'ARC: Netherlands' Tom Dumoulin crosses the finish line during the thirteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race, an individual time trial over 37.5 kilometers with start in Bourg-Saint-Andeol and finish yesterday. — AP

TOUR DE FRANCE TO CONTINUE AS PLANNED

NICE ATTACK REINFORCES SECURITY MEASURES

LA CAVERNE DU PONT-D'ARC: The Tour de France rode on as planned yesterday, with thousands of fans lining the roads and amid reinforced security a day after the deadly attack in Nice. France was reeling again after a large truck mowed through a crowd of revelers gathered for a Bastille Day fireworks display in the Riviera city of Nice, killing at least 84 people on Thursday night. The attack, on France's national holiday, followed attacks last November in Paris that killed 130.

But the carnage did not deter fans from showing up in numbers at the starting line in the small town of Bourg-Saint-Andeol. "We can't let our guard down, but it was important that they continued the race," said Bruno Pruvost, a 56-year-old fan. "Otherwise, it

would be too easy for them." Defending champion Chris Froome, the race's current leader, posted a picture of the blue, white and red French flag on Twitter yesterday and wrote: "Thoughts are with those affected by the horrific terror attack in Nice."

Froome was scheduled to compete in the race's first time trial later yesterday after organizers decided the hilly 37.5-kilometer leg to La Caverne du Pont-D'Arc in the Ardeche region will go ahead following an emergency meeting with authorities. There was a moment of silence at the start, several hours drive from Nice, and Tour director Christian Prudhomme said there will be a ceremony with a minute's silence at the finish as a tribute to the victims.

"Today, we want to pay homage to the vic-

tims with dignity," said Prudhomme, wearing a black armband around his blue shirt and holding back tears. "We have been asking ourselves if the race should continue and after consulting with authorities we have decided that it should. The Tour de France will continue in a subdued and solemn manner." The publicity caravan, which precedes the riders on the stage route everyday handing out free gifts and souvenirs and blasting loud music, rode silently yesterday.

Reinforced security

Security had already been reinforced at the Tour this year, with France in a state of emergency since the Paris attacks. The three-week race is protected by an unprecedented force of 23,000 police officers, including SWAT-like

intervention squads, while security guards perform bag checks and pat downs at the start and finish of every stage. Eric Luzet, the police's liaison officer to the Tour, told The Associated Press that extra security measures were implemented overnight, with 600 police officers in charge of security for the stage. "We have adjusted our measures after what happened in Nice," Luzet said. "They have been deployed at the start and finish of the stage, and along the 37.5-kilometer of the route." Bauke Mollema, who was involved in a crash with Froome inside the last kilometer of Thursday's Stage 12 at Mont Ventoux when a TV motorbike was forced to stop on the road because of fans congestion, said his "thoughts are with the people in Nice." — AP