

Saudis urged to say 'no' to begging



Radwanska knocked out of Eastbourne



Kuwaiti woman arrested while stealing bracelet

Ramadan Timings

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| Emsak:   | 03:04 |
| Fajer:   | 03:14 |
| Shrooq:  | 04:50 |
| Dohr:    | 11:50 |
| Asr:     | 15:24 |
| Maghreb: | 18:51 |
| Eshaa:   | 20:23 |



# 'EXPLOSIVE SHOCK'; UK LEAVES THE EU

CAMERON QUILTS; OVER \$2 TRILLION WIPED OFF WORLD STOCKS



Min 30°  
Max 49°

Leave



LONDON: Vote Leave campaigner Boris Johnson arrives for a press conference at Vote Leave headquarters in London yesterday. Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron (inset) announced yesterday that he will quit as Prime Minister following a defeat in the referendum which ended with a vote for Britain to leave the European Union. — AP

**LONDON:** Britain has voted to leave the European Union, forcing the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron and dealing the biggest blow since World War Two to the European project of forging greater unity. Global financial markets plunged yesterday as results from a referendum defied bookmakers' odds to show a 52-48 percent victory for the campaign to leave a bloc Britain joined more than 40 years ago.

The pound fell as much as 10 percent against the dollar to touch levels last seen in 1985, on fears the decision could hit investment in the world's fifth-largest economy, threaten London's role as a global financial capital and usher in months of political uncertainty. The euro slid 3 percent. World stocks saw more than \$2 trillion wiped off their value, with indices across Europe heading for their sharpest one-day drops ever. Britain's big banks took a \$100 billion battering, with Lloyds, Barclays and RBS falling as much as 30 percent at one point.

The United Kingdom itself could now break apart, with the leader of Scotland - where nearly two-thirds of voters wanted to stay in the EU - saying a new referendum on independence from the rest of Britain was "highly likely". An emotional Cameron, who led the "Remain" campaign to defeat, losing the gamble he took when he promised the referendum in 2013, said he would leave office by October. "The British people have made the very clear decision to take a different path and as such I think the country requires fresh leadership to take it in this direction," he said in a televised address outside his residence.

"I do not think it would be right for me to be the captain that steers our country to its next destination," he added, choking back tears before walking back through 10 Downing Street's black door with his arm around his wife Samantha. Quitting the EU could cost Britain access to the EU's trade barrier-free single market and means it must seek new trade accords with countries around the world. A poll of economists by Reuters predicted Britain was likelier than not to fall into recession within a year.

The EU for its part will be economically and politically damaged, facing the departure of a member with its biggest financial centre, a UN Security Council veto, a powerful army and nuclear weapons.

The world's biggest trading bloc - which rose out of the ashes of two world wars, fascist and communist totalitarianism to unite a continent of prosperous democracies - will lose around a sixth of its economic output. "It's an explosive shock. At stake is the break up pure and simple of the union," French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said. "Now is the time to invent another Europe."

The result emboldened eurosceptics in other member states, with French National Front leader Marine Le Pen and Dutch far-right leader Geert Wilders demanding their countries also hold referendums. Le Pen changed her Twitter profile picture to a Union Jack and declared "Victory for freedom!" The vote will trigger at least two years of divorce proceedings with the EU, the first exit by any member state. Cameron, in office since 2010, said it would be up to his successor to formally start the exit process.

His Conservative Party rival Boris Johnson, the former London mayor who became the most recognizable face of the Leave camp, is now widely tipped to seek his job. Johnson left his home to jeers from a crowd in the mainly pro-EU capital. He spoke to reporters at Leave campaign headquarters, taking no questions on his personal ambitions.

"We can find our voice in the world again, a voice that is commensurate with the fifth-biggest economy on Earth," he said. Lawmakers from the opposition Labor Party also launched a no-confidence motion to topple the leader, leftist Jeremy Corbyn, accused by opponents in the party of campaigning only tepidly for its Remain stance. There was euphoria among Britain's eurosceptic forces, claiming a victory over the political establishment, big business and foreign leaders including US President Barack Obama who had urged Britain to stay in.

"Let June 23 go down in our history as our independence day," said Nigel Farage, leader of the eurosceptic UK Independence Party, describing the EU as "doomed" and "dying". On the continent, politicians reacted with dismay. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who invited the French and Italian leaders to Berlin to discuss future steps, called it a watershed for European unification. Her foreign minister called it a sad day for Britain and Europe. — Reuters (See Pages 7, 8, 9)

## KUWAITI KILLS HIS BROTHER

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Interior Ministry Relations and Security Information and Security Information Department said Hawally detectives have arrested a 23-year-old Kuwaiti (Omar Mohammad Al-Nassar) who killed his brother Abdelmohsen Mohammad Al-Nassar, by stabbing and slashing him. The statement said the crime took place in Mubarak Al-Abdallah area (West Mishref) yesterday. The 23-year-old man was found slaughtered in the diwaniya by his parents. Detectives noticed cuts on various parts of the victim's brother, and when asked about those cuts, he said he fell from his motorcycle, but during interrogations he confessed to killing his brother by stabbing - and then slaughtering him. The suspect said the killing was due to family disputes, which prompted him to get rid of his brother. The suspect has been sent to Public Prosecution.



Photo shows the murder suspect



## MEDIA URGED TO PROMOTE KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah has urged Kuwait media to shoulder great responsibility in promoting Kuwait's image internally and internationally. Sheikh Salman said on the sidelines of a Ramadan feast, hosted by Ministry of Information (Moi) on Thursday night, that the gathering of media personnel with artists and culturists will enhance and strengthen the relationship between them.

He wished for Kuwait, in this holy month, more years of prosperity under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Meanwhile, Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Director General Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij Al-Ibrahim Al-Sabah said to KUNA that these types of celebrations is a Kuwaiti tradition where it shows the correlation of the people and their harmony and love towards one another and the unity of Kuwaiti people.

He added that he values the ministry's efforts for organizing these kinds of celebrations that bring, media, art, and culture sectors together in a memorable night. Sheikh Mubarak Al-Duaij also congratulated the political leadership on the occasion of the Holy month of Ramadan, wishing more prosperity to come for Kuwait and Kuwaiti people under the leadership of His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister.



Moreover, Ministry of Information Undersecretary Tareq Eid Al-Mizrem said he was thrilled to see all of these communities come together from the press; television, radio and theatre where they get to interact with each other in a friendly atmosphere. The celebration was attended by a

number of officials from the Ministry of Information, KUNA, and National Council for Culture, Art and Letters (NCCAL), Kuwait's National Library, and also a huge number of media personnel, culturists, artists, journalists, citizens and residents. —KUNA



Undersecretary at the Ministry of Health Dr Khaled Al-Sahlawi inspects the precautionary measures undertaken at the Grand Mosque of Kuwait. —KUNA

## HEALTH MINISTRY READY FOR LAST 10 DAYS OF RAMADAN

**KUWAIT:** The Health Ministry had taken all necessary procedures to ensure that proceedings in the last ten days of Ramadan at the Grand Mosque will run smoothly, said an official yesterday. Speaking to KUNA, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Health Dr Khaled Al-Sahlawi said that he had inspected the precautionary measures undertaken at the Grand Mosque of Kuwait, noting that field clinics were erected and some 15 ambulances were ready for Al-Qiyam prayers to be held in the evenings of the last ten days of the Holy Month. The same steps were undertaken in the whole of the country with the Health Ministry ready to answer any calls for help, he affirmed. —KUNA



## PANHANDLING MUST BE BANNED: OFFICIAL

**KUWAIT:** It is imperative to discourage panhandling on the streets of Kuwait, a contemptible social phenomenon that seems to appear widely during the month of Ramadan, President of the Kuwaiti Society for the Ideal Family Sheikhha Fariha Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said yesterday. Noting the ubiquity of panhandling all across the world, she said in a press statement that panhandlers in Kuwait resort to unsavory behavior to bully the public into giving them money. Usually, she indicated, they hang around high pedestrian traffic locations such as market places, malls, hospitals, mosques, by traffic stops, and near homes in affluent neighborhoods. Many are women who try to draw sympathy from generous givers.

Most of these panhandlers are in it for the money and nothing else and quite a few of them earn substantial amounts by the end of the day, she said, noting that in Kuwait charities abound and are forthcoming in helping any indigent person and there is absolutely no need for anyone to go around panhandling. She urged residents of Kuwait to fight this phenomenon which is usually resorted to by some conniving expatriates during Ramadan and other religious occasions. —KUNA

## MPS TO DECIDE THE FATE OF STATE COUNCIL LAW

**KUWAIT:** The government will turn over the draft law establishing a State Council to the National Assembly for further examination and possible approval, said the Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Yaqoub Al-Sanea. Speaking at a forum organized by the Ministry of Justice on the topic of a State Council law, he said the latter would combine the current Administrative Court with the Department of Fatwa and Legislation, a step that would stem the tide of increasing amounts of administrative cases seen by the courts.

The State Council law, once enacted, would speed up measurably handling all cases of administrative nature, said president of the appeals court Mohammad bin Naji in a speech at the forum. Establishing the State Council would be an added value to the Kuwaiti court system, he said, noting its complete independence in its rulings. As for the feasibility of establishing such a State Council, Advisor at the Amiri Diwan Dr Adel Al-Tabtabaie noted that the Kuwaiti constitution consists of no less than ten articles and clauses allowing its establishment. —KUNA



## Photo

o f t h e d a y



**KUWAIT:** Sea birds roam across Kuwaiti waters as Kuwait temperature soars above 45 degrees Celsius. —KUNA

## WOMAN THIEF ARRESTED WHILE STEALING BRACELET

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Salhiya detectives arrested a citizen who stole gold bracelets from children's hands in Mubarakiya market. The security station at the market received several complaints about an unknown lady who stalks children



**Photo shows two suspects in bogus domestic help offices.**

and stealing their jewelry. Police intensified their on-foot patrols, until they were able to arrest the woman red-handed while stealing a bracelet of a young girl. The suspect said she stole three other times in the past few months and sold them to a store in the same market. Police are questioning the jeweler who bought them from her.

### Brokers arrested

Residency detectives arrested two brokers in bogus domestic help offices following information about a group of Zimbabwe female workers falling victim to brokers who bring domestic help. The workers were reportedly surprised to find out that the work was different from what was offered in the bogus contracts they signed. When the information was authenticated a team was formed and the two brokers were caught. It was discovered that they were involved in bringing female workers and trading in them. They were sent to concerned authorities.

### Airport security

RSI department at the Interior Ministry said some social media rumors that there are plans to move the security of Kuwait International Airport from the Interior Ministry to the National Guard is not true. It said the Interior Ministry looks forward to carrying out its duties and responsibilities in the best way possible.

## KUWAIT WORKING WITH GCC TO IMPLEMENT RAILWAY PROJECT

**RIYADH:** Kuwaiti Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs Dr Ali Al-Omair said his country is keen on cooperation with other GCC member states to implement the GCC railway network. "The GCC leaders instructed their respective governments to attach great importance to this vital project which will facilitate the movement of individuals and commodities among our countries," he told reporters. Al-Omair

made the press remarks following the extraordinary meeting of the GCC ministers of transport and communication at the GCC Secretariat here. "The meeting discussed the progress made in this mega project," he said, noting that some GCC members have finalized the designing and started implementing of the project while others are still working on the designs.

"We have also discussed the GCC partnership in navigational assistance

and standard controls for licensing the ship inspecting companies as well as the single guidelines for traffic controllers," he revealed. The planned 2,117 km-long railway will start from Kuwait and proceed towards Dammam city in Saudi Arabia where it will bifurcate into three lines - one to Manama in Bahrain, another to Doha in Qatar and a third to Abu-Dhabi and Al-Ain in the UAE and the Muscat in Oman. —KUNA

## News

i n b r i e f

### Central prison blaze

**KUWAIT:** The fire at Kuwait's Central Prison was caused by a short circuit, Deputy Director General of the Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) Maj Gen Jamal Al-Bulaihees said. He thanked firefighters for their efforts to control the blaze, highly appreciating their hard work to provide protection for people and property around the clock. Six firefighting teams managed earlier today to control the blaze in the prison's ward four, but one person lost his life and about 55 others were injured and hurried to hospitals. Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has sent cables to Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Minister of Health Dr Ali Saad Al-Obaidi and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah. In his cables, His Highness the Amir expressed his gratitude to the ministers and staff at the Ministries of Health and Interior for their efforts exerted in extinguishing the fire that broke out at the Central Prison, lauding the role of security men in safeguarding the prison and curbing damage of the fire. His Highness the Amir also extolled the role of the firefighters who controlled the blaze bravely and professionally, and saved lives of prisoners, wishing those injured a speedy recovery.

### PAM - work permits

**KUWAIT:** Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) said it is coordinating with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor to allow workers to change their work permits in order to get employment at cooperative societies provided they did not violate the terms of their original employment in the first place. Aseel Al-Mazyad, head of the authority's public relations department, said in a statement to KUNA that employment departments were receiving requests of workers to change the status of their work permit to qualify them to work at any cooperative society.

### Ban to meet Amir

**NEW YORK:** UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon is scheduled to visit Kuwait tomorrow in a regional official trip, that includes Kuwait, Israel and the State of Palestine. His spokesperson Staffan Dujarric confirmed, the senior UN official is scheduled to meet with His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. During his one-day visit, the UN Chief will also meet His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah as well as the First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Since Kuwait is hosting the Yemeni peace talks, Ban will meet with his Special Envoy for Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, as well as the Yemeni parties participating in the UN-facilitated peace talks in Kuwait. After Kuwait, the UN Chief will head for Israel and the State of Palestine. In Gaza, where he will visit a girls' school run by United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and participate in a meeting of the Gaza central school parliament. He will also visit a reconstruction project and hold a town hall meeting with UN staff working in Gaza.

# TWO ARRESTED WITH WEAPONS, DRUGS

## EXPAT BEATS UP ESTRANGED WIFE IN PUBLIC

**KUWAIT:** Weapons detectives arrested two persons separately, a bedoon in Reqqa who works for the health ministry and a citizen who works for the customs department. Both had unlicensed weapons, and one had drugs and a sensitive scale. The bedoon had a pistol and ammunition in his possession. The citizen was arrested in Saad Al-Abdallah area where police found drugs, sensitive scale and bullets. Both were referred to concerned authorities.

**Hashish seized**

Air cargo customs inspectors found high quality hashish weighing 2 kg that arrived in a courier parcel. The parcel arrived from London with a label that it is tea, but actually it was "weed". The person who came to claim the parcel was arrested and referred to concerned authorities.

**Neighbor bashed up**

A citizen who beat his neighbor told Salmiya police that he beat his neighbor because he disturbed his sleep while the victim said that he was repairing his door and did not mean to disturb anyone. Police are investigating the case.

**Liquor trader held**

An Indian expat was sent to Drug Control General Department after being caught in Mahboula area with 52 bottles of local liquor. He used to sell the liquor for a commission. He led police to the person who provided him with the liquor. The Indian visited the area previous night and a patrol discovered the liquor with him. The Indian works as a deliveryman in a restaurant. The police are looking for the other man.

**Duo clash during compromise talks**

A citizen brought two of his friends to his diwaniya to solve a dispute between the two, but the reconciliation effort failed as the duo exchanged blows. Both sustained injuries in the fisticuff. According to report, the citizen invited the two to his Fahad Al-Ahmad area diwaniya, but neither knew that the other would be present. The minute they saw each other, they became angry and the host could not control them. Both combatants went to Adan hospital, obtained medical reports and exchanged accusations at Fahad Al-Ahmad police station.

**Expat beats estranged wife**

An Egyptian invited his wife who had left the house into a public place in Salmiya telling her that he wanted to apologize to her. But when she arrived, he began beating her up. The wife lodged a complaint at the police station. The woman had left her husband about a month ago due to certain domestic disputes. She received a call from her estranged husband asking for forgiveness and begged her to meet him to explain things. The woman obliged and reached the place with hopes that problems would be solved. But as soon as he saw her he started to insult her telling her "I can get you no matter where you go" and started beating her, only to be saved by passersby. He fled the scene of crime after assaulting her. The police are looking for the suspect.

**Woman cheated**

An Indian woman lodged a forgery complaint at Abu Halaifa police station. She said she received a phone call from a person who told her that he is from a communications company and that she is the winner of a KD 50,000 prize. The caller asked for her account number and PIN and she gave the details. A few minutes later she received an SMS from the bank stating that her account was debited by KD 3,975.

**Five detained**

Ahmedi Security Director General Brig Abdallah Saffah ordered the detention of five citizens at Fintas police station until the end of the Ramadan for smoking in public. Meanwhile, two brothers were seen having energy drink and smoking in public in Abu Halaifa area.

**'Daesh companions'**

State security began investigating to identify persons who spoke with a citizen as "Daesh companions." The persons reportedly told the citizen that they would visit him and told him he would go to heaven. A security source said the citizen received a WhatsApp call from 0019419318537. They asked if he was K.S.M and his answer was yes. The answer was this is Daesh company and you would be with us in heaven, and would be with you in minutes! — Al Rai, Al Anbaa

**Ramadan Quiz 2016**

الإتحاد  
**ETIHAD AIRWAYS**  
ABU DHABI

**LULU HYPERMARKET**

**Ruby Tuesday**

**Answer & Win Fabulous Prizes**

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

2016/76

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**Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz Answer & Win**      **Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz Answer & Win**

Date: .....

Name: .....

Civil ID: .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

**20) Who is the first child who accepted Islam?**

**Sayyidana Ali (Radi Allahu Anhu)**

YES       NO

**Espresso**      **Ramadan Kareem**      **sebamed**





## KUWAIT FIREFIGHTERS BATTLING TO SAVE LIVES

**KUWAIT:** Personnel of the Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) work hard throughout the year including during the fasting month of Ramadan to fight fires and guide the public about means to protect themselves against blazes and accidents. The firefighters often face various problems such as gathering of curious onlookers at the scene and confusion among the people at or around the affected location, thus hampering their life-saving mission.

Their missions include combating fires, rescue, medical aid, inspecting safety precautions at places with stored inflammable materials namely warehouses and examining buildings, forecast to crumble. The Directorate advises against usage of poor-quality electrical and electronic appliances to avert high risks of circuits, a major cause of the blazes in the country.

According to its statistics, accidents in Kuwait increased by 10 percent in 2015 as compared to the previous year. The Directorate had to deal with 4,914 fires during 2015, higher by 14 percent in contrast to 2014. Electrical circuit is the most recurrent cause of fires in residential and non-residential areas. Some of the fires have been categorized as arsons. The Directorate has developed schemes for effective and speedy evacuation at the scenes. It advises people to acquire fire extinguishers and install automatic fire suppression systems, as some of the safety precautions. — KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Personnel of the Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) are pictured while performing their duties. — KUNA photos

## SHUWAIKH HOUSE GUTTED IN FIRE



**By Hanan Al-Saadoun**

**KUWAIT:** A house in a residential Shuwaikh area went up in flames prompting the intervention of Madina and Industrial Shuwaikh Fire Centers. The firemen found out that it was an old, dilapidated and abandoned house which was used for storing blankets

and wood helping the fire to spread fast. It took 90 minutes for the firemen to put out the fire. No injuries were reported. Kuwait Fire Service Director General Lt General Yousuf Al-Ansari visited corporal Muneef Al-Mutairi at Sabah Hospital where he was admitted following extreme exhaustion after the fire-fighting mission at the Central

Prison which occurred two days before.

Al-Ansari informed him about the letter State Minister for Cabinet Affairs received from HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, thanking fire-

men for their efforts in combating the fire. Police authority arrested a Kuwaiti, Abdullah Shihab from his Salwa house for possessing 150g of shabu and illicit pills in addition to 2.5 kg heroin. They also found four spoons and a scale. The suspect was found to be an ex-convict and was sent to concerned authorities.





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# International

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TURNBERRY, Scotland: Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump delivers a speech as he officially opens his Trump Turnberry hotel and golf resort yesterday. — AFP

## TRUMP HAILS BREXIT IN SCOTLAND

MOGUL SAYS VOTE HAS 'REAL PARALLEL' WITH HIS CAMPAIGN

**TURNBERRY, Scotland:** Donald Trump hailed Britain's vote to leave the EU as "fantastic" on a trip to Scotland yesterday, saying the campaign had parallels with his own mission to become the president of the United States. "I think it's a great thing. I think it's a fantastic thing," he told reporters after stepping off a helicopter with the word "Trump" emblazoned on its side at the golf resort he owns in southwest Scotland. A breakup of the European Union "looks like it's on its way," he added later. "I think you're going to have this happen more and more."

Two bagpipers in kilts played as Trump landed and staff at the newly-renovated resort cheered as he arrived on his first international trip since becoming the presumptive Republican presidential nominee. Trump held a press conference on the ninth hole of his golf course, overlooking the sea. There was a "real parallel" between the anti-EU vote and his own campaign, he told journalists, surrounded by golf balls emblazoned with Nazi swastikas which a protester had tossed

onto the grass before being ushered away.

"People want to take their country back, they want independence," Trump said, explaining that unhappiness with immigrants "flowing" across borders was the common cause for discontent in Britain and the US. "There were great similarities with what happened here and my campaign," he said. At the resort, a large Scottish flag flew in front of the picturesque seafront, as protesters gathered nearby.

### 'Not Welcome Here'

Two groups, Scotland Against Trump and Stand Up To Racism Scotland, bused protesters to the golf resort to picket the property mogul. "Scotland is a progressive, tolerant and multicultural country and we oppose the bigotry that Donald Trump represents," Keir McKechnie of the anti-racism group told AFP. "We want to tell the world that he's not welcome here."

The New York tycoon has caused alarm in Europe with his abrasive style and pledges to deport millions of undocumented immigrants

and build a wall on the border with Mexico. His proposal to ban Muslims from entering the United States drew the ire of Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron, who called the idea "stupid, divisive and wrong". Trump dismissed a question on whether his unpopularity with other world leaders would be a problem if he is elected US president in November.

He noted that Cameron had been defeated in the Brexit vote, and had decided to step down as prime minister. "Where's David Cameron?" Trump asked with a chuckle. "Right now I don't think David Cameron wants to meet anybody." His Democratic rival in the US presidential election in November, Hillary Clinton, seized the moment to post a video compilation of criticism from Cameron and others. "People in Scotland are not thrilled about Trump coming to their country," Clinton posted on Twitter. "We know the feeling."

Another protester, Jonathon Shafi of Scotland Against Trump, said he wanted the gathering to show unity with demonstrators

in the US who have disrupted Trump rallies. "We want to send a message of solidarity to movements like Black Lives Matter that we are united in opposition," Shafi told AFP. Today, Trump is expected to travel to the Trump International Golf Links, another course he owns in the northeast Scottish coastal village of Balmedie, a resort that has been controversial with locals. Some irate neighbors living next to the course have raised Mexican flags in symbolic opposition to Trump.

The trip stands in stark contrast to the welcome President Barack Obama received on a visit to Germany in 2008, when he was the presumptive Democratic nominee. At the time, Obama addressed a crowd of tens of thousands about his hopes of closer links to a unified Europe. Trump has criticized the continent's leaders as "weak" and accused them of taking inadequate measures to combat terrorism following the jihadist attacks on Brussels in March. Trump's trip to Scotland will be brief as he is scheduled to return to the US later today. — AFP



## UK, EU: AWKWARD MARRIAGE ENDS IN DIVORCE

**LONDON:** Britain's messy break-up with Europe will be the culmination of decades of half-hearted and often hostile relations with neighboring countries. The nation's troubled ties with the European Union, culminating in Thursday's dramatic referendum vote to leave the bloc, are rooted in its island history and defiant sense of independence. Some Britons still recall with pride that they were last successfully invaded in 1066. The nation's resistance to the Nazis in World War II is also central to British identity, particularly for older voters.

"Britain has never really internalized the European project because of its very different history during the 20th century - it is less frightened of the consequences of leaving," Robert Tombs, a history professor at Cambridge University, told AFP. Politicians at Westminster have also pursued an often two-faced approach to the EU, complicating the relationship even further.

"One face is a hostile, sceptical and largely domestic one that has helped drive euroscepticism in Britain," said Tim Oliver of the London School of Economics. "The other face, largely seen in Brussels, is a constructive, engaging one that has seen the UK shape the EU in a large number of ways." In his victory speech yesterday, top Brexit campaigner Boris Johnson, a former mayor of London and ex-Brussels journalist, sought to heal the divide over Britain's identity.

"This does not mean that the United Kingdom will be in any way less united nor indeed does it mean it will be any

less European," he said. "We cannot turn our backs on Europe, we're part of Europe. Our children and grandchildren will continue to have a wonderful future as Europeans," he added. He said the European Union was "a noble idea for its time" but was "no longer right for this country".

### Pragmatic Decision to Join

Britain initially stood back from post-war efforts to foster European unity, with senior figures believing that its for-



**LONDON:** Former London Mayor and "Vote Leave" campaigner Boris Johnson speaks during a press conference yesterday. —AFP

eign policy goals were best pursued through its empire. But as the empire declined and Britain watched trade flourish on the continent, it applied to join the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1961, four years after its creation. French president Charles de Gaulle twice vetoed its efforts, but Britain eventually joined in 1973.

Labour prime minister Harold Wilson called a referendum on membership in 1975 to try to appease the eurosceptic, protectionist wing of his fractured party. He secured 67 percent support for staying in. Conservative leader Margaret Thatcher was a cheerleader for EEC membership, seeing it as a pragmatic decision to join a tariff-free trading bloc. But as prime minister from 1979 she was soon riling her European colleagues, demanding a rebate on Britain's EEC contributions which she eventually secured in 1984.

She was also fiercely opposed to the bloc's growing political integration, fearing the creation of a "European super-state". Her visceral "No! No! No!" approach triggered her downfall in 1990. It also exposed deep fractures in the Conservative party on Europe, which completely handicapped the pro-European John Major's 1990-1997 premiership and remain unhealed to this day. "Black Wednesday" in 1992 saw the pound tumble out of the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) which had pegged it to the German mark. Then a Conservative rebellion through 1992 and 1993 nearly brought down Major's government over the Maastricht Treaty which turned the EEC into the European Union. —AFP

## SHOCKED EU DEMANDS UK TO LEAVE QUICKLY

### 'NO RENEGOTIATION' OF BRITAIN'S MEMBERSHIP

**BRUSSELS:** A stunned EU yesterday urged Britain to leave as "soon as possible" amid fears the devastating blow to European unity could spark a chain reaction of further referendums. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande led calls for the European Union to reform in order to survive a traumatic divorce with Britain following its vote to leave. In a sign that the bloc wants to move on swiftly, EU chiefs told Britain in a strongly-worded joint statement to "give effect to this decision of the British people as soon as possible, however painful that process may be".

The uncompromising stance came after Prime Minister David Cameron said he would resign and leave the negotiations for Britain's departure from the 28-nation club to a successor who will be named by October. European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker said he was "very sad" that Britain had voted to leave, but repeated that there would be "no renegotiation" of Britain's membership. Juncker, a former Luxembourg premier and strong federalist, said "no" when asked if the vote spelled the beginning of the end for a European Union that faces a huge rise in populist and eurosceptic parties.

### 'A Wake-Up Call'

Worried European leaders will hold a series of crisis talks in coming days, with Merkel saying she would host the leaders of France and Italy along with EU President Donald Tusk in Berlin on Monday to try to chart a reform plan. "We take note of the British people's decision with regret. There is no doubt that this is a blow to Europe and to the European unification process," Merkel told reporters in Berlin. With global markets in turmoil, she said it was important to "not draw quick and simple conclusions from the referendum in Great Britain, which would only further divide Europe".

Hollande said the Brexit vote was a "grave test for Europe," adding that the bloc "must show solidity and strength in its response to the economic and financial risks". Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi echoed calls for reform, saying "Europe is our house" and that "the house needs to be renovated, perhaps freshened up". Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, whose debt-hit country went through a referendum on its way to a bitterly-fought debt bailout, said the result could be a "wake-up call" for the EU to "change its policies". But he warned that it could also be "the start of a dangerous path backwards for our peoples."

EU chief and former Polish premier Tusk - who had earlier warned that a Leave vote could "end Western political civilization" - put on a brave face, saying that "what does not kill you makes you stronger". He insisted that the bloc was "determined to keep our unity at 27" and said the remaining leaders would meet separately without Cameron on the sidelines of a summit of the full 28 in Brussels next week. —AFP



**LONDON:** A man takes a copy of the London Evening Standard with the front page reporting the resignation of British Prime Minister David Cameron and the vote to leave the EU in a referendum, showing a picture of Cameron holding hands with his wife Samantha as they come out from 10 Downing Street, in London yesterday 6. — AFP

## BREXIT POSSIBLE BOON FOR CHINA

**BEIJING:** Britain's decision to quit the world's largest single market presents China with a golden opportunity to seek better business terms with a more isolated UK, analysts said yesterday, pointing out that London has not had its own trade negotiators for 40 years. "Now that the referendum has happened, I would imagine that China will be quick to seize the opportunities," Guy de Jonquieres, senior fellow at the European Centre for International Political Economy, told AFP. If a departing Britain fails to secure good trade terms with the European Union or other potential partners, he said, it would be "very vulnerable" negotiating with China. London and Beijing have both proclaimed a new "golden era" of relations between the former imperial power - whose forces repeatedly invaded China in the 19th century - and the rising Asian giant, now the world's second-largest economy. Last year two-way trade between them reached \$78.54 billion according to Chinese Customs - almost 14 percent of China's total business with the EU - with the Asian country enjoying a surplus of more than \$40 billion. A falling pound will of itself make Chinese exports more expensive in Britain.

But since entering the European Union in the 1970s Britain has had no trade negotiators, said de Jonquieres, noting that London's eagerness to court China would give it "no leverage" with Beijing. "The British government has acted in a way that suggests it is prepared to a large extent to woo China hard if not indeed to dance to China's tune," he added. "The idea that Britain on its own could negotiate a deal that gives it better access to China's market is implausible." Geo-strategically, he said, it was "an extraordinary opportunity to peel off a very close US ally, in fact the closest US ally in Europe".

### Chance for Bargains

Many foreign firms setting up in Britain in recent decades have done so partly to gain access to European markets, a benefit which could come under threat following Brexit, with clouds of uncertainty hanging over their future relationship. "It will be hard for (China), as an investor, to consider and make strategies for the EU and Britain as a whole in future like how it did before," Cui Hongjian, director of department for European Studies at China Institute of International Studies, told AFP.

But Chinese investors are very "acquisition oriented" and will be looking out for bargains, said Christopher Balding, professor of political economics at Peking University HSBC Business School. British finance minister George Osborne - a prominent Remain campaigner whose political future is now in doubt - has long sought to promote London as a hub for international trading of China's yuan currency. —AFP



## EUROSCEPTICS SAY NEXIT, FREXIT ARE NEXT

**THE HAGUE:** Eurosceptics were triumphant yesterday after Britain voted to leave the EU and swiftly demanded referendums in their own countries in what could sound the death knell for the European project. "Yes, I think this is the end of EU. There is no way back from that. The EU has already passed away already," Dutch anti-Islam MP Geert Wilders told AFP. "The genie cannot go back into the bottle, the patient has already passed away." He vowed to make a Dutch referendum on whether to leave the European Union a central plank in his Freedom Party's (PVV) campaign for parliamentary elections due by mid-March.

Britons voted 52 percent to 48 percent to quit the bloc, a margin of more than one million votes, according to final results from Thursday's referendum. "Victory for Freedom! As I have been asking for years, we must now have the same referendum in France and EU countries," French far-right

leader Marine Le Pen wrote on Twitter shortly after the results were announced. "Europe will be at the heart of the next (French) presidential election" in April 2017, she told a later press conference.

Since last year, polls have consistently shown support for Wilders' PVV party as Europe has struggled with its worst migration crisis since World War II. And if held today, polls say the party would win 31 seats, more than doubling the 15 it currently holds, to become the largest party in the 150-seat parliament.

### 'You Need National Identity'

Speaking to AFP, Wilders vowed that if he becomes prime minister next year, he would form a coalition government with parties with whom "a deal has been made that there would be a referendum. "So I would govern with parties that would want such a referendum." There have been growing fears the British vote could trigger a domino effect,

thereby threatening the core of the European project. "The EU is failing, the EU is dying, I hope that we've got the first brick out of the wall," said Britain's jubilant top anti-EU campaigner Nigel Farage, leader of the UK Independence Party.

As EU leaders gathered for crisis talks in Brussels, EU President Donald Tusk rushed to offer assurances the bloc was "determined to keep our unity". Wilders dismissed concerns about a return to instability and strife. "Nobody wants another war, and nobody wants not to cooperate or trade with another," he told AFP. But he argued that over the past decades the EU had moved away from its founding ideals of economic cooperation to become "a political project with the transfer of sovereign rights". "I believe that a democracy, a true democracy, needs a nation state. You need a national identity you need to rally around a flag, you need to be in charge of your own borders and

your own budget."

### 'Now It's Our Turn'

Italy's most prominent far-right politician, Matteo Salvini also said his country should follow Britain's example. "Cheers to the

bravery of free citizens," the leader of the anti-immigration, anti-EU Northern League wrote on Twitter. "Heart, head and pride beat lies, threats and blackmail. THANKS UK, now it is our turn #Brexit". —AFP



**CALAIS, France:** The initials of the United Kingdom are seen tagged into heart-shape logos onto some tents of migrants inside the "Jungle" camp for migrants and refugees yesterday. —AFP



**BELFAST:** Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams (left) and Sinn Féin politician and Northern Ireland's Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness speak during a press conference outside Stormont Castle yesterday. —AFP

## SINN FEIN SEEKS IRISH UNITY POLL

**DUBLIN:** Northern Ireland's deputy leader Martin McGuinness called yesterday for a vote to unite the two sides of the Irish border as stocks tumbled in the economic and political fallout from Britain's decision to quit the EU. Ireland has the EU's fastest-growing economy but also more to lose from Brexit than any other member state, with far-reaching implications for its trade, economy, security of energy supplies and peace in British-ruled Northern Ireland.

After 56 percent of Northern Irish voters sought to remain in the EU compared to the 52 percent of the United Kingdom as a whole who voted to leave, Sinn Féin's McGuinness demanded that London call a referendum on a united Ireland. "The British government now has no democratic mandate to represent the views of the North in any future negotiations with the European Union and I do believe that there is a democratic imperative for a 'border poll' to be held," McGuinness told national Irish broadcaster RTE. "The implications for all of us on the island of Ireland are absolutely massive. This could have very profound implications for our economy (in Northern Ireland)."

The call from Sinn Féin, Northern Ireland's largest Irish nationalist party, was rebuffed by pro-British First Minister Arlene Foster and Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny, who said there were much more serious issues to deal with. Kenny called an emergency cabinet meeting shortly after the result and afterwards published a plan his government had prepared in advance, listing actions it would take over trade, investment, British-Irish relations and Northern Ireland. —Reuters

## NEW SCOTLAND INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM 'HIGHLY LIKELY'

### SCOTLAND VOTED 62-38 TO REMAIN IN EU

**EDINBURGH:** A second Scottish independence referendum is "highly likely", First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said yesterday, raising the prospect that the United Kingdom could tear itself apart after voting to leave the European Union. Scotland, a nation of five million people, voted decisively to stay in the EU by 62 to 38 percent in a referendum on Thursday, putting it at odds with the United Kingdom as a whole, which voted 52-48 in favor of an exit from the EU, or Brexit.

"As things stand, Scotland faces the prospect of being taken out of the EU against her will. I regard that as democratically unacceptable," Sturgeon told a news conference in Edinburgh. "I think an independence referendum is now highly likely." A vote for independence would end the 300-year-old union between Scotland and England, its far bigger southern neighbor, dealing a body blow to the United Kingdom at a time when it is likely to still be dealing with the complex fallout from Brexit.

It would also transform the political landscape in the rump of the United Kingdom by making it much harder for Labour, the main opposition to the ruling Conservatives, to win power in London, as the party has relied on Scottish votes in the past. Scots rejected independence by 55 to 45 percent in a 2014 referendum, but since then Sturgeon's pro-independence Scottish National Party (SNP) has become much more powerful.

EU membership was one of the key issues in 2014, with those campaigning for Scotland to stick with the United Kingdom arguing that an independent Scotland would not be able to remain a member of the bloc. Sturgeon said many Scots who had voted against independence for that reason were now re-assessing their decision. "I intend to take all possible steps and explore all options to give effect to how people in Scotland voted (on Thursday), in other words to secure our continuing place in the EU and in the single market," she said.

Ruth Davidson, leader of the Scottish Conservatives, who are the main opposition force in Edinburgh politics, said she did not believe a second independence referendum would help Scotland achieve stability or be in the best interests of its people. "The 1.6 million votes cast in this (EU) referendum in favor of 'remain' do not wipe away the 2 million votes that we cast less than two years ago (to stay in the UK)," she said.

### Independence Before Brexit?

The SNP holds massive sway, however. It won all but three of Scotland's 59 seats in the national parliament in London in a general election last year, and holds 63 seats in the devolved parliament in Edinburgh to 31 for Davidson's

Conservatives. Nevertheless, calling a new independence vote would not be straightforward and the SNP, tempered by caution since Sturgeon took over as leader from firebrand Alex Salmond, would want to first be sure that it would win.

Where the last independence campaign fell down is widely considered to be the economic argument. An independent Scotland would, it was projected at the time, stick with its old currency, Britain's pound, with national finances underpinned by an oil price then over \$100 but now roughly half that level. Sturgeon would have to build a robust economic independence strategy to convince those who in 2014 were emotionally inclined to leave the UK but voted to stay in because of the economics. —Reuters

## SPAIN SAYS 'CLOSER TO' CONTROLLING GIBRALTAR

**MADRID:** Spain said yesterday it was closer to bringing Gibraltar under its control after Britain voted to leave the European Union, prompting London to jump in to ease concerns in the overseas territory. The tiny rocky outcrop on Spain's southern tip has long been the subject of an acrimonious sovereignty row between London and Madrid, which wants Gibraltar back after it was ceded to Britain in 1713.

"Our formula... is British-Spanish co-sovereignty for a determined period of time, which after that time has elapsed, will head towards the restitution of Gibraltar to Spanish sovereignty," Spain's acting Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Garcia-Margallo told Spanish radio. "The Spanish flag is much closer to the Rock." But Britain's Minister for Europe David Lidington sought to ease concerns in the 33,000-strong territory. "I want to be absolute-

ly clear. The United Kingdom will continue to stand beside Gibraltar," he said in a statement. "We will never enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another state against your wishes."

### 'Time for Unity'

Spain's conservative government, which has been in place since 2011 and is expected to win elections tomorrow - albeit without an absolute majority - has been particularly vocal about its desire to see Gibraltar come back into its fold. The Rock is now worried that it will be at the mercy of Madrid without the protection of the EU, which has had to intervene in the past to ease rows between the two, particularly over the flashpoint border crossing. —AFP



## GUNMAN KILLED AS POLICE STORM GERMAN CINEMA

**VIERNHEIM, Germany:** A masked gunman barricaded himself in a German multiplex cinema with dozens of people Thursday before being killed by police on high security alert following a string of attacks around Europe, officials said. No-one else was injured at the complex in the western town of Viernheim, 75 km south of Frankfurt, the interior minister of Hesse state, Peter Beuth, said. "The assailant moved through the cinema complex... and appeared confused," he said. "There were hostages inside and there was a struggle (with police) until in the end he was dead." Beuth added: "We have no information that anyone (among the cinemagoers) was injured."

Security sources quoted by German news agency DPA said there was "no link to terrorism", after deadly attacks

in cities including Paris, Brussels and Istanbul that have left European authorities on edge. A police spokesman said the attacker was seen carrying a bag. Access to the cinema was sealed off for several hours as police searched for possible explosives but the local Mannheimer Morgen newspaper quoted the police later as saying no explosives were found.

Initial reports had spoken of shots fired and dozens of injured people as the police dispatched heavily armed elite units to the site, equipped with helmets and bulletproof vests. "There was an acute threat situation," Viernheim police said in a statement. The reported injuries later appeared to refer to the short-lived choking sensation induced by the police use of tear gas. — AFP



**VIERNHEIM, Germany:** A policeman stands near a cinema where an armed man barricaded himself on Thursday. — AFP



**YEREVAN, Armenia:** Pope Francis and Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan walk past a children's choir during a welcoming ceremony at Zvaretnots airport yesterday. — AP

## POPE VISITS ARMENIA WITH MIDEAST PEACE MESSAGE

### VISIT CLOSELY FOLLOWED IN ANKARA

**YEREVAN:** Pope Francis began a three-day visit to Armenia yesterday, just over a year after he enraged Turkey by using the term genocide to describe the mass killings of Armenians under the Ottoman Empire. The pontiff's 14th overseas trip since his 2013 election is expected to see him highlight Vatican concern over instability, conflict and the plight of Christians in the war-torn Middle East, which has seen Armenia take in many refugees.

But his visit will also be closely followed in Ankara, which rejects the idea that a genocide took place during World War I and has accused international powers of using disputed history as a means of bullying Turkey. On his way to Yerevan, Francis told reporters that Britain's decision to exit the European Union means Europe must bear "great responsibility" to ensure the well-being of its population. "The people's will has been expressed," Francis said. "This requires of us great responsibility to ensure the well-being of the people of Great Britain, as well as well-being and coexistence of the whole European continent."

Highlights of the papal trip will include a visit to Armenia's main memorial to the 1915-17 killings, a meeting with members of the country's small Roman Catholic community and the release of two doves in the direction of Mount Ararat from the Khor Virap sanctuary near the border with Turkey. The 5,160-m high Mount Ararat was Armenian until 1915 and is now located inside Turkey. It features in the Bible as the place where Noah's Ark supposedly came to rest.

Francis is the second pope to visit Armenia since it re-emerged as an independent state from the ashes of the Soviet Union. John Paul II went there in 2001 to attend celebrations marking 1,700 years of the adoption of Christianity in Armenia, which was the first country to have the faith as its state religion. John Paul was also the first pope to recognize the slaughter of Armenians as genocide, although he did so only in writing. Francis pronounced the word during a mass at St Peter's last year, winning great praise from Armenians at the

cost of infuriating Turkey, which withdrew its ambassador in protest.

#### Suffering and Tragedies

Francis's visit "bears religious, political, and humanitarian messages", said Father Shahe Ananyan, a cleric in the Armenian Apostolic Church, to which the vast majority of the country's population belong. By visiting the Tsitsernakaberd genocide memorial today, "the pontiff makes it clear that he is steadfast in his position on the matter," Ananyan added. "This is a message to the entire Catholic world, to those who didn't yet recognize the genocide. This will favor international recognition."

Over 13,000 people have booked tickets to attend the mass the pope will preside over in Gyumri with pilgrims from Lebanon and Georgia's Armenian-populated Javakheti region expected to be among them. In an Armenian-rite mass at St Peter's basilica in April 2015, Francis said the massacres suffered by Armenians between 1915 and 1917 are "widely considered the first genocide of the 20th century". — AFP

## COURT RULES ZUMA CAN BE CHARGED OVER GRAFT

**JOHANNESBURG:** A South African court yesterday threw out President Jacob Zuma's attempt to appeal against a ruling that he should face almost 800 corruption charges, piling pressure on the embattled leader. Zuma had tried to overturn a court order in April that the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) should reinstate the charges that were dropped in 2009 shortly before he came to power. The charges relate to alleged corruption, racketeering, fraud and money laundering over a multi-billion dollar arms deal.



**Jacob Zuma**

The president has battled several corruption scandals while in office, as well as enduring growing criticism focused on South Africa's record unemployment and poor growth rate. "We seriously considered whether the appeal would have reasonable prospects of success and came to the conclusion that there are no merits in the arguments," Judge Aubrey Ledwaba told the High Court in Pretoria. "The applications for leave to appeal... are dismissed." — AFP

## WADE'S SON FREED AFTER GRAFT PARDON

**DAKAR:** Senegalese President Macky Sall yesterday pardoned Karim Wade, the divisive son of his predecessor, letting the former minister go free after serving half of a six-year sentence for graft. In detention since his 2013 arrest, Wade was found guilty in March 2015 of illicitly amassing a fortune worth at least A178 million (\$198 million). Wade, 47, who held several government portfolios during his father's 2000-2012 rule, was freed in the early hours of yesterday morning, said Soro Diop, press officer for the justice ministry.



**Karim Wade**

Diop said Wade had left Dakar for Qatar. According to the Senegalese media and the opposition, he left in a private jet. The presidency later released a statement saying that the financial sanctions against him remained in place. Wade was fined the equivalent of more than A210 million and his assets were confiscated after his conviction. Justice Minister Sidiki Kaba said the decision "does not erase the conviction which will remain on his file".

Sall had raised the possibility of a pardon in an interview with French broadcaster RFI on June 2, and had also hinted at a release before the end of Ramadan - due to finish around July 6. "A lot of people are asking that he be released," the president told RFI on a visit to France, adding that "they should not lose hope". — AFP



## US DEMOCRATS END MARATHON GUN CONTROL SIT-IN

**WASHINGTON:** Democratic lawmakers pushing for tougher US gun control laws after the Orlando nightclub massacre ended a stunning 24-hour sit-in at Congress on Thursday. But they vowed to return with renewed vigor when the legislature comes back from a two-week recess on July 5, and said they had mustered much popular support for their cause in a country with an epidemic of gun violence.

"We are going to leave here. We are going out down the steps to greet the people outside. American people are with us and people around the world are with us," sit-in leader John Lewis, a longtime congressman and veteran of the civil rights movement who marched with Martin Luther King, told reporters. "We must never give up or give in. We must keep the faith and we must come back here on July 5 more determined than ever before," Lewis said, flanked by lawmakers including House minority leader Nancy Pelosi.

The scenes from the floor of the House of Representatives, where the protest began on Wednesday, were



**WASHINGTON:** House Democrats hold a sit-in to call for a vote on stricter gun control laws at the Capitol on Thursday. — AFP

unprecedented in recent history. Dozens of Democrats disrupted the chamber's proceedings after Republican House speaker Paul Ryan refused to allow votes on two bills demanded by Democrats. One would

expand background checks and the other would prevent people on government watch lists and no-fly lists from buying guns. Lewis and dozens of colleagues sat down on the carpeted floor in the well of the chamber.

Fifteen hours after the sit-in began, Ryan adjourned the House for two weeks in response to the protest and Republicans left the building for their Fourth of July recess. Before that, he called for votes on unrelated issues as he sought a return to order as Democrats shouted "No bill, no break!" referring to the Congress's two-week vacation. Dozens of Democrats spent the night in the chamber, and after a strategy meeting at midday Thursday, they decided to end the protest - at least for now.

During the sit-in, they made impassioned pleas for lawmakers to do something about gun violence in America. "The time for silence and patience is long gone," Lewis said. "Do we have raw courage to make at least a down payment on ending gun violence in America?" he added. Democratic House whip Steny Hoyer accused Republicans of having "left in the dead of night with business unfinished". "The fight will continue when the House comes back in session," he added. — AFP

## SANDERS SAYS TO VOTE FOR CLINTON

**WASHINGTON:** Bernie Sanders said yesterday he will vote for Hillary Clinton in the US presidential election in November, bowing to his former rival for the White House but stopping short of a full endorsement. Asked on MSNBC whether he would cast his ballot for Clinton, the Vermont senator who waged a surprisingly tough campaign during the primaries said, "Yes." "I think the issue right here is I'm gonna do everything I can to defeat Donald Trump," Sanders said, referring to the billionaire businessman who is the presumptive Republican presidential nominee.



**Bernie Sanders**

"I think Trump, in so many ways, will be a disaster for this country if he were to be elected president. We do not need a president whose cornerstone of his campaign is bigotry," Sanders told MSNBC. Sanders has resisted dropping out of the race even though all the primaries are over and Clinton has reached the delegate threshold she needs to secure the nomination formally at next month's convention in Philadelphia. — AFP

## OFFICER ACQUITTED OVER GRAY DEATH

**BALTIMORE:** The Baltimore policeman facing the most serious charges in the death of Freddie Gray was acquitted Thursday, in a case that sparked riots last year and fueled a national debate over how US police treat young black men. This time the trial was for the officer who drove the van in which Gray was being taken to a police station and suffered an ultimately fatal spine injury. Caesar Goodson was acquitted on all charges including second degree murder and manslaughter.

Goodson was the third of six officers charged over the death of the 25-year-old, which triggered riots in Maryland's largest city last year. No guilty verdicts have been handed down in the three trials. Because the state failed to meet its burden of proof in any of the seven charges against Goodson, "the verdict on all counts is not guilty", Judge Barry Williams, who presided over the case, told a packed court room. — AFP

## COLOMBIA, FARC REBELS SIGN HISTORIC CEASEFIRE

### TEARS OF JOY AS FIGHTING ENDS

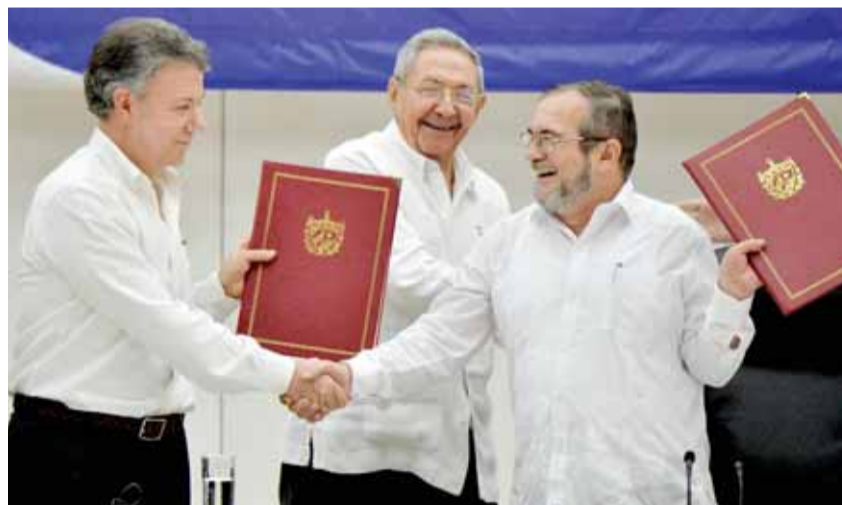
**HAVANA/BOGOTA:** The Colombian government and FARC rebels signed a ceasefire and disarmament agreement Thursday, one of the last steps toward ending a half-century conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people. The deal puts a definitive end to fighting in Latin America's longest civil war, which has torn the country apart with shootings and bombardments in its coca-rich jungles and hills. President Juan Manuel Santos and FARC leader Timoleon Jimenez shook hands and smiled after negotiators signed the deal at a ceremony in Cuba.

The deal establishes "a bilateral ceasefire and end to hostilities and the definitive laying down of arms," according to the text. "This is a historic day for our country," Santos said in a speech to assembled leaders including UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. "After more than 50 years of confrontations, deaths, attacks and pain, we have put a final end to the armed conflict with the FARC."

Disarmament will begin after the signing of a full final peace agreement, expected within weeks. "Let this be the last day of the war," Jimenez said. Thursday's agreements "leave us on the verge of completing a final accord relatively soon," he added. The final deal "will allow us to return at last to legal political activity through peaceful and democratic means."

#### Tears of Joy

In the Colombian capital of Bogota, crowds gathered to watch the announcement on a big screen. One man, Camilo Gonzalez, was moved to tears. "It has been a tragic journey. Millions of victims, people displaced, fighting, broken dreams," he said. "But I think now we have



**HAVANA:** Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos (left) and Timoleon Jimenez, aka 'Timochenko' (right), head of the FARC leftist guerrilla, shake hands accompanied by Cuban President Raul Castro during the signing of the peace agreement on Thursday. — AFP

reached a moment of hope." Under the agreement, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) must hand over its weapons to United Nations monitors within six months.

The FARC's members - an estimated 7,000 or so - will gather in "normalization zones" for a demobilization process. The sides also agreed to government action against "criminal organizations" blamed for fueling the conflict. The United States congratulated Colombia. "We will stand ready to help the Colombian people as they work toward a just and lasting peace," said US National Security Advisor Susan Rice.

The European Union's foreign representative Federica Mogherini in a statement called it a "a turning point in the

Colombian peace process". "Now all efforts must be devoted to reaching a final comprehensive agreement that will pave the way to durable peace in the country" and justice for victims, she said.

#### 260,000 Dead

The Colombian conflict started in the 1960s as a rural uprising for land rights that spawned the communist FARC. The conflict has drawn in various leftist rebel groups, right-wing paramilitaries and drug gangs over the decades. It has left 260,000 people dead, 45,000 missing and nearly seven million displaced, according to official figures. Human rights groups say atrocities have been committed on all sides. Many families are still searching for missing loved ones. — AFP



## DECADE AFTER NEPAL PACT, WAR CRIMES PROBED

**KATHMANDU:** A handful of faded photographs have long been Suntali Rasaili's only treasured memento of her teenage daughter, allegedly executed by Nepali soldiers at the height of the Maoist insurgency. But a decade after Maoist rebels signed a peace pact, families of victims are also hoping for justice, as Nepal prepares this month to start investigations into crimes committed during the conflict. Rasaili is among thousands filing complaints with two commissions, one of which is headed by a high-ranking judge and the other by a senior parliamentary official.

The commissions have a two-year term and were set up to probe murders, rapes, forced disappearances and other atrocities. "I feel like I won't find any peace until I die... not unless I get justice for my daughter," Rasaili told AFP. One night in February 2004, dozens of soldiers turned up at Rasaili's home, demanding to see her daughter Reena whom they

suspected of being a Maoist. Plucking the 17-year-old from her bed, the soldiers barred her parents from leaving the house, the family says. Hours later, three gunshots rang out across the isolated hamlet.

Reena's body was found

slumped next to a tree and the soldiers were gone. She had been shot in the head, eye and chest, according to activists who took up the case. "Reena enjoyed school, she used to say that once she finished her studies and got a job, she would take care of the

family and look after us in our old age," Rasaili said. "Her death tore apart our family. After that I never wanted to let any of my children out of my sight, I was scared they would never come back," she added.

More than 17,000 people were killed, 1,300 people disappeared and thousands were displaced during the decade-long war that ended in 2006. The peace deal signed between Maoists and government forces included plans for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission and a Commission for Enforced Disappearances. But Nepal only established the two bodies in 2015 after years of political infighting over how to bring justice to victims of abuses committed by both sides.

### Amnesty Concerns

Activists say the delay reflects authorities' reluctance to find the perpetrators, many of whom still occupy positions in

the military and political parties. "Whether it's the Maoists or the police or the army, all the people involved in these crimes are on the same page," said Ram Kumar Bhandari, coordinator of the National Network of Families of the Disappeared and the Missing. "They have come together to cover the truth and hide the truth."

The commissions have already received some 27,000 complaints of abuse, and one of the commissions has extended this month's filing deadline because of the huge response. But concerns have been raised about the safety of those willing to testify to investigators, because there is no protection program for witnesses. Local media recently reported that security forces had tried to gain details of complainants in western Nepal, prompting the army to issue a statement saying such attempts do not reflect official policy. —AFP



**KATHMANDU:** This picture taken on May 12, 2016 shows Nepalese woman Suntali Rasaili holding a photo of her daughter during an interview at her house. —AFP

## FREED FILIPINA RECOUNTS BOYFRIEND'S BEHEADING

### SEVEN INDONESIA SAILORS ABDUCTED

**MANILA:** A Filipina hostage released by southern Philippine militants yesterday broke down in tears as she recounted how her Canadian boyfriend had been beheaded a week earlier. Marites Flor was abducted in September by Abu Sayyaf militants, along with three others, two of whom - Flor's partner Robert Hall and fellow Canadian John Ridsdel - were killed. Flor cried as she recounted how the kidnapers led away Hall to be beheaded after a ransom deadline lapsed last week. Ridsdel had been killed in April. "It was painful to see them so happy before they did the beheading.

They just put handcuffs on him and took him out," she said.

The four were seized in September aboard yachts at a tourist resort on Samal island, about 500 km to the west of Sulu, known as a hideout of the militants. Yesterday, Flor was dropped off at dawn outside the house of a local politician on Sulu, provincial police chief Wilfredo Cayat told AFP. Incoming Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has said he and his aides were "able to negotiate" for her release.

Duterte says he is currently trying to secure the release of the fourth hostage,

Norwegian national Kjartan Sekkingstad. "Hopefully, God willing, the Norwegian will be freed soon," the firebrand politician - who has vowed to crack down on crime - said in a speech from his hometown of Davao, with Flor beside him.

### Indonesian Sailors Kidnapped

Flor was released the same day Jakarta announced that seven Indonesian sailors had been kidnapped at sea off the southern Philippines, in waters where Abu Sayyaf is known to operate. Following the announcement Jakarta banned any Indonesian-flagged vessels from sailing to the Philippines. "This hijacking issue is a serious matter and cannot be tolerated anymore," senior transport ministry official A Tonny Budiono said in a statement. It's not yet clear how significantly trade will be affected by the ban, but it could severely disrupt a major flow of goods from Southeast Asia's largest economy - including natural resources like coal - to the Philippines.

Philippine authorities told AFP they were working to verify the report but a local analyst said it was likely Abu Sayyaf was behind the abduction. Earlier this year the group kidnapped 14 Indonesian sailors, holding them in their stronghold in the southern Philippines. They were later freed but there was no information on whether a ransom was paid. The defense ministers of the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia agreed this week to consider coordinated steps including possible joint patrols to tackle a wave of seaborne crime in the Sulu and Celebes seas, which together form a key waterway among the three countries. —AFP



## SRI LANKA CLOSE TO APPROVING FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW

**COLOMBO:** Sri Lankan lawmakers are close to giving citizens the right to demand public information - a move many hope will restore transparency and good governance to a nation long plagued by corruption and misrule. Parliament was expected to approve the Right to Information bill late yesterday. Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said the lack of such legislation has led to large-scale corruption and financial losses to the country through questionable deals.

The bill proposes to give citizens access to public information except personal information, information relating to national security, financial and commercial policy decisions, intellectual property and medical reports. Information also could be withheld if its release is deemed to be in violation of parliamentary privileges. Sri Lanka has a long history of official secrecy. Information has frequently reached the public only through the leaking of documents to the media, and in recent years the government has cracked down on that as well. The bill, a longstanding demand from journalists and activists, is part of reforms President Maithripala Sirisena promised before winning the 2015 presidential election. Under his predecessor, Mahinda Rajapaksa, access to government information was greatly limited and journalists were regularly threatened, attacked or even killed.

Media and Information Minister Gayantha Karunatilaka told Parliament that 4,000 state institutions will be covered by the law and 8,000 officials will be trained to provide requested information. The government says it will take about one year to complete logistics and training and for the law to become fully operational. At least 95 countries, from Iceland to Iran, have some form of freedom of information laws on the books, according to Right2Info, a website launched by the Open Society Justice Initiative. Still, enforcement varies considerably and some of those governments routinely ignore or refuse requests. "This is a huge victory for a nation that had nothing of this sort," said K W Janaranjana, an activist lawyer and newspaper editor. He said the law will take time to be successful. "It is not enough bringing in laws; we have to build up an information culture. People are not used to it so we must encourage them to practice this frequently." —AP



# SAUDIS URGED TO SAY 'NO' TO BEGGING

**RIYADH:** Clad in black and with a baby in her lap, a woman sits on the ground shaking a cardboard box outside the door of a Saudi mosque. She says she is from Jazan, a southern region of Saudi Arabia bordering Yemen, and begs every day outside the mosque in a Riyadh neighbourhood of migrant workers. Many of the South Asian men attending the mosque are low-paid labourers but they still spare a riyal for her. The box fills quickly as they drop the equivalent of 27 US cents after their prayers.

Charity is one of the main principles of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month when Muslims around the world fast from dawn until dusk. Each Ramadan, which began this year on June 6, many more beggars take to the streets of oil-rich Saudi Arabia, Islam's spiritual home. But this year a leading charity is urging Saudis to channel their generosity elsewhere. Alwaleed Philanthropies, the charity arm of billionaire Saudi businessman Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, says begging is linked to "street gangs" and substance abuse.

"Cases of begging rise by 50 percent in the month of Ramadan," the organization said in a statement announcing its campaign, warning that giving money "only serves to perpetuate the problem". It said the "reality of street-beggars" involved practices including "faking disabilities" and taking advantage of children, and that more than 700 million riyals (\$187 million) was made in Saudi Arabia every year from begging. The campaign



**RIYADH:** A Saudi man hands money to a woman begging outside a supermarket on a main street in the Saudi capital on June 20, 2016. —AFP

provides a website directing people to "the right charities".

### 'Forced Labor'

Elsewhere in Riyadh, boys with cleaning fluid and squeegees offer their services as windshield cleaners in a variant of begging at traffic lights. Children from South Asia, East Africa and Yemen "are subjected to forced labor as beggars and street vendors, facilitated by criminal gangs," the US State

Department's 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report said of Saudi Arabia. In 2014 Saudi authorities arrested more than 8,000 people for begging - 70 percent of them foreigners.

However, between April and December of that year only one person was convicted of forcing others to beg, the US report said. The presence of so many foreign beggars is due in part to the country's role as a destination for Muslim pilgrims. Millions of pilgrims from around the

world visit Saudi Arabia every year for the hajj and the lesser umrah pilgrimage, which is popular during Ramadan.

The United Nations children's fund (UNICEF) has said that many poor families who enter Saudi Arabia on a pilgrimage visa stay on illegally and become beggars, or leave children behind to beg and send money home. Many beggars can be seen in the holy city of Makkah and at its Grand Mosque,

Islam's holiest site. They are mainly women of various Arab, Asian and African origins, often accompanied by children.

### 'People Like To Give'

One youngster hoping for money clings to the simple ihram cloth worn by a pilgrim. The beggars are reluctant to talk and careful to avoid local authorities stationed in the area to catch them. A few kilometres (miles) from the Grand Mosque, AFP spoke to one beggar sitting outside a mini market. She gave her name as Um Mohammed and said she came from Chad seven years ago on a pilgrimage. She never left. "Good people like to give to the poor and needy. We are poor," said Um Mohammed. "We take what we need to survive and send the rest to families in Chad." She says she receives 30-60 riyals on a normal day. In a good month her earnings can rise to 5,000 riyals (\$1,300), more during pilgrimage season.

Riyadh police arrested 90 beggars including 34 children during the first four days of Ramadan, the Arab News reported. Yet many are undeterred. At a sprawling Riyadh intersection, a woman clad in black walks slowly along a line of cars with a finger raised, hoping for handouts in the midday heat that exceeds 40 degrees Celsius. She tells AFP she is from Makkah, and claims to be a novice beggar. "I just came today," she says, clutching a one-riyal note given by a passing taxi driver. —AFP

Kuwait Times

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## MYANMAR BUDDHISTS RANSACK MOSQUE

**BAGO, Myanmar:** Scores of Buddhists ransacked a mosque in central Myanmar forcing Muslims to seek refuge in a police station overnight, officials and residents said yesterday, as tensions between the two groups continues to plague the Southeast Asian nation. Bouts of anti-Muslim violence have left scores dead across Myanmar since 2012 and the febrile atmosphere has seen Aung San Suu Kyi's new government come under pressure to address the country's sectarian divides.

The most recent violence erupted on Thursday afternoon as a mob of around 200 Buddhists rampaged through a Muslim area of a village in Bago province following an argument between neighbors over the building of a Muslim school. "It started when a Muslim man and Buddhist women started to argue and then people came to fight him," Hla Tint, the village administrator, told AFP. "Parts of the mosque were destroyed... they also destroyed the fence of the Muslim cemetery," he added.

Around 70 Muslims, including children, sought shelter in a police station overnight on Thursday, he said, adding there were no serious injuries and peace had been restored. But one Muslim resident told AFP his community of around 150 people is now



**BAGO, Myanmar:** Ali Ahmed, secretary of the mosque, cries inside the destroyed mosque in Thuye Tha Mein village in this province yesterday after violence erupted. — AFP

living in fear. "We had to hide as some people were threatening to kill Muslims. The situation has never been like this before," Tin Shwe Oo, 29, told AFP, adding his family stayed at the small police station overnight. "I do not dare to stay at my house. For the safety of my family, I want to stay somewhere else for about a week or so."

Police confirmed the damage, while the

mosque's secretary, Win Shwe, told AFP it is now "impossible" for the Muslims to worship. Outbreaks of deadly violence have roiled the country in recent years threatening to unpick democratic gains since the army began loosening its stranglehold in 2011. The worst violence struck central Myanmar and western Rakhine State which is home to the stateless Rohingya Muslim

minority, tens of thousands of whom still languish in displacement camps after rioting.

### UN Warning

Buddhist nationalists vigorously oppose moves to recognize the Rohingya as an official minority group, instead labelling them "Bengali" - shorthand for illegal migrants from the border with Bangladesh. The Information Ministry this week ordered Myanmar officials to refer to the oppressed minority as "people who believe in Islam" rather than Rohingya or Bengali, while the UN warned violations against the group could amount to "crimes against humanity".

Suu Kyi, who is currently visiting Thailand, has come under fire for failing to speak up for the Rohingya or strongly condemn the abuse they face. Analysts say the veteran activist, for years celebrated around the world as a vocal champion of human rights, is choosing her words carefully to avoid sparking unrest in a country she now leads. Her ruling pro-democracy party is dominated by ethnic Bamar Buddhists and did not field any Muslim MPs in the election last year that drove it to power. Hardline monks - known as the Ma Ba Tha - are accused of stoking violence and tensions with hate speech. — AFP



**PHNOM PENH:** Suspects sit as Chinese police officials stand guard before boarding a plane at the Phnom Penh International Airport yesterday. — AFP

## CAMBODIA DEPORTS 25 TAIWANESE FRAUD SUSPECTS TO CHINA

**PHNOM PENH:** Cambodia deported 25 Taiwanese nationals wanted on fraud charges to China yesterday, an official said, prompting an angry rebuke from Taipei which wanted the suspects returned to Taiwan. Taipei accuses Beijing of "abducting" its citizens from countries that do not recognize the island's government - such as close China ally Cambodia. Immigration officer Uk Heisela confirmed a Chinese plane left Phnom Penh "with the suspects" on Thursday morning. "Chinese police came with the plane. Each suspect was escorted by two Chinese police," he said.

He added that the 25 Taiwanese suspects were joined by 14 Chinese nationals, all of whom were recently arrested for allegedly running a telephone fraud scam targeting victims on the mainland. Taiwan's foreign ministry slammed the move Friday and said Cambodia went ahead with the deportation "despite strong demand from our side". It added that Cambodia faces significant pressure from Beijing to uphold its 'one China' policy.

The island's Mainland Affairs Council, which handles relations with Beijing, said it would "continue to negotiate with the Chinese side in the hope that those involved will be sent back to Taiwan for trial". Taiwan is self-ruling after a civil war split with China in 1949, but Beijing still sees it as a part of its territory waiting to be reunified. — AFP

## SCENES OF CARNAGE AS CHINA STORM KILLS 98

### TORNADO OVERTURNS CARS, RIPS OFF ROOFS

**YANCHENG, China:** Survivors scrambled through the rubble of their homes yesterday after hurricane-force winds and a tornado left at least 98 dead in China, with hundreds more injured. Whole villages were levelled and huge trees felled when winds of up to 125 km per hour struck around Yancheng city in the eastern province of Jiangsu on Thursday, the official Xinhua news agency said. In Shizhuang, scores gathered beside a large fishing pond where a male corpse floated in the water, as workers cleared up fallen electricity poles nearby.

A distraught woman who thought he was her missing husband was held up by relatives, as another bystander asked: "How come no one is pulling him out yet?" So far 98 people have been confirmed dead in the storm and 846 hospitalized with injuries, Yancheng's deputy mayor Wu Xiaodan told a briefing, according to the city's verified microblog. President Xi Jinping ordered "all-out rescue efforts" after what Xinhua said was one of the worst disasters ever to hit Jiangsu, including the worst tornado to hit China in half a century. In Funing County, one of the hardest-hit areas, residents shifted through the fallen bricks and pillars of their destroyed homes, many with their roofs torn off, and rubble spilled into a river. Wu, the official, said that 28,104 houses in the county had been affected. Funing resident Sun Yazhou was driving a concrete mixer truck when a tornado passed him, tearing the glass out of his vehicle windows. "The sky was completely dark. I was scared, but I had nowhere to run. I had to wait it out," he told AFP. Zhou Xiang, head of the provincial fire corps, said the search



**FUNING, China:** Residents walk in the rubble of destroyed houses after a tornado hit Yancheng in China's Jiangsu province yesterday. — AFP

for survivors in the debris had been completed, according to Xinhua, and the clean-up was now underway. More than 1,300 police officers had been mobilized to help, the agency added.

### 'I Can't Believe I'm Still Alive'

The wards of a hospital in Funing county were all full, with extra beds crowding the hallways. Sitting on a gurney in the hospital corridor, Chen Shaoxi nursed a head injury and broken leg that he sustained while saving his elderly neighbors from the storm. "If it weren't for my dad, those two would have been dead," his son Wang Minming said. A factory worker with head and arm injuries and on an intravenous drip told AFP he had been swept out of his workplace by the tornado,

despite clinging to a door as he tried to hold it shut against the storm. "It all happened so fast. I have never seen anything like this before in my life," he said. "I thought for sure I was going to die," he added. "I can't believe I am still alive."

The Canadian Solar solar panel factory - which employed around 1,000 workers - and its dormitory were destroyed. Workers and People's Liberation Army soldiers were removing fallen high voltage electricity poles around the factory, where buildings had been stripped of their roofs by the storm and their windows blown out. Reports said more than 360 rescuers were deployed at the factory, where two employees of the firm, which is based in West Guelph, Ontario, were missing. — AFP



# BUSINESS



SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016



A combination made yesterday shows monitors displaying exchange rates in Paris, Tokyo, Sydney and Amsterdam. —AFP

## UK ECONOMY PLUNGES INTO BREXIT UNKNOWN

### WORLD STOCKS CRASH, STERLING SUFFERS HISTORIC FALL IN MASSIVE SELLOFF

**LONDON:** Britain's economy plunged into a dizzying unknown yesterday, as the world economy braced for a hit to growth and unemployment after the UK voted to ditch the EU. Financial markets illustrated the turbulence that could lie ahead for the world's fifth biggest economy, with the pound collapsing to its lowest level against the dollar since 1985 and equity investors nursing heavy losses.

Global capital markets reeled yesterday after the vote with \$2 trillion in value wiped from equity bourses worldwide, while money poured into safe-haven gold and government bonds. Sterling suffered a record plunge.

Campaigners wanting Britain to remain part of the European Union argued long and hard about the economic risks of Brexit, but ultimately failed to convince a majority of voters in Thursday's referendum. The UK must now face up to the swirling winds of economic change, as International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde called on Britain and Europe to work together to ensure that the pullout will occur smoothly.

In the immediate term, a financial storm has already blown far and wide across global trading

floors. "It's been a bloodbath. Carnage," said David Papier, head of sales trading at ETX Capital, with shares in British lenders Barclays and state-rescued Royal Bank of Scotland losing around a third of their value in early deals. The many political uncertainties linked to the lengthy exit process are also set to impact Britain's economy in the medium to long-term, according to experts.

Nevertheless, the World Trade Organization has predicted that British exporters risk an extra £5.6 billion (\$8.2 billion, 7.2 billion euros) of extra annual customs duties following Brexit.

Whether these are lifted during Britain's period of transition remains to be seen, while the country's banking and car manufacturing sectors have made it clear that jobs would have to be relocated abroad because of the vote's outcome. US investment bank JPMorgan Chase on Friday warned that it could relocate UK jobs abroad in reaction to the vote.

JPMorgan employs 16,000 people in Britain, while chairman and chief executive Jamie Dimon previously said that up to 4,000 jobs could move out of the UK.

Following an EU exit, London could shed

100,000 jobs, according to finance lobbyists TheCityUK ahead of the vote. "There are a number of large companies that say they are using the UK as a gateway to Europe and a number of companies have said that they would relocate their headquarters in the event of a Brexit-moving out of London to other financial centres in Europe," said Scott Corfe, a director at the independent Centre for Economics and Business Research.

#### Recession?

According to the IMF, in the worst-case scenario, the UK economy could sink into recession next year and overall economic output would be 5.6 percent lower than otherwise forecast by 2019, with unemployment rising back above six percent from 5.0 percent currently. Experts have warned also of tumbling tax receipts and of Britain potentially losing its AAA credit ratings-affecting the amount of money it can borrow on markets at a time when it is still slashing state spending under a severe austerity program triggered by the 2008 global financial crisis. Highlighting the uncertainty, Jean-Michel Six, of SP Global Ratings, told AFP that

the Brexit result "increases" the risk of Britain losing its AAA assessment.

#### Markets nosedive

The blow to investor confidence and the uncertainty the vote has sparked could keep the Federal Reserve from raising interest rates as planned this year, and even spark a new round of emergency policy easing from major central banks. The traditional safe-harbor assets of top-rated government debt, the Japanese yen and gold all jumped. Spot gold rose more than 5 percent and the yield on the benchmark 10-year US Treasury note fell to lows last seen in 2012 at 1.5445 percent.

Stocks tumbled in Europe. London's FTSE dropped 2.4 percent while Frankfurt and Paris each fell 6 percent to 8 percent. Italian and Spanish markets, and European bank stocks overall, were headed for their sharpest one-day drops ever. Worries that other EU states could hold their own referendums were compounded by the fact that markets had rallied on Thursday, seemingly convinced the UK would vote to stay in. —Agencies



# BREXIT HAS LIMITED IMPACT ON OIL PRICES SO FAR: EXPERT

## BRITAIN NOW WORLD'S 15TH LARGEST OIL CONSUMER

**LONDON:** Crude oil prices have so far shown only a modest impact from Britain's vote to leave the European Union on Thursday. Brent crude futures for the nearest contact to delivery were down by just over \$2 per barrel or about 4 percent compared with the previous close at 0900 GMT yesterday morning.

In both dollar and percentage terms the price move was about two standard deviations compared with all one-day price changes since 1990. Far larger moves have been common in oil markets which suggests traders see the impact from the vote as relatively limited, at least for the time being. Britain consumes less than 1.6 million barrels of

oil per day, 1.6 percent of the global total, and the country's consumption has been static or falling since 2005.

Britain is now the world's 15th largest oil consumer, ranking far behind the United States and China but also behind Brazil, South Korea, Germany, Canada, Iran, Mexico and even Indonesia. Even if the vote ushers in a period of uncertainty and causes the economy to slow or even contract, the impact on oil demand will be too small to register on a global level.

The more serious impact would be if there is contagion to the rest of the European Union, which consumes around 11.1 million bpd, only slightly

less than China. But Europe's consumption has also been flat or falling since 2005 so a slowdown or recession in the rest of the European economy would have only a modest impact on global demand.

The really significant threat comes if the turbulence in financial markets and problems in Europe trigger a widespread "risk-off" flight to safe assets and threaten an economic slowdown in the United States and Asia. So far, the oil market seems to be betting the threat of significant contagion is low, but that assessment could change very rapidly in the next week as the consequences of Brexit become clearer. — Reuters

## OPEC BASKET PRICE AT \$46.16 PB

**VIENNA:** The OPEC daily basket price stood at \$46.16 a barrel Thursday, compared with \$46.46 the previous day, the OPEC said yesterday. The new OPEC Reference Basket of Crudes (ORB) is made up of the following: Saharan Blend (Algeria), Girassol (Angola), Oriente (Ecuador), Iran Heavy (Islamic Republic of Iran), Basra Light (Iraq), Kuwait Export (Kuwait), Es Sider (Libya), Bonny Light (Nigeria), Qatar Marine (Qatar), Arab Light (Saudi Arabia), Murban (UAE) and Merey (Venezuela).

During their meeting in Vienna on June 2, OPEC oil ministers emphasized that Member Countries should continue to closely monitor developments in the coming months, and if necessary meet again and suggest further measures according to prevailing market conditions. They also decided that their next Ordinary Meeting will convene in Vienna on November 30, 2016. — KUNA

## BREXIT LANDS HEDGE FUND CHIEF ODEY A DOUBLE WINNER

**LONDON:** Crispin Odey, a hedge fund manager who backed the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union, could turn out to be one of the biggest financial winners of the vote to quit the bloc.

The boss of Odey Asset Management had bet his \$10.2 billion firm's assets on a fall in financial markets, including a series of "short" trading positions and a punt on gold. Those bets looked to have paid off yesterday when markets tumbled in reaction to Britain's decision on Thursday to leave the EU, providing a much-needed boost for Odey, whose fund had been one of the worst-performing in Britain this year.

"I think I may be the winner. I've had a pretty tough year," Odey, who bet much of his portfolio on gold, told Reuters. Odey, one of Britain's richest men, who British newspapers reported in 2014 had built a stone Romanesque temple to house his prized chickens, had signed a public letter backing Brexit and donated to the "Leave" campaign.

He said in a telephone interview following the British EU vote that he had been 100 percent net short across his investment portfolio, which means he gained when markets fell.

Odey's fund had been down 29 percent in the year to June 3, performance data seen by Reuters showed. The 57-year-old fund manager, who is based in London's plush Mayfair district, said he expected to recover 15 percent off the year's low, largely thanks to his bet on gold.

### Flexibility

Odey said Britain's decision to quit the European Union would allow it to cope better with a slowing global economy. "It was great news," said Odey. "It will give us much more flexibility (given) what I think is coming down the road, which is a recession in the United States and a difficult time."

Among his other bets were that sterling, the Hong Kong dollar and the euro would all fall against the dollar and that gold and gilt prices would rise, an investor in his fund said.

After rising 7 percent and piling on the pain for Odey in the week leading up to the vote, Britain's blue-chip stock index was down 5 percent on Friday and all of Odey's 17 major short bets - which profit if prices fall - were in the black.

Any short position bigger than 0.5 percent in a company's stock is made public by the Financial Conduct Authority. Of all his flagged positions, the biggest fall came for London-focused housebuilder Berkeley, in which Odey had a 1.42 percent short position, which fell 21 percent.

His biggest short as a percentage of the target company's stock was in insurer Lancashire Holdings, which fell 3.2 percent and in which he had a 5.2 percent position.

Other investors, burnt by last year's surprise British general election result, had been more cautious, with many expecting Britain to vote to remain in the EU, in line with late polls, Russell Barlow, Head of Hedge Funds at Aberdeen Asset Management, said yesterday. "Hedge funds had been reducing risk in the lead up to the referendum but the majority were positioned in the expectation of a 'Remain' vote," Barlow said. But Odey was not the only one who called it right, said Akshay Krishnan, head of macro strategies at \$3.5 billion fund-of-hedge-fund firm Stenham Asset Management.

"Some of our guys had been long gold leading up to it (the referendum)... I do think some people will come out making decent money for it." — Reuters



**CAPE TOWN:** Goods are stacked in containers destined for global distribution near the harbor in Cape Town, South Africa, yesterday. Stock markets crashed, oil prices tumbled and the pound fell to a 31-year low yesterday as Britain's unprecedented vote to leave the European Union shocked investors and dragged the region, the world's largest economic bloc, into a new era of uncertainty. — AP

## OIL PRICES DIVE AS UK VOTES TO LEAVE EU

**LONDON:** Oil prices slumped by more than 6 percent yesterday after Britain voted to leave the European Union, raising fears of a broader economic slowdown that could reduce demand. Financial markets have been worried for months about what Brexit, or a British exit from the European Union, would mean for Europe's future, but were clearly not fully factoring in the risk of a leave vote.

British Prime Minister David Cameron, who campaigned to remain in the EU, said he would stand down by October. Brent crude was down 4.85 percent or \$2.47 at \$48.44 a barrel at 1140 GMT. US crude was down 4.6 percent or \$2.31 at \$47.80 a barrel.

Earlier in the day, both contracts were down by more than \$3, or over 6 percent, the biggest intra-day declines for both since April 18, when a meeting of top global oil producers failed to

agree on an output freeze. Sterling sank 10 percent in value to its weakest since the mid-1980s. The FTSE 100 fell more than 8 percent at the open, with banks among the hardest hit, but by 1140 GMT had recovered some ground to stand 4.3 percent lower. "The global uncertainty that (the vote) is likely to unleash is likely to have a potentially negative effect on GDP growth, not only in the UK, but potentially in Europe," said Michael Hewson, chief market analyst CMC markets.

"Obviously we don't know that yet, but certainly in the context of where we were 24 hours ago, the knee-jerk reaction is to sell on the reality," he added.

Some analysts said oil could face further downward pressure. "Our view is that we have not yet seen the low oil price of the day with Brent likely to trade down towards \$45 or lower before we

have seen the worst of it," Bjarne Schieldrop, chief commodity analyst at SEB, said in note to clients.

"Higher risk aversion is likely to make it hard for prices to regain the \$50 per barrel mark in anything like the near future," said Commerzbank analyst Carsten Fritsch.

BP said yesterday its headquarters would remain in the United Kingdom, despite the vote. The vote to break with Europe is set to usher in deep uncertainty over trade and investments. "Any further downturn in the economy or volatility in the oil price could cause further distress in the sector and in particular further project...deferrals might have significant consequence for the service sector who also rely on mobility of employees around the world," PwC UK and EMEA oil and gas leader Alison Baker said. — Reuters



## INVESTORS HIDE IN TOP GERMAN DEBT

**LONDON** Investors ran for the safety of top-rated German debt and ditched bonds in riskier southern Europe yesterday as Britain's vote to leave the European Union gave eurozone markets their biggest shock since their 2012 crisis.

German bond yields—an indication of government borrowing costs—dropped to record lows while equivalents in the likes of Spain, Italy and Portugal shot to multi-month highs.

The vote forced the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron, paves the way for another Scottish independence referendum and deals a blow to unity across continental Europe at a time when other breakaway movements are gaining ground. "Brexit is not just a UK issue. It is an issue for Europe and it is just the start of

Europe having to figure out where the future lies," Mizuho strategist Peter Chatwell said.

German yields across all maturities plumbed record lows, with the 10-year benchmark falling as low as minus 0.17 percent, on track for its biggest drop since the height of the euro zone crisis in August 2012. The decision to leave by Britain, which accounts for around a sixth of the bloc's economic output, has emboldened eurosceptics in other member states, with populist leaders in France and the Netherlands demanding their own referendums.

"Prior to the Brexit vote, there were many countries that were not happy with the EU and that would like to see change; if that is exacerbated, then the impact on bond markets could be quite significant," said David Zahn, head of European fixed income at Franklin Templeton.

But the market fallout was most keenly felt in southern European countries like Spain, which is grappling with a separatist movement in Catalonia and is set to return to the polls this weekend for the second time in six months. Ten-year yields in Spain rose 15 basis points to 1.62 percent, with the premium it would pay to borrow over benchmark Germany stretching to its widest in more than two years. The cost of insuring Spanish debt against default—as measured by credit default swaps—rose to its highest since at least late 2014.

In Portugal and Greece, the two junk-rated borrowers in the eurozone, yields surged 27 bps and 96 bps, respectively, although by midday all peripheral yields were off highs hit earlier with traders saying the European Central Bank's asset purchases had helped calm markets. — Reuters

## BUSINESS SENTIMENT IMPROVES AT ASIA-PACIFIC COMPANIES

**BENGALURU:** Business sentiment at Asia-Pacific's biggest companies rose in the second quarter of 2016 to its highest in a year, but firms were wary about risks stemming from rising corporate debt in China and volatile oil prices, a Thomson Reuters/INSEAD survey showed.

The Thomson Reuters/INSEAD Asian Business Sentiment Index, representing the six-month outlook at 139 firms, was 67 for April-June versus 65 three months prior. Companies in the Philippines were the most upbeat followed by those in India and China. Japan was the only economy with a sentiment subindex below 50 - the level separating optimists from pessimists.

### PHILIPPINES: FOURTH TIME MOST UPBEAT AT 86 IN Q2 VS 85 IN Q1

Boosted by first-quarter economic growth that beat market expectations, nine of 11 firms polled said they had a positive outlook for the coming six months, while one was neutral and another negative.

Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co, Nickel Asia Corp and San Miguel Corp featured among the 11 firms, which said chief risks to six-month outlooks included rising competition and slowing Chinese economic growth.

Seven firms also reported higher sales and orders over the past three months with four taking on more staff.

### INDIA: LOW OIL PRICES, FOREX WORRY PULL SUBINDEX TO 78 VS 83

Seventeen of 25 Indian firms expressed optimism for the coming half-year whereas five were neutral and three pessimistic. But the subindex fell 5 points to 78, with volatile oil prices topping the list of outlook risks, while excessive foreign exchange volatility was also a concern.

Of the respondents, which included Hero MotoCorp Ltd and Reliance Industries Ltd, 15 said they enjoyed increased business compared with three months prior. Nine reported improved asset quality, and seven added headcount.

### CHINA: OPTIMISM RISES TO 75 VS 71, VARIED RISKS CITED

Five of eight respondents were upbeat about the second half of 2016 while two were neutral and one negative. The primary risk factors that companies highlighted varied, with government policies, yuan depreciation and terrorism featuring among concerns.

China Jo Jo Drugstores Inc was one of the respondents.

Two firms booked more business over the past three months and two saw improvement in the quality of assets. Three said they had added headcount.

### INDONESIA: SURVEY'S STEEPEST UPTURN IN SENTIMENT AT 64 VS 42

Fourteen companies from Indonesia responded to the survey, including PT Cowell Development Tbk, PT Hanson International Tbk and PT Kalbe Farma Tbk.

Overall, sentiment was far more bullish compared with three months previously, with eight companies reporting a positive outlook, two neutral and four negative. Key risks included currency swings and low energy prices. Though sentiment turned bullish, activity over the quarter reflected the negative outlook of the previous survey: Staffing and asset quality are largely unchanged from three months prior, while eight companies reported a decline in business volume. — Reuters

## ASIAN CARMAKERS MAY SLOW INVESTMENTS IN UK

### TRADE AND LABOR DEALS NEED TO BE RENEGOTIATED

**BEIJING:** Executives at Asian automakers with factories in Britain, largely set up to export to the European Union, say they could slow investments in Britain or even put them on ice for now, after the country voted to leave the 28-nation bloc. Automakers, including Toyota and Nissan, had been among the manufacturers that have warned that a period of uncertainty would follow a Brexit vote, as trade and labor deals with Europe are renegotiated. Most yesterday estimated it could take around two years.

Toyota and Nissan had said in the run-up to the vote that continued membership of the European Union was preferable for their operations: a vote to leave would create new challenges for an industry that employs some 800,000 people in Britain.

Even so, Sunderland in northern England, where Nissan has its operations, was among the constituencies that surprised pundits by the extent to which voters supported an exit.

Shares in all Asian automakers tumbled. "We don't have any choice but to be more cautious with our investment decisions, including moves like whether to produce a new or significantly redesigned vehicle model in the UK," said one official at a global automaker with manufacturing capacity in Britain, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Tata Motors' Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) is Britain's largest carmaker, followed by Nissan, which has been in Britain for three decades and makes 475,000 cars a year in the country, most of them for export inside the European Union and beyond. According to sources familiar with the company, JLR has estimated its annual profit could be cut by one billion pounds (\$1.47 billion) by the end of the decade as a result of Brexit. It said yesterday it remained committed to Europe.

But the carmaker also warned yesterday of a "significant negotiating period" to follow the vote. "The big question for automakers . . . is what kind of trade deals with the EU would be negotiated. That is the big unknown," a second executive at a global automaker said.

### TARIFF-FREE EXPORTS

Exports from Britain to the European

Union are free of tariffs and duties. Toyota has said duties under new trading deals could be as much as 10 percent, hitting either prices or margins, and denting sales. Toyota produced about 190,000 cars in Britain last year. Of that, 75 percent went to the European Union. Only 10 percent was shipped and sold within Britain.

South Korea's auto association said it was worried a departure could revive a 10-percent tariff on exports of passenger vehicles to UK, unless a separate deal is negotiated. "This could inevitably undermine the price competitiveness of South Korean automakers in UK, as opposed to Japanese and German rivals which have production bases there," said Kim Tae-nyen, vice president at the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA).

At least one country saw a silver lining in Brexit. India's auto industry body, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, said it could presage a better trade deal for India with Britain. India has made several futile attempts to enter

into a free trade agreement with the European Union.

But others raised the prospect of moving Britain-based manufacturing capacity to Europe. Toyota said in a statement that it would analyse the impact of the vote on its UK operations. Nissan did not comment, though chief executive Carlos Ghosn said last week the company would question its UK position in the event of Brexit.

"No one is going to rush out and do anything tomorrow, but rather than revamp a plant in the UK to produce a new model, they might revamp a plant somewhere else," CLSA analyst Chris Richter said. "Down the line, it could lead to job losses." Aside from Toyota, Tata and Nissan, others manufacturing in Britain include BMW, GM and Honda. Honda produces around 140,000 vehicles per year, including the CR-V crossover SUV and Civic sedan at its plant in Swindon. Half of its production is exported to the EU. For now, officials said efforts would turn to lobbying hard for better trade deals. — Reuters



**MUNICH:** (R-L) Gerhard Cromme, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Siemens, Ilse Aigner, Bavarian Minister for Economy, Joe Kaeser, CEO of the German engineering giant Siemens and Ralf Thomas, CFO of Siemens, look up during the opening ceremony of the new Siemens headquarters in Munich, southern Germany, yesterday. — AFP



## BREXIT ADDS TO FRAGILITY OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC GROWTH

FED MAY FIND IT HARD TO RAISE RATES

## WHAT BREXIT COULD MEAN FOR THE UK ECONOMY

**LONDON:** Britons have voted to leave the European Union, a decision which leaves the world's fifth-biggest economy facing deep uncertainty about its growth prospects and its attractiveness to investors, and which could hurt other economies in Europe and beyond. The vote is expected to deliver at least a short-term hit to growth in Britain and might push it into recession. It could prompt the Bank of England to cut interest rates to zero and test the willingness of creditors to keep on funding Britain's current account deficit.

Further ahead, the implications of the vote will depend on what kind of trading relationship Britain can strike with the EU, which accounts for nearly half the country's exports. Below is a summary of the economic implications of the vote:

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Britain's economy would grow more slowly outside the EU than if it stayed in, according to a raft of projections made in the run-up to the referendum by the government, the BoE, think-tanks, international organizations and hundreds of academics.
- Finance minister George Osborne has warned of a "DIY recession" and the BoE has said a "material slowdown" could result after a Brexit. Its governor Mark Carney has said the economy could go into a two-quarter contraction.
- Ratings agencies said the expected slowdown in growth following the vote was negative for Britain's credit ratings.



**NEW DELHI:** An Indian money exchanger waits for customers in New Delhi yesterday. The pound collapsed to a 31-year low and there was pandemonium on currency, equity and oil markets yesterday as Britain voted to leave the European Union, fuelling a wave of global uncertainty. — AFP

- Politics could also weigh on the economy: Prime Minister David Cameron has said he will step down by October and there has been no news so far of Osborne's future. There is also the possibility of another independence referendum in Scotland, which voted strongly to stay in the EU.
- A small group of pro-Brexit economists has said leaving the EU will boost growth in the years to come although at least one of them predicts a shallow downturn first.
- The fall in sterling, which on Friday hit its lowest level against the dollar since 1985, could help exporters - although demand in many countries around the world remains weak.
- Below are estimates of the impact of Brexit on Britain's gross domestic product, compared with remaining in the EU. The OECD and the IMF have said a Brexit will hurt the rest of the EU and affect other countries further afield. The OECD has said output in the EU, not including Britain, will be around 1 percent weaker by 2020 than otherwise if Britain left bloc, a palpable hit for a region which is growing only weakly.
- The OECD has said there could be deeper economic fallout if a Brexit undermines confidence in the future of the EU, a scenario not included in its forecasts.

- US Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen said last week the referendum could have consequences for the global economy and financial markets, potentially meaning that next US rate hike is pushed back.

## MONETARY POLICY

- BoE Governor Carney responded to the vote quickly, saying the central bank was ready to provide 250 billion pounds of additional funds to support markets. He also said the Bank will consider additional policy responses in the coming weeks. Before the vote, Carney said it was too simple to assume the Bank will cut interest rates from what is already a record low of 0.5 percent to cushion the economy after a Brexit vote. The BoE says it would have to weigh up slower growth against higher inflation caused by a weakening of the pound.
- That means any decision to change interest rates might not take place for several weeks, possibly not until August when the BoE is due to publish its latest detailed view on the economy.
- Seventeen of 26 market economists polled by Reuters in April expected the BoE's next move after an exit from the EU would be to cut rates rather than raise them.

## TWIN DEFICITS

- Britain racked up its biggest current account deficit on record last year, equivalent to 5.2 percent of economic output. The shortfall reflected higher flows of dividends and debt payments to foreign investors than similar flows into the country as well as its wide trade deficit. Carney has said a Brexit could test the "kindness of strangers" who fund the balance of payments deficit.
- Finance minister Osborne said during campaigning for the referendum that he would have to raise taxes and cut spending if Britain voted to leave the EU to prevent the slowdown in growth from hurting his push to bring down Britain's still large budget deficit. After Cameron's resignation, it was not clear if that plan would be maintained.

## STERLING AND GILTS

- Sterling plunged to a 31-year low on Friday, its biggest fall in history. George Soros, the billionaire who earned fame by betting against the pound in 1992, said it could go as low as \$1.15. On Friday it was trading at around \$1.39.
- Gilt yields struck new record lows, with the 10-year yield touching 1.018 percent. Strategists think it could fall further, below 1 percent.

## JOBS

- Most forecasters have said Britain's unemployment rate - now at a 10-year low of 5.0 percent - would rise after leaving the EU, although after the financial crisis Britain managed to avoid job losses on the scale seen in other countries.
- As seen after the crisis, wages will probably bear the brunt of any post-Brexit slowdown, according to the International Monetary Fund. Britain's National Institute of Economic and Social Research think tank estimated real consumer wages will be between 2.2 percent and 7.0 percent lower in real terms by 2030 than if Britain had stayed in the EU.
- By contrast, Economists for Brexit has said Britain's labour market could become more dynamic through the repeal of onerous EU regulation and the elimination of some of the EU's highest import tariffs such as on food, boosting productivity and living standards. But cutting back import tariffs could expose some sectors of the economy to fierce competition.

## TRADE

- World leaders from the United States, Japan, Germany and France have warned Britain that leaving the EU would hurt its standing as a global trading power.
- US President Barack Obama said Britain would join "the back of the queue" for talks with the United States. This week French President Francois Hollande said leaving the EU would put at risk Britain's access to the single market.
- Pro-Brexit economists have dismissed the warnings as scare-mongering and they say Britain could forge trade deals with the EU and countries beyond and could also cut import duties on its own if no deal was forthcoming. — Reuters



**PARIS:** People work as screens display news and trading rates at the Euronext Stock Exchange services in Paris' financial district of La Defense yesterday as Britain has voted to break out of the European Union. — AFP

**SYDNEY:** The pain of Britain's European divorce radiated around the globe yesterday, blowing up a storm in financial markets that may take time to die down and retarding prospects for a recovery in world trade. Sterling's steeping fall to 30-year lows showed investors saw the British vote to quit the European Union as a self-inflicted wound, but economic casualties could spread far and wide. "The global economy was fragile before and is more so today," Citi economists said in a report.

Markets, caught off guard by the result, pushed back the expected timing of rate rises by the US Federal Reserve and tried to work out if the Bank of England and other central banks would ease to shore up their economies. "In the real economy, global GDP is definitely going to be affected, US, GDP, Japan GDP, GDP everywhere," said Bob Takai, President at Sumitomo Corp Global Research in Tokyo. "So I think it's going to be difficult for the Fed to raise rates. No rate hikes this year and maybe the Fed is going to have to think about their whole monetary policy." Japan, which wants a weaker yen to break free of recession, felt the impact immediately. The yen, regarded as a safe haven currency, surged past 100 per dollar to its strongest in 2-1/2 years and stocks fell more than 8 percent during trade yesterday. Asia's emerging markets were also hit hard, with stocks and currencies falling.

China's yuan slumped to its lowest in more than five years, with the central bank thought to be intervening to sell dollars. "From an investment perspective it's the last thing the global economy needed because of the uncertainty that it's going to add in to what's already been a volatile year," said Savanth Sebastian, an economist at Comsec in Sydney.

The yen's gains intensified the concerns of Japanese policymakers, who want a weaker currency to support exports and their deflation-hit economy. So far, Japan has been unable to garner support from other major countries, most notably the United States, for intervention to weaken the yen.

It was unclear if that would change even as Tokyo signalled yesterday it was ready to act. "I'm extremely concerned about the risk (Brexit) has on the global economy, financial and currency markets," Japan's finance minister Taro Aso said. "It is extremely important to ensure growth in the global economy, as well as maintaining currency and financial stability." Any unilateral action by the Japanese could run the risk of triggering competitive devaluations by rival export-focused economies, vying for market share at a time when world trade was slowing.

## "NOT A LEHMAN MOMENT"

Ratings agency Standard & Poor's said the United Kingdom was likely to lose its AAA credit rating, the Financial Times reported, and economists said if the transition - including negotiating trade deals with the EU and other countries - was not smooth then Britain risked falling into recession next year.

But despite the market ructions, many said the Leave vote was not a moment equivalent to the 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers that could tip the world economy back into crisis. "Financial markets will likely react in an aggressive manner this morning and the world has changed, but from a market perspective this is not a systemic Lehman moment," Exane BNP Paribas analysts said in a report.

"It is politics where the main uncertainty now lies, with central bank response also important." One of the biggest challenges for Britain will be to reach standalone trade deals in the timeframe of about two years to manage its withdrawal, given such negotiations often take much longer. — Reuters



## AIRBUS BOSS URGES UK TO STAY COMPETITIVE

**PARIS:** The head of European aerospace firm Airbus Group said yesterday a decision by UK voters to leave the European Union was a blow to Britain but that he hoped the country would focus on remaining competitive.

"The world will not stand still, nor will Europe," Chief Executive Tom Enders said in an emailed statement. "I hope the divorce will proceed with a view to minimizing economic damage to all impacted by Brexit. Britain will suffer but I'm sure it will focus even more now on the competitiveness of its economy vis-a-vis the EU and the world at large."

Airbus, founded in 1970 and spread between

major plants in Britain, France, Germany and Spain, builds wings for Airbus passenger jets in the UK where the group employs 15,000 people. With major aircraft investment decisions already taken for the next 10-15 years, Airbus has said its UK operations will not be affected any time soon, but has warned it could reconsider its position in the country in the long term.

Enders, who was one of the first major industry leaders to campaign publicly for Britain to remain in the EU, said, "of course we will review our UK investment strategy, as everybody else will".

Shares in Airbus Group fell as much as 9 percent

in common with leading European stocks as the vote to leave the EU sent shockwaves through financial markets, but recovered to trade down 4.7 percent at mid-morning, outperforming the Paris bourse. Some analysts said Airbus Group would partially benefit for now from a stronger dollar, which makes its aircraft more competitive against US rival Boeing, and a weaker pound, which would dampen part of its production costs.

But the company is vulnerable to any broad downturn in economic confidence that could hurt travel demand and demand for civil aircraft, Agency Partners analyst Nick Cunningham said. —Reuters

## NIGERIA'S DANGOTE SHIFTS FOCUS FROM CEMENT TO OIL AND GAS

**LAGOS:** Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, plans to launch Nigeria's first private crude oil refinery by 2019 while almost doubling his cement production on the continent by adding plants in eight countries as he shrugs off a regional economic downturn.

Dangote told Reuters the \$12 billion refinery would have a capacity of 650,000 barrels a day, cornering the market in Africa's most populous country, where fuel shortages are a perennial problem. Until recently, Nigeria was Africa's biggest crude oil producer but it imports 80 percent of its fuel because poor maintenance means its four refineries never reach full output. Its current daily consumption is 260,000 barrels, according to the International Energy Agency.

A slump in commodity prices has hammered Nigeria's economy - along with many others on the continent - and raised the cost of borrowing but Dangote, whose business empire stretches from cement to flour and pasta, is pushing hard into oil and gas. "It will be ready in the first quarter of 2019," the billionaire founder of Dangote Cement said of the refinery. "Mechanical completion will be end of 2018 but we will start producing in 2019."

Dangote said the plant, which will include a \$2 billion fertilizer unit, was being funded through "loans, export credit agencies and our own equity". Some \$3.25 billion had come from local and foreign banks, while the central bank had also chipped in. The IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank, has lent \$150 million.

Dangote also has plans for a gas pipeline through West Africa. Nigeria has the world's ninth largest proven gas reserves, at 187 trillion cubic feet (tcf), but loses half of it to flaring and re-injection.

Despite the new focus on oil and gas, the business magnate said he planned to build cement plants in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Zambia by 2018. Another plant will open in Congo Republic by September, he added. A cement plant in Ivory Coast would triple output to 3 million tons, up from an initial target of 1 million, he said, while two new plants in Nigeria would add 6 million tons annually.

"As at now, what we have in operation is almost about 45 million tons, so we have just another 40 million tons to go," he said, affirming an Africa-wide production target of 85 million tons a year by 2018.

### FX CRISIS

The collapse in oil prices has hit Nigerian companies hard, with many unable to access dollars due to central bank foreign exchange restrictions imposed to prop up the naira. The worst-affected have gone to the wall or shed large numbers of staff, but a study by Reuters of an 11-week period in March to May showed that Dangote firms managed to secure a healthy share of dollars at the cheap official rate.

Dangote said the \$161 million bought during that period from the central bank merely reflected the size of his business and did not represent preferential treatment. "We have been badly affected like any other company," he said, arguing that operational costs totalled \$100 million each month due to recurring expenses such as the purchase of parts for cement production and running a fleet of 9,000 trucks. —Reuters

## CENTRAL BANKS MOVE TO CALM JITTERY MARKETS

### BOE OFFERS MORE THAN 250 BILLION POUNDS IN LIQUIDITY

**LONDON/ZURICH:** Some of the world's biggest central banks offered financial backstops to soothe plunging markets yesterday after Britain voted to leave the EU, and some intervened in currency markets as they worried that the volatility could hit growth.

The Bank of England offered to provide more than 250 billion pounds (\$347 billion) plus "substantial" access to foreign currency to ease any squeeze in markets and Governor Mark Carney said it would consider more measures if needed.

The US Federal Reserve said it was ready to provide dollar liquidity through its existing swap lines with central banks, "as necessary, to address pressures in global funding markets, which could have adverse implications for the US economy". "The Federal Reserve is carefully monitoring developments in global financial markets, in cooperation with other central banks," it added in a statement.

The European Central Bank said it could provide additional liquidity and would protect euro zone financial stability, while the People's Bank of China pledged to keep the yuan basically stable and said it would maintain ample liquidity. The shock referendum result dented Britain's economic growth prospects and sent the value of the pound down by as much as 10 percent to a 31-year low against the dollar.

The outcome also raised questions about the future of the European Union itself and European shares tumbled almost 10 percent before recovering some ground. With memories of the 2007-09 financial crisis still fresh, central banks are concerned that market liquidity could quickly dry up, depriving the real economy of access to cash and financial instruments.

"The Bank (of England) will not hesitate to take additional measures as required as those markets adjust and the UK economy moves forward," Carney said, warning that economic volatility can be expected as Britain adjusts. The British economy was already slowing ahead of the referendum and Carney has previously warned that it could go into recession in the event of a vote to leave the EU.

Ratings agency Fitch said Britain faces weaker growth and investment prospects while its status as a major international banking hub could be damaged as some businesses shift to the EU.



**LONDON:** Traders from ETX Capital work in central London yesterday following the announcement of the EU referendum. London stocks plunged in early deals yesterday but pared losses significantly as British Prime Minister David Cameron announced his resignation after Britain voted to leave the EU. —AFP



**TOKYO:** Japan's Finance Minister Taro Aso speaks to reporters at the Finance Ministry in Tokyo yesterday. —AFP

### STABLER, FOR NOW

ECB Governing Council member Ewald Nowotny said markets were already stabilising after the initial surprise, and that panic was not justified. Ten-year bond yields in Spain and Italy, up around 40 basis points in early trade, recovered most of their losses by midday.

But a former deputy governor of the BoE said it was not clear that the fall in sterling

would prove to be a one-off adjustment that buys the Bank some time to consider an interest rate cut or other measures to cushion the economy. "What could happen is that it doesn't stabilise and actually we get a real loss of confidence, big movements in funds despite the reassuring voices and the bank liquidity," John Gieve said.

"At that point, they have to look at other things like sterling support by using their reserves and buying sterling or some new kind of QE mechanism." Officials from the Group of Seven rich economies held a conference call and issued a statement to underscore their confidence in Britain's economy and banks. In a rare move for a major central bank, the Swiss National Bank openly intervened in currency markets to weaken the safe-haven franc, promising to do even more if needed.

"The Swiss National Bank has intervened in the foreign exchange market to stabilize the situation and will remain active in that market," the SNB said in a statement. Major Asian central banks were also said to be intervening. Traders suggested the Bank of Korea was seen to have sold dollars to curb the won's fall while the Reserve Bank of India probably sold dollars through state-owned banks to prevent the rupee from falling further. —Reuters



## WEEKLY JOBLESS CLAIMS DECLINE 18,000 IN US

**WASHINGTON:** The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits fell last week to near a 43-year low, suggesting labor market resilience even though hiring slowed sharply in May. Other data on Thursday also gave a fairly upbeat assessment of the economy after it stumbled in the first quarter.

Manufacturing activity rose to a three-month high in early June. Although new single-family home sales dropped last month from a more than eight-year high in April, the trend remained consistent with a firming housing market.

"Today's data suggest that growth has bounced back in the second quarter," said Ryan Sweet, senior economist at Moody's Analytics in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits declined 18,000 to a seasonally adjusted 259,000 for the week ended June 18, the Labor Department said.

The drop was the largest since February and left claims not too far from 253,000, a 43-year low touched in March. Claims have now been below 300,000, a threshold associated with a strong job market, for 68 straight weeks, the longest streak since 1973. The four-week moving average of claims, considered a better measure of labor market trends as it irons out week-to-week volatility, fell 2,250 to 267,000 last week.

The drop in jobless claims could give Federal Reserve officials more confidence that job growth will pick up. Fed Chair Janet Yellen told lawmakers on Tuesday that the US central bank believed the slowdown in nonfarm payroll gains was "transitory," noting that "several other timely indicators of labor market conditions still look favorable." "Overall labor market conditions are not as bad as one might assume based on May's nonfarm payroll print alone," said Jim Baird, chief investment officer at Plante Moran Financial Advisors in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

US financial markets were little moved by the data ahead of the results of Britain's referendum on European Union membership late on Thursday. The dollar was trading lower against a basket of currencies, while US stocks rose. Prices for US government debt fell.

### PAYROLLS REBOUND EXPECTED

The claims report covered the survey period for June nonfarm payrolls. The four-week average of claims declined 8,750 between the May and June survey periods, suggesting an improvement in job growth after payrolls increased only 38,000 in May - the smallest increase since September 2010.

"The May to June improvement points to a lower pace of firings in June. Our June payrolls forecast is 180,000," said Ted Wieseman, an economist at Morgan Stanley in New York.

Labor market optimism, which is also being spurred by near record high job openings, was bolstered further by a second report on Thursday showing a jump in manufacturing activity and factory employment early this month.

Data firm Markit said its flash US manufacturing PMI increased to 51.4 from a reading of 50.7 in May. The rise was driven by a surge in production, which encouraged manufacturers to hire more workers. The gain in the Markit PMI suggests that the worst of the manufacturing rout is probably over.

While a third report from the Commerce Department showed single-family home sales fell 6.0 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 551,000 units last month, the drop followed a 12.3 percent surge in April, which had propelled sales to their highest level since February 2008.

New home sales were up 8.7 percent from a year ago and the three-month moving average was the highest since April 2008. "Consumers have not retrenched. The spring selling season was solid ... builders indicate they are supply constrained, not demand constrained," said Michelle Girard, chief economist at RBS in Stamford, Connecticut.

"This suggests the strength seen in new home sales this spring may well be sustained throughout the summer." The housing market is being underpinned by the tightening labor market, which is starting to lift wages, as well as very low mortgage rates. — Reuters



**CANTON:** A technician conducts a final inspection before a finished Altima sedan is rolled out at the Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant in Canton, Mississippi. Yesterday, the Commerce Department releases its May report on durable goods. — AP

# US CORE CAPITAL GOODS ORDERS DECLINE 2.2%

## DATA POINTS TO SUBDUED BUSINESS SPENDING

**WASHINGTON:** New orders for US manufactured capital goods unexpectedly fell in May as demand declined broadly, suggesting business spending will remain a drag on economic growth in the second quarter. The Commerce Department said yesterday non-defense capital goods orders excluding aircraft, a closely watched proxy for business spending plans, decreased 0.7 percent last month after a revised 0.4 percent drop in April.

These so-called core capital goods orders were previously reported to have declined 0.6 percent in April and had been forecast rising 0.3 percent last month. Core capital goods orders have increased in only six of the last 17 months. "Business investment is slowing and this makes us question the outlook going forward. What do companies see that we don't?" said Chris Rupkey, chief economist at MUFJ Union Bank in New York.

Overall orders for durable goods, items ranging from toasters to aircraft that are meant to last three years or more, declined 2.2 percent in May after surging 3.3 percent in April.

US financial markets were little moved by the report as investors weighed the implications of Britain's vote to leave the European Union. Despite factory surveys suggesting some stabilization, so-called hard data show no sign of reprieve for manufacturing as it struggles with the lingering effects of the dollar's surge between June 2014 and December 2015, and sluggish global demand, which have

eroded export growth. The sector, which accounts for about 12 percent of the US economy, has also been undermined by lower oil prices, which have hurt profits of energy companies and forced deep cuts in capital spending budgets. A report last week showed a decline in industrial production in May amid weakness in automobiles output.

Business spending on equipment has declined over the last two quarters. It

dropped in the first quarter at its quickest pace since the second quarter of 2009. Last month, there were declines in orders for machinery, primary metals, computers and electronic products as well as transportation equipment. With core capital goods orders falling for a second straight month in May, spending on equipment will likely remain a drag on economic growth in the second quarter. — Reuters



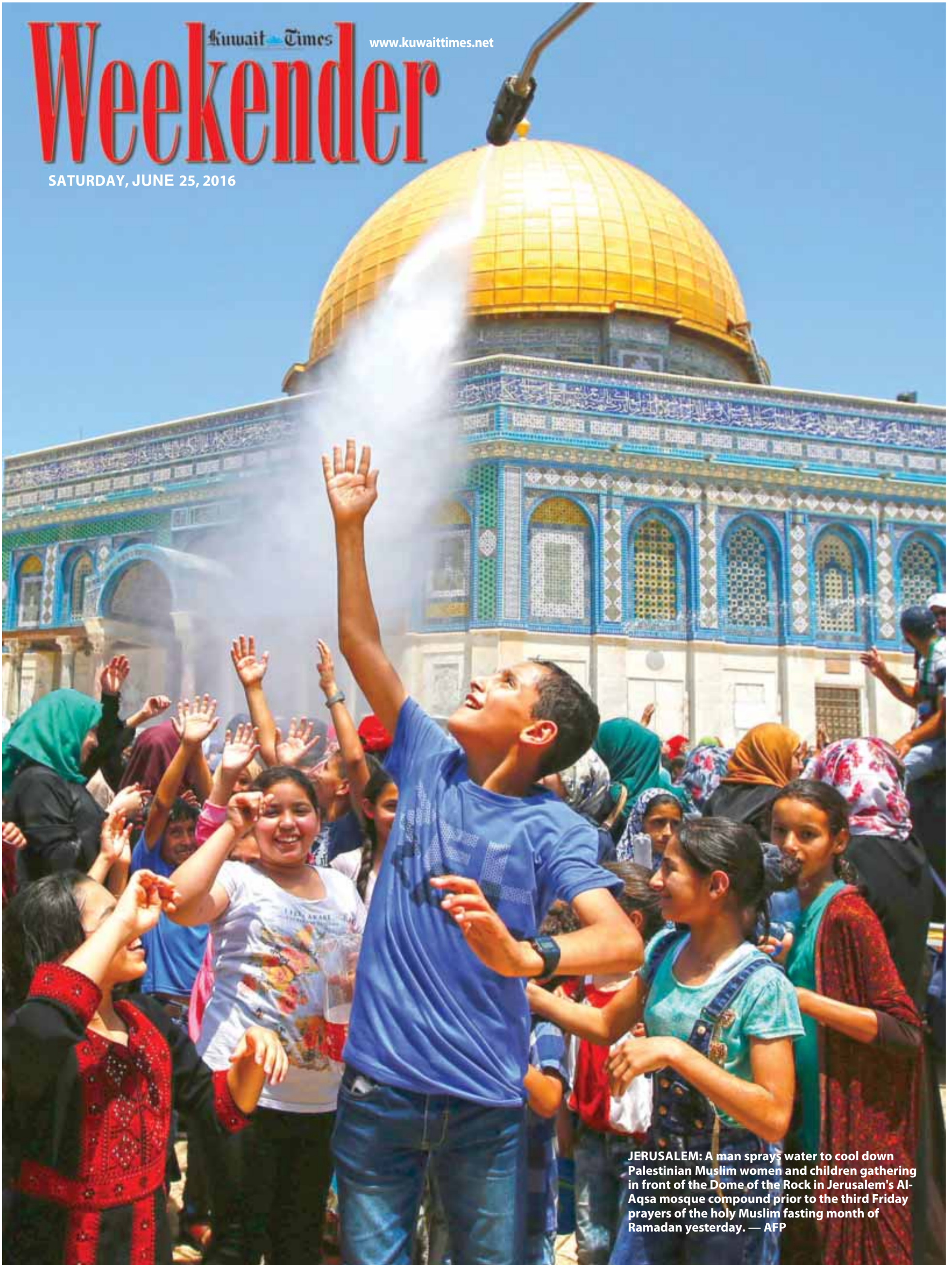
**NEW YORK:** The Empire State building in the background, the Macy's logo is illuminated on the front of the department store in New York. Macy's announced Thursday its longtime CEO Terry Lundgren will leave the job in early 2017. He will be replaced by Macy's president Jeff Gennette. — AP



# Kuwait Times Weekender

www.kuwaittimes.net

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016



JERUSALEM: A man sprays water to cool down Palestinian Muslim women and children gathering in front of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque compound prior to the third Friday prayers of the holy Muslim fasting month of Ramadan yesterday. — AFP



## Martin wants to believe he is 'great' at everything

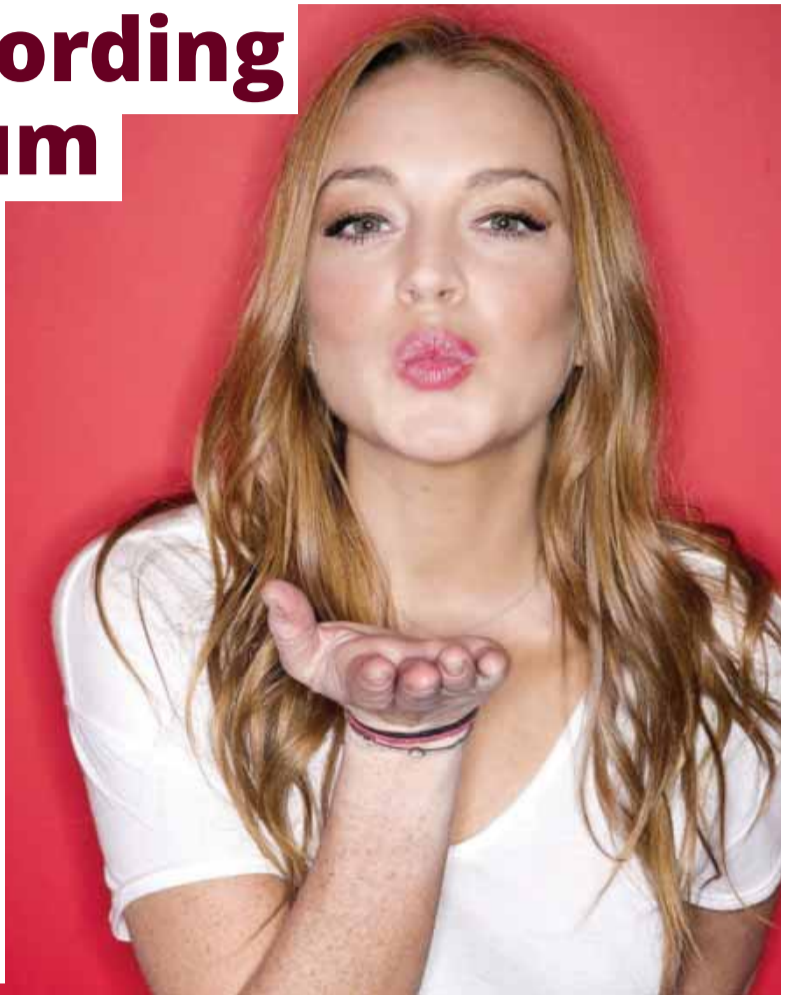


The Coldplay singer - who split from his ex-wife Gwyneth Paltrow in 2014 - doesn't want to feel "s\*\*\*\*y" and has made the decision to see himself as only having achieved amazing things. He said: "I don't want to go through the whole of my life feeling s\*\*\*\*y about myself. Because it's not making anyone happy. My philosophy at the moment is that I'm great - and so is everybody else. You have to fit your own oxygen mask. That's really my philosophy now." Coldplay's 2014 LP 'Ghost Stories' dealt with his separation from Gwyneth - the mother of his two children, daughter Apple, 12, and Moses, 10 - and after their split, Chris approached a Sufi teacher who schooled him in spiritual values. Chris, 39, revealed he was taught to seek inner guidance and has admitted the philosophy has made him more confident in his music. He said: "My philosophy now (is) our band is the best band in the world. And so are all the other bands. Then I don't have to feel threatened by any other bands. I enjoy it a lot more." Coldplay went on to release 'A Head Full of Dreams' in December 2015 which had a much more positive vibe and contained several feel good hits such as 'Hymn For The Weekend' and 'Adventure of a Lifetime' and 'Up&Up'. Following the last two years of contrasting emotions, Chris now lives by the mantra that happiness is a state of mind you can omit control over.



## Lohan recording a new album

The 'Mean Girls' star has revealed she is keen to head into the recording studio once again following 2004's 'Speak' and 2005's 'A Little More Personal (Raw)'. She said: "I have to record another album for Universal/Motown. And I will." However, the 29-year-old actress is desperate not to overshadow her sister, who has the voice of "Etta James meets Adele". Speaking in a Synaptop live chat, she added: "With that being said, my sister is signed to EMI. She's recording a record, and out of respect for her and her true career choice - which is all she wants to do is make music, and her voice is like ... Etta James meets Adele - I want to respect her in that lane and stay in my lane working with children and creating films and writing and directing ... "I will sing in my films, but I want her to sing in them as well. So, as much as I want to sing every day, I don't want my sister to hate me. "I want her to sing with my friend Parson James at my birthday. I'll be 30 this year, and I want her to sing at it. I'm scared to ask her. She's so kind of nervous about it, but she's really good. She has a Soundcloud song called 'The Devil Inside.' She has a beautiful voice and she's a beautiful person. She's a Buddhist and she's really spiritual and I just really admire her."



## McConaughey in talks to return to 'True Detective'

The 46-year-old actor has revealed he has spoken to series creator Nic Pizzolatto about reprising his role as Rustin Cohle in the television drama. Speaking on The Rich Eisen Show, he said: "I would return. It'd have to be in the right context and the right way. It'd need that spark like when I first read the scripts. "When I read it, I knew after 20 minutes that I could play this guy and that I'm in ... I miss Cohle, and I miss watching him on Sunday nights. I was a happy man when we made that show, because for six months I was on my own island." And the father-of-three - who has Levi, seven, Vida, six, and Livingston, three, with his wife Camila Alves - insists he doesn't choose what roles to take on based on how he thinks they'll be received as he believes people have a "right to boo" his films. When asked about the critical reception towards his film 'The Sea of Trees', he said: "All right, all right, all right. Anyone has as much right to boo as they do to ovate."

## Harris 'free' following split from Taylor Swift



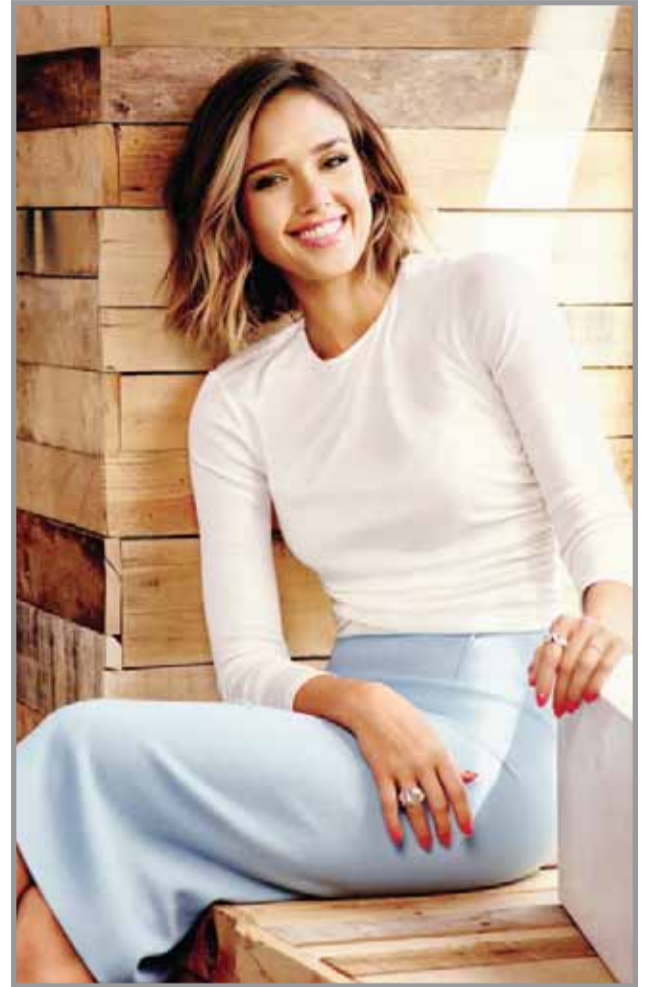
The 'Feel So Close' hitmaker - who split from the 'Shake It Off' singer around two weeks ago - claims his ex-girlfriend was able to "control the media". When a fan on Instagram told Calvin he would have been criticized by Taylor's fanbase if he shared his views on the split, he said: "Taylor controlled the media and this situation, I had no idea what was going on. So that kind of makes it a lot worse from my perspective." When another user accused Calvin of being jealous, he simply replied: "not jealous sir, FREE. (sic)" The 32-year-old star opted to refollow Taylor, 26, on the social media site and when asked why he did, he told them: "I cared too much and then I didn't care at all. I am a real person remember." Meanwhile,

a source previously claimed Calvin was "surprised" Taylor moved on so fast with Tom Hiddleston. They said: "Calvin was surprised to see the photos and that she had moved on so quickly. That was fast! It was surprising to him but he just wants to move on. He's a really good guy. "Tom checks off a lot of boxes for Taylor. He's hot, smart, talented, British, blond, everything she's into. What's not to like? She's going with it and why shouldn't she? They have been bonding over the industry, their childhoods, where they are from. It's the getting-to-know-you phase. Taylor is just happy to have the time to meet someone new and move on from Calvin." But Taylor knew her split from Calvin was "for the best".



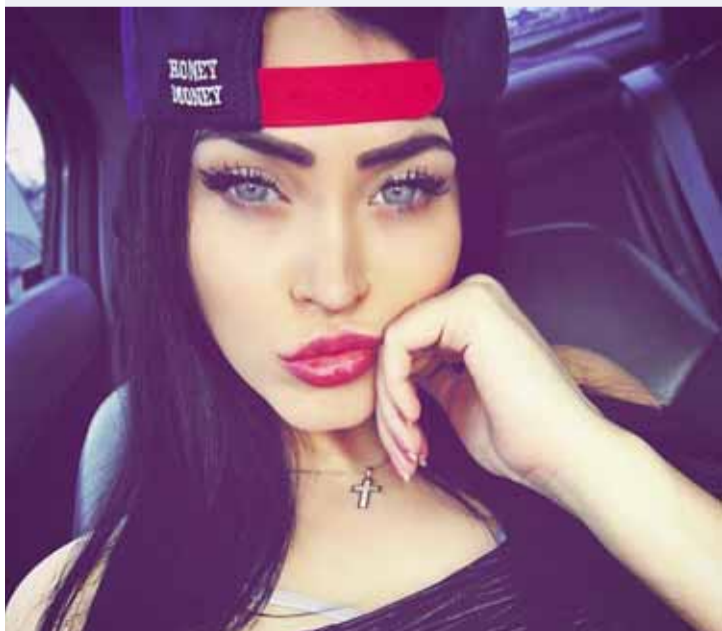
## Moretz wanted plastic surgery at 16

The 19-year-old actress has admitted she was desperate to go under the knife in order to boost her bust three years ago but was talked out of the procedure by her mother, Teri. Speaking to ELLE.com, she explained: "When I was 16, I wanted a boob job. I wanted the fat pad under my chin to be removed. I wanted a butt reduction, or whatever." But, although she now feels more confident with her body and looks, she has admitted it takes hard work in the gym and a strict eating plan to ensure she feels in the best form. She explained: "I have had hair extensions. Yes, the reason I have this body is because I work out seven times a week. Yes, I eat really clean-even though I don't always want to, and I definitely cheat. But you're not just born with this." Meanwhile, the blonde beauty - who shot to fame after appearing in 'Kick-Ass' at the age of 12 - insists neither she nor her family would "accept" her going off the rails because she has worked too hard to ruin her reputation. Asked how she stays grounded, she said recently: "My family have and always will remain my greatest influence and if I ever went down that path, they wouldn't accept it and I wouldn't accept it. Plus I've worked too hard and I'm coming into this exciting new phase in my career where the roles are developing and diversifying and I'm getting wonderful chances. Why would I throw that away to party or drink or whatever? It would be so foolish and stupid. I'm excited where life is going."



## Megan Fox expecting a baby boy

The 'Transformers' star has remained tight-lipped on the sex of her unborn child but it seems her father Franklin Fox is so excited for the new arrival that he's let the cat out of the bag. Speaking to the Daily Mail Online, he said: "Megan is an amazing mom and I can't believe she is going to have three boys. Becoming a grandfather has been a wonderful experience and brought us all even closer together." Megan already has sons Noah, three, and Bodhi, two, with her husband Brian Austin Green but the couple's third pregnancy came as somewhat of a shock as the pair had ended their five-year marriage and announced they were divorcing just a month before they found out they were expecting again. Their on-again off-again marriage has been the hot topic of conversation since Megan was spotted with her burgeoning bump for the first time, but her father claims their relationship is back on track and they're looking forward to their new arrival. He said: "All I can say is they are together and they are happy. I've met Brian a ton of times now and he is a great guy ..." I am the grandfather of her two gorgeous boys and now she has another boy on the way. I couldn't be prouder of the woman my little girl has become."



## Allen has pulled out of Glastonbury

The 31-year-old beauty has decided not to attend the five-day music extravaganza, held at Worthy Farm in Somerset, at which she was scheduled to DJ in the early hours of Saturday (25.06.16) because a recent bash to the lighthouse has put her in excruciating pain and she's concerned she'll cause more damage to it if she were to slip in the mud. Speaking to The Sun newspaper, she said: "I'm not going to Glastonbury. I have a hole in the back of my kneecap and it's excruciatingly painful so I don't think the mud is for me." The 'Alfie' hitmaker has attended the festival every year for the past decade but it seems she's been put off after she slipped on the wet surface last year and landed on her face. Meanwhile, Lily's cancellation comes just two days after she confirmed she has a new boyfriend following her split from her husband Sam Cooper in December last year. Taking to her Twitter account at the time, the outspoken star tweeted: "I had hoped I could keep my relationship quiet until I introduced my boyfriend to my children." The revelation came after she addressed claims she was in bed with grime DJ Daniel London when a stalker burst into her flat in the middle of the night last October. According to legal documents, Lily - who has two daughters, Ethel, four, and three-year-old Marnie, with Sam - was under the sheets with Daniel when her crazed stalker Alex Gray broke into her home at 1.30am on October 2, 2015. Paranoid schizophrenic Gray, who has stalked the 'Smile' hitmaker since 2009, was sectioned this month after being convicted of burglary and stalking.



## Alba's first pregnancy wasn't planned

The 35-year-old actress and her now-husband Cash Warren are proud parents to Honor, eight, and Haven, four, but she has admitted her first-born came unexpected as she fell just months after she started dating the 37-year-old producer. Speaking to InStyle magazine, she said: "It [the pregnancy] was not planned, but I was like, 'OK, this is where my life is going. I always wanted to be a mom.'" However, although it wasn't something that wasn't initially on her agenda, she believes little Honor actually helped turn her life around as she found herself going through a "crisis" just before she realized she was pregnant. She explained: "My sexuality made me very uncomfortable. I remember my first Maxim shoot, they were telling me to pose a certain way, and I was like, 'Agh! I'm 19. I'm a virgin. I don't even know how to do that.' It was so awkward. 'I sort of went through a life crisis. I was like, 'This isn't what I set out to be. I'm so much more than this, but I don't know how not to be a sex symbol.'" The blonde beauty set out to shed her sexy title by setting up her own business, The Honest Company, in 2011. Jessica launched the brand, which specializes in non-toxic products like nappies, shampoos and cleaning solutions, to ensure her children don't battle with allergies their whole lives - just like she did when she was growing up. She said: "I didn't want my kids to be in the hospital all the time like I was. I made a deal with the universe: If I was able to manifest my dreams, I would try to do good in some way."



## Film Review

**'Free State of Jones' bares forgotten Civil War tale**

This image released by STX Productions shows Mahershala Ali, left, and Matthew McConaughey in a scene from "The Free State of Jones." — AP photos



This image released by STX Productions shows Matthew McConaughey and Jacob Lofland in a scene from "The Free State of Jones."

**N**ewton Knight was a poor Mississippi farmer and Confederate soldier who deserted the Army in early 1862, waged a rebellion against the Confederacy and ended up forming a little colony of exiles, which they referred to as the Free State of Jones. Their numbers rose with deserters as the Confederate effort floundered. They even took over Jones County and raised an American flag at the courthouse. It's a fascinating slice of forgotten history. Coming after three years after "12 Years a Slave" made sure we'd never forget the name Solomon Northup, it's not unreasonable to expect that maybe "Free State of Jones" could do that for Newton Knight or his fellow rebels.

The film, out Friday, might teach you the name Newton Knight (played by a scruffy, gaunt and almost feral Matthew McConaughey), but it is far too sprawling and too unfocused to be placed in the canon of forgotten Civil War-era stories alongside "12 Years a Slave." This tale follows Newt from his last days in the service to his near-accidental

establishment of a rogue state in a swamp as the war rages on, all the way to emancipation and reconstruction. If 14 years sounds like a lot of territory to cover, it is, and the movie takes its time doing so, running nearly two and a half hours. And yet it still feels hurried.

It begins promisingly enough, with the requisite war is hell reminder - fast-cutting between horrific injuries on the battlefield and then in an overrun makeshift hospital. Newt grudgingly participates, mostly by helping the wounded, but then something happens that rattles him personally and he heads home to his wife Serena (Keri Russell, looking very concerned) and their young child. Things are bleak there, too, where Confederate soldiers regularly rampage homes and take anything they might need and want - corn, livestock, blankets - for the war effort. There's also the deplorable "Twenty Slave Law" which allows members of the Confederacy to opt out of conscription if they provide 20 slaves. It's a law that benefits only the rich and that is not lost on Newt or his poor friends, none of whom

own slaves or support the Confederate cause either. Being a deserter, Newt's mere presence endangers everyone. Serena even packs up the kid and leaves. When they literally send the dogs after him, he retreats to the swamp where he meets some runaway slaves, and they begin to grow their community. It's here where things get a little murky and rushed.

**Muddled and labored**

Director Gary Ross ("Seabiscuit," "The Hunger Games") wants badly to present a lyrical epic, and there are some moments of grace, but mostly it's just labored, propelled only by the passage of time, pages worth of printed exposition on the screen and the hope that Newt's journey is a good enough engine. And yet with all of those years covered, Newt is as defined as vapor, and his supporting characters even less so.

There's also a jarring cut early on to a trial in 1948 in Mississippi where one of Newt's decedents is suspected of having African American ancestry, despite looking white.

While you get used to the back and forth, it doesn't ever drum up the suspense of a courtroom drama or achieve its intended poignancy. Newt does in fact take up with Rachel (a powerful, if underused Gugu Mbatha-Raw), a former house slave to a plantation owner. The question being asked in 1948 is whether or not they had any kids, thus starting a line of mixed race ancestors. It's certainly an interesting thread, that this fight could continue so many generations after the war, but as with most things here, in execution it's just more pasta thrown at the wall.

Rachel is one of the more compelling characters in the film, as is Moses (Mahershala Ali), who we meet with steel claws around his neck and see progress into a true protest leader by the time the war is over when, despite emancipation, little has changed for the former slaves and actually seems to be getting worse. The Civil War and reconstruction were messy, and "Free State of Jones" wants to tackle it all. In the end, it's too much for any one film to handle compellingly with such specificity. — AP

**When aliens attack, real news anchors are on the scene**

**G**odzilla is rampaging. Aliens are invading. Batman and Superman are having a tiff. Quick, turn on CNN. To explain extravagant disasters and superhero show-downs to awed moviegoers, Hollywood relies on the men and women who frame breaking stories for real. Increasingly, the summer big-budget movies resemble a media scrum, full of real TV news anchors who give their gravitas to fictional broadcasts, lending a dose of authenticity to blatantly implausible events.

Pat Kiernan, the friendly face of New York's 24/7 regional network NY1, has watched in wry bemusement as his IMDB page has swelled to a list of credits that would be the envy of most actors. Among them: "The Avengers," "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit," "30 Rock," "Iron Man" and the upcoming "Ghostbusters."

His (and his network's) main stipulation is that he stay true to his manner of reporting, however absurd the action. Kiernan usually tapes his cameos directly from his home studio, before making actual news reports. "I like to cling to this idea that it's sort of how we would actually react to those circumstances," says Kiernan. "This was never truer than in '4:44 Last Day on Earth' when I literally had to pronounce the end of the world and sign off."

Though some chafe at real journalists giving fake bulletins, the summer blockbuster has never been more dependent on them. Among the fictional reporter ranks of Clark Kent and Lois Lane in "Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice" was a parade of news personalities, from Anderson Cooper to Charlie Rose.

**Clever cameos**

Though there have been numerous clever cameos, most are utilized as talking heads of exposition who duct-tape over a gap in the plot or provide the most straightforward of background summaries. They're a camera-ready Greek chorus for today's media-saturated world. "I'm often acting as the narrator who, in 20 seconds through the audience looking in on this news report, can explain something that might have taken two minutes through dialogue," says Kiernan.

Since first appearing in the original "Ghostbusters," Larry King estimates that he's been in about 24 movies. He's mostly played himself, with the exception of "Shrek" (he voiced the ugly stepsister Doris) and a bee-version of himself ("Bee Larry King") in Jerry Seinfeld's "Bee Movie." "When I was a kid, I never saw Edward R. Murrow in a movie. I never

saw (Walter) Cronkite in a movie. I never saw Mike Wallace in a movie," says King. "The trend, I guess, started in the '80s. Now it's fairly common and I think it's fine. It all adds to the willing suspension of disbelief."

In the 2001 romantic comedy "America's Sweethearts," King's cameo took some rewriting. In the script, John Cusack has a dream of his actress wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) not just getting berated on "Larry King Live," but physically assaulted. "CNN called the head of the film company and said Larry King can't hit anybody," says King. Instead, he yells at her until she cries.

**Corporate synergy**

Sometimes there's corporate synergy behind the appearances. Time Warner, for example, owns both Warner Bros. and CNN. Overuse of the tactic has drawn criticism. After Robert Zemeckis' cosmic 1997 drama "Contact" was stuffed with more than a dozen



Pat Kiernan



Soledad O'Brien

CNN reporters, then-CNN President Tom Johnson revamped the network's policy.

"When I started working in TV news, every news department had a different philosophy. Every news president had a different philosophy," says Soledad O'Brien, whose credits just this year include "Zoolander 2," "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" and "Batman v Superman." "At CNN, under one president, the rule was: It's absolutely fine to be in a film. And then the next president was: Absolutely not."

O'Brien, King and Kiernan say they relish their movie experiences. It can boost their individual brands as well as their networks, and the residuals aren't bad either. "I still get checks for 15 cents, 23 cents from 'Ghostbusters,'" says King. The Washington Post called it a danger to the profession to treat journalists like "commodities." New York Magazine chastised reporters for "(selling) themselves out for a movie." — AP



## A look at copyright lawsuits involving hit songs

A federal court jury in Los Angeles has decided that Led Zeppelin did not steal a riff for the intro of its epic hit, "Stairway to Heaven." Here is a look at some other cases that have taken pop songs from the recording studio to the courtroom over plagiarism allegations.

### VMG SALSOL VS MADONNA

Delaware company VMG Salsoul owned the copyright to the song, "Ooh I Love It (Love Break)," and accused Madonna of stealing the horn segment for "Vogue." In a 2-1 decision, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling dismissing the lawsuit. The divided court said the horn segment would be unrecognizable to the average listener of "Vogue" because it is short, occurs only a few times in the song and was modified.

### MARVIN GAYE VS ROBIN THICKE, PHARRELL WILLIAMS

A jury found singers Robin Thicke and Pharrell Williams copied R&B legend Marvin Gaye's "Got to Give it Up" with their 2013 megahit "Blurred Lines." Thicke and Williams were ordered to pay Gaye's children nearly \$7.4 million. A judge trimmed the award, and the verdict is under appeal.

### OSAMA AHMED FAHMY VS JAY-Z

An Egyptian composer whose 1957 song "Khosara Khosara" is partially used in Jay Z's "Big Pimpin'" sued the rapper, producer Timbaland and several media companies. Flute notes that the composer used are repeated throughout the Jay Z song, and nephew Osama Ahmed Fahmy claimed they exploited "Khosara Khosara" without proper permission. A federal judge dismissed the case after hearing testimony from experts on Egyptian law.

### HUEY LEWIS VS THE GHOSTBUSTERS

Ray Parker Jr ain't afraid of no ghost, but he had to give in when Huey Lewis and the News came after him. Parker's "Ghostbusters," from the movie of the same title, was among the top 10 songs of 1984. But Lewis sued him over the song's resemblance to "I Want a New Drug," a song released earlier the same year. Parker settled out of court for a confidential sum.

### VANILLA ICE VS QUEEN

Vanilla Ice's 1990 signature tune, "Ice, Ice, Baby," used a sample of the 1981 Queen-David Bowie collaboration "Under Pressure" without credit. Vanilla Ice would settle out of court for an undisclosed amount in one of many cases that stemmed from hip-hop's heavy use of sampling at the time.

### TOM PETTY VS SAM SMITH

Not all plagiarism cases are so nasty. Tom Petty won a piece of British soulster Sam Smith's hit "Stay With Me" earlier this year, and all he had to do was ask. Petty's publishers said that while it was clearly coincidental, the song's melody bore a striking resemblance to Petty's 1989 song "I Won't Back Down." Smith and his representatives agreed, and granted co-writing credit to Petty. The song would win Grammys for record of the year and song of the year the following month. — AP



Michael Skidmore, trustee for Randy Wolfe, the late member of the band Spirit, speaks at a news conference outside federal court in downtown Los Angeles on Thursday, June 23, 2016. — AP

# Led Zeppelin rocks copyright case over 'Stairway'

Music spoke louder than words of witnesses for a jury that decided Led Zeppelin did not lift a riff from an obscure 1960s instrumental for the intro to its classic 1971 rock anthem "Stairway to Heaven." The panel had heard the faded memories of rock royalty and band members who never achieved the same fame. They were inundated with expert testimony on chord progressions and record revenues. But before reaching a verdict Thursday that could have rewritten rock history, they only wanted to hear stripped-down passages of the two songs in question.

Within 15 minutes of seeing video clips of an acoustic guitarist playing the opening to "Stairway" and a similar passage from "Taurus," written by the late Randy Wolfe, the Los Angeles federal jurors handed Led Zeppelin a major legal victory in a debate that has divided music fans for decades. Jimmy Page, 72, and singer Robert Plant, 67, both wearing suits and with their long hair pulled back in ponytails, hugged their lawyers. They said in statement they were grateful for "putting to rest questions about the origins of 'Stairway to Heaven' and confirming what we have known for 45 years."

### Hurdle in copyright law

The trust for Wolfe, better known as Randy California, had sued the British band for copyright infringement over the short work he recorded with his band Spirit in 1968. Wolfe drowned in 1997 saving his son in Hawaii, and the trust brought the case after a 2014 Supreme Court ruling over the movie "Raging Bull" opened the door to collecting damages in older copyright lawsuits. The "Taurus" recording contains a section that sounds like the instantly identifiable start of "Stairway," but lawyers for the trust had to overcome a big hurdle in copyright law.

Because recordings prior to 1978 aren't protected by copyright, they had to rely on expert renditions of the sheet music filed with the U.S. Copyright Office. The sheet music is typically transcribed from audio and isn't always faithful, said Steven L. Weinberg, a copyright lawyer and musician who watched the trial. "It's really not a fair rendition of what the audio recording sounds like in most cases," he said. The renditions played in court seemed more like distant cousins than identical twins.

"I think if the jury had heard the actual recording of

"Taurus" there'd have been no doubt about it," said Michael Skidmore, the trustee who brought the case on behalf of the Wolfe trust. "They were limited to listening to, looking at a piece of paper."

Page and Plant, who wrote the "Stairway" lyrics, said their creation was original. In several hours of charming and cheeky testimony, they described the craft behind one of the best-known songs in rock 'n' roll, all the while denying knowledge of one of the genre's least-known tunes or the artists who performed it. Plant cracked up the courtroom when said he didn't remember most people he had hung out with over the years.

The trial took a musical journey through the late 1960s and early 1970s, when Spirit, a California psychedelic group that blended jazz and rock achieved some stardom and the hard-rocking British band shot off the charts. Stops on the tour of testimony included Spirit shows during the "Summer of Love," Led Zeppelin's 1968 US debut as opener for Spirit and, finally, a country house in England where Page and Plant described how "Stairway" was born.

Plant recalled sitting by the fire when Page first played the intro on acoustic guitar and he offered the start of a couplet now known to millions: "There's a lady who's sure all that glitters is gold/and she's buying a stairway to heaven."

Jurors never heard a note from Page or Plant live, but they were treated to vintage recordings at the song's conception. Plant hit sour notes and Page played chords that didn't make the final cut as they worked on it. When the final recording was played in court, Page bobbed his head and moved to the music.

The performances by both men were memorable, but they may not have been fully believable. Jurors rejected the defense that Page and Plant would not have been familiar with "Taurus," finding in legal speak that they had "access" to it. Page had the Spirit record in his collection of more than 10,000 records and CDs, Led Zeppelin had opened for Spirit in their US debut and other members of Spirit testified to encounters with Led Zeppelin members. "The reality is that we proved access, but (the jury) could never hear what (Page and Plant) had access to," trust attorney Francis Malofiy said. "It's bizarre." After hearing the musical examples of both, the jury decided they weren't close enough. — AP



In this July 13, 1985 file photo, Led Zeppelin bandmates, singer Robert Plant, left, and guitarist Jimmy Page, reunite to perform for the Live Aid famine relief concert at JFK Stadium in Philadelphia. — AP





Angela Cox a reporter with Seven Network Australia takes a photo with her phone as she takes ride down a glass slide during a media preview day at the U.S. Bank Tower building in downtown Los Angeles. (Right) A member of the media rides down a glass slide during a media preview. — AP photos

# A terrifying trip on 1,000-foot glass slide

By Amanda Lee Myers, Associated Press

I've jumped out of a plane from 13,000 feet. I've ridden 400-foot-tall roller coasters that top speeds of 100 mph, and I once found myself using my fingernails to clutch the side of a rock face way too steep to climb without gear. Heights have never fazed me. Until the Skyslide, a terrifying glass tube on the outside of the US Bank Tower in downtown Los Angeles. It's open to the public Saturday, and journalists were given an early chance to try it out.

Perched 1,000 feet above the ground on the side of the tallest skyscraper west of the Mississippi, the 360-degree glass slide is utterly terrifying. It's nearly a straight shot down, except for a small turn at the beginning that causes riders to bump against the side of the glass, much to their horror. I tried not to pay attention to the screams from other people riding the slide as I waited in what seemed like an interminable line. I tried not to think about the fact that just 11/4 inches separated me from a 1,000-foot drop.



A member of the media prepares to take a ride down a glass slide during a media preview day.

My heart thumped as I approached the top of the slide. I could see the streets below me and the infinite city straight ahead. As I hooked each foot into a little mat that helps riders pick up speed and avoid skidding on the glass, I felt my hands trembling. And when I scooped slowly toward the point of no return, I thought strongly about turning around. I forged on, unable to contain a terrified squeal as I flew down. "Oh my God, Richard!" I yelled to my friend, an AP photographer at the bottom of the slide. All I wanted was to see him again. I shot out of the bottom and am proud to say I stuck the landing. Others have tumbled nearly head over heels. Was it one of the scariest things I've ever done? Absolutely. Would I do it again? I just did.

The Skyslide opens to the public for the first time today. It spans 45 feet from the 70th to the 69th floor of the US Bank Tower in downtown Los Angeles. The slide is part of a \$50 million renovation that includes an open-air observation desk and a bar. Tickets to reach the deck are \$25. It costs \$8 more to ride the slide. — AP

## Kennedy Center honorees include Pacino, the Eagles

Multifaceted actor Al Pacino, acclaimed for his movie roles as a mob boss, a druglord and even Satan, is among the performers to receive this year's Kennedy Center Honors, one of America's top awards in the arts. Pacino joins a wide-ranging group of musicians-rock band the Eagles, rhythm-and-blues legend Mavis Staples, singer-songwriter James Taylor and pianist Martha Argerich-on the roster of Kennedy Center award winners announced Thursday.

President Barack Obama will receive the honorees at the White House for the 39th annual gala on December 4, and footage of the star-studded event will air in a primetime special on December 29. "These honorees represent what is possible when creativity is not just cultivated, but unleashed," Kennedy Center Chairman David Rubenstein said in a statement.

Pacino's nomination comes as little surprise: The star of "The



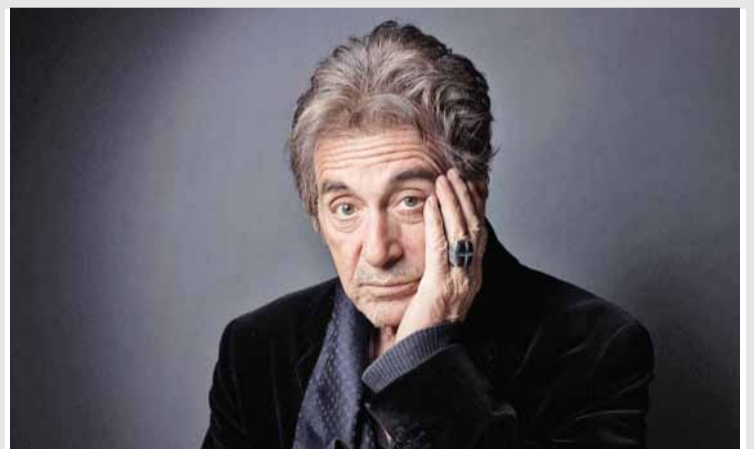
US band The Eagles

Godfather" trilogy has long been considered one of America's finest actors. "Al Pacino has embodied some of the most powerful characters of our time on both the stage and the silver screen," said Rubenstein.

The Eagles might also seem overdue, if only because the band

was to have received the award last year but had to withdraw because of frontman Glenn Frey's failing health. Frey had planned to attend this year's celebration but died in January.

"The Eagles' ambitiously themed albums epically merged the American West and rock n' roll,



Actor Al Pacino

paving the way for unconventional music makers and artists to come," said Rubenstein.

Three more solo musicians filled out the group, including gospel and blues singer Staples, whose music "served as a musical backdrop" to the Civil Rights movement, Rubenstein noted. The

chairman called Taylor "one of the defining musical figures of our time," dubbing his music "the soundtrack of our country." Born in Buenos Aires, Argerich made her US debut in 1965 and went on to become "one of the greatest pianists of the 20th and 21st centuries," said Rubenstein. — AFP



# Paris sun scorches

## Moss and Beckham at Vuitton



Models wear the creations for Louis Vuitton Men's Spring Summer 2017 fashion collection presented Thursday, June 23, 2016, in Paris. — AP photos

tions and a very vibrant spring show. Mohair sweaters with "springbok" patterns speckled the runway in red and brown, as well as myriad other animals in prints.

While khaki sleeveless shirts rendered with dyed twill and a Monogram Makassar collar. Signature bags came as a navy and white zebra printed calf leather briefcase. Beyond the Africa reference, there was more than a hint of Kim Jones' terra mater of London, as he acknowledges. "There's always something a little London hidden somewhere, though. This

time it is the influence of Punk - albeit via Africa," Jones said.

### UNICEF FOR FASHION WEEK

Louis Vuitton paid homage to victims of the AIDS epidemic in South Africa that has devastated communities. Noting that the country has the highest HIV/AIDS rates in the whole world, the house says it champions UNICEF - the United Nations Children's Fund. In the collection, the Silver Locket was testament to this, the house said, and with each piece sold \$100 will be donated to support South African children.

### RICK OWENS

In typically wacky fashion, American designer Rick Owens' collection was titled "Walrus." Plays on proportion in black and dove gray with flashes of vivid yellow came on male, and the occasional female, models. Torsos were lifted upward with cropped jackets with billowing sleeves, matches by the exaggerated portions of the pants. Fabrics swirled with the lightness of silk taffetas and washed silk gazar, or fell heavily with thick industrial cotton. And T-shirts, what the Owens called "mega-draped as irrationally as possible," created striated volumes like sinuous muscles and tendons. — AP



**A**frica was the theme in more ways than one at Louis Vuitton's menswear fashion show as the Paris sun scorched shades-wearing celebrity attendees Kate Moss and David Beckham. Here are the highlights of the day's spring-summer 2017 shows.

### HEATED CELEBRITIES

Inside the storied courtyard venue - inside the Palais Royal - Moss wore a marbled Louis Vuitton silk shirt and pants and posed for cameras under the sun, followed by a rather wintery looking Beckham in a black knit sweater. Miami Heat star Dwyane Wade, 34, appears naked on the cover of ESPN The Magazine's latest "Body Issue."

But in the Paris heat it was his clothes the three-time NBA Champion was rocking at Thursday's Louis Vuitton front row - alongside the NFL's Victor Cruz and soccer star Rio Ferdinand. "Today I've relaxed and chilled with my Louis V.," he told the Associated Press in Vuitton suit with chic colored markings. Wade, who likes to make time to attend fashion shows when he's not competing in basketball championships, said he's excited about the current sports-infused trends in menswear styles. "I love it as an athlete. It's a great moment when sports are intertwined with fashion," he added.

### LOUIS VUITTON

Designer Kim Jones went back to the inspiration of his first Louis Vuitton show: Africa. It made for a richly colored voyage through exotic African skins, textiles and its civiliza-



Models wear creations for Rick Owens' Men's Spring Summer 2017 fashion collection presented Thursday, June 23, 2016 in Paris.





# Paris

Fashion Week



Models present the creations of Maison Margiela during men's Spring/Summer 2017 fashion collection, yesterday in Paris. — AFP photos





Models present the creations of Junya Watanabe and Dries Van Noten during men's Spring/Summer 2017 fashion collection yesterday in Paris.

— AFP photos



# CISCO PARTNERS WITH SAUDI TO ACCELERATE DIGITIZATION

MOU TO SUPPORT KINGDOM'S EFFORTS TO DRIVE GDP GROWTH, FOSTER INNOVATION

**SAN JOSE:** Following a meeting between Saudi Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Cisco Executive Chairman John Chambers, Cisco Chief Executive Officer Chuck Robbins and Cisco Saudi Arabia Managing Director Abdullah Al-Swaha, Cisco signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment that sets a roadmap for an accelerated pace of digital transformation in the Kingdom.

The MoU serves as a partnership framework and underlines Cisco's strategic commitment in support of Saudi Arabia's

efforts to drive digital transformation at a country-wide level. Digitization will play an important role as the Kingdom focuses on diversifying its economy and achieving its ambitious "Vision 2030" agenda, launched last April.

"This partnership reflects the Saudi government's priority focus on embracing digital transformation and capturing the many opportunities presented by country digitiza-

tion," said Dr Majid bin Abdullah Al-Qasabi, Minister of Commerce and Investment for Saudi Arabia. "Developing a vibrant digital economy is a key pillar of our economic diversification plan and collaborating with global technology leaders is essential to bring expertise and know-how to our program of development."

The memorandum outlines a multi-pronged approach through which Cisco will help accelerate Saudi Arabia's digital agenda and position the country for long-term prosperity in the digital age. Through their partnering, Saudi Arabia and Cisco will

John Chambers, Cisco's Executive Chairman. "The government and leadership have shown great appreciation of the importance of digitization as a pathway to prosperity and to the achievement of their vision. This lays a strong foundation for Kingdom's success and we are honored to collaborate closely with them to realize the immense benefits that Saudi Arabia's accelerated digital journey will deliver."

Saudi Arabia is the largest technology market by far in the Middle East and with a young, fast-growing demographic, its market is weighted heavily towards technologically literate early adopters. Its strategic location also offers advantages of a technology hub that caters to over 350 million Arabic-speakers in the region. Abdullah Al-Swaha, Managing Director, Cisco Saudi Arabia, commented, "Since we started operating in Saudi Arabia nearly 20 years ago, we have been committed to investing in long-term programs that support economic growth and greater Saudi workforce participation. As Saudi Arabia embarks on an exciting new phase of development, our country digitization acceleration program will unlock unprecedented opportunities that harness the power of technology to deliver real, sustainable value to the Kingdom and its citizens."

As part of the collaboration, Cisco will make its global expertise in smart transformation, digital government, and connected healthcare and education available to the Kingdom. Cisco will also play a leading role in the development of Saudi Arabia's ICT infrastructure, increasing digital skills and awareness and supporting the alignment of investment with government priorities.

Cisco recently conducted a Saudi Arabia 'Digital Value at Stake' analysis, based on detailed use cases across the Public and Private sector, which revealed a \$124.1 billion value opportunity over the next 10 years for Saudi Arabia - representing over 0.27 percent additional GDP growth. It also highlighted the areas of digitization, IP connectivity, security, Smart Cities and the Internet of Things (IoT) as having the potential to create sustainable and positive impact across the Kingdom.

The Cisco(r) Country Digitization Acceleration (CDA) strategy is a long-term commitment to a partnership with national leadership, industry and academia to deliver real outcomes faster and more effectively. It aims to accelerate the national digitization agenda to grow GDP, create new jobs and invest in a sustainable innovation ecosystem across public and private sectors.

Cisco is the worldwide technology leader that has been making the Internet work since 1984. Our people, products, and partners help society securely connect and seize tomorrow's digital opportunity today. Discover more at [newsroom.cisco.com](http://newsroom.cisco.com) and follow us on Twitter at @Cisco.

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**SAN JOSE:** During the signing of MoU between Saudi Arabia and Cisco.



**SAN JOSE:** Cisco Chief Executive Officer Chuck Robbins and Cisco Saudi Arabia Managing Director Abdullah Al-Swaha sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

identify a number of collaborative opportunities in areas that include developing national IT infrastructure, accelerating business innovation, stimulating startups and enhancing research and education.

"Saudi Arabia has a bold plan for fostering an innovation, talent and entrepreneurship ecosystem that will shift the economy towards greater private sector participation and a more market-based approach," said

identify a number of collaborative opportunities in areas that include developing national IT infrastructure, accelerating business innovation, stimulating startups and enhancing research and education.

"Saudi Arabia has a bold plan for fostering an innovation, talent and entrepreneurship ecosystem that will shift the economy towards greater private sector participation and a more market-based approach," said

## KASPERSKY LAB DISCOVERS VULNERABILITY IN POPULAR ENERGY EQUIPMENT

**DUBAI:** While performing a security assessment for one of its clients in the critical infrastructure sector, the Kaspersky Lab Security Services team discovered an important vulnerability. The CVE-2016-4785 vulnerability could allow an attacker to remotely obtain a limited amount of device memory content from relay protection equipment. The vulnerability was reported to Siemens, the equipment vendor, and has already been patched.

The vulnerability was discovered in the network module of a Siemens SIPROTEC 4 protection relay - a device that is widely used in the energy sector to protect the grid against short-circuits or critical power loads. A successful attack through this vulnerability would allow an attacker to remotely read some of the device's memory content through the module. This information could be used for further attacks.

Siemens has acknowledged the vulnerability and has released an advisory with useful instructions on mitigation and updates. Kaspersky Lab urges any security specialists working for organizations that use this kind of equipment, to pay close attention to the advisory and follow its recommendations.

"Finding vulnerabilities like this is not our primary job, but experience shows us that when we undertake security assessment procedures, it's almost inevitable that we will find something. The end user of vulnerable products usually has nothing to do with the vulnerability itself, and remains at risk of attack even if other parts of the IT infrastructure are organized and tuned rather well. For these reasons it's our responsibility to report on every security weakness we find during our day to day work. This is a key part of our contribution to the security community. We would also like to thank ICS CERT for coordinating the disclosure of this vulnerability, and Siemens for its swift reaction to the news," - said Sergey Gordeychik Deputy CTO, Services at Kaspersky Lab.

During the last 12 months, Kaspersky Lab experts have responsibly disclosed more than 20 vulnerabilities in different hardware and software products: from consumer devices to industrial control systems and vehicle and railway routers.

Finding potential weaknesses in IT or industrial infrastructure is the key benefit of Penetration Testing and Security Assessment services, offered under the Kaspersky Security Intelligence Services umbrella. These services also include a diverse set of products aimed at faster delivery of security expertise to businesses: Security Training, Digital Forensics, Threat Data Feeds and Intelligence reporting. These services help companies to support all key aspects of cyber resilience strategies, including threat prevention and detection, attack response and prediction. More information about Security Intelligence Services can be found at Kaspersky Lab's website.

## EU, US AGREE CHANGES TO STRENGTHEN DATA TRANSFER AGREEMENT

**BRUSSELS:** The European Union and the United States have agreed changes to a data transfer pact that is key to transatlantic business, including stricter rules for companies holding information on Europeans and clearer limits on US surveillance.

The revised EU-US Privacy Shield was sent for review by European member states overnight. They are expected to hold a vote in early July, several EU sources said, at which point it will enter into force.

Cross-border data transfers by businesses include payroll and human resources information as well as lucrative data used for targeted online advertising, which is of particular importance to tech companies. However, revelations of mass US surveillance practices three years ago caused political outrage in Europe and fuelled distrust of big US tech companies such as Facebook, Google and Apple.

Brussels and Washington rushed to hammer out the data pact after the EU's highest court last year struck down the previous system, Safe Harbour, on concerns about mass US surveillance practices, threatening data flows that are key to billions of dollars of business.

For 15 years Safe Harbour allowed both US and European firms to get around tough EU data transferral rules by stating they complied with European privacy standards when storing information on US servers. EU privacy regulators expressed concern about an initial deal struck in February. —Reuters



## 3-D PENS, MOLDABLE EARBUDS TAKE STAGE AT TECH SHOW IN NY

**NEW YORK:** From a 3-D pen that lets kids safely doodle with melted plastic to an electrically charged glass that makes beer taste bubblier, there was no shortage of fun and quirky gadgets at this year's CE Week. The annual, three-day gadget show in New York is meant as a showcase for products coming out for the holidays, though many items are still in development or seeking investments through group-fundraising sites such as Indiegogo.

Here are five notable gadgets at the show, which ends Thursday.

### PEN FOR "DRAWING" 3-D SCULPTURES

There's now a kid-safe version of the 3Doodler 3-D printing pen, which melts sticks of colored plastic into goo that shoots out of the pen tip to create 3-D sculptures. With both versions, the plastic hardens quickly, so you can draw into the air without worrying about your creation collapsing.

The kids' version has no hot parts. The plastic coming out is cool enough to touch. A kids' starter pack includes a pen, an ideas book and two packs of plastic sticks. The kid-friendly set costs \$50, half the price of the regular version. The kids' version is for ages 8 and up and will be in stores in a few months.

### EARBUDS FOR EVERYONE

Finding earbuds that fit comfortably and don't fall out can be a challenge, especially for people with uniquely shaped ears. Decibullz touts its earbuds as the first to be both custom and wireless. They are made of a plastic that softens in hot water. The putty conforms to the inside shapes of your ears and hardens in about two minutes. If you don't get it right the first time, just pop the earbuds back in hot water and start over.

And don't worry about mixing electronics and water. The buds come off the wireless headset while you're adjusting the fit. The set sells for \$120 through the company's website.

### FOR BEER WITH AN EXTRA BUZZ

Global Ionics has a glass that uses a small amount of electric current to boost the flavor and fizziness of drinks, be it flavored water, fruit juice or wine. The current is generated by one AAA battery housed in the base of the glass. The current flows from the glass through its beverage into the mouth. During a demo, the charge gave beer a pleasant extra fizziness when taking little sips. But it can make your face numb when you drink continually. So, best not to overdo it.

This technology is still in the ideas stage. Global Ionics says it hopes to license it to a beer company or a medical-device manufacturer - for instance, to boost the effectiveness of bubbly flu treatments.

### GAMING WITHOUT SCREENS

ROXs, billed as a "real-life gaming console," is designed to get gamer kids active and away from their screens. The kit from A-Champs comes with three ROXs, which look like flat stones about the size of a saucer. You strap them to kids, trees or just about anything else. Kids can choose one of 10 games. "Crazy Chicken," for instance, challenges kids to race between ROXs and touch as many as they can, as fast as they can, as the gadgets beep and light up.

The starter package is expected to sell for \$130 through the company's website, though you can order one now through Indiegogo for \$10 less. It's expected to start shipping this fall.

### HD IN 3-D

GoPro cameras are great for action footage, but they don't shoot in 3-D. Fantem now has a clip-on 3-D lens for it. Fantem's Vitrima 3-D lens costs \$80 through Indiegogo. The company plans to start shipping them next month and says it's in talks to get them on store shelves. —AP



**NEW YORK:** June Lai, founder and CEO of Catalyst, submerges a 12.9-inch iPad Pro in one of her company's waterproof cases, during a preview of products at CE Week in New York. —AP

## HP, APPLE TOP LIST OF FIRMS FIGHTING FORCED LABOR RISK

### MIGRANT WORKERS VULNERABLE TO BECOMING FORCED LABOR

**NEW YORK:** HP Inc and Apple Inc topped a list issued on Thursday ranking how well technology companies combat the risk of forced labor in their supply chains. Workers who make components in information and communications technology (ICT) companies' supply chains are often migrants who are vulnerable to becoming forced labor, said the report by KnowTheChain, an online resource for business. An estimated 21 million people are victims of forced labor around the world, according to the International Labour Organization. Forced labor is estimated to generate some \$150 billion in illegal profits every year.

Forced laborers may be charged high recruitment fees to get jobs, be trapped in debt servitude, deprived of their passports or other documents, or made to work excessive hours for low pay, the report said.

KnowTheChain was founded by Humanity United, a U.S.-based foundation, and other organizations in 2013. HP, Apple, Intel Corp, Cisco Systems Inc and Microsoft scored highest on the list of 20 publicly traded ICT companies. At the bottom were Keyence, BOE Technology and Canon.

Eighteen of the 20 companies have publicly demonstrated a commitment to eradicating forced labor in their supply chain, the report said. "However, far fewer of these companies also have strong processes in place to implement these commitments," it said.

Overall, ICT companies are doing little to give workers a voice in their supply chains, such as enabling freedom of association or providing access to grievance mechanisms.

On the other hand, most companies are making efforts to trace their supply chains all the way down to the providers of commodities, such as minerals, it said.

Intel surveys its suppliers and visits smelters and refiners in the Democratic Republic of Congo, it said. Companies were rated on factors such as public awareness and commitment, purchasing practices, monitoring and auditing processes. In a statement, Apple said it was committed to treating everyone in its supply chain with dignity and respect.

"We are working hard to raise the bar every year to improve working conditions and protect human rights," it said. "We are committed to the highest standards of social responsibility and continue working with industries toward combating human trafficking and slavery in supply chains."

An HP spokesman said: "At HP we believe that our actions must focus on addressing some of the greatest challenges we face as a society, including combating human trafficking, forced labor, and other forms of exploitation of vulnerable workers."

Intel, Microsoft, Keyence and Canon did not immediately respond to requests for comment, and BOE Technology could not be reached. —Reuters

## S KOREA MULLS LAW TO KEEP OFFICE OUT OF THE HOME

**SEOUL:** Hyper-wired South Korea is considering legislation that would ban bosses from bothering their staff at home, after growing complaints about the country's already onerous work-life imbalance.

A bill prohibiting managers from badgering staff at home was submitted to parliament on Wednesday, sponsored by 12 lawmakers from the main opposition Minjoo party. "As more firms use social media or mobile messengers to send work orders, regardless of time, the stress inflicted on

workers has reached a serious level," they said in a statement.

The bill seeks to ban firms from sending employees work-related messages by telephone, text, social media or via mobile messaging apps after official working hours. The document specially references KakaoTalk, a chat app used by around 80 percent of the South Korean population.

The MPs' statement noted that too many workers were expected to be constantly on call, even when on holiday or late at night.

"More people are demanding rights to disconnect after work hours," it said, adding that the bill would allow workers a personal life free of workplace intrusion. Similar legislation prohibiting e-mails after regular work hours has been proposed in countries such as France and Germany.

More than 80 percent of South Koreans have smartphones-one of the highest penetration rates in the world. Couple that with the country's notorious workaholic corporate culture, and you have a system ripe for abuse, the MPs say. —AFP





04:05 Charge Of The Light Brigade  
06:10 Big Screen  
06:25 The Kentuckian  
08:10 Adventures Of Hercules  
09:40 The Real Howard Spitz  
11:25 Puckoon  
12:50 Big Screen  
13:05 The Magnificent Seven  
15:10 Overboard  
17:00 Seven Years In Tibet  
19:15 Futureworld  
21:00 Night Manager  
21:50 Breaking Bad  
22:50 Ghoulies  
00:10 Ghoulies II  
01:40 Run




03:25 Lion Man: One World African Safari  
04:15 Gator Boys  
05:02 Running Wild  
05:49 River Monsters  
06:36 Treetop Cat Rescue  
11:00 Dog TV  
11:55 Snake Crusader With Bruce  
George Snake Crusader With Bruce  
George  
12:50 Running Wild  
13:45 Natural World  
14:40 Natural World  
15:35 Into The Pride  
16:30 Lion Man: One World African Safari  
17:25 Cute To Killer

18:20 Wild Capture School  
19:15 Running Wild  
20:10 Village Vets  
20:40 Village Vets  
21:05 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
22:00 Wild Capture School  
22:55 Running Wild  
23:50 Gator Boys  
00:45 Gator Boys  
01:40 Cute To Killer  
02:35 Natural World



03:40 How Do They Do It?  
06:00 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater  
10:10 Gold Divers  
11:00 Pacific Warriors  
11:50 Outback Truckers  
12:40 Storage Wars Canada  
14:45 Storage Hunters UK  
16:50 Alaskan Bush People  
17:40 The Last Alaskans  
18:30 You Have Been Warned  
19:20 The Carbonaro Effect  
20:10 What Happened Next?  
21:00 Alaskan Bush People  
21:50 The Last Alaskans  
22:40 Siberian Cut  
23:30 What Happened Next?  
00:45 Outback Truckers



03:00 Untamed & Uncut  
03:50 Ultimate Survival  
04:40 How It's Made  
05:30 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman

06:20 Mythbusters  
07:00 Adventure 8: Zoo Games  
07:50 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
08:40 Too Cute!  
12:50 Ecopolis  
16:10 Nextworld  
17:00 Marooned With Ed Stafford  
18:40 Wildest Africa  
19:30 Dynamo: Magician Impossible  
20:20 Lost & Found With Mike & Jesse  
21:10 Bad Universe  
22:00 Untamed & Uncut  
00:30 Ecopolis  
02:10 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman



03:00 Steven Avery: Innocent Or Guilty?  
03:48 Redrum  
04:36 Deadly Affairs  
05:24 The Perfect Murder  
06:12 Nightmare Next Door  
07:00 Dr G: Medical Examiner  
07:50 Deadly Affairs  
12:00 On The Case With Paula Zahn  
16:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
17:00 California Investigator  
17:25 California Investigator  
17:50 Southern Fried Homicide  
18:40 Murder Comes To Town  
19:30 Deadly Devotion  
20:20 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall  
21:10 Web Of Lies  
22:00 I'd Kill For You  
22:50 Paranormal Lockdown  
23:40 The Haunted  
00:30 Redrum  
01:20 Redrum  
02:10 Redrum



03:00 Building The Biggest  
03:48 Man v The Universe  
04:36 Cosmic Collisions  
05:24 How It's Made  
06:12 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
07:00 How It's Made  
11:10 How Do They Do It?  
12:00 Food Factory  
15:20 Mission Asteroid  
16:10 Investigation X  
17:00 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
21:10 Landing On A Comet: Rosetta  
22:00 Alien Planet Earths  
22:50 How Do They Do It?  
23:40 Food Factory USA  
00:05 Landing On A Comet: Rosetta  
00:55 Alien Planet Earths  
01:45 How It's Made



03:15 The Hive  
03:20 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 Gravity Falls  
07:15 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
08:05 Shake It Up  
08:55 Hannah Montana Forever  
09:45 Wizards Of Waverly Place  
10:35 Cheetah Girls  
12:20 Austin & Ally  
12:45 Girl Meets World  
13:10 Best Friends Whenever  
13:35 Jessie  
15:15 Descendants Wicked World  
15:20 Jessie  
17:25 Liv And Maddie  
17:50 The 7D  
18:00 16 Wishes  
19:30 Evermoor Chronicles  
20:20 Mako Mermaids  
20:45 Good Luck Charlie  
21:10 H2O: Just Add Water  
22:00 Binny And The Ghost  
22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
23:10 Hank Zipzer  
23:35 Binny And The Ghost  
00:00 Violetta  
00:45 The Hive  
00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
01:40 Hank Zipzer  
02:05 Binny And The Ghost  
02:30 Violetta



03:10 Henry Hugglemonster  
03:20 Calimero  
03:35 Zou  
03:45 Loopdidoo  
04:00 Art Attack  
04:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
04:35 Calimero  
04:50 Zou  
05:00 Loopdidoo  
05:15 Art Attack  
05:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:50 Calimero  
06:00 Zou  
06:20 Loopdidoo  
06:35 Art Attack  
07:00 The Hive  
07:10 Zou  
07:25 Loopdidoo  
07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
08:05 Sofia The First  
08:30 Miles From Tomorrow  
08:45 PJ Masks  
09:10 The Lion Guard  
09:35 Doc McStuffins  
10:00 Sofia The First  
10:25 Unbungalievable  
10:30 Goldie & Bear  
11:00 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 Unbungalievable  
13:00 Sofia The First

13:25 Goldie & Bear  
13:50 Miles From Tomorrow  
14:15 The Lion Guard  
14:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
15:10 Doc McStuffins  
15:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
16:00 Sofia The First  
16:25 Jungle Cubs  
16:50 Aladdin  
17:15 The Lion Guard  
17:40 Goldie & Bear  
18:05 Doc McStuffins  
18:30 Sofia The First  
19:00 PJ Masks  
19:25 Unbungalievable  
19:30 The Lion Guard  
20:00 Goldie & Bear  
20:30 Sofia The First  
21:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
21:25 PJ Masks  
21:50 Jungle Cubs  
22:20 Aladdin  
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  
02:05 Calimero  
02:20 Zou  
02:30 Loopdidoo  
02:45 Art Attack



06:00 Boyster  
06:10 Super Matrak  
07:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
07:25 K.C. Undercover  
07:50 Supa Strikas  
08:15 Annedroids  
08:40 Lab Rats  
09:10 Kirby Buckets  
09:35 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
10:00 Supa Strikas  
13:00 Cars  
15:00 Phineas And Ferb  
15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
15:15 Rocket Monkeys  
15:40 Guardians Of The Galaxy  
16:05 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
16:30 Kirby Buckets  
16:55 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
17:25 K.C. Undercover  
17:50 Supa Strikas  
18:15 Lab Rats  
18:40 K.C. Undercover  
19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse  
19:10 Annedroids  
19:35 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
20:00 Kirby Buckets  
20:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
20:55 K.C. Undercover  
21:20 Supa Strikas  
21:45 Lab Rats  
22:10 Mighty Med  
22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA



03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
04:00 Man Fire Food  
05:00 Chopped  
06:00 Guy's Grocery Games  
07:00 Roadtrip With G. Garvin  
08:00 Chopped  
09:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes  
10:00 The Kitchen  
11:00 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts  
12:00 The Pioneer Woman  
13:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
15:00 Chopped  
16:00 Man Fire Food  
17:00 Guy's Big Bite  
18:00 Siba's Table  
18:30 Siba's Table  
19:00 Kids Baking Championships  
20:00 Chopped  
21:00 All Star Academy  
22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
23:00 Kids Baking Championships  
00:00 Chopped  
01:00 All Star Academy  
02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
02:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives



03:40 Swamp People  
04:30 American Restoration  
05:00 Battle 360  
06:00 Ice Road Truckers  
06:50 Ice Road Truckers  
07:40 Duck Dynasty  
08:30 Counting Cars: Best Of Swamp People  
08:55 American Restoration  
09:45 American Restoration  
10:35 Ultimate Wheels  
11:25 Lost In Transmission  
12:15 Search For The Lost Giants  
13:05 American Pickers  
13:55 Duck Dynasty  
14:45 Time Team  
15:35 American Restoration  
16:00 American Restoration  
16:50 American Restoration  
17:40 Shipping Wars  
18:05 Shipping Wars  
18:30 Pawn Stars  
18:55 Pawn Stars South Africa  
19:20 American Restoration  
20:10 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar  
21:00 Hunting Hitler  
21:50 American Restoration  
22:15 American Restoration  
22:40 Time Team  
23:30 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar  
00:20 American Restoration  
00:45 American Restoration  
01:10 Hunting Hitler  
02:00 Lost In Transmission  
02:50 American Restoration



03:05 Maverick Chef  
03:30 Eat Street  
03:55 Eat Street  
04:20 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
05:10 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
05:35 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
06:00 Bangkok Airport  
07:40 Dog Whisperer  
08:30 American Food Battle  
08:55 Places We Go  
09:20 Dream Cruises  
10:10 City Chase Marrakech  
11:00 Tales From The Bush Larder  
11:25 Top Tables, Top Cities  
11:50 Fearless Chef  
12:40 Cruise Ship Diaries  
13:05 Home Strange Home  
14:00 Meat v Veg  
14:30 American Food Battle  
14:55 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
15:25 Eat Street  
16:20 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
17:15 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
17:40 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
18:10 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen  
18:35 Great Escapes  
19:05 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
19:30 Eat Street  
20:25 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
21:15 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
21:40 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
22:05 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen  
22:30 Great Escapes  
22:55 Cruise Ship Diaries  
23:20 Home Strange Home  
00:10 Meat v Veg  
00:35 American Food Battle  
01:00 A Marriage Of Flavours  
01:25 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
01:50 Testing The Menu With Nic Watt  
02:15 Meat v Veg  
02:40 American Food Battle



03:45 Cuba's Secret Reef  
04:40 Bandit Patrol  
05:35 World's Wildest Encounters  
06:30 Monster Fish  
07:25 Monster Fish  
08:20 Killer Shots  
09:15 Natural Born Monsters  
10:10 Ultimate Honey Badger  
11:05 Fish Tank Kings  
12:00 Squid vs. Whale  
12:55 How Big Can It Get  
13:50 Natural Born Monsters  
14:45 Hunting The Hammerhead



TRIBECA FILM  
"HARROWING."  
-DREAD CENTRAL  
NICK STAHL  
MIA KIRSHNER  
DEVON SAWA  
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RANDALL COLE  
**388 ARLETTA AVENUE**  
FROM THE MAKERS OF SPLICE AND CUBE

388 ARLETTA AVENUE ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD



SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016

- 15:40 Man V. Monster
- 16:35 World's Deadliest Animals
- 17:30 Secret Life Of Predators
- 18:25 1000 Days For The Planet
- 19:20 Hunting The Hammerhead
- 20:10 Man V. Monster
- 21:00 World's Deadliest Animals
- 21:50 Secret Life Of Predators
- 22:40 1000 Days For The Planet
- 23:30 Squid vs. Whale
- 00:20 How Big Can It Get
- 01:10 Natural Born Monsters
- 02:00 Ultimate Animal Countdown
- 02:50 Mission Critical



- 03:50 Nazi Underworld
- 04:45 Swamp Men
- 05:40 Wicked Tuna
- 06:35 The Great Human Race
- 07:30 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge
- 08:25 Cesar To The Rescue
- 09:20 Cesar To The Rescue
- 10:15 Route Awakening
- 10:40 Route Awakening
- 11:10 Chef On The Road
- 12:05 Taiwan Medical Miracle
- 13:00 What Would Happen If
- 13:30 What Would Happen If
- 14:00 Genius By Stephen Hawking
- 15:00 Explorer
- 16:00 Megacities
- 17:00 X: The Generation That Changed The World
- 18:00 Bridge The Gap
- 19:00 Explorer
- 20:00 Megacities
- 20:50 X: The Generation That Changed The World
- 21:40 Bridge The Gap
- 22:30 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge
- 23:20 Megacities
- 00:10 Building Wild
- 01:00 X: The Generation That Changed The World



- 04:00 388 Arletta Avenue
- 06:00 Hercules
- 08:00 Breakdown
- 10:00 Mega Shark vs. Mecha Shark
- 12:00 Flightplan
- 14:00 Hercules
- 16:00 Reclaim
- 17:45 Breakdown
- 19:45 47 Ronin
- 22:00 Transformers: Age Of Extinction
- 01:00 Escapee
- 02:45 Reclaim



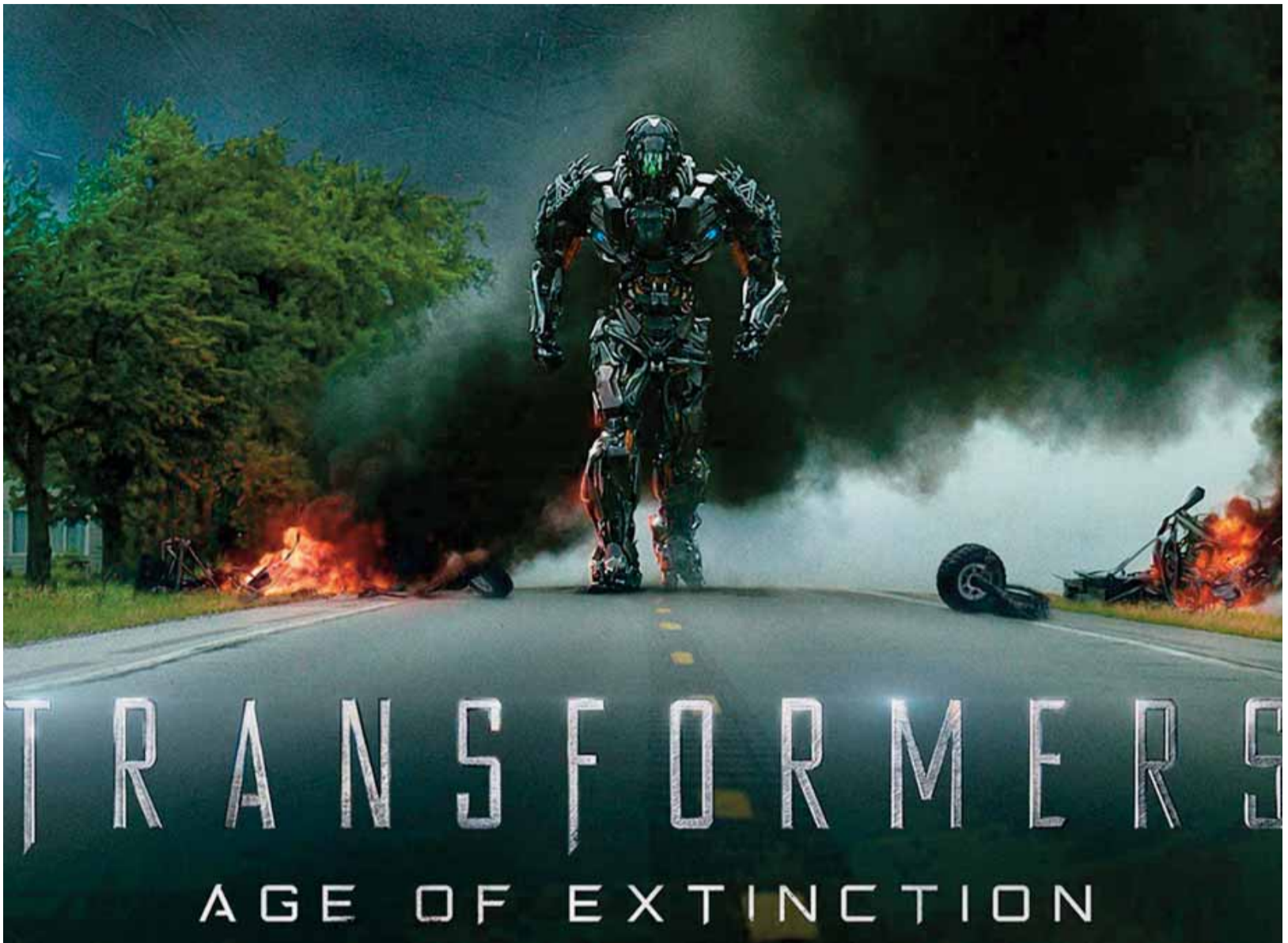
- 04:00 Three Men And A Baby
- 06:00 Bringing Down The House
- 08:00 Raising Helen
- 10:00 Pitch Perfect
- 12:00 Bringing Down The House
- 14:00 Three Men And A Little Lady
- 16:00 Raising Helen
- 18:00 The Hundred-Foot Journey
- 20:15 I Love You Beth Cooper
- 22:00 A Night At The Roxbury
- 00:00 Raising Helen
- 02:00 I Love You Beth Cooper



- 03:00 Lords Of London
- 05:00 The Love Guide
- 07:00 Escape
- 09:00 Before I Go To Sleep
- 11:00 The Love Guide
- 13:00 Tracks
- 15:00 The Melancholy Fantastic
- 17:00 Before I Go To Sleep
- 19:00 The Disappearance Of Eleanor Rigby: Him
- 21:00 The Silent Storm
- 23:00 Reach Me
- 01:00 Before I Go To Sleep



- 03:15 Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides
- 05:30 Wreck-It Ralph
- 07:30 Mulan
- 09:00 Toy Story 3
- 11:00 Ice Age: The Meltdown



TRANSFORMERS- AGE OF EXTINCTION ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

- 13:00 Ernest Goes To Camp
- 15:00 Ratatouille
- 17:00 The Gabby Douglas Story
- 19:00 Mighty Joe Young
- 21:15 Turner & Hooch
- 23:15 Ratatouille
- 01:15 Mighty Joe Young



- 03:30 Decoding Annie Parker
- 05:15 Breathe In
- 07:00 A Civil Action
- 09:00 Get On Up
- 11:30 Upside Down
- 13:30 Breathe In
- 15:30 Reds
- 19:00 When A Man Loves A Woman
- 21:30 The Sixth Sense
- 23:30 Hitting The Apex
- 02:00 Crawl



- 03:00 Annie
- 05:00 Big Hero 6
- 07:00 The Duff
- 09:00 Annie
- 11:00 The Theory Of Everything
- 13:15 The Walk
- 15:30 The Best Of Me
- 17:30 Boychoir
- 19:15 Miss You Already
- 21:00 Tomorrowland
- 23:15 Playing It Cool
- 01:15 Cop Car



- 04:30 The Heart Of The Oak
- 06:00 Jock The Hero Dog
- 08:00 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants
- 09:45 Scooby-Doo! Moon Monster Madness
- 11:15 Yellowbird
- 12:45 The Dragon Pearl
- 14:30 True Story Of Puss'n Boots

- 16:00 Pixies
- 18:00 Scooby-Doo! Moon Monster Madness
- 20:00 Hook
- 22:30 True Story Of Puss'n Boots
- 00:15 Pixies
- 01:45 Minuscule: Valley Of The Lost Ants



- 04:15 The Grand Seduction
- 06:30 Batman: Assault On Arkham
- 08:00 Barely Lethal
- 10:00 Ana Maria In Novela Land
- 11:45 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I
- 14:00 50 To 1
- 16:00 Barely Lethal
- 18:00 Seventh Son
- 20:00 Whiplash
- 22:00 Blackhat
- 00:15 The Purge: Anarchy
- 02:15 Seventh Son



- 03:00 Game Of Thrones
- 04:00 After The Thrones
- 04:30 Curb Your Enthusiasm
- 05:00 Into The Storm
- 07:00 A Bright Shining Lie
- 09:00 Temple Grandin
- 11:00 Yesterday
- 13:00 Grey Gardens
- 15:00 The Leisure Class
- 17:00 Yesterday
- 19:00 Secrets And Lies
- 20:00 The Sopranos
- 21:00 Grace
- 22:00 Ballers
- 22:30 Funny Or Die Presents
- 23:00 The Wire
- 00:00 Secrets And Lies
- 01:00 The Sopranos
- 02:00 Grace



- 03:00 Sleepy Hollow
- 04:00 Good Morning America
- 06:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 07:00 Chicago Fire
- 08:00 Prison Break
- 09:00 Supergirl
- 10:00 Shark Tank
- 11:00 Chicago Fire
- 12:00 Prison Break
- 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 14:00 Shark Tank
- 15:00 Live Good Morning America
- 16:00 The Night Shift
- 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 18:00 Prison Break
- 19:00 The Night Shift
- 20:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
- 21:00 Criminal Minds
- 22:00 Graceland
- 23:00 Agent X
- 00:00 Chicago Fire
- 01:00 Criminal Minds
- 02:00 Graceland



- 03:00 Grahani
- 04:25 The Front ROW
- 05:00 The Front ROW
- 05:25 Koffee With Karan
- 06:25 Zokkomon
- 08:20 Yeh Teraa Ghar Yeh Meraa Ghar
- 11:10 Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte
- 11:10 Hain
- 14:10 Thank You
- 16:35 Cash
- 19:00 Dolly Ki Doli
- 20:45 Neerja
- 22:55 Udaan
- 01:20 Albela
- 04:00 Mission To Mars
- 06:15 My Bollywood Bride



- 08:00 Sister Act 2: Back In The Habit
- 10:00 Dawn Of The Dead
- 12:00 Thor 2: The Dark World
- 14:00 Good Will Hunting
- 16:15 The Duchess
- 18:15 Annapolis
- 20:00 Bad Santa
- 21:45 Nebraska
- 23:45 School For Scoundrels
- 01:30 Guilty At 17



- 04:25 Bourek
- 05:55 The Fox And The Chickadee
- 06:05 Copper Bottom Blues
- 07:00 All On The Line
- 08:00 Five Star
- 09:30 The Great Train Robbery Pt.1
- 11:00 The Great Train Robbery Pt.2
- 12:30 I Won't Come Back
- 14:20 The Clash: Rebel Truce
- 15:50 Body Of War
- 17:20 Simshar
- 19:00 The Great Train Robbery Pt.1
- 20:30 The Great Train Robbery Pt.2
- 22:00 Back To Your Arms
- 23:35 Five Star
- 00:55 I Won't Come Back
- 02:45 Simshar
- UTV Movies
- 03:00 Raghuvver
- 06:00 Bardaasht
- 09:30 Shahenshah
- 12:00 Kaalia
- 15:00 Baap Numbri Beta Dus
- Numbri
- 18:00 Raghuvver
- 21:00 Luck
- 00:00 Yeh Hai Jalwa
- Zee Cinema
- 04:00 Shorr In The City
- 07:00 Jayantabhai Ki Luv Story
- 10:00 Trishul
- 13:00 Welcome Back
- 16:00 Raja Hindustani
- 19:00 The Retake Season 2 (Episode 4)
- 19:30 Double Dhamaal
- 22:00 Don - The Chase Begins Again
- 01:00 Raja Hindustani



- 03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:48 Henry Danger
- 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 04:36 The Haunted Hathaways
- 05:00 Max & Shred
- 05:24 Henry Danger
- 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 06:36 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 07:48 Winx Club
- 08:12 The Loud House
- 08:36 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 09:24 Harvey Beaks
- 09:48 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 10:12 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 10:36 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 11:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 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 Get Blake
- 17:24 Harvey Beaks
- 17:48 The Loud House
- 18:12 Henry Danger
- 18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 19:24 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 19:48 100 Things To Do Before High School





# Kuwait Red Crescent Society celebrates Girgian

**K**uwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) recently organized a special ceremony to commemorate the Girgian tradition at social care houses. Speaking on the occasion, KRCS's volunteers department manager, Dr Musaed Al-Enezi stressed that holding such a ceremony was an integral part of KRCS's goals to create a true Ramadan atmosphere for senior citizens, people with special needs and their families.











**LAIKIPIA, Kenya:** A handout photo taken in 2012 shows a bull elephant breaking back through a fence intended to keep it inside its wildlife reserve, after a night of crop-raiding at Mutara Ranch in this central Kenyan district. — AFP

## KENYA'S JUMBO 'ELE-FENCE' TO STOP HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

**LAIKIPIA, Kenya:** Machete in hand, Kenyan farmer Paul Njoroge points at the broken branches and giant footprints where elephants trampled his bananas, maize, potatoes and sugar cane. "We don't hate the elephants, but their activities are making us poor," said the 53-year old farmer, surveying his lush green fields, a five-hectare (12-acre) plot on the slopes of the Laikipia highlands in central Kenya. "I have this big farm but yet sometimes I have to go for food handouts from the government."

While poachers slaughter thousands of elephants across Africa each year, competition between elephants and people over land is a far bigger problem in the long run, conservationists say. To help combat that, a 163-km electric fence is being erected to provide a separation zone between farmland and elephant migration routes. Max Graham, from the Space for Giants conservation group leading the

fence construction, believes it will improve safety for people and crops, protect the endangered animals from poachers, and ease pressure on grassland from farmers who sneak in livestock illegally to graze in areas reserved for wildlife.

### Man Versus Elephant 'Frontline'

"This is the frontline separating small-holder agriculture from elephant conservation," Graham said. "While the elephant poaching crisis is a massive emergency problem, human-elephant conflict over the long term is going to be the single biggest issue for elephant conservation in Africa." Laikipia, a 10,000 sq km rangeland at the base of snowcapped Mount Kenya, some 200 km north of the capital Nairobi, has the second-largest density of wildlife in Kenya after the world-famous Maasai Mara reserve.

The vast plateau is home to some 6,300

elephants - as well as farmers trying to earn a living from the same lands. Conservationists record as many as 10 incidents of human-elephant conflict a day. Conservationists argue that protecting the elephants will also help boost the tourist industry, which in this area employs thousands of Kenyans and brings in some \$20 million in revenue a year. The \$870,000 fence, funded by cash raised during a recent summit meeting in April to stem ivory poaching, is not cheap. But it is hoped it will help end the more than \$1 million worth of crops damaged by elephants every year. Njoroge's losses alone totalled more than \$4,000 over the past year.

### Compensation Funds Stretched

Kenya's environment minister Judi Wakhungu says that compensation funds are overstretched, meaning rarer cases where people have been killed are given priority. And without compensation from the government, the worst hit farmers can see poaching as an alternative to survive. "Poaching is a problem, yes, but the biggest challenge we face in terms of wildlife conservation, is finding space for wildlife," said Wakhungu. "As our human population grows, there's a lot of pressure to develop facilities and infrastructure."

In the past, rickety old fences were easily broken down by elephants hungry for the farmers' harvests. When the elephants came, villagers would gather together, lighting fires and beating drums to scare them away, but to little effect. Other methods have been tried: Including smearing rope fences with chili paste, or burning chili mixed with elephant dung, methods that are not feasible over long distances.

The new fence carries a 7,000 volt pulsing electric shock, with dangling metre-long wire strips, to stop the elephants well before they can use their tusks to uproot posts as they did in the past. "What it means is no more lost crops, a better income, and a better chance to pay for important things like school for my children," Njoroge said. More than 20 people in the district have died in battles with elephants in the past two years, he said. "We will continue to live here," he said. "We bury our neighbors and life is returning." — AFP

## ANTIBODIES FOUND WHICH 'NEUTRALIZE' ZIKA VIRUS

**PARIS:** European scientists announced Thursday they had found antibodies which attack Zika, a discovery they hope will pave the way for a protective vaccine against the brain-damaging virus. The antibodies - frontline soldiers in the immune system - "efficiently neutralize" Zika in human cells in lab dishes, and are also effective against its cousin virus dengue, the team reported. The discovery "could lead to the development of a universal vaccine" against both diseases, they hoped.

The Zika-zapping molecules were obtained from people who had previously been infected with dengue and whose immune systems had produced antibodies to fight that disease. "The antibodies could be used, for example, to protect pregnant women at risk of contracting the Zika virus," said Felix Rey, a virologist at France's Institut Pasteur who co-authored the twin

studies, published in *Nature* and *Nature Immunology*. "We never expected to discover that the dengue virus and the Zika virus are so close that some antibodies produced against the dengue virus could also neutralize the Zika virus so potently," he added. But Rey cautioned that a working vaccine is likely far off. "There is a lot still to be done, notably to conduct a clinical trial. This may take some time."

Benign in most people, Zika has been linked to a form of severe brain damage, called microcephaly, in babies, and to rare adult-onset neurological problems such as Guillain-Barre Syndrome, which can result in paralysis and death. In an outbreak that started last year, about 1.5 million people have been infected with Zika in Brazil, out of a global total of some two million, and more than 1,600 babies born with abnormally small heads and brains. — AFP

## FEARS FOR POOR AS BRAZIL CUTS HOUSING PLAN

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Government cutbacks to Brazil's pioneering social housing program, which has provided homes for several million people, will undermine property rights and increase inequality in South America's largest economy, analysts warn. Hailed by the United Nations as a "success" in reducing Brazil's housing shortage, the multi-billion dollar "Minha Casa, Minha Vida" (My House, My Life) program has become a target for spending cuts as the country's interim government grapples with a budget deficit and recession.

More than 4.2 million new houses are under contract to be built as part of the program, according to government figures. However, analysts fear that cuts worth tens of millions of reais will disrupt construction. "Six million Brazilian families are homeless or living in precarious housing," said Maria Luisa Mendonca, a University of Rio de Janeiro professor, who studies land conflicts. "For them, these cuts matter a lot," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The Ministry of Cities announced last month spending on the program would be reduced by 1.5 percent without providing a time frame for the cuts, without specifying how much this would mean. Under the former government of President Dilma Rousseff, who was suspended from office last month for allegedly breaking budget laws, spending on the program was expected to be \$210.6 billion reais (\$67 billion) over the next three years, according to data released in March. "We are at a moment of transition," the cities minister, Bruno Araujo, said in a statement. "We are being cautious, assessing what promises we can keep," he said in May, pledging to continue the program "to the extent that the economy allows". The Ministry of Cities did not respond to phone calls or emails requesting an interview.

### Assessing Promises

Data of how much has been spent on the initiative since its creation in 2009 is unavailable but government data shows more than 2.6 million low cost homes have been built. The program has been criticized for corruption, inefficiency and poor construction, said Maureen Donaghy, a public policy professor at Rutgers University in the United States, who studies housing markets. But due to its scale, the initiative actually made a "dent in the number of people needing secure housing", Donaghy told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "That has to be recognized."

For Michel Braga, whose old house in a slum was washed away during a landslide, the program provided a rare chance to obtain an official property title. Most residents of Brazil's informal settlements, or favelas, a key source of housing for the working poor, do not have formal deeds certifying that they own their ramshackle properties. "It's much better here than it was in the favela," Braga, a car wash attendant, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

His new apartment in a gated complex of beige concrete buildings on clean streets stands in stark contrast to the unplanned red-brick favela perched on the adjacent hillside. Braga said he was "first on the list for one of these new apartments", because his old home had been destroyed by a natural disaster.

### Secure Homes

Those on a low income normally apply for a subsidized home, put their name on a waiting list and are then selected through a lottery system. Like other residents of the apartment complex, Braga pays modest condominium fees of about 119 Brazilian reais (\$35) a month for maintenance. Mortgage costs under the scheme vary depending on a person's income and are paid to a government-backed bank. In Braga's case, his monthly mortgage payments are less than maintenance costs.

Saimon Lima, a 34-year-old computer programmer, waited two years after putting his name on the official list before getting an apartment through the initiative. He hopes the government will continue building subsidized homes as millions of other Brazilians lack secure accommodation. "There is danger in nearby communities," Lima told the Thomson Reuters Foundation as security guards stood nearby. "But in here it's safe." — Reuters



# FOUR MURDERS, BLOODY BATTLE FOR LAND RIGHTS IN THAILAND

**BANGKOK:** Supot Kalasong was driving home one afternoon in April when he heard a bang and assumed he had blown his newly-patched tyre. Then he heard more bangs and realized gunfire was piercing his pickup truck door, hitting him six times on his right leg and twice on his right arm. He was lucky, suffering only minor wounds. Since 2010, four people have been killed in Klong Sai Pattana, a small community in southern Surat Thani province, that has been locked in a bloody battle for the right to use government land.

"It is the worst case for land rights defenders - each place has people who are killed, but it's never this bad. And the state is never able to catch the perpetrator and prosecute them," said human rights lawyer Sor Rattanamanee Polkla, of the Community Resource Centre Foundation. A court had granted the government legal ownership of the land after a lawsuit over a palm oil company's expired concession. Villagers, who have occupied the land for at least eight years, say they helped the state win its case. Now, however, the villagers face eviction as officials seek to redistribute the land in a convoluted dispute showing what little power small-scale farmers wield over land, as well as the bloodshed they suffer in defending land rights. "The villagers sacrificed their blood, bodies and souls - with people losing their lives - to get this land back," said Pongtip Samranjit, director of Local Action Links, a Thai non-profit focusing on farmers' and peasants' rights.

The community blames the violence on mafia linked to the plantations. Over the years, three men were arrested but subsequently released on bail. One of the three was charged with murder but was acquitted in March. Nobody has yet been convicted for the mur-

ders, Songsak Raksaksakul, deputy director of the Justice Ministry's Department of Special Investigation (DSI), told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Meanwhile, the government agency overseeing land redistribution for farmers is preparing to ask the ruling junta to use article 44 of the interim constitution - dubbed the "dictator's law" by the media - to drive the villagers off the 160-hectare plot. The villagers and rights activists say they worked closely with the Agricultural Land Reform Office (ALRO) on the case against the company accused of occupying the area illegally. But despite the court victory in 2014, the ALRO now says the villagers themselves are illegal occupants and must also leave. "The ALRO is stabbing them in the back and going back on the deal with the villagers," Pongtip said.

The ALRO says the villagers had been allowed to stay on the land until the legal issues were resolved. But now that the court has ruled, ALRO Secretary General Sunsern Aggutamanus says the villagers must go so the land can be distributed fairly. "They like to tell the media that they have chased the company out, but the fact is that a court ordered them out. They say they chased the bad people out, and now they should get the land," Sunsern said. "I said no, that's not how it works. You have to register to be considered, along with other villagers. There are no privileges for these people ... If we can reclaim the land, then we will distribute it, but we have to do it fairly."

#### Landless Farmers

Agriculture accounts for a tenth of Thailand's economy, with half the country's land used for farming, and more than a third of its workers employed as farmers. Yet about a quarter of Thailand's 5.9 million farming

households do not own land. Many are tenant farmers, mired in debt. The ALRO, set up in 1975 to acquire land for farmers, has allocated about 5.6 million hectares to nearly 2.2 million people. Sunsern says the ALRO has another 640,000 hectares it has been unable to distribute because of land conflicts, such as in Klong Sai Pattana.

Frustrated with the snail's pace of reforms, landless farmers from across Thailand banded together in 2008 to form the Southern Peasants Federation of Thailand (SPFT) to fight for a community land title, whereby they would collectively manage and use the ALRO allocated plot. SPFT members moved into Klong Sai Pattana and worked with the government to become part of a pilot project to secure a community land title.

But first, the government had to oust the palm oil company whose concession had expired and was accused of trespass. In a 2009 letter to the Surat Thani governor, the ALRO said a committee under the prime minister's office allowed the villagers to temporarily live on the land in Klong Sai Pattana "while the problem is being resolved". According to Sunsern, the 2014 court verdict against the palm oil company was that resolution. "The government said they could stay temporarily, until the court decision," he said. An ALRO list shows nearly 20,000 people have registered for land allocations in Surat Thani province alone, and Sunsern says they all have equal right to vie for Klong Sai Pattana.

#### Pilot Project for Community Titles

Further complicating this dispute is a pilot project for community land titles, which included Klong Sai Pattana. In 2010, Thailand's cabinet passed a law on the issuance of com-

munity land titles, which legally allows collective community management and use of state-owned land for their livelihoods. Villagers and activists say they worked closely with the governments of former prime ministers Abhisit Vejjajiva and Yingluck Shinawatra, and Klong Sai Pattana was slated for the pilot project, but it never got the community land title.

Over the course of Klong Sai Pattana's struggle since 2008, the ruling government changed hands from one party to another, and finally to the military junta after a 2014 coup. "The government is like this. When the government changes, they don't respect the old memorandums of understanding signed by the previous governments," said Pongtip of Local Action Links. Officials from the ALRO, DSI and the prime minister's office are scheduled to visit Klong Sai Pattana in July to resolve the dispute. Officials from the prime minister's office declined to be interviewed for this story.

In Klong Sai Pattana, even though the villagers say they helped oust the palm oil company, they now stand accused of being dependents of the company. On July 15, a court will deliver a verdict on whether or not this is the case. Villagers are coming to terms with the possibility of eviction if the ALRO succeeds in getting them kicked off the land. Despite being shot, Supot, 41, does not see himself moving. "I can't change my way of life anymore. I've always been a farmer, even my parents were farmers ... and I don't have the knowledge to do anything else," Supot said in an interview at the National Human Rights Commission in northern Bangkok. "All of us in Klong Sai Pattana - we've always been farmers. And we ask the ALRO, 'Where will you put us, and who will look after all that we've built and planted?'" — Reuters

## CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times  
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
فهد علي المخيزيم  
Consultant Pediatrician 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 SATURDAY (23/06/2016 TO 25/06/2016)

|  |                                |   |                      |
|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>SHARQIA-1</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES                            | 9:30 PM<br>11:30 PM            | NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES<br>NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES  | 10:00 PM<br>12:05 AM |
| <b>SHARQIA-2</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>WARCRAFT                                | 9:45 PM<br>11:45 PM            | <b>AVENUES-9</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>HASAN WA BOQLOZ  | 10:30 PM<br>12:30 AM |
| <b>SHARQIA-3</b><br>HASAN WA BOQLOZ<br>HASAN WA BOQLOZ                               | 10:00 PM<br>12:05 AM           | <b>AVENUES-10</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP   | 9:45 PM<br>11:45 PM  |
| <b>MUHALAB-1</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP                                       | 10:00 PM<br>12:05 AM           | <b>AVENUES-11</b><br>WARCRAFT (Atmos 2D)<br>NO THU<br>CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR (Atmos 2D)<br>NO THU | 9:30 PM<br>12:05 AM  |
| <b>MUHALAB-2</b><br>GENTLEMAN - Telugu<br>OKA MANASU- Telugu<br>THE ASIAN CONNECTION | 9:45 PM<br>9:45 PM<br>12:45 AM | <b>360°- 1</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP  | 10:30 PM<br>12:30 AM |
| <b>MUHALAB-3</b><br>THE JUNGLE BOOK<br>WARCRAFT                                      | 9:30 PM<br>11:45 PM            | <b>360°- 2</b><br>PELE: BIRTH OF A LEGEND<br>THE ASIAN CONNECTION                                     | 10:00 PM<br>12:15 AM |
| <b>FANAR-1</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>THE JUNGLE BOOK                           | 9:30 PM<br>11:30 PM            | <b>360°- 3</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR                                 | 9:45 PM<br>11:45 PM  |
| <b>FANAR-2</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP   | 10:15 PM<br>12:15 AM           | <b>AL-KOUT.1</b><br>WARCRAFT<br>NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES  | 9:30 PM<br>12:05 AM  |
| <b>FANAR-3</b><br>UDTA PUNJAB- Hindi<br>ROAD GAMES                                   | 9:45 PM<br>12:45 AM            | <b>AL-KOUT.2</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>ROAD GAMES   | 10:00 PM<br>12:15 AM |
| <b>FANAR-4</b><br>ROAD GAMES<br>WARCRAFT   | 10:00 PM<br>12:05 AM           | <b>AL-KOUT.3</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>WARCRAFT   | 10:15 PM<br>12:30 AM |
| <b>FANAR-5</b><br>ELLY JAY AHSAN (Arabic)<br>NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES                  | 10:30 PM<br>12:30 AM           | <b>AL-KOUT.4</b><br>ELLY JAY AHSAN (DIG) (Arabic)<br>X-MEN: Apocalypse                                | 9:45 PM<br>12:05 AM  |
| <b>MARINA-1</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP  | 9:45 PM<br>12:05 AM            | <b>BAIRAQ-1</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP   | 9:30 PM<br>11:30 PM  |
| <b>MARINA-2</b><br>THE JUNGLE BOOK<br>WARCRAFT                                       | 10:00 PM<br>12:15 AM           | <b>BAIRAQ-2</b><br>THE JUNGLE BOOK<br>Hepta   | 10:00 PM<br>12:15 AM |
| <b>MARINA-3</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>HASAN WA BOQLOZ                          | 9:30 PM<br>11:45 PM            | <b>BAIRAQ-3</b><br>UDTA PUNJAB- Hindi<br>THE ASIAN CONNECTION   | 9:30 PM<br>12:30 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-1</b><br>ELLY JAY AHSAN (Arabic)<br>PELE: BIRTH OF A LEGEND               | 10:00 PM<br>12:15 AM           | <b>PLAZA</b><br>7 HOURS TO GO -Hindi<br>THE CALL UP   | 9:30 PM<br>12:15 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-3</b><br>UDTA PUNJAB- Hindi<br>THE CALL UP                                | 9:45 PM<br>12:45 AM            | <b>LAILA</b><br>THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE<br>THE CALL UP  | 9:45 PM<br>11:45 PM  |
| <b>AVENUES-4</b><br>THE CALL UP<br>THE CALL UP                                       | 10:30 PM<br>12:30 AM           | <b>AJIAL.1</b><br>UDTA PUNJAB- Hindi<br>THE CALL UP   | 9:30 PM<br>12:30 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-5</b><br>ROAD GAMES<br>WARCRAFT   | 9:45 PM<br>11:45 PM            | <b>AJIAL.2</b><br>JACOBINTE SWARGARAJYAM (Malayalam)<br>JACOBINTE SWARGARAJYAM (Malayalam)            | 9:45 PM<br>12:15 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-6</b><br>THE JUNGLE BOOK<br>MIN DAHAR RAGEL - Arabic                      | 9:30 PM<br>11:45 PM            | <b>AJIAL.3</b><br>7 HOURS TO GO -Hindi<br>7 HOURS TO GO -Hindi  | 9:45 PM<br>12:15 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-7</b><br>ROAD GAMES<br>ROAD GAMES   | 10:15 PM<br>12:15 AM           | <b>AJIAL.4</b><br>GENTLEMAN - Telugu<br>THU<br>GENTLEMAN - Telugu                                     | 9:30 PM<br>12:15 AM  |
| <b>AVENUES-8</b>   |                                |   |                      |

Now you can browse  
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### Prayer timings

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Fajr:</b>    | <b>03:14</b> |
| <b>Shorook</b>  | <b>04:50</b> |
| <b>Duhr:</b>    | <b>11:50</b> |
| <b>Asr:</b>     | <b>15:24</b> |
| <b>Maghrib:</b> | <b>16:51</b> |
| <b>Isha:</b>    | <b>20:23</b> |



### Hospitals

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

### Clinics

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





# Flight Schedule

## DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

In case you are not travelling, your proper cancellation of bookings will help other passengers use seats

### Arrival Flights on Saturday 25/6/2016

| Airlines | Flt  | Route           | Time  | Airlines | Flt  | Route             | Time  | Airlines | Flt  | Route            | Time  |
|----------|------|-----------------|-------|----------|------|-------------------|-------|----------|------|------------------|-------|
| MSC      | 501  | Alexandria      | 00:05 | QTR      | 1080 | Doha              | 17:55 | KAC      | 501  | Beirut           | 11:00 |
| THY      | 772  | Istanbul        | 00:10 | SVA      | 500  | Jeddah            | 17:55 | KAC      | 561  | Amman            | 11:20 |
| MSC      | 415  | Sohag           | 00:10 | KAC      | 176  | Geneva/Frankfurt  | 18:20 | KAC      | 165  | Rome/Paris       | 11:25 |
| JZR      | 267  | Beirut          | 00:30 | KAC      | 502  | Beirut            | 18:35 | KAC      | 679  | Muscat           | 11:25 |
| FDB      | 069  | Dubai           | 00:55 | KAC      | 786  | Jeddah            | 18:35 | SYR      | 342  | Damascus         | 11:30 |
| KKK      | 6506 | Istanbul        | 00:55 | KAC      | 774  | Riyadh            | 18:35 | GFA      | 214  | Bahrain          | 11:35 |
| DLH      | 635  | Doha            | 01:00 | FDB      | 8061 | Dubai             | 18:50 | JZR      | 356  | Mashhad          | 11:40 |
| QTR      | 1086 | Doha            | 01:15 | KAC      | 742  | Dammam            | 18:50 | KAC      | 541  | Cairo            | 12:05 |
| JZR      | 539  | Cairo           | 01:20 | CLX      | 856  | Luxembourg        | 18:50 | UAE      | 874  | Dubai            | 12:10 |
| SAI      | 441  | Lahore          | 01:30 | KAC      | 618  | Doha              | 18:55 | RBG      | 554  | Alexandria       | 12:10 |
| JZR      | 125  | Bahrain         | 01:40 | KAC      | 542  | Cairo             | 18:55 | JZR      | 776  | Jeddah           | 12:15 |
| PGT      | 858  | Istanbul        | 01:40 | KAC      | 104  | London            | 19:00 | IRM      | 1189 | Mashhad          | 12:20 |
| RJA      | 642  | Amman           | 01:45 | GFA      | 217  | Bahrain           | 19:05 | IRC      | 6512 | ABD              | 12:40 |
| ETH      | 620  | Addis Ababa     | 01:45 | UAE      | 875  | Dubai             | 19:05 | JZR      | 534  | Cairo            | 12:40 |
| JZR      | 553  | Alexandria      | 01:50 | FDB      | 063  | Dubai             | 19:10 | IAW      | 158  | Al Najaf         | 12:55 |
| GFA      | 211  | Bahrain         | 02:15 | KAC      | 614  | Bahrain           | 19:10 | KAC      | 785  | Jeddah           | 13:00 |
| UAE      | 853  | Dubai           | 02:25 | ABY      | 123  | Sharjah           | 19:15 | KAC      | 791  | Madinah          | 13:00 |
| OMA      | 643  | Muscat          | 03:05 | JZR      | 535  | Cairo             | 19:30 | FDB      | 076  | Dubai            | 13:10 |
| FDB      | 067  | Dubai           | 03:15 | JAI      | 572  | Mumbai            | 19:35 | NIA      | 152  | Cairo            | 13:20 |
| ETD      | 305  | Abu Dhabi       | 03:15 | KAC      | 674  | Dubai             | 19:45 | JZR      | 786  | Riyadh           | 13:20 |
| MSR      | 612  | Cairo           | 03:15 | FDB      | 059  | Dubai             | 19:50 | MSC      | 402  | Alexandria       | 13:30 |
| QTR      | 1076 | Doha            | 03:25 | JZR      | 177  | Dubai             | 19:50 | SAW      | 702  | Damascus         | 13:35 |
| PGT      | 860  | Istanbul        | 03:30 | DLH      | 634  | Frankfurt         | 20:05 | MSR      | 611  | Cairo            | 14:00 |
| KAC      | 544  | Cairo           | 03:40 | KNE      | 381  | Taif              | 20:10 | FDB      | 8054 | Dubai            | 14:05 |
| KAC      | 514  | Tehran          | 03:50 | ABY      | 121  | Sharjah           | 20:10 | THY      | 767  | Istanbul         | 14:10 |
| QTR      | 8301 | Doha            | 04:10 | MEA      | 402  | Beirut            | 20:15 | IRC      | 527  | Mashhad          | 14:35 |
| DHX      | 170  | Bahrain         | 05:10 | OMA      | 647  | Muscat            | 20:20 | TBM      | 6314 | Mashhad          | 14:40 |
| THY      | 770  | Istanbul        | 05:15 | MSR      | 618  | Alexandria        | 20:30 | PAL      | 669  | Dubai/Manila     | 14:45 |
| PAL      | 668  | Manila/Dubai    | 06:25 | QTR      | 1088 | Doha              | 20:35 | KNE      | 382  | Taif             | 14:55 |
| KAC      | 412  | Manila/Bangkok  | 06:30 | FDB      | 5053 | Dubai             | 20:55 | MSR      | 576  | Sharm el-Sheikh  | 15:00 |
| BAW      | 157  | London          | 06:40 | ETD      | 307  | Abu Dhabi         | 21:05 | KAC      | 773  | Riyadh           | 15:00 |
| JZR      | 529  | Asyut           | 06:55 | UAE      | 859  | Dubai             | 21:15 | GFA      | 222  | Bahrain          | 15:05 |
| FDB      | 5061 | Dubai           | 07:15 | ALK      | 229  | Colombo           | 21:20 | FDB      | 058  | Bahrain          | 15:05 |
| JZR      | 503  | Luxor           | 07:25 | KLM      | 415  | Amsterdam         | 21:25 | KAC      | 673  | Dubai            | 15:05 |
| KAC      | 382  | Delhi           | 07:30 | KAC      | 676  | Dubai             | 21:35 | FBA      | 832  | Al Najaf         | 15:10 |
| KAC      | 346  | Ahmedabad       | 07:35 | JZR      | 189  | Dubai             | 21:45 | QTR      | 1079 | Doha             | 15:15 |
| KAC      | 206  | Islamabad       | 07:40 | QTR      | 1082 | Doha              | 21:55 | KAC      | 617  | Doha             | 15:15 |
| KAC      | 204  | Lahore          | 07:40 | GFA      | 219  | Bahrain           | 22:00 | JZR      | 176  | Dubai            | 15:15 |
| FDB      | 053  | Dubai           | 07:50 | KAC      | 564  | Amman             | 22:05 | KAC      | 741  | Dammam           | 15:30 |
| KAC      | 302  | Mumbai          | 07:50 | ETD      | 309  | Abu Dhabi         | 22:10 | KNE      | 530  | Jeddah           | 15:55 |
| KAC      | 332  | Trivandrum      | 08:15 | AIC      | 987  | Chennai/Hyderabad | 22:25 | KNE      | 684  | Madinah          | 16:00 |
| KAC      | 344  | Chennai         | 08:15 | ABY      | 129  | Sharjah           | 22:30 | KAC      | 613  | Bahrain          | 16:00 |
| KAC      | 362  | Colombo         | 08:20 | KNE      | 533  | Jeddah            | 22:45 | BON      | 102  | Sarajevo         | 16:05 |
| KAC      | 352  | Kochi           | 08:20 | JZR      | 185  | Dubai             | 22:55 | OMA      | 646  | Muscat           | 16:10 |
| UAE      | 855  | Dubai           | 08:25 | THY      | 764  | Istanbul          | 22:55 | ABY      | 128  | Sharjah          | 16:15 |
| KAC      | 284  | Dhaka           | 09:00 | MSC      | 403  | Asyut             | 23:10 | ETD      | 304  | Abu Dhabi        | 16:20 |
| ETD      | 301  | Abu Dhabi       | 09:05 | JAI      | 574  | Mumbai            | 23:20 | KAC      | 563  | Amman            | 16:30 |
| ABY      | 125  | Sharjah         | 09:05 | JZR      | 125  | Bahrain           | 23:25 | RJA      | 641  | Amman            | 16:55 |
| QTR      | 1070 | Doha            | 09:20 | JZR      | 513  | Sharm el-Sheikh   | 23:30 | FDB      | 052  | Dubai            | 17:00 |
| FDB      | 055  | Dubai           | 09:40 | MSR      | 614  | Cairo             | 23:30 | KAC      | 675  | Dubai            | 17:00 |
| SYR      | 341  | Damascus        | 10:30 | FDB      | 071  | Dubai             | 23:35 | JZR      | 188  | Dubai            | 17:10 |
| UAE      | 873  | Dubai           | 10:40 | JAD      | 301  | Amman             | 23:45 | JZR      | 512  | Sharm el-Sheikh  | 17:15 |
| GFA      | 213  | Bahrain         | 10:40 |          |      |                   |       | QTR      | 1073 | Doha             | 17:25 |
| JZR      | 359  | Mashhad         | 10:50 |          |      |                   |       | KNE      | 532  | Jeddah           | 17:25 |
| IRM      | 1188 | Mashhad         | 11:10 |          |      |                   |       | UAE      | 858  | Dubai            | 17:40 |
| JZR      | 325  | Al Najaf        | 11:20 |          |      |                   |       | NIA      | 252  | Alexandria       | 17:50 |
| RBG      | 553  | Alexandria      | 11:30 |          |      |                   |       | IRA      | 666  | Esfahan          | 18:10 |
| IRC      | 6511 | ABD             | 11:40 |          |      |                   |       | SVA      | 511  | Riyadh           | 18:15 |
| JZR      | 165  | Dubai           | 11:50 |          |      |                   |       | GFA      | 216  | Bahrain          | 18:20 |
| IAW      | 157  | Al Najaf        | 11:55 |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 184  | Dubai            | 18:20 |
| NIA      | 151  | Cairo           | 12:20 |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 538  | Cairo            | 18:30 |
| FDB      | 075  | Dubai           | 12:25 |          |      |                   |       | QTR      | 1081 | Doha             | 19:05 |
| MSC      | 401  | Alexandria      | 12:30 |          |      |                   |       | SVA      | 505  | Jeddah           | 19:25 |
| JZR      | 241  | Amman           | 12:30 |          |      |                   |       | FDB      | 8062 | Dubai            | 19:30 |
| SAW      | 701  | Damascus        | 12:35 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 285  | Dhaka            | 19:40 |
| MSR      | 610  | Cairo           | 13:00 |          |      |                   |       | GFA      | 218  | Bahrain          | 19:50 |
| THY      | 766  | Istanbul        | 13:10 |          |      |                   |       | FDB      | 064  | Dubai            | 19:50 |
| FDB      | 8053 | Dubai           | 13:25 |          |      |                   |       | ABY      | 124  | Sharjah          | 19:55 |
| IRC      | 526  | Mashhad         | 13:35 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 361  | Colombo          | 19:55 |
| TBM      | 6313 | Mashhad         | 13:45 |          |      |                   |       | CLX      | 856  | Hong Kong        | 20:20 |
| FBA      | 831  | Al Najaf        | 13:50 |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 266  | Beirut           | 20:20 |
| BON      | 101  | Sarajevo        | 13:55 |          |      |                   |       | FDB      | 060  | Dubai            | 20:30 |
| KNE      | 231  | Riyadh          | 14:00 |          |      |                   |       | UAE      | 876  | Dubai            | 20:35 |
| KAC      | 672  | Dubai           | 14:00 |          |      |                   |       | JAI      | 571  | Mumbai           | 20:35 |
| QTR      | 1078 | Doha            | 14:05 |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 124  | Bahrain          | 20:35 |
| MSR      | 575  | Sharm el-Sheikh | 14:15 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 331  | Trivandrum       | 20:45 |
| FDB      | 057  | Dubai           | 14:20 |          |      |                   |       | DLH      | 634  | Doha             | 20:50 |
| GFA      | 221  | Bahrain         | 14:20 |          |      |                   |       | ABY      | 122  | Sharjah          | 20:50 |
| JZR      | 779  | Jeddah          | 14:25 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 353  | BLR              | 20:55 |
| KAC      | 512  | Mashhad         | 14:30 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 543  | Cairo            | 21:00 |
| KAC      | 540  | Sharm el-Sheikh | 14:50 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 351  | Kochi            | 21:00 |
| KAC      | 788  | Jeddah          | 15:00 |          |      |                   |       | KNE      | 232  | Riyadh           | 21:10 |
| KNE      | 529  | Jeddah          | 15:05 |          |      |                   |       | MEA      | 403  | Beirut           | 21:15 |
| KNE      | 683  | Madinah         | 15:05 |          |      |                   |       | OMA      | 648  | Muscat           | 21:15 |
| OMA      | 645  | Muscat          | 15:10 |          |      |                   |       | MSR      | 607  | Luxor            | 21:30 |
| ETD      | 303  | Abu Dhabi       | 15:10 |          |      |                   |       | QTR      | 1089 | Doha             | 21:45 |
| ABY      | 127  | Sharjah         | 15:35 |          |      |                   |       | DHX      | 171  | Bahrain          | 21:50 |
| UAE      | 857  | Dubai           | 15:45 |          |      |                   |       | FDB      | 5054 | Dubai            | 21:55 |
| RJA      | 640  | Amman           | 16:00 |          |      |                   |       | ETD      | 308  | Abu Dhabi        | 21:55 |
| FDB      | 051  | Dubai           | 16:10 |          |      |                   |       | ALK      | 230  | Colombo          | 22:20 |
| QTR      | 1072 | Doha            | 16:15 |          |      |                   |       | UAE      | 860  | Dubai            | 22:25 |
| JZR      | 257  | Beirut          | 16:25 |          |      |                   |       | KLM      | 415  | Dammam/Amsterdam | 22:25 |
| KAC      | 118  | New York        | 16:30 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 381  | Delhi            | 22:25 |
| KNE      | 531  | Jeddah          | 16:35 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 301  | Mumbai           | 22:30 |
| JZR      | 787  | Riyadh          | 16:45 |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 238  | Amman            | 22:30 |
| NIA      | 251  | Alexandria      | 16:50 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 345  | Ahmedabad        | 22:55 |
| KAC      | 562  | Amman           | 16:55 |          |      |                   |       | GFA      | 220  | Bahrain          | 23:00 |
| KAC      | 680  | Muscat          | 16:55 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 205  | Islamabad        | 23:00 |
| IRA      | 669  | Mashhad         | 17:10 |          |      |                   |       | ETD      | 310  | Abu Dhabi        | 23:05 |
| SVA      | 510  | Riyadh          | 17:15 |          |      |                   |       | ABY      | 120  | Sharjah          | 23:10 |
| JZR      | 357  | Mashhad         | 17:30 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 155  | Istanbul         | 23:15 |
| GFA      | 215  | Bahrain         | 17:30 |          |      |                   |       | QTR      | 1083 | Doha             | 23:20 |
| KAC      | 792  | Madinah         | 17:45 |          |      |                   |       | KAC      | 411  | Bangkok/Manila   | 23:25 |
| JZR      | 777  | Jeddah          | 17:50 |          |      |                   |       | KNE      | 534  | Jeddah           | 23:35 |
|          |      |                 |       |          |      |                   |       | JZR      | 554  | Alexandria       | 23:45 |



Word Search Puzzles

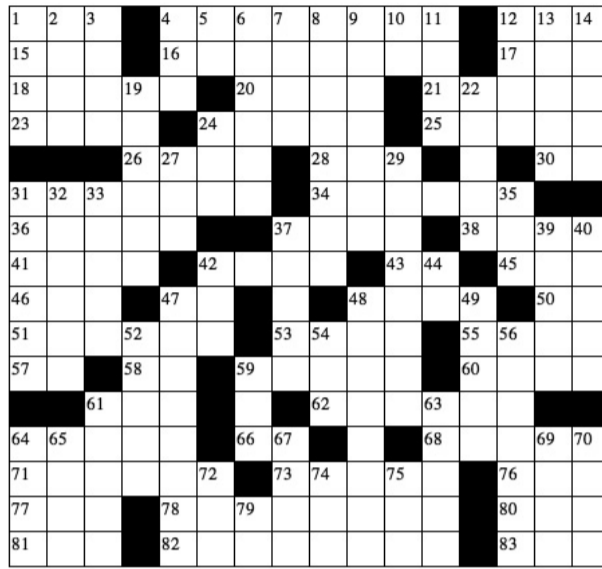
Comedy Movies 1 - Word Search

Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

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

- ALL OF ME
- ANIMAL HOUSE
- BANANAS
- BIG
- BLUES BROTHERS
- CAT BALLOU
- CLERKS
- GET SMART
- GROUNDHOG DAY
- HAPPY GILMORE
- HARVEY
- HITCH
- MANHATTAN
- MASH
- MIDNIGHT RUN
- MOONSTRUCK
- PATCH ADAMS
- PLAZA SUITE
- QUICK CHANGE
- STRIPES
- THE RUTLES
- TOOTSIE
- ZOMBIELAND

CROSSWORD 1295



ACROSS

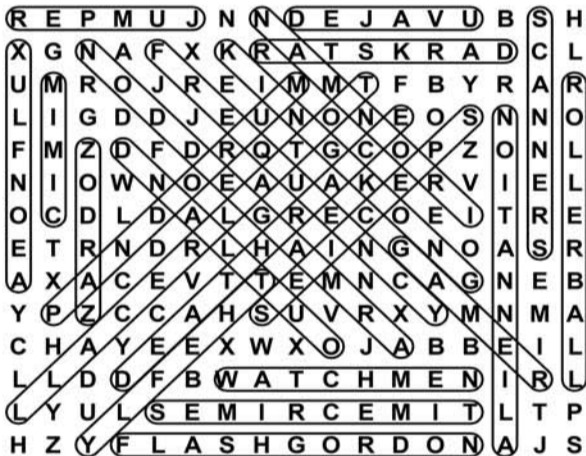
- 1. Having undesirable or negative qualities.
- 4. Raspberry native to eastern North America having black thimble-shaped fruit.
- 12. The federal department responsible for safeguarding national security.
- 15. Fiddler crabs.
- 16. A member of a Bantu people living chiefly in Botswana and western South Africa.
- 17. A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event.
- 18. United States tennis player (born in Czechoslovakia) who won several singles championships.
- 20. A block of solid substance (such as soap or wax).
- 21. Having three dimensions.
- 23. (Scotland) A slope or hillside.
- 25. A member of the Nahuatl people who established an empire in Mexico that was overthrown by Cortes in 1519.
- 26. Food for domestic livestock.
- 28. A small lump or protuberance.
- 30. A white soft metallic element that tarnishes readily.
- 31. (used especially of glances) Directed to one side with or as if with doubt or suspicion or envy.
- 34. The mountain peak that Noah's ark landed on as the waters of the great flood receded.
- 36. Comb-plate or locomotor organ consisting of a row of strong cilia whose bases are fused.
- 38. An unstable meson produced as the result of a high-energy particle collision.
- 41. Open-heart surgery in which the rib cage is opened and a section of a blood vessel is grafted from the aorta to the coronary artery to bypass the blocked section of the coronary artery and improve the blood supply to the heart.
- 43. The blood group whose red cells carry both the A and B antigens.
- 45. A benevolent aspect of Devi.
- 46. A reptile genus of Iguanidae.
- 50. The branch of computer science that deal with writing computer programs that can solve problems creatively.
- 51. Put down by force or intimidation.
- 53. Prolific Spanish playwright (1562-1635).
- 55. A Loloish language.
- 57. The branch of engineering science that studies the uses of electricity and the equipment for power generation and distribution and the control of machines and communication.
- 58. A trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.

DOWN

- 1. A modified bud consisting of a thickened globular underground stem serving as a reproductive structure.
- 2. Type genus of the Aceraceae.
- 3. (Irish) Mother of the Tuatha De Danann.
- 4. Any of various units of capacity.
- 5. A chronic inflammatory collagen disease affecting connective tissue (skin or joints).
- 6. Submit or yield to another's wish or opinion.
- 7. Of or relating to or characteristic of the Republic of Chad or its people or language.
- 8. A famous waterfall in Venezuela.
- 9. A pause or interruption (as in a conversation).
- 10. An associate degree in nursing.
- 11. Large burrowing rodent of South and Central America.
- 12. The state of owing money.
- 13. A projecting bay window corbeled or cantilevered out from a wall.
- 14. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
- 19. Remove the fangs from (canines, snakes, etc.).
- 22. A member of a Turkic people of Uzbekistan and neighboring areas.
- 24. A former agency (from 1946 to 1974) that was responsible for research into atomic energy and its peacetime uses in the United States.
- 27. The compass point midway between northeast and east.
- 29. Elder brother of Krishna.
- 32. A sculpture representing a human or animal.
- 33. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- 35. The 19th letter of the Greek alphabet.
- 37. A diacritical mark (u-curved) placed over a vowel to indicate a short sound.
- 39. A member of the Siouan people formerly living in the Missouri river valley in NE Nebraska.
- 40. Submerged aquatic plant having narrow leaves and small flowers.
- 42. A fixed charge for a privilege or for professional services.
- 44. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
- 47. A city in southeastern Germany.
- 48. Gentian of eastern North America having clusters of bristly blue flowers.
- 49. A woman of refinement.
- 52. The brightest star in Cygnus.
- 54. The herpes virus that causes infectious mononucleosis.
- 56. Preaching the gospel of Christ in the manner of the early church.
- 59. An honorary degree in science.
- 61. Conforming to an ultimate standard of perfection or excellence.
- 63. Marked by features of the immediate and usually discounted past.
- 65. A high tight collar.
- 67. The capital of Switzerland.
- 69. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
- 70. An informal term for a father.
- 72. An emotional response that has been acquired by conditioning.
- 74. Either of two folds of skin that can be moved to cover or open the eye.
- 75. A sudden loss of consciousness resulting when the rupture or occlusion of a blood vessel leads to oxygen lack in the brain.
- 79. An informal term for a father.

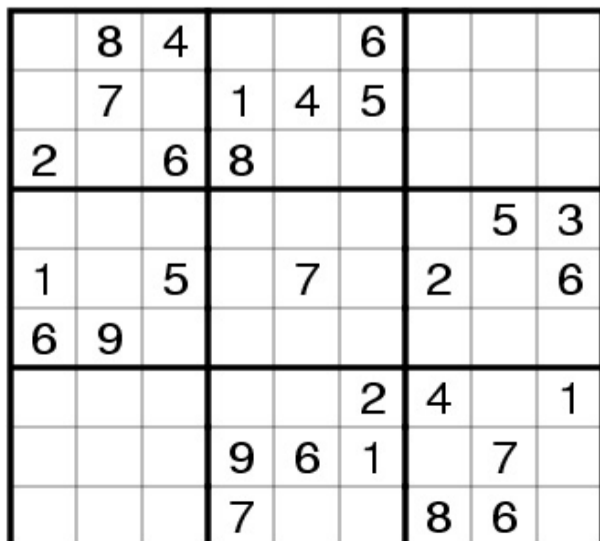
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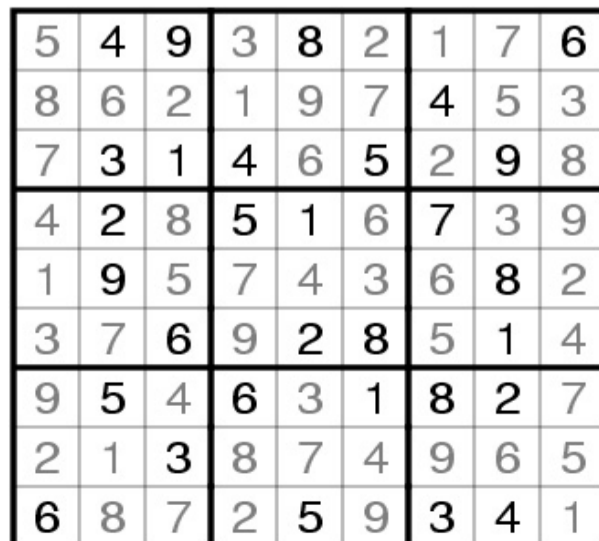
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- IRON MAN
- JUMPER
- KING KONG
- MIMIC
- OUTLAND
- PANDORUM
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- SPECIES
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- TIMECRIMES
- TOTAL RECALL
- WATCHMEN
- ZARDOZ

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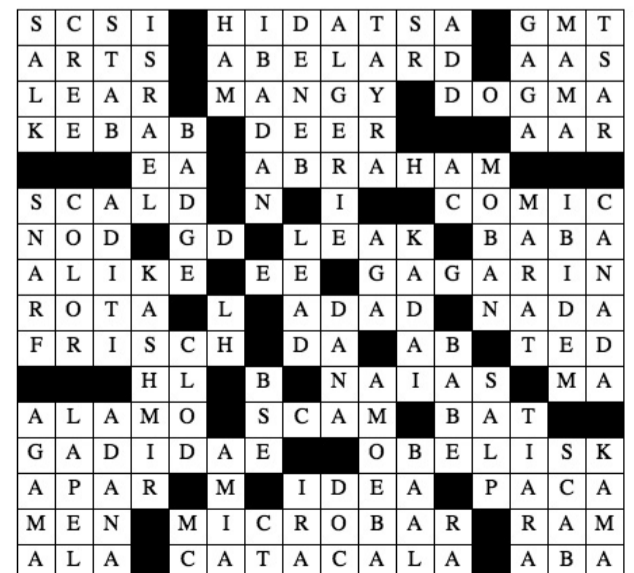
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Yesterday's Solution



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Yesterday's Solution





# GIANTS OVERPOWER PIRATES 5-3

**PITTSBURGH:** Joe Panik hit a bases-loaded triple, Mac Williamson launched a 446-foot home run and the San Francisco Giants beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-3 Thursday for their 12th win in 14 games. The Giants took three of four at PNC Park. After hitting a key double late in Wednesday night's win, Panik put the Giants ahead 3-1 with his triple in the third inning. Williamson followed with an RBI single. Williamson connected for his second home run of the season in the sixth. Albert Suarez (3-1) gave up two earned runs in five innings. Santiago Casilla struck out three in the ninth for his 16th save. Jonathon Niese (6-5) was tagged for five runs in six innings.

### PHILLIES 7, TWINS 3

Struggling Freddy Galvis homered and drove in a career-high five runs to help Philadelphia end a nine-game losing streak. Cesar Hernandez tied a career-high with four hits and slumping Ryan Howard homered as part of his first multiple-hit game since April 29. The Phillies won for just the second time in 15 games. Jerad Eickhoff (5-9) gave up one earned run and five hits in six innings. In winning three of his past four starts, Eickhoff has allowed five earned runs in 24 2/3 innings. The last three Philadelphia wins over a 17-game span were all Eickhoff victories. Looking to become the Twins first pitcher with four wins, Ricky Nolasco (3-5) allowed 10 hits and four earned runs in 6 2/3 innings.

### TIGERS 5, MARINERS 4

Pinch runner Cameron Maybin easily scored on a bases-loaded wild pitch by Steve Cishek with two outs in the 10th inning, giving Detroit a four-game sweep. The Mariners, who missed a chance when Robinson Cano struck out with a runner on third to end the 10th, lost their sixth in a row. Steven Moya drew a one-out walk from Cishek (2-4) and Maybin pinch ran. Pinch hitter Victor Martinez singled, with an error by left fielder Seth Smith on the play putting runners on second and third. After an intentional walk to load the bases, Andrew Romine struck out.



**PITTSBURGH:** Pittsburgh Pirates' Gregory Polanco drives in a run with a sacrifice fly off San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Albert Suarez in the first inning of a baseball game. —AP

Cishek then threw a pitch that catcher Chris Iannetta couldn't corral, allowing Maybin to run home. Kyle Ryan (3-2), who worked out of a bases-loaded jam Wednesday night, earned the win by escaping a jam of his own making in the 10th.

### RED SOX 8, WHITE SOX 7

Xander Bogaerts singled in the game-winning run in the 10th inning as Boston avoided a four-game sweep. Chicago led 3-0, 4-1 and 7-

5 before Boston sent it into extra innings with a run in the seventh and another in the eighth. The White Sox loaded the bases with nobody out in the 10th, but Craig Kimbrel (1-3) got J.B. Shuck on an infield popup and then struck out Tim Anderson and Adam Eaton. In the bottom half, Matt Purke (0-1) walked two before Bogaerts lined one up the middle and Mookie Betts scored easily from second. James Shields pitched his best outing since being acquired by the White Sox on June 4. Jose Abreu hit a three-run homer and Alex Avila had four hits for Chicago.

### ATHLETICS 5, ANGELS 4

Marcus Semien and Khris Davis homered to help Kendall Graveman get the first win by an Oakland starter in more than three weeks. Graveman (3-6) gave up two runs and eight hits in 6 2/3 innings to get the first win for an A's starter since June 1 after the rotation had combined to go 0-9 in the previous 17 games. Semien hit a three-run shot off Tim Lincecum (1-1) in Oakland's four-run second. Davis' solo shot in the fifth made it 5-2. Sean Doolittle gave up a two-run homer to Jeff Bandy in the ninth but held on for his fourth save. Home plate umpire Paul Emmel was hit in the head by Jefry Marte's bat with two outs in the ninth when the pinch-hitter lost control of it on a follow-through. Emmel fell to his knees before leaving the field with a towel held to his head.

### MARLINS 4, CUBS 2

Giancarlo Stanton homered in the fourth inning and singled home the go-ahead run with two outs in the eighth, sending Chicago to its fourth consecutive defeat. Christian Yelich started Miami's rally in the bottom of the eighth with a one-out walk against Pedro Strop (1-2). He advanced on a wild pitch and scored standing up on Stanton's opposite-field single.

JT Realmuto followed with an RBI double. Kyle Barraclough (4-2) pitched a scoreless eighth.

### BRAVES 4, METS 3

Adonis Garcia hit a go-ahead, two-run homer off Addison Reed in the eighth inning and Atlanta beat New York for the fourth straight time in a week. The Braves trailed 3-2 when Freddie Freeman opened the eighth with a single off Jerry Blevins. Reed (1-2) relieved with one out and, with catcher Travis d'Arnaud calling for a chest-high fastball on an 0-2 count, Garcia connected on a pitch that badly missed the target for his fourth home run. Jim Johnson (1-4) won in relief. Arody Vizcaino converted his 18th save in 21 chances.

### DIAMONDBACKS 7, ROCKIES 6

Nick Ahmed had a two-out RBI single in the ninth inning and Arizona recovered after blowing a late lead. Diamondbacks closer Brad Ziegler (2-2) ending his streak of 43 consecutive successful save attempts dating back to May 29, 2015, a club record and the seventh longest ever. He allowed an inherited runner to score while the Rockies overcame a 6-3 deficit to tie it in the eighth inning. Arizona regained the lead in the ninth off reliever Carlos Estevez (1-4).

### PADRES 7, REDS 4

Derek Norris hit a three-run homer that completed San Diego's sixth-inning comeback, and the NL's highest-scoring team in June rallied to win a matchup of last-place teams. JC Ramirez (1-3) gave up Norris' 10th homer run for a 6-4 lead. Christian Friedrich (4-2) allowed four runs in five innings, including Adam Duvall's two-run homer. Fernando Rodney remained perfect in 16 save chances. —AP

## MLB results/standings

San Francisco 5, Pittsburgh 3; Detroit 5, Seattle 4 (10 innings); Philadelphia 7, Minnesota 3; Boston 8, Chicago White Sox 7 (10 innings); Miami 4, Chicago Cubs 2; Atlanta 4, NY Mets 3; San Diego 7, Cincinnati 4; Arizona 7, Colorado 6; Oakland 5, LA Angels 4.

### American League Eastern Division

|            | W  | L  | PCT  | GB  |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Baltimore  | 41 | 30 | .577 | -   |
| Boston     | 40 | 32 | .556 | 1.5 |
| Toronto    | 40 | 34 | .541 | 2.5 |
| NY Yankees | 35 | 36 | .493 | 6   |
| Tampa Bay  | 31 | 39 | .443 | 9.5 |

### Central Division

|                   |    |    |      |      |
|-------------------|----|----|------|------|
| Cleveland         | 41 | 30 | .577 | -    |
| Kansas City       | 38 | 33 | .535 | 3    |
| Detroit           | 38 | 35 | .521 | 4    |
| Chicago White Sox | 36 | 37 | .493 | 6    |
| Minnesota         | 23 | 49 | .319 | 18.5 |

### Western Division

|           |    |    |      |      |
|-----------|----|----|------|------|
| Texas     | 47 | 26 | .644 | -    |
| Houston   | 37 | 36 | .507 | 10   |
| Seattle   | 36 | 37 | .493 | 11   |
| LA Angels | 31 | 42 | .425 | 16   |
| Oakland   | 30 | 42 | .417 | 16.5 |

### National League Eastern Division

|              |    |    |      |      |
|--------------|----|----|------|------|
| Washington   | 43 | 30 | .589 | -    |
| NY Mets      | 38 | 33 | .535 | 4    |
| Miami        | 39 | 34 | .534 | 4    |
| Philadelphia | 31 | 43 | .419 | 12.5 |
| Atlanta      | 25 | 47 | .347 | 17.5 |

### Central Division

|              |    |    |      |      |
|--------------|----|----|------|------|
| Chicago Cubs | 47 | 24 | .662 | -    |
| St. Louis    | 38 | 33 | .535 | 9    |
| Pittsburgh   | 34 | 39 | .466 | 14   |
| Milwaukee    | 32 | 40 | .444 | 15.5 |
| Cincinnati   | 28 | 45 | .384 | 20   |

### Western Division

|               |    |    |      |      |
|---------------|----|----|------|------|
| San Francisco | 47 | 27 | .635 | -    |
| LA Dodgers    | 41 | 33 | .554 | 6    |
| Colorado      | 34 | 38 | .472 | 12   |
| Arizona       | 35 | 40 | .467 | 12.5 |
| San Diego     | 31 | 43 | .419 | 16   |



## CELTICS RESIST OVERTURES, PICK JAYLEN BROWN WITH THIRD PICK

**BOSTON:** With little mystery surrounding how the first two picks would go in Thursday's NBA draft, there was much anticipation surrounding what could happen when the Celtics went on the clock at No 3. It turned out to be pretty simple. Despite receiving a lot of interest from teams looking to trade into the slot, in the end the offers they received weren't strong enough to take. So Celtics president of basketball operations Danny Ainge picked California freshman Jaylen Brown, sticking with his promise to select the best available player. "We weren't even close to any of the offers that came in. None of them were even in the mix,"

Celtics' co-owner Grousbeck said after Brown was selected. "That's just the way it is. If they were close, we might have stretched. We didn't feel anything was close and we'd give counter offers and the other side didn't feel it was close." Brown worked out twice for the Celtics leading up to the draft, but said the pick still took him by surprise.

"I had no idea, I promise you I had no idea," Brown said from New York. "I was actually sweating bullets when the final seconds came in. But I knew they were heavily interested when they asked me to come back for a second workout. But you hear different things

every day. "But I'm glad to be here, and I think it's the right fit."

Brown, a 6-foot-7 forward out of California, averaged 14.6 points and 5.4 rebounds per game en route to being named Pac-12 Freshman of the Year. He also has a reputation as an elite defender, which could be a good fit with Boston's defensive culture. Boston entered the night with eight total picks, the most picks the Celtics have had since 1987. Before this year, it had a top-three pick only three times since the common draft era began in 1966.

They added a pair of international players with their remaining two first-round picks, tak-

ing Guerschon Yabusele at No 16 and Croatian 6-11 center Ante Zizic at No 23. In the second round Boston selected former Michigan State forward Deyonte Davis and Serbian swingman Rade Zagorac with the 31st and 35th picks. It then added former Notre Dame point guard Demetrius Jackson at No 45, former Providence forward Ben Bentil at No 51 and former Iowa State forward Abdel Nader at No 58. The 20-year-old Yabusele is a 6-7 stretch forward out of France with paint presence at 260 pounds, while the 19-year-old Zizic is a throwback big man at 6-11. It is possible both could be stashed in Europe for a few years to develop.

## 76ERS TAKE BEN SIMMONS WITH NO 1 PICK IN DRAFT

**NEW YORK:** Ben Simmons went from Down Under to the top of the NBA draft, and a record number of international players followed. The Philadelphia 76ers took the Australian with the No 1 pick on Thursday night, making him the first of a record 14 international players chosen in the first round. Nearly half the selections in the 30-pick round were international players, topping the 12 international players chosen in the first round in 2013. Simmons climbed on stage to the sound of cheers from a Philly-filled crowd hoping he could turn around the 76ers. Not long after the same crowd was largely quiet as the draft filled with unfamiliar names.

The picks included the first Austrian

record of 21 set in 2003. Some of the international players won't come to the NBA next season, and perhaps never will. Simmons might be ready to star now. Philadelphia grabbed the versatile 6-foot-10 forward from LSU who averaged 19.2 points, 11.8 rebounds and 4.8 assists to become the only player in Southeastern Conference history to finish in the top five in all three categories.

He comes with some questions - he made only one 3-pointer - but too much potential for the 76ers to pass up with their first No 1 pick since taking Allen Iverson 20 years ago. "It feels amazing, honestly," Simmons said. "I can't even - my legs were shaking when I was on stage."

points as the ACC freshman of the year. He is the latest young player on a team that will begin life without the retired Kobe Bryant next season. "I'm just going to be myself," Ingram said. "Whatever I can do to impact the game, whatever the coach needs me to do, I'm going to do it."

### Busy night

The Boston Celtics then began a busy night by picking California forward Jaylen Brown. Boston had eight picks in the two-round draft, starting with one it acquired from Brooklyn in 2013 in the deal that sent Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce to the Nets. Bender ended the run of three straight freshmen when the Suns selected the 7-1 forward who has been playing professionally for Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Milwaukee rounded out the top 10 with Thon Maker, originally from South Sudan, and Orlando followed with Domantas Sabonis, whose rights were quickly dealt to Oklahoma City along with Victor Oladipo and Ersan Ilyasova for forward Serge Ibaka. The Minnesota Timberwolves used the No 5 pick on Providence junior Kris Dunn, a two-time Defensive Player of the Year in the Big East who should fit nicely for new coach Tom Thibodeau.

A couple of the draft's best shooters went next, with New Orleans grabbing All-American Hield from Oklahoma, and Denver picking Kentucky freshman Jamal Murray at No 7. Michigan State's Denzel Valentine, the Associated Press Player of the Year, went 14th to Chicago to close the lottery. But that was a rare well-known name to the crowd at the time, as Papagiannis went 13th to Phoenix - climbing out of a crowd in the stands near the concourse level surrounded by Greek flags - with Spain's Juan Hernangomez going 15th to Denver, and Boston selecting Guerschon Yabusele of France at No 16.

Even they seemed surprised to hear their names called by NBA Commissioner Adam Silver. "Nobody was expecting," Yabusele said. "I see (the cameras) coming close to me, see my name. So I was really surprised to be in here, but I was so happy." Labissiere, who played with Murray at Kentucky, barely sneaked into the first round after being considered a potential lottery pick. "It was tough at first, but one thing about the league, one thing about all of us now, everything starts over for all of us," he said. "We all start over once we get to that level. I'm excited to get to work." —AP

## LEBRON OUT, CARMELO IN FOR US TEAM AT RIO

**NEW YORK:** LeBron James reportedly joined an NBA All-Star lineup of talent Thursday that will not play for the United States at the Rio Olympics, while Carmelo Anthony and Kevin Durant will try to bring the Americans a third consecutive gold medal. A flurry of reports ahead of next week's announcement of the final US roster for Brazil was topped when Cleveland.com said James has told USA Basketball managing director Jerry Colangelo and Coach Mike Krzyzewski that he will not play in August. "I could use the rest," James told the website.

James, who led the Cleveland Cavaliers to the greatest-ever NBA Finals comeback to dethrone the Golden State Warriors, cited the grind of having logged so much court time through six consecutive trips to the finals. NBA Most Valuable Player and scoring leader Stephen Curry of Golden State said during the finals that he would not play in Rio. Star guards Russell Westbrook of Oklahoma City, Chris Paul of the Los Angeles Clippers and James Harden of Houston also have backed out of consideration, as have San Antonio forward LaMarcus Aldridge, Washington forward John Wall, Clippers forward Blake Griffin and Anthony Davis of New Orleans.

Joining that group Thursday were Portland's Damian Lillard, who wants to rehabilitate a plantar fasciitis injury; Utah forward Gordon Hayward and San Antonio forward Kawhi Leonard. "This was a very difficult decision. Leonard said. "It's an honor to have been considered for the team and I hope in the future I will have the chance to represent my country." "I have withdrawn my name from consideration due to family obligations," Hayward said. "My wife Robyn and I are blessed to be expecting our second child this summer."

The pullout brings back memories of 2004, when security worries were a concern in the Athens run-up and many top names withdrew. Those who played could only muster bronze. The roster to be named next week by USA Basketball is expected to include Oklahoma City star Durant and New York playmaker Anthony plus Indiana's Paul George, Golden State's Draymond Green and Klay Thompson, Sacramento's DeMarcus Cousins, Chicago's Jimmy Butler, the Clippers' DeAndre Jordan and Toronto's Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan.

### Irving still might go

Two other available spots could include Cleveland star guard Kyrie Irving, who played a key role alongside James in bringing the first sports title to Cleveland since 1964. James sparked a Cleveland rally from a 3-1 deficit in the best-of-seven final to a stunning seventh-game triumph for the NBA crown. James was named the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player for a third time-only Michael Jordan has won the award more-after an unprecedented feat of leading both finals teams in every major statistic with 29.7 points, 11.3 rebounds, 8.9 assists, 2.6 steals and 2.3 blocked shots a game.

A source told the website a desire to rest his body from the title run to better prepare his bid to defend the crown was his only reason for not playing in Rio, the Zia virus not playing a role in his decision. James, 31, sparked the US squad of NBA stars to gold medals at the 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Olympics. He is the US team's all-time scoring leader with 273 points and second in total rebounds with 95. —AFP



**NEW YORK:** Ben Simmons poses with Commissioner Adam Silver after being drafted first overall by the Philadelphia 76ers in the first round of the 2016 NBA Draft at the Barclays Center on June 23, 2016 in the Brooklyn borough of New York City. —AP

(Utah center Jakob Poeltl, No 9 to Toronto), the highest Greek player ever drafted (Georgios Papagiannis, No 13, Phoenix, rights dealt to Sacramento), two Croatians (Dragan Bender, No 4 to Phoenix and Ante Zizic, No 23, Boston), and two players from the Caribbean (Buddy Hield, Bahamas, No 6 to New Orleans; and Skal Labissiere, Haiti, No 28, picked by Phoenix but dealt to Sacramento).

### 26 international players

The NBA said there were 26 international players selected, surpassing the

Philadelphia fans who made the trip to Brooklyn's Barclays Center loudly cheered the selection in hopes that Simmons can help them move forward after three straight dismal seasons, including a 10-72 finish in 2015-16 that was just a game better than the worst ever in the 82-game schedule.

The last No 1 pick from LSU was Shaquille O'Neal - who will be enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame along with Iverson in September. The Los Angeles Lakers, picking second for the second consecutive year, took Duke's Brandon Ingram, who averaged 17.3



## ALGERIAN CLUB SETIF KICKED OUT OF AFRICAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

**CAIRO:** Algerian club Entente Setif have been kicked out of the African Champions League after fan violence caused their opening game of the group phase to be abandoned last weekend. The Confederation of Africa Football (CAF) announced the unprecedented measure in response to the violent scenes at the end of Setif's 2-0 home loss to Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa today. Objects

were thrown onto the field while some fans invaded the pitch in stoppage time.

CAF said in a statement that the referee had abandoned the match due to the pitch invasion and after spectators and security personnel had been injured by "missiles, stones, bottles, and firecrackers". Under competition rules, any match halted because of violence leads to the disqualification of

the home team. The result of the match was wiped out and the group has now been left with three teams—Sundowns, Enyimba of Nigeria and Egypt's Zamalek. The top two advance to September's semi-finals. The decision marks the first time a club has been expelled from the Champions League since the group format was introduced to Africa's top club competition in 1997. — Reuters

## US CYCLING UNVEILS FULL TEAM FOR RIO OLYMPICS

**NEW YORK:** Kristin Armstrong will have an opportunity to chase her third straight time trial gold medal in Rio, perhaps the final chapter in a decorated cycling career spanning four Olympics and two brief retirements. Armstrong was chosen for the US Olympic roster on Thursday, joining a powerhouse women's road team that includes world bronze medalist Megan Guarnier, Evie Stevens and Mara Abbott.

"I feel really prepared and am really looking forward to the challenging time trial course," said Armstrong, who will turn 43 the day after the Aug. 10 race through the beach area of Pontal. "We have a very strong road team and I feel confident that Team USA can put our stamp on this event." Armstrong stepped away from the sport after winning gold in London, but announced another comeback in time for last year's world championships in Richmond, Virginia. She was a disappointing fifth when a podium spot would have guaranteed her spot in Rio, leaving her fate in the hands of USA Cycling's selection committee.

They decided her medal capability, along with strong performances this year, warranted a spot ahead of rising star Coryn Rivera, sprint specialist Shelley Olds and US time trial champion Carmen Small. "We do this every Olympics, I think, where you leave someone home or off the TT team capable of challenging. That's not new," said Jim Miller, vice president of athletics for USA Cycling and the architect behind the national team. "It just shows you how deep the talent pool is for the women's team."

Stevens, the world hour record holder, will join Armstrong in contesting the time trial, while Guarnier will be the captain in a hilly road race that could be among the toughest in Olympic history. After her podium finish in Richmond, Guarnier has backed up her medal capability with an overall victory at the Tour of California and another US road title. She also leads the Women's WorldTour rankings. "We can race any number of tactics and expect an outcome," Miller said. "It gives us a chance to dictate what we want to dictate, but it also gives us the flexibility to adapt to changing tactics."

Taylor Phinney and Brent Bookwalter were chosen to compete in the men's road race and time trial. Phinney was fourth in both disciplines at the London Games, but that was before a career-threatening crash at the US road championships in 2014. He's been steadily working his way back to form, and Bookwalter - his teammate on the BMC Racing trade team - believes the three-time Olympian is almost back. "Taylor has made it look easy, the genetic phenom he is," Bookwalter said. "I know his comeback hasn't been without a lot of trials and challenges and he's still experiencing them, getting back to his old self and original level. But it's been impressive, racing alongside him."

Tejay van Garderen was favored to land a spot on the team, but he withdrew his name from consideration because of the threat of the Zika virus. His wife, Jessica, is due to give birth in October. Van Garderen will instead join Rohan Dennis in leading the BMC team at the Tour de France, which begins next weekend. Bookwalter will support them, but Phinney was left off the squad and should be rested for Rio. Howard Grotts landed the lone US men's mountain bike spot ahead of Stephen Ettinger and Russ Finsterwald, while 2012 Olympian Lea Davison and Chloe Woodruff were awarded women's spots. Their selections came a week before the trio competes at the world championships in the Czech Republic. — AP

# RAHM TURNS PRO

**BETHESDA:** Jon Rahm couldn't remember a single shot he took in a professional debut to remember. Ernie Els recalled shots he hit on the same course 19 years ago. Rahm shot a 7-under 64 on Thursday at Congressional to take the first-round lead in the Quicken Loans National, Tiger Woods' annual tournament that started two hours late because of rain. The soft course, with a fox lounging on the edge of a bunker and darting around with little care for the golf going on around him, allowed players to attack fairways and play aggressively. Rahm took advantage of that with seven birdies in a bogey-free round.

"I was anticipating this moment," the 21-year-old Spaniard said. "I'm working on it a long time that I kind of blacked out a little bit. I don't remember a single swing I made all day or any putting stroke or anything. I just remember the ball flying or rolling." The former Arizona State star was the only amateur to make the cut last week in the US Open, tying for 23rd at Oakmont. With momentum from the US Open, Rahm tried to temper his expectations and relied on advice from golf great Jack Nicklaus.

"What he told me is to just never do more than what I can do," said Rahm, who cited not looking at social media as another key to his success. "Try not to risk too much. And that's certainly something I did today." The long-hitting Rahm had a one-stroke lead over Jhonattan Vegas and a two-stroke advantage over a pack that included Els, who won the 1997 US Open at Congressional. Rickie Fowler and Vijay Singh were among those at 68.

Els, who turned pro five years before Rahm was born, chose to play the Quicken Loans immediately after missing the cut at the US Open because of how much he likes the course. He has the same caddie, Ricci Roberts, who was on his bag back in 1997, and Thursday was full of useful memories. "Winning a major at a special place like Congressional, playing here again, you just keep thinking back on shots," Els said. "Almost every single hole there's a moment back in '97 where we can remember still."

The 46-year-old Els is almost four years from his last victory, when he won the 2012 British Open. But he started feeling more like himself during the pro-am Wednesday and showed it by shooting a 66. "I felt comfortable with my swing this week," Els said. "I've had a very tough year. I haven't played very well, so I need to start playing well." Rahm, on the other hand, has been gradually improving. He opened eyes by tying for fifth at the Waste Management Phoenix Open in February 2015 and



**MARYLAND:** Jon Rahm of Spain putts on the second green during the first round of the Quicken Loans National at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. — AFP

turned pro as the top-ranked amateur.

Now his challenge is to keep expectations low while leading a tournament. Rahm's plan was to go see a movie and get away from golf rather than focus on it. "It is a challenge," Rahm said. "I've been playing a lot of golf lately and maybe trying to get time off golf is just as important as time practicing, so maybe just resting my mind a little bit would be the best way to do it."

Bill Haas, Jamie Lovemark, Kyle Reifers, Camilo Villegas, Harold Varner III, Billy Hurlley, Illand Wesley Bryan were at

66 along with Els. The 7,569-yard course, which last hosted the US Open in 2011 when Rory McIlroy won it by eight strokes, could play even longer once it dries out by the weekend. After rain that started before dawn, players said the fairways weren't bouncing, so clean shots could get the job done. "On this course you had better drive it well in the fairway and it's a bonus if you can drive it long and straight," Vegas said. "Put it in the fairway and greens being a little softer than normal, you can play a good round today." — AP





# RONALDO UP AGAINST A CROATIA WITH TEETH



**PARIS:** Portugal's forward Cristiano Ronaldo (center) and teammates take part in training session at the team's base camp in Marcoussis yesterday, on the eve of the Euro 2016 round of 16 football match Croatia against Portugal. —AFP

**LENS:** Cristiano Ronaldo awoke from his Euro 2016 slumber in time to rescue Portugal from an early exit, but faces a greater challenge against a classy Croatia side that Portugal coach Fernando Santos called "sharks". Ronaldo made history as the first player to score in four European Championships with a double in a thrilling 3-3 draw with Hungary. The result saw Portugal just squeeze through behind Iceland and Hungary in third-place in Group F.

The Real Madrid star has more records in his sights as he is just one goal behind French legend Michel Platini's mark of nine in European Championship finals. However, Ronaldo refused to accept Portugal were underdogs against a Croatia side that shocked two-time defending champions

Spain to top Group D. "We made it and now we face a very good team, but the odds are 50/50," said Ronaldo. "Croatia are a tough team, with good players. Not every team manages to beat Spain. "We respect them, but we know our strengths and we'll look them in the eye when we face them."

Croatia are likely to be even stronger for today's clash in Lille (1900GMT) than against Spain with the return of Ronaldo's Real Madrid teammate Luka Modric from injury. Juventus frontman Mario Mandzukic is also likely to shake off a knock to retake his place after Croatia coach Ante Cacic made five changes for the historic win over Spain. "Croatia are one of the sharks we had been trying to avoid," admitted Portugal boss Santos. "They placed first in a group with Spain, which tells you

all you need to know about them."

However, Santos has placed his faith in Ronaldo to again answer his country's call after his double strike. "This will have increased his confidence levels. He's a confident player anyway, but this will have boosted him for the next game against Croatia." For Croatia a bright start to a tournament in France has rekindled memories of their fairytale run to the World Cup semi-finals in 1998 before losing out to the hosts 2-1. Ivan Perisic was the hero against Spain, drilling home the winner three minutes from time. However, Croatia cannot get carried away despite finding themselves in the weaker half of the draw avoiding Germany, France, Italy, Spain or England until the final.

"We made a really great job in the group stages, but this is just the beginning. If we lose the next match this doesn't mean anything," Perisic said. "We have to stay at the same level and fight as we did in the first three matches if we want to recreate memories of 1998." The sour note for Croatia has come off the field as their football federation (HNS) was fined 100,000 euros (\$113,000) for disturbances when fans threw flares onto the pitch during a 2-2 draw with the Czech Republic last week. HNS president and hero of the 1998 World Cup run Davor Suker praised the security effort that ensured there were no problems in the stands against Spain.

However, he called for stricter controls on those allowed to enter the grounds in France to ensure there is no repeat of the Lens trouble. "In any other country this would last one day. There are between 300 and 500 hooligans in Croatia that are listed, that cause problems in any place in Europe and came to Saint-Etienne. You have to stop them entering the ground. "There was exceptional security (in the Spain match), there were no problems and exceptional fair play. "Ninety nine point nine percent (of fans) are great, but there are 0.01 percent of radicals that want to destroy football and we have to stop them now because we have paid over one million euros in fines for nothing." —AFP

## EXTRAS

### Newly-promoted Hull, Jakupovic ink new deal

**KINGSTON UPON HULL:** Hull City goalkeeper Eldin Jakupovic yesterday signed a new two-year contract with the newly-promoted Premier League club. Former Switzerland international Jakupovic, 31, appeared in both the semi-final and final of the Championship play-offs at the end of the season as cover for the injured Allan McGregor. Hull beat Sheffield Wednesday 1-0 in the Wembley final to secure promotion to the top flight for the second time in four seasons. "Eldin Jakupovic has extended his stay at the KCOM Stadium for a further two years after agreeing terms on a new deal," the club said in a statement. "Although the club had initially exercised its option to offer the goalkeeper a one-year deal at the end of the 2015/16 season, negotiations began immediately to secure Jakupovic on a longer-term contract with a two-year deal now agreed." Jakupovic is the club's longest-serving player having arrived from Greek side Aris Salonika in July 2012. He has made a total of 28 appearances for Hull and had two loan spells at Leyton Orient during the 2013/14 season.

### Japan's Kiyotake joins Europa champs Sevilla

**MADRID:** Japanese international midfielder Hiroshi Kiyotake will play in the European Champions League next season after penning a four-year deal with Europa League champions Sevilla. The 26-year-old quits relegated German Bundesliga outfit Hanover who picked up a 6.5 million euros fee (£5.25M, \$7.18M) for the player who made his European start with two seasons at Nuremberg. "The chance of playing in the Champions League made this an easy decision," Kiyotake told journalists at a charity match for the Fukushima tsunami disaster in his homeland. "And with two years to go before the next World Cup, the timing is good for my international career," said the 35-times capped player. Sevilla play in the Champions League after a new system whereby the Europa League champion gains access to the elite competition. The Spanish side finished out of the European places in La Liga, ending up seventh last season, but beat Liverpool in the 2016 Europa League final for a third consecutive title.

### Real's Keylor Navas eyes pre-season after surgery

**MADRID:** Keylor Navas is recovering well from recent foot surgery and is targeting a return for Real Madrid's pre-season program, the Costa Rican goalkeeper said yesterday. Navas went under the knife on June 9 for a nagging left-foot problem that saw him play through the pain in Madrid's Champions League winning campaign, but he hopes to be fit for July 15, when Real start the coming campaign. "I will only come back when I'm 100 percent fit but the aim is to be there on the first day of pre-season with the boys," Navas told Friday's edition of sports daily Marca. "Things are going well and I'm getting better," said the 29-year-old who admitted he played with pain-killing injections 'many times' last season. "It was a tough year and I had to get used to the pain, which is far from ideal. So once the season was over we tackled the problem at the root." Despite his foot problem Navas had a good season with Real after watching from the sidelines as his club tried but failed to buy David de Gea from Manchester United during the last close season.

### Footballer arrested on rape allegations

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Brazilian police on Thursday arrested former Botafogo footballer Jobson Leandro Pereira de Oliveira on suspicion of raping four girls aged between 12 and 14. Police in Para in the north of the country said that an investigation was launched a week ago when a 13-year-old girl claimed that pornographic pictures of her were circulating on social media. She alleged that Jobson, 28, had driven her and three other girls to a party at his house where they were given alcohol, drugged and raped. "The four are adolescents-one of them is going to be 13, one is already 13 and the other two are 14....he attracted teenagers to parties with alcohol and drugs," said police commissioner Rodrigo da Motta. Police said that the 14-year-olds admitted to consensual sex but that they were under the influence of alcohol and drugs at the time.

## ITALY SEEK TO STOP EURO BOAT ROCKING

**MONTPELLIER:** After being sucker punched by the Republic of Ireland, Italy will bring back their big guns in a bid to turn the tide of history against Spain at the European Championship finals. Martin O'Neill's Irish team produced a gutsy performance in Lille on Wednesday to end Azzurri hopes of a clean sweep of wins in Group.

On a pitch that UEFA admitted had suffered "irreparable damage", an Italy 'B' team struggled against the Irish long-ball tactics and Robbie Brady's 85th minute winner was enough for Ireland after Sweden lost to Belgium. Italy's display worried their fans that Antonio Conte's men may not bounce back in time to face defending two-time champions Spain on Monday. But Napoli winger Lorenzo Insigne, who hit the post after coming on as a second-half substitute, insisted Italy have faith they can beat Spain at the Stade de France in Paris.

Asked about the eight changes made to the team that beat Sweden 1-0, he said: "It doesn't matter who plays. This is a fantastic squad, were all in the same boat and we're all rowing in the same direction. "I'm looking ahead to Monday's game. It's going to be crucial but I'm convinced we can make it to the next round." Conte left goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, defender Giorgio Chiellini, midfielders Daniele De Rossi, Emanuele Giaccherini and Antonio Candreva and strikers Graziano Pelle and Eder on the bench for the final group clash. —AFP





## GERMANY'S LOEW RELISHING BUSINESS END OF EURO 2016

**EVIAN:** Germany have built a reputation as a tournament team under Joachim Loew and two below-par years since their World Cup triumph, he is relishing the business end of Euro 2016. After a flattering scoreline in the 2-0 win over Ukraine and an unimpressive goalless draw with Poland, Germany booked their last 16 berth with a 1-0 win over Northern Ireland. Now comes the moment of truth for Loew's Germany. They face Slovakia in Lille tomorrow and, should they advance, their Euro 2016 title credentials will be put to the test against Italy or Spain in the quarter-finals. As any Germany fan knows, die Mannschaft have never beaten Italy at either a World Cup or European Championship finals in eight attempts. The feeling back in Berlin is that the German team and head coach Loew have rested on their laurels since Brazil 2014. Two years after right-back Philipp Lahm and striker Miroslav Klose retired, Loew has yet to settle on full-time replacements.

Loew, Mario Goetze and Thomas Mueller have all bitten back at thinly-veiled criticism from the German media in press conferences in France. Michael Ballack, Loew's captain at Euro 2008 when they lost the final to Spain, has been the loudest critic of Loew's side. In a newspaper column, the ex-Chelsea star described the goalless draw against Poland as a "wake-up call at the right time" adding "you can't say everything's rosy". "It's good that there is a discussion in Germany whether this team has the character to sometimes win ugly," wrote the 39-year-old.

Germany had the world at their feet when Goetze's volley sealed their fourth World Cup title at the iconic Maracana stadium. The performance in the Rio de Janeiro final cemented coach Loew's status as a national treasure and made his players heroes in football-mad Germany. But now the German public want a fourth European title after their triumphs in 1972, 1980 and 1996.

### Misfiring attack

While Germany left golden memories in Brazil, they forgot to bring their eye-catching brand of attacking football back home with them. From the dizzy heights of their 1-0 win over Argentina, Germany crashed back down to earth with away defeats to Poland and the Republic of Ireland in Euro 2016 qualifiers. They also threw away a two-goal lead in a 3-2 friendly defeat to England in Berlin in March. Now Loew must prove his side can still cut the mustard on the big stage. They face Slovakia having lost 3-1 to Jan Kozak's side in a May friendly in Augsburg.

Mario Gomez's early penalty was cancelled out by three unanswered goals from Marek Hamsik, Michal Duris and Juraj Kucka as Loew blooded four new caps. "We lost to Slovakia at the end of May, so we know what's coming," said Loew, who fielded an inexperienced side for the friendly. "From now on, opponents are going to have to do something or they know they'll be going home. "It's one of the reasons I'm looking forward to the knockout stages." But Loew has a few issues to address. Captain Bastian Schweinsteiger is waiting in the wings and has yet to start in France after a knee injury. Finishing is a problem too as Germany converted just one of their 29 chances against Northern Ireland. Forwards Goetze and Thomas Mueller have yet to get on the scoresheet.

### Pundits criticism

Ex-international Christoph Metzelder says Goetze is showing signs of what he can do after a season spent mainly on the bench at Bayern Munich. "Mario has improved after three games, he has rhythm and confidence, so I think he should keep his place," Metzelder told SID, an AFP subsidiary. But the inclusion of Gomez, the match-winner against Northern Ireland, is seen as a step back. Many pundits see the burly striker as ill-suited to Germany's fast-footed attack. "Gomez was very dangerous in the penalty area, but I don't know if he is the long-term solution," said ex-Germany goalkeeper Jens Lehmann.

Loew will celebrate a decade in charge after Euro 2016 and under his guidance, Germany have always reached at least the last four at major tournaments. Criticism from pundits and former players is water off a duck's back to the 56-year-old. "Nothing surprises me anymore," Loew has said on the subject of whether Germany have the mettle and leadership to reach the later stages in France. "I read something from a former leading player and it conjures up a smile on my face. "In 2014, we already had the same discussion. Then we won the World Cup and suddenly everyone was an awesome leader. "In all honesty, it's all been said before." Now his team must deliver. — AFP



**RHONE:** Hungary's midfielder Balazs Dzsudzsak celebrates after scoring a goal during the Euro 2016 group F football match between Hungary and Portugal at the Parc Olympique Lyonnais stadium. — AFP

## HUNGARY'S DZSUDZSAK ENJOYS REDEMPTION AT EURO 2016

**LYON:** Hungary's rollercoaster 3-3 draw with Portugal was not just the most entertaining match of Euro 2016 so far, but also the game of Balazs Dzsudzsak's life. The Hungary captain's two-goal haul matched that of Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo and helped propel the unfancied Magyars into dreamland with a last-16 showdown with Belgium in Toulouse on Sunday. "My time came at last in this game, I had to wait a long time for it but patience finally paid off," said Dzsudzsak. The displays of one of the pre-tournament rank outsiders have sparked wild celebrations in Budapest with thousands bringing traffic to a standstill.

After the Portugal match, with replays of Dzsudzsak's two goals in the background, Hungary's most famous football commentator even recited an ode in his honor on national television. "His left leg swings, our hope stays alive!" the poem read. With Dzsudzsak beating his chest while singing Hungary's national anthem

together with the fans after each game, Euro 2016 has been cathartic for both the player and the success-starved country. To put Hungary's achievement into perspective, the 29-year-old was not even born the last time his nation took part in its last major tournament, the 1986 World Cup.

### Rejected big clubs

For almost a decade though the blond winger has been Hungary's talisman, their most valuable player, and the nearest the Magyars have come since the 1980s to producing a star. A baby-faced village boy from remote eastern Hungary, his breakthrough came in 2007. His speed, pinpoint crossing and goalscoring threat, particularly from dead-ball situations, made him a key figure for Hungarian club Debreceni VSC in the third season of a three-in-row title-winning run. His performances caught the attention of a scout from Dutch giants PSV Eindhoven, and Dzsudzsak made his

Eredivisie debut in 2008 to the delight of Magyar fans who watched his games broadcast live on Hungarian TV.

He was top scorer for PSV in the 2010 and 2011 seasons and their fans loved the way he tormented arch-rivals Ajax, nicking five goals and three goal passes against the Amsterdam side in seven games.

After 55 goals in three and a half seasons in the Netherlands, Dzsudzsak was drawing comparisons with Dutch legend Arjen Robben, and the attention of clubs including Juventus, Liverpool and Villarreal. Aged 24, he seemed poised for a leap into the big time, but he dismayed fans at home yearning to see a Hungarian at the very top

when he opted for a move to the ambitious and cash-rich Russian Premier League side Anzhi Makhachkala. "It's true I didn't go to a top club as many were expecting of me," Dzsudzsak said at the time. "But this club has a bright future, within four years it will be doing well in the Champions League." It was not to be. After an injury-plagued spell and just eight appearances for Anzhi, Dzsudzsak was sold to Dynamo Moscow in 2012, but scored just 19 goals in three years. He has spent the just-completed season at Bursaspor in Turkey, but the Hungarian's form was patchy and he was often relegated to the bench while some fans complained about his work ethic. — AFP

## 'GLADIATOR' CROWE HAILS POLAND'S BLASZCZYKOWSKI

**WARSAW:** Poland's gladiatorial displays at Euro 2016 have attracted a new fan with star actor Russell Crowe jumping on the bandwagon as Jakub "Kuba" Blaszczykowski booked their place in the knockout stages for the first time. "Kuba!! Well done Poland. More hard work to come. Do boju Polska!!," the Oscar-winner reacted on Twitter, urging "Poland, go to battle!!" in a message that has attracted thousands of retweets and likes.

While the 30-year-old midfielder Blaszczykowski has had a stellar career with German giants Borussia Dortmund on the pitch, his life off it has been anything but easy. Hailed as Polish player of the year in 2008 and 2010, Blaszczykowski won Polish and German titles with Wisla Krakow and Dortmund, as well as reaching Champions League final in 2013. Along with star compatriot Robert Lewandowski and Lukasz Piszczek, Blaszczykowski made up a Polish core to now Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp's Dortmund dream team

that dominated German football between 2010 and 2012.

But luck has not always been on his side. He had to sit out Euro 2008 after an injury sustained during the last friendly match before the squad was named. Meanwhile, a severe knee injury meant he had to sit out all of 2014. This season limited opportunities at Dortmund under new boss Thomas Tuchel forced him to go on loan to Italian club Fiorentina to make his case just to be included in the Poland squad for Euro 2016.

### Gazing up to the sky

Born in the southern city of Czestochowa-more known for its Black Madonna icon that is reputed to work miracles-Blaszczykowski's life was marked by tragedy at the tender age of 11. Blaszczykowski's mother died in his arms, stabbed by his father during a domestic dispute. He was then brought up by his grandmother with help from his brother. — AFP





## DOOR AJAR FOR LESSER LIGHTS AT EURO 2016

**PARIS:** With the continent's perennial powers shoehorned into the same half of the draw for the Euro 2016 knockout stages, Europe's lesser lights will never have a better opportunity to topple the traditional giants. Title-holders Spain face Italy in the last 16 and then a potential quarter-final against world champions Germany before the prospect of bumping into France or England should they reach the last four. The teams in the bottom half of the draw have combined to win 11 World Cups and nine European championships, whilst no side in the top half has won a major tournament. But for the likes of Belgium, Croatia, Switzerland, Poland and Wales their respective paths to the July 10 final have given them plenty of reason to dream about a first international title.

"There is a crazy imbalance in the draw for the second round, but those are

the rules and we have to respect them," said Italy coach Antonio Conte. While Belgium may be wary of last-16 opponents Hungary, who won Group F after a 30-year major tournament absence, now is the time for the country's gifted generation of players to fulfill their potential. The Red Devils finished runners-up at the 1980 European Championship, but with a formidable core based around Eden Hazard, Romelu Lukaku, Kevin De Bruyne and Thibaut Courtois, Marc Wilmots' side boast more than enough talent to go one step further in France.

"There's no doubt that we have big ambitions; our aim must always be to reach the final," Wilmots told FIFA.com ahead of the tournament. After sliding to an opening 2-0 defeat to Italy, Belgium bounced back to outclass the Republic of Ireland before a late Radja Nainggolan strike against Sweden ensured they pro-

gressed as Group E runners-up. Should they beat Hungary, a quarter-final against Wales or Northern Ireland would await them in Lille with Croatia, Portugal, Poland and Switzerland all potential last-four opponents.

But Wilmots argued the nature of the draw simply cranked up the pressure on the world's second-ranked side. "Forget what it says on paper, only what happens on the pitch counts. I'd rather play Spain or England, as we would have less to lose. Anyway, only the journalists think our half is easier." Captain Eden Hazard stressed the importance of not looking too far ahead. "We will see at the end of the tournament if we are indeed in the easy part of the schedule, without any favorites. If we get to the final then maybe we can say it was a good thing not to have been with the favorites, but

there are no easy games," he said.

### Confident Croatia

Ivan Perisic's late winner against Spain sent Croatia through as winners of Group D, although Iceland's last-gasp victory over Austria on Wednesday means the Croats will take on Portugal rather than Iceland in the next round. "In this phase of the competition there are no easy opponents and we probably got the most difficult," said Croatia coach Ante Ancic. "But we were in the toughest group of Euro 2016 and we successfully went through, so there is no reason not to be confident in this match too." Real Madrid star Luka Modric missed the 2-1 victory over Spain along with Mario Mandzukic, but Croatia will be counting on the pair to lead them deep into the tournament—having come third at the 1998 World Cup in France. — AFP

## INFAMOUS HANDBALL LOOMS LARGE; FRANCE FACE IRELAND 'HAND OF FROG' STILL HAUNTS IRELAND FANS

**PARIS:** When gesticulating Ireland players raced towards Martin Hansson deep in extra time of a World Cup qualification playoff against France on November 18, 2009, the Swedish referee was not the only one to wonder what he might have missed. The incident that had just occurred on the Stade de France pitch was almost impossible to see for the 79,145 fans in the ground and the 11 million people watching the game live on TV had to wait for a replay to realize what had happened.

The reporters covering the game soon understood they needed to rewrite their stories. The action in the 103rd minute of the second leg of that playoff was to keep them busy for days, making headlines all over the world. It will loom large in Lyon on Sunday when France and Ireland meet for a place in the quarter-finals of Euro 2016. The next morning, French sports

daily L'Equipe went for "La main de Dieu" (The hand of God), in reference to the goal Diego Maradona scored with his hand against England at the 1986 World Cup.

British tabloid the Sun chose "The hand of frog" and displayed a front-page picture of the man at the centre of the scandal, France captain Thierry Henry. France, who had won the first leg 1-0 at Croke Park, were trailing 1-0 in front of their own fans after a first-half goal by striker Robbie Keane when Florent Malouda took a free kick from the halfway line. Henry raced into the box from the left, controlled the ball with his hand to keep it in play and crossed for William Gallas, whose header gave Ireland goalkeeper Shay Given no chance. The final score read 1-1, meaning France won the tie on aggregate to seal their ticket to the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

### Ireland fans in mourning

"Let me enjoy this moment", France coach Raymond Domenech told journalists after the game. For Ireland fans in mourning, the atmosphere was very different. Those who were there that night tell you how they still hate hearing I Gotta Feeling, by the Black Eyed Peas, just because that song was playing in the stadium after the final whistle. Henry, whose reputation as a fair player was shattered, soon admitted he had handled the ball and apologized. "I am not the referee (...) but if I have hurt somebody, I'm sorry," he wrote on his Twitter account. Henry, who was never sanctioned, later said he contemplated retiring from international football after the incident. The Football Association of Ireland (FAI)'s demands for a replay and a "33rd place" at the World Cup were turned down by then FIFA president Sepp Blatter.

With outrage over the goal in Ireland and beyond growing, world's football governing body eventually came to a financial agreement, paying the FAI \$5 million to avoid a legal case. France went on to play the World Cup in South Africa, which they left in disgrace after the team refused to train in protest against a decision by the French Football Federation (FFF) to kick striker Nicolas Anelka out of the squad after he insulted Domenech at halftime of a game against Mexico. The controversial Domenech quit after that fiasco and Henry announced his international retirement, saying in a statement he was leaving with "some amazing memories, mostly good". — Reuters



**NORD:** Ireland's midfielder Jeffrey Hendrick plays the ball during the Euro 2016 group E football match between Italy and Ireland at the Pierre-Mauroy stadium in Villeneuve-d'Ascq. — AFP

## HENDRICK DRIVING ON IRELAND ALONGSIDE BOYHOOD FRIEND

**LILLE:** While Robbie Brady stole the headlines with his dramatic winning goal against Italy at Euro 2016, his childhood friend Jeff Hendrick again displayed his importance to the Republic of Ireland in that game. The 24-year-old Derby County midfielder put in another superb shift from his position wide on the right, earning rave reviews in French sports daily L'Equipe as he helped Ireland through to a last-16 tie against the hosts. "Jeff has been excellent for us—really, really excellent—and he continues to improve which is delightful," said manager Martin O'Neill after the historic 1-0 win in Lille that saw the Irish reach the knockout phase of a European Championship for the first time.

Hendrick was already outstanding in the opening 1-1 draw with Sweden, coming close to scoring on more than one occasion. After Wednesday's game he cried tears of joy and later clutched a slice of pizza and a bottle of beer as he stood in the mixed zone at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy and bathed in the glory of one of his country's finest victories. Hendrick, who hails from the northside of Dublin, was born 17 days apart from Brady in January 1992 and the duo have known each other from the age of six, when they began playing for the St Kevin's Boys Club.

"We played in every team possible at international level and all the way up to the seniors. It's not every day that something like this happens, it's great to play on a big stage," said Brady before the European Championship started. Like many talented young players in Ireland, Hendrick—described as a "quiet lad" by one of his former mentors—was just a trainee when he moved across the sea to England and joined Derby. He made his debut there as a 19-year-old under Nigel Clough and was voted the club's young player of the year in 2012. His international bow came in 2013 against Poland and he has hardly looked back since, with Wednesday's game his 24th appearance in the green shirt. — AFP



### Matches on TV (Local Timings)

#### UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

|                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Switzerland v Poland</b>     | <b>16:00</b> |
| beIN MAX 2 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 3 HD EN                |              |
| beIN MAX 1 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 4 HD FR                |              |
| <b>Wales v Northern Ireland</b> | <b>19:00</b> |
| beIN MAX 2 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 3 HD EN                |              |
| beIN MAX 1 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 4 HD FR                |              |
| <b>Croatia v Portugal</b>       | <b>22:00</b> |
| beIN MAX 2 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 3 HD EN                |              |
| beIN MAX 1 HD                   |              |
| beIN MAX 4 HD FR                |              |

#### COPA AMERICA CENTENARIO

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Tomorrow                        |             |
| <b>United States v Colombia</b> | <b>3:00</b> |
| beIN SPORTS                     |             |





UEFA EURO 2016

Kuwait Times

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016



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## COOL HAND XHAKA MAKES SWISS MIDFIELD TICK

**NICE:** It says a lot about Granit Xhaka's playing style that the Swiss midfielder mainly made headlines against France because he twice had his shirt ripped, rather than for his performance itself. Xhaka's contribution may not have been eye-catching but he was the man who made Switzerland tick as they dominated the French with an impressive 59 percent possession.

There is a cool elegance about the 23-year-old, voted man of the match in his side's first two Euro 2016 games, which is in stark contrast to the scurrying Valon Behrami who plays alongside him in front of the back four. Xhaka, who has helped Switzerland into the

European Championship last 16 for the first time where they face Poland on yesterday, is unflappable on the ball and the accuracy of his passing, even when under pressure from two or three opponents, is almost second to none.

He completed 292 passes in three group games, a total beaten only by Germany's Toni Kroos, and better even than Spain's Andres Iniesta. His accuracy rate of 92 percent is also one of the highest in the competition. Xhaka, who is joining Arsenal from Borussia Moenchengladbach next season, does most of his work inside the Swiss half, helping them play their way out of defense. He is a player who gets moves going, rather

than providing the killer pass himself and his scoring rate is not especially high with six goals in 46 appearances for Switzerland and nine in 140 league appearances over four seasons for Moenchengladbach.

A lot of his passes may go sideways or backwards but they always go to a team mate in space and help maintain Switzerland coach Vladimir Petkovic's philosophy of dominating possession against any opponent. Xhaka compliments his unmatched distribution with strong tackling and, for such an elegant player, he can be surprisingly volatile with three red cards last season for Gladbach, something he blamed on his tendency to react to provocation. — Reuters

## BUNDESLIGA INTEL PREPS SWISS FOR POLAND CLASH

**SAINT-ETIENNE:** Experience forged in the German league will help Switzerland's Bundesliga stars when they face Robert Lewandowski's Poland in the last 16 at Euro 2016 today. Switzerland and Poland have both qualified for the knockout phase of a European Championship finals for the first time. But Adam Nawalka's Poland have reason to be more optimistic with four wins in their ten meetings, while the Swiss have won just once. With 11 of the Swiss squad having plied their trade in Germany's top flight last season including Arsenal-bound Granit Xhaka—the Swiss know what to expect at the Stade Geoffroy-Guichard.

The main threat to the Swiss goal comes not just from Bayern Munich striker Lewandowski, but Borussia Borussia Dortmund winger Jakub Blaszczykowski. His goal off the bench sealed Poland's 1-0 win over Ukraine which confirmed their place in the last 16 as Group C runners up behind Germany. Dortmund left-back Lukasz Piszczek is always a threat with crosses from the left flank for Ajax striker Arkadiusz Milik in the middle. "They're definitely a difficult opponent," said Switzerland goalkeeper Yann Sommer, who plays for Borussia Moenchengladbach. "We all know Lewandowski from the Bundesliga.

It would be foolish to call Poland a one-man team though. There are many other quality players in their side." The Swiss could have played Germany in Saint-Etienne, but they face just as tough a challenge against Poland. The Poles held the world champions to a goalless draw in Paris in their group stage game. "They might not be as big a name as Germany, but Poland proved how strong they are when we drew 2-2 with them in Wroclaw in November 2014," said Switzerland's Hoffenheim defender Fabian Schaer. "Lewandowski is their biggest player, but other members of their squad play for clubs in some of the best leagues in Europe. "We respect them, but we're not scared."

Lewandowski was the top scorer in Euro 2016 qualifiers with 13 goals and bagged 42 goals in all competitions for Bayern last season. The 27-year-old has yet to open his account at the finals in France and says the Swiss will start as favorites to reach the quarter-finals. "The Swiss are a very good team, one of the best in Europe, and they are the favourites," Lewandowski told Polish news agency PAP. "But like any team they have their weak points and I hope that we'll be able to take advantage of them."

Since their goalless draw against France on Sunday, the Swiss have had two extra rest days to recover compared to the Poles, who beat Ukraine 1-0 on Tuesday. "Four days rest will be enough for us," said Lewandowski. "I feel this won't make much of a difference." The Swiss have no injury concerns before Vladimir Petkovic's side head to Saint-Etienne. Poland's main concern is injury to goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny with Lukasz Fabianski again set to deputise between the posts. — AFP



**TOULOUSE:** Russia's forward Alexander Kokorin (top) tackles Wales' forward Gareth Bale during the Euro 2016 group B football match between Russia and Wales on June 20, 2016. — AFP

## EXPENSIVE BALE FACES FREE AGENT IN ALL-BRITISH AFFAIR

**PARIS:** The world's most expensive player, Gareth Bale of Wales, will face an ageing goalkeeper looking for a club in today's intriguing all-British showdown against fellow debutants Northern Ireland for a place in the quarter-finals of Euro 2016. Bale, who has scored a goal in each game so far to help Wales top their group ahead of England, was expected to shine on the pitches of France.

It is a different story for Michael McGovern, whose heroics in the Northern Ireland goal have earned him a comparison to the great Pat Jennings by coach Martin O'Neill. While Bale, 26, features prominently in the star-studded Real Madrid outfit, the 31-year-old McGovern is a free agent whose contract with struggling Scottish side Hamilton Academical has just expired. The two now hold the key to today's battle of the European championship first-timers at Parc des Princes, which Wales will start with an advantage after their convincing displays in the group

stages showcased Bale's pace, skills and set-piece expertise.

Northern Ireland, making their first appearance at a major tournament since the 1982 World Cup, advanced as one of the best third-placed teams, taking full advantage of the expanded 24-team format which helped the less-fancied sides win a moment in the sun. They enjoyed that moment, showing plenty of fighting spirit, helped by a string of fine saves from McGovern, who was instrumental in limiting the damage in a 1-0 defeat by world champions Germany. "A few people didn't give us a chance of getting a point when the draw was made," said defender Gareth McAuley. "But that's what Northern Ireland are all about—proving people wrong."

Winning extraordinarily It cannot be argued that Wales are not highly dependent on Bale, the world record 85 million pounds (\$121.21 million) forward having scored seven of their 11 goals in quali-

fyng before hitting three more in the opening phase of the tournament to top the scorers' table alongside Spain's Alvaro Morata. "At times, Bale has won games extraordinarily," said Wales coach Chris Coleman. "I can understand the one-man team tag if you have a player like him who plays for Real Madrid. He fits our style of play and he enjoys it."

Wales are likely to take the initiative in today's game with Northern Ireland shutting up shop at the back to rely on their trademark, counter-attacking tactics. The winners will go on to meet Hungary or Belgium in Lille. Whatever happens today, both teams know they can rely on some of the most passionate fans in the tournament and there should be plenty of color and noise in the Parc des Princes stands. "Geographically, we're small, but if you judge it on passion, we're a continent", Coleman said in a statement that his Northern Ireland counterpart could also make his own. — Reuters



# Sports



Giants overpower Pittsburgh Pirates

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EASTBOURNE: Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska returns to Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova during their match in the Eastbourne International women's tennis tournament at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne England yesterday. — AP

## RADWANSKA CRASHES OUT OF EASTBOURNE

**EASTBOURNE:** Dominika Cibulkova stepped up her bid for a career-first grass title yesterday, completing a rain-hit match to knock top seed Agnieszka Radwanska out of the WTA Eastbourne event 4-6, 7-6 (7/2), 6-3. Australian Open finalist Cibulkova from Slovakia, trailed 6-4, 3-2 when their quarter-final was forced off court at Devonshire Park on a rainy Thursday night.

Sunshine and a stiff wind presented fresh challenges as Cibulkova advanced with her upset on Friday. "I'm very happy with this win, Aggie and I have played lots of times (this was their 12th) but never on grass. "Conditions made it difficult but I found myself playing better and better with each game. I came back strong today - that's why I won." The last two overdue quarter-finals also wrapped up with Czech tenth seed Karolina Pliskova defeating Russian Elena Vesnina 6-1, 6-3 and British 11th seed Johanna Konta, an Australian Open semi-finalist, overcoming former champion Ekaterina Makarova 7-6 (7/5), 6-4.

Cibulkova had only a few hours to recover before taking to the grass against qualifier Monica Puig. The number 43 from Puerto Rico is trying to repeat history when she also

came from a qualifying start in January at Sydney and running all the way into the final where she lost to Svetlana Kuznetsova. Radwanska said that despite her loss, she is confidently focused on the Monday start of Wimbledon. "I'm healthy. I'm good. Ready for Wimbledon. Of course it's always disappointing when you lose, and especially that type of long match. Well, what can you do?"

"Maybe I have maximum three days of practice at Wimbledon, it's not much, but I'm in the match rhythm. I picked up good matches here. "I don't think I was playing good enough today, she was playing really aggressive, good tennis. I stepped backwards a little bit too much. That wasn't helping me." Konta rallied after losing her opening service game against Makarova, who won the 2010 title. The Australian-born Brit, who stood 140th a year ago and reached the top 20 last week, hung on in a first-set tiebreak before closing out victory in straight sets. "I was happy to come out today at home," said the local, ranked 18th who stands 0-2 on the WTA against Pliskova. "It's not too bad playing two matches on the same day, the adrenalin takes over." — AFP

## DJOKOVIC, FEDERER DRAWN FOR WIMBLEDON SEMI-FINAL CLASH

**LONDON:** Defending champion Novak Djokovic and seven-time winner Roger Federer were yesterday drawn to meet in the semi-finals of this year's Wimbledon which starts on Monday. World number one Djokovic, who is bidding to take another step closer to the first calendar Grand Slam since 1969, has defeated Federer in the last two finals at the All England Club.

The draw means that second seed Andy Murray, the 2013 champion, was lined up for a semi-final against fourth seeded Stan Wawrinka. Three-time champion Djokovic completed the career Grand Slam with victory at the French Open earlier this month and now holds all four majors. It was his 12th career major and made him the first man since Jim Courier in 1992 to win the Australian and French Opens in the same year. The 29-year-old Serb begins his Wimbledon campaign against British wild card James Ward and could meet big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic in the last-eight.

Murray takes on compatriot Liam Broady in the first round with a potential clash against

Australia's Nick Kyrgios in the fourth round. Frenchman Richard Gasquet is a possible quarter-final rival. Federer, seeded three but enduring an injury-hit season, starts against Argentina's Guido Pella, ranked 51 in the world. The 34-year-old Swiss, the holder of a record 17 majors, could face Japan's Kei Nishikori in the quarter-finals. If seedings play out, Wawrinka would come up against in-form Dominic Thiem of Austria for a place in the last-four.

Defending women's champion Serena Williams, chasing a seventh Wimbledon title to equal Steffi Graf's Open era record of 22 majors, was drawn to face Polish third seed Agnieszka Radwanska in the last-four. Radwanska made the final in 2012. French Open champion Garbine Muguruza, who beat Williams in the Roland Garros final but lost to the American in the Wimbledon championship match in 2015, could face Australian Open winner Angelique Kerber in the last-four. Spanish star Muguruza begins against Italy's Camila Giorgi. — AFP