

**Spaniard on trek to Makkah reaches Kuwait, recounts journey**



**White Helmets: 'Heroes' who run towards bombs in Syria**



**Canada designer celebrates unisex at Dubai show**



**IOC urges new testing body in revamped drug fight**



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## EGYPTIAN ARRESTED AFTER FAILED SUICIDE ATTACK ON US SOLDIERS

EXPLOSIVES FOUND IN TRUCK • 5 GIS UNHURT



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By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** An Egyptian linked to the Islamic State group was arrested yesterday after he tried to ram a truck into another vehicle carrying five American soldiers in a failed suicide bombing. The interior ministry identified the attacker as Ibrahim Suleiman, born in 1988. It said he was driving a cleaning truck at the time of the attack, and suffered multiple fractures and injuries. The ministry added the five US soldiers were not injured.



Ibrahim Suleiman

Security sources said that the suspect was taken to hospital under tight security. Detectives found in his possession a hand-written letter pledging allegiance to IS and adopting its ideology. Explosives - including a suicide belt - were found in the truck, owned by a local contracting company. Security bodies are interrogating

Suleiman and conducting investigations to uncover the circumstances of the attack, in addition to finding the suspect's accomplices and bring them to justice, the ministry said, reiterating commitment to preserving the safety and security of Kuwait and Kuwaitis.

Kuwait is a stalwart US ally following the 1991 American-led Gulf War that ended the Iraqi occupation. Police have also vowed increased security ahead of the Shiite commemoration of Ashoura this week. Two Iranians were arrested in recent days for taking "suspicious" photographs of huseiniyas. An IS-claimed suicide bombing in 2015 targeting a Shiite mosque in Kuwait City killed 27 people and wounded scores.

**KUWAIT:** The truck used by the suspect in the failed suicide attack (bottom left), the pickup carrying the US soldiers (top left) and explosives including a suicide belt (right) are seen yesterday. — Mol



**ISTANBUL:** Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (right) drives a car with Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim through the Euroasia tunnel during a visit to the construction site for first test-drives yesterday. — AFP

### ERDOGAN TAKES SPIN IN BOSPHORUS ROAD TUNNEL

**ISTANBUL:** Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan went for an inaugural spin yesterday in Istanbul's latest mega-project: the first-ever road tunnel linking the two sides of Istanbul will be cut down to 15 minutes from 100 minutes, the presidency said on its website. It will cost \$4 plus VAT to use the Avrasya (Eurasia) tunnel, Arslan said. It is the latest in a series of key infrastructure projects in Istanbul including the city's third airport due to open in the second quarter of 2018.

In its first phase, the airport will have an annual capacity of 90 million passengers but will later have the ability to handle 150 million travellers. This would mean the \$29 billion airport overtakes the total combined traffic of 140 million people who

pass through Charles de Gaulle in Paris and London Heathrow, making it Europe's largest airport. In August, Erdogan inaugurated the city's third bridge - one of the longest suspension bridges in the world - over the Bosphorus, just over a month after a rogue military faction tried to oust him from power in the July 15 failed coup.

Speaking after he made the drive, Erdogan explained that 156 million people have crossed from the Asian side to the European side since Oct 2013 when the Marmaray underground railway tunnel opened linking the two sides of the Bosphorus. "It was all a dream come true," he added, referring to the project which has significantly improved public transport for the city's 15 million residents by making it quicker to get across the two sides.

Dubbed the "project of the century", the Marmaray was the first giant project initiated by the president who was then prime minister. "Of course, we also knew this: without a dream, nothing real can be achieved. This is work that can be done and was achieved by those with faith and perseverance," the former mayor of Istanbul said, according to the presidency's website. — AFP

## DEFIANT TRUMP VOWS TO STAY IN RACE

MOGUL APOLOGIZES FOR LEWD TALK AS OUTRAGE MOUNTS

### GERMAN POLICE FIND EXPLOSIVES DURING MANHUNT

**BERLIN:** Police yesterday found several hundred grams of "explosive materials" in the east German apartment of a Syrian man suspected of planning a bomb attack, and arrested three people connected to him. The suspect who remains at large, 22-year-old Syrian Jaber Albakr, could have had "an Islamist motive" sources close to the police told AFP. "Highly explosive materials were found in the apartment concerned in Chemnitz, new evacuation measures are necessary," tweeted police in Germany's east.

Officers found "several hundred grams (of a) very dangerous substance which cannot be moved without protective measures", said police spokesman Tom Bernhardt. Two of those arrested were seized close to the city's railway station while the other was taken into custody in the city center. A package belonging to one of those arrested was undergoing analysis, police added. "They were known to the suspect we are looking for and were arrested and detained," said Bernhardt who added that the trio were being questioned.

Germany has been on edge after suffering two attacks claimed by the Islamic State group (IS) in July - an axe rampage on a train in Wuerzburg that

Continued on Page 13

**NEW YORK:** US Presidential nominee Donald Trump vowed yesterday to remain in the race even as his campaign was thrown into crisis as his running mate criticized him and more than a dozen prominent Republicans withdrew support and urged him to drop out following news of a recording of him mak-

ing lewd comments in 2005. Trump told the Wall Street Journal yesterday morning "zero chance I'll quit". He also told The Washington Post he may deliver a speech to address concern among supporters and reiterate his determination to stay in the race.

Continued on Page 13



**NEW YORK:** A mother and her daughters express their opinion of Donald Trump outside Trump Tower in Manhattan yesterday. — AFP

## HURRICANE MATTHEW SLAMS INTO S CAROLINA

**CHARLESTON/SAVANNAH:** Hurricane Matthew slammed into South Carolina yesterday, packing a diminished yet still powerful punch after killing almost 900 people in Haiti and causing major flooding and widespread power outages as it skirted Florida and Georgia. Now weakened, the most powerful Atlantic storm since 2007 left flooding and wind damage in Florida before moving slowly north to soak coastal Georgia and the Carolinas. Wind speeds had dropped by nearly half from their peak about a week ago to 120 kph, reducing it to a Category 1 hurricane, the weakest on the Saffir-Simpson scale of 1 to 5.

Matthew, which topped out as a ferocious

Category 5 storm more than a week ago, made landfall near McClellanville, a village 30 miles north of Charleston that was devastated by a Category 4 hurricane in 1989. The National Hurricane Service said Matthew was over Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, yesterday afternoon, and warned of potentially life-threatening flooding in Georgia and North Carolina even as the storm slowed as it drove inland. At least five deaths in Florida were attributed to the storm, which knocked out power to almost 1.6 million households and businesses in the US Southeast.

The stretch of the Atlantic coast from Miami to Charleston, a nearly 600-mile drive, encompasses some of the most well-known beaches,

resorts and historical towns in the southeastern United States. Parts of Interstate 95, the main north-south thoroughfare on the East Coast, were closed due to flooding and fallen trees, state officials said. In Florida, 775,000 were without power, according to state utilities, while in South Carolina 433,000 had no electricity, Governor Nikki Haley said. Georgia Power said at least 275,000 were without power in the state.

Roads in Jackson Beach, Florida, were littered with wood, including sections of a historic pier, and foot-deep, water-clogged inter-sections. Beachfront businesses suffered moderate damage.

Continued on Page 13

# ACD COMMUNIQUE TO INCLUDE AMIR'S PROPOSAL FOR ASIA FUND

SUMMIT ENDORSING A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT BASED IN KUWAIT

**BANGKOK:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's participation in the 2nd Asia Cooperation Dialogue Summit (ACD) reiterates Kuwait's keenness to give impetus to the initiative to realize its goals, Assistant Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Ambassador Ali Al-Said, told KUNA yesterday.

The 2nd ACD Summit kicks off in Bangkok, today for three days. The first ACD summit was held in Kuwait in 2012 upon His Highness the Amir's initiative as part of his interest in Asian economic development, and keenness on making Asia one of the main axes in paving the way for Kuwait to be a financial and commercial hub in the region.

Among the first achievements of the ACD was endorsing a permanent secretariat, to be based in Kuwait, in recognition of the country's leading role in Asian joint action, Al-Said said. He added that they look forward to further convergence among the Asian countries through the summit.

On His Highness the Amir's proposal for establishing a fund to support development



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

projects in the ACD member states, Al-Said said that the 2nd Summit communique will include an item on the issue.

It will welcome the proposal, and entrust the summit's secretary general with taking the necessary measures for a work mechanism for the would-be fund.

The summit, is held under the theme "One Asia, Diverse Strengths: Enhanced Partnership towards New Dynamism." The summit agenda includes aspects of cooperation among Asian countries in economic, environmental and humanitarian domains. Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Ambassador Ali Al-Said represented his country in the meeting.

Attracting the leaders of 33 countries, the summit focuses on a host of major issues the Asian continent is facing in political, economic, trade, social and environmental areas.

Established in Thailand in 2001, the ACD Forum has held 10 meetings at the level of foreign ministers, the last of which was hosted by the State of Kuwait in 2012 under the auspices of His Highness the Amir. —KUNA

# KUWAITI STUDENTS MOVED TO SAFER PLACES IN US OVER HURRICANE MATTHEW

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Higher Education's Cultural Office in Washington has moved many Kuwaiti students from various areas threatened by Hurricane Matthew, to safe places. Assistant Undersecretary of scholarships affairs at the Ministry of Higher Education for Fatma Al-Sannan told KUNA yesterday said that the Cultural Office in Washington had formed an emergency team, led by Asil Al-Awadhi, to contact the students and make sure they are all safe.

Al-Sannan urged other Kuwaiti students studying in the US to contact the team by phone or through the e-mail, so

that they could be taken to safer places, in line with directives of the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Issa.

The Kuwaiti embassy on Tuesday asked nationals to take all precautionary measures to ensure their safety and heed the safety instructions issued by the local authorities after Matthew hit the south-eastern coasts. The embassy urged Kuwaitis to report to it on any eventuality and contact in case of need via the following phone numbers: The emergency phone No. of the embassy: 001-202-262-0758. The emergency phone No of the Culture Office: 001-202-364-2104. —KUNA



KUWAIT: National Guard protection and reinforcement commander, Major General Faleh Shoja Faleh recently launched five training courses at the Somoud Camp.

Local Spotlight

## HIJAB IN PLAYBOY

By Muna Al-Fuzai

Some see the hijab that covers the hair as a symbol of modesty and chastity that distinguishes Muslim women from other women. Conversely, they view Playboy magazine as a tool of pornographic pictures of nude girls that symbolizes permissiveness and sexual freedom, despite the fact that this magazine stopped publishing nude pictures a year ago after six full decades of dissemination of pornography. Now, a beautiful Muslim girl has suddenly appeared in this magazine to ignite a heated debate among many Muslims, both supporters and opponents.

American Muslim journalist of Libyan descent Noor Tagouri appeared with a headscarf and decent clothes in Playboy in October. But the beautiful images were not welcomed by many Muslims. I think this lady has made history by becoming the first woman to wear a hijab featured in Playboy magazine. Tagouri, a journalist at Newsy, stars as part of the magazine's Renegades issue, which features eight men and women "who aren't afraid to break the rules".



It seems that the main objective of the appearance of Noor with a headscarf was to send the world a clear message, which is not to be afraid of the hijab and not deal with those wearing it in a negative way. I did not expect conservatives to clap and welcome her action as one of personal freedom, but it is unfortunate that some people attacked her severely, some even out of jealousy. They are really narrow-minded people.

Some female writers and journalists tried to raise a fuss, as Playboy is known for being a pornographic magazine, and the presence of a Muslim girl in its pages looks like contradictory behavior.

But they overlook the fact that the hijab is a cover for the hair for modesty and has nothing to do with morality. Basically, if we understand the headscarf as a symbol of chastity, does this mean that a man with a beard is a saint? Osama bin Laden and IS militants wear long beards. What does this make them?

A radical response came from some hardline Islamic parties that announced that Tagouri has insulted Muslims. So all these killings and chaos by terrorists and conservative groups have not insulted Islam, but the appearance of a young lady on a magazine did. That is complete contradiction. I salute the courage of this girl, whether some people liked the pictures or not. Noor made history and her message is received.

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## MOI FOILS BID TO SMUGGLE IN 140 KG OF HASHISH

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Interior (MoI) announced yesterday it foiled an attempt to smuggle 221 pieces of cannabis weighing 140 kg. The ministry's public relations department

pointed out that seven traffickers - two illegal residents and five Iranians - attempted to smuggle the drugs by sea.

Security sources explained that the two illegal residents were in the process of moving the drugs

from the Iranians' wooden boat into theirs, when coastguards spotted them.

A fierce pursuit was involved, damaging a coastguard patrol boat before the suspects were arrested and referred to relevant authorities.





**KUWAIT:** Chairman of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) Hilal Al-Sayer meets with Al-Ghanim Industries Board Chairman, Qutaiba Yousef Al-Ghanim.

## KUWAITI FIRMS COVER EDUCATIONAL COSTS OF LOW-INCOME CHILDREN

### AL-GHANIM INDUSTRIES PLAYING PIONEERING ROLE

**KUWAIT:** Kuwaiti private companies and conglomerates, namely Al-Ghanim Industries, are covering teaching costs for thousands of children of cash-strapped families, depicting the deeply-engrained compassion for the needy among the citizens.

Al-Ghanim Industries Board Chairman, Qutaiba Yousef Al-Ghanim, affirmed in a statement necessity of aiding children of the low-income families and encourage parents to enroll their kids at schools to contribute to shaping up the country's future.

Al-Ghanim Industries, along with a number

of other private companies, have been regularly granting financial aid to Kuwait Red Crescent Society, which in turn, arranges financial payments to these families to ensure that their children are registered at schools and colleges.

The Red Crescent's latest endeavor at this level was the campaign, "at-hum forsa" (give them a chance), where up to 13,000 children were registered as applicants for financial aid. So far, the KRCS has managed to pay scholastic teaching costs for 2,000 registered ones, said the society chairman, Dr. Hilal Al-Sayer, who held a meeting with Qutaiba Al-Ghanim, on Thursday, as part of

the coordination for aiding the needy Kuwaiti juniors. Such aid granted by the private sector, namely Al-Ghanim Industries, greatly contributes to covering scholastic costs for these citizens, he said. Kuwait is renowned among nations of the globe for aiding the needy at the local and external levels.

The KRCS, in addition to its local philanthropic efforts, is also involved in ongoing campaigns to relieve crises-stricken peoples abroad. The Kuwaiti relief aid has reached Syrian refugees, Iraqis and Yemenis, among other nations. —KUNA

## KUWAIT SWF FIFTH AMONG TOP WORLD FUNDS: REPORT

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** According to a latest report by the Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) Institute in September, Kuwait was ranked fifth amongst the world's top sovereign wealth funds with an increase in its assets to \$592 billion. Norway came first with \$885 billion, followed by China with \$813 billion, Abu Dhabi with \$792 billion and Saudi

Arabia in fourth place with \$598.4 billion in assets.

### Amazement

MP Yousef Al-Zalzal expressed amazement at the government's haste in adjusting the civil service law, viewing it as an attempt to cut salaries.

### Ministry projects

MSAL Undersecretary Mutar Al-Mutairi made

a presentation and delivered a lecture on ministry projects before representatives of over 50 co-ops and the chairman of the Kuwaiti Cooperative Societies Union Saad Al-Shabbo. Mutairi explained that the projects include building a blood bank at Adan Hospital, expanding the Kuwait Autism Center, a blood bank in Jahra and establishing a special company to recruit domestic helpers.

## SPANISH ADVENTURER WHO WALKED 6,400KM ARRIVES IN KUWAIT

By Nawara Fattahova

**KUWAIT:** An intrepid adventurer, who has been walking from Paris to Makkah to perform umrah, arrived in Kuwait a few days ago. Ishaq, a 33-year-old Spaniard of Algerian descent, began his journey around five months back. He has already walked a distance of 6,400 km and is planning to reach his destination in 50 days. He is now waiting for a visa to enter Saudi Arabia. Ishaq was received by his Kuwaiti host Abu Mohammed Al-Mutairi at the Iraqi border in Abdaly. Mutairi promised to help him obtain the umrah visa, and has put him up at his house till then.

This is Ishaq's first walking trip, which he calls the 'Walk of Peace'. He aims to deliver a message to the world that Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance, not terror and aggression. He wants to tell the world that Muslims are good people who love peace, not killing. Ishaq noted that he doesn't need anything, and only wants to reach Makkah. He doesn't have a big budget for this trip, and has managed to survive on €10 a day.

Ishaq told Kuwait Times about the mountainous terrain he had to cross during this journey, and it was very cold. "I stayed in a tent, and when I woke up in the mornings, my fingers were frozen. This was the biggest obstacle that I faced. Fortunately, I wasn't injured, but I faced some trying situations. Once I was sleeping in my tent and heard a wolf in the night. I covered in the tent, and in the morning I saw the tracks of the wolf," he said. Ishaq began his journey by carrying his stuff in a backpack. After three days, he got exhausted and decided to travel with a trolley. During the journey, the wheels of the trolley got damaged, and he had to change them.

Ishaq is also documenting his journey.



**Ishaq, the 33-year-old Spaniard of Algerian descent.**

Various media outlets have interviewed him in the countries he passed through. He crossed from Europe into Turkey, then to Iran, Iraq and Kuwait, from where he will continue to Makkah.

## KUWAIT TEAM REVIEWS WORK AT KNOWLEDGE CENTER IN PALESTINE

By Meshal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** A delegation from the Kuwait Society for Students' Support, headed by Chairman Talal Al-Arab, visited Palestine to inspect reconstruction works at Soair school and open the Kuwait Center for Knowledge and Technology.

### Obesity cure

Speaking at a lecture about the latest in obesity treatments, digestive diseases and gastrointestinal endoscopy consultant Dr Fahd Al-Ibrahim said Kuwait is ranked the highest amongst Arab countries in obesity rates. Ibrahim also announced a new technique involving the use of a special pump that removes one-third of the food consumed and prevents the body from absorbing it, as a means to lose weight.

### Project for retirees

Founder and chairman of the national project for retirees Dr Salah Al-Abdul Jader announced organizing Kuwait's first competition for the best retiree project. He said that the competition aims at making

use of retirees' expertise and skills. Abdul Jader added that valuable prizes have been set for the top 10 winners. He also noted that the project would organize a touristic trip for 50 retirees to Turkey in the period of Oct 20-29.

### ILO official

Acting director of the manpower authority Abdullah Al-Motoutah received ILO's regional advisor Hans van de Glind and his accompanying delegation. Both sides discussed labor-related issues and Kuwait's efforts to improve the working and living environment of expat laborers.

### Charity center

Sheikha Awrad Jaber Al-Ahmad announced that the children of the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad have donated KD 1 million to complete the first phase of the Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Charity Center in Canada. Sheikh Abdullah Al-Nouri Charity Chairman Jamal Al-Nouri said that the media is a strategic partner in promoting charity work and highlighting the efforts exerted by various Kuwaiti charity organizations.



## A TRUE AUTHENTIC CUBAN NIGHT AT MARINA HOTEL



**KUWAIT:** The Embassy of the Republic of Cuba organized an Authentic "Cuban Night" at Marina Hotel Kuwait for the first time in Kuwait on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The dinner was hosted in the presence of Andres Gonzalez Garrido, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba and Nabil Hammoud, General Manager of Marina Hotel Kuwait.

The distinctive Cuban cuisine was revealed by well-renowned Chef Eddy Fernandez Monte, President of the Federation of culinary association of the Republic of Cuba, and Chef Odavin M Castellanos, who together with the Marina hotel Culinary team featured a variety of Cuban classic and modern Cuisine. —Photos by Joseph Shagra



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of the day



KUWAIT: With winter fast approaching, Damsak roses begin to bloom in Kuwait. — KUNA

## SHEIKH SALMAN MEETS UNDP REPRESENTATIVE

**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah yesterday discussed with the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the State of Kuwait, Zineb Touimi-Bejelloun ways of benefiting from the expertise of the Office of United Nations Development Program in youth development experiences and their projects.

Sheikh Salman asserted in a statement keenness of the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs on youngsters as youth have become a priority that must be supported. He added that the ministry is always seeking to benefit from technical cooperation and advisory expertise provided by the United Nations Development Program, praising the historic and excellent relationship linking Kuwait with the UN and its various agencies. For her part, Bejelloun underscored the depth of the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations Development Program and the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs. She pointed to the many important aspects of cooperation between the program and the ministry including a program under the slogan (Innovation In achieving Sustainable Development Goals) in which 30 young people have taken part. —KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah holding a meeting with the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the State of Kuwait, Zineb Touimi-Bejelloun yesterday. —KUNA

## THE OTHER SIDE OF BREAST CANCER PATIENTS MEETING THE UNMET NEEDS

**KUWAIT:** You might have been part of a breast cancer (BC) marathon or heard about the latest awareness campaign promoting BC screenings. Maybe you have donated money to the cause, are a family member of a survivor, or a survivor yourself. Yet there is a high chance that there are a group of men and women living with the disease that you are not aware of - they are the "forgotten" patients of metastatic breast cancer (mBC). They are a group of brave individuals who often live with feelings of isolation due to their metastatic diagnosis.

mBC is the most advanced stage of breast cancer, a stage in which the cancer has spread beyond the breasts to other parts of the body such as the bones, liver, brain and lungs. In the MENA region especially, a high proportion of BC cases are diagnosed at an advanced stage. Despite this, there still exists multiple misconceptions around mBC considering the lack of conversation around it compared to the attention, advocacy and policy focus on the early stages of breast cancer.

The lack of awareness around mBC has left many patients feeling isolated and marginalized. Additionally, the diagnosis of mBC has shown to have a huge psychological and emotional impact on women and their families. Many surveys, such as the Canadian Breast Cancer Networks, reflected that many patients start to experience anxiety, isolation and depression due to their diagnosis. This is in addition to the high levels of fear associated with the uncertainty of the future.

In fact, one of the biggest fears that women with mBC have is the impact that this disease will have on their family members, as most women with mBC are over 50 and are caregivers for children and/or other family members.

However, despite the huge toll that mBC

brings, it is important that we remember that it does not mean women with mBC have a negative outlook on life. Rather, it is found that many patients of mBC will do everything in their power to maintain control and live a full and long life as possible.

But how can we help? How can we as loved ones, supporters, advocates and policy makers help in reducing the anxiety and fear? How can we help women and men with mBC have fulfilling lives not in isolation? How do we meet the unmet needs of people living with mBC?

One of the most significant challenges ahead in addressing the needs of women and men with mBC is the need to create greater public awareness. It is essential that people know mBC as the most advanced stage of breast cancer, and as different from the earlier stages of BC. Heightened awareness will generate and encourage conversation along with support on how to live with mBC on a day to day basis.

### Cultural taboos

Considering the cultural taboos in many countries, culturally sensitive information is also important in helping women feel a greater sense of control and strength. In fact,

more information regarding current and future treatments and research on mBC should be readily available and encouraged within the country.

Furthermore, although not all women with mBC have a negative outlook on life, many women experience heightened fear, isolation and depression. Hence, more resources for psychological counselling and support, including awareness on existing support services are needed. Additionally better patient-doctor communication is also required to aid women in gaining a sense of higher control over their condition.

Lastly, apart from knowledge around mBC, greater knowledge about the benefits and risks of treatments, along with higher investment on research on mBC are vital. According to an international study only 5 percent of publically funded research in the United States goes towards mBC.

In order to fully support and address the needs of women and men with mBC, it is essential that we continue to carry on conversations and encourage awareness around mBC. We as a community, as loved ones, as family members and as breast cancer survivors must join hands to make women with mBC feel visible and make time count.



**KUWAIT:** Announcing the partnership

## KFH RENEWS PARTNERSHIP WITH ISLAMIC FINANCE CLUB

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has renewed the strategic partnership with the Islamic Finance Club for the seventh consecutive year as part of KFH's continuous support to the club's activities and in attempt to increase the values of Islamic banking and the Islamic finance industry for students at Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST).

The Head of Islamic Finance Club, Mohammad Alsaman applauded KFH's significant role in providing support to the club, while remains a major source and a reliable reference for students in their researches. In addition, he valued the great contributions of the bank and its keenness to shoulder the social responsibility.

He affirmed that the club will contin-

ue its efforts in increasing the awareness of Islamic banking by holding workshops and training courses about the sharia-compliant products and services that are integral part of the global financial system.

The strategic partnership affirms KFH's role in supporting youths and students and sponsoring the activities of the club, where the bank participates in lectures and workshops that come in line with its endeavors in raising the youth's knowledge in the fields of Islamic finance, consolidating the Islamic economy and spreading the awareness of the importance of the products and services that are compatible with sharia, especially that KFH is a global leading Islamic financial institution.

## CBK RECEIVES MUWASAT HOSPITAL TEAM

**KUWAIT:** The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) received a medical team from the Muwasat Hospital at its headquarters in Hawally recently. The visiting medical team conducted quick medical tests on CBK employees during the official work-

ing hours. Commenting on the visit, CBK's Assistant Director for PR and Advertising, Amani Al-Wer'a said that the visit underlines the bank's commitment to provide proper healthcare for its employees.





KUWAIT: The wreckage of a vehicle after it collided with a public transport bus.



KUWAIT: The badly damaged bus following the collision in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh.



KUWAIT: Municipal officials closing stores for violations.



# MUNICIPALITY SEALS 14 STORES FOR VIOLATIONS



Khaled Al-Radaan

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** The Municipality said that its teams removed 503 violations in August during the Eid holidays. A report by the emergency teams' leader Khaled Al-Radaan showed that 14 stores were closed down for violating bylaws and 105 citations were filed, including 52 related to food items, 37 related to ads and noise and 16 related to cleanliness.

**Seven hurt in collision**

Seven people were injured when a public transport bus collided into a vehicle in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh, said KFSD's PR

department, noting that the injured were rushed to hospital for treatment.

**Boat catches fire**

A fire broke out in a boat docked in Salmiya, said the department said, adding that the fire was controlled without any casualties.

**Fire in house**

A fire broke out in a house in Qosour, said security sources, noting that the fire started in a first-floor room. The blaze was controlled and prevented from spreading to the rest of the house. No casualties were reported.



## DASMAN INSTITUTE TO TREAT YOUNG DIABETIC PATIENTS

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's leading institute for treating diabetes is expanding its approach, treatment techniques and researches on various conditions namely illness among the young.

Dasman Diabetes Institute is currently conducting up to 53 studies on causes of the second type of diabetes, gestational diabetes (affecting pregnant women), and the disease afflicting children and adolescents and Maturity onset diabetes of the young (MODY), said the institute's general director, Dr Qais Al-Dwairi in a statement to KUNA.

Among the major studies currently underway is the one based on the technique of heat shock for tissues of the liver and muscles; outcome of which will be revealed by the yearend, said Dr Al-Dwairi.

Dr Maisa Kamkar, in charge of research at the institute, said the institute's new approach is basically

aimed at cooperating with medical centers specialized in illnesses affecting the nerves, eyes and kidneys, to establish a clearer picture about the disease complications. Moreover, the institute is also seeking to substantiate a strong theory suggesting that the mostly disease spread among individuals in racially coherent communities, where it genetically persists.

The institute will sign cooperation accords with a number of top-notch institutes and universities in America, Europe and Asia early next year. Realizing that diabetes was one of the most chronic diseases among Kuwaitis, Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) financed establishment of the institute. Its cornerstone was laid on 8th May 2001. In June 2006, the institute was inaugurated by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.



Dasman Diabetic Institute General Director Dr Qais Al-Dwairi

It was set up to prevent, control and mitigate the impact of diabetes and related conditions in Kuwait through effective programs of research, training, education, and health promotion and thereby improve quality of life in the population. —KUNA

## 757 ILLEGAL RESIDENTS EMPLOYED IN CO-OPS

**KUWAIT:** The Central Apparatus for Illegal Residents announced yesterday that the number of illegal residents who are employed in cooperative societies till the end of June of 2016 has reached 757.

Assistant Secretary General for Technical and Information Affairs in the Apparatus Waleed Al-Asfoor told KUNA that the number of Cooperative Societies which are employing illegal residents went up to 38. Al-Asfoor stated that Saad Al-Abdullah Co-op has hired 73 illegal residents, constituting

the lion's share, followed by Al-Naseem Co-op with 70 employees, then came Al-Jahra Co-op with 57 employees, Al-Andalus and Al-Reqeie Co-op with 55 employees and Al-Sulaibiyah Co-op which came fifth 37.

Al-Asfoor hailed the Kuwaiti Cooperative Societies Union for its efforts and support in the recruitment mechanism for the illegal residents, noting that beneficiaries must have obtained the statistics of 1965 in order for them to be recruited. Sons of Kuwaiti women and sons of military

personnel who participated in wars are exempt. Al-Asfoor added that this came under the guidance of the Executive Chairman of the Central Apparatus for Illegal Residents Saleh Al-Fadala, who has directed for taking all measures needed to execute the recruitment mechanism for both private and public sectors. The Central Apparatus for Illegal Residents, with the cooperation of Cooperative Societies Union, have established a mechanism for hiring illegal residents in the cooperative sector at the beginning of year 2014. —KUNA



## OOREDOO LAUNCHES 24/7 BRANCH IN SALMIYA

**KUWAIT:** Ooredoo, Kuwait's fastest network for 2016, launched a new location in Salmiya serving customers around the clock. The launch of the new branch comes as part of Ooredoo's ongoing strategy to become even closer to its customers and serve the largest number as possible. This stems from Ooredoo's core values of caring and connecting. The branch is located on Amr bin Al-Aas Street, which is better known as Restaurants Street.

The new branch provides customers with sales around the clock, seven days a week. This includes



Ooredoo's offers on smartphones and tablets, which come with either postpaid and prepaid plans. The new branches follow the brand guidelines of Ooredoo's identity, giving the customers a sophisticated experience in a vibrant and lively atmosphere.

Ooredoo said in a statement that this is in alignment with its

strategy to serve its customers better, and to be closer to as many customers as possible. In addition to its branches and authorized dealers, Ooredoo offers its services on its comprehensive website shop.ooredoo.com.kw which offers monthly exclusive discounts and special offers, with free delivery for customers' comfort.

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Crime

Report

GCC NATIONAL, 2 EXPATS ARRESTED FOR FRAUD

**KUWAIT:** A Saudi and two Sri Lankans were recently arrested for fraud, said security sources. The suspects had been using a website to advertise offers to relieve housemaids of sponsorships in return for cash. The sources added that the suspects met potential victims in public places to collect money from them and hand over maids who would be ready to run away from their new bosses. The source added that a search is on for a Sri Lankan female accomplice.

9 suspects arrested

Ahmadi detectives recently launched an inspection campaign at Khairan resorts, said security sources. The campaign resulted in the arrest of nine wanted suspects and confiscation of 35 ATVs. The officials issued 126 traffic tickets.

Hooligan arrested

A citizen, who resisted arrest and deliberately drove his vehicle into a police patrol damaging it before fleeing the scene was later on arrested while driving around the crime scene.

Liquor traders arrested

Four Asians, two men and two women, were recently arrested for manufacturing home-made liquor and selling it, said security sources. The two women, who worked as cooks, rented a house in Kaifan and used to produce the liquor while their male accomplices distributed the illicit liquor. On raiding the place, policemen found 152 barrels of liquor.

Money stolen

A citizen reported that an accountant working for him had stolen more than KD 3,000. The accountant was supposed to deposit the amount in the company's bank account.

Medical error

A female citizen recently filed a complaint against a plastic surgeon working in a private hospital for committing a medical error while subjecting her to a liposuction. According to her complaint the surgeon was supposed to suck fat from her thighs and put them somewhere else, which he did not.

Fight over traffic rights

A citizen sustained head injury when he fought with two others over traffic rights in Ardhiya, said security sources.

Jet ski hits man

An unidentified man was killed when a Jet ski hit him while swimming off Salmiya beach, said security sources. The man on the jet ski fled the scene though he was chased by coastguards.

Suicide attempt

An African housemaid was recently rushed to Jahra hospital in a critical condition after she stabbed herself in the belly in an apparent suicide attempt at her sponsor's house in Saad Al-Abdullah area. A citizen reported that somebody stole his vehicle from outside a Jabriya grocery store. According to the complaint, he left his vehicle with the engine running before he left to the store to purchase a lighter. On returning, he found his car was stolen.

Taxi driver duped

A taxi driver reported to police that a customer stole his smartphone. The driver reportedly picked up the customer from Salmiya to Hawally. But minutes later, the customer asked him to drop him on a busy street. The driver found out that his phone was stolen.

Assault charge

A Lebanese working for the MEW recently filed a complaint against a Kuwaiti fellow-worker accusing him of assault.

Juvenile thief

A Kuwaiti juvenile was recently arrested for robbing his own sister's house and stealing KD 13,000, said security sources noting that on finding out that the thief was her own brother, the sister forgave him. —Al-Rai / Al-Anbaa



الجريدة Al-Jarida

WHY THIS STALENESS?

By Salah Al-Sayer

**W**hat happened? How did closeness and friendliness turn into desertion and separation? How did a strong friendship that lasted for almost one decade suddenly change? How can a friend and partner describe his own partner as a 'free rider'? What changed, which changed old convictions, although the GCC partner is still the same and still has the same loving feelings? Following the famous American question that appeared in the aftermath of 9/11 when the World Trade Center was attacked in 2001 of 'Why Do They Hate Us?', another question is starting to formulate in the GCC 'Why the Staleness?'

Some might explain US staleness in relations with the GCC with the pivot towards Asia and fears from the steady rise of China. Well, this explanation might be inaccurate, because interest in the Far East does not necessarily mean dispensing the Middle East and ignoring the Arabian Peninsula and its strategic water passages.

Another explanation links this state of staleness with the rise of Iran as a growing power, the Iranian nuclear project going out of Western control and US constraint towards approving the nuclear agreement and acknowledging Iranian weightiness at the expense of Arabs. This explanation still lacks proof, because a sane person would never antagonize a trustworthy friend for the sake of befriending and winning the trust of an inveterate stubborn opponent.

Naturally enough, linking the end of friendship with terrorism is very easy and readily available, yet it fails to explain why, because US politicians realize GCC governments' effective role in fighting terrorism. Others believe that this state is an interface of regional remapping without even defining US' benefit from the new map. Countries are not subject to fashion trends that change according to seasons. They exist and vanish according to certain elements. And those who keep reminding of the division of Yugoslavia forget dozens of elements that led to it. In addition, fragmenting stable countries only increases the danger of terrorism, instead of limiting it in a region including Israel!

I searched under and above the table. I went back to the archives and went through their contents, but failed to find an explanation to why 'a loved one did us part!'

— Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Anbaa

الجريدة Al-Jarida

RAZORS AND CANDIDATES

By Saad Al-Motesh

**I**n most razor ads, producers show someone gliding a razor on his cheek and chin and use the written or spoken phrase of 'You Deserve the Best'. Similarly, we find someone aspiring to winning a parliamentary seat using the same commercial pattern and repeat the same slogan, telling voters that they 'Deserve the Best' only for the sake of his personal interests or those of others with the same ideas.

We have been always in quest for the best, but who is he? You, dear candidate, will surely be the best because you are trying to delude us into believing that you are the best, although your history shows that you are more like a crossword puzzle whose answers can sometimes come through opposite clues. We found out that those claiming superiority are as far from their

claims as 11 light years. Some of the words they say are exactly like disposable razors that look nice and shiny, but are only made for one person's use.

Statements made by some of those dreaming of seats in elected councils have become like razors that are used only once, because the days of old classic type of razors that could be sharpened and used by everybody are gone. I advise you to come up with another slogan, because we know that we 'deserve the best' and you are not amongst them for many reasons such as sectarianism, doctrinism and tribalism practiced by some of you from time to time. Be assured that you will never be the best except for those with psychological diseases!

— Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Anbaa



MILSET Director Adnan Al-Meer

MILSET LAUNCHES 11TH EDITION OF SCHOOL ROBOT COMPETITION

**KUWAIT:** The regional office of the International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science and Technology (MILSET) announced the start of Kuwait's 11th School Robot Competition. MILSET Director Adnan Al-Meer told the press yesterday that the competition, organized by Kuwait Robotics Center, is to encourage students to delve

into the computer science that deals with the design, construction, operation, and application of robots.

This year's competition will also hold, on the side line, workshops on robotics for new teachers, he pointed out. The final results of the competition will be announced on the 12th and the 15th of February.

The 11th edition of School Robot Competition comes in conjunction with the 5th anniversary of Kuwait Robotics Center that was established in 2002. Since its inception, the center has realized many accomplishments in the robotics realm, most recently seizing five medals in World Robot Olympiad that was held in Romania in March, 2016. —KUNA



ABK HOLDS FIRST AID AND EVACUATION TRAINING SESSION FOR EMPLOYEES

**KUWAIT:** Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) held a First Aid and Evacuation training session for a total of 14 of its staff members in cooperation with the Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Interior and the Medical Services team from the Ministry of Health

whereby a total of 205 employees were successfully evacuated with no record of injuries during the process. ABK strives to ensure the highest standards of security and safety by equipping its employees with the necessary skills and information that will

guarantee their safety as well as their clients safety during a time of need.

For more information on Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait please contact an ABK representative via 'Ahli Chat' or contact a customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.



Islamists beat liberals in Morocco elections

## BANGLADESH FORCES KILL 11 SUSPECTED MILITANTS

# WHITE HELMETS: 'HEROES' WHO RUN TOWARDS BOMBS

**BEIRUT:** Before war broke out they were bakers, decorators or students. Now Syria's volunteer rescuers known as the White Helmets risk their lives trying to pull victims from the rubble. Footage of the daring, often heart-rending rescues carried out by the group's nearly 3,000 volunteers has frequently gone viral, earning it plaudits around the world. Images of the aftermath of bombardments of rebel-held areas almost invariably show White Helmets sprinting into clouds of dust and digging through the debris, often with little more than their bare hands.

Among the most famous footage was the July 2014 rescue of Mahmoud, a two-month-old dubbed the "miracle baby" after he was pulled from the rubble of a building in battleground second city Aleppo following more than 12 hours of digging. His rescuer Khaled was killed in August in an air strike on the rebel-held east of the city, one of more than 140 White Helmets killed in the war.

A painter and decorator, he was an early volunteer for the group, his round face distinguished by his crooked nose and bright eyes. He was just 31 when he died and left behind a wife and two daughters. "If I die saving lives, I think God would definitely consider me a martyr," he once said.

### 'Outstanding Bravery'

A more recent video showed a volunteer sobbing as he cradled a four-month-old girl he helped rescue in Idlib province. "We've been working for two hours to get her out from under the rubble and thank God, it turns out she is alive," he said, as the girl, covered in dust, coughed and grabbed his collar. In late September, the group won a Swedish human rights prize often referred to an "alternative Nobel" with the jury hailing their "outstanding bravery, compassion and humanitarian engagement".

It was also seen as a contender for this year's Nobel Peace Prize, and while it did not win it attracted support from a slew of celebrities. The group was also the subject of a Netflix short documentary. The rescue group emerged in 2013, when the civil war that has now killed more than 300,000 people was nearing its third year. It was not until the following year that it took its current form and began to be known as the "White Helmets" for the distinctive hardhats worn by its volunteers.

The group's motto - "To save one life is to save all of humanity" - is drawn from a verse of the Holy Quran, although the White Helmets insist they treat all victims, regardless of religion. Some of its members have received



**ALEPPO:** In this Sept 21, 2016 photo provided by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, rescue workers work at the site of airstrikes in the Al-Sakhour neighborhood of this rebel-held part of eastern Aleppo. — AP


training abroad, returning home to instruct colleagues on search-and-rescue techniques. It receives funding from a number of governments, including Britain, Denmark, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands and the United States, but also solicits individual donations to purchase equipment, including their signature hardhats, which cost \$144.64.

More than five years into the conflict, the organization now operates some 120 centres in eight provinces in Syria. Its volunteers include 78 women. It operates only in rebel-

held areas, saying it is not permitted to work in government-held territory, but insists its volunteers are neutral. "We are independent, neutral and impartial, we are not affiliated to any political or armed group," White Helmet leader Raed Saleh told AFP last month. "We are ready to rescue people regardless of their political or religious background."

Still, the organization is not without its critics, mostly backers of President Bashar Al-Assad's government. Some


accuse it of being a tool of its international donors, governments that largely support the opposition. Others have charged that the group's volunteers include rebel fighters or even jihadists, circulating pictures purportedly showing White Helmets in civilian clothing bearing arms. But elsewhere, the group's members have been hailed as "real life heroes" focused only on saving lives. "We stand for the victims and it is our responsibility and our duty to work for the victims," Saleh said. — AFP



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## PHOTOGRAPHERS DIVIDED OVER GRAPHIC WAR SNAPS

**BAYEUX, France:** How far to go in terms of gore and shock value when covering conflict? Capturing violence on camera was hotly debated on the fringes of Bayeux, a major French photography festival. Seasoned photographers discussed where to draw the line at an event Friday on the fringes of the Bayeux Calvados festival, whose main prizes were set to be awarded later yesterday. "How do you want people to accept refugees in Europe if you don't show them the violence from which the migrants are fleeing?" said Indian photographer Sami Siva who has covered unrest and post-conflict issues in Turkey, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and India.

But this does not convince Yunes Mohammed,

a 44-year-old Iraqi Kurdish photographer, who says this is like playing into the hands of militants. "I've seen children playing at decapitation. This raises questions. And those who use violence want to show their power and wait for people like me to help them have a psychological impact on others," he said.

In 2014, the Bayeux festival ignored the work of Turkish photographer Emin Ozmen, whose work showing decapitations by Islamic State fighters in Syria sparked great controversy. That decision is still being debated. According to French photographer Patrick Chauvel, Ozmen, who has won two World Press Photo awards, was right.

### 'Photograph Everything'

"You can't say 'Daesh decapitates' and then not show it," Chauvel said, using the Arabic name for the Islamic State group. This year too the theme is in the limelight with an exhibition devoted to gang wars in Acapulco, "the most dangerous city in Mexico," according to its curator, Belgian reporter Laurent van Der Stockt. "My ethics forbid me from showing battered bodies of women and children," said Mexican photographer Bernardino Hernandez. "I concentrate on the details" like the tied up legs of a body found on the sidewalk, he said.

But Chauvel says one should go all the way.

"One must photograph everything for collective memory, for the International Criminal Court, but should not publish everything," he said. "Some people go too far in their quest for fame," the 67-year-old added. Virginie Nguyen Hoang said if photographs were unduly gruesome they would fail to inform as people would stop looking at them. "In August 2013, I covered a massacre in Cairo. I saw many people dying in front of me, bleeding to death. But I photographed a dead youth with just a hole in his throat. That photo did not shock but it left a mark," she said. "It touched a chord with the Egyptian authorities..." — AFP



**RABAT:** Moroccan Prime Minister and Secretary General of the ruling Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD) Abdelilah Benkirane talks at a conference after the announcement of preliminary results of the 2016 legislative elections late Friday. — AFP

## ISLAMISTS BEAT LIBERALS IN MOROCCO ELECTIONS

### BOTH SIDES MAKE ACCUSATIONS OF VOTER FRAUD

**RABAT:** Morocco's ruling Islamists have beaten their liberal rivals in parliamentary elections five years after sweeping to power following Arab Spring-inspired protests, results showed yesterday. Prime Minister Abdelilah Benkirane's Islamist Justice and Development Party (PJD) took 125 seats out of 395 in Friday's polls, the interior ministry said after all ballots were counted. Its main rival, the Authenticity and Modernity Party (PAM), which had campaigned against the "Islamization" of Moroccan society, won 102 seats, the ministry said.

The PJD's rise to power in 2011 after King Mohammed VI relinquished some of his near-absolute power following massive street protests brought hopes of change in the North African country. The PJD was the first Islamist party to win a national election, and the first to lead a government, albeit with coalition partners after failing to win an outright majority. But analysts say that when it comes to the major long-term and strategic issues such as foreign policy the key decision-maker remains the king, the scion of a monarchy that has ruled for 350 years.

### 'Fraud Allegations'

Observers from the Council of Europe who monitored Friday's vote said it was organized "with integrity and full transparency". But the delegation said it "regrets that the current voters' registration system and the awareness cam-

paign have not produced a turnout higher than in 2011, particularly among young voters." It also noted "the surprisingly high amount of spoiled ballot papers" and said there were reports of "electoral fraud" although members of the delegation did not witness any wrongdoing.

Interior Minister Mohamed Hassad rejected accusations of voter fraud from both sides. He said turnout was 43 percent. On Friday the PJD and the PAM traded accusations of vote irregularities, while the media reported that a video shared on social networks had showed a man stuffing a ballot box. Apart from the two main parties, Istiqlal, which historically fought for independence from France, came third with 45 seats. Nine other parties also won seats, including the National Gathering of Independents which took 37 and the Federation of the Democratic Left which clinched two.

A statement by the PJD said the Islamists were "very concerned about numerous reports of fraud being carried out by authorities" in favour of the PAM and urged the interior ministry to intervene. PAM spokesman Khalid Adennoun said his party had filed "50 complaints" of voting irregularities, some concerning the PJD in Tangiers. The head of the European observers team, Ian Liddell-Grainger, told a news conference he was confident that the interior ministry had done a good job. "I don't feel that at any stage the ministry interfered," he said.

### Scandals

To make life easier for the illiterate, who make up a third of Morocco's population, the 30 parties in contention were marked on ballot papers with symbols such as a tractor or camel. The PJD clinched 12 more seats in parliament than in the 2011 election, which was held after a new constitution transferred some of the king's powers to parliament, at a time when autocratic regimes were falling in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya.

The king is expected to appoint a new prime minister from the biggest party in parliament - a task which could again fall to Benkirane. Over the past five years his PJD has been weakened by rising unemployment and plummeting growth while critics said it failed to make good on promises to tackle corruption. The PJD also faced a string of scandals within its ranks including a drugs bust, a land-grab deal and the suspension of two vice presidents found in a "sexual position" on a beach. The PAM, formed in 2008 by a close adviser to the king, had hoped to take advantage in the poll and despite coming in second place more than doubled the number of its seats in the future parliament. Headed by Ilyas El Omari, it has poured enormous resources into a campaign criticizing the government's economic record as "catastrophic" and pledging to roll back the "Islamization" of society. The PJD and the PAM have ruled out joining forces in a grand coalition. — AFP

## BATTLE FOR ALEPPO RAGES AHEAD OF UN SHOWDOWN

**ALEPPO:** The Syrian regime pressed its assault on rebel-held areas of Aleppo yesterday ahead of a showdown at the United Nations between Western governments and its ally Russia. German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier warned that the mounting tensions between Washington and Moscow over the conflict had created a situation "more dangerous" than the Cold War. US Secretary of State John Kerry made clear his anger at the Syrian army's Russian-backed onslaught in the battleground second city, saying that its bombing of civilians could amount to a war crime.

The UN Security Council is to vote on two rival resolutions on the fighting, one drafted by France calling for an end to air strikes and a second by Russia that urges a ceasefire but makes no mention of halting the bombings. Moscow has said it will veto the French draft. Its ally Damascus has made significant advances in its renewed two-week-old offensive in Aleppo, seizing territory to the north and pushing back the front line in the city centre which had remained largely static since the rebels captured eastern districts in 2012.

But it has come at a heavy human cost. Since the regime offensive began on Sept 22 a few days after a US- and Russian-brokered ceasefire collapsed, at least 290 people - mostly civilians - have been killed in rebel-held areas, 57 them children, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. And 50 civilians including nine children have been killed in rebel shelling on regime-held areas of the city, according to the Britain-based monitoring group, which relies on a network of sources on the ground.

It said government forces were making further advances yesterday ahead of the Security Council session. "The battle is unfolding in the centre, particularly in the Bustan al-Basha district where the army is advancing, in Sheikh Said in the south, and on the northern outskirts where the regime has taken the Uwajia neighborhood," Observatory chief Rami Abdel Rahman told AFP. The monitor reported heavy air strikes on the rebel-held Fardos and Sukari neighborhoods. An AFP correspondent said the

raids mostly hit combat zones in the city.

### 'Cynical' Ploy

Russia is expected to use its veto to block the French-drafted resolution backed by the United States and Britain that also calls for a halt to all military flights over Aleppo. The council will then move to a second vote on the Russian-drafted text. It "urges immediate implementation of the cessation of hostilities, in particular in Aleppo" and demands that all parties allow deliveries of humanitarian aid". British ambassador Matthew Rycroft dismissed the Russian draft as a political ploy. "This is a cynical attempt to divert attention away from the need to stop the bombing of Aleppo," he said.

Council members have been holding negotiations for the past week on the French proposal for an end to the bombing of Aleppo, access for aid deliveries and a ban on military flights over the city. But Russian ambassador Vitaly Churkin said the measure was "hastily put together" and suggested it was "not designed to make progress... but to cause a Russian veto". "I cannot possibly see how we can let this resolution pass," he told reporters when asked whether he would use the veto powers Russia wields as one of the council's five permanent members.

A Security Council diplomat, who asked not to be named, said the Russian "resolution on the surface looks like a lot of constructive language that draws from previous resolutions and the French draft, but the key point is that it does not call for an end to the aerial bombardment". He said the "vast majority" of council members want "an immediate end to the indiscriminate bombing of civilians in Aleppo".

Kerry made clear his anger, declaring: "These are acts that beg for an appropriate investigation - war crimes". The German foreign minister said that tensions between Washington and Moscow were now worse than during the Cold War. "It's a fallacy to think that this is like the Cold War," Steinmeier said in an interview published by Bild newspaper yesterday. "The current times are different and more dangerous." — AFP



**NIZIP, Turkey:** US actress Lindsay Lohan gives presents to Syrian refugee children as she visits a Turkish government-run Syrian refugee camp near Turkey's border with Syria yesterday. The Anadolu Agency said Lohan toured social facilities and a preschool before giving refugee children there presents. — AP

## MILITANTS KILL THEMSELVES IN STANDOFF WITH TURKEY POLICE

**ANKARA:** Two people suspected of planning a car bomb attack on the Turkish capital Ankara yesterday blew themselves up after being confronted by police, averting what the justice minister called a "huge disaster". The suspects, who both died in the explosion, were believed to be preparing an attack when they set off the explosives, the official Anadolu news agency said. "A huge disaster has been prevented. It is probable they would have attacked Ankara... All signs are pointing to the PKK terrorist

organization," Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag told the CNN-Turk broadcaster.

The bombing comes two days before the first anniversary of Turkey's deadliest terror attack in its modern history in Ankara which left 103 dead. Ankara governor Ercan Topaca told reporters at the scene it was "highly likely" that the suspects had connections to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). "The materials used, the construction and the way it was planned point to the PKK..." he said,

quoted by Anadolu. The PKK - proscribed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the EU and US - has been waging a 32-year insurgency against the state in the country's southeast. Bozdag added that Turkey was in a "critical position" in the region and referred to "sources of terror" in Syria and Iraq where conflict is raging. Video published by Dogan news agency showed the moment officers urged the suspects to surrender before a large and loud explosion sends clouds of smoke and rubble thrown into the air.

Violence returned to the region after the collapse of a two-year ceasefire last year with hundreds of Turkish security forces killed and thousands of militants dead. In the latest clashes, eight PKK militants were "neutralized" in Cukurcu district in Hakkari province on the border with northern Iraq, the Turkish armed forces said, quoted by Anadolu.

### Police Swoop

The governor said police swooped early on Saturday after a tip-off from Diyarbakir, a mainly Kurdish province in Turkey's southeast. No one else was killed or injured in the blast understood to have taken place close to a black car in the town of Haymana, around 30 km from Ankara, the governor's office said in a statement. The suspects were believed to have been hiding in a hut near a stud farm. "The security forces launched the operation and warned (them) to surrender. A short while later (and) before any intervention, two terrorists confirmed to be a man and a woman detonated themselves," the statement added. — AFP



**HAYMANA:** Police forensic officers work at the scene of a suicide bombing on the outskirts of the capital yesterday. — AFP

## EGYPT ADMONISHES US EMBASSY OVER WARNING

**CAIRO:** Egypt has criticized an "incomprehensible" US warning to citizens to avoid theatres and malls in Cairo over the weekend because of unspecified security concerns, saying it could damage the country's economy. The alert issued by the US embassy in Cairo on Friday was cited in Canadian and Australian travel warnings, with the British Foreign Office later putting out a message that copied the US warning.

Embassy officials declined to comment, and an Egyptian interior ministry official said he was unaware of any specific threat. "The US Embassy strongly advises US citizens to avoid large gatherings and public spaces such as concert halls, movie theatres, museums, shopping malls, and sports venues in Cairo through Sunday, October 9, due to potential security concerns," it said on its website.

Egyptian foreign ministry spokesman Ahmed Abu Zeid said he "was disturbed" by the warning. "When contacted to clarify the reasons for issuing the security message, the US

embassy denied the presence of any particular reasons or security threats that triggered the alert," he said in a statement overnight. He added that the embassy said it was a routine warning over long weekends.

The embassy will be closed today, a workday in Egypt, for Columbus Day. "The Foreign Ministry deplored, during the call (with the US embassy), these unnecessary alerts that can have negative impacts, particularly on the economic front," he said. He called on "all embassies in Cairo to exercise caution when issuing unnecessary or incomprehensible statements".

Egypt has been battered by militant attacks since the army toppled the divisive Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in 2013. The Islamic State group's branch in Egypt has killed hundreds of policemen and soldiers in attacks, mostly in the restive Sinai Peninsula. It also claimed responsibility for bombing a Russian airliner carrying holiday-makers from a Sinai resort last year, killing all 224 people on board. — AFP



## MEXICO'S MASKED WRESTLING HEROES TRAIN POLICE

**MEXICO CITY:** Wearing colorful masks, two pro wrestlers show off their moves to a crowd, but this time it's not in an arena: They're teaching Mexico City police officers how to subdue villains. "How are you doing?" Dragon Rojo Jr, wearing a red mask with yellow horns and a crest, shouts at the 190 men and women at the courtyard of a police station in Iztapalapa, a crime-plagued borough of the megacapital. "Good!" the officers reply in chorus before the ring gladiators lead them through a series of stretches, push-ups, squats and situps, making many sweat and pant heavily (while some take a break).

After warming up, Dragon Rojo (Red Dragon) and his fellow "Lucha Libre" star Polvora, whose ring name means Gunpowder in English, demonstrate one of their moves. The burly Polvora lunges forward with a stabbing motion, but Red Dragon grabs his assailant's arm, twists it, pins him down and places a knee on his chest to immobilize him. The "Lock 4" submission was among the clutches, holds and other moves that the pro wrestlers presented to the officers, who then practiced the move against each other on the concrete.

But snatching suspects is not the only benefit to this intense training. "We are proud to change an image of the Mexican police that is not very good: Fat, short, unfit," said Polvora, who grew up in Iztapalapa. "We are trying to make a contribution to change this image," he said through a mask decorated with golden and red flames.

### Feeling Healthier

The wrestlers come twice a week to train the officers in the densely populated borough, where murders are up this year with 150 people killed so far. "You go into your patrol car and the truth is that your get rusty," said officer Joel Garcia, who admitted that a suspect got away from him once. "With this you get more active, you start running, feeling better, lighter and healthier," he said as he worked out following a 24-hour shift.

Garcia grew up admiring Lucha Libre legends such as El Santo, Blue Demon and El Matematico. Now he was trying to imitate his idols. With the deliberate motion of a rookie wrestler, Garcia crossed his arms and raised them to block his smiling colleague from fake-stabbing him in the head. Captain Alfredo Alvarez, a former marine, had the idea of bringing luchadores to train officers after he took over as the police station's coordinator three months ago and realized that his colleagues were "somewhat sedentary." The station commander, Israel Rodriguez, told him he knew Dragon Rojo Jr and Polvora because they were both from Iztapalapa. "All the special police forces in the world have their specialty: Russia has sambo, Brazil has capoeira, China has kung-fu, Japan has karate. In Mexico, our martial art is lucha," Alvarez said. The wrestlers agreed to provide free lessons to some 380 officers every week out of "friendship and commitment" to their borough, Alvarez said. — AFP



**MEXICO CITY:** World wrestling champion Red Dragon Jr (left) and Polvora train local police in the Iztapalapa neighborhood to help them subdue suspects without using weapons on Oct 6, 2016. — AFP

## US ACCUSES RUSSIA OF CYBER ATTACKS TO DISRUPT ELECTION

### WASHINGTON VOWS REPOSE

**WASHINGTON:** US officials formally accused the Russian government Friday of trying to "interfere" with the American presidential election, and vowed to respond at an undisclosed time and place. The assertion against Russia comes with relations already frayed over NATO defenses and stalled efforts to end the bloody civil war in Syria. A joint statement from the Department of Homeland Security and Office of the Director of National Intelligence was the first official accusation by Washington against Moscow in the spate of cyber attacks, although many analysts had said the hacks appeared to be from Russia.

A US administration official said Washington would respond to the cyber attacks, without offering details. "We will take action to protect our interests, including in cyberspace, and we will do so at a time and place of our choosing," the official said. "The public should not assume that they will necessarily know what actions have been taken or what actions we will take."

The official statement said the US intelligence community "is confident that the Russian government directed the recent compromises of emails from US persons and institutions, including from US political organizations." "We believe, based on the scope and sensitivity of these efforts, that only Russia's senior-most officials could have authorized these activities," it added. The Kremlin labeled the allegations as "rubbish." "Every day (President Vladimir) Putin's website gets attacked by several tens of thousands of hackers," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Russian news agency Interfax. "A lot of these attacks are traced to the territory of the

USA, but we do not blame the White House or Langley each time."

The American statement said the disclosures of alleged hacked emails on WikiLeaks and other websites and by the online persona "Guccifer 2.0" were "consistent with the methods and motivations of Russian-directed efforts." "These thefts and disclosures are intended to interfere with the US election process," the statement said. The statement, however, stopped short of accusing Russia in the recent cyber attacks on state election databases. "Some states have also recently seen scanning and probing of their election-related systems, which in most cases originated from servers operated by a Russian company," the statement said. "However, we are not now in a position to attribute this activity to the Russian government."

It was not immediately clear how Washington would respond in the matter. Officials have in the past said any cyber attacks on important US institutions would prompt a response, which could take the form of diplomatic or economic sanctions, or possibly cyber measures.

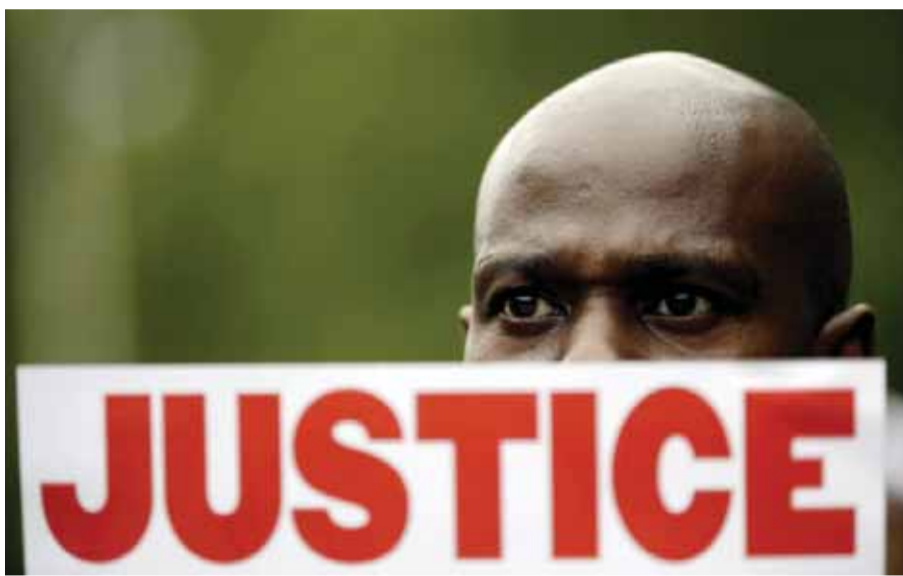
### 'Strong Response'

US Senator Dianne Feinstein, who last month said she and other lawmakers believed Moscow was seeking to disrupt the election, said the new statement "conveys the seriousness of the threat" to the vote. "Attempted hacking of our election system is intolerable, and it's critical to convince the Russian government to cease these activities," the California senator said. "If it does not, we must develop a strong response."

Jason Healey, a former White House director of critical infrastructure protection who is now a researcher at Columbia University and with the Atlantic Council, said the US has tools to respond. "The initial response will be to protect and thwart what the other side wants to do," Healey told AFP. Healey said Washington is also capable of "counteroffensive cyber actions" which can limit or deter attacks. "Don't attack them back but use our own cyber capabilities to disrupt them," he said. "I would not call that offensive, it's counteroffensive."

The FBI has been investigating a leak of Democratic National Committee emails, which were published by WikiLeaks in July. A hacker group using the name Guccifer 2.0 has also released leaked emails and has claimed to have hacked into the Clinton Foundation, led by former US president Bill Clinton, whose wife Hillary is the Democratic presidential nominee.

But the US statement said that "it would be extremely difficult for someone, including a nation-state actor, to alter actual ballot counts or election results by cyber attack or intrusion." That is because of the decentralized nature of the US election system, which is operated by thousands of state and local government entities. "States ensure that voting machines are not connected to the Internet, and there are numerous checks and balances as well as extensive oversight at multiple levels built into our election process," the statement said. "Nevertheless, DHS continues to urge state and local election officials to be vigilant and seek cybersecurity assistance from DHS. A number of states have already done so." — AFP



**NEW YORK:** In this July 18, 2015 file photo, a demonstrator holds a sign calling for justice during a rally where several hundred people rallied outside the federal courthouse in Brooklyn to demand action in the fatal chokehold death of Eric Garner by a white police officer. — AP

## PUBLIC CAN WATCH NYPD TRIALS, CAN'T GET RESULTS

**NEW YORK:** Each day in a drab set of courtrooms, anybody can sit and watch New York City police officers face administrative trials accusing them of misconduct ranging from disobeying orders to aggressive arrests resulting in a suspect's death. But most outcomes of such trials - whether an officer is reprimanded, docked pay or put on probation - are not disclosed. The secrecy is the result of a state law protecting the privacy of officer disciplinary records, and a recent city decision to adhere to the confidentiality rules more closely - a move that puts America's largest police force at odds with a national movement to make law enforcement more transparent to the public.

"It's striking to have a system where the hearings are open and the decisions are secret, but that's exactly what we have at the NYPD," said Christopher Dunn, associate legal director at the New York Civil Liberties Union, who has fought for full disclosure of the penalties. Two high-profile alleged abuse cases involving white officers and black men could thrust the tribunals' incongruities into the spotlight: the slaying of unarmed teenager Ramarley Graham in a Bronx home in 2012 and the roughing up of former professional tennis player James Blake last year. Both officers are expected to face administrative hearings before the end of the year.

Concerns over transparency of the NYPD's disciplinary system took hold in recent months after the city appealed a decision by a state court judge ordering the release of the records of Daniel Pantaleo, the officer accused of putting Eric

Garner in a fatal chokehold in 2014. A grand jury declined to indict the officer on criminal charges, but he's still the subject of an administrative case that could end his police career.

Around the time the city filed its appeal, the NYPD stopped providing the outcomes of administrative proceedings to the media, which it had previously done for decades. Department lawyers justified both moves by saying they needed stricter compliance with a state law meant to protect the privacy of police officers, jail guards and firefighters - a position strongly backed by police unions.

In response to an outcry by politicians and police reform advocates, Mayor Bill de Blasio said the city had to follow the law, but also said he'd favor changes that would allow more openness. That response didn't satisfy Graham's mother, Constance Malcolm, who accused the mayor of not doing enough to keep victims' families informed. At a recent rally, she complained that she knew that the department was preparing a case against the shooter only because of news reports. "How would anybody in my neighborhood find out about this information?" Malcolm said.

In high-profile cases such as fatal shootings, police officials regularly name officers accused of wrongdoing, announce if they have been placed on desk duty or suspended pending the outcome of criminal or administrative charges, and confirm if they've been fired - a practice that's not expected to change. What's not available is records of punishment for misbehavior in an officer's past. — AP

## FROM 'OHIO OF INDIA' TO THE REAL ONE FOR POLITICAL LESSONS

**COLUMBUS, Ohio:** Eight political professionals from "the Ohio of India" are working at campaign offices in the American bellwether state as part of an international fellowship program. They're all University of Akron International Campaign Fellows, participating in a new program that allows students to swap campaign lessons with the political battleground. "Indians have a lot of interest in U.S. elections, and I think the entire world has a lot of interest," said Pankhuri Pathak, a fellow who works as spokeswoman for India's 24-year-old Samajwadi Party. "Over here, campaigning techniques are more sophisticated, more advanced. So we thought maybe we could learn something from here and apply it back home."

The fellows are high-ranking professionals in their home country - political scientists, communications specialists and strategists from India's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh. Unlike Ohio, UP sends more legislators to the national governing body, Parliament, than any other state. But like Ohio, it has huge sway over which party wins a national majority and gets to influence who becomes prime minister. "We call it 'the Ohio of India' because you can't win an election in India without winning UP," said Hari Kasula, the program's deputy director. Groups from Liberia and Brazil arrive later this month.

No Republican has ever won the White House without winning Ohio, and the last Democrat to do so was John F. Kennedy in 1960. The state is an attractive laboratory for these political observers because of its compact mix of big cities, suburbs, mountains and farms that attract almost nonstop presidential stops in election years. Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump have visited the state about 25 times combined since they clinched their parties' nominations.

Besides working full-time knocking on doors, making phone calls and stuffing mail for political campaigns, all fellows must complete the university's class on battleground politics. Gerald Austin, a longtime Ohio Democratic strategist, conceived the program and says it's unique in embedding international fellows with US political campaigns. He team-teaches the battleground politics class with the University of Akron's John Green, director of the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics.

On a recent Wednesday night, the class gathered in two separate classrooms - at Columbus



**COLUMBUS, Ohio:** In this Sept 17, 2016 photo, Anil Yadav, a political professional from India participating in the University of Akron's new International Campaign Fellows program, speaks with other volunteers at a campaign field office. — AP

State Community College and on the university's main campus more than two hours away - that were digitally linked by audio and video. The guest speaker was Tim Monaco from the office of Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted, the state elections chief. He fielded dozens of technical questions about how Ohio elections work.

### International Connections

Austin said international connections made through the program are valuable to both sides. "All these folks are very skilled, experienced in their own country," Austin said. "India's the largest democracy in the world. They've got 1.3 billion people, and 800 million of them vote. They're astounded to hear we actually vote, count and declare a winner all on Election Day. So they have a lot to teach us about what they do that we don't do, and we have a lot to teach

them about what we do."

The Indian fellows can discuss the effects in their country of making Election Day a national holiday, casting all votes into a central digital system - and greeting the first voters at polling places with flowers. "The Indian system is more easy, and more safe," Kasula said, while noting he and his colleagues are especially interested in the voter micro-targeting - tailored messages to individual voters based on data such as voting patterns and internet habits - employed by American campaigns.

Indian ballots also feature an option that may have come in handy this year in the US, when two of the least popular candidates on record are running for president: None of the above. There's less time to grow weary of the candidates, though. India's election season is just 45 days long. — AP

## JOB HUNTING SUBSTANTIAL PART OF BAYH'S LAST YEAR

**WASHINGTON:** Evan Bayh spent substantial time during his last year in the Senate searching for a job in the private sector, even as he cast votes on issues of interest to his future corporate bosses, according to the former Indiana lawmaker's 2010 schedule, obtained exclusively by AP. The Democrat held more than four dozen meetings and phone calls with head hunters and future corporate employers over the months, beginning just days after announcing his surprise retirement from the Senate on Feb. 15, 2010, through the remainder of that year as his term came to an end. Bayh is now running to get his old seat back and help his party retake Senate control.

Announcing his retirement, Bayh claimed he'd grown fed up with the gridlock and that it was time for him to "contribute to society in another way." Two days later, on Feb 17, Bayh was on the phone with a job headhunter. In the months to come, Bayh met and talked repeatedly with headhunters at more than a half-dozen recruiting firms, and with officials at Apollo Global Management, Marathon Oil Co, and three other companies he would work with after his retirement: the McGuireWoods law firm,

Leading Authorities, Inc speaker's bureau, and the investment firm RLJ Companies. At the same time the Senate was weighing major pieces of legislation, including the Dodd-Frank financial overhaul bill and an extension of the Bush tax cuts, and in some cases Bayh was casting votes that seemed to align with the interests of his future employers. Under the Senate's self-policing rules, it may all have been perfectly allowable.

A 2007 law requires senators to file a disclosure with the secretary of the Senate within three days of beginning negotiations for private-sector employment. But after the law went into effect, the Senate Ethics Committee defined negotiations as employment discussions that occur after a job offer has been made. So Bayh would not have had to disclose his job meetings to anyone, as long as they occurred prior to a solid offer. "It's outrageous," said Craig Holman, a lobbyist with Public Citizen who helped Democrats write the ethics language intended to eliminate conflicts of interest. "What we were unaware of at the time was how Congress would manipulate the rule so that they really don't abide by it." — AP

## DANISH INTELLIGENCE AGENCY STOPS BOOK OF EX-BOSS

**COPENHAGEN:** A Danish court has ordered two large Danish media outlets and 40 bookstores across the country not to publish or sell a book based on interviews with Denmark's former domestic intelligence agency chief, Jakob Scharf. The court injunction was made at the request of Denmark's Security and Intelligence Service, known as PET, which feared the book "Seven years with PET" could contain secrets. Danish media criticized the court's overnight ruling, which they learned about Saturday.

Ekstra Bladet chief editor Poul Madsen says it was "completely ludicrous" that PET "dictates what the free press should print." "Crazy times in an enlightened democracy," said Joergen Ramskov, chief editor of Radio24syv, one Denmark's largest radio stations, which also received an injunction.

Ekstra Bladet said the injunction forbids wholly or partly printing the book. The PET agency said Friday it also secured an injunction against the publisher of the book, which is based on

interviews with Scharf, the agency's boss for seven years. In a television interview, PET head Finn Borch Andersen said they had reacted after ads claimed the book was "exposing PET operations, the known and the unknown."

"We now have access to the book and are currently reading it," Borch Andersen told the TV2 channel, adding the agency may ask for the injunction to be lifted if nothing sensitive is found. "We have no interest in holding back the book." The book is set to be published on Oct. 17.

Jakob Kvist, a spokesman for publisher People's Press, said PET "had demanded to be allowed to make changes." Some 5,000 copies had already been distributed to book stores and at least one shop had already sold it.

Scharf, PET chief from 2007-2013, was in charge when PET foiled terror attacks, mainly linked to the 2005 publication in a newspaper of 12 cartoons by various artists depicting the Prophet Muhammad. Since then, Denmark has been a target of Islamist extremists. —AP

## PRO-WESTERN GEORGIA HOLDS KNIFE-EDGE VOTE

### ELECTIONS SPARK FEARS OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY

**TBILISI:** Georgians voted yesterday in bitterly contested parliamentary polls that have sparked fears of political instability in the Caucasus nation, with two pro-Western parties tied after a fraught campaign.

The knife-edge elections see the ruling Georgian Dream party, led from behind the scenes by billionaire ex-PM Bidzina Ivanishvili, grappling with the United National Movement (UNM), founded by exiled former president Mikheil Saakashvili.

ballot box four years ago. "We are making a step towards strengthening our country and democracy," Georgia's President Giorgi Margvelashvili told journalists after casting his ballot.

"I voted for the Georgian parliament where many political parties will be represented," he said.

Georgian Prime Minister Giorgi Kvirikashvili has promised free and fair polls, which "will mark a truly important step to the future of democratic Georgia."

political parties and observers to district election commissions," CEC spokeswoman Ketevan Janelidze told AFP.

Politics is still dominated by Saakashvili and Ivanishvili even though neither holds an official position, and their parties are hoping to score landslide victories.

#### No outright winner?

But opinion polls have the two neck and neck in the race to form the next government, leaving ana-

While the two main parties remain firmly committed to Georgia's pro-Western trajectory, for the first time in decades the vote may see one of several small pro-Russian parties make it to the parliament.

"If an anti-Western party secures a bargaining power in forming a coalition, that may have a negative impact on Georgia's bid for membership of the European Union and NATO," Corneli Kakachia, director of the Georgian Institute of Politics, told AFP.

#### 'Climate of hatred'

The campaign has been marred by Wednesday's attempted murder of a UNM lawmaker whose car exploded in central Tbilisi, injuring four passers-by. The bombing prompted UNM to accuse authorities of "creating a climate of hatred in which opposition politicians are being attacked."

It came after two men were injured when unknown assailants on Sunday fired shots during a campaign rally held by an independent candidate in the central city of Gori. The poisonous atmosphere around the polarised vote follows years of what the opposition sees as political witch hunts and retribution against Saakashvili and his team. Saakashvili, a charismatic reformer who took over in the Rose Revolution of 2003, was forced out of the country after prosecutors issued an arrest warrant for abuse of power and now works as a regional governor in pro-Western Ukraine.

The crackdown on his allies has prompted concerns among Georgia's Western allies that the country could backslide after its sole orderly transfer of power in 2012.

The ex-president has pledged to return after the elections but the authorities warn they will detain him if he steps foot in the country. Voting, which started at 0400 GMT and ended at 1600 GMT, was being monitored by international observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Exit polls from TV stations loyal to the two rival sides were set to be released when voting ended. —AFP



**TBILISI:** A man leaves a voting booth at a polling station during the parliamentary elections in Tbilisi yesterday. —AFP

Tensions have risen ahead of the vote in the ex-Soviet republic which fought a brief war with Russia in 2008 and seeks EU and NATO membership after a car bombing and shooting incident at a rally.

Georgia's Western allies will be watching closely to see if the strategic nation-praised as a rare example of democracy in the former Soviet region-can cement gains after its first transfer of power at the

But observers reported isolated instances of procedural violations and noted that Georgia's electoral environment and financing give an unfair advantage to the ruling party, which could potentially affect the vote's outcome. Turnout was 34.8 percent at 1100 GMT, seven hours after polls opened, the Central Election Commission (CEC) said.

"A total of 46 complaints on procedural violations were filed by

lysts warning the country of 3.7 million could slip into political turmoil if there is no outright winner. "The most likely outcome is that there will be no outright winner," said political analyst Gia Nodia, adding that a coalition government will be tough due to "lots of hard feelings between parties."

Due to the country's complex election rules the final makeup of the 150-seat parliament may only become clear by late November.



**BUDAPEST:** A newsstand including papers with Nepszabadsag daily is pictured in Budapest yesterday. Headline of Nepszabadsag reads: "Orban not bothered by helicoptering". —AP

## UNEASE AS HUNGARY'S BIGGEST OPPOSITION DAILY HALTS OPERATIONS

**BUDAPEST:** Hungary's biggest opposition newspaper suspended activities yesterday, heightening concerns about press freedom under right-wing Prime Minister Viktor Orban. Since sweeping to power in 2010, critics say that Orban, as well as undermining key democratic institutions, has muzzled the media in the ex-communist EU member state.

Citing substantial losses, Nepszabadsag's Austrian-controlled owners Mediaworks said that the decision to halt the left-leaning paper's online and print operations was purely commercial.

Mediaworks said in a statement to the MTI news agency that the printing presses would not roll again until "the formu-

lation and realization of a new concept". But the opposition Socialists said that it was a "black day for the press" and called a demonstration outside the daily's offices in Budapest for later in the day.

In Brussels, the head of the main centre-left group in the European Parliament, Gianni Pittella of the S&D Group, said that the paper's financial position was merely a "pretext". "The freedom of press is today in danger in Hungary," Pittella said in a statement. "It is very common in undemocratic systems to shut down hostile newspapers that undermine the power of the government by uncovering-for example-clear cases of corruption. This is exactly what has happened at Nepszabadsag."

## MOCK BORDER POSTS ERECTED ON NORTHERN IRISH BORDER

**CARRICKCARNON, Ireland:** Anti-Brexit campaigners erected six mock customs checkpoints along the Northern Ireland and Irish Republic border yesterday, in a protest over the possible impact to peace, jobs and the free movement of workers. Northern Ireland, a British province, will be the only land frontier between the United Kingdom and the European Union once Britain leaves and some fear that will mean a return to checks at the border where about 30,000 people cross each day for work.

The frontier was marked by military checkpoints until a 1998 peace deal ended three decades of violence between Catholic nationalists seeking a united Ireland and Protestant unionists who wanted to keep Northern Ireland British. Over 3,600 died in that time. "We want to stop the reimposition of those border posts," said Border Communities Against Brexit spokesman Declan Fearon, leading a protest in the town of Carrickcarnon between the Northern Irish county of Armagh and southern county of Louth. "In many cases they divided peoples' farms, they divided communities and parishes. Young people nowadays have never known of that," said Fearon, who runs a kitchen manufacturing company three kilometres (1.86 miles) north of the border.

In Carrickcarnon, some locals dressed up as customs officers and caused tailbacks at a temporary road barrier where they called motorists into a mock customs booth and searched vehicles beside fake British customs signs that demanded they stop. Signs telling motorists they were entering the European Union free travel zone were erected on the other side of the border.

Hundreds protested from Carrickcarnon, which is less than an hour's drive from Dublin airport, to the border between the counties of Donegal and Derry, 160 km north-west. Overall, 52 percent of voters in the United Kingdom voted in favour of leaving the EU in June's referendum, but a majority - 56 percent - of those voting in Northern Ireland supported remaining in the bloc. "In (the Northern Irish constituency) Foyle where I am 82 percent of people voted to remain," said Dermot O'Hara, a charity worker protesting at the Donegal/Derry border. "The democratic mandate of the remain camp (in Northern Ireland) should be respected." —Reuters



**PARIS:** A burned police vehicle in Viry-Chatillon, after police in their patrol cars were attacked by individuals who launched Molotov cocktails, leaving four officers injured. Four officers were injured, two "seriously burned", when around ten individuals launched Molotov cocktails at their vehicles, according to a police source. —AFP

## FRENCH TOWNS PROTEST PLAN TO TAKE IN MIGRANTS FROM CALAIS

**PIERREFEU, France:** French villagers are protesting the arrival of migrants who are being dispersed around the country as the government shuts down the slum-like camp in Calais that has become a flash-point in Europe's migrant crisis. Competing rallies were being held yesterday in Pierrefeu in southeast France. The mayor led several hundred people protesting a government proposal to house migrants in an abandoned wing of a psychiatric hospital while they apply for asylum or study other options. Left-wing activists held their own, smaller rally to welcome the migrants.

Gendarmes stood watch but the morning gatherings were peaceful. The far-right National Front plans its own anti-migrant protest later in the day.

The National Front is urging mayors to resist the Calais relocation plan and is organizing or taking part in protests across the country this month. Resistance to immigration is central to the campaign platform of National Front leader Marine Le Pen in her bid for the French presidency next year.

National Front politicians were also at a protest Saturday in Forges-les-Bains south of Paris. About 200 people marched through town, past the farmers' market, school and town hall to protest the arrival of about 40 Afghan migrants relocated from Calais to an unused building in town.

President Francois Hollande has pledged to close the Calais camp before winter and relocate as many as 9,000 migrants living there to 164 sites around France while their cases are examined. The Calais camp has been an embarrassment to the French government and symbol of Europe's failure to find solutions to the migrant crisis. Pierrefeu residents hostile to the migrants say they fear the newcomers will threaten their security, and worry about potential tensions with psychiatric patients.

"Even if we can understand the dismantling of Calais ... our small towns are not the solution for this dismantling. We are too small to host so many people," said Mayor Patrick Martinelli. The government is considering sending up to 60 migrants to this town of 6,000 for up to five months.

The pro-migrant residents called for solidarity. "I am ashamed because we repress the poorest. They need us, the people who are coming from abroad, and are dying in the seas. We have everything here, we are a rich country, we have a rich village," said Pierrefeu resident Laure Paul.

In Forges-les-Bains, villagers largely say they are not hostile to the migrants themselves - they just don't want them in their towns. Posters at the march read "Not against migrants, but against the state" and "Plan imposed from above = mounting anger." —AP



**TIRANA:** Albania's pretender to the throne, Crown Prince Leka Zogu II, the grandson of self-proclaimed King Zog and his wife Elia Zaharia smile as they leave the Palace of Brigades after their wedding ceremony in Tirana yesterday. —AFP

## ALBANIAN PRINCE MARRIES IN COUNTRY'S SECOND EVER 'ROYAL' WEDDING

**TIRANA:** Prince Leka, the sole descendant of Albania's last king, married popular actress Elia Zaharia yesterday in a ceremony attended by the Spanish queen and several former royals.

It was the first wedding in Tirana of a member of the deposed royal family since 1938. Leka's grandfather Zog I, fled when Italian Fascist troops invaded Albania in 1939, a year after his wedding with Hungary's princess Geraldine Apponyi.

The royal family was forbidden to return until the fall of communism in 1990. Albania was isolated during the

communist era and closed to the outside world and the descendants of Zog were considered traitors.

The 33-year old bride, who studied theatre in Paris, is a famous actress in Albania. More than 20 current and erstwhile royals attended, including Spain's Queen Sofia, Iran's former empress Farah Diba, Prince Mihailo Karadjordjevic of Yugoslavia and Princess Margarita of Romania.

Prince Leka, 34, is a graduate from Britain's Sandhurst military academy, and is an adviser to Albania's foreign minister. —AFP

# OBAMA LIFTS US ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON MYANMAR

**WASHINGTON:** President Barack Obama on Friday lifted US economic sanctions on the former pariah state of Myanmar, the culmination of years of rapprochement that Obama has worked to facilitate. The Southeast Asian nation, also known as Burma, has pursued political reforms over the last five years following decades of oppressive military rule.

Obama had announced plans to lift the sanctions last month, when Myanmar's new civilian leader, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, visited the Oval Office. Suu Kyi concurred it was time to remove all the sanctions that had hurt the economy and urged Americans to come to the country and "to make profits."

The US has already eased broad prohibitions on investment and trade but had retained more targeted restrictions on military-owned companies and officials and associates of the former ruling junta. US companies and banks have remained leery of involvement in one of Asia's last untapped markets.

Friday's executive order lifts those restrictions. It removes the national emergency with respect to Myanmar - the executive order authorizing sanctions that has been renewed annually by US presidents for two decades. It also lifts a ban on the importation of jadeite and rubies from Myanmar,

and removes banking restrictions. "I have determined that the situation that gave rise to the national emergency with respect to Burma has been significantly altered by Burma's substantial advances to promote democracy,

including historic elections in November 2015," Obama wrote in a letter to the leaders of Congress. He said the US intends to use other means to support Myanmar in the "significant challenges" it still faces. Some Myanmar nationals remain on the Treasury Department's list of Specially Designated Nationals under other sanctions authorities, such as those intended to block the drug trade, a Treasury statement said. This bars them from any business dealings with the US. They include alleged drugs kingpin Wei Hsueh Kang and other figures from the United Wa State Army, one of Myanmar's biggest ethnic armed groups. Among those taken off are the ex-junta chief, Than Shwe, and the founder of one of the nation's largest conglomerates, Stephen Law, whose late father was once described by Treasury as one of the world's key heroin traffickers. Also taken off were military officials added to the blacklist since 2013 for alleged arms trading with North Korea, such as Lt. Gen. Thein Htay, chief of the Directorate of Defense Industries. — AP



**YANGON:** The gold dome of Shwedagon pagoda, Myanmar's Buddhist religious landmark is seen through a stretch of a road in Yangon lined with old and new buildings. US President Barack Obama yesterday formally eased sanctions on Myanmar, fulfilling a pledge made to the country's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi in September. — AFP

## ANGER AS FIGHTING IN KUNDUZ CITY FORCES PEOPLE TO FLEE

**KABUL:** Parmi fled the fighting in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz with 13 members of her family this week, in shock at how quickly the city's defenses had collapsed to the Taleban. Now in Kabul, she speaks bitterly of the failure of the government to protect the city, a year on from the last time it was overrun by the Islamist militants.

"There is blood and dead bodies everywhere in Kunduz. Our young people are dying and the government hasn't done anything for us," she said, in the hotel she has been staying since Thursday with scores of other refugees from Kunduz. Her comments, and similar accounts from others, who speak of a blacked-out city running out of food, water and medicine, underline the despair of Kunduz residents and the anger building up against the government of President Ashraf Ghani.

Parimi, 42, who like many Afghans goes by only one name, managed to escape with her family, putting a chain on the door of their house and leaving with only the clothes they were wearing after artillery and mortar fire hit their neighborhood. "We had to crawl out of the area; there were bullets everywhere. We left home empty-handed, now my clothes are dirty and I have nothing to wear," she said but added that she and her family were relatively lucky.

"Anyone who doesn't have money is left there under threat of mortars and gunfire," she said. Special forces units, backed by American advisers and air strikes, have been battling to drive Taliban fighters from the city which the insurgents entered unexpectedly at the start of the week, and fighting continues in many areas.

Following widespread reports of security forces abandoning their positions, poor coordination and rivalries among commanders, there has been heavy criticism that the government failed to learn from last year, when the Taliban seized and held the city for two weeks before pulling out. "Even as the security situation got bad, we didn't believe Kunduz would collapse," said Shogofa Bahar, a medical assistant who fled the city for Kabul this week. "But the situation got worse and worse."

### PRESSURE ON PRICES

The United Nations said on Thursday that as many as 10,000 refugees had arrived in Kabul and northern towns including Taloqan and Mazar-i-Sharif. But Kunduz is only one of the many hotspots that have flared in the past few weeks, with heavy fighting seen in Lashkar Gah, capital of the southern province of Helmand, Farah in the west, Baghlan in the north and Nangarhar in the east. Afghanistan already has more than 1.2 million internal refugees, with some 260,000 forced to flee their homes across the country this year as the fighting has continued.

In Takhar, the neighboring province to Kunduz, Sunatullah Timor, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said 5,000 families had been registered with authorities but their arrival was putting pressure on local food prices. Hundreds of families have also arrived in Baghlan but many had moved on to safer areas because of the fighting.

Aid agencies and government authorities have been providing assistance to the latest arrivals from Kunduz but there has also been help from other sources, including private citizens. — Reuters



**DHAKA:** Bangladesh security personnel gather at the site of an operation to flush out suspected Islamist extremists in Gazipur, some 30 km outside Dhaka yesterday. — AFP

## BANGLADESHI TROOPS KILL 11 SUSPECTED ISLAMIST MILITANTS

### JMB LEADER BEHIND DHAKA CAFE MASSACRE AMONG DEAD

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh forces yesterday killed 11 suspected Islamist extremists including the new leader of a banned group behind a Dhaka cafe massacre, a minister said.

"Eleven extremists were killed. They are all members of the new JMB (Jamayetul Mujahideen Bangladesh)," Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan told AFP, referring to the outlawed group that killed 22 mostly foreign hostages at the cafe in July.

"The dead included Akash who was leading the new JMB after the death of Tamim Chowdhury," he said, adding seven of the extremists were killed in a gunfight in Patertek, Gazipur district, just outside Dhaka, after they rejected an offer to surrender. Police said Akash could be a code name for the slain JMB leader. Chowdhury, a Canadian citizen of Bangladesh origin, was shot dead in a gunfight in August. Police said he was the leader of the JMB and behind the cafe attack.

The siege at Holey Artisan Bakery cafe in

Dhaka's posh Gulshan neighborhood was the deadliest in a series of assaults claimed by Islamist groups which have blighted Bangladesh in the last three years. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack, posting photos of the carnage as it happened and pictures of the attackers holding IS flags online.

However, Bangladesh officials have rejected the claims, saying the new JMB led by Tamim said seven more suspected Islamist extremists were also arrested in raids in two industrial towns just outside the capital after they committed robberies to fund their activities.

"We have seized money from these extremists that they got through robbery," he said. He told reporters that Syed Ziaul Haque, the leader of another outlawed extremist group called Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) would soon be arrested. "He is under our surveillance. He'll be arrested anytime," Khan said.

The ABT, also known as Ansar Al-Islam, is

linked with Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent and has been blamed for a series of murders of atheist and secular bloggers who were critical of Islam.

### Bangladesh reeling

Earlier in the day the elite Rapid Action Battalion launched two separate operations after being tipped off about the presence of Islamist extremists in a building in Gazipur, just outside Dhaka, and a three-storey structure in the northern district of Tangail.

"Four extremists were shot dead during a gunfight with the RAB in the two places. They are new JMB members," RAB spokesman Mufti Mahmud Khan told AFP. In the Tangail raid the RAB said the extremists fired at them from their hideout after shouting Allahu Akbar (Allah is the greatest), prompting officers to fire back. "Two of our officers were injured during the gunfight," local RAB chief Mohiuddin Faruque told AFP. — AFP



**PARIS:** Migrants from Afghanistan recently relocated from Calais stand as local residents demonstrate in Forges-les-Bains, south of Paris yesterday. French villagers are protesting the arrival of migrants who are being spread out around the country as the government shuts down the slum-like camp in Calais that has become a flashpoint in Europe's migrant crisis. — AP

## ANTI-INDIA CLASHES ERUPT IN SRINAGAR AFTER BOY'S KILLING

**SRINAGAR:** Indian forces fired shotgun pellets and tear gas yesterday as thousands of people carried the body of a 12-year-old boy killed overnight during an anti-India protest in the main city of the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir.

Chanting "Go India, go back" and "We want freedom," thousands of residents marched to the main Martyr's Graveyard in Srinagar for the boy's burial. Police and paramilitary soldiers fired warning shots, pellets and tear gas, fearing the procession could become a larger rally calling for an end to Indian rule in the disputed Himalayan region, said a police officer, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with department policy. Some tear gas shells landed near the mourners carrying the body, which was draped in a Pakistani flag with pro-freedom slogans written on it.

Clashes broke out as hundreds of young men hurled rocks at the troops while another group of mourners changed route to bury the dead. Clashes also spread to at least four other neighborhoods in downtown Srinagar, with scores reported injured. The boy was critically injured Friday evening after he was hit by shotgun pellets all over his body. He died at a hospital overnight.

Residents said the boy was hit inside his home compound, some 9 meters (30 feet) from clashes between protesters and government forces. Police said he was part of the clashes.

At least 50 people were injured during dozens of clashes Friday as tens of thousands of Kashmiris protested against Indian rule. Government forces continued firing shotguns to disperse angry crowds despite repeated warnings from India's Home Ministry to minimize

their use and widespread outcry against such weapons by local and international rights groups that have sought their ban. The pellets have killed at least six people and left hundreds of civilians with serious eye injuries, with dozens losing their eyesight. — AP



**SRINAGAR:** Kashmiri protesters clash with Indian police during the funeral procession of Junaid Ahmad, 12, in downtown Srinagar yesterday. — AFP

## NY BOMBING SUSPECT'S FATHER: US 'PUNISHING' MY FAMILY

**ISLAMABAD:** The father of New York bombing suspect Ahmad Khan Rahami said yesterday that the FBI had made "mistake after mistake" in handling the case and is now "punishing" the family for his son's wrongdoing by barring them from travelling to the United States. Mohammed Rahami told The Associated Press by phone that the FBI did not "do its job properly" by failing to act when he contacted investigators in 2014 with concerns his son could be a terrorist. He said he told investigators that his son had become "bad" and his personality had changed after returning from trips to Pakistan and Afghanistan.

A senior FBI official last month pushed back against the elder Rahami's claim that he warned agents about his son. FBI agents interviewed the father after a 2014 incident in which Rahami was arrested on charges - later dropped - that he stabbed one of his brothers in the leg, according to the FBI official, who insisted that Rahami's father "at no time" discussed his son's radicalization or potential interest in Al-Qaeda, the Taleban or their propaganda. The official wasn't authorized to discuss the case by name and spoke to AP on condition of anonymity.

Rahami said US authorities recently turned back his wife and one of his sons when they tried to travel from Afghanistan to the United States. He said Ahmad Khan Rahami's wife was also refused entry into the US. He would not reveal where his daughter-in-law was living, but said her family is from the Pakistani city of Quetta. He urged US authorities to allow his relatives to travel to the United States, saying they are law-abiding citizens.

Rahami is accused of planting bombs in New York and New Jersey that wounded 31 people last month. The Afghan-born US citizen remains hospitalized with gunshot wounds after a police shootout. Prosecutors said that when he was arrested Rahami was found to be carrying a journal that praised Osama bin Laden and other militants and that fumed about what he saw as the US government's killing of Muslim holy warriors. The elder Rahami said he had been given no information on his son's condition in hospital.

He expressed his "sympathy for all those who suffered" in the blasts. "My son's bad act damaged our repute, it defamed my motherland and it caused bad impression about Islam, which stands for peace," he said. — AP

## LETHAL CHEMICAL USED AS A DRUG HAUNTS THEATER HOSTAGES

**SHANGHAI:** Early one morning in October 2002, a dense white cloud silently filled Moscow's Dubrovka Theater. It had been three days since Chechen militants took more than 800 people hostage. Russian special forces faced an impossible task: liberating the hostages from a theater laced with booby traps and several dozen suicide bombers. They turned to chemicals Russian scientists had been researching for years, and pumped an aerosol containing potent forms of the synthetic opioid fentanyl into the theater before storming it.

As the mysterious substance descended, people knelt, covering their

faces as best they could, according to eyewitness accounts. No one was choking. People simply dropped into what appeared to be a deep sleep. "I lay down and started praying," said Vladimir Stukanov, the director of the children's troupe at the theater. His friend, Boris Lapin, had given him his coat, which Stukanov pressed to his face. "Boris died, but saved me," he said.

Commandos stormed the theater and killed the attackers, but more than 120 hostages died from the effects of the chemicals. Many survivors suffered lasting health effects.

The Russian government acknowledged that the aerosol contained fen-

tanyl-related compounds, but refused to reveal the exact composition. Years later, British government scientists tested clothing and urine samples from three survivors and concluded that the aerosol contained carfentanil, one of the most potent opioids on the planet, as well as the less-powerful remifentanyl.

### Readily available

Today, carfentanil is readily available from vendors in China, who offer to export the deadly substance around the world, no questions asked, an Associated Press investigation has found. Carfentanil is not a controlled substance in China, the world's largest chemicals

exporter, despite US efforts to get Beijing to blacklist it. Olga Dolotova, an engineer, remembers seeing the plumes descend in the theater before losing consciousness. Later, she heard someone say, "She is alive." When Dolotova opened her eyes again, she found herself on a bus packed with bodies.

"It was such a horror just to look at it," she said. "Nobody was moving. They put the people there like dolls." Dolotova wanted to get up, or shout. She wanted the bus to stop. And she badly needed to vomit. "I was having spasms, but I could not throw up," she said. When she reached the hospital, she gulped down some tea and began retching. "I contin-

ued throwing up and throwing up and throwing up," she said. She said she understands why Russian special forces used the chemicals. "They had to somehow render them immobile," she said of the militants. "What else was there?"

But she said medical and rescue personnel were not trained to deal with effects of the mysterious aerosol and made deadly errors - failing, for example, to tilt people's heads so they didn't choke on their own tongues. "More people would have been saved," she said.

The aerosol created a kind of sleep without memory, Stukanov said. "It's like this cluster has been erased and dropped out of your head," he said. — AP



**MANILA:** US Marine Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAV) manoeuvre in rough seas facing the South China Sea during the joint US-Philippines amphibious landing exercise dubbed PHIBLEX on Friday at Naval Education Training Command in San Antonio township, Zambales province northwest of Manila. — AP

## PHILIPPINES TELLS US NO JOINT PATROLS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

107 US TROOPS MAY BE ASKED TO LEAVE SOUTH

**SAN ANTONIO, Philippines:** The Philippine defense chief said Friday he told the US military that plans for joint patrols and naval exercises in the disputed South China Sea have been put on hold, the first concrete break in defense cooperation after months of increasingly strident comments by the country's new president.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana also said that 107 US troops involved in operating surveillance drones against Muslim militants would be asked to leave the southern part of the country once the Philippines acquires those intelligence-gathering capabilities in the near future.

President Rodrigo Duterte also wants to halt the 28 military exercises that are carried out with U.S. forces each year, Lorenzana said. Duterte has said he wants an ongoing U.S.-Philippine amphibious beach landing exercise to be the last in his six-year presidency as he backs away from what he views as too much dependence on the US.

"This year would be the last," Duterte said of military exercises involving the Americans in a speech Friday in southern Davao city where he lashed out at the US anew and repeated his readiness to be ousted from office for his hard-line stance. "For as long as I am there, do not treat us like a doormat because you'll be sorry for it," Duterte said. "I will not speak with you. I can always go to China."

In Washington, State Department spokesman John Kirby said the US government is not aware of any official notification on curtailing military exercises. He said the US remains focused on its security commitments to Philippines, with which it has a mutual defense treaty.

"We think comments like this, whether they are or will be backed up by actual action or not,

are really at odds with the closeness of the relationships that we have with the people of the Philippines and which we fully intend to continue," Kirby told reporters. Duterte, who took office in June and describes himself as a leftist politician, has had an uneasy relationship with the US, his country's former colonial master.

Duterte has lashed out against US government criticism of his deadly crackdown against illegal drugs, which has left more than 3,600 suspects dead in just three months, alarming Western governments and human rights groups.

But while some Filipino officials have walked back on Duterte's sometimes crude anti-US pronouncements - early this week he told President Barack Obama "to go to hell" - Lorenzana's comments show for the first time that the Duterte administration will act by rolling back cooperation with the US military.

With the turquoise backdrop of the South China Sea, US Marines and allied Filipino combat forces barged ashore Friday on amphibious vessels in a mock assault on a Philippine beach in San Antonio town in northwestern Zambales province. Pounding rain prevented military aircraft from joining the beach assault drills, but the US and Filipino forces managed to rapidly come on shore to take out a "notional target," said Maj. Roger Hollenbeck, a US military spokesman for the drills.

Asked to comment on the possibility that the joint maneuvers will be the last under Duterte, Hollenbeck replied, "If it's the last, so be it."

"I have nothing to do with that and we are going to continue to work together, we've got a great relationship," he said. Lorenzana said some US military officials have expressed concern about where the countries' 65-year-old treaty

alliance is headed under Duterte.

### Regional security

Duterte's moves to limit the presence of visiting American troops will impede Washington's plans to expand the footprint of US forces in Southeast Asia to counter China. "President Duterte's shoot-from-the-hip style of parochial democracy is deeply troubling," said Carl Thayer, an expert on the South China Sea. "If Duterte moves to curtail US rotational military presence from bases in the Philippines, this would undermine the US ability to deter China not only in defense of Philippines sovereignty but regional security as well."

Despite the difficult stage in the countries' relations, Lorenzana remained optimistic that those ties would eventually bounce back. "I think it's just going through these bumps on the road," Lorenzana told a news conference. "Relationships sometimes go to this stage ... but over time it will be patched up."

Duterte's falling out with Washington will not necessarily spread to US allies such as Japan, for example, which has committed to deliver patrol ships for the Philippine coast guard and has signed a deal to lease five small surveillance planes the country can use to bolster its territorial defense. The planes may arrive as early as next month, Lorenzana said.

The US and Japan have helped the Philippines develop its capabilities to safeguard and defend its territorial waters amid China's increasingly aggressive actions in the South China Sea. Under Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, the US and Philippine militaries twice staged naval exercises near the disputed waters. — AP

## JAPAN'S MOUNT ASO VOLCANO ERUPTS; SENDAI PLANT SAFE

**TOKYO:** Mount Aso, a volcano on Japan's main southern island of Kyushu, erupted early yesterday, Japan's Meteorological Agency said, spewing volcanic ash 11,000 meters (7 miles) into the sky. Police and municipal governments said there were no reports of injuries from the eruption, which began at 1:46 a.m. local time (1646 GMT Friday) on one of the peaks of the 1,592-metre (5,222 feet) mountain in Kumamoto Prefecture.

It was the first "explosive eruption" at the peak since January 1980, according to the meteorological agency. The agency raised the alert level for the volcano to level 3 on a scale of 5, telling people not to approach the mountain and warning of falling rocks. It also warned of falling ash in 10 prefectures. TV footage showed volcanic ash had accumulated on cars, houses and roads in the city of Aso and ash was falling as far as 320 km (200 miles) away, Japanese media said.

Farmers have reported that some vinyl greenhouses where tomatoes and asparagus were being grown 6-8 km (4-5 miles) away from the crater had been broken by ash and small rocks. A window was cracked

by a falling rock at an Aso youth centre about 5 km (3 miles) away from the crater but there were no reports of injuries, an official at Aso city hall said.

"We are concerned that more damage on crops will be reported," the official said. Kyushu Electric Power Co said the eruption had no impact on its Sendai nuclear plant, which is about 160 km (100 miles) south of Mount Aso and is one of the two reactors that are online in Japan.

Up to 29,000 households lost power shortly after the eruption but the problem was fixed in less than two hours, a spokesman at Kyushu Electric said. Mount Aso is one of the most active peaks in Japan but is also a popular hiking spot. Japan lies on the "Ring of Fire", a horseshoe-shaped band of fault lines and volcanoes around the edges of the Pacific Ocean, and is home to more than 100 active volcanoes.

Mount Ontake in central Japan erupted unexpectedly in 2014, killing 63 people in the worst volcanic disaster in Japan for nearly 90 years. Mount Aso also erupted in September last year, blasting a plume of black smoke 2 km (1.2 miles) high. — AFP



**In this aerial view, plumes of white smoke rise from Mount Aso Nakadake Crater in Kumamoto Prefecture, southern Japan yesterday. — AP**

## SEVEN TEENS MISSING AFTER BOAT CAPSIZES IN INDONESIA

**JAKARTA:** Seven teenagers were feared dead yesterday, a day after they went missing when their boat capsized on a river in Indonesia, officials said. None have been found despite a major rescue operation.

The wooden boat was carrying 25 Islamic boarding school male students across the Bengawan Solo river on Java when it capsized early Friday. Officials said they suspected overloading caused the boat to tilt. "They were about to reach land, about seven metres away or so, but the kids, probably from overexcitement, came to the front of the boat, making the boat unbalance," Suprpto, a local disaster management official, told AFP.

The missing passengers were aged between 12 and 19. Eighteen other passengers survived, Suprpto, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, added. Scores of rescuers were deployed to search the river using inflatable boats soon after the accident but none of the missing has been found so far. Rescuers said rain, muddy water and strong currents were hampering the search. Indonesia has a poor water transport safety record and regularly suffers fatal boat accidents.

Last month, an explosion on a speedboat on the resort island of Bali left two foreigners dead and 18 other tourists injured. — AFP

## SATELLITE IMAGES SHOW ACTIVITY AT N KOREA NUCLEAR TEST SITE

**SEOUL:** An increase in activity at North Korea's nuclear test site could signal preparations for a new test or a collection of data from its last one, a US-based monitoring group said on Friday. The 38 North group, run by Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, said satellite images showed activity at all three tunnel complexes at the Punggye-ri nuclear test site involving a large

vehicle and personnel.

"One possible reason for this activity is to collect data on the Sept. 9 test, although other purposes cannot be ruled out, such as sealing the portal or other preparations related to a new test," the group said. North Korea conducted its fifth and biggest nuclear test on Sept. 9 and South Korea has said it believes the north is ready to conduct

another nuclear test at any time. There has been speculation that Pyongyang could mark the Oct 10 anniversary of the founding of its Workers' Party with a sixth detonation.

A study published on Friday by a US-based North Korea research project said North Korean missile and nuclear tests, and other major "provocations", had clustered increasingly closer to US elections. The study from Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies said the pattern based on looking at 30 US elections since 1956 suggested a North Korean action as early as a month before the Nov 8 US presidential election. This could mean a test coinciding with the Oct.10 anniversary. The trend also suggested the possibility of an act during the December transition period for the next US administration. North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in 2006 and has since defied UN sanctions to press ahead with the development of the weapons and missiles to carry them, which it says it needs for defense.

In January, it conducted its fourth nuclear test and the fifth was carried out on the anniversary of the nation's founding. South Korea's Unification Ministry spokesman Jeong Joon-hee told a briefing there were no particular indications of a plan for a nuclear test on Oct. 10.

However, South Korea's Yonhap news agency cited an unidentified government official as saying that activity at North Korea's rocket launch station near the west coast could be preparations for a long-range missile launch. Japan said the possibility of further "provocative action" by North Korea could not be ruled out.

"The government is taking all possible measures in gathering information, exercising vigilance and taking surveillance activities to be able to respond to any situations," Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference. — Reuters



**BEIJING:** Chinese President Xi Jinping (center) guides Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa (center right) before their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday. — AFP



The areas of Jeremie in Haiti, destroyed by Hurricane Matthew, are seen from the air yesterday. The full scale of the devastation in hurricane-hit rural Haiti became clear as the death toll surged, three days after Matthew leveled huge swaths of the country's south. — AFP

## DEFIANT TRUMP VOWS TO STAY IN RACE

Continued from Page 1

The video was the latest calamity for Trump, who had hoped to revive his flagging campaign in the face of a recent drop in polls with less than a month until Election Day. The 2005 video of Trump talking on an open microphone showed the then-reality TV star speaking openly about groping women and trying to seduce a married woman. The video was taped only months after Trump married his third wife, Melania.

The backlash against the video was swift and widespread. In an unusual move, vice presidential running mate Mike Pence issued a critical statement, saying on Twitter that he cannot defend the nominee. "As a husband and father, I was offended by the words and actions described by Donald Trump in the eleven-year-old video released yesterday," Pence, who is governor of Indiana, said in a statement. "I do not condone his remarks and cannot defend them."

Pence indicated he would continue to support Trump, despite calls from several Republicans that the New York real estate mogul step aside and let Pence be the nominee. There is no precedent for a major party to replace its nominee this late in the campaign and it is unclear if there is an avenue to force him out. Voting has begun in several states, including the important swing states of Virginia and North Carolina.

A hastily recorded apology by Trump early yesterday did not stymie an avalanche of calls from members of his party to quit. Trump huddled yesterday afternoon in Trump Tower with senior advisors, including New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Trump quickly moved to conduct damage control in yesterday's video in which he declared himself a changed man and attempted to shift the focus to his opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton. He threatened, again, to focus his attacks on the infidelities of her husband, former President Bill Clinton, saying he would talk more about the pasts of both Clintons with only a month until the Nov 8 election. Trump has dismissed questions about his own marital infidelities as irrelevant.

"Anyone who knows me knows these words don't reflect who I am. I said it, I was wrong, and I apologize," Trump said in his video statement, posted on his Facebook page. "I've never said I'm a perfect person, nor pretended to be someone I'm not," Trump said in his apology. "I pledge to be a better man tomorrow."

The video overshadowed the publication of excerpts of Clinton's paid closed-door speeches made public on Friday by a hacker who claimed to have obtained them from the email account of John Podesta, the chairman of the Democrat's campaign. In the speeches, she advocates for more open borders and trade, a position she abandoned during the primary because it was untenable to Democratic progressives. Trump has repeatedly

criticized her for her past support of free trade.

Trump has struggled to win over women voters, and the video is expected to further feed Democratic criticism about his past behavior toward women. In the video, Trump uses vulgar and predatory language as he describes hitting on a married woman and grabbing women's crotches. The three-minute video captures Trump reacting to an actress he was about to meet as he arrived on the set of daytime soap opera "Days of Our Lives", for the taping of a segment in which he was to have a cameo appearance.

"I did try and f\*\*\* her. I moved on her like a b\*\*\*\*, but I couldn't get there. She was married," Trump said about one woman, before discussing his attraction to others. "I've gotta use some Tic Tacs (breath mints), just in case I start kissing her," Trump says to Billy Bush, then host of the "Access Hollywood" show about celebrities. "You know I'm automatically attracted to beautiful. I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet," he says. "I don't even wait. And when you're a star they let you do it. Grab them by the p\*\*\*\*. You can do anything."

House Speaker Paul Ryan disinvited Trump to a scheduled appearance yesterday afternoon in Wisconsin. Pence declined to speak in his place. The list of Republicans announcing they would not vote for Trump or calling on him to step aside grew yesterday: Senators Kelly Ayotte, Mark Kirk, Jeff Flake, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito and Mike Lee; House members Jason Chaffetz, Mia Love, Joe Heck, Bradley Byrne, Martha Roby and Barbara Comstock; and Governors John Kasich, Dennis Daugaard and Gary Herbert. Additionally, former presidential candidates Mitt Romney and Carly Fiorina also called on Trump to quit.

Capito, of West Virginia, called his remarks "disgusting and demeaning". Chaffetz of Utah, one of Clinton's fiercest critics, retracted his endorsement of Trump, telling CNN he would not be able to look his 15-year-old daughter in the eye if he voted for him. Other prominent Republicans, however, indicated they would stick with Trump. Ralph Reed, head of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, and Tony Perkins, head of the conservative Family Research Council, said they would continue to support him.

Conservatives point to the fact that the winner of the November election will get to appoint a Supreme Court justice as reason to stick with Trump despite the video. Greg Mueller, a conservative Republican strategist, pointed to Clinton's views on abortion as a reason religious voters will stick with Trump. "Nothing indefensible that Donald Trump said 20 years ago is going to change that," he said. "Plus, to many religious voters, Mrs Clinton is the epitome of a corrupt politician." Representative Jack Kingston, a Republican from Georgia, argued Trump has changed since the video was filmed. "I think 10 years ago he was a different man ... I am very glad that he quickly apologized," Kingston said. — Agencies

## HURRICANE MATTHEW SLAMS INTO S CAROLINA

Continued from Page 1

"We rode out the storm. It wasn't this bad at our house, but here there's a lot of damage," said Zowi Cuartas, 18, as he watched people pick up shattered signs near the beach. "We were prepared to lose our house."

Governor Rick Scott of Florida said more than 6,000 people stayed in shelters overnight, but he appeared relieved at a news conference on Saturday the storm had not done more harm. "We're all blessed that Matthew stayed off our coast," he said. He predicted most people would have power back by Sunday evening. He did not comment on the death reports.

Streets in downtown Charleston, known for its historic architecture, were flooding up to the tops of tires on some cars and a few residents waded near the city's sea wall as high tide approached. Tony Williams, 54, who said he is homeless, rode his bicycle against huge wind gusts after spending the night in the garage of a bank. "I just got tired of laying where I was laying," he said. On Daufuskie Island near the Georgia border, writer Roger Pinckney, 70, said he was fine on Saturday morning after refusing pleas from officials for residents of low-lying barrier islands to evacuate. "It blew like hell," he said. Charleston officials said they were not aware of any deaths, injuries or significant structural damage. Winds and the threat of surges were expected to diminish through the day.

The toll in the United States was far less devastating than in Haiti, where at least 877 people died earlier, a death tally that ticked up as information trickled in from remote areas. Matthew howled through Haiti's western peninsula on

Tuesday with 233 kph winds and torrential rain. Some 61,500 people were in shelters, officials said, after the storm hurled the sea onto coastal villages.

The Mesa Verde, a US Navy amphibious transport dock ship, was en route to Haiti to support relief efforts with heavy-lift helicopters, bulldozers, fresh-water delivery vehicles and two operating rooms. The US government was also airlifting emergency supplies, according to the United States Agency for International Development. Aid group Doctors Without Borders was flying personnel to Haiti by helicopter. The Haitian government warned a deadly outbreak of cholera could worsen, confirming dozens of new cases of the water-borne disease since the storm, 13 of them fatal.

Officials in Florida, which has been grappling with an outbreak of Zika, said they hoped the flooding would not worsen the spread of the mosquito-borne virus, which causes fever and birth deformities. "We have got to get rid of standing water as quickly as we can," Governor Scott told reporters.

In North Carolina, where the hurricane was due to arrive yesterday evening, Governor Pat McCrory warned storm surges and high winds could cause serious problems. He said he was "extremely concerned" the downgrade to a Category 1 would cause people not to take warnings seriously. Forecasters warned of flooding as 40 cm of rain were expected to fall in some areas along with massive storm surges and high tides. Further south, some 20 cm of rain fell in the Savannah, Georgia, area, downing trees and causing flooding. Though gradually weakening, Matthew was forecast to remain a hurricane until it begins moving away today, the NHC said. — Reuters

## GERMAN POLICE FIND EXPLOSIVES DURING...

Continued from Page 1

injured five and a suicide bombing in Ansbach that left 15 wounded. The attacks in July rattled Germans' sense of security and fuelled concerns over the country's record influx of migrants and refugees last year. Police in the state of Saxony, where Chemnitz is located, issued a search warrant for Albakr after officers received information from domestic intelligence services, a police spokesman said, saying he was born in Syria in January 1994.

They added that Albakr was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and was "suspected of preparing a bomb attack" and issued an image of the man. He arrived in Germany as a refugee last year and was under interior ministry surveillance for a period, according to Focus magazine, which cited intelligence sources. The German magazine's website added that he had been plotting to attack an airport in the country.

A vast police operation was underway as heavily armed officers, some wearing balaclavas, combed the area around Albakr's apartment and local residents were evacuated. An explosion was heard in the leafy Chemnitz suburb which investigators said was a police entry device. Part of the city's main station was sealed off by officers as a remote-controlled robot was deployed to

inspect a suspect package on a platform.

German police said previously they had identified 523 people who posed a security threat to the country, around half of whom were known to be currently in Germany. On Sept 21 German officials said a 16-year-old Syrian refugee had been arrested on suspicion of planning a bomb attack in the name of IS. The youngster, thought to have been radicalized only recently, was detained in a special forces operation at a shelter for asylum-seekers in the western city of Cologne, police and prosecutors said.

Initial information gathered from the teenager's mobile phone showed that he had expressed an "unmistakable willingness" to carry out an attack, Klaus-Stephan Becker of the Cologne police told reporters. A week earlier, German police detained three men with forged Syrian passports accused of being IS militants and labelled a possible "sleeper cell" with links to the assailants behind the November attacks in Paris.

More than 200 police took part in predawn raids in northern Germany to detain the men, suspected of either plotting an attack or awaiting orders to commit one. German authorities have urged the public not to confuse migrants with "terrorists", but have acknowledged that more jihadists may have entered the country among the one million asylum-seekers who arrived last year. — AFP



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## Washington Watch

US' STRONG WORDS  
MUST BE FOLLOWED  
BY STRONG ACTION

By Paul Handley

By Dr James J Zogby

I was both understanding of and puzzled by the Obama administration's reaction to Israel's announcement of new settlement construction in occupied Palestinian lands. It was just a few weeks ago that the White House signed a new 10 year agreement with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu committing a total of \$38 billion in military assistance to Israel. In announcing the deal, President Obama noted that this is the most significant support package ever offered to Israel, demonstrating his unparalleled commitment to that state's security. Shortly thereafter, Obama, speaking before the United Nations General Assembly, cautioned Israel that it "cannot permanently occupy and settle Palestinian land."

And so it was like a slap in the face when, when Netanyahu announced that he was building new settlement units in colonies deep in the West Bank, along with ongoing plans to expand settlements in other sensitive areas of the occupied lands - in Arab areas of Jerusalem, in the heart of Hebron, and around Bethlehem. All of these are clear provocations and when seen in combination make clear Israel's intention to maintain its control over the West Bank, making impossible the establishment of a viable Palestinian state. Adding insult to injury was the fact that Netanyahu's announcement came just two days before Obama was to travel to Israel to speak at the memorial service for Shimon Peres.

And so, I was not surprised when the reactions from the White House and the State Department were quite harsh. The White House spokesperson noted that every US Administration, since 1967, has opposed settlements in the occupied lands and reaffirmed their view that expanding settlements in the West Bank and Jerusalem only served to further frustrate a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The White House went further by accusing Netanyahu of violating his commitment to the US that he would refrain from any further settlement expansion noting, caustically that "I guess, when we're talking about how good friends treat one another, that's a concern, as well."

For its part, the State Department spokesperson "strongly condemned [the Israeli] plan that would create a significant new settlement deep in the West Bank." He referred to the expansion as being yet "another step toward cementing a one-state reality of perpetual occupation" and added that "Such moves will only draw condemnation from the international community...and further call into question Israel's commitment to achieving a negotiated peace." He went further, adding that the Administration was "deeply troubled" that Israel took this action so soon after the signing of the new massive military aid agreement.

## Puzzled

While fully understanding that the Administration is upset, I admit to also being puzzled. Netanyahu has been playing them for almost eight years, repeatedly sticking his finger in their eye and getting away with it. In fact, it is a running joke, that Netanyahu, either before or after high level US visits, will defiantly announce new settlement plans, boasting that he knows how to control America. On three occasions, Netanyahu used invitations to address the US Congress in an effort to stymie the goals of the president - succeeding twice. In the one instance where he lost (on the Iran deal), he ended up being rewarded with the \$38 billion arms agreement. And so after almost eight years of frustrating the Administration's efforts at peace-making, of continued settlement expansion, of systematic violations of Palestinian rights, and of repeated episodes of near unrestrained gross violence, why should anyone have been surprised that Netanyahu would pocket the \$38 billion and once again flaunt his commitments to the President? He acts with impunity, precisely because there has been no accountability for his behavior. The White House and State Department may cry foul, issuing strong statements. But Netanyahu knows that it will end there - with no price to be paid for bad behavior. As long as the US allows this pattern to continue, the spoiled child will take advantage of the situation - taunting, acting out, and getting his way.

NOTE: Dr James J Zogby is the President of the Arab American Institute

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NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AWARDED  
TO COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT

## DESPITE NOBEL, PEACE PROCESS IN DANGER

By Alina Dieste

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos's Nobel Peace Prize gives the country's troubled peace process a major boost, but saving a deal voters recently rejected still won't be easy, analysts say. The prize closed out a roller-coaster week for Santos, who suffered a major defeat Sunday when Colombians narrowly voted against his signature achievement as president, a peace deal with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Santos, who has staked his legacy on ending the country's half-century conflict, has sought to battle back by opening talks with the deal's top opponent, his predecessor and former boss, Alvaro Uribe. He simultaneously sent his negotiators back to Havana, where the peace talks were held, to see whether the FARC would be open to revising the deal. He scored a small victory in the wake of the Nobel announcement, when government and FARC negotiators said they had agreed to discuss changes to the deal and continue a bilateral ceasefire.

But Santos will still have to pull off a difficult balancing act. "The government is looking for a way out on two fronts: With the opposition and with the FARC," said political scientist Marc Chernick, a Latin America specialist at Georgetown University in Washington. The Nobel "will

strengthen Santos," he said. But it might not make much difference, he added. "There isn't much room for maneuver to change the accord that was already reached." "If they manage to make any amendment, it will be cosmetic," he said. "And time is running out to save it. It won't be easy."

## Risky Game

The Colombian conflict has killed more than 260,000 people and left 45,000 missing, drawing in several leftist rebel groups, right-wing paramilitaries and drug gangs. The FARC, a Marxist guerrilla army launched in 1964, is the oldest and largest rebel group. It was to relaunch as a political party under the peace deal. But Uribe, the right-wing hardliner leading opposition to the deal, claims the rejected agreement would have given the rebels impunity for their crimes and put Colombia on the path of "Castro-Chavismo" - a reference to the far-left governments of Cuba and Venezuela.

Santos has warned the country is in a "very dangerous limbo" as it scrambles to salvage the peace process. In the referendum's aftermath, he had said the army would halt its ceasefire with the FARC at the end of the month if the impasse were not settled. Although both sides have since vowed to continue the ceasefire indefinitely, they are locked in a risky game, political analyst Laura Gil said.

Santos may still pull out of the ceasefire "if there is no clear and definite roadmap by Oct 31" in order to pressure the peace deal's opponents, she said. "The opposition is panicking because they know the first person to die will come crashing down on their heads."

The ceasefire is currently worth little more than the paper it's printed on - which is to say not much - said Jorge Restrepo, head of the Conflict Analysis Resource Center in Bogota. Now that the peace deal that established the ceasefire has failed, "it means the conflict starts again," he said.

## All-Out War?

The FARC, which had begun grouping its nearly 6,000 fighters together for a UN-monitored disarmament process, has now ordered its fighters back to their hideouts in the Colombian jungle and mountains. "It's a logical military decision. The implementation of the deal has been frozen," said retired army colonel Carlos Alfonso Velasquez, a specialist in the Colombian conflict at the University of La Sabana, outside Bogota. The FARC, he said, has grown "moderately mistrustful". That could deepen what has in recent years been a low-intensity conflict, he added. "This has been a conflict with only tenuous characteristics of a civil war," he said. "But if (the impasse) isn't resolved, it could now reactivate as a full civil war." — AFP

## FIRST 100 DAYS OF DUTERTE'S TURBULENT RULE

By Jim Gomez

In just 100 days in office, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has stirred a hornet's nest by picking a fight with Barack Obama, the United Nations, the European Union and others who have criticized his brutal crackdown against drugs, which has left more than 3,600 people dead. In another defining aspect of his unorthodox rule, the 71-year-old Duterte has pushed back his country's 65-year treaty alliance with the United States, while reaching out to China and Russia.

Highlights of the first 100 days of Duterte's turbulent presidency:

## Anti-Drug War

Duterte's obsessive focus on his deadly crackdown on illegal drugs, a hallmark of his three-decade political career, has single-handedly defined his early days in the presidency. It has become his boon and bane and earned widespread condemnations when he compared it to the Holocaust under Hitler. A rough estimate puts the death toll at about 3,600, including more than 1,300 suspects killed in gunbattles with police - an average of 36 killings a day since he took office on June 30. The scale of the crackdown has been unprecedented, with the police launching more than 23,500 raids so far and arresting 22,500 suspected drug dealers and addicts. More than 1.6 million houses of drug suspects have been visited by police to invite them to surrender and stop using drugs or disengage from the drug trade. About 732,000 addicts and dealers have surrendered, apparently for fear of being killed, overwhelming Duterte and the national police, and prompting them to scramble for land and money to build rehabilitation centers.

Duterte's public threats to kill criminals, especially drug dealers, have helped considerably reduce the crime rate, according to police. A poll by the independent Social Weather Stations last month showed 84 percent of adult Filipinos were satisfied with his war on drugs, but 94 percent felt it was important for police to arrest suspects alive, underscoring public worry over the growing body count even in a crime- and insurgency-plagued country long accustomed to deadly violence.

Western governments led by the US, the EU, the U.N. and human rights watchdogs are alarmed. Amnesty International says

Duterte's "first 100 days as president have been marked by state-sanctioned violence on a truly shocking scale". Uncertainty over the killings, Duterte's SOB-laced verbal assaults on President Barack Obama, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and other critics, along with flip-flopping government pronouncements, have been partly blamed for foreign selling in the stock market and the peso's plunge to a seven-year low.

## Fraying US Alliance

An emerging casualty under the Duterte presidency is the country's 65-year treaty

alliance with the United States, which has been a constant target of his foul tongue. He has had a falling out with Obama, who along with the State Department raised concerns over the widespread drug killings, earning Duterte's wrath. In a speech this week, he told Obama "to go to hell". While critical of the US, Duterte has reached out to China and Russia.

Labeling himself as leftist, Duterte wants US counterterrorism forces to leave his country's south, saying their presence was helping inflame restiveness among minority Muslims and they could be targeted by

extremists. He ordered the military not to join the US Navy in planned joint patrols in the disputed South China Sea, and said that an ongoing combat drill by US Marines and their local counterparts, one of 28 joint exercises by the allies each year, would be the last of his six-year presidency.

The US has generally played down the effect of Duterte's remarks and underscored the Filipinos' long affinity with America, although Philippine officials have said that some of their US counterparts have privately been concerned about where Washington's alliance with the Philippines is headed. Duterte's moves to limit engagements with visiting American troops will impede Washington's plans to expand the footprint of US forces in Southeast Asia to serve as a counterweight to China, including in the South China Sea.

## Taming Decades-long Rebellions

Duterte's effort to resume peace talks with communist insurgents who are waging one of Asia's longest rebellions has led to cease-fire declarations by both sides. With a cease-fire accord forged under his predecessor with the largest Muslim rebel group, the easing of violence involving the communist insurgents has freed up thousands of troops who were redeployed to execute the president's order to destroy the brutal Abu Sayyaf group, notorious for kidnapping and beheading Western tourists.

Duterte, however, walks a tightrope in handing concessions to the communists, including the release of long-detained insurgent leaders, without unsettling a military that's in the front line of a bloody conflict that has left between 30,000 to 40,000 combatants and civilians dead in nearly half a century. He has made whirlwind visits to at least 22 military and police camps to explain his counterinsurgency strategy, raffle off pistols and update them on a pledge to double their salaries and improve medical care for combat troops.

A Sept 2 bomb attack that killed 15 people at a night market in Duterte's southern hometown of Davao prompted him to declare a "state of lawlessness" to empower the government to harness troops in countering militant threats in urban areas. The attack was a reality check on the complexity of fighting the restiveness that Duterte blames on atrocities against local Muslims by American colonial forces around the early 1900s. — AP



In this Oct 4, 2016 file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures with a firing stance as he announces issuing side arms to army troopers during his visit to its headquarters in suburban Taguig city, east of Manila. — AP

**POOM MAKES SURPRISE LEAD IN INDONESIA**

**JAKARTA:** Young Thai golfer Poom Saksansin fired a flawless seven-under-par 65 to seize the third round lead at the BNI Indonesian Masters yesterday. The 23-year-old Poom made a surprise charge up the leaderboard to lead by two shots on 13-under-par 203 from Japan's Masahiro Kawamura and Kalem Richardson of Australia at the \$750,000 Asian Tour event. Poom will enter the final round as the leader for only the second time in his career on the Asian Tour, after leading in the 2014 Queen's Cup in Thailand before finishing second. With numerous players breathing down his neck, the baby-faced Poom hopes to put his experience of playing on the Asian Development Tour (ADT) to good use as he chases for a first Asian Tour victory. "After I was five-under, I felt like it would be my day so I started playing more aggressively. This is my second time in the last group on the Asian Tour," said the one-time winner of the ADT, according to an Asian Tour press release. —AFP



**AUSTRALIA'S 'MYSTERY' SPINNER GLEESON DIES**

**SYDNEY:** Australian cricketer John Gleeson, who mystified batsmen with his unique bent finger spin, has passed away aged 78, Cricket Australia said yesterday. Gleeson played 29 Tests between 1967 and 1972, and debuted for his country in the 1967-68 Test series against India in the First Test at the Adelaide Oval. He captured 93 wickets in his Test career at an average of 36.20. Gleeson used a unique "bent-finger" action using two fingers—a bent middle finger and the thumb pressing against the ball on both sides in an attempt to extract a new variety of bowling tricks. "John captured the imagination of cricket fans everywhere as he bamboozled batsmen with his odd bowling grip, borrowed from another mystery 1950s Australian spinner, Jack Iverson," Cricket Australia chief executive James Sutherland said. "We were deeply saddened to hear of John's passing and are truly appreciative of his contribution to the game, which, beyond his distinguished playing career, included time as an administrator with World Series Cricket. "He will be remembered as someone who played for his country at the highest level and, with his unique skills, had the ability to regularly dumbfound the best batsmen in any team." —AFP

**NANI RULED OUT OF FAROE ISLANDS CLASH**

**LISBON:** Valencia forward Nani has been ruled out of Portugal's World Cup qualifier away against the Faroe Islands tomorrow due to injury, the Portuguese Football Federation said. Nani, 29, who played a starring role in Portugal's Euro 2016 triumph, already missed Portugal's 6-0 defeat of Andorra at home on Friday because of a muscle strain in his right leg. According to an evaluation by the Portuguese Football Federation's health department, the player "is not fit for the match on Monday" and would not travel to the Faroe Islands. Portugal began their qualifying campaign for Russia 2018 with a 2-0 loss away to Switzerland on September 6. They are third in Group B, a point behind minnows Faroe Islands and three back from leaders Switzerland. —AFP



Kuwait's Ice Hockey national team

**KUWAIT'S ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL TEAM PREPARES FOR ASIAN WINTER GAMES**

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** President of Kuwait Winter Games Club Fuhaid Al-Ajmi said Kuwait's Ice Hockey national team is working hard in preparing for the Asian Winter Games to be held in Japan next February, with great support from the Public Authority for Sport at all levels. Al-Ajmi said the team is now training at

the skating rink to participate in the reduced Asian tournament to be held in Thailand in October, which the first of several preparation steps leading to the Winter Games in Japan. He added that the team will hold a training camp abroad for two weeks prior to the games. He said the national team's players will join their local clubs following the Thai tour-

namment to launch the local hockey season starting Nov 1, and then they will join the training camp outside Kuwait next January in Sweden. He said officials and players alike are determined to win a medal for Kuwait during these major games. Al-Ajmi said Kuwait will play in the third group that includes Qatar, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Malaysia, Macau,

India, Bahrain, and Indonesia. He appreciated the support of PSA to his club in its efforts to win the first medal for Kuwait Winter Sports in this major event. Kuwait Ice Hockey team made several achievements, most important of which is winning the Asian Challenge Cup, which was hosted by Kuwait two years ago. It also won the Bahrain Open Tournament which was held earlier this year.



President of Kuwait Winter Games Club Fuhaid Al-Ajmi

**CHINESE KHL TEAM OFF TO MODEST START WITH EYE ON '22 GAMES**

**ST PETERSBURG:** Few professional sports teams had grander beginnings than Kunlun Red Star. With Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping looking on, China's biggest venture in hockey to date joined the Kontinental Hockey League in June at a lavish ceremony in Beijing. For the Russia-based KHL, Kunlun is a chance to beat the NHL to the Chinese market. Chinese officials hope the club can groom enough talent to strengthen its feeble national team in time for the Beijing Olympics in 2022.

"This project was organized at the highest level," said Vladimir Yurzinov Jr., Kunlun's Russian coach. "It's good that we're first because if it wasn't us (in the Chinese market), it would be the North Americans." China offers a vast potential fan base for foreign sports leagues, but there are challenges in turning interest into revenue. English Premier League soccer is the biggest success story, having built a dedicated Chinese following in part by playing preseason games in Hong Kong. That has helped to push its global

TV rights deals to record levels. The Women's Tennis Association now hosts some of its most lucrative events there, thanks to the breakout popularity of Chinese player Li Na, while the British-based sport of snooker has also reversed its fortunes by finding a younger audience in China. Still, Tom Doctoroff, an US-based expert on marketing in China, cautioned that hockey has limited potential in China because it is "too overtly aggressive" for Chinese consumers, and persuading them to pay to watch sports

broadcasts is difficult. "Free remains the frame of reference for most consumers," he said in an email. That hasn't stopped Kunlun from rushing through a summer of recruitment and training to create a club in record time. The team is off a sobering start to life in the KHL, widely considered the world's second-strongest league. Kunlun had lost three in a row when it arrived for a recent game at SKA St. Petersburg, which had ex-NHL stars Slava Voynov and Ilya Kovalchuk on the ice. There were a few giggles when the announcer asked fans to stand for the Chinese anthem, and SKA barely had to sweat for a 3-0 win as Kunlun's Canadian and European import players struggled to deal with one of the strongest rosters outside the NHL.

Chinese hockey is. China's not to blame, it's just a sport that's not very popular ... We don't have much time to catch up." Despite the political fanfare around Kunlun in Russia and China, club spokesman Oleg Vinokurov said no government money is involved and funding comes from Russian and Chinese companies. So far, there are mixed signals on the success of the fledgling team: While almost 8,000 people watched Kunlun win its first home game in Beijing, a game at its secondary arena in Shanghai attracted just 550 fans. For the KHL, moving into Asia is something of a plan B after its westward expansion into Europe stalled, with several teams experiencing chronic financial difficulties. The long-term aim is for Kunlun to be the basis for the Chinese national team, just as CSKA Moscow was for the Soviet Union.



ST PETERSBURG: As young Russians like Buffalo's Mikhail Grigorenko struggle to adapt to the NHL, teams are struggling to keep them happy. And with the Kontinental Hockey League looming, keeping them happy is a must.

**FUNDING** The KHL sprawls across eight countries and nine time zones, meaning players face a punishing schedule of long flights across Eastern Europe and Asia. That's a new world for ex-Carolina Hurricanes defenseman Brett Bellemore, who had never left North America until he joined Kunlun before the season. For Bellemore, the move was more about seeing the world with his new wife, Natasha, than the financial side of playing in China. "I'd never even had jetlag before," he said. "It's been a bit of a ride, but it's been exciting." Kunlun boasts players from nine countries, ranging from 36-year-old NHL veteran Alexei Ponikarovsky to young Chinese players just starting their careers. Among them is Rudi Ying, an 18-year-old who grew up in the United States after moving there at age 10 to pursue his dream of being a professional hockey player. Spreading hockey beyond China's wealthier classes will be hard, given the cost of equipment and facilities. Right now, soccer is attracting the lion's share of government and private funds, with President Xi the country's No. 1 fan. "I've had one foot in either culture," said Ying, who comes from a privileged background. "It helps me to see how far behind

Yurzinov said part of his mission as Kunlun coach is to improve the Chinese players on his roster with mentoring from older teammates and simply "practice after practice." The focus is firmly on developing local talent, not attracting foreigners to represent China in international play, as 2018 Olympic host South Korea has done. If it can't improve the national team by 2022, China will be the first Olympic host not to take part in the men's tournament. The national team was pounded 9-0 by the Netherlands earlier this year and will play next year's world championship in Division II B, competing against the likes of Mexico and North Korea. Ying will be 23 when the 2022 Olympics take place and hopes he will be a star on home ice for the Chinese national team. He worries the timetable is just too tight, even with Kunlun spawning a new generation. "The reason we created this organization to try to help promote Chinese hockey is because one person can't do it," he said. "If 2022 comes around and I'm the only one who's at that level, it's not going to be enough." —AP

## DERRICK ROSE SAYS HE ASSUMED EX-GIRLFRIEND CONSENTED TO SEX

**LOS ANGELES:** There was no text message that specifically gave Derrick Rose permission to have sex with his ex-girlfriend, but for the NBA star the signs were clear, he testified in a lawsuit that accuses him and two friends of raping the woman.

It started with a morning text message from the woman saying Rose was the reason she "wakes up horny," including a photo of herself in her nightshirt. Rose said Friday he surmised that the "horny" text had triggered consent from that point on, and that was only reinforced for him by their sexual acts she engaged in with him and his personal assistant that night at his house and an invite hours later to her apartment.

The 30-year-old woman denied having sex earlier in the evening at Rose's Beverly Hills mansion, though her testimony was clouded by her claims that she blacked out and could only piece together the evening through short "flashes" of memory and by reviewing a flurry of text messages she apparently was able to send despite being drunk and, possibly, drugged.

At the end of testimony, Rose's lawyer asked a judge to declare a mistrial because of a profane text message that he said the woman's lawyers had failed to reveal until Friday.

The judge said he would take the issue up Tuesday morning before the Knicks point guard is scheduled to

resume testimony. The judge ordered Rose to return to the stand even if it means missing a preseason game the night before in New York.

Rose, 28, was called to the stand by the plaintiff's lawyer as a hostile witness to help make the plaintiff's case that the woman never gave consent to have sex with him and his longtime friends and assistants, Randall Hampton and Ryan Allen. Consent is the main issue for the jury of six women and two men. The men, all friends since adolescence in Chicago, have denied the allegations and said the woman consented.

The Associated Press is not naming the woman because it generally does not identify people who say they are vic-

tims of sexual assault.

Rose said he never received any text from the woman telling him she wanted to have sex with him and the two others. But he had assumed from what had transpired and the fact she had never told him no.

"In my mind, she consented every time we had sex," he said. "Why wouldn't she do it that time?"

Attorney Waukeen McCoy suggested Rose had no remorse about the night. "I'm sensitive to it," Rose replied, but added, "I feel I didn't do anything wrong." Rose hadn't seen the woman since breaking up months earlier, but invited her over for drinks that night. Rose retreated to his room, where he rebuffed

further advances until a friend removed her from the room.

Rose said the woman was acting a bit abnormally, but he didn't think she was drunk. Rose said he once had feelings for the woman and thought they had a bond. He was once asked if he thought she was after his money. "Not at that time," he said.

Defense lawyers have described her as a gold digger and suggested she had sued for money. She denied that saying: "I didn't wish him any harm, I wanted him to be accountable."

The woman didn't report the incident to police until she filed suit more than two years later. Los Angeles police still have an open investigation. — AP

## LYNAGH SAYS LACK OF DEPTH HURTING WALLABIES

**LONDON:** Wallaby legend Michael Lynagh believes a lack of depth lies behind Australia's post World Cup slump. Michael Cheika's men return to Twickenham yesterday for their Rugby Championship finale against Argentina in their first match at 'headquarters' since a World Cup final defeat by New Zealand just over a year ago. Few would have forecast then that loss would mark the start of a run of six straight defeats for Australia, albeit all the games concerned were against the world champion All Blacks and a resurgent England coached by former Wallaby boss Eddie Jones. Australia head into this weekend's match in London having won just twice in eight games, with the initial optimism engendered under Cheika, who took charge following the shock resignation of Ewen McKenzie in October 2014, now a thing of the past.

"We thought that under difficult circumstances, the team and Michael Cheika performed very well to get to the final," Lynagh, 52, told AFP in an interview on Friday at the London office of financial media firm Dow Jones Corporate, where he works as the managing director for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. "They played good rugby but it's not that much different to the team that's been trotted out this year," explained former fly-half Lynagh, a key member of the Wallabies' 1991 World Cup-winning side.

Lynagh, whose 911 points in 72 Tests remains an Australia record, added, however: "There's been some issues. (David) Pocock hasn't played a lot of games and he was arguably one of the players of the tournament at the World Cup. "The England games we were down to our fifth inside centre which, when you are a nation such as Australia that struggles with depth, is not great and it's the same now."

"When you look at them, (Matt) Giteau, (Kurtley) Beale, (Matt) Toomua and (Christian) Lealifano are all out."

### 'STRUGGLE'

Last week's 18-10 defeat by South Africa was typical of Australia's recent problems, with the normally efficient Wallabies failing to make their pressure count.

"When you get more than 50 percent of the ball, you look at the Wallabies and you think they are going to score a lot of tries—that was the case at the World Cup—and

they normally win games," said Lynagh. "But it's been a real struggle this year to score tries. Whether that's because oppositions have worked them out, whether they don't have enough versatility in their armoury, we've yet to see."

"But we are in a rebuilding phase. We lost six in a row there but all six of them to the number one and number two teams in the world (New Zealand and England) so it's not too bad."

Argentina head into yesterday's match with just one win, over South Africa, in this season's Rugby Championship. But Lynagh insisted the Pumas, defeated by Australia at Twickenham in last year's World Cup semi-final, will still be one of the "teams to beat" at the 2019 edition in Japan.

Right now, he reckons they are paying the price for the first season of the Jaguares team—the Argentina side in all but name—in the Super Rugby club competition.

"They had a tough Super Rugby tournament—it was their first time in there and I think players dealing with the travel and it's a long season and it's always the same group of players," Lynagh said. "They wanted to incorporate more teams and I think that's diluted the product a little bit."

"I can understand wanting Argentina to be there, but when you've got an extra South African team, another Australian team and a Japanese team who play home games in Singapore as well. More is not necessarily better. "But Argentina play a pretty good brand of rugby. They are pretty dangerous and they've been very close (to more wins) and they'll go close again yesterday. "I think that with teams in both these championships, they will really benefit and they will be one of the teams to beat at the next World Cup." Television analyst Lynagh, who overcame a life-threatening stroke in 2012, finished his playing career with London club Saracens, now the reigning English and European champions.

Saracens boss Mark McCall has led criticism of last week's England training camp which included a judo session that saw Wasps flanker Sam Jones break his leg and Bath wing Anthony Watson fracture his jaw.

"It's just ludicrous," said Lynagh. "You can't have a guy playing for Saracens or whoever on a Sunday, then going doing judo sessions on Monday and Tuesday and then playing Wasps yesterday. It's just too much." —AFP

## VETTEL PLAYS DOWN FERRARI BOSS' COMMENTS ON FUTURE

**SUZUKA:** Sebastian Vettel said he had nothing to sort out with Maurizio Arrivabene, playing down comments the Ferrari team principal made that the German had to earn his place at the Italian Formula One team.

"I know that there is nothing between us, nothing that we need to sort out," Vettel, who said he was not aware of the comments, told reporters at the Suzuka circuit yesterday after Japanese Grand Prix qualifying. "I enjoy a really good relationship with him and I think if there's something that I don't like, I tell him and equally the other way around," the four-times world champion said. Arrivabene, speaking to broadcaster Sky Sports Italia, made the comments in reference to Vettel's future. "Each of us has goals," Arrivabene said, adding that a decision on Vettel's contract, which is up for renewal at the end of next season, would be made during 2017.

"So it is only right that anyone, no matter who it is, earns their place and their salary," Arrivabene added. He suggested Vettel needed to focus on getting the most out of the car and not get distracted by other aspects of the team's operation.

Vettel, 29, joined Ferrari at the start of

last season, hoping to emulate boyhood idol Michael Schumacher by turning the sport's most successful season into a championship-winning force again.

The partnership won three races in their first year together, becoming the only team apart from Mercedes to stand on the top step of the podium.

But an expected title challenge has failed to materialise this year with Ferrari slipping back behind Vettel's former team Red Bull. The German, who retired on the opening lap of the last race in Malaysia after shoving Nico Rosberg's Mercedes into a spin, has also come in for criticism from the Italian media.

"As much as the team wants to perform, I want to perform," said Vettel, who qualified fourth behind team mate Kimi Raikkonen in Japan but will drop three places on the grid as punishment for colliding with Rosberg at Sepang.

"I had races this year where I didn't do so, I wasn't happy with myself because there was more on the table," he added.

Vettel is fifth in the standings, behind Raikkonen. The Finn won the world championship with Ferrari in 2007, the team's last drivers' title. —Reuters



**SUZUKA:** Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team's German driver Nico Rosberg (C) celebrates after taking pole position ahead of teammate Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team's British driver Lewis Hamilton (L) and Scuderia Ferrari's Finnish driver Kimi Raikkonen during the qualifying session at the Formula One Japanese Grand Prix in Suzuka yesterday. —AFP

## ROSBERG KEEPS SQUEEZE ON HAMILTON WITH JAPAN POLE

**SUZUKA:** Nico Rosberg stormed to pole position at the Japanese Grand Prix in a pulsating climax yesterday's qualifying, piling yet more pressure on world title holder Lewis Hamilton.

The German, who has a 23-point lead over Hamilton in the Formula One championship with five races to go, will start alongside his British foe on the front row as the two Mercedes continued to dominate in Suzuka.

Rosberg has been quickest all weekend with Hamilton forced to play second fiddle after being cruelly robbed of victory in Malaysia by a blown engine six days ago.

The triple world champion asked questions of his fierce rival, but Rosberg showed nerves of steel to produce a blistering lap that pipped Hamilton by just 0.013s in a nail-biting finish to qualifying. Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen will start from third in Sunday's race, next to Dutch teenager Max Verstappen's Red Bull.

"I knew I could do it. I just had to get my head down and nail it," said Rosberg after securing his eighth pole of the year, the same number as

Hamilton. "The end of qualifying was pretty intense but I had a good feeling—I knew if I put in a decent lap then it should be enough," added the German, whose slender edge over Hamilton was calculated by Mercedes to work out to just 82 centimetres.

"I still need to get the job done on the start tomorrow, then race pace, strategy. We're feeling good about it and we think we can be quickest tomorrow."

### REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

Rosberg, chasing his first win in Japan and his fourth in his last five races, is hoping for a reversal of fortune at Suzuka after failing to convert pole into victory in 2014 and 2015, both times losing out to Hamilton.

Meanwhile, Sebastian Vettel was fourth fastest for Ferrari but a three-place grid penalty for a first-corner crash with Rosberg in Malaysia means he starts seventh.

Daniel Ricciardo, who inherited victory in Sepang after Hamilton's misfortune, lines up fifth

ahead of Force India's Sergio Perez, while Vettel starts alongside Romain Grosjean's Haas on the fourth row. Nico Hulkenberg's Force India and the second Haas of Esteban Gutierrez rounded out the top 10. There was frustration for McLaren in engine supplier Honda's home race, however, with Fernando Alonso starting on row eight and Jenson Button one row behind after failing to escape the first qualifying round.

Hamilton insisted he could still halt Rosberg's surging momentum by winning Sunday's race, having done exactly that in Japan the past two years. "I did as well as I could I think," said Hamilton, who courted controversy this week by hinting his Malaysia heartbreak may have been caused by sabotage from within Mercedes.

"History has shown you don't have to be on pole to get the win."

The Briton bristled when asked if he was too hard on his engines. "For people's reference there's nothing wrong with my driving style," sniffed Hamilton. "I asked the team and it's not the case, it never has been." —AFP

## RICKY BURNS EYES BRONER BOUT AFTER TITLE DEFENCE

**LONDON:** Scotland's Ricky Burns made a successful first defence of his World Boxing Association super-lightweight title with a hard-fought points win over Kiryl Relikh in Glasgow on Friday. Victory took Burns, 33, closer to a clash with American four-weight champion Adrien Broner.

But he did not have things all his own way before prevailing 118-110, 116-112, 116-112 on the three judges' scorecards for a unanimous points decision.

The fight was made all the more emotional for Burns and his legion of fans after it was announced Wednesday that all money from remaining ticket sales would be donated to the family of dead boxer Mike Towell. Towell died in hospital last Friday after being stretchered from the ring in Glasgow the previous day.

Belarus boxer Relikh, coached by former world champion Ricky Hatton, made a strong start as he fully justified his pre-fight record of 19 knockouts in 21 wins.

But a straight right by Burns that landed on the 26-year-old Relikh towards the end of the fourth round brought forth cheers from the crowd. The resilient Relikh kept pursuing Burns and he landed with a couple of heavy punches in the 10th round.

Three-weight world champion Burns went down in the 12th and final round, but only due to a slip rather than a punch, and by that stage he had done enough to hold on to the WBA belt.

After the bout, he quickly turned his attention to the prospect of facing Broner in Las Vegas.

"If the money is right, I will fight anyone," Burns told Sky Sports. "Broner, when he is on his game, is a very good fighter. "I don't see the point in going anywhere else. At some point I can get a big fight over there."

As for his victory over Relikh, Burns conceded: "In the second round he caught me with a couple. "He could whack. I know people go on about big punchers all the time but there were some punches there - I can hardly lift my hands tonight." But we stuck to the game-plan, we stuck to boxing. I got the win and that is the main thing. We move on to the next one." — AFP



**Ricky Burns**



**Sebastian Vettel**



# ENGLAND'S BALL IN DHAKA 'DREAM DEBUT'

**DHAKA:** Fast bowler Jake Ball made a dream debut in Dhaka by becoming the first England bowler to take five wickets in his first one-day international during Friday's 21-run win against Bangladesh. Bangladesh, replying to England's 309-8, appeared to be coasting towards their target with opener Imrul Kayes (112) clubbing a century and racking up a 118-run partnership with all-rounder

Shakib Al Hasan. With the hosts needing 39 runs off 52 balls, Ball helped England claw their way back into the fight by removing Shakib, who played one of the finest innings of his career before going for 79 off 55 balls. Ball bowled young Mosaddek Hossain off the next ball and completed the dramatic win with the wicket of Taskin Ahmed as England claimed the

last six wickets for 17 runs to dismiss Bangladesh for 288 runs. The visitors have a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. "It was a debut you can't forget really," Ball said after the match. "It was a dream debut," said Ball. Ball, whose only Test match to date has been against Pakistan in July, also praised the England dressing room. "I think it's a really nice dressing room

to be in," he said. "The first thing I noticed is how much of unit everyone is as they all back each other. Confidence is really high. We play a brand of cricket that we believe ourselves and back ourselves. We did that today and managed to come out on top," he said. A fierce competition to get a place in the starting line-up also helped him, said the Nottinghamshire man.

"The players on the sideline would probably walk into another team," he said. "It makes you keep performing. There are always people snapping behind you to come into the team," Ball said. England play Bangladesh in the second one-day international at the same Dhaka venue on Sunday. The two teams move to Chittagong for the third and final match of the series on October 12. —AFP

## JOHN DALY BIRDIES FINAL 5 HOLES AT NEWPORT BEACH

**NEWPORT BEACH:** John Daly birdied the final five holes Friday in the Toshiba Classic, leaving him three strokes behind fellow senior newcomer Billy Mayfair and 62-year-old Jay Haas. Making his 14th PGA Tour Champions start since turning 50 in April, Daly finished with a 4-under 67 at Newport Beach Country Club after playing the front nine in even par and dropping a stroke on 13. The two-time major champion has three top-20 finishes on the senior tour, the best a tie for 11th in July in New York at the Dick's Sporting Goods Open. Haas, the 2007 winner, birdied the final hole to match Mayfair at 64. Mayfair eagled the par-5 third and had six birdies - four on the last five holes - and one bogey. He's making his sixth start on the tour after turning 50 in August. Larry Mize, Paul Goydos and Michael Allen shot 65. Mize played the back-nine in 5-under 31. Ross Cochran shot 66, and defending champion Duffy Waldorf was at 67 along with Daly, Mark Calcavecchia, Ian Woosnam, Joey Sindelar, Mark Brooks, Jay Don Blake, John Cook, Fred Funk, Billy Andrade, Jerry Smith, Doug Garwood and brothers Bart and Brad Bryant.

### ALFRED DUNHILL LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP

England's Ross Fisher shot a 4-under 68 on the Old Course at St. Andrews to take a one-stroke lead in the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship. Fisher had seven birdies and three bogeys to reach 111-under 133. The five-time European Tour winner opened with a 65 at Kingsbarns, will play Carnoustie today and return to St. Andrews today for the final round. Sweden's Joakim Lagergren was second after a 68 at Kingsbarns. Sweden's Alex Noren was 9 under after a 71 at Kingsbarns. Belgium's Thomas Pieters was five back after a 68, also at Kingsbarns. Ryder Cup teammate Martin Kaymer was another stroke back after his own 68 at Kingsbarns.

### LPGA TAIWAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Hee Young Park and Ha Na Jang fought through gusty wind and early rain to share the second-round lead in the LPGA Taiwan Championship. The South Korean players each shot their second straight 3-under 69 at Miramar. They also each had only one bogey, Jang on the par-4 15th when she got a chip only halfway to the hole and missed a 20-footer, and Park on the par-4 16th when she drove into a bunker and came up well short of the green in two. Canada's Brooke Henderson (71) was a stroke back along with China's Shanshan Feng (69), South Korea's So Yeon Ryu (68) and South Africa's Lee-Anne Pace (70).

Defending champion Lydia Ko was tied for 18th at 1 under after a 73. The top-ranked New Zealander won by nine strokes last year, and has four LPGA Tour victories this year. Park played the first seven holes in 4 under in the worst conditions of the round. She set up birdies with irons to 4 feet on No. 1, a foot on No. 4, and 4 feet on No. 6, ran in an 18-footer on No. 7, and saved par on No. 8 with a 20-foot putt.

### FIIJI INTERNATIONAL

Brandt Snedeker eagled the par-5 sixth hole and shot a 7-under 65 in the windy Fiji International to climb the Australian-dominated leaderboard. Coming off the United States' Ryder Cup victory today in Minnesota, Snedeker was a stroke behind leader Matthew Giles after two rounds at Vijay Singh-designed Natadola Bay. Giles had a 66 to reach 11 under in the event sanctioned by European, Australasian and Asian tours. One of eight Australians in the top 10, he eagled the par-4 eighth and had seven birdies and three bogeys. The 27-year-old Australian was looking forward to playing alongside Snedeker. Snedeker added five birdies in a bogey-free round. He has gone 34 holes without a bogey. First-round leader Anthony Houston also was 10 under after a 69. Boo Weekley was 3 under after a 72, and fellow American Heath Slocum another shot back after a 73. Singh was 1 over after a 75. The 53-year-old Fijian is a three-time major champion.

### ASIA-PACIFIC AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Brett Coletta shot his second straight 5-under 67 to take a one stroke lead over fellow Australian Cameron Davis in the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship. The 20-year-old Coletta eagled the par-5 15th and had five birdies and two bogeys at Jack Nicklaus Golf Club, the site of the Presidents Cup matches last year. The winner Sunday will receive a spot in the Masters in the event conducted by the Asia Pacific Golf Confederation, the Masters and The R&A. The 21-year-old Davis, the first-round leader after a 65, birdied the last two holes for a 70. Davis was second last year in Hong Kong in the rain-shortened tournament. Two weeks ago in Mexico, he led Australia to victory in the World Amateur Team Championship and won the individual title. Japan's Junya Kameshiro was third at 7 under after a 69. Curtis Luck, the Australian who wrapped up a Masters invitation in August with his US. Amateur victory, shot a 69 to match Thailand's K.K. Limbhasut (68) and Japan's Yuwa Kosaihira (72) at 5 under. — AP



**INDORE:** India's captain and batsman Virat Kohli reaches the wicket to avoid a runout during the first day of the third Test match between India and New Zealand at The Holkar Cricket Stadium in Indore yesterday. — AFP

# TON-UP KOHLI STEERS INDIA TO 267/3 AGAINST N ZEALAND

**INDORE:** Skipper Virat Kohli struck form with a gritty century as India ended the opening day's play on a commanding 267 for three against New Zealand in the third and final Test in Indore yesterday.

The hosts, who elected to bat first, rode on an unbeaten 167-run partnership between Kohli (103) and Ajinkya Rahane (79) to gain control of the innings after early losses. Kohli recorded his 13th Test ton in 48 matches after a string of low scores in his last seven innings since his first Test double hundred against West Indies in July.

The top-order batsman, who tackled the New Zealand bowlers with excellent footwork, hit the ball to all parts of the Holkar Stadium. Rahane, who seemed to gain confidence from the free-flowing Kohli at the other end, brought up his fifty-the tenth of his Test career-with a six off Jeetan Patel.

"Virat played a very good innings and got the first century (from either side) in the series and Ajinkya too batted well," number three batsman Cheteshwar Pujara, who scored 41, told reporters. "Their partnership was crucial and if it carries on tomorrow it will be good for us," Pujara said. The 27-year-old Kohli worked hard in the initial part of his innings but grew in stature after getting past fifty and his assured stroke-making soon dominated the New Zealand bowling. Kohli tapped a rising delivery from Matt Henry to run a quick single that saw a direct hit at the non-strikers end but the star batsman scampered home and celebrated his hundred. New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson, who returned to lead the side after missing the second Test with a viral infection, juggled his bowling options but Kohli and Rahane held fort.

The hosts did not lose a single wicket in the space of 34 overs in the final session as the batting duo entertained the raucous home crowd.

"We will try to bat as long as possible. The kind of position we are in, we will look to get 400 and if we don't lose quick wickets tomorrow and continue like we are doing, we will keep batting. We hope for a big total and when our spinners bowl we expect some more help from the wicket on day two and three," said Pujara.

### GAMBHIR'S BREEZY KNOCK

Earlier in post-lunch play number-three Pujara was bowled off a beauty by left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner for 41. He had put on 40 runs with Kohli.

India lost both its openers in the morning session with returning Gautam Gambhir (29), who was playing Test cricket after a two-year gap, letting go of a good start.

Pace spearhead Trent Boult cut short Gambhir's breezy knock, which was studded with three fours and two sixes, after trapping the left-handed batsman lbw on an incoming delivery. Boult, Santner and Patel, who struck first after sending back Murali Vijay for 10, shared a wicket apiece in the 90 overs of play.

New Zealand allrounder James Neesham, who was added to the starting lineup in place of Neil Wagner, said the visitors were in with a chance provided they strike early on day two.

"I don't know if we could have done it a whole lot different with the ball, stuck at it well...Keeping the run rate below three was a good achievement. Couple of quick wickets tomorrow we're still in game," said Neesham on Saturday. The hosts, who took a 2-0 lead after winning the second Test in Kolkata on Monday, have set their sights on a whitewash against the tourists. — AFP

### SCOREBOARD

**INDORE, India:** Scoreboard at stumps on the opening day of the third and final Test between India and New Zealand in Indore yesterday:

India 1st innings:		Bowling:
M. Vijay c Latham b Patel	10	Boult 16-2-54-1, Henry 20-3-65-0, Patel 24-3-65-1, Santner 19-3-53-1, Neesham 11-1-27-0 (2 nb)
G. Gambhir lbw b Boult	29	To bat: R. Sharma, R. Ashwin, W. Saha, R. Jadeja, M. Shami, U. Yadav
C. Pujara b Santner	41	New Zealand: K. Williamson (captain), M. Guptill, T. Latham, R. Taylor, L.
V. Kohli not out	103	Ronchi, B.J. Watling (wicketkeeper), M. Santner, J. Patel, M. Henry, J. Neesham,
A. Rahane not out	79	T. Boult.
Extras (b 1, lb 2, nb 2)	5	
Total (3 wickets; 90 overs)	267	
Fall of wickets: 1-26 (Vijay), 2-60 (Gambhir), 3-100 (Pujara)		

## PAKISTAN INCLUDES IN-FORM AZAM FOR DAY-NIGHT TEST

**KARACHI:** Pakistan yesterday included in-form Babar Azam for the first Test against the West Indies, Asia's first day-night match to be played with a pink ball.

The 21-year-old batsman notched up 360 runs during the West Indies one-day series that ended Wednesday. Azam, who has played 18 one-day internationals and four Twenty20s, has yet to play a Test.

Senior batsman Younis Khan will, however, miss the first of the three Tests as he continues recovering from dengue fever. The squad for the other two Tests will be announced later.

Chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq said Azam was being rewarded for his prolific form.

"We felt Azam did very well on the big stage and is in good form so we have included him in the team so he could be groomed," Inzamam said.

The selectors have dropped misfiring openers Mohammad Hafeez and Shan Masood from the 15-man squad which levelled the four-match Test series against England 2-2.

Inzamam explained the axing of other regular openers. "We consulted the captain

(Misbah-ul-Haq) and coach (Mickey Arthur) and they wanted the same combination which played in the Oval Test where Azhar Ali and Sami Aslam had opened," said Inzamam of Pakistan's last Test in August.

He hoped Younis would recover in time for the second Test.

The second Test starts in Abu Dhabi from October 21 while the final Test is in Sharjah from October 30.

The opening match, in Dubai from October 13, will only be the second Test played under lights and with a pink ball, instead of the usual red. Australia played the first-ever day-night Test in Adelaide in November last year in an attempt to beef up dwindling crowds for the five-day matches.

Left-arm spinning all-rounder Mohammad Nawaz, who has yet to play a Test, is also part of the Pakistan squad. Squad: Misbah-ul-Haq (captain), Azhar Ali, Sami Aslam, Asad Shafiq, Babar Zaman, Mohammad Nawaz, Sarfraz Ahmed, Yasir Shah, Mohammad Amir, Imran Khan, Wahab Riaz, Sohail Khan, Zulfiqar Babar, Rahat Ali. — AFP



**SHARJAH:** Pakistan's batsman Adnan Akmal lifts up his bat after scoring half century during the second day of the tour match between Pakistan Cricket Board Patron's XI and West Indies at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, in the Gulf Emirate of Sharjah, yesterday. — AFP



**NEWPORT BEACH:** John Daly makes a tee shot on the second hole during the first round of the Toshiba Classic at the Newport Beach Country Club on Friday in Newport Beach, California. — AFP

## EX-COSTA RICAN SOCCER CHIEF LI PLEADS GUILTY IN US BRIBERY CASE

**NEW YORK:** A former Costa Rican soccer federation president charged in a US corruption probe involving the sport's global governing body FIFA pleaded guilty on Friday, admitting he took hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes.

Eduardo Li, also an ex-member of the executive committee for the North and Central American and Caribbean soccer confederation, CONCACAF, pleaded guilty in federal court in Brooklyn to charges including wire fraud and racketeering conspiracy.

In court, Li said as president of Costa Rica's soccer federation, FEDEFUT, he accepted bribes to award contracts for media and marketing rights for matches and for sponsoring team uniforms.

"I knew that it was wrong of me to accept such undisclosed payments," Li said through a Spanish interpreter. Li, who prior to his indictment was a member-elect to FIFA's executive committee, also agreed to forfeit \$668,000.

Li, 57, is one of 42 individuals and entities charged in a US investigation that has

rocked FIFA. He was among seven soccer officials arrested at a Zurich luxury hotel in May 2015. U.S. prosecutors allege Li and others engaged in schemes involving over \$200 million in bribes and kickbacks that were sought and received by soccer officials for marketing and broadcasting rights to tournaments and matches. Seventeen people and two entities have pleaded guilty. In court on Friday, Li said he negotiated a \$500,000 bribe, of which \$300,000 he actually received, to award a Miami-based unit of Brazil's Traffic Group

media and marketing rights for 2022 World Cup qualifier matches.

Li said he also agreed to accept a separate \$500,000 bribe, \$230,000 of which he received, from Panama-based intermediaries in exchange for awarding a US company a contract to be the Costa Rican national team's uniform sponsor.

Li added the intermediaries asked him to not tell the company about the bribes. While he did not name the company, the deal matched the description of one announced in 2015 with Boston-based

New Balance. New Balance said in a statement it plans to cooperate with authorities should they contact the company. "New Balance has a long history of ethical and fair play across all of our global business operations and we do not tolerate any corrupt activities," the company said.

Li said he also accepted bribes in connection with friendly matches a Florida-based individual organized, and embezzled \$90,000 FIFA sent FEDEFUT for the 2014 Under 17 FIFA Women's World Cup soccer tournament in Costa Rica. —Reuters

## CHINA CHIEF CONSOLES PLAYERS AFTER SHOCK SYRIA UPSET

**BEIJING:** The chief of China's football association has told the country's players not to lose their confidence, after the team's embarrassing loss to war-torn Syria jeopardised hopes of qualifying for the 2018 World Cup.

The national side's 0-1 defeat Thursday before a home crowd of 40,000 in the northern Chinese city of Xi'an had enraged fans, spurring many to call for the sacking of China's football association president Cai Zhenhua.

But he has ignored the calls so far, and sought to reassure Team Dragon players they "absolutely must not lose confidence because of this loss," the Xin Kuaibao newspaper reported Saturday.

"We still have seven games, you must bring out your fighting spirit. Especially at times like this (after a loss), you mustn't give up." The association told AFP it would not be making further comment on the defeat. China's national team wrote a message after the Syria loss on their official Weibo social media account thanking fans for their "unending cheers" and "fighting by our side".

"You are our pride, and to all our fans who came out yesterday, we'd sincerely like to say we're grateful we have you, thanks for all your trouble," it said on its official

account Friday. "With you there, we can face every defeat, and we can overcome every setback. Keep your head up, we'll continue the struggle!"

China's beleaguered fans have a well-developed sense of humour about the travails of their national side, who are ranked a lowly 78th in the world and have failed to qualify for the World Cup since their first and only appearance in 2002.

In that outing China finished winless and goalless, but under China's president Xi Jinping—an avowed football fan—the country has set its sights on hosting, qualifying for, and winning a World Cup.

Fans dryly noted that while China paid players lavishly, the victorious 114th-ranked Syrian side had flown in on a commercial jet with four layovers, paid their coach 2000 yuan (\$300) per month, and lost many players who had fled the country's violence in the past five years.

Others joked in an article circulated on WeChat social media that if fans had bet 1000 yuan against China every match since 1990, they would now have 4.59 million yuan, better than investing in stocks or bonds. Though the Syria loss hurt their chances, China remain in the running to reach Russia 2018, and will face Uzbekistan on October 11. —AFP

## SERBIA MUST CONTAIN AUSTRIA'S ARNAUTOVIC

**BELGRADE:** Austria forward Marko Arnautovic poses the greatest threat to Serbia's hopes of keeping their 2018 World Cup qualifying campaign on track, captain Branislav Ivanovic said yesterday.

The sides clash in Group D at Red Star Belgrade's stadium on Sunday and Chelsea defender Ivanovic said the outcome could have a telling impact on Serbia's bid to reach their first major tournament since the 2010 World Cup.

Having played against Arnautovic several times in the Premier League, the 32-year-old right back heaped praise on the Stoke City forward, who was born to a Serbian father and an Austrian mother.

"I have the utmost respect for Arnautovic because he has matured in the last year and a half or two," Ivanovic told a news conference. "He has drawn a lot of attention here because of his heritage and in footballing terms, he has perhaps improved beyond the quality of the club he plays for," he added.

"We have to close him down and if we do, we have a good chance of keeping a clean sheet." Wales, Serbia, Austria and Ireland each have four points from two games in what is shaping up to be a fiercely competitive section, with only the group

winners guaranteed an automatic berth in the 32-team tournament in Russia.

Georgia and Moldova are yet to earn a point. Ivanovic headed Serbia's second goal in a 3-0 win at Moldova on Thursday while the Austrians twice came from behind to salvage a 2-2 home draw against Wales thanks to an Arnautovic double.

The towering 27-year old said he would refrain from celebrating if he scored against Serbia and defender Aleksandar Dragovic, born to Serbian parents in Vienna, echoed his view.

"It would be unfair to the fans," Arnautovic told reporters. "It will not be an easy night for me because there will be a lot of emotions, but I will play my heart out." Dragovic added: "We are playing against my parents' country and most of my family will support Serbia, but I think my grand-parents will cheer for me."

Ivanovic said his team needed to keep up their momentum. "The match against Austria is incredibly important for both teams as it could determine the entire qualification process," he said. "In the past few campaigns, we were pretty much out of contention after the opening two or three games whereas the situation is entirely different now." —Reuters



**CHICAGO:** Buster Posey #28 of the San Francisco Giants slides into second base for a double in the ninth inning against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field on Friday in Chicago, Illinois. —AFP

## CHICAGO CUBS WIN DUEL, JAYS AND INDIANS UP 2-0

**LOS ANGELES:** Javier Baez blasted an eighth inning solo home run as the Chicago Cubs won a pitching duel over the San Francisco Giants with a 1-0 victory at Wrigley Field on Friday.

The solo shot by Baez came off Giants starter Johnny Cueto and broke open a scoreless contest, allowing Cubs starter Jon Lester to take the victory in game one of the Major League Baseball playoff series. "This guy was written off as a hitter," Lester said of Baez. "But at times this year he has carried us on both offence and defence."

"Tonight with a big swing he got us on top 1-0." In the other National League playoff contest, Corey Seager and Justin

Turner hit home runs as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Washington Nationals 4-3 in their series opener. In American League games Friday, Cleveland and Toronto moved to within one victory of advancing to the next round as the Indians routed the Boston Red Sox 6-0 and the Blue Jays beat the Texas Rangers 5-3.

The Cubs compiled the best regular season record in the major leagues (103-58) in their quest for their first World Series title in more than a century.

Cubs closer Aroldis Chapman allowed a two-

run double to Buster Posey in the ninth, but got Hunter Pence to ground out to second baseman Baez to seal the win and earn a save.

The victory gave Chicago a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five National League Division Series which resumed yesterday.

Cubs starting pitchers topped the major leagues this season with 81 victories and a 2.94 ERA. Friday was no different as left-hander Lester gave up five hits, struck out five and walked none in a precision 86-pitch outing.

"It was awesome playoff baseball. I am obviously really happy to be on the winning side," Lester said.

Lester departed for pinch hitter Tommy La Stella with two out in the eighth. Cueto, who took the loss, otherwise had a solid three-hit performance. He struck out 10 while walking none. The Giants, who defeated the New York Mets in the wild card game to reach the NL Division Series, are trying to stretch their run of even-year playoff magic, after winning World Series titles in 2010, 2012 and 2014.

### DARVISH GIVES UP 4 HOMERS

In Arlington, Texas, the Blue Jays hit four home runs off Texas pitcher Yu Darvish and

seized a commanding lead in their best-of-five series. They will try to close things out at home on Sunday. Troy Tulowitzki, Kevin Pillar, Ezequiel Carrera and Edwin Encarnacion all homered for Toronto off Japanese ace Darvish.

Shortstop Tulowitzki set the tone when he smacked a two-run blast in the second inning to put Toronto up 2-0. The Rangers trimmed the deficit to 2-1 in the fourth.

But Toronto centre fielder Pillar opened the fifth with a solo homer to left. Carrera followed with another solo homer in the fifth that made it 5-1. Texas scored twice in the eighth, one run coming when Carlos Gomez lined a single that hit Jays pitcher Francisco Liriano in the back of the neck. He departed the game, but was able to walk off under his own steam and was treated in hospital before being released.

In Washington, Seager hit a solo homer in the first and Turner had a two-run shot in the third-both off Max Scherzer—as Los Angeles defeated the Nationals.

Dodgers starter Clayton Kershaw was also hit hard as he allowed three runs and eight hits with seven strikeouts on 101 pitches over five innings. —AFP



**VIENNA:** Austria's Marko Arnautovic and Wales's Joe Allen, from left, challenge for the ball during their World Cup Group D qualifying soccer match at the Ernst Happel Stadium in Vienna, Austria. —AP

## USA BEAT CUBA IN HISTORIC FRIENDLY

**HAVANA:** The United States warmed up for their looming World Cup qualifying clash with Mexico with a 2-0 friendly victory over Cuba on Friday, only the third time in history the two nations have met on Cuban soil.

Chris Wondolowski in the 62nd minute and Julian Green in the 71st scored for the United States. The match at the Estadio Pedro Marrero was the latest byproduct of the thaw in relations between the United States and Cuba, after more than half a century of bitter Cold War enmity.

It is the first time the United States have played in Cuba since their World Cup qualifying clash in Havana in 2008, when the Americans won 1-0 courtesy of a Clint Dempsey goal.

Aside from that, the only other meeting between the teams in Cuba came in 1947, when the hosts won 5-2. "Today we made history," said forward Jozy Altidore. "Thanks to Cuba for the hospitality and here's to continuing to improve our relations in the future."

Yet while Friday's game came loaded with political symbolism, for USA coach Jurgen Klinsmann the match was key preparation for World Cup qualifiers. After an hour of frustration, San Jose Earthquakes striker Wondolowski, a halftime substitute, broke the scoreless deadlock, slamming in a rebound from a Green attempt saved by Cuban goalkeeper Sandy Sanchez. Less than 10 minutes later, it was Wondolowski's low cross across the Cuban goal mouth that Bayern Munich winger Green-recalled for the first time since May-seized to slot home.

The spirited Cubans had given the visitors a scare with two shots off the post before the United States took control in the second half. Goalkeeper Ethan Horvath, making his US debut, made a save on Roberney Caballero's shot in the 28th minute to keep the game scoreless, and minutes later thwarted an attempt by Aricheel Hernandez. The US got a fright of another kind in the 80th minute,

when Steve Birnbaum was kicked in the head by a leaping Cuban player. He was treated on the field and was able to walk off under his own steam.

Klinsmann's men open their CONCACAF "Hexagonal" World Cup qualifying competi-

tion with a home match against Mexico in Columbus, Ohio, on November 11 before facing 2014 World Cup quarter-finalists Costa Rica in San Jose four days later. They'll play another tuneup friendly on Tuesday against New Zealand in Washington. —AFP



**HAVANA:** Danny Williams, of the US, left, and Cuba's Duxney Alberto Espinosa, fight for control of the ball, during a friendly soccer match in the Pedro Marrero Stadium in Havana, Cuba, Friday. The US won the match 2-0. —AP

## TOP 10 DEBUT FOR KONTA WITH CHINA OPEN SEMI WIN

**BEIJING:** Johanna Konta became the first British woman in 32 years to break into the top 10, after she beat Madison Keys to reach the final of the China Open yesterday.

Andy Murray is also through to the final in Beijing-his ninth final of the season-after downing Spaniard David Ferrer 6-2, 6-3. The Scot will face Grigor Dimitrov, who got a free pass when Wimbledon runner-up Milos Raonic withdrew from their semi-final match with an ankle injury.

Konta put in a solid performance to advance to the biggest final of her career, beating eighth-ranked Keys 7-6 (7/1), 4-6, 6-4. After a tight first set, Keys' serve let her down in the tiebreaker but she rallied in the second despite continued pressure from the Briton. Konta

demanded seven set points from Keys for the second set and then stepped up her game in the third, keeping the American on the defensive to take her a step closer to her second season-and career-title. "I don't think she made a lot of unforced errors or gave me a lot of balls to be able to get on the offense," Keys told reporters after the match. Konta, 25, burst onto the scene at last year's US Open where she reached the round of 16, claiming two top 20 scalps along the way. She has gone up another gear this season, becoming the first British woman to reach a Grand Slam semi-final in 33 years at the Australian Open and reaching the quarter-finals at the Rio Olympics.

The win in the Chinese capital is yet another one for the record books: she

will be the first British woman to break into the top 10 since Jo Durie in 1984 when the new rankings are released Monday.

### SMASHING RECORDS

Durie, who reached a career high of five, tweeted her congratulations after the match: "Congrats to @JoKonta91 a fantastic year & thoroughly deserves the Top Ten ranking. More to come I'm sure."

Although typically focused Konta was quick to put aside thoughts of her top 10 achievement, she admitted that breaking another of Durie's records felt good. "I know I've achieved something good whenever I'm mentioned in the same sentence as her (Durie)," Konta said. There was a lot on the line for both Konta and Keys as they chase points to

qualify for the first time for the eight-player season finale in Singapore. Konta moves into eighth spot with the semi-final win, while Keys remains in seventh position, but with two weeks to go before the tournament both could be nudged out.

Konta will face third-ranked Agnieszka Radwanska in Sunday's final, after she beat Ukrainian Elina Svitolina 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 in the semis.

Svitolina-who upset world number one Angelique Kerber in the third round — recovered from 3-0 in the second set but was unable to close the gap on the 2011 China Open champion.

Meanwhile Raonic pulled out of his semi-final match a few hours before it was due to start.

"Yesterday during my second match

in the evening... I rolled over my ankle, obviously caused it some level of a sprain," Raonic told reporters. The sixth-ranked 25-year-old has been stalked by injuries all season, costing him the chance to bag his first Grand Slam title. He was two sets up to Murray in the Australian Open semis when he suffered a thigh injury, eventually losing in five.

The big-serving Canadian was also tipped to make a run for the crown at Flushing Meadows, but fell in the second round after again injuring himself on court.

Murray made quick work of Ferrer for a place in the finals. The Spaniard had lost his previous six matches against Murray and failed to get a look in after the Scot went two breaks up in the first set. —AFP

## SWISS WIN FIVE-GOAL THRILLER IN HUNGARY

**BUDAPEST:** Substitute Valentin Stocker scored in the last minute to give Switzerland a 3-2 win away to Hungary on Friday after Adam Szalai had twice equalised for the hosts in a thrilling World Cup qualifier.

The Swiss went top of Group B with six points from two matches following a game in which all five goals were scored after halftime, while Hungary were left with one point and already look unlikely to make a first World Cup appearance since 1986.

The Faroe Islands are second with four points after their shock 2-0 win in Latvia, while Portugal and Latvia have three and Andorra none.

Switzerland struggled to get going in the first half without the suspended Granit Xhaka, who usually dictates the rhythm in midfield.

But striker Haris Seferovic, widely criticised for his performances at Euro 2016 when he failed to score a goal, put them in front six minutes after halftime, scoring from a rebound after Xherdan Shaqiri's shot

was saved by Peter Gulacsi.

Szalai equalised two minutes later, also from a rebound after his own shot hit the post. Left back Ricardo Rodriguez put Switzerland back in front in the 67th minute, volleying home from Valon Behrami's lofted cross for his first international goal, only for Szalai to again equalise four minutes later.

Switzerland were not to be denied, however, and snatched the points when a long thrown-in was twice headed on and Stocker scored at the far post.

"Hungary applied lots of pressure on us during the game which was intense and entertaining. Hungary came back at us twice, but we showed character at end," Switzerland coach Vladimir Petkovic told reporters. His Hungarian counterpart Bernd Storck added: "It was a dynamic and good game, both teams gave all they had. We are very disappointed because came back twice against a top team, but we made too many mistakes and they made us pay for them." — Reuters



**AVEIRO:** Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo challenges Andorra's Victor Rodriguez, left, during their World Cup Group B qualifying soccer match at the Municipal Stadium in Aveiro, Portugal on Friday. Ronaldo scored four goals in Portugal's 6-0 victory. — AP

## RUTHLESS RONALDO HITS FOUR, FRANCE AND DUTCH RUN RIOT

**PARIS:** Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice in the opening four minutes on the way to a four-goal haul as European champions Portugal smashed Andorra 6-0 in World Cup qualifying on Friday, while France recovered from a goal down to thrash Bulgaria.

The Real Madrid superstar was making his first appearance for Portugal since he was stretched off injured and in tears from the final of Euro 2016 and he wasted no time in making up for his three-month absence from international football.

The 31-year-old took just 73 seconds to make his mark. He was wrestled to the floor at a corner but then jumped up to volley in left footed from around the penalty spot after the Andorra goalkeeper could only parry a Portugal header.

Ronaldo, who has struggled to get back to his brilliant best for Real since returning from his knee trouble, was at it again two minutes later when he was left totally unmarked on the six-yard box to rise and head in. It was only a matter of how many for the home side after that, as Portugal belatedly got three points on the board in Group B, after losing in Switzerland in the opening group matches.

Ronaldo made it the perfect hat-trick just 90 seconds after the break, grabbing his third-Portugal's fourth-with a sweet right-footed volley. Andorra's nightmare evening got that bit worse just after the hour when they went down to 10 men, Jordi Rubio receiving a second yellow card for clattering late and hard into Ronaldo, who punished the away side soon after with another fine half-volley for 5-0.

Cynical and increasingly desperate Andorra saw red again when Marc Rebès was the next to get sent off, again for cutting down the man of the moment Ronaldo.

Andre Silva sealed the punishment four minutes from time. "We know that Switzerland and the Faroes won tonight and it will be necessary for us to beat them during qualification," said Ronaldo who now has 65 international goals. "There are eight games left and we want to win them all to reach the World Cup finals."

### GAMEIRO AT THE DOUBLE

France, agonisingly beaten by Portugal in Paris in the Euro final in July, returned to the scene of that heartbreak and got off to the worst possible start when they conceded after just six minutes at the Stade de France. Mihail Aleksandrov stroked home from the penalty spot to give the Bulgarians a shock lead in a very competitive-looking Group A. But the French stormed back with two goals from Kevin Gameiro-making his first international start in almost five years-in a convincing 4-1 win. "It was a perfect evening. We reacted well and then ran away with it," Gameiro, back in favour at the age of 29, told TF1. "I felt enormously proud and especially full of desire. Hard work pays off." The Netherlands, who failed to make it to the Euros, top the group after they defeated Belarus 4-1 in Rotterdam. Quincy Promes grabbed a first-half brace for the Dutch.

France travel to Amsterdam tomorrow for a mouthwatering clash with the Netherlands.

Under-achieving Belgium also enjoyed a fine home win, Eden Hazard scoring a beauty in the first period as they defeated Bosnia and Herzegovina 4-0 to go top of Group H.

European World Cup qualifying continues, when England host minnows Malta at Wembley for interim manager Gareth Southgate's first game in charge after the departure in disgrace of Sam Allardyce. — AFP

### Live Matches on TV (Local Timings)

#### WORLD CUP 2018 EUROPEAN QUALIFIERS

<b>Finland v Croatia</b>	<b>19:00</b>
Abu Dhabi SPORTS 3 HD	
<b>Ukraine v Kosovo</b>	<b>19:00</b>
Abu Dhabi SPORTS 5 HD	
<b>Albania v Spain</b>	<b>21:45</b>
Abu Dhabi SPORTS 3 HD	
<b>Macedonia v Italy</b>	<b>21:45</b>
Abu Dhabi SPORTS 4 HD	
<b>Moldova v Ireland</b>	<b>21:45</b>
Abu Dhabi SPORTS 2 HD	

#### WC2018 AFRICAN QUALIFIERS

<b>Zambia v Nigeria</b>	<b>15:30</b>
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
<b>Congo v Egypt</b>	<b>17:30</b>
beIN SPORTS 1 HD	
<b>Tunisia v Guinea</b>	<b>20:00</b>
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
<b>Algeria v Cameroon</b>	<b>22:30</b>
beIN SPORTS 1 HD	

## SOUTHGATE CAUGHT UP IN TAX AVOIDANCE DISPUTE

**LONDON:** England interim manager Gareth Southgate is among hundreds of rich clients caught up in a multi-million-pound tax avoidance dispute with British authorities, a newspaper reported Friday, on the eve of his first match in charge.

Southgate invested in two partnerships set up by a film investment fund, Ingenious, which is accused by Her

when the case was resolved.

But the timing is embarrassing for the 46-year-old and for the Football Association, the English game's governing body, as they hope to draw a line under former manager Sam Allardyce's controversial exit. Southgate takes charge of England for the first time in Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Malta, barely a fortnight after his predecessor quit in disgrace after just 67 days and one game at the helm.

Allardyce, 61, was secretly filmed by undercover reporters giving advice on how to circumnavigate transfer rules and mocking England predecessor Roy Hodgson.

Appointed England manager on a £3 million-a-year contract (\$3.9 million, 3.3 million euros), Allardyce also agreed to travel to Singapore and Hong Kong as an ambassador for their fictitious firm for a fee of £400,000.

According to the Daily Mirror, Southgate is one of about 400 rich clients of Ingenious, a movie financing firm that has backed films such as Avatar but which is accused of creating artificial losses to help investors avoid tax.

Following a tribunal ruling earlier this year, investors are facing a bill for £434 million (482 million euros, \$540 million) in unpaid tax, plus interest and legal fees, according to the Mirror.

Ingenious denies it operated as a tax avoidance scheme. A spokesman for the FA told AFP: "This is a private matter." Meanwhile, The Times newspaper reported that England captain Wayne Rooney is facing a £3.5 million tax bill after a separate film investment partnership in which he put his money was also accused of tax avoidance. "Wayne's tax affairs have always been conducted in full compliance with the law," a spokesman told the newspaper. —AFP



Gareth Southgate

Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) of being part of an elaborate scheme to avoid paying tax, the Daily Mirror said.

A source close to the former England player told AFP he made the investments in 2004 in good faith and would not challenge any tax demand that might arise



**YPANE:** Paraguayan national football team player Oscar Romero (C) controls the ball during a training session at the Complejo Albiroga training centre in Ypane, near Asuncion, on Friday ahead of their Russia 2018 World Cup qualifier match against Argentina. — AFP

## WEST HAM COUNT COST AS RELOCATION SPARKS TURF WAR

**LONDON:** While historic Upton Park is being reduced to rubble by demolition workers, just across east London the price of progress seems painfully high to the West Ham fans engaged in a struggle for their club's soul.

Just five months ago West Ham waved farewell to Upton Park, their home for 112 years, and headed into a bright and lucrative future in their new and bigger London Stadium.

Becoming the main tenants at the former Olympic Stadium had been a gruelling process, but West Ham's hierarchy felt the politicking and legal wrangles would be worthwhile if the increased revenue helped transform their under-achieving club into a major force. Determined to fill the stadium, season-ticket prices were slashed to a cheapest mark of £289 (\$359, 320 euros) for adults, in comparison to Upton Park's lowest range of £600, and business was booming at the box office ahead of the new Premier League sea-

son. West Ham's number of season-ticket holders doubled to over 50,000, close to stadium capacity, but while co-owners David Sullivan and David Gold counted the cash, the streets around their new home have become paved with blood rather than gold.

Traditionally drawing their support from the working-classes who grew up in the tough districts around Upton Park, West Ham's change of address was expected to repeat the trend of crowd gentrification seen at Arsenal and Chelsea. Once feared in the 1980s for their large number of hooligans, Chelsea's fanbase underwent a remarkable change when higher ticket prices saw many old-school supporters usurped by the middle classes, who saw the modern game as a fashionable addition to their lifestyle.

West Ham had serious problems with their "Inter-City Firm" of hooligans for many years as well, but rather than keep out the undesirable

elements, the cheap tickets and larger stadium have allowed a way back in for some of the club's more volatile followers and a new breed keen to follow in their violent footsteps.

Adding to the explosive mix, fans who stood throughout matches at Upton Park have quickly become frustrated by the club and local council's desire to ensure they stay sitting in their new abode. Continuing to flout the rule, those supporters have turned violent when confronted by stewards or other fans, often those with children whose view of the match is impeded by the standing.

Compounding the problem is a security debacle which means police are only on duty outside because there isn't a radio system in the stadium which would allow officers to communicate.

West Ham have pushed for a police presence inside the ground but it is the responsibility of stadium owners E20 to meet the cost. — AFP

## Sports

Burns eyes Broner  
bout after title  
defenceRuthless Ronaldo  
hits four, France  
and Dutch run riot

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CHICAGO CUBS WIN DUEL, JAYS AND INDIANS UP 2-0

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LAUSANNE: Members take their seat for the opening of an Olympic Summit on reforming the anti-doping system yesterday in Lausanne. After a Russian doping scandal plunged the Olympic movement into one of its worst crises, top figures in world sport meet in a bid to overhaul global drug testing. — AFP

## IOC CALLS FOR NEW ANTI-DOPING BODY

LAUSANNE: Olympic bosses yesterday asked the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to create a new body for testing athletes and revamp the fight against drug cheating in sport.

An International Olympic Committee (IOC) summit also backed plans for the world's top sports court to take the primary role in sanctioning athletes who are caught doping.

The two moves amount to a rebuke for international sports federations, which have had control over testing and punishment, a system the IOC says has repeatedly failed to ensure clean competition.

Overall, the high-stakes summit at a luxury hotel in Lausanne, Switzerland — at a time when the Olympic movement is grappling with one of its worst crises-agreed "to make anti-doping testing independent from sports organisations," a statement said.

The IOC decisions will be seen as a victory for WADA after it faced what some called an existential threat after the damaging Russian doping scandal, which culminated in dozens of its competitors being barred from taking part at the Rio Olympics.

IOC leaders had accused WADA of failing to act

quickly enough on evidence that Russia was running a government-supported cheating programme in some 30 sports over several years. It had been clear before the summit that the IOC wanted to curb the power of sports federations and overhaul doping controls through a new testing body. Speaking after the meeting-the guest list also included international sport heavyweights such as FIFA president Gianni Infantino and Olympic chiefs from the US, Russia and China-WADA chief Craig Reddie said: "I'm very happy with it."

The IOC recommendations "will strengthen WADA. We're to be given substantial additional authority and substantial additional power so I'm perfectly happy with that".

## NEW TESTING BODY

The IOC statement called for "a new testing authority" to be set up "within the framework of WADA".

It did not however specify WADA's level of control over the new entity, though WADA will oversee the new body's creation and maintain its own supervisory role in the global anti-doping fight.

But the IOC stressed there will be a "clear segregation

of duties" between the testing authority and WADA as the regulator. The IOC proposals must be approved at a WADA meeting next month and by the IOC's executive, which meets in December.

If implemented, the reforms will give WADA more power to crack down on failing national anti-doping organisations as well as more intelligence and investigative powers.

IOC leaders were frustrated that the Russian doping programme was run for years before it burst onto the public scene thanks largely to an investigation by German television.

WADA has since commissioned a bombshell report into the nefarious Russian doping scheme, led by Canadian lawyer Richard McLaren, with the full findings to be released in the coming weeks.

IOC President Thomas Bach said that a beefed-up WADA will need significantly more money, but that the Montreal-based anti-doping agency will first need to show it has a plan for handling its new powers. "It is up to WADA to now discuss the implementation of these reforms, which ones are implemented, to which degree they are implemented and then to present a budget,"

Bach told reporters after the summit. If WADA embraces its new role "100 percent... it would mean a substantial increase in financing," Bach said.

## COURT TO PUNISH DOPERS

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) already plays a prominent role in sanctioning dopers by hearing the appeals of athletes sanctioned by their sports federations. But Bach argued that a system where the court made the first decision on punishments would increase transparency and consistency. He noted that CAS made all doping-related rulings at this summer's Rio Olympics and that none of those decisions had been appealed, indicating the court's authority was widely respected.

Aside from the Russia scandal, which overshadowed the Rio Games and allegedly had links to the Moscow sports ministry, Kenya's track and field programme was revealed to be riddled with cheaters, while various other doping revelations cast doubt on the integrity of competition at the Games.

The IOC said it would continue to strive "for a more robust, more efficient, more transparent and more harmonised WADA anti-doping system". — AFP

## GARETH SOUTHGATE STARTS ENGLAND REIGN WITH WIN

LONDON: First-half goals by Daniel Sturridge and Dele Alli earned England a laboured 2-0 win over minnows Malta yesterday in interim manager Gareth Southgate's first game in charge. Southgate has stepped into the breach following the departure of Sam Allardyce, who was brought down by a newspaper sting, and saw his side secure a successive World Cup qualifying victory.

Sturridge and Alli struck within nine minutes of each other at a nearly full but subdued Wembley, but England were unable to swell their lead despite monopolising possession and they were jeered late on as they ran out of ideas. "I thought first half we played well. We could and should have scored more goals," Southgate said.

"Their goalkeeper made some good saves and subconsciously I think some of our players looked after themselves physically in the second half. "We missed a couple of good chances, but given where we were 10 days ago, I am pleased with the result."

Southgate, who handed a debut to Manchester United winger Jesse Lingard, also lost left-back Ryan Bertrand to injury. It increases the likelihood the former England Under-21s coach will call up reinforcements ahead of Tuesday's next Group F match in Slovenia. Southgate will also preside over November's qualifier against Scotland and friendly with Spain before the

Football Association decides who will succeed Allardyce on a full-time basis.

Malta's goalkeeper, Andrew Hogg, hails from London and it was no surprise he was a central figure on his return to the city of his birth. He was called into action for the first time in the eighth minute, plunging to his right to palm away a curling effort from Wayne Rooney. Rooney, deployed in central midfield, was upstaged by his midfield partner Jordan Henderson, whose enterprising running and incisive passing kept Malta on the back foot in the first half.

His lofted pass freed Lingard, whose mishit half-volley flashed over, and he teed up Alli for a header that was parried by Hogg, with Sturridge wastefully blazing the rebound over.

## MADE IN LIVERPOOL

It was not all plain sailing for England.

Bertrand was forced off with an apparent hamstring injury in the 19th minute, which saw Danny Rose come on, while Rooney was lucky to avoid sanction for an untidy challenge on Malta skipper Andre Schembri. England took the lead in the 29th minute with a goal made in Liverpool, Henderson swishing a cross into the box from deep and Sturridge steering a header inside the right-hand post.

It was Sturridge's 100th goal in professional

football. After Hogg had denied Lingard and Gary Cahill sliced wide from a corner, England inflated their lead in the 38th minute.

Southgate's men circulated the ball patiently before Henderson lit the detonator, charging to the edge of the box and then ceding possession to Alli. The Tottenham Hotspur man's initial attempt was repelled by Hogg, but he followed in to prod home his second international goal. Hogg saved from Sturridge, twice, and tipped a Rooney free-kick over the bar early in the second half before sliding out to block from Theo Walcott, who had been slipped in by Lingard.

Walcott and Sturridge gave way to Marcus Rashford and Jamie Vardy, the Manchester United youngster and Leicester City striker both getting rousing receptions from the home fans.

Shy of a Lingard shot that flew wide, England struggled to create chances as the game wore on.

Malta's Andrei Agius almost made things interesting with a late volley that England goalkeeper Joe Hart had to turn behind. Alli should have made the game safe when he was picked out by Rashford, but from barely six yards out he sent the ball over the bar. "England are stronger than us, but we stayed in a good shape all the game," said beaten manager Pietro Ghedin.

"We saved a lot of chances. We suffered a lot, but we played a good game." — AFP



LONDON: England's striker Marcus Rashford (R) vies with Malta's defender Steve Borg during the World Cup 2018 football qualification match between England and Malta at Wembley Stadium in London yesterday. —AFP

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STOCKHOLM: This file photo taken on October 06, 2014 shows a statue of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who founded the Nobel Prize, at the Karolinska Institute. — AFP

## ECONOMICS PRIZE REMAINS CONTROVERSIAL

PRIZE A FAR CRY FROM NOBEL'S PHILANTHROPIC IDEALS

**STOCKHOLM:** The Nobel prize in economics, to be announced tomorrow, has increasingly honored research in the field of finance—a subject which, observers note, is far from founder Alfred Nobel's philanthropic ideals. The economics prize has always been set apart from the other Nobel awards, and the subject of much controversy: unlike the other awards, which were created in Nobel's 1895 will, the "Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel" was devised by the Swedish central bank in 1968 to mark its tricentenary.

"Alfred Nobel himself, a prolific inventor and businessman of genius, would not have created a prize for economics," according to economists Avner Offer and Gabriel Soderberg in their book "The Nobel Factor", which came out in September. "He wrote in a letter that he 'hated business with all (his) heart,' and he considered himself a social democrat." Nobel seemed wary of finance. He kept his distance from lenders, who had given his father Immanuel a hard time, and feared the hazards of the financial markets.

In his last will and testament, he asked executors to invest his fortune in "safe securities". But the Nobel prize jury has of late shown its growing appreciation for the field: while none of the laureates in the first two decades of the prize's existence conducted research in finance, eight have since been honoured: three in 1990, two in 1997 and three in 2013.

That is more laureates than in the field of microeconomics (five laureates since 1969), or labor economics (three), and the same number as the field of econometrics. Only macroeconomics has fared better, with nine laureates to date. This year, the Nobel judges could tap Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig for their work on financial panic models, or Robert Townsend for his work on risk and insurance in developing economies.

### Financial economics a 'failure'

Most of the mathematicians who have won a Nobel prize can be found among financial economists—yet their equations and models would probably not have impressed Alfred Nobel. "He was a man of science, a passionate reader with literary ambitions, and with a sincere interest in the field of peace. I don't think he was particularly interested in either mathematics or financial issues," insists Bengt Fredrikson, who has written a biography of Nobel.

While the prizewinning financial research may appear to be as rigorous, some argue that it has not acquired the same status as the science disciplines that Nobel himself chose to honour—medicine, physics and chemistry. "It appears more 'scientific', at least from a physical sciences standpoint, than it really is," suggests Skip McGoun, a finance professor at Bucknell University in Lewisburg in the United States.

In a 2003 article, he was even more damning. "By the traditionally rigorous standards of the natural sciences, financial economics has been a failure. It simply cannot predict anything with equivalent accuracy or reliability," he said. A case in point: two economists who won the prize in 1997, Myron Scholes and Robert Merton, also made a name for themselves for helping devise an investment strategy for Long-Term Capital Management, a hugely successful hedge fund... until it went belly-up. But for Xavier De Scheemaekere, professor at Universite Libre in Brussels, the entire field of economics, and not just finance, could then be questioned as Nobel-worthy. "If economics has its place amongst the Nobels, finance does too," he said, noting that, contrary to the natural sciences, in those fields "there is no verifiability."

Despite his criticism, McGoun is quick to acknowledge the academic and intellectual achievement of financial researchers crowned with a Nobel. "The finance winners of the Nobel award in economics do deserve recognition for their creative intellectual accomplishments, regardless of whether they're eventually refuted," he said. — AFP

## FOR SHORTBREAD MAKER, STERLING CRUNCH PUSHES UP BREXIT COSTS

**HUNTLY, Scotland:** Sterling's plunge since Britain voted to leave the European Union has pushed up costs so much for Scottish shortbread maker Bill Dean that he may have to lift prices to balance the books. Already Dean, who employs 150 people at his factory in the rural northeastern county of Aberdeenshire, has a 3 million pound (\$3.7 million) investment plan on hold and says he may eventually have to shrink his business - and his workforce - if costs keep rising.

Dean's family business, born in his mother's kitchen in the 1970s, imports the chief ingredients of the rich traditional Scottish biscuit: butter, flour and sugar. However, only eight percent of his sales are abroad, so for him the weak pound brings few benefits and a lot of headaches.

Sterling's 17 percent dive against both the dollar and euro since Britons opted for "Brexit" on June 23 - signalling a break with more than 40 years of stable trade within Europe - has come on top of another problem that is eroding profitability for the factory in his home town of Huntly. Prices for

butter - and shortbread needs a lot of it - have jumped 75 percent since the referendum, inflated not only by the weak pound but also by volatile prices of its raw material, milk, on European commodity markets.

"After a while with higher costs and hemorrhaging cash to keep up, your margin gets eaten away and your (profit) has taken a pasting," Dean, who turns 52 on Monday, told Reuters. "No business is capable of absorbing those kind of price increases for any length of time," Dean said at his factory. "We'd be looking at a reduced business model with fewer people if this cost trend continues in the coming years."

Brexit may well push up prices for British shoppers, and it has already cast doubt on job prospects. At the other end of the corporate scale from Dean, Japanese giant Nissan has said it may scrap potential investment in Britain's biggest car plant unless the government compensates it for any new tax barriers erected post-Brexit by the EU. However, some British-based businesses will

benefit from the weaker pound, which makes their exports more competitive - as long as they still have tariff-free access to the single European market. The FTSE 100 stock index, which comprises the biggest London-listed corporations, has soared 20 percent since referendum day to near record levels. Overall, these groups earn the bulk of their money abroad, so the currency slide raises the profits that they report in sterling.

### Moving situation

Dean, whose business began when his mother's shortbread recipe became a favorite with his father's bagpipe band, has no such buffer due to his low level of exports.

Scots voted to stay in the EU but were outweighed by a strong "leave" result in England and Wales, so Dean has to deal with the uncertainties of Brexit. That has meant freezing the three million pound expansion plan to make a bigger variety of cakes and biscuits, including gluten-free products for customers who are intolerant to ingredients such as wheat. "It's a big investment for us but it's come slap bang in the middle of a moving situation which we have no control over, so it's not a comfortable place to be," the former metalworker said.

Even for a business that has doubled annual turnover to 8.5 million pounds in the past 10 years, the combination of higher costs and continued uncertainty is damaging. "We've not got such a big cushion to ride it out with both of those barrels coming at us," he said, adding that transport costs have also risen three to four percent.

### Doubts for EU workers

A short distance away in the town of Aberlour, a larger family-owned producer of shortbread, cakes and traditional savoury oatcakes exports about 40 percent of sales, which reached 137 million pounds in 2013, helping it to withstand the hit from weaker sterling. But, like his smaller rival, proprietor Jim Walker has an additional worry: keeping his large number of foreign employees. With sterling at a five-year low against the euro, some EU workers might find work paid in sterling less attractive and this combines with doubts over whether they can stay in Britain after Brexit. — Reuters



LONDON: In this Oct 4, 2016 file photo, Pound and Euro signs are seen above a cashpoint. — AP

# POLITICAL FACTORS ON THE RISE AHEAD

## NBK ECONOMIC UPDATE

**KUWAIT:** As we approach year-end, 2016 eerily resembles 2015: unimpressive but "acceptable" world growth, central banks hell-bent on aggressive non-conventional policies, except for the Federal Reserve, which is likely to repeat its 2015 feat of a measly 25 bps hike in December of that year. However, to poach the old aphorism "history does not repeat itself, but it often rhymes," well, so does the economy. Away from the rhyming part, the rest of the background is slowly changing; in new and uncharted ways and in politics and in economics, now and ahead.

On politics, the Brexit vote in June was not the immediate catastrophe that many had feared. The difficult part starts next year, when the UK begins exit negotiations in earnest. Only then, will more clarity come about, and markets will get a better feel of how contentious the issue may get. Similar issues may be brewing elsewhere in Europe. Italy will hold an important constitutional referendum in November that may well determine the future of the current government, as well as the ability of the country to reform.

France will hold a presidential election in 2017. These events and others are taking place with populism and anti-establishment sentiment on the rise, both in Europe and in the US. The latter will hold its presidential election on November 8 of this year, with the unconventional outsider Donald Trump in close contention. These events and others are bound to inject more questions than answers for the markets in the months ahead.

### Shifting grounds

These shifting political grounds are occurring while policy and policy-makers appear near exhausted. Policy makers and investors alike are beginning to realize that current policies, especially the monetary kind, have perhaps reached their limit, and that the options will be scant should any major economy hit a big pothole. After zero, even negative interest rates in some cases, and the recent massive QE programs, where are we? The Fed is still trying to find a window to "normalize" its policy rates (and missing opportunities). The ECB is promising further accommodation, but is taking its time in the hope that "things" improve and perhaps in the face of its own doubts.

The BOJ remains committed to pushing Japanese retail inflation from "negative" to 2.0%, via new innovative moves: pumping up the monetary base, and targeting the 10-year interest rate at 0.0%, atop the previous aggressive QE

measures already in place. Here again, doubts are being raised as to the efficacy of monetary policy (the Yen rose throughout this year). Furthermore, zero-to-negative rates seem on the verge of becoming a potent political issue, hurting savers and retirees, especially in the current volatile political times. Finally, should the need arise for other policy options, needless to say fiscal options are very limited with current debt levels at record highs. Economic restructuring and reforms are made very difficult by the contentious/dysfunctional politics of the day.

Thus, politics is bound to be the dominant factor in the period ahead, and caution is warranted. And while most "baseline" forecasts argue for a steady, albeit modest, growth environment in the next year or two, any significant deviation on the lower side could have more market impact than usual because it would further charge the politics, and there are no guarantees that financial markets would be as welcoming of further central bank accommodation as in the past.

### Falling rates

In this type of environment, so far this year, interest rates have fallen dramatically in the EU and in Japan, to negative levels. The dollar has been in a range versus the Euro, and the Japanese Yen has risen to the BOJ's chagrin. Stocks have moved up in most advanced markets, led by the US where equities made new all-time highs recently before retreating some. For their part, UK stocks are up post-Brexit, though the pound lost major ground.

Consensus projections for world growth in 2017 are close to the IMF's 3.4% (3.1% in 2016), with the US at 1.8%, the Eurozone at 1.6%, Japan at 0.5%, and emerging markets at 4.6%. The central banks are expected to do "whatever is necessary" to keep things going. In that environment the price of oil is expected to recover very gradually toward \$60 pb in late 2017, as supply continues to outpace demand, and with OPEC wielding much less control than in the past.

Besides the Italian referendum and the US presidential election this November, the Fed will dominate the agenda in Q4, at its December meeting. Ever so cautious, the Fed has kept postponing the "expected" Fed hike(s) for the year, now down to one hike. Between international developments (Brexit) and some soft data out of the US (PMIs, sales), the Fed decided at its September meeting to leave policy rates unchanged, though three FOMC members did dissent, pushing for a rate hike. "Three dis-

senters" is on the high side for the Fed and indicates that Fed Chair Yellen is having a harder time postponing raising rates.

The November Fed meeting is assumed to be a "dead" meeting (no change) because it takes place one week before the US election. So, barring a change in US data, or financial market turmoil before year-end, the Fed should be raising rates 25 bps on December 14 (the federal funds rate target). The September Fed's dot-plots are finally in line with the current market expectation for 2016 of one interest rate hike. However, as usual, the Fed anticipates more action than the market does for 2017. The markets are looking for 2 hikes next year, and these have certainly been more "right" than the Fed the past few years.

### US elections

As to the US elections, any change will be more gradual and less dramatic than feared, especially if no party sweeps the elections, ie Congress and the presidency. A Clinton win with a Republican Congress would be the least change prone, and therefore the most "stable" for the markets. A Trump presidency would create more nervousness initially, but there again even a Republican Congress would still act as a check. Under Trump, fiscal stimulus would be more expansive than with Clinton (tax cuts, infrastructure spending), and deregulation would be more pro-business. So in such a very simulative scenario, the Fed may raise rates faster in 2017 (versus a Clinton Administration). Also, a Trump's anti-status-quo politics could have more of a spillover effect into European politics. At any rate, many of these developments will have to be gauged as they unfold, including any significant changes to international trade policy.

In the GCC, we continue to expect moderate GDP growth in 2016 especially if oil prices continue to improve from current levels. Governments remain committed to infrastructure spending. Adjustments to budgets are still ongoing, but continue to be gradual, as policy makers are keen on supporting GDP growth. Non-oil GDP growth should post 3.5% for the region the period ahead, somewhat lower than our previous projection. All GCC countries have started issuing sovereign debt in order to finance their deficits. Debt issuance is still pressuring liquidity but governments and central banks are addressing the issue adequately when needed, thanks to their ample reserves.



**GRAND RAPIDS:** US Sen Bernie Sanders campaigns for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton at Central High School. —AP

## THREE FREE TOOLS TO ENHANCE YOUR RECRUITMENT, GROW PRODUCTIVITY

**S**ourcing and hiring top talent may sometimes seem like looking for a needle in a haystack; time-consuming and chaotic. Indeed, finding the perfect employee who truly suits your hiring needs and business goals from a pool of seemingly identical candidates takes time and effort.

Nowadays though, the internet has become the magnet and the filter for catching the needle; it made the entire search process smoother and easier. The trick is to use the power that the internet offers to its full potential. You need to employ the most effective tools available in order to master and speed up the recruitment process and eliminate the hiring error margin.

It may have become generally accepted that recruitment is an inescapably pricey process. This notion only adds to the stress of the recruiter or the hiring manager who has limited time and resources to find an ideal candidate. The great news is recruitment does not have to be pricey. Bayt.com, the Middle East's #1 job site, is ready to help with a list of tools for a better recruitment process that are absolutely free:

### 1-Social Recruiting

In order to attract top talent, companies need to present themselves as a favorable place of employment. Nowadays, online social media is one of the best ways to do so. The Bayt.com "Social Recruiting in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)" poll highlighted that 86% of professionals in the MENA are interested in seeing job postings on online media. This has made it clear that social media websites can be efficiently utilized in the recruitment process.

Additionally, online media has essentially become a branding tool for many companies, as eight out of 10 professionals in the MENA visit a company's social profile before applying for a job. Therefore, companies that build attractive profiles on social media, share updates and news, stay relevant to industry trends, and give their audience insights into their corporate culture are more capable of attracting top talent with no recruitment cost. Bayt.com is home to more than 26 million job seekers and so we have created Bayt.com company profiles to help employers get social and attract the best talent. Maintaining an

attractive company profile will enable the candidates to perform the search process and reach out to you, the employer, which saves you a great load of time and money.

### 2. Email Tracking

Email is an easy no-cost way to reach candidates and speed up the hiring process. An alternative to using expensive mass mailers are targeted emails. Companies should target their emails to the type of talent they are looking for and would like to hire. Then, by using free email tracking tools, employers can keep track of who is opening their emails, how many times the recipient is viewing the emails, when they're accessing them, as well as which links they're clicking on. One way email tracking can be used in the recruitment process for example is by including in the email a direct link to the available job postings at the company. Employers can link to a specific vacancy or to their Bayt.com company profiles in order to enhance their profile views. Employers will be able to track who clicks the provided links and what they're interested in and will consequently begin compiling a list of candidates.

### 3. Discussion Platforms

Online platforms, such as Bayt.com Specialties, give employers the opportunity to discover who the best talent is, in any given field, by taking a look at their profiles, discussions, interests, and contributions. We have heard of many cases where candidates look perfect on paper, but their on-the-job performance is lower than expected, and definitely not up to the company's standards. Bayt.com Specialties enables professionals to go beyond a traditional CV and find candidates who are truly experts in their fields, who share relevant content, who engage in productive discussions, and who exhibit curiosity by posing questions in their field of interest.

By engaging with candidates online, employers can further affirm their qualifications and obtain additional insight into how suitable the candidate is, how well they will fit into the team, and how aligned they are with the company goals and culture. Moreover, employers can use this platform to share their company's expertise and knowledge and increase their attractiveness for top talent. —Courtesy of Bayt.com



**BANGKOK:** A Thai woman naps as she waits for customers at her roadside stall. —AFP

## EGYPT HAS CONTRACTED TO IMPORT 420K TONS OF SUGAR, SEEKS MORE

**CAIRO:** Egypt has contracted for the import of 420,000 tons of sugar in coordination with the military in the "past few days" and will seek to import another 200,000 tons in the coming week, the government said yesterday. "The Supply Ministry, in coordination with the National Service Products Organization, has contracted to import 420,000 tons of sugar in the past few days in addition to contracting this week to import an additional 200,000 tons of sugar," the government said in a statement.

The National Service Products Organization is part of the Defense Ministry. It manufactures military and civilian products and provides contracting services. State grain buyer GASC is seeking 100,000 tons of raw sugar and traders said on yesterday it received two offers, both for 50,000 tons. Egypt said last week that it plans to build a six-month reserve of essential food items, adding to other recent purchases of commodities such as oil and wheat.

Traders said the move was aimed at building up stocks ahead of a currency devaluation. GASC announced three separate tenders in the space of one day on Tuesday for wheat, vegetable oils and sugar. The Supply Ministry will also hold an international tender for rice with a minimum of 500,000 tons, the government said yesterday. GASC has not announced any international tenders for rice yet. — Reuters

## EXCHANGE RATES

### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

#### ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	2.942
Indian Rupees	4.543
Pakistani Rupees	2.894
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.071
Nepali Rupees	2.849
Singapore Dollar	221.230
Hongkong Dollar	39.022
Bangladesh Taka	3.860
Philippine Peso	6.274
Thai Baht	8.706

#### GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.776
Qatari Riyal	83.207
ani Riyal	786.772
Bahraini Dinar	804.440
UAE Dirham	82.471

#### ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	29.900
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.480
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.216
Tunisian Dinar	137.160
Jordanian Dinar	427.160
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.018
Syrian Lira	2.0159
Morocco Dirham	31.635

#### EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	302.750
Euro	341.080
Sterling Pound	385.400
Canadian dollar	229.700

Turkish Lira	99.920
Swiss Franc	311.790
Australian Dollar	231.450
US Dollar Buying	301.550

GOLD	
20 Gram	272.610
10 Gram	139.230
5 Gram	70.460

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	303.000
Canadian Dollar	229.875
Sterling Pound	386.145
Euro	340.240
Swiss Frank	296.490
Bahrain Dinar	801.000
UAE Dirhams	82.725
Qatari Riyals	83.940
Saudi Riyals	81.520
Jordanian Dinar	426.955
Egyptian Pound	34.024
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.069
Indian Rupees	4.545
Pakistani Rupees	2.893
Bangladesh Taka	3.854
Philippines Peso	6.268
Cyprus pound	159.700
Japanese Yen	3.920
Syrian Pound	2.420
Nepalese Rupees	3.835
Malaysian Ringgit	74.125
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	45.780
Thai Bhat	9.675
Turkish Lira	99.195

## NETFLIX CEO SLAMS CINEMAS FOR 'STRANGLING' BUSINESS

**LOS ANGELES:** Reed Hastings fired back at cinema chains Friday, with the Netflix chief accusing theater owners of "strangling the movie business" by refusing to budge on windows to allow streaming of films soon after release or even the same day. Hastings, speaking at the New Yorker's TechFest 2016 event, claimed that movie studios want to "break the oligopoly" of the major theater chains but that they "don't know how."

Theatrical distribution, of course, represents the biggest chunk of revenue today for movie studios. And last year, US box-office revenue hit a record \$11.1 billion. But Hastings and other Netflix execs have maintained that the industry stands to generate more revenue and gain better efficiency on marketing spending if films were available simultaneously on services like Netflix when they're released in theaters.

Hastings' comments come after Netflix announced a pact earlier

this week with iPic Entertainment, a luxury theater operator with 15 locations, to screen 10 Netflix original movies starting in New York and LA locations.

That will begin Friday, Oct. 7, with war thriller "The Siege of Jadotville" at iPic Theaters Los Angeles followed by Christopher Guest's mockumentary "Mascots" on Oct. 13 at the new iPic Fulton Market in Manhattan.

The deal raised alarm bells for the National Association of Theatre Owners, the trade group representing US theater chains, which cautioned that moving to day-and-date simultaneous film releases would disrupt the ecosystem.

"Simultaneous release, in practice, has reduced both theatrical and home revenues when it has been tried," NATO CEO John Fithian said in a statement. "Just as Netflix and its customers put a value on exclusivity, theater owners and their customers do too."

The fight over theatrical-release

windows has been a years-long issue. It goes back to cable VOD experiments with premium-priced early-release dates well before Netflix's move into original films—which exhibitors pushed back on, wanting to preserve the roughly 90-day window of exclusivity for new releases.

Netflix's push into the film biz, starting with its announcement of the acquisition of the sequel to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" in 2014, has been met with a boycott by major movie chains like AMC Entertainment and Regal Entertainment.

Also at the event Friday, Hastings said that the chances of Netflix's entry into China, the largest market in the world, "doesn't look good," per Bloomberg. "We're focused on the rest of the world," Hastings said.

He noted that both Disney and Apple, who have a strong track record in the country, both had their movie services shuttered by Chinese authorities. —Reuters

## CHICAGO TEACHERS, OFFICIALS LOOK TO CIRCUMVENT STRIKE

**CHICAGO:** Contract negotiations between Chicago teachers and officials in the nation's third-largest school district will happen throughout the weekend in hopes of reaching a deal to avert a strike. The Chicago Teachers Union has said its members are prepared to stop instruction for about 400,000 students as early as Tuesday morning for its second major strike since 2012, when teachers were out for seven school days. At issue during the negotiations, which have stretched into a second year, are pension contributions, pay raises, staffing levels and classroom funding.

Union leaders say teachers "do not want to strike, but are concerned about threats to reduce their pay and benefits, as well as the overall impact of school-based cuts on their students," while Chicago Public Schools CEO Forrest Claypool has said teachers deserve a raise but that the district is facing massive financial challenges. Here's a look at the situation:

### The issues

The cash-strapped school district wants to phase out the decades-old practice of paying most of teachers' pension contributions, replacing it with a total base wage increase in a four-year contract. The union wants the district to keep up the pension payments and seeks raises at the end of a three-year contract.

The district, which has offered other "quality of life" changes such as less paperwork, also wants teachers to pay more for rising health care costs. Union President Karen Lewis said it amounts to an overall pay cut at a time when teachers are struggling to make ends meet and to do their jobs, given that schools have lost some special education resources and librarians due to budget cuts. Plus, the district ended automatic pay raises for experience and education last year. The bargaining unit of the union - representing about 28,000 members - rejected the district's last offer in February.

### The backdrop

The threat of a strike is set against perilous financial problems for Chicago's public schools as well as the state of Illinois. The district announced layoffs Monday for about 250 teachers and staff due to a larger-than-anticipated drop in enrollment.

Credit rating agencies have placed the district at "junk" status, or below investment grade, while its \$5.4 billion budget relies on increased property taxes, borrowing and \$215 million in state funding.

But the state funding is contingent on a wider pension overhaul that must be approved by state lawmakers, who are deadlocked over the budget with Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner. The Republican also has pushed to curb union power, suggested the district file for bankruptcy and unsuccessfully attempted a state takeover of the district's finances.

### Where do the kids go during a strike?

All schools will be open during normal hours and staffed by non-union employees to provide online learning, physical education and arts and crafts. Classes and extracurricular activities will be canceled, but free breakfast and lunch will be provided to students who need them. Safe Passage routes, which are staffed by adults to help kids get to and from school safely, will operate as usual.

The district also has partnered with libraries, the park district and "Safe Haven" locations, such as churches, that will provide child care.

### Other factors

The 2012 strike was the first teacher walkout in 25 years and tied to evaluations, classroom conditions and job security. Parents and community leaders were largely supportive then, but it's unclear whether the sentiment will stick this year. Plus, the threat of a strike comes as Chicago residents have seen major increases in property taxes and other fees, and an uptick in street violence.

"It will be a difficult strike," University of Illinois at Chicago professor and former alderman Dick Simpson said. "I'm not sure that anyone wants to play it all the way out." One thing is clear: There's a different tone in negotiations. In 2012, the outspoken Lewis and Mayor Rahm Emanuel were often at odds. Emanuel had canceled a pay raise, and Lewis dubbed him "the murder mayor" because of city violence, briefly considering challenging him in the 2015 mayor's race. More recently, Lewis has been almost complimentary, saying Emanuel's job is "impossible" and their relationship now "respectful." —AP



**ATLANTIC CITY:** In this May, 20, 2016 photo, Eddie Aldridge, poker dealer at Trump Taj Mahal, deals out poker hands to patrons after the casino reopened the poker room. —AP

# SHUFFLED: ONCE A DESTINATION, TAJ MAHAL POKER ROOM FOLDS

## AN END TO TRUMP'S LEGACY IN SEASIDE RESORT

**ATLANTIC CITY:** The closing of the Trump Taj Mahal casino tomorrow will cost thousands of workers their jobs and bring a final end to Donald Trump's legacy in the seaside resort, but it will also mean the closure of what was once one of the premiere destinations for poker outside Las Vegas.

The poker room in the casino on Atlantic City's boardwalk long ago lost its luster, but in its heyday drew packed crowds of gamblers from around the region and country to dozens of tables around the clock. Around lunchtime Wednesday, the 24 remaining tables were empty. A security guard and two soon-to-be unemployed employees milled about, but there were no dealers, no chips being shuffled, no cards flying through the air.

After opening in 1993 when poker was legalized in New Jersey, "the Taj" became "the center of the East Coast poker world, certainly the legal poker world," said Brian Koppelman, who used the mix of locals, tourists and pros as inspiration for scenes in his 1998 film "Rounders." "It was the place that you could go play without violating any laws and where, if you were someone who wanted to get better at poker and study the best players, you were there," Koppelman said. "If you

were someone who wanted to hustle people, you could go there and find tourists to hustle."

Koppelman, creator of TV's "Billions" on Showtime along with "Rounders" writing partner David Levien, said the scene in the film where Matt Damon's character plays for more money than he should against poker legend Johnny Chan was inspired by him sitting at a table at the Taj with brash World Series of Poker champion Phil Hellmuth. Koppelman and Levien traveled there for research after deciding to make a film about the New York underground poker scene. When they shot there, "none of us slept. We were shooting and then just playing cards."

### 'It was just a mess'

The steady stream of players from the New York and Philadelphia region made the room popular, but it was the US Poker Championship in 1996 that turned it into a destination. Some of the game's top players laid down \$10,000 in what was the first tournament on the East Coast on the same financial level as the World Series of Poker. "When we went there, the Taj Mahal poker room was kind of a mess," said former World Series of Poker tournament director Jack McClelland, who Trump hired to launch the tour-

namment that was broadcast on ESPN. "They ran the poker room like you run the blackjack pit. It was just a mess."

McClelland says the tournament organizers helped to change some of the problems, and he said he enjoyed working for Trump, for whom he plans to vote in November. Connecticut's Foxwoods Casino had already begun splitting up the lucrative New York market, but it was the opening of Atlantic City's Vegas-style Borgata casino in 2003 that started the end of the Taj poker room. It began drawing most of the city's big action, and the opening of poker rooms in Pennsylvania, Delaware and later Maryland took away most of the rest. The room closed for renovations in February 2015 and didn't reopen until this past May, less than two months before workers at the casino went on strike.

Kevin Thompson, 38, was walking through the room on Wednesday, looking for one last game. When that didn't happen, he reminisced with a reporter about the good times. A full room. An attached horse racing and keno lounge. A place where the locals played and staffers treated you like family. "There was always something to do. You could always enjoy yourself here," he said. "I'm going to miss it a lot. Sad, it's real sad." —AP



**SPRINGFIELD:** In this Sept 26, 2016 file photo, Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner speaks at the Illinois State Capitol. —AP

## PROTECTIONISM A SCOURGE? MAYBE NOT IN AFRICA

**WASHINGTON:** World economic leaders gathered in Washington this week to defend globalization, delivering a single message in unison: Protectionism will not save you. But this glosses over the plight of Africa, which is sinking further into poverty despite years of free trade.

According to the International Monetary Fund, which held its annual meetings this week with the World Bank, growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is in free-fall this year, with a growth rate of 1.4 percent, down from 3.4 percent in 2015, its lowest in a quarter century. The regional economy will therefore grow more slowly than the population, at

the risk of deepening poverty in a region already home to more than half of the 766 million people on earth who live on less than \$1.90 a day. "I am actually concerned about Sub-Saharan African countries," said IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde.

As the most rarified circles of economists gathered this week to ponder globalization's failures, the African region seems to offer a prime case in point. Despite opening its economies and the explosion of trade with China, Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world to have actually seen the number of people living in extreme poverty rise since 1990. "The growing num-

ber of the poor in Sub-Saharan Africa stands out as an exception," the World Bank said in a recent report.

With a recession in Nigeria, ravaged by the collapse of crude prices, virtual stagnation in South Africa and a booming Ivory Coast, where this year's growth rate is forecast at 8 percent, circumstances of course vary widely depending on the country. Climate, security situations and political instability can also weigh heavily on economic outlooks.

### Failure

But, according to NGOs, the region's gen-

eral prognosis primarily reflects the failure of full-borne free trade, brought in by the structural adjustment plans of the 1980s and 1990s and the World Trade Organization.

"Africa did well in recent years because prices for oil and other raw materials climbed higher," Antonio Gambini, of the National Center for Development Cooperation, told AFP. "But prices have collapsed and with the free trade imposed on them these countries spiraled downwards because they were unable to diversify," he added.

Contrary to the traditional prescriptions, a dose of protectionism could help African countries shore up their economies, sheltered from foreign competition. "If we want to see a more inclusive global growth than it has to have a space for protection," said Max Lawson of Oxfam GB. "It's just not as simple as more free trade means less poverty," he added.

Some Asian countries, such as Vietnam, South Korea and Taiwan, built their own economic expansions on strong exports and severe restrictions on imports to protect their domestic markets. On the African continent, Ethiopia, which is forecast to see strong growth in 2016 of 6.5 percent, has jealously guarded its own telecoms and financial sectors. Makhtar Diop, World Bank vice president for Africa, still has no faith in inward-looking trade policies.

"In times of crisis, there's a protectionist reflex because we think it's the answer but all the evidence shows that international trade has been a factor in development," he told AFP. According to Diop, a former Senegalese finance minister, the region's persistent poverty is tied to poor revenue redistribution policies, particularly when oil was above \$100 a barrel.

Once in place, protectionist barriers are hard to remove because they are supported by interest groups seeking to preserve their advantages, he said. "We have to find a middle ground," he said, particularly by allowing nascent industries the time to size up foreign competition. But the priority, he said, is to strengthen trade, particularly among African countries. "Sometimes it's cheaper to export a product out of Africa than to a neighboring country," he said. —AFP



**WASHINGTON:** In this image provided by the International Monetary Fund, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde (R) embraces former World Bank President James Wolfensohn (L) back stage prior to her speaking to the Governors from 189 countries during the Plenary session October 7, 2016 at the IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings at the DAR Constitution Hall. —AFP

## BRAZIL'S TOP PROSECUTOR URGES CONGRESS TO SHELVE SPEND CAP

**BRASILIA:** Brazil's Prosecutor-General's Office on Friday questioned the constitutionality of President Michel Temer's proposed public spending cap and recommended that Congress shelve the austerity measures. The office said in a statement the proposal interferes with the autonomy of other federal powers and would weaken the country's judicial system, handicapping efforts to combat corruption. "The proposal invades the judicial system budgeting competence drastically, risking impacting the exercise of its constitutional and institutional functions," said the statement.

The unprecedented constitutional amendment, which limits the growth of federal spending to the rate of inflation for 20 years, is aimed at gradually closing a yawning budget gap that topped 10 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) last year. It is the first of a series of austerity measures to assuage market concerns that the once-booming economy, which was stripped of its investment-grade rating last year, could be hurtling toward a debt crisis. A lower house committee approved the proposal on Thursday, handing President Michel Temer an initial victory on the battle to pass the amendment. Its approval requires two votes in the plenary of the lower house and two more in the Senate, needing a three-fifths majority in each. A first vote in the full lower house chamber should take place early next week. —Reuters

For Rent

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# KSE ENDS WEEK IN THE RED ZONE

SECTORS' WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY				
Sector	Volume	To Market %	Value	To Market %
OIL & GAS	7,800,119	2.49%	262,860	0.55%
BASIC MATERIALS	2,786,077	0.89%	858,798	1.79%
INDUSTRIALS	65,365,774	20.83%	10,873,954	22.60%
CONSUMER GOODS	4,584,984	1.46%	6,528,686	13.57%
HEALTH CARE	10,100	0.00%	3,942	0.01%
CONSUMER SERVICES	4,513,601	1.44%	507,675	1.06%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	33,427,195	10.65%	5,988,410	12.45%
BANKS	35,226,074	11.22%	13,800,957	28.69%
INSURANCE	169,039	0.05%	79,094	0.16%
REAL ESTATE	73,225,054	23.33%	4,079,359	8.48%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	86,653,688	27.61%	5,113,654	10.63%
TECHNOLOGY	100,856	0.03%	7,868	0.02%

SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE				
Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
OIL & GAS	742.19	756.96	-1.95%	-9.35%
BASIC MATERIALS	909.65	926.40	-1.81%	-7.78%
INDUSTRIALS	1,146.63	1,154.56	-0.69%	9.93%
CONSUMER GOODS	1,121.01	1,132.32	-1.00%	2.38%
HEALTH CARE	1,065.37	1,069.57	-0.39%	15.13%
CONSUMER SERVICES	893.44	904.26	-1.20%	-11.42%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	573.50	580.92	-1.28%	-4.20%
BANKS	783.20	794.59	-1.43%	-13.66%
INSURANCE	955.73	975.19	-2.00%	-15.20%
REAL ESTATE	805.20	818.57	-1.63%	-14.41%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	548.32	562.59	-2.54%	-7.90%
TECHNOLOGY	975.69	968.08	0.79%	18.96%

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week in the red zone. The Price Index closed at 5,320.22 points, down by 1.45% from the week before closing, the Weighted Index decreased by 1.02% after closing at 348.29 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 810.12 points down by 0.49%. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 42.44%, compared to the preceding week, reaching K.D. 12.03 million, whereas trading volume average was 78.47 million shares, recording an increase of 9.41%.

Kuwait stock market indices ended the week with mixed losses affected by the profit collection operations executed on most of the traded stocks, especially the leading ones, which realized gains in the previous week, in addition to the continued presence of the speculative operations that are concentrating mainly on the small-cap stocks, especially the ones of lower market values than its par and book values and being traded under 100 fils.

The market witnessed such performance in light of the growing trading activity during most of the daily sessions of the week, especially the value, which recorded a noticeable increase

compared to the previous week's trading, where the average market liquidity during the week reached K.D. 12.03 million, increasing by 42.44% from the average trading value in a week earlier. Also, the market is still watching for the listed companies' results for the 9 months of 2016, which is expected to be disclosed in the coming days.

As per the daily trading activity, the stock market initiated the first session of the last week with a big and steep drop for all its indices, especially the Weighted and KSX-15, which recorded its losses in light of the selling pressures and the profit collection operations executed on many leading stocks, especially the Banks sector. The market continued its negative performance on the second session and the three indices continued recording losses, however at a slower pace from the previous session, amid a continued active selling pressures with concentration on the leading stocks of increased prices in the previous weeks.

On Wednesday's session, the market was able to return once again to the green zone and the three indices were able to realize growth amid a partial increase in the trading levels, in light of

the return of the random purchasing operations on the leading and operational stocks, in addition to the speculative trading witnessed by some small-cap stocks. Furthermore, the market could not keep its previously recorded gains by the end of the week, as it witnessed a return to the red zone once again affected by the strong profit collection operations that most of the listed stocks were subject to, which negatively reflected on the three indices' performance to record noticeable losses by the end of the session, especially the Price Index, which increased its weekly losses significantly; but despite such drop, the trading activity recorded a noticeable increase in the same session, particularly the value, which reached K.D. 18.16 million by the end of the session, its highest level since around last June.

By the end of the last week, the capital market value for the listed companies in the official market reached K.D. 23.39 billion, down by 1.04% compared to its level in a week earlier, where it reached then K.D. 23.64 billion; however on an annual level, the decline in the market cap for the listed companies increased to reach 7.42% from its value at end of 2015, where it reached then K.D. 25.27 billion. As far as KSE annual performance, the price index ended last week recording 5.25% annual loss compared to its closing in 2015, while the weighted index decreased by 8.75%, and the KSX-15 recorded 10.03% loss.

### Sectors' Indices

All of KSE's sectors ended last week in the red zone except for one sector. The Financial Services sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 2.54% to end the week's activity at 548.32 points. The Insurance sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 2%, closing at 955.73 points, followed by the Oil & Gas sector, as its index closed at 742.19 points at a loss of 1.95%. The Health Care sector was the least declining as its index closed at 1,065.37 points with a 0.39% decrease. On the other hand, the Technology sector was last week only gainer, which index grew by 0.79%, closing at 975.69 points.

### Sectors' Activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 86.65 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 27.61% of the total market trading volume. The Real Estate sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 23.33% of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 73.23 million shares. On the other hand, the Banks sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around K.D. 13.80 million or 28.69% of last week's total market trading value. The Industrial sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. K.D. 10.87 million representing 22.60% of the total market trading value.

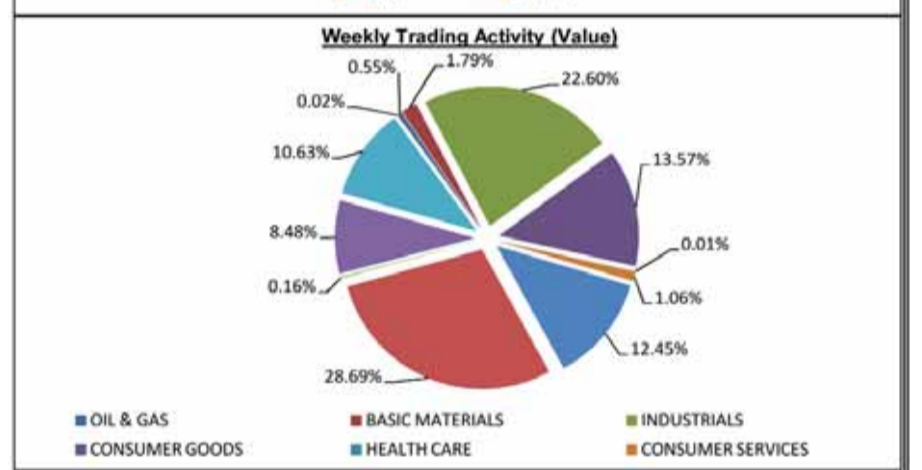
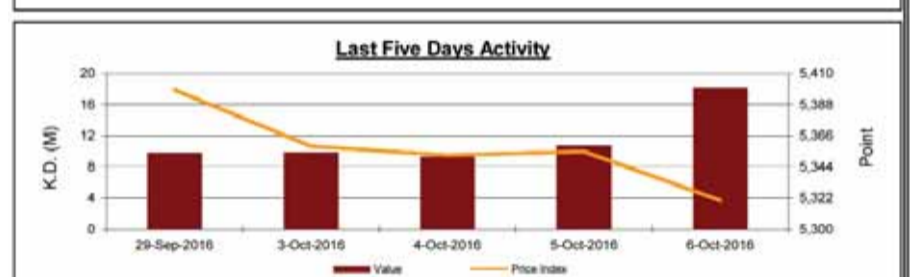
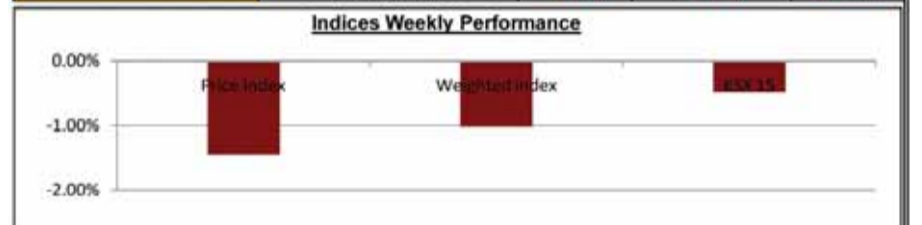
MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	313,862,561	358,582,114	-12.47%
Value (K.D)	48,105,255	42,215,720	13.95%
Deals	7,903	10,558	-25.15%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %
	23,391,504,072	23,636,548,746	-1.04%
			-7.42%

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
FUTURE	102.00	97.00	5.0	5.15%
KGL	47.00	45.00	2.0	4.44%
TIJARA	41.00	39.50	1.5	3.80%
CLEANING	39.00	38.00	1.0	2.63%
ALAQARIA	20.50	20.00	0.5	2.50%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
MASAKEN	42.00	51.00	-9.0	-17.65%
ALSALAM	41.00	47.00	-6.0	-12.77%
IFAHR	168.00	192.00	-24.0	-12.50%
SENERGY	30.00	33.50	-3.5	-10.45%
ARABREC	28.00	31.00	-3.0	-9.68%

KSE INDICES				
		Price Index	Weighted index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,320.22	348.29	810.12
	Previous week	5,398.39	351.87	814.10
	Change (Point)	-78.17	-3.58	-3.98
	Change (%)	-1.45%	-1.02%	-0.49%
Annual	Last year	5,615.12	381.70	900.43
	Change (Point)	-294.90	-33.41	-90.31
	Change (%)	-5.25%	-8.75%	-10.03%



## HUNDREDS OF FLIGHTS CANCELED IN GREECE AHEAD OF STRIKES

**ATHENS:** Airlines yesterday announced the cancellation of hundreds of flights in and out of Greece ahead of a series of one-day strikes by the country's air traffic controllers. Aegean, the country's largest airline, and its subsidiary Olympic Air cancelled all of their flights in or out of the country for Sunday, when the walkout is set to begin.

Irish budget airline Ryanair has grounded 110 flights scheduled for yesterday and today, calling on the European Commission to take action "to prevent these repeated ATC strikes from continuously disrupting the travel plans of millions of Europe's citizens

and their families". The Greek air traffic controllers union on Wednesday said the 24-hour rolling strikes will continue on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The controllers called the walkout to protest the proposed restructuring of the Civil Aviation Authority, accusing the Greek government of proceeding with reforms that would deprive them of their administrative role without prior consultation with the union. Greek Transport Minister Christos Spirtzis has accused the air traffic controllers' union of calling a "strike without precise demands" and "with political motives". — AFP

## STOCKS END LOWER TO CAP 1ST WEEKLY LOSS IN A MONTH

**NEW YORK:** Stocks ended slightly lower on Wall Street on Friday, giving the market its first weekly decline in a month. The market edged up in early trading after a much anticipated report on hiring last month showed decent gains. It quickly turned lower and remained down for the rest of the day. Suppliers of basic materials and industrial companies lost the most.

The government reported that employers hired last month at a slower pace than forecast, but not slow enough to signal the economy is in trouble and cause the Federal Reserve to hold off on raising interest rates later this year. Bonds were little changed on the news. The yield on 10-year Treasury notes slipped to 1.72 percent from 1.74 percent.

Real estate and phone companies continued to decline. Once favored by investors for their relative stability and steady dividends, they have become less attractive at the prospect of higher interest rates. Real estate companies lost 5 percent during the week, and phone companies slumped 3.8 percent.

"Everything that everyone had been buying for safety has gone down this week, and it's gone down big," said John Fox, chief investment officer of Fenimore Asset Management. "You have an unwinding of the low-rate trade." The Dow Jones industrial average fell 28.01 points, or 0.2 percent, to 18,240.49. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 7.03 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,153.74. The Nasdaq composite declined 14.45 points, or 0.3 percent, to 5,292.40.

### Dragged down

Industrial companies were dragged down in part by Honeywell International, which lowered its earnings forecast. The company put out a press release citing lower shipments to aviation equipment makers and delays in its military and space businesses, among other things. Honeywell closed

down \$8.67, or 7.5 percent, to \$106.94.

The jobs report showed that US employers added 156,000 jobs last month, a decent gain but slightly below market expectations. Jobs growth has averaged 178,000 a month so far this year, down from last year's pace of 229,000. Most investors expect the Fed to raise rates in December. It has held them near zero since 2008, a factor that many market watchers cite as a key driver of the seven-year bull run in stocks. Low interest rates make stocks appear relatively appealing compared to low-yielding bonds or CDs. They also make it easier for companies to borrow money to buy back their own stock.

"The world's largest economy looks to be sailing full steam ahead to a rate hike before the end of the year," said Paul

Sirani, chief market analyst at Xtrade.

Among stocks making big moves, Tyson Foods plunged \$6.63, or 9 percent, to \$67.75 after an analyst predicted a big drop in Tyson because of a lawsuit that accuses it and other companies of manipulating poultry prices.

Gap jumped \$3.47, or 15 percent, to \$26.25 after reporting September sales results that showed growth at its Old Navy chain. Other retailers rose, too. Ruby Tuesday fell 17 cents, or 7 percent, to \$2.34 after the restaurant chain reported a loss in its fiscal first quarter. In currency markets, the British pound fell as much as 6 percent in what's being dubbed a "flash crash," to its lowest level in more than three decades. It eventually rebounded to \$1.2435, down from \$1.2605 on Thursday. Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.6 percent in the

wake of the pound's latest decline. A lower currency potentially makes British exports more competitive as well as boosting the value of foreign earnings when brought back to the UK. Germany's DAX was down 0.7 percent while the CAC-40 in France fell 0.7 percent. US benchmark crude oil fell 63 cents to close at \$49.81 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, fell 58 cents to close at

\$51.93 a barrel in London. Wholesale gasoline fell 2 cents to \$1.48 a gallon, heating oil fell 2 cents to \$1.58 a gallon and natural gas jumped 14 cents to \$3.19 per 1,000 cubic feet. The price of gold fell \$1.10 to \$1,251.90 an ounce, silver rose 4 cents to \$17.38 an ounce and copper rose less than 1 cent to \$2.16 a pound. The euro rose to \$1.1180 while the dollar fell to 103.07 yen. — AP



**NEW YORK:** Specialist Jason Hardzewicz, left, works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. — AP

## BUSINESS LEADERS URGE AGAINST 'HARD' BREXIT

**LONDON:** British business leaders yesterday urged the government to rule out a hard break with the European Union, saying the uncertainty over the terms of Brexit was impacting investment decisions. "What we would like is the ruling out of the really worst options," Carolyn Fairbairn, the director general of CBI, Britain's biggest business lobby group, told BBC radio.

She outlined her case in an open letter to the government which was also signed by the heads of the EEF manufacturers' association, the International Chamber of Commerce UK and the techUK technology industry body. They warned against a situation where Britain leaves the EU single market without having a new trade deal in place, meaning it would revert to trading under World Trade Organization rules.

"Falling into WTO rules in only 29 months from now, which is the prospective timetable, would mean up to 90 percent of goods could potentially have tariffs on them," Fairbairn said. She said ruling out "some of these really negative options would help to reassure investors that the UK was still a really good place to invest".

The letter calls for continued barrier-free access to the EU's single market, particularly for financial services, and for a transitional deal to give businesses certainty until a new deal with the EU is agreed.

It comes after a tumultuous week of increasing market nervousness over Brexit, culminating in a "flash crash" of the pound to strike a 31-year low against the dollar. Britain's finance minister Philip Hammond downplayed the flash crash, blaming "technical factors" in the market. Prime Minister Theresa May, who took over following the June 23 vote to leave the EU, has said she intends to start the two-year process of withdrawal by March next year.

While giving few details of her strategy, she has indicated that she will prioritize cutting immigration—a key issue in the referendum campaign—over access to the single market. "The government must set out a clear roadmap for consulting with firms of all sectors and sizes to increase confidence that these complex decisions are taken on the basis of fact and a genuine understanding of the economic implications," the business leaders' letter concluded. — AFP



## DESPITE RECALL, SAMSUNG TIPS HIGHER-THAN-EXPECTED PROFIT

SEOUL: Samsung Electronics Co. estimated its profit rose more than expected in the July-September quarter likely helped by its component businesses that helped offset the cost from an unprecedented recall of its flagship smartphones. The South Korean company said in an earnings preview Friday that its third-quarter operating income rose 6 percent to 7.8 trillion won (\$7 billion), compared with 7.4 trillion won a year earlier.

That was slightly higher than forecasts. According to financial data provider FactSet, analysts expected a figure of 7.5 trillion won. Samsung said sales fell 5 percent from a year earlier to 49 trillion won (\$43.9 trillion) during the three-month period. The company will disclose its full results including earnings and divisional breakdowns later this month.

The results give clues about the short-term financial impact of its first global recall of smartphones. Last month Samsung recalled 2.5 million units of the Galaxy Note 7 just two weeks after its debut as consumers reported that batteries were overheating and catching fire. That was followed by global airlines banning the phone during flights and official recalls by the governments in the US and Canada.

Analysts estimate the cost of the recall could be as much as \$1.8 billion as Samsung shipped the phones back and replaced them with a new Note 7 phone with safe lithium-ion batteries. But they also said the damage would be outweighed by Samsung's other businesses, especially its sales of advanced computer chips and high-end smartphone displays.

### Dominant supplier

"We'll see an earnings surprise in the display and memory chip businesses," said Kim Young Woo, an analyst at SK Securities. "The numbers will show that they are the two growth engines for Samsung." According to Kim's estimates, nearly half of the income was generated by Samsung's component business during the last quarter, including the chips and the displays. He said the profit from Samsung's mobile business plunged to its lowest level in three quarters.

Samsung is the world's largest maker of the computer memory chips and the world's dominant supplier of advanced mobile-phone screens known as OLED. Samsung uses the lucrative OLED screens for its top-end phones, including the Galaxy S7 and Galaxy S7 Edge phones, whose sales were not affected by the Note 7 recall. The analysts also believe that the third quarter would be the bottom for Samsung's earnings. OLED screens for mobile devices and Samsung's advanced chips for computers will likely fuel a huge profit growth for the company in coming quarters, they said. That means that Samsung will have a buffer for its bottom line even as its smartphone battery crisis continues to damage its brand reputation.

The latest blow to Samsung's brand happened earlier this week when a U.S. domestic plane with 75 passengers had to be evacuated because of a Samsung phone emitting smoke before the plane's takeoff. Southwest Airlines Co. and the Federal Aviation Agency are investigating the Wednesday incident but declined to confirm whether the Samsung phone was the replaced Note 7 smartphone that Samsung had said was safe to use. —AP



BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping (2nd R) attends a meeting with Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa (L) at the Great Hall of the People. —AFP

## CHINA TO IMPROVE ACCESS FOR FOREIGN COMPANIES

'A NEW ROUND OF HIGH-LEVEL OPENING UP'

BEIJING: China's State Council, or cabinet, said yesterday the country is committed to improve access for foreign companies in China, as part of "a new round of high-level opening up". According to a statement released yesterday following a State Council meeting chaired by Premier Li Keqiang, the Chinese government will create an environment for fair competition for foreign firms. "It's important part of pushing forward a new round of high-level opening up," the statement said.

In the future, except for certain sensitive industries in which access for foreign companies is restricted, foreign investments would only require registration, rather than approval. The statement did not offer details on how the new system would work. It also said the Chinese government would take further steps to improve market entry for foreign companies.

The State Council's statement comes at a time when the foreign business community in China has become highly critical of the current unbalanced access for foreign companies in China. Last month, a top European business lobby warned China that it risked a protectionist backlash unless it opened its markets faster to foreign investment. Progress on China's economic reforms has been "highly disappointing"; the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China said in an annual paper, released as China prepared to host leaders from the world's biggest economies at last month's G20 summit in Hangzhou.

### Forex reserves fall

China's mountain of foreign exchange reserves dropped around \$19 billion in September to a five-year low, government data

showed, with the central bank spending heavily to defend its currency against capital outflows. The world's largest currency hoard fell to under \$3.17 trillion, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) said on its website Friday, below median analyst forecasts of \$3.18 trillion in a Bloomberg News survey.

It was the third straight month of declines and brought China's reserves to their lowest level since April 2011, Bloomberg said. Analysts said the decline indicated China was selling foreign exchange to buy its yuan currency amid capital flight spurred by slowing growth in the world's second largest economy. The data came days after the yuan's official entry into the International Monetary Fund's elite SDR basket of currencies, a symbolic coup for Beijing policymakers who are seeking to expand international use of the currency.

In the months preceding the currency's formal inclusion, China's central bank spent "heavily" to keep the yuan's value stable, roughly \$27 billion last month, said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics. But "with the inclusion of the renminbi in the SDR basket now complete, the PBOC may no longer feel the need to intervene as heavily to counter capital outflows," he said, adding that US Federal Reserve rate hikes could increase depreciation pressure on the yuan in coming months.

### Colombia deal

In other news, China wants to start talks on a feasibility study for a free trade agreement with Colombia as soon as possible, China's foreign minister said during a visit to the South American country, where he also offered sup-

port for its peace process. China is not a big diplomatic player in the region despite being a major commodities buyer there, but already has free trade pacts with Peru, Chile and Costa Rica.

President Xi Jinping will attend a summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) bloc in Peru next month and is also expected to visit several other Latin American nations. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said during a visit to Colombia that China would maintain close communications with Bogota to start substantive talks on a free trade agreement feasibility study as early as possible, China's Foreign Ministry said yesterday. The statement provided no details.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos won the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for his efforts to end a 52-year-old war with Marxist guerrillas, a surprise choice and a show of support days after voters rejected a peace deal he signed with the rebels. Wang said that, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and a good friend of Colombia's, China would continue to support the peace process.

"China upholds that all hot button issues in the end should be resolved via peaceful negotiations. Force cannot resolve problems, only bring more harm and even hate," the ministry paraphrased Wang as saying. Wang also congratulated Santos on winning the Nobel prize, the statement added. China has a difficult relationship with the Nobel Peace Prize and reacted with fury when it was awarded to prominent Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo in 2010. Exiled Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, a man accused by Beijing of being a dangerous separatist, is a fellow peace prize laureate. —Agencies



RIO DE JANEIRO: This file photo taken on August 2, 2016 shows Samsung Galaxy S7 mobile devices on display at the Olympic Park. —AFP

## VIETNAM COURT REJECTS FISHERMEN LAWSUITS AGAINST TAIWAN'S FORMOSA

HANOI: A Vietnamese court has rejected hundreds of lawsuits filed by fishermen who demanded more compensation from a Taiwanese-owned steel plant responsible for a devastating toxic leak, a leading activist said yesterday. In a rare case of civic action in authoritarian Vietnam, crowds of fishermen swamped a court house last month to file 506 lawsuits against Taiwan's Formosa, which is building a multi-billion-dollar steel plant in Ha Tinh province.

The conglomerate paid Vietnam's government \$500 million after it was blamed for dumping waste that poisoned tons of fish and decimated the local seafood industry earlier this year. Local fishermen launched their lawsuits in an effort to wrest more money from Formosa and demand it shut down the steel operation altogether. But Catholic priest Dang Huu Nam, who helped lead the plaintiffs, told AFP the court had returned more than 100 case files and that he was expecting more. "We will look into why the files are returned as the court did not say concretely, before deciding what moves to do next," Nam said.

The court's judge, Nguyen Van Thang, was quoted in state-run media saying that all 506 cases were returned. The fishermen had asked for compensation of roughly \$2.5 million but did not provide clear evidence of their losses, he said according to Phap Luat, an official legal news site. Dead fish and other marine life began washing up on Vietnam's central coast in April, hitting fishermen and triggering rounds of protests.

After weeks of obfuscation the government laid blame on Taiwan's Formosa, which has a history of environmental scandals spanning the globe, and ordered the conglomerate to pay a \$500 million fine. The government said it would start distributing the cash to affected fishermen in October and confirmed last month that payouts would range from \$130 to \$1,600 per person. Last Sunday, thousands of Vietnamese protesters surrounded the steel plant, with some scaling its walls and holding signs demanding its closure. Vietnam's communist rulers tolerate little dissent but anger over corruption and environmental degradation often spark significant protests. —AFP

## 1 IN 5 JAPAN EMPLOYEES FACE DEATH FROM OVERWORKING

TOKYO: A fifth of the Japanese workforce faces the risk of death from overwork, according to a new government survey into the country's notoriously strenuous working culture. Hundreds of deaths related to overwork—from strokes, heart attacks and suicide—are reported every year in Japan, along with a host of serious health problems, sparking lawsuits and calls to tackle the problem.

The survey was part of the nation's first white paper on "karoshi", or death from overwork, endorsed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's cabinet on Friday. While the popular image of Japanese salary men toiling long hours for the company before taking the last train home is changing, many still spend far more hours in the office than counter-

parts in other modern economies.

According to the paper, 22.7 percent of companies polled between December 2015 and January 2016 said some of their employees logged more than 80 hours of overtime each month—the official threshold at which the prospect of death from work becomes serious. The report added that approximately 21.3 percent of Japanese employees work 49 or more hours each week on average, well above the 16.4 percent reported in the US, 12.5 percent in Britain and 10.4 in France. The survey concluded that Japanese employees also reported feeling high levels of stress related to their work, pushing officials to call on companies to improve working conditions. —AFP



HONG KONG: This file photo taken on July 6, 1998 shows Hong Kong flag carrier Cathay Pacific Boeing 747-400 jumbo jet, flying over the Kai Tak Airport control tower (bottom) as it approaches Runway 13 on the last day of the 73-year-old airport. —AFP

## CATHAY FLIES BOEING 747 OVER HK ONE LAST TIME

HONG KONG: Hong Kong flag carrier Cathay Pacific bid farewell to its Boeing 747 fleet yesterday with a final low-altitude flyby over the city's iconic skyline. The final route harked back to dramatic images of the planes flying low over rooftops of apartment blocks as they used to approach the old airport on the harbor.

Yesterday's flight, codenamed CX8747, flew over the city's famous Victoria Harbor and the former Kai Tak Airport, which closed in 1998 and was considered one of the most challenging places to land an aircraft due to its crowded urban site surrounded by steep

mountains. Around 300 airline staff made a donation of HK\$747 (\$96) to ride on the venerable aircraft, which was first used by Cathay Pacific in 1979, for the last time, the airline said.

Photos of the last flyby, at an altitude of 610 meters were posted on the airline's Facebook page, which showed some 747 fans waving goodbye. "Goodbye and thank you, our dearest Boeing 747," Adonis Lau said on the airline's Facebook. "Cathay 747s brought me and my family between HK and our stays in US and Canada during my childhood. I'll miss my time on the upper deck," Denise Ho said. —AFP

## PERU: DEFORESTATION SLOWING AS IT BEEFS UP LAWS, SANCTIONS

LIMA: Deforestation in Peru has slowed since peaking at nearly 180,000 hectares (700 square miles) in 2014 when swaths of the Amazon were illegally cleared for oil palm plantations, the head of the country's forest service said on Friday. Fabiola Munoz said tougher new laws and enforcement, including fines 700 percent higher and jailtime for people who destroy primary forest, are helping Peru rein in deforestation. "People really used to think there would be no consequences," Munoz told foreign media. "That's changed."

In 2015, Peru lost about 160,000 hectares of forest cover, and less should be cleared this year, Munoz said. So far in 2016, about 120,000 hectares have been destroyed, according to satellite imagery. "We expect the trend to continue to be downward. But that means we have to be more active, we can't let our guard down," Munoz said. Peru controls about a tenth of the Amazon, a tropical forest home to unrivaled biodiversity and vast stores of carbon dioxide that fuel global warming when destroyed.

Environmentalists have criticized Peru for not doing enough to keep wood and gold from being torn illegally from its forests for export, and for allowing local authorities to dole out agricultural concessions that include swaths of virgin rainforest. Munoz said the government has ordered oil palm plantations in Peru owned by United Cacao Limited SEZC to halt activities after finding they had illegally cleared primary forest in previous years. But efforts to evict workers from the land have been met with threats, Munoz said.

United Cacao, headquartered in the Cayman Islands, did not immediately respond to requests for comment. The company has previously denied any wrongdoing. The dispute is now in Peruvian courts. "We're still fighting that battle," Munoz said. "We hope the courts understand the importance of these emblematic cases ... of sending the right message." A large Indonesian palm oil company interested in operating in Peru recently requested a meeting with Munoz and other public officials to discuss possible investments, Munoz said.

The officials told the company that the kind of large-scale oil palm plantations that have contributed to rapid deforestation in Indonesia are not viable in Peru. "We do want investments, but we don't want investments at any price," Munoz said. Munoz added that it was unclear how much a recent spate of forest fires might hurt efforts to slow deforestation as the Amazon suffers its driest year in nearly two decades. —Reuters

# NISSAN RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP BRANDS

**DUBAI:** For the fifth straight year, Nissan has been recognized as one of the world's most valuable brands according to the prestigious Best Global Brands Study by Interbrand, the world-leading brand consultancy. This year, Nissan was ranked as the 43rd most valuable brand in the world - an increase over last year's ranking of 49th. Nissan now has a brand value of over \$11 billion. This year's ranking puts Nissan as the 4th fastest growing brand in the world.

"Brand Power has been a consistent focus across the company for the last five years and it is very encouraging that all our efforts continue to be recognized by this influential brand ranking," said Roel de Vries, Corporate Vice President and the global head of marketing and brand strategy for Nissan. "The fact that we remain the fastest growing automotive brand is also further proof that the story around our products and our vision for the future of driving is continuing to resonate."

This recognition reflects Nissan's continuing efforts to drive

solid business results by increasing brand visibility. Nissan has become more proactive in building excitement for the brand in part by telling the story of the company's Intelligent Mobility blueprint for making driving safer, more exciting, and more sustainable. During the past year, Nissan has also raised brand awareness through several high-profile sponsorships, from the 2016 Rio Olympics to the UEFA Champions League.

The report cited several reasons for this year's jump in brand rankings, including:

for this year's jump in brand rankings, including:

- Nissan's long-term vision for increasing brand awareness through strategic use of digital platforms and technologies;

- Forging new partnerships such as the recent global agreement with Microsoft, focused on vehicle connectivity and connected services;

- Launching innovative new products from the Serena with ProPilot technology to the GT-R NISMO;

- Maintaining a strong commitment to customer satisfaction; and
- Nissan's success in creating modern new expressions of the brand, as seen through the recent opening of Nissan Crossing in the Ginza district of Tokyo.

The Best Global Brands study is Interbrand's annual report on the world's most valuable brands. Interbrand's method looks at the ongoing investment and management of the brand as a business asset, taking into account financial performance, the role of brand in the purchase decision process and the strength of the brand.



2016  
43rd  
2015  
49th  
2014  
56th

4th FASTEST RISING BRAND



# ALGHANIM AUTO GIVES FORD OWNERS FREE CHECKUP, DISCOUNT ON PARTS

**KUWAIT:** In line with its mission to offer excellent service for all Ford owners in Kuwait, the Alghanim Auto Service and Spare Parts Center is proud to offer a service promotion that not only will benefit Ford owners but also ensure their safety and comfort. Now with schools back in session and seasons changing, Ford owners are invited to bring their cars to the Service and Spare Parts Center for an early checkup to make sure that their Ford vehicle is in tip-top mechanical condition, particularly when it comes to critical components like the braking system, suspension and the steering system.

To ensure the optimum performance of their Ford vehicle and guarantee their peace of mind, customers are encouraged to visit Alghanim Auto Service and Spare Parts Center and take advantage of an exclusive service offer that entails a free, comprehensive 31-point checkup performed by a highly qualified team of Ford-trained technicians who use the latest diagnostics tools and servicing equipment. The 31-point checkup covers the most important mechanical and electrical components related to a car's operation and safety, including fluid levels, oils, filters, brake parts, electrical switches, tires and leak checks, as well as a thorough examination of the suspension, lighting, battery and cooling and exhaust systems.

The service promotion doesn't end there, however, as Alghanim Auto is also extending special discounts on spare parts and labor as part of its dedication to service

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE OFFERS FOR FORD OWNERS... BENEFIT FROM IT TODAY AT ALGHANIM AUTO

FREE CAR WASH + FREE 31-POINT CHECK-UP + 30% DISCOUNT ON GENUINE PARTS AND LABOR

189 89 00

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ALGHANIM AUTO

excellence. Should there be a need to carry out repairs, Ford owners will enjoy 30% instant discount on labor charges and genuine spare on top of the free inspection, making this offer irresistible for all Ford

owners who have been waiting to have their car serviced and maintained. In addition to these great savings, customers can also expect to have all their maintenance needs fulfilled in a timely and pro-

fessional manner by a team of qualified Ford-trained technicians and specialists. And because Ford customers deserve the best, the special hospitality at the Service and Spare Parts Center is topped off with a free car wash once the inspection has been performed.

The new Alghanim Auto Service and Spare Parts Center is fitted with advanced equipment to ensure the completion of all maintenance services in an efficient manner from the first time, expertly performed by Ford-trained technicians using genuine Ford and Motorcraft(r) spare parts, for guaranteed quality and peace of mind. For added convenience, customers looking to perform routine maintenance are encouraged to do so at the Quick Service bays, which offer oil and filter change, tire rotation, brake and battery replacement.

Furthermore, with the winter season approaching soon, the free checkup promotion is a fantastic saving opportunity that shouldn't be missed, which is why Alghanim Auto encourages all Ford owners in Kuwait to visit the Service and Spare Parts Center at their earliest convenience. The Service and Spare Parts Center, located in the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, opposite from the Classical Car Museum and Sirbb Circuit, is open from 7am to 7pm, Saturday to Thursday, while the Quick Service Center is open from 7am to 10pm, Saturday to Thursday, and from 2pm to 7pm on Fridays. To get in touch with the Service Center and book an appointment, customers can call the customer care center at 1898900.



# ETIHAD AIRWAYS HONORED WITH 3 TREASURY AWARDS

**ABU DHABI:** Etihad Airways' treasury team has once again been acknowledged for airline treasury management excellence with three key accolades at the 2016 Middle East, African & Islamic Finance Aviation 100 Awards presented by Airline Economics in Dubai this week. Following a string of successes in recent months with leading awards from various organizations in London, Miami and Dubai, Etihad Airways won further honors with:

- The Middle East & Africa Overall Deal of the Year for Etihad Airways Partners' (EAP) bond transactions totalling US\$1.2 billion
- The Middle East & Africa Treasury Team of the Year
- The Middle East & Africa Treasurer of the Year awarded to Group Treasurer Ricky Thirion

A US\$700m five-year landmark finance transaction completed by EAP in November 2015 was followed by a further US\$500m issuance in April 2016. The funds were raised to support the requirements of Etihad Airways, its subsidiary Etihad Airport Services, and five of the carrier's strategic airline partners - airberlin, Air Serbia, Air Seychelles, Alitalia and Jet Airways. The ground-breaking funding from institutional investors was the airline industry's first ever joint financing in the debt capital markets.

Etihad Airways' multi-national treasury team was able to deliver these significant results by bringing together a comprehensive array of skill sets involving cash and liquidity control, risk management and hedging, funding, and relationships with banking partners, investors and rating agencies. The treasury team is also responsible for insurance, direct customer payments, as well as property and infrastructure.

Ricky Thirion, who has led the treasury department since joining the company almost 10 years ago, was honored for his sterling work and leadership in building a world class treasury organisation. James Rigney, Etihad Aviation Group Chief Financial Officer, said: "Our treasury team under the leadership of Ricky has worked tirelessly to deliver a robust global treasury management capability. Tremendous amount of time, effort and resource has been spent on creating and developing processes, and preparing treasury business plans to take the group to a new level."

James Hogan, Etihad Aviation Group President and CEO, added: "Etihad Airways is renowned for delivering excellence and driving innovation across our business. Our unique bond transactions continue to be recognized by the international financial community that demonstrates our equity investment strategy in airlines is forward-thinking and reinforces the level of market confidence in our business model."

"Credit to James Rigney and his treasury team led by Ricky Thirion for building a strong treasury department, and creating the framework with our partners for completing two successful bond transactions, particularly in testing times during challenging economic conditions."

Airline Economics, part of the Aviation News stable of aviation publications, is considered among the leading airline industry titles for insightful reporting and analysis. The awards were presented during Airline Economics Growth Frontiers, Dubai's premier aviation finance event organized by Airline Economics for owners, investors and operators of commercial aircraft across the aviation industry.

# #MOMINEEDYOU: JOYALUKKAS LAUNCHES BREAST CANCER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

**DUBAI:** While breast cancer deaths in the UAE have declined by almost 10%, and late detection of the disease has gone down from 64% to 16%, there is a growing concern about the rise in incidences amongst women under 40 years of age. It is with this insight that the Joyalukkas Group has launched Think Pink 2016, with the banner #MomI Need You. The campaign is aimed at motivating all women, especially mothers, to conduct self-examinations diligently and regularly.

#MomI Need You comprises a month-long multimedia campaign featuring children of UAE residents and their personal messages encouraging their mothers to conduct regular self-examinations. A viral video initiative will present what UAE mothers believe is the most important thing they do for their families' vis-à-vis what their families think should be their priority.

"When we took the 'pink pledge' in 2011," says Mrs Sonia Alukkas, Director, Joyalukkas Group, "we put the strength of our entire network across 11 countries behind it and received an overwhelmingly positive response from over 10 million customers. Our commitment to raising awareness and preventing breast-cancer related deaths remains strong today, perhaps made even stronger because of the support of many health organizations and specialists in the UAE."

The Think Pink campaign, supported by the Dubai Health Authority, was launched in October 2011 and has successfully increased awareness of the benefits of early detection against breast cancer with the cooperation of over 40 health organizations. To date, more than 40,000 participants have benefited from the campaign's free breast screening facilities and community awareness activities.

"This year," says Mr Joy Alukkas, Chairman & MD, Joyalukkas Group, "we wanted to drive home the message that early detection saves not only the lives of women, but also that of their children. We are all aware of how devastating late detection of breast cancer can be for the victims, but sometimes we forget that it is the children whose mothers are diagnosed with cancer that stand to lose the most. 'Mom I Need You' is a heartfelt plea to all women to take care of them so that no child is left behind to suffer the consequences."

"As a mother," says Mrs. Jolly Joy, Director & Head of CSR, Joyalukkas Group, "my family is very important to me and the wellbeing of my children is my priority. Sometimes they need to remind me to slow down and take care



Sonia Alukkas

of myself too. This is the thought behind this campaign. A mother will never refuse a sincere request from her child. In the same way, we hope every woman out there would not ignore our reminder and they would set aside a tiny bit of time to conduct a self-exam so they can be with their children for longer."

Children are the focus of this campaign, and they have the opportunity to send their personal message to their moms and encourage them to make an online pledge to conduct regular self-examinations via Facebook. In appreciation of the participants' efforts, Joyalukkas is giving away a diamond set worth AED 2,500 to the best message posted. And as in previous years, the #Mom I Need You campaign will be visiting schools, universities and communities with educational activities and free screening facilities, as well as health forums where women can discuss and get support against breast cancer.

Joyalukkas BREAST CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAMME



# KFH ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF BANKING CARDS CAMPAIGN'S

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced the 7 winners of the 12th draw of the new banking cards campaign themed "Use KFH Cards and You May Win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz SUV's and Cash Prizes up to \$200,000" aiming at encouraging its customers to use KFH credit, prepaid and debit cards while making purchases in Kuwait and overseas. The winners are: Mohammad Mustafa, Farah Alshaye, Hessa Alkheadair, Dawood Alsabej, Nashmiya Alrashidi, Emad Boursely, and Breikan Alajmi.

For every KD 10 spent on their KFH cards, clients will gain a chance to enter a draw and win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz cars and a chance to win the value of their purchases up to \$2000 daily for 100 days ending October 11th 2016. It is worth noting that KFH Credit and Prepaid cards used in domestic and international purchases and KFH Debit cards used in international purchases are eligible for the daily draw.

Moreover, clients will gain the chance to enter 2 draws to win 2 Mercedes-Benz cars. The first draw will be for the first car Mercedes-Benz GLE 400. This draw will be held after 50 days of the launch for purchasing transactions conducted from day 1 to day 50, while the second draw will

be for the second car Mercedes Benz GLE 450 Coupe, and will be held after 100 days of the launch for purchasing conducted from day 51 to day 100 of the campaign.

KFH strives to continuously offer its clients new promotions and offers that differentiate them among peers, whilst also bolstering the bank's pioneering position in the field of banking cards. KFH marketing campaigns play a significant role in underlining KFH's principles that include boosting sales, while benefitting clients and merchants. This new campaign is part of KFH's efforts to reward its clients and grant them additional value; thus achieving higher customer satisfaction. The campaign also aims at enhancing the bank's presence, especially that it dominates the largest market share in the field of banking cards in Kuwait.

KFH has won several awards in the field of banking cards which reinforces its success and efficiency in banking cards market. KFH enjoys high confidence and leadership in the market in addition to high quality products which have enabled it to achieve growth in cards market and increase the number of customers. KFH occupies the leading position as the issuer of banking cards and one of leading banks at the GCC level.



# GULF BANK ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF AL DANAH DRAW

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank held its Al Danah daily draws on 3 October 2016 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 25 September - 29 September 2016. The Al Danah daily draws include draws each and every working day for two prizes of KD 1,000 per winner.

## The winners were:

(Sunday 25/9): Zainab Eisa Hassan Al-Musawi, Hnd Abdulrazaq Esmaeel Edeeres

(Monday 26/9): Shahzad Anam Mohammed Ashraf, Fatemah Naser Mohammed Khuraibet

(Tuesday 27/9): Amani Ali Husain Al-Ali, Ayman Abdullah Saoud Al-Mudhaf

(Wednesday 28/9): Dalal Hamzah Jumaa Al-Jumaiee, Jaseem Mohammed Rida

(Thursday 29/9): Fahad Sayah Shay'e Abu Shaibah, Husain Sardar Ali Faridoon

Gulf Bank's Al Danah 2016 draw lineup includes daily draws (2 winners per working day each receive KD1000). The final Al Danah draw for 1 Million Kuwaiti Dinars will be held on 5 January, 2017 whereby the Al Danah Millionaire will be announced. Open an Al Danah account now or deposit more to increase your chances of winning the Millionaire Draw!

Al Danah offers a number of unique services including: the Al Danah Deposit Only ATM card which helps account holders deposit their money at their convenience; as well as the Al Danah calculator to help customers calculate their chances of becoming an Al Danah winner.

Gulf Bank's Al Danah account is open to Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti residents of Kuwait. Customers who open an account and/ or deposit more will enter the draw within two days. To take part in the Al Danah 2016 upcoming quarterly and yearly draws, customers must have an Al Danah account containing at least KD 200; customers can visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, transfer on line, or call the Customer Contact Center on 1805805 for assistance and guidance. Customers can also log on to www.e-gulfbank.com/aldanahwinners, to find out more about Al Danah and its winners.



## VERIZON CUTS JOBS IN STORES AS WIRELESS GROWTH SLOWS

**NEW YORK:** Verizon has cut jobs in stores across the country as it deals with increasing competition in the wireless industry.

Verizon spokeswoman Kim Ancin said Friday that stores will have fewer employees, but she refused to specify the size of Thursday's layoff.

A union representative, Tim Dubnau, estimates that Verizon has cut hundreds or even thousands of jobs across the nation given that nine of 55 employees were laid off in six Brooklyn stores in New York. Dubnau is an organizing coordinator for the Communications Workers of America union, which represents

workers in seven Verizon stores in New York and Massachusetts. Most Verizon stores are not unionized.

Ancin said estimates of thousands of cuts are "an exaggeration." People who lost their jobs can apply for new positions at Verizon. Verizon has 162,000 US employees. Ancin could not immediately

say how many of those were retail store workers.

The layoffs result from Verizon combining the roles of two store positions - inventory stockers and customer-service specialists who answer questions about gadgets and bills.

Revenue growth across the wireless

industry has slowed. Most adults already have smartphones, and carriers offer discounts. In the first half of the year, Verizon's wireless revenue fell nearly 3 percent to \$44 billion; additions of the type of wireless subscribers who are more lucrative to the company fell 26 percent. — AP

## POLICE TRACKING SOCIAL MEDIA DURING PROTESTS STIRS CONCERNS

**DENVER:** Increasingly common tools that allow police to conduct real-time social media surveillance during protests are drawing criticism from civil liberties advocates, who oppose the way some departments have quietly unrolled the technology without community input and little public explanation.

Police say services such as Geofeedia, which map, collect and store information from social media posts, are a powerful way to help find crime witnesses, spot brewing problems during large gatherings and gauge community sentiment.

Groups like the American Civil Liberties Union say the software can be easily used to collect information on peaceful protesters or target certain groups. The programs let police gather and record all online posts within specific geographic boundaries, and some allow users to do keyword searches for certain words or hashtags.

Law enforcement agencies have used the services to mine posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and other sites during parades, protests and other large events. One company marketing the technology, Media Sonar, suggested police track hashtags such as #BlackLivesMatter and #ImUnarmed, and Geofeedia offered webinars on the way a Maryland police department used its software during protests over the death of Freddie Gray, a response to an ACLU records request showed.

The group's Colorado chapter requested more information Thursday on how Denver police uses Geofeedia, saying the department could be gathering intelligence on law-abiding demonstrators.

### 2003 agreement

The department agreed in 2003 to stop collecting information on protesters not suspected of crimes after the ACLU found it kept thousands of "spy files" on peaceful groups, including a Franciscan nun and Amnesty International. The group sued to keep Denver police from gathering such information without a clear law enforcement purpose. "Now they've bought software that lets them do some of the things they were doing so much easier and at a computer screen," said Mark Silverstein, the chapter's legal director.

Denver police provided documents showing it spent \$30,000 for a one-year subscription to Geofeedia. In requesting

funding, Lt. William Mitchell said it would be used to monitor large events, including Denver's annual marijuana rally and Martin Luther King Day march and parade.

### POTENTIAL THREATS

"You are able to see real-time potential threats being made to an event," Mitchell wrote in the request, adding that the program assisted in the Boston Marathon bombing investigation and helped police find a woman who made social media threats during Super Bowl festivities. "It has the ability to identify criminal suspects and their actions as they post them to social media."

It is unclear how many departments nationwide are using such software programs. Police in Baltimore, Seattle and Dallas have used them. Los Angeles police officials wrote in a 2014 grant application for the software that more than 500 police agencies were already using it.

The ACLU of California found at least 13 police agencies acquired or used Geofeedia in that state alone. The software is also used by news organizations, retailers and companies to quickly analyze large amounts of social media. The Mall of America used the program to engage shoppers, according to the company's website.

Activists are concerned that Geofeedia is marketing itself as a way to target protesters. "These programs are a deterrent to free speech," said Baltimore activist Kwame Rose, who was arrested while protesting the mistrial of a Baltimore officer charged in the death of Gray, whose neck was broken in the back of a police van. "It's a waste of resources that could be spent on implementing programs for police reform."

A Geofeedia representative and Baltimore police didn't immediately return calls for comment. The software can be a valuable public safety tool if used transparently, said Jim Bueermann, president of Washington, DC-based nonprofit Police Foundation, which is seeking money to study the value of such social media tracking programs. "As social media becomes an increasingly important way to interact with each other, it's a rational and natural response that the police would try to engage social media on multiple levels to try to get a better handle on how people feel about the department or certain incidents that happen," he said. —AP



**SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA:** In this Tuesday, July 19, 2016, file photo, flowers bloom in front of a Yahoo sign at the company's headquarters. —AP

## REPORTED YAHOO EMAIL SCANNING REVIVES SURVEILLANCE CONCERNS

**NEW YORK:** Yahoo's reported willingness to search user email to assist US government investigators has revived concerns about court-approved surveillance programs that companies aren't allowed to disclose to the people using their services.

Last year, Yahoo modified an existing version of its email security program to flag the appearance of a digital "signature" the US had linked to a foreign terrorist group backed by another government, according to a report published Wednesday by The New York Times. Copies of any incoming email containing the signature were stored in Yahoo's system and made available to the FBI.

The Times quoted an unnamed government official, following up an earlier Reuters story that had revealed Yahoo's email scanning activity without specifying what kind of information the government sought.

### Seen through a prism

The revelations have conjured memories of a data-collection program set up by the National Security Agency and major internet companies a few years ago under other court orders issued in secret. That program, called "Prism," only became public knowledge in 2013 after former NSA contractor Edward Snowden leaked slides revealing that the government had been authorized to grab emails, videos and pictures stored by Google, Yahoo and Facebook, among other companies.

As with Prism, the US government appears to have demanded Yahoo's cooperation in an effort to sniff out terrorist threats and protect public safety. The government said Prism targeted the specific online accounts of foreigners.

The Yahoo hunt may have cut a much broader swath, scanning through hundreds of millions of incoming emails in search of the signature used by the foreign terrorist group, said Kurt Opsahl, general counsel for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a digital rights group. He

likened it to the government getting a court order to rifle through the documents stored in millions of homes in search of a particular piece of information.

### Big computer is watching you

"This is a troubling vision of the future where there might be massive government surveillance done with computers," Opsahl said. "The government may well say they were only targeting a string of characters used by a foreigner, but it just so happened that hundreds of millions of innocent people also had their emails examined too."

Patrick Toomey, a staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, said in a statement that the government order appears to be "unprecedented and unconstitutional."

Odia Kagan, a Philadelphia-based data privacy attorney, said that it's impossible to judge the legality of the government's request, because the facts surrounding it remain murky.

The Justice Department didn't immediately respond to a request for comment late Wednesday. Bulk collection of data isn't allowed and the government cannot indiscriminately review the emails or phone calls of ordinary people, Richard Kolko, deputy director of public affairs for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, said in a statement. The US government can gather information about non-US citizens under the Foreign Intelligence and Surveillance Act, but those powers are supposed to be narrowly focused, Kolko said.

Yahoo hasn't explained what it did under the government order. It called Reuters' original story "misleading," but declined to comment on the Times' disclosure about the government's quest for the digital signature.

### Gagging on secrecy

The company probably wishes it could say more, but can't because of a court order forbidding the company from discussing the surveil-

lance, Opsahl said. Google and Microsoft have issued statements disavowing any involvement in a government-ordered surveillance program similar to Yahoo's. While companies have a duty to abide by the law, they also have a duty to protect the privacy of their users, Kagan said. The trick is to balance those two things. And sometimes that means putting up a fight when it comes to government requests, even if they ultimately lose, in order to preserve their users' trust in them. Not long ago, Yahoo also resisted government demands. The Sunnyvale, California, company initially challenged the program that became Prism in a battle dating back to 2007, despite threats of being fined \$250,000 per day if it didn't comply.

Yahoo was under different management then. It has been run by a former Google executive, Marissa Mayer, for the past four years. "The big takeaway is that what we really don't know what is going on between any of these companies and the government," said Forrester Research privacy analyst Fatemeh Khatibloo. "It sort of a shadowy world threatening our Fourth Amendment rights" protecting against unreasonable search and seizures.

### More trouble for Yahoo

The news is just the latest email bombshell for Yahoo, which was already reeling from its recent admission that computer hackers swiped personal information from at least 500 million of its accounts. That attack is believed to be the biggest digital break-in ever suffered by an email provider.

This week's revelations could also affect Yahoo's operations in Europe, Kagan said. User data there is protected by a data privacy agreement struck this summer between the US and EU regulators known as the Privacy Shield.

Yahoo is also in the process of selling its online operations to Verizon for \$4.8 billion. Verizon so far has had no comment on the email-scanning reports. —AP



**DENVER:** In this April 20, 2013 file photo, members of a crowd numbering tens of thousands smoke marijuana at the Denver 4/20 pro-marijuana rally at Civic Center Park. Denver police have said they would potentially use social media tracking software like Geofeedia to monitor the annual gathering. —AP

## LAWSUIT CLAIMS YAHOO JOB REVIEWS DISCRIMINATED AGAINST MEN

**SAN FRANCISCO:** A Yahoo Inc media executive fired from the internet company last year has filed a lawsuit claiming a job review process implemented by Chief Executive Marissa Mayer was used to cut men from executive ranks and lay them off illegally, court papers showed.

Scott Ard, a former senior editorial director at Yahoo, filed the lawsuit in California's Northern District Court in San Jose on Tuesday, saying the company violated federal civil rights and employment regulations. Yahoo spokeswoman Carolyn Clark said in a statement that the lawsuit had no merit and called the performance review process "fair."

The lawsuit is the second this year accusing Yahoo of discrimination against men, and targets one of the highest-profile Silicon Valley female executives, Mayer, who is in the middle of divesting Yahoo's core assets after failing to turn the company around.

Ard, who joined Yahoo in 2011, argued that he had received overall positive performance reviews and stock awards before Mayer introduced a quarterly performance review (QPR) system that left him with an unsatisfactory rank-

ing. "Yahoo's QPR Process permitted manipulation without oversight or accountability and was thus more arbitrary and discriminatory than the stack ranking used for a while by other employees," the lawsuit said.

It accused Yahoo of violating the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and U.S. Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification regulations. Ard claims that since 2012, Yahoo has terminated more than 50 employees within a 30-day period on several occasions under the system, according to court documents. Yahoo had 9,400 employees as of March.

The lawsuit also claims former Chief Marketing Officer Kathy Savitt "intentionally hired and promoted women because of their gender," noting that 14 of about 16 senior level editorial employees hired by her were women.

In February, former Yahoo Autos Managing Editor Gregory Anderson sued the company, accusing it of gender discrimination and violations related to the job review process. The case, filed to US District Court Northern California, San Jose Division, is 5:16-cv-05635-NC. — Reuters

## FCC PROPOSAL: INTERNET PROVIDERS MUST ASK TO SHARE YOUR DATA

**NEW YORK:** A new privacy proposal unveiled last week will require broadband providers like Verizon and Comcast to get your permission before sharing with advertisers what you've been doing on your phone or computer.

The Federal Communication Commission has changed its broadband-privacy plan since it was initially proposed in March. The wireless and cable industries had complained that under the initial plan, they would be more heavily regulated than digital-ad behemoths like Google and Facebook, which are monitored by a different agency, the Federal Trade Commission.

The FCC explained its new approach Thursday and plans to vote on it Oct. 27. The revised proposal says broadband providers don't have to get permission from customers ahead of time to use some information deemed "non-sensitive," like names and addresses. The previous plan called for customers to expressly approve the use of that information.

This time around, customers still need to OK broadband providers' using and sharing a slew of their data, like a phone's physical location, websites browsed and apps used, and what's in emails. And customers must be told what types of information is kept and how it will be used. Agency officials said customers can also still say no to internet service providers using other data, like names and addresses.

Drawing on customer information could help broadband providers make more money from digital advertising. Verizon, for example, bought AOL last year for \$4.4 billion and is spending

\$4.8 billion more to buy Yahoo in a bid to build an ad business. The FCC proposal also requires broadband providers to tell customers within 30 days if their data has been hacked.

In a statement, Verizon's chief privacy officer, Karen Zacharia, said that the company was encouraged that the FCC "seems to be moving" to an approach that was more consistent with how the FTC regulates internet companies. But trade groups for the cable and phone-company

industries chided the plan because of differences with the FTC approach to regulating consumer privacy.

Several consumer-advocacy groups praised the FCC's plan. The proposal was a good defense "against internet service providers' unpermitted use of personal information," Free Press Policy Counsel Gaurav Loria said in a statement. The proposal can change before the five FCC commissioners vote on it. —AP



**BARCELONA:** In this Feb. 25, 2014, file photo, a Samsung Galaxy S5 is demonstrated at the Mobile World Congress, the world's largest mobile phone trade show. —AP

## SURGERY DURING PREGNANCY CARRIES LOW RISK OF COMPLICATIONS

**NEW YORK:** Surgical procedures during pregnancy are generally safe, new research indicates. "Clearly, surgery during pregnancy should only be considered if absolutely necessary," said Paul Aylin, study co-author and an epidemiologist at the Imperial College London in England.

But when expectant mothers do need to undergo surgery, "the information provided in our analysis may give reassurance," he told Reuters Health by email. Aylin and colleagues used England's national hospital database to identify nearly 6.5 million pregnancies between 2002 and 2012, including 47,628 in which the moms had nonobstetric surgery.

The most common operations involved the

abdomen, dental issues, the nails and skin, orthopedic conditions, the ear, nose or throat, the perianal region, and the breast. Overall, surgery during pregnancy was associated with a higher risk of birth complications, but the amount of that increased risk that could be blamed on the surgery was relatively small, according to the authors.

They found that for every 143 surgeries, there was one extra case of a hospital miscarriage. In addition, there was one extra stillbirth among every 287 women who had surgery, one preterm delivery among every 31 surgery patients, one underweight baby for every 39 women in the surgery group, and one maternal death for every 7,962 surgeries.

### Four times higher risk

Approximately two-thirds of all abdominal operations were laparoscopic - but laparoscopic abdominal surgery was linked with a nearly four times higher risk of miscarriage compared with open abdominal surgery, the authors found.

Fewer than 6 percent of the operations occurred within one week of the end of pregnancy, however. Overall, after accounting for other factors that might increase expectant mothers' risks for these bad outcomes, nonobstetric surgery was found to increase the risk by 0.7 percent for miscarriage, 0.4 percent for still birth, 3.2 percent for preterm delivery, 2.6 percent for low birth weight, 4 percent for cesarean section, and 0.013 percent

for maternal death, the authors reported in *Annals of Surgery*.

"This study puts it into perspective that other risk factors are at play and this is the amount of risk that can be blamed on the surgery," said Dr. Daniela Carusi, an obstetrician gynecologist and director of Surgical Obstetrics at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"The risk you can attribute to surgery may be small, but it's not zero," said Carusi, who was not involved with the study. "Because of that, it's important to consider the safest alternative." In some cases, it might be better to wait. "But if it's a medical condition, like appendicitis, then surgery may be the better option," she said. — Reuters

## 4 UTERUS TRANSPLANTS FROM LIVE DONORS DONE IN TEXAS; 3 FAIL

### BORN WITHOUT A UTERUS

**DALLAS:** Texas doctors have done the first womb transplants using live donors in the United States.

Four women who had been born without a uterus received one in operations last month at

Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas. Three of the wombs have had to be removed because of poor blood flow. But the hospital said in a statement Wednesday that the fourth recipient still has hers and is showing no signs of rejection.

The hospital would not identify any of the donors or recipients.

There have been at least 16 previous uterus transplants worldwide, including one in Cleveland from a deceased donor that had to be removed because of complications. Two doctors from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, which has done the most of these operations, were in Dallas to assist with the four transplants there.

At least five births have resulted from the womb transplants in Sweden. Dallas doctors are hopeful the patient who still has her transplanted womb will become the first successful case in the US. She is part of a clinical trial that Baylor announced in January that aims to enroll 10 women born without a uterus or with a faulty one.

Womb donors can be dead or alive, and the Baylor study aims to use some of both. The first four cases involved "altruistic" donors - unrelated and unknown to the recipients, a hospital spokesman said. The ones done in Sweden were from live donors, mostly from the recipients' mother or a sister.

Doctors hope that womb transplants will enable as many as several thousand women born without a uterus to bear children. To be eligible for the Baylor study, women must be 20 to 35 years old and have healthy, normal ovaries. They will first have in vitro fertilization to retrieve and fertilize their eggs and produce embryos that can be frozen until they are ready to attempt pregnancy.

After the uterus transplant, the embryos can be thawed and implanted, at least a year after the transplant to make sure the womb is working well. A baby resulting from a uterine transplant would be delivered by cesarean section. The wombs are not intended to be permanent - having one means a woman must take powerful drugs to prevent organ rejection, and the drugs pose long-term health risks, so the uterus would be removed after one or two successful pregnancies.

Womb transplants are one of many newer trends in a field that has advanced many frontiers in recent years. On Wednesday, doctors at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston said they performed a double-arm transplant for a retired Marine sergeant who lost all four limbs to a bomb in Afghanistan. It was not a first, even for the hospital - at least 85 hand or arm transplants have been done globally since the first one nearly two decades ago.

Doctors from Houston Methodist Hospital and MD Anderson Cancer Center in 2014 did the world's first partial skull and scalp transplant to help a man who suffered a large head wound from cancer treatment. More than two dozen face transplants have been done since the first one in France in 2005; the first one in the US was done in Cleveland in 2008.

A host of patients have received transplants or implants of 3-D printed body parts, ranging from blood vessels to windpipes. — AP



**DALLAS:** In this Sept. 14, 2016 photo provided by Baylor Scott & White Health, surgeons remove a donor's uterus to perform a living donor uterine transplant during a clinical trial at Baylor University Medical Center.



**WASHINGTON:** Mylan CEO Heather Bresch, right, and Dr. Doug Throckmorton, deputy director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), are sworn in on Capitol Hill on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, prior to testifying before the House Oversight Committee hearing on EpiPen price increases. — AP

## MYLAN TO PAY \$465 MN OVER EPIPEN OVERCHARGES TO MEDICAID

**NEW YORK:** Mylan will pay \$465 million to resolve accusations from some regulators that it overbilled the federal Medicaid program for the EpiPen allergy medication, the drugmaker announced Friday.

The settlement with the Department of Justice and some other regulators resolves questions about Mylan's classification of EpiPen as a generic drug, the drugmaker said. Mylan said it did not admit fault in the agreement.

Federal health care regulators have said the misclassification contributed to a swelling of payments to Mylan, which nearly monopolizes the market for the allergy injectors, for EpiPen under federal health care programs. Had EpiPen been correctly classified, Mylan would have been forced to pay higher rebates to federal and state officials, officials with the US Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have said.

Mylan, which has been under strong attack from politicians and the public for jacking up the price of EpiPens — essential for severe allergy sufferers to block life-threatening attacks — touted the settlement. "This agreement is another important step in Mylan's efforts to move forward and bring resolution to all EpiPen Auto-Injector related matters," said Mylan chief executive Heather Bresch.

Despite news of the settlement, Mylan alluded to a fresh federal investigation in an SEC filing, saying it had received a document request Friday from enforcement officials "seeking communications with the CMS and documents concerning Mylan products sold and related to the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program, and any related complaint."

"Mylan intends to fully cooperate with the SEC's investigation," it added. A CMS official declined substantive comment on the settlement. "Today, through an SEC filing, Mylan Pharmaceutical announced that it has come to an agreement in principle with the federal government over a dispute over the misclassification of EpiPen in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program," a CMS spokesperson said.

"We have no further comment at this time," a Justice Department spokeswoman declined comment, adding, "the Justice Department does not confirm or deny the existence of an investigation."

Mylan has been under fire since August over the soaring price of the life-saving EpiPen injectors, for which it faces virtually no competition in the market. A pack of two of the devices soared to more than \$600 from less than \$100 in 2007, when Mylan bought the rights to the technology.

Mylan in August boosted patient assistance programs to help defray costs for EpiPen, eliminating immediate out-of-pocket costs for the uninsured and underinsured. Bresch endured a bruising hearing on Capitol Hill last month where she was pressed on swelling compensation for executives at the company that was tied in part to the rising income from EpiPen sales.

Bresch defended the company's pricing, saying some of the higher cost was due to payments to insurers and others in the health care industry. However, the company was forced to back off a claim that a two-pack of EpiPens yielded a profit of just \$100 after it emerged that the figure deducted for an unrealistically high amount of taxes. Mylan shares rose 8.5 percent in after-hours trade. — AFP

## CHOLERA OUTBREAK HITS WAR-TORN YEMEN: UNICEF

**SANAA:** War-torn Yemen is suffering from a cholera outbreak, the UN's children agency and the World Health Organization said Friday, posing a further threat to infants in the impoverished nation.

"This outbreak adds to the misery of millions of children in Yemen," UNICEF Yemen representative Julien Harneis said in a statement. "Children are at a particularly high risk if the current cholera outbreak is not urgently contained especially since the health system in Yemen is crumbling as the conflict continues."

The WHO, citing Yemeni health ministry figures, said that eight cholera cases mostly involving children had been recorded in one neighborhood of the rebel-held capital Sanaa. They were being treated for extreme dehydration in an isolated section of the capital's Al-Sabihi hospital, it said.

The WHO said the scarcity of drinkable water has worsened the hygiene situation in Yemen, fuelling a marked increase in cases of severe diarrhoea, in particular among people displaced from their homes in the centre of the country. UNICEF said health professionals in Sanaa had reported several cases, as had medics in Ta'ez, Yemen's third largest city.

It said its team was working with doctors in Yemen to establish the cause of the outbreak and called on international donors to provide funding to work to improve the health situation there. UNICEF said that cholera, a disease that is transmitted through contaminated drinking water and causes acute diarrhoea, could prove fatal in up to 15 percent of untreated cases.

The agency says nearly three million people in Yemen are in need of immediate food supplies, while 1.5 million children suffer malnutrition, including 370,000 enduring very severe malnutrition that weakens their immune system.

The conflict between Yemen's government and Iran-backed Houthi rebels escalated last year with the intervention of a Saudi-led Arab coalition in support of President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi. The UN says more than 6,700 people have been killed and more than three million displaced by fighting in Yemen since March 2015, when the coalition launched its campaign. — AFP

## NOVARTIS CHALLENGES PFIZER WITH STRONG BREAST CANCER DRUG DATA

**NEW YORK:** An experimental Novartis pill given with an older drug kept advanced breast cancer in check far longer than standard treatment alone, putting it on track to challenge Pfizer's blockbuster Ibrance, data showed on yesterday.

Patients taking ribociclib with letrozole were 44 percent less likely to see their disease progress or to die, a keenly awaited clinical trial found.

Novartis' ribociclib works in a similar way to Ibrance and is set to be second to market in the category. It is expected to go on sale next year, ahead of Eli Lilly's rival abemaciclib.

### 44 percent reduction

Ibrance has been quickly adopted by oncologists and is tipped by analysts to sell some \$2.1 billion in 2016, according to Thomson Reuters consensus forecasts. The 44 percent reduction in progression-free survival seen with ribociclib, which is also known as LEE011, compared with a 42 percent fall reported in a comparable late-stage trial involving Ibrance.

Lead researcher Gabriel Hortobagyi of the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston said the two drugs appeared very similar both in terms of their efficacy and side effects. "This is a practice-changing study and when it (ribociclib) is approved by the appropriate regulatory agencies it will be one of the major choices," he told reporters.

The news may prompt industry analysts to increase sales forecasts for the drug. Currently, consensus forecasts for ribociclib are \$1 billion in 2015 against \$5.8 billion for Ibrance. Alessandro Riva, head of cancer drug development at Novartis, told Reuters he believed the data showed that ribociclib was "at least as good" as Ibrance.

Like Ibrance, ribociclib caused a decline in white blood cells. The Novartis drug was also associated with signals of potential liver and heart problems,

although these issues were well managed.

"The addition of ribociclib to letrozole does increase the rate of toxicity, but overall, if we evaluate the magnitude of clinical benefit, there is definitely a benefit to be gained from adding ribociclib," said Giuseppe Curigliano of the European Institute of Oncology.

Novartis announced in May that the 668-patient trial was a success but full details were only unveiled in Copenhagen at the annual European Society for Medical Oncology congress. They were also published online in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Patients on letrozole alone went a median 14.7 months before their disease progressed, while the median point was not reached in the ribociclib combination arm because so many of those patients

remained healthy. The number of deaths in the study was also too low to allow researchers to calculate an impact on overall survival.

In August, Novartis won breakthrough therapy designation from US regulators for ribociclib as a first-line treatment for advanced breast cancer and the company plans to file the medicine for approval worldwide this year. Like Pfizer's Ibrance, which has a US list price of around \$10,000 a month, ribociclib blocks enzymes known as cyclin-dependent kinases 4 and 6.

Both drugs are designed for patients whose tumors grow in response to estrogen and whose cancer is not caused by the HER2 protein. This is the most common type of breast cancer. — Reuters



**MUMBAI:** A Novartis logo is pictured on its headquarters building on April 1, 2013. — AFP

### DIETARY SATURATED FAT LINKED TO AGGRESSIVE PROSTATE CANCER

**CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA:** Men with prostate cancer may be more likely to have the most serious form of the disease if their diet contains a lot of fat from meat and dairy, a recent US study suggests.

The increased risk tied to saturated fat and cholesterol was greater for the prostate cancer patients who had not been taking cholesterol-lowering statin drugs, researchers report in the journal *Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases*.

The link between saturated fat in the diet and aggressive prostate cancer was also strongest for men of European descent, compared to African American men, the study found. "A diet high in saturated fat contributes to high blood cholesterol levels," which have already been linked to worse outcomes for prostate cancer, said lead author Emma Allott of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

One out of every seven men in the US will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetimes, according to the American Cancer Society.

with more aggressive prostate cancer consumed more calories and more cholesterol every day and had a higher percentage of calories from fat in their diets. Among men with more aggressive prostate cancer, a greater proportion of the total fat they consumed was the saturated kind and less of it was polyunsaturated fat, compared to men with less aggressive cases.

Diets highest in saturated fat were tied to an overall 51 percent higher risk of having highly aggressive cancer, compared to diets lowest in saturated fat. Cholesterol intake was also separately tied to higher risk of more aggressive cancer, but only for white men.

For men who weren't taking statins, the risk of highly aggressive cancer was increased by 71 percent with the diets highest in saturated fat, only a 16 percent risk increase in men using statins. "There are a number of things that men can do to reduce their risk of advanced or lethal prostate cancer," said Stacey Kenfield, who researches lifestyle and diet factors to help prevent prostate cancer at the University of California, San Francisco.

**More common in the west**

In Western countries, prostate cancer tends to be more common, and people in Western nations also tend to consume more saturated fat, the authors note. To explore the relationship between prostate cancer and fat in the diet, the study team used data on 1,854 men with newly-diagnosed prostate cancer, including 321, or 17 percent, with "highly aggressive" cancers.

As part of the North Carolina-Louisiana Prostate Cancer Project, the men answered questions about their diet habits, their medications, and demographic and lifestyle factors like age, race and activities.

The researchers calculated the levels of saturated fat in each man's diet, as well as the amounts of mono- and polyunsaturated fats, the types found in vegetable oils or fish. They found that men

Preventive measures include "not smoking, having a normal body weight, high physical activity, and high intake of tomatoes and dark meat fish (e.g., tuna, mackerel, salmon, sardines), and low intake of processed meat," she said.

These efforts may also help prevent other diseases, such as heart disease and diabetes, Kenfield, who was not involved in the study, told Reuters Health by email. People concerned about cancer "can cut down on the amount of saturated fat in their diets by choosing lean cuts of meat and low-fat dairy products, and by cooking with plant-based oils," Allott said. "Controlling dietary saturated fat content may be important not only for cardiovascular disease prevention and overall health, but also for aggressive prostate cancer prevention," she said. — Reuters



**RIO DE JANEIRO:** The Director of Earth Science Museum Diogenes de Almeida Campos shows the biggest piece of fossil of a dinosaur's neck, collected in 1953 by the Brazilian paleontologist Llewellyn Ivor Price at Earth Science Museum on Thursday. — AFP

## BRAZIL'S BIGGEST DINO FOUND AFTER 60 YEARS

### REMAINS WERE IN CUPBOARD

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** Brazil just found its biggest ever dinosaur-in a storage cupboard. In its prime, more than 66 million years ago, this long necked herbivore was 25 meters (82 feet) long-longer than an articulated bus-and could chomp through trees at a terrifying rate.

By the time the creature was found by renowned Brazilian paleontologist Llewellyn Ivor Price in 1953, only a few hefty, fossilized bits of the spine remained. Researchers knew immediately they'd stumbled on something big. They didn't have the staff or resources to figure out how big, however, so the dinosaur pieces languished the next six decades in storage at Rio's ornate Museum of Earth Sciences. Until now.

he said. "We were waiting for the staff... for a laboratory that started from nothing to mature," he said. "We made a first effort with students about eight years ago and it didn't succeed." Finally, Campos' student Kamila Bandeira made the mysterious monster the subject of her doctoral thesis and over the last four years put the pieces of the puzzle together.

at the marrow... After, came smaller animals and nothing was left over. Anything that did remain the beetles and the spiders and the ants finished, and when there was just bones, the bacteria came. Finally the remains sank into the lagoon."

There may be many such discoveries waiting to be made in Brazil's thick flora. "Pay attention when roads are built, when wells are dug," Campos advised. "You could have a dinosaur in your backyard and not realize!"

The remains of what has been named "Austroposeidon magnificus," and pronounced Brazil's biggest dinosaur, went on general public view for the first time Thursday. A nearly complete spinal vertebra-about the size of a microwave oven and entirely petrified-and numerous fragments of other vertebrae lie on a black cloth in an upper room of the museum.

Nearly hangs an enormous artist's rendition, done to scale, of what "Austroposeidon magnificus" might have looked like: a small head, long neck, enormous body and long tail. A patch of the reptile's skin is shown pulled back to reveal where the prize vertebra would have slotted in.

**Dinosaurs in back yards**

The most spectacular dinosaur discoveries come in desert or largely bare areas, such as the US southwest, the south of Argentina or Mongolia, where they are easier to find. The fossilized bones of the biggest dinosaur known to date — an estimated 40 meters (130 feet) long-were unearthed in Argentina in 2014.

"Austroposeidon magnificus" was found, like many other dinosaur remains, by chance during road building near Sao Paulo. The reason only a few fossilized bones were found-and not the whole skeleton-points to the creature's unceremonious end, Campos says.

"When these animals die, it's... a huge new source of meat. So all the hunters, the carnivores ate this creature. The first thing they ate is the head, because the brain must be tasty," said Campos. "They also broke the long bones to get

**Extinction then and now**

A lifetime hanging around fossils of extinct giants has given Campos, 73, unique perspective on creation and destruction. But today's world, where human activity dominates for the first time, disturbs him. "Extinction is as normal a thing for paleontologists, as is the appearance of a new species," he said. "But in comparison with what's happening today-the disappearance of tigers or whales-this is not caused by nature." "It's worrying." In the palatial but at times shockingly decrepit Rio museum-a victim, like many other Brazilian public institutions, of underfunding-Campos said his job was a great passion. He recalled studying under the great Price and "traveling with him over almost all of Brazil, collecting materials." — AFP

### ABORTION POSSIBLE IN THAI BIRTH DEFECT CASES LINKED TO ZIKA, OFFICIALS SAY

**BANGKOK:** Predominantly Buddhist Thailand will allow abortion in cases with fetuses with proven birth defects linked to the Zika virus, health officials said on Thursday, in keeping with existing guidelines.

Thailand last week confirmed its first known cases of microcephaly linked to the mosquito-borne virus. The two cases of the birth defect marked by a small head were the first in Southeast Asia, following Zika outbreaks in the Americas. Health experts who met this week to draft guidelines for expectant mothers with Zika concluded that abortions can be carried out up to 24 weeks in case of serious birth defects. "The difficulty with Zika is to determine microcephaly. It is usually found later in pregnancy," Pisek Lumpikanon, president of the Royal Thai College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, told Reuters. "Legal medical abortions can be done up to 24 weeks," he added. "The reason is that at 24 weeks and after the baby already has a good chance of survival."

Abortion is illegal in Thailand, except in cases of rape or to save a woman's life or preserve her health, and if carried out in up

to 12 weeks of pregnancy. Beyond that time, hospitals must decide on a case-by-case basis and can carry out medical abortions at up to 24 weeks, Pisek said.

"This is what can currently be done in Thailand in cases of Down syndrome, for example," he said.

There are no specific tests to determine if a baby will be born with microcephaly but ultrasound scans can identify it in the third trimester of pregnancy, the World Health Organisation (WHO) says.

Thailand has said it is considering testing all pregnant women for Zika. Inadequate screening by health authorities across Southeast Asia is likely to lead to significant under-reporting of the spread of Zika, regional experts say. Thailand has confirmed 392 cases of Zika since January, with 39 pregnant women among them, while the wealthy city-state of Singapore has recorded 393 cases, including 16 pregnant women. Despite its laissez-faire reputation among travellers, Thailand remains largely conservative, and Theravada Buddhism, the form of the religion practised by up to 95 percent of its people, regards abortion as a sin. — Reuters

**'What, 60 years?'**

Museum director Diogenes de Almeida Campos said six decades does sound on the slow side for studying such a big find. "A friend said to me just yesterday, 'Diogenes, what, it took you 60 years?'" he recalled with a wry smile. "It sounds a bit ridiculous to say this." But he explained that in the 1950s Price and his assistants were pioneers in the field for Brazil, and while "it was certain that vertebrae of this size came from a gigantic animal, it needed to be studied." Campos said money was an issue holding back research, as well as a lack of people up to the task. Even today there are only 10 serious dinosaur experts in the country,

### PUERTO RICO MAN, 80, INFECTED WITH ZIKA DIES

**SAN JUAN:** Puerto Rico's health secretary has reported the death of an 80-year-old man who was infected with Zika and had other medical conditions. Ana Rius said Friday the mosquito-borne virus caused a drop in platelets, among other issues, and the man died of cardiac and respiratory complications.

He was the third person to die in Puerto Rico under such conditions. Two other people died from a paralysis condition linked to Zika. Rius also reported the death of a fetus with brain damage that was carried by a woman infected with Zika. Rius declined to say if the woman miscarried or had an abortion. Puerto Rico has 26,701 Zika cases, including 2,106 pregnant women. Health officials expect a growing number of babies to be born with severe birth defects linked to Zika. — AP

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## MINISTER OF EDUCATION HONORED IN SPECIAL DINNER

Michael Jan Al-Haj and his spouse recently held a special dinner to honor MOE, Dr Bader Al-Essa for his efforts in education. Celebrating the occasion, the ambassador of Federal Russia to Kuwait, Alexey Solomatyn presented a special trophy to Al-Essa. The dinner was also attended by ambassadors of Armenia, Malta, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Cuba in addition to MOE's assistant undersecretary for higher education, Dr Adel Al-Mas'ad, the Armenian council and the marina hotel general manager, Nabil Humoud.



## IISM CELEBRATES GANDHI JAYANTHI AND HIJRA NEW YEAR

India International School celebrated Gandhi Jayanthi and Hijra New Year with various informative activities and entertainment programs. A special assembly was conducted and activities like group singing competition, talk show on proverb and elocution competition were held. An insight into the life of the Father of our Nation was given through the presentation of a short film, 'Life of Gandhi'.

## TOWARDS THE TRUTH: AN INSPIRING BOOK RELEASED

Gandhi Jayanthi is the befitting occasion to release the book titled "Towards the Truth - The successful Travel experiences of Dr R Seetharaman" in Tamil, authored by NC Mohandoss, published by Kavitha publications, a popular Tamil writer & novelist, narrating the biography of Dr R Seetharaman. HE Nassir Abdul Aziz Al-Nasser, Former President of UN General Assembly and currently special officer, "Alliance of Civilization" UN received the first copy. The venue was the "World Tamil 3rd Economic Conference" conducted at Le Meridian Hotel, Chennai.

On this special occasion, Dr R Seetharaman, CEO of Doha Bank gave an excellent lecture both in English and Tamil, introducing the scope and contents of this book. It was not only an eloquent oration but also a revelation of facts about his early life without any inhibition. Born in a middle class family, he had to struggle a lot to get the education he craved for, overcoming many hurdles, due to paucity of enough funds.

Dr R Seetharaman gave a precise account of the trials and tribulations he underwent in his life and he had overcome such difficult situations. Truth has been his goal and conscience is his guide. He enthralled the audience by his speech which was a blend of emotion and intellect.

HE Moses Veerasamy Nagamootoo, Prime Minister of Guiana, who presided over the conference, introduced his own book, titled 'Fragments of Memory' to the gathering. Justice AR Lakshmanan, Former Justice of Supreme Court of India, whose book also released in this function introduced his book titled "The Judge

Expresses". AR Lakshmanan, In his speech praised Dr R Seetharaman's exemplary success in his life, which will be a source of inspiration to the younger generation. Justice AR Lakshmanan also hailed NC Mohandoss's co-operation in accomplishing the publication of the book on the biography of Dr R Seetharaman.



## SHIVIR WITNESSED THREE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EMBASSY OF INDIA

Department of Empowerment of Persons with disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India conducted a mega camp for distribution of aids and assistive devices in Navsari, Gujarat on 17 September 2016 and organized by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporations of India. Ltd. (ALIMCO). The event was inaugurated by Prime Minister. The camp-Samajik Adhikarita Shivir witnessed three Guinness World Records.

The first record was 'highest number of oil lamps lit simultaneously at single location on the eve of mega camp; biggest wheelchair logo with 1,000 participants depicted a message saying "Happy Birthday PM" in tri-colour; and the third record was most people fitted with hearing aid in 8 hours. 600 hearing aids were set on the same day in a single location.

It is important to mention here, Navsari Camp is the 159th Mega ADIP camp and so far is the biggest one. The 11330 Divyangjan beneficiaries were benefitted in the camp. The scheme is in force since 1981. This has been revised and further adopted from April 01, 2014.



## ABK SPONSORS BRITISH ACADEMIES INTERNATIONAL ARTS AND SPORTS CARNIVAL AT BSK

Building on its continuous support of education, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) recently announced its sponsorship of the British Academies International Arts (BAIA) and British Academies Sports (BAS) Carnival, which was held at the British School of Kuwait (BSK), on 24 September, 2016. The carnival was inaugurated by His Excellency Matthew Lodge, the British Ambassador to Kuwait, and Mrs Vera Al Mutawa, founder of BSK.

The Carnival was held in an effort to highlight the importance of students and school activities, as part of the overall education process. The Banks support comes in line with its belief in the importance of education and development through activities and initiatives that raise awareness of Kuwait's youth, and their need to engage in school related activities that in turn, instill a positive sense of belonging that will inevitably translate to commitment and hard work

through their school years. The Bank engaged with the students and attendees through the distribution of giveaways, adding to the excitement of the fun-filled ambiance featuring a series of fun activities such as performances, competitions, raffle draws, sports, and play areas to accommodate all age groups. The school opened its doors to its students, embassies of Kuwait and 3,000 invitees free of charge for a fun-filled day.



## HILTON KUWAIT RESORT CURATES NEXT GENERATION OF F&B TALENT

Hilton Kuwait Resort enrolled two of their culinary chefs, Mahmoud Barakat and Rabindra Luitel to the internationally accredited chef school, HTA School of Culinary, in 2016, as a part of its ongoing efforts to deliver world-class cuisine to guests, and learning and development opportunities to Team Members. Receiving their diplomas, Chef Mahmoud and Chef Rabindra excelled in both theoretical knowledge development and practical training on how to manage a kitchen and to prepare world-class cuisine.

Commenting on their completion, Chef Mahmoud said, "As a chef, I am constantly looking for the next exciting dish or ingredient, so to have the opportunity to underpin this all with world-class training on the latest kitchen fundamentals, has been fantastic." "We now bring a whole range of new skills and ideas back to Hilton Kuwait Resort; so we encourage our guests to visit us soon to taste our newest creations, which will be debuted on our menus

soon," added Chef Rabindra.

Abdul Kader Yamout, Executive Chef Hilton Kuwait Resort said, "F&B is integral to any travel experience and as we aim to deliver outstanding hospitality, we are focused on empowering our culinary teams with the industry's best learning and development opportunities. I congratulate our chefs, as we look forward to sampling the fruits of their hard work in the coming months."

The HTA School of Culinary offers a comprehensive training course to prepare chefs with the skills to build a career in the challenging and globally competitive world of cuisine. The course ran over one month and consisted of online training around the dynamics of the F&B industry, cultural food and dining preferences, the production of top quality cuisine and the ability to manage a kitchen. On the back of this success, Hilton Resort Kuwait has enrolled two more culinary Team Members into the HTA School of Culinary's 2016-2017 courses.

## ARPAN KUWAIT TO CELEBRATE 17TH ANNUAL DAY ON NOV 4

As a part of its 17th annual day celebrations, Arpan Kuwait will be hosting MJS show and Indian Cultural Divas on Friday 4, Nov 2016, at Marina Hall, Jleeb, Kuwait.

MJS, popularly known as India's own Moonwalkers are a band of 5 member crew who participated and won the inaugural season of Star Plus's dance reality show, India's Dancing Superstar and won the prize of 50 lac Indian rupees. The group has always enthralled the audiences with their unique style and innovative dance performances. Inspired by the Legendary Michael Jackson, their dance style is Animation. They have performed in the stages across India and World alike.

MJS team members are, Karthik Ramiah, Vishnu Kumar, Himanshu Gola, Rohit Singh and Alexander Dannis Anthony, while Tushti Nitish manages the team.

Arpan also takes the opportunity to dedicate its tribute to the Glorious Indian Art Forms featuring cultural

events from East, West, North & South of India. This show is expected to be one of its kind where Arpan is trying to showcase the rich cultural diversity of Independent India in one stage. Indian Cultural Divas is a humble attempt by Arpan to bring people belonging to different states of India, under one roof and showcase the fact the in spite of its diversity we are united. Arpan has obtained the support of associations from different regions of India. Indian embassy's support in connecting various associations needs special mention.

Arpan is keenly involved in promoting Indian art and culture and during the last 17 years Arpan has been in the forefront championing social causes in Kuwait. Arpan's role in bringing rare Indian art form in front Kuwait audiences needs mentioning. For the efficient conduct of the program, different committees under the leadership to conveners Mahadevan and Suresh have been formed.



## RAINBOW DAY EVENT AT KUWAIT NATIONAL ENGLISH SCHOOL

The Early Years Department at Kuwait National English School was ablaze with color as the pupils and staff celebrated Rainbow day. All the children arrived in school in an amazing range of colorful clothes and were really excited to take part in the wide range of activities planned for the day. These included science experiments to make Rainbows, Rainbow songs, Rainbow Fish stories and investigating colored toys objects through building, counting and painting. Each child produced a Rainbow painting as they went from activity to activity and the day finished with all the children making a Rainbow in the playground with colorful sheets of paper. The children, from Kuwait National English School Early Years Department, were highly engaged and really produced fabulous work whilst at the same time having a wonderful time. Well done to everyone who took part.



04:25 Deadliest Place On Earth  
05:15 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
06:02 Hunt For Hogzilla  
06:49 Extinct Or Alive: The Tasmanian Tiger  
07:36 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
08:00 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
08:25 My Cat From Hell  
09:15 Operation Whale  
10:10 Operation Whale  
11:05 Tanked  
12:00 Rugged Justice  
12:55 Hello World!  
13:20 Hello World!  
13:50 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
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17:55 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
18:25 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
18:50 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner  
19:20 Treasure Masters  
20:15 Operation Whale  
21:10 Toucan Nation  
22:05 Treasure Masters  
23:00 Mountain Monsters  
23:55 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
00:50 Extinct Or Alive: The Tasmanian Tiger  
01:45 Killer Swarms  
02:40 Deadliest Place On Earth  
03:35 Rabid



03:05 David Spade: My Fake Problems  
04:15 Jungle Gold  
05:05 Jungle Gold  
06:00 Jungle Gold  
07:00 Deadliest Catch  
07:50 For The Love Of Cars  
08:40 Fast N' Loud  
09:30 Gold Divers  
10:20 Garage Gold  
10:45 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
11:10 How Do They Do It?  
11:35 Harley And The Davidson  
13:15 Fire In The Hole  
14:05 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
14:30 Storage Hunters  
14:55 Garage Gold  
15:20 Gold Divers  
16:10 Alaskan Bush People  
17:00 Deadliest Catch  
17:50 Fast N' Loud  
18:40 For The Love Of Cars  
19:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
19:55 How Do They Do It?  
20:20 Gold Divers  
21:10 Storage Hunters  
21:35 Garage Gold  
22:00 Extreme Car Hoarders  
22:50 Built To Survive  
23:40 Treasure Quest: Snake Island  
00:30 Fast N' Loud  
01:20 For The Love Of Cars  
02:10 Extreme Car Hoarders  
03:00 Built To Survive  
03:50 Treasure Quest: Snake Island



04:00 USA Memory Championships  
04:48 How Do They Do It?  
05:12 How Do They Do It?  
05:36 How Do They Do It?  
06:00 Food Factory  
06:24 Food Factory  
06:48 Food Factory  
07:12 Food Factory  
07:36 Food Factory  
08:00 How Do They Do It?  
08:26 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
09:14 Redesign My Brain  
10:02 Mind Control Freaks  
10:26 Mind Control Freaks  
10:50 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
11:38 USA Memory Championships  
12:26 Prototype This  
13:14 Prototype This  
14:02 Prototype This  
14:50 Prototype This  
15:38 Prototype This  
16:26 Food Factory  
16:50 Food Factory  
17:14 Food Factory  
17:38 Food Factory  
18:02 Food Factory  
18:26 How Do They Do It?  
18:50 How Do They Do It?  
19:15 How Do They Do It?  
19:40 How Do They Do It?  
20:05 How Do They Do It?  
20:30 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
21:20 Redesign My Brain  
22:10 Mind Control Freaks  
22:35 Mind Control Freaks  
23:00 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
23:50 USA Memory Championships  
00:40 Food Factory  
01:05 Food Factory  
01:30 Food Factory  
01:55 Food Factory  
02:20 Food Factory  
02:45 How Do They Do It?  
03:10 How Do They Do It?  
03:35 How Do They Do It?



04:15 The Hive  
04:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
04:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
05:10 Hank Zipzer  
05:35 Binny And The Ghost  
06:00 Violetta  
06:45 The Hive  
06:50 Mouk  
07:00 Jessie  
07:25 Jessie  
07:50 Tsum Tsum Shorts  
07:55 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
08:20 Star Darlings  
08:25 Austin & Ally  
08:50 Disney Mickey Mouse  
08:55 Jessie  
09:20 Descendants Wicked World  
09:25 Backstage  
09:50 Star Darlings  
09:55 Alex & Co.  
10:20 Disney Mickey Mouse  
10:25 Girl Meets World  
10:50 Stuck In The Middle  
11:15 Liv And Maddie  
11:40 Chesham Girls: One World  
13:05 The 7D  
05:00 Art Attack  
05:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:35 Calimero  
05:50 Zou  
06:00 Loopdidoo  
06:15 Art Attack  
06:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
06:50 Calimero  
07:00 Zou  
07:20 Loopdidoo  
07:35 Art Attack  
08:00 The Hive  
08:10 Zou  
08:25 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
08:50 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
09:00 Sofia The First  
09:30 Goldie & Bear  
10:00 PJ Masks  
10:30 Doc McStuffins  
11:00 Sofia The First  
11:30 Goldie & Bear  
12:00 Miles From Tomorrow  
12:30 PJ Masks



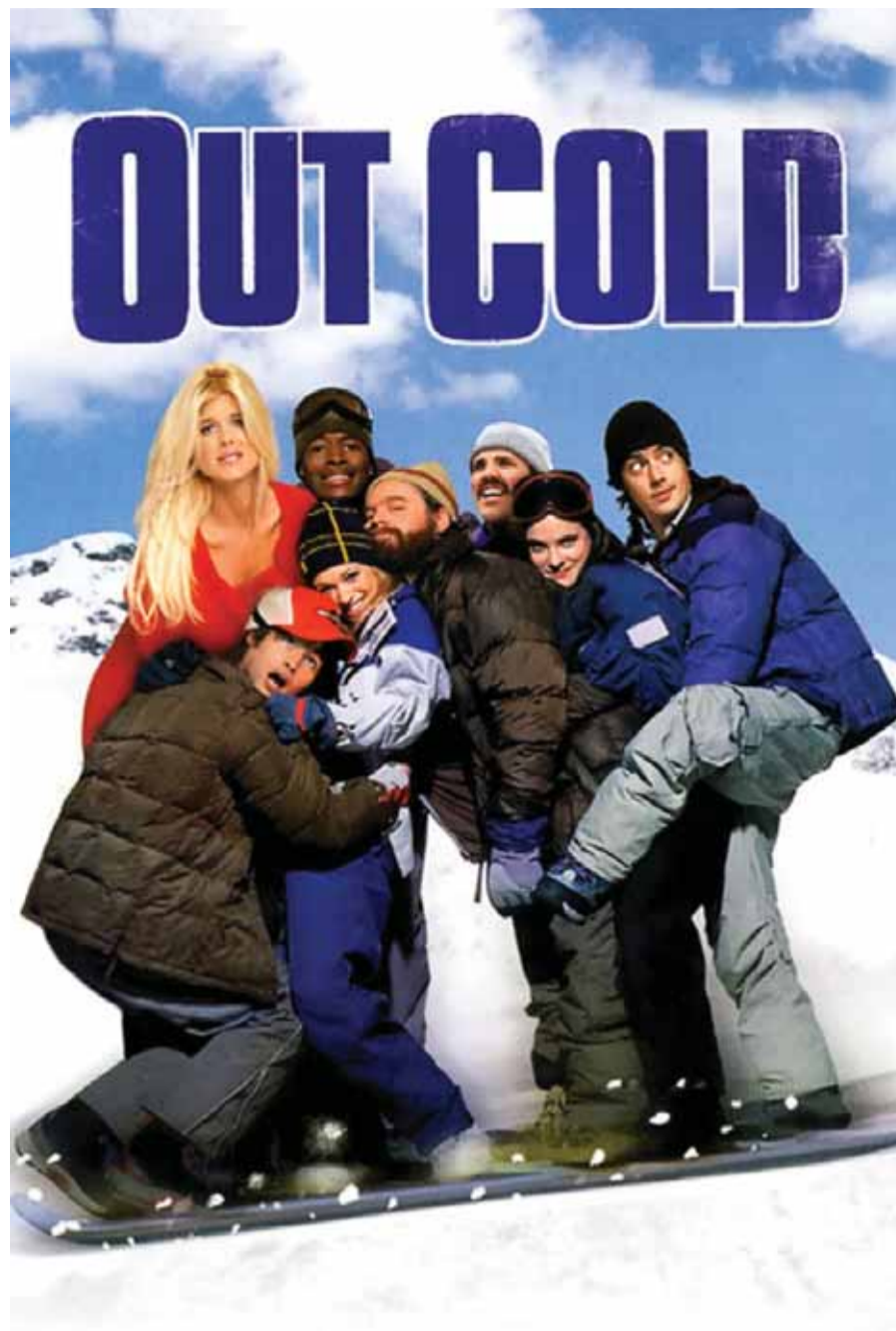
04:15 Death In Paradise  
05:10 Doctors  
05:40 Eastenders  
06:10 The Coroner  
07:00 Doctors  
07:30 Eastenders  
08:00 Holly City  
09:00 New Tricks  
09:55 Doctor Who  
10:45 Stella  
11:35 Doctors  
12:05 Eastenders  
12:40 Death In Paradise  
13:35 Doctor Who  
14:30 Stella  
15:15 Doctors  
15:45 Eastenders  
16:20 New Tricks  
17:15 Doctor Who  
18:10 Stella  
19:00 Doctors  
19:30 Eastenders  
20:05 New Tricks  
21:00 Wallander  
22:40 Silent Witness  
23:40 Orphan Black  
00:25 Doctors  
00:55 Eastenders  
01:25 Wallander  
03:05 Silent Witness



04:00 Storm Chasers  
04:50 Ultimate Survival  
05:40 Ultimate Survival  
06:30 Ultimate Survival  
07:20 How It's Made  
07:40 How It's Made  
08:00 Kenny The Shark  
08:25 Kenny The Shark  
08:50 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
09:15 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
09:40 How It's Made  
10:05 How It's Made  
10:30 How It's Made  
10:55 How It's Made  
11:20 How It's Made  
11:45 How It's Made  
12:10 How It's Made  
12:35 How It's Made  
13:00 How It's Made  
13:25 How It's Made  
13:50 Ultimate Survival  
14:40 Ultimate Survival  
15:30 Ultimate Survival  
16:20 Ultimate Survival  
17:10 Ultimate Survival  
18:00 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
18:50 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
19:40 Bear Grylls Survival School  
20:05 Bear Grylls Survival School  
20:30 Prehistoric  
21:20 Clash Of The Dinosaurs  
22:10 Curiosity: Megastorm  
23:00 What Happened Next?  
23:25 What Happened Next?  
23:50 What Happened Next?  
00:15 What Happened Next?  
00:40 What Happened Next?  
01:05 What Happened Next?  
01:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?



04:00 Workaholics  
04:25 Catch A Contractor  
04:50 Ridiculousness  
05:15 Key And Peele  
05:40 Ridiculousness  
06:05 Ridiculousness



OUT COLD ON OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

05:00 Art Attack  
05:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:35 Calimero  
05:50 Zou  
06:00 Loopdidoo  
06:15 Art Attack  
06:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
06:50 Calimero  
07:00 Zou  
07:20 Loopdidoo  
07:35 Art Attack  
08:00 The Hive  
08:10 Zou  
08:25 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
08:50 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
09:00 Sofia The First  
09:30 Goldie & Bear  
10:00 PJ Masks  
10:30 Doc McStuffins  
11:00 Sofia The First  
11:30 Goldie & Bear  
12:00 Miles From Tomorrow  
12:30 PJ Masks  
07:35 Super Matrak  
08:00 Danger Mouse  
08:25 K.C. Undercover  
08:50 Guardians Of The Galaxy  
09:15 Supa Strikas  
09:40 Kirby Buckets  
10:10 Rataloulle  
12:05 Danger Mouse  
12:20 Supa Strikas  
12:45 Supa Strikas  
13:10 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
13:35 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
14:00 Phineas & Ferb: Mission Marvel  
14:55 Gravity Falls  
15:20 Gravity Falls  
15:45 Danger Mouse  
16:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
16:15 Counterfeit Cat  
16:40 Supa Strikas  
17:05 Supa Strikas  
17:30 Supa Strikas  
17:55 Supa Strikas  
18:50 Danger Mouse  
19:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
19:40 Counterfeit Cat  
20:05 Counterfeit Cat  
20:10 Gravity Falls  
20:35 Pickle And Peanut  
21:00 Lab Rats  
21:25 Supa Strikas  
21:55 K.C. Undercover  
22:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
22:45 Guardians Of The Galaxy  
23:10 Marvel Avengers Assemble  
23:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
00:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am  
KSA  
22:25 Pawn Stars  
22:50 Pawn Stars South Africa  
23:15 Pawn Stars South Africa  
23:40 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us  
00:30 Pawn Stars  
00:55 Pawn Stars  
01:20 Pawn Stars South Africa  
01:45 Pawn Stars South Africa  
02:10 American Restoration  
03:00 Swamp People  
03:50 Ice Road Truckers  
04:05 Coronation Street  
04:30 Coronation Street  
04:55 Coronation Street  
05:15 The Chase  
06:10 The Chase  
07:05 The Jonathan Ross Show  
07:55 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans  
08:45 Grantchester  
09:40 Tonight At The London Palladium  
10:35 Murdoch Mysteries  
11:30 Murdoch Mysteries  
12:20 Murdoch Mysteries  
13:15 Catchphrase  
13:45 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans  
14:40 Victoria  
15:35 Royal Stories  
16:00 Tonight At The London Palladium  
16:55 Catchphrase  
17:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
18:20 Grantchester  
19:10 The Chase  
20:05 Victoria  
21:00 Tonight At The London Palladium  
21:55 Catchphrase  
22:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
23:25 Cameraman To The Queen



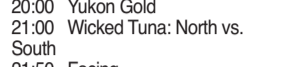
04:05 Coronation Street  
04:30 Coronation Street  
04:55 Coronation Street  
05:15 The Chase  
06:10 The Chase  
07:05 The Jonathan Ross Show  
07:55 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans  
08:45 Grantchester  
09:40 Tonight At The London Palladium  
10:35 Murdoch Mysteries  
11:30 Murdoch Mysteries  
12:20 Murdoch Mysteries  
13:15 Catchphrase  
13:45 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans  
14:40 Victoria  
15:35 Royal Stories  
16:00 Tonight At The London Palladium  
16:55 Catchphrase  
17:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
18:20 Grantchester  
19:10 The Chase  
20:05 Victoria  
21:00 Tonight At The London Palladium  
21:55 Catchphrase  
22:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
23:25 Cameraman To The Queen

00:15 Royal Stories  
00:40 Coronation Street  
01:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
02:00 Emmerdale  
02:30 Emmerdale  
03:00 Coronation Street  
03:30 The Chase



04:05 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
04:55 The Food Files  
05:20 Testing The Menu With Nic Watt  
05:45 Delinquent Gourmet  
06:10 Street Food Around The World  
06:35 Confucius Was A Foodie  
07:25 Poh & Co  
07:50 Croatia's Finest  
08:15 Croatia's Finest  
08:40 Carnival Eats  
09:05 Charlie Luxton's Homes By The Sea  
09:55 Delinquent Gourmet  
10:20 Raw Travel  
10:45 Raw Travel  
11:10 Tales From The Bush Larder  
11:35 Tales From The Bush Larder  
12:00 Poh & Co  
12:25 Poh & Co  
12:50 Dog Whisperer  
13:40 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
14:05 Eat: The Story Of Food  
15:00 A Marriage Of Flavours  
15:30 A Marriage Of Flavours  
15:55 Poh & Co  
16:25 Poh & Co  
16:50 The Food Files  
17:20 Delinquent Gourmet  
17:45 American Food Battle  
18:15 Street Food Around The World  
18:40 David Rocco's Dolce India  
19:10 Top Tables, Top Cities  
19:35 Maximum Foodie  
20:05 Poh & Co  
20:30 Poh & Co  
21:00 The Food Files  
21:25 Delinquent Gourmet  
21:50 American Food Battle  
22:15 Street Food Around The World  
22:40 David Rocco's Dolce India  
23:05 Top Tables, Top Cities  
23:30 Maximum Foodie  
23:55 Andy And Ben Eat The World  
00:20 Eat: The Story Of Food  
01:10 A Marriage Of Flavours  
01:35 A Marriage Of Flavours  
02:00 Glamour Puds  
02:25 Croatia's Finest  
02:50 Croatia's Finest  
03:15 Eat Street  
03:40 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
05:00 Justice League: Gods And Monsters  
07:00 Con Air  
09:00 Swelter  
11:00 Sword Of Vengeance  
13:00 The Dependables  
15:00 Con Air  
17:00 The Machine  
19:00 Sword Of Vengeance  
21:00 Armored  
23:00 Snakes On A Plane  
01:00 Bounty Killer  
03:00 Mega Shark vs. Mecha Shark

13:05 4 Babies A Second  
14:00 Nazi World War Weird  
15:00 Dog Whisperer  
16:00 Yukon Gold  
17:00 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South  
18:00 Facing...  
19:00 Nazi World War Weird  
20:00 Yukon Gold  
21:00 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South  
21:50 Facing...  
22:40 Nazi World War Weird  
23:30 Yukon Gold  
00:20 Family Guns  
01:10 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South  
02:00 Facing...  
03:00 Nazi World War Weird  
03:55 Yukon Gold



04:00 Grimm  
05:00 Marvel's Agent Carter  
06:00 Good Morning America - Weekend  
07:00 The Amazing Race  
08:00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow  
09:00 Rosewood  
10:00 Marvel's Agent Carter  
11:00 The Amazing Race  
12:00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow  
13:00 Rosewood  
14:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
15:00 Marvel's Agent Carter  
16:00 Live Good Morning America - Weekend  
17:00 The Blacklist  
18:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
19:00 Rosewood  
20:00 Containment  
21:00 This Is Us  
22:00 Notorious  
23:00 How To Get Away With Murder  
00:00 Bates Motel  
01:00 Prison Break  
02:00 Notorious  
03:00 How To Get Away With Murder



05:00 Justice League: Gods And Monsters  
07:00 Con Air  
09:00 Swelter  
11:00 Sword Of Vengeance  
13:00 The Dependables  
15:00 Con Air  
17:00 The Machine  
19:00 Sword Of Vengeance  
21:00 Armored  
23:00 Snakes On A Plane  
01:00 Bounty Killer  
03:00 Mega Shark vs. Mecha Shark



04:45 Secret Life Of Predators  
05:40 South Africa  
06:35 Animal Fight Club  
07:30 Monster Fish  
08:25 Monster Fish  
09:20 Dangerous Encounters  
10:15 Wild Russia  
11:10 Animal Storm Squad  
12:05 Wild 24  
13:00 Bandit Patrol  
13:55 World's Creepiest Killers  
14:50 Jobs That Bite!  
15:45 Secret Life Of Predators  
16:40 South Africa  
17:35 South Africa  
18:30 The Incredible Dr. Pol  
19:25 Animal Superpowers  
20:20 Secret Life Of Predators  
21:10 South Africa  
22:00 South Africa  
22:50 The Incredible Dr. Pol  
23:40 Animal Superpowers  
00:30 Bandit Patrol  
01:20 World's Creepiest Killers  
02:10 Jobs That Bite!  
03:00 World's Deadliest Animals  
03:50 Caught In The Act



05:00 Hot Rod  
07:00 10 Things I Hate About You  
09:00 Blue Streak  
11:00 Hot Rod  
13:00 A Lot Like Love  
15:00 Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star  
17:00 Blue Streak  
19:00 Ghostbusters  
21:00 Out Cold  
23:00 Road Trip  
01:00 For A Good Time, Call  
03:00 A Madae Christmas



05:30 The Village  
07:30 Second Coming  
09:30 Beyond The Edge  
11:30 The Village  
13:30 The Apostle  
16:00 Parkland  
18:00 Beyond The Edge  
20:00 Foxcatcher  
22:30 The Boy  
00:30 The Royal Tenenbaums  
02:30 Parkland



04:50 The Yard  
05:45 Monster Fish  
06:40 Cold Water Gold  
07:35 Mega Factories  
08:30 World's Most Extreme  
09:25 Nazi World War Weird  
10:20 No Man Left Behind  
11:15 Locked Up Abroad  
12:10 Airport Security: Colombia



04:30 Miss You Already  
06:30 Curious George: Back To The Jungle  
08:00 Tracers  
10:00 Miss You Already  
12:00 Hello Carter  
14:00 To Write Love On Her Arms  
16:00 Big Game  
18:00 Inside Out  
19:45 Tomorrowland  
22:00 Tiger House  
23:00 Inherent Vice  
02:30 Jersey Boys



THE MACHINE ON OSN MOVIES ACTION

06:30 Impractical Jokers  
06:55 Impractical Jokers  
07:20 Tosh.0  
07:50 Tosh.0  
08:15 Hungry Investors  
09:05 Ridiculousness  
09:30 Ridiculousness  
09:55 Impractical Jokers  
10:20 Impractical Jokers  
10:45 Nathan For You  
11:10 Nathan For You  
11:35 Ridiculousness  
12:00 Catch A Contractor  
12:25 Hungry Investors  
13:15 Workaholics  
13:40 Workaholics  
14:05 Impractical Jokers  
14:30 Impractical Jokers  
14:55 Ridiculousness  
15:20 Ridiculousness  
15:45 Coaching Bad  
16:35 Tosh.0  
17:00 Tosh.0  
17:30 Nathan For You  
17:55 Nathan For You  
18:25 Workaholics  
18:50 Tattoo Disasters  
19:15 Tattoo Disasters  
19:39 Ridiculousness  
20:03 Ridiculousness  
20:27 Impractical Jokers  
20:50 Impractical Jokers  
21:13 TUT  
22:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
22:30 John Oliver's New York  
Stand Up Show  
23:18 Broad City  
23:42 Tosh.0  
00:05 Lip Sync Battle  
00:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
01:00 John Oliver's New York  
Stand Up Show  
01:50 South Park  
02:15 Tosh.0  
02:40 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
03:00 That's So Raven  
13:05 That's So Raven  
13:15 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
13:40 Miles From Tomorrow  
14:00 Sofia The First  
14:30 Goldie & Bear  
15:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
15:30 The Lion Guard  
16:00 PJ Masks  
16:30 Sofia The First  
17:00 Doc McStuffins  
17:30 Goldie & Bear  
18:00 PJ Masks  
18:30 The Lion Guard  
19:00 Goldie & Bear  
19:30 Goldie & Bear  
20:00 PJ Masks  
20:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
21:00 Doc McStuffins  
21:30 Sofia The First  
22:00 The Lion Guard  
22:30 The Lion Guard  
23:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
23:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
00:00 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
00:05 Henry Hugglemonster  
00:20 Calimero  
00:35 Zou  
00:50 Loopdidoo  
01:05 Art Attack  
01:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
01:45 Calimero  
02:00 Zou  
02:15 Loopdidoo  
02:30 Art Attack  
03:00 Calimero  
03:15 Zou  
03:30 Loopdidoo  
03:45 Art Attack  
04:00 Surviving Evil  
04:48 I Almost Got Away With It  
05:36 I Almost Got Away With It  
06:24 I Almost Got Away With It  
07:12 I Almost Got Away With It  
08:00 Nightmare Next Door  
08:50 Nightmare Next Door  
09:40 Nightmare Next Door  
10:30 Nightmare Next Door  
11:20 Nightmare Next Door  
12:10 Obsession: Dark Desires  
13:00 Who On Earth Did I Marry?  
13:25 Who On Earth Did I Marry?  
13:50 Deadly Affairs  
14:40 Deadly Affairs  
15:30 Deadly Affairs  
16:20 Deadly Affairs  
17:10 Obsession: Dark Desires  
18:00 I'd Kill For You  
18:50 I'd Kill For You  
19:40 I'd Kill For You  
20:30 I'd Kill For You  
21:20 I'd Kill For You  
22:10 California Investigator  
22:35 California Investigator  
23:00 The Vanishing Women  
23:50 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall  
00:40 The Coroner: I Speak For The Dead  
01:30 A Haunting  
02:20 Alaska Haunting  
03:10 The Vanishing Women  
13:20 That's So Raven  
13:45 That's So Raven  
14:10 That's So Raven  
14:35 That's So Raven  
15:00 That's So Raven  
15:25 Austin & Ally  
15:50 Austin & Ally  
16:15 Disney Cookbook  
16:40 Bunk'D  
17:05 Descendants Wicked World  
17:10 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
17:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
18:00 Gravity Falls  
18:25 Teen Beach 2  
20:00 Star Darlings  
20:05 Austin & Ally  
20:30 Jessie  
20:55 Liv And Maddie  
21:20 Best Friends Whenever  
21:45 Good Luck Charlie  
22:10 H2O: Just Add Water  
22:35 H2O: Just Add Water  
23:00 Binny And The Ghost  
23:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
23:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
00:10 Hank Zipzer  
00:35 Binny And The Ghost  
01:00 Violetta  
01:45 The Hive  
01:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
02:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
02:40 Hank Zipzer  
03:05 Binny And The Ghost  
03:30 Violetta  
04:00 Henry Hugglemonster  
04:20 Calimero  
04:35 Zou  
04:45 Loopdidoo  
07:00 Boyster  
07:10 Super Matrak



04:40 Christina Milian Turned Up  
05:35 Christina Milian Turned Up  
06:30 Celebrity Style Story  
07:00 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills  
07:50 El News  
08:20 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills  
09:10 El News  
10:05 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills  
10:55 Botched  
11:45 Botched  
12:35 Botched  
13:25 Botched  
14:20 Botched  
15:15 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
16:10 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
17:05 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
18:00 Rob & Chyna  
19:00 Rob & Chyna  
20:00 El News  
21:00 Rob & Chyna  
22:00 Rob & Chyna  
23:00 WAGs  
00:00 Rob & Chyna  
01:00 Rob & Chyna  
01:55 WAGs  
02:50 El News  
03:50 Botched



04:10 Counting Cars: Best Of  
04:35 Counting Cars: Best Of  
05:00 Shipping Wars  
05:30 Shipping Wars  
06:00 Time Team  
07:00 Shipping Wars  
07:25 Shipping Wars  
07:50 American Pickers  
08:40 Ax Men  
09:30 American Restoration  
09:55 Counting Cars  
10:20 Counting Cars  
10:45 Ice Road Truckers  
11:35 American Restoration  
12:25 Battle 360  
13:15 Mountain Men  
14:05 The Curse Of Oak Island  
14:55 Storage Wars: Best Of  
15:20 Storage Wars: Best Of  
15:45 Alone  
16:35 Shipping Wars  
17:00 Ax Men  
17:50 Storage Wars Miami  
18:15 Storage Wars Texas  
18:40 The Curse Of Oak Island  
19:30 Battle 360  
20:20 American Pickers  
21:10 Pawn Stars  
21:35 Pawn Stars  
22:00 Pawn Stars



TRACERS ON OSN MOVIES HD



# CLASSIFIEDS

ANNIVERSARY  
**55**  
Years  
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**Kuwait Times**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016



### KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (06/10/2016 TO 12/10/2016)

Programme	Time	Programme	Time
<b>SHARQIA-1</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON 12:30 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 2:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 5:00 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 7:30 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 10:00 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 12:15 AM		LAF WA DAWARAN 11:30 PM <b>FANAR-2</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON 11:45 AM DEEPWATER HORIZON 2:00 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D 4:15 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 7:00 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 9:45 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 12:05 AM	
<b>SHARQIA-2</b> LAF WA DAWARAN 11:30 AM STORKS 11:30 AM LAF WA DAWARAN 1:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 4:00 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 6:15 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 8:30 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 10:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 1:00 AM		<b>FANAR-3</b> TANK 432 11:30 AM TANK 432 1:30 PM MIRZYA - HINDI 3:30 PM PREMAM -Telugu 3:30 PM MIRZYA - HINDI 6:30 PM PREMAM -Telugu 6:30 PM	
<b>SHARQIA-3</b> USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 11:30 AM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 2:15 PM STORKS 5:00 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 7:00 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 9:45 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 12:30 AM		<b>TANK 432</b> PREMAM -Telugu 9:30 PM TANK 432 12:15 AM <b>MARINA-1</b> USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 1:15 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 1:30 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 4:00 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 6:45 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 9:30 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 12:15 AM	
<b>MUHALAB-1</b> LAF WA DAWARAN 11:30 AM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 1:45 PM STORKS 4:15 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 6:15 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 9:00 PM USS INDIANAPOLIS: MEN OF COURAGE 11:45 PM		<b>MARINA-2</b> LAF WA DAWARAN 12:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 3:00 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 5:15 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 7:30 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 9:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 12:05 AM	
<b>MUHALAB-2</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON 11:30 AM DEEPWATER HORIZON 1:45 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 4:00 PM PREMAM -Telugu 4:00 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 6:45 PM NO FRI-MON 6:45 PM PREMAM -Telugu 9:30 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 9:30 PM PREMAM -Telugu 9:30 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 12:15 AM		<b>MARINA-3</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON 11:45 AM LAF WA DAWARAN 2:00 PM STORKS 4:15 PM STORKS 6:15 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 8:15 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 10:30 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON 12:45 AM	
<b>MUHALAB-3</b> LAF WA DAWARAN 12:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 3:00 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 5:15 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 7:30 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 9:45 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 12:15 AM		<b>AVENUES-1</b> THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN 1:30 PM SULLY 4:15 PM OPPAM - Malayalam 6:30 PM ASHAN KHARGEN 9:30 PM THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN 11:45 PM	
<b>FANAR-1</b> LAF WA DAWARAN 12:15 PM THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN 2:30 PM STORKS 5:15 PM STORKS 7:15 PM LAF WA DAWARAN 9:15 PM		<b>AVENUES-2</b> MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 12:00 PM DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D-4DX 2:45 PM MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN 5:15 PM HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1 8:00 PM	

### SAHARA AIR CONDITIONING

**SPECIAL SALE FINAL PRICE**

MINI SPLIT A/C UNITS, REFRIGERATORS & WATER COOLERS IN VERY GOOD CONDITION...

Panasonic (6 CUFT) KD. 38	Water Cooler (Single Tap) KD. 28	Water Cooler (Double Tap) KD. 48
Toshiba (18 CUFT) KD. 68	Frigidaire (19 CUFT) KD. 78	KD. 58 Supply of A/C unit only. KD. 98 A/C unit with installation.

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT.....  
NADEEM SIDDIQUI - MOB. 97861063, 23981915 EXTN. 105

## VACANCY

An Interior Design & Contracting Company in Kuwait has vacancy for the following positions:

- Secretary / Receptionist / Admin
- Interior Architect
- Draftsman
- Quantity Surveyor / Estimator
- Site Forman
- Part time driver

University or Diploma Degree, Fluent in English, Transferable Visa # 18, Dedicated, Punctual, Honest and Hard worker

Forward CV to : apply@dfineline.com

As a part of its development activities in Kuwait, a reputed food services company is looking for candidates to fill the below positions on Local release basis.

### REQUIRED URGENTLY ACCOUNTANT

University Graduate in Accounts or commerce with minimum five years experience as accountant with a leading organization with exposure to MIS reports which includes:

- Acquaintance with Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivables, Asset Management, Payroll and Management reports
- Preparation of monthly financials (P&L, BS, cash flow), estimates and yearly budget
- Knowledge of Internal control, site audit and interaction with external Auditors
- Liaising with clients and attorneys on legal issues
- Reviewing the Bid documents/contracts in Arabic and interpreting terms and conditions for the management

**FORMALITY REPRESENTATIVE**

- Good knowledge in all works related to Sh'oun (Government and Private contracts), Baladiya, and Immigration, traffic, Police and other government departments.
- Ability to read, Write and Speak Arabic and English fluently.
- Knowledge of MS office products.

**SOUS CHEF (Arabic & Continental Cuisine)**

The candidate should have:

- Professional qualification in culinary Arts
- 6 Years work experience in catering including Hotels
- Any Nationality

**KITCHEN STEWARDS**

The candidate should have:

- At least 5 years experience in hotels or large Central Kitchens.
- Leadership skills
- Good knowledge in Kitchen Cleaning Procedure

Interested candidates having transferable Visa No. 18 may send CVs with recent photograph to the following contacts:  
Email: mailotag@gmail.com or Fax: 24313152 Mobile: 60910171

### For sale in installments on the map for citizens and residents

Villa townhouse project in Akoya oxygen in Dubailand Delivery in December 1918

T. 66008096 - 60060267  
Subh Real Center (General Real Estate)

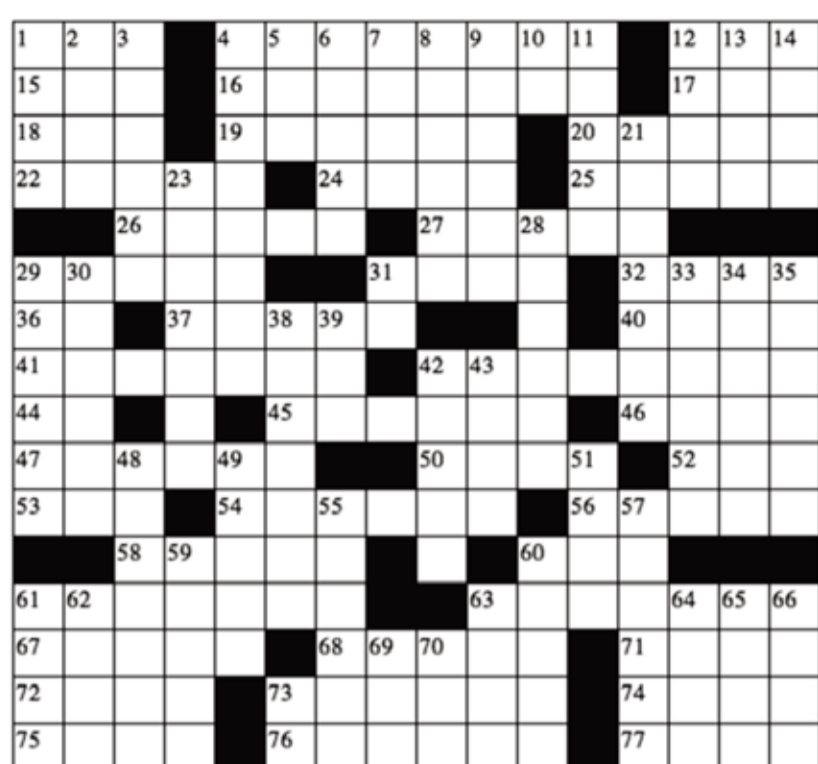
### For sale or rent to Companies and families

Chalet hotel system is equipped with a system in the Pearl Lagoons

T. 66008096 - 60060267  
Subh Real Estate Center (General services real estates)

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)							
Flight Schedule							
DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION							
Arrival Flights on Sunday 9/10/2016			Departure Flights on Sunday 9/10/2016				
Airlines	Ft	Route	Time	Airlines	Ft	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	AIC	976	Goa/Chennai	00:05
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:10
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	JZR	1540	Cairo	00:20
CLX	852	Luxembourg	00:35	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30
FEG	951	Alexandria	00:35	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30
FDB	069	Dubai	00:35	JZR	962	Sohag	00:30
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	PIA	240	Sialkot	00:40
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	KLM	413	Amsterdam	01:05
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05
SAI	441	Lahore	01:30	JZR	502	Luxor	01:15
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30	JZR	556	Alexandria	01:30
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	FEG	952	Alexandria	01:35
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KAC	852	Sharjah	02:05
KKK	6506	Cairo	02:00	MSR	442	Lahore	02:30
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00	SAI	442	Istanbul	02:40
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:40
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45
OMA	643	Muscat	02:35	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	KKK	6505	Istanbul	02:55
RJA	644	Amman	03:10	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15	OMA	644	Muscat	03:50
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	RJA	645	Amman	03:55
Doha	1076	Doha	03:25	JZR	1334	Al Najaf	04:00
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00
KAC	541	Cairo	03:30	FDB	068	Dubai	04:05
KAC	514	Tehran	03:50	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10
THY	1416	Bursa	04:05	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30
AVV	653	Alexandria	04:30	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	AVV	654	Sohag	05:30
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00
THY	3920	Istanbul	05:10	FEG	934	Sohag	06:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	RJA	643	Amman	06:25
UAE	2571	Dubai	05:30	QTR	1087	Doha	06:30
SYR	341	Damascus	06:00	THY	3921	Istanbul	06:40
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	UAE	2572	Dubai	06:45
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	KAC	771	Istanbul	06:45
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	THY	212	Bahrain	06:50
BAW	157	London	06:40	JZR	240	Amman	06:55
JZR	563	Sohag	06:55	SYR	342	Damascus	07:00
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25	JZR	324	Al Najaf	07:55
JZR	1335	Al Najaf	07:25	JZR	1140	Dammam	07:55
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	BAW	156	London	08:25
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
KAC	204	Lahore	07:40	DLH	173	Munich	08:35
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	KAC	511	Mashhad	08:40
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	JZR	778	Jeddah	08:50
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15	SVX	513	Riyadh	08:50
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	JZR	256	Beirut	09:05
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	JZR	787	Jeddah	09:30
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	JAI	571	Cairo	09:30
JZR	557	Alexandria	08:30	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	KAC	101	London/New York	10:00
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	RJA	649	Amman	10:15
RJA	648	Amman	09:30	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
FBA	833	Al Najaf	09:35	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	SAW	704	Dammam	10:45
SAW	703	Dammam	09:45	FBA	834	Al Najaf	10:50
CCE	341	Alexandria	10:00	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	FDB	346	Sohag	11:10
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC	561	Amman	11:20
JZR	1141	Dammam	10:40	KAC	679	Muscat	11:25
IRM	1188	Mashhad	11:10	KAC	165	Frankfurt	11:25
JZR	325	Al Najaf	11:20	KAC	791	Munich/Paris	11:35
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30	JZR	212	Bahrain	11:35
ABY	129	Sharjah	11:35	JZR	356	Mashhad	11:40
IRC	6511	ABD	11:40	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
FDK	801	Damascus	11:45	UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
JAW	165	Dubai	11:50	RBG	554	Alexandria	12:10
IAW	157	Al Najaf	11:55	ABY	120	Sharjah	12:15
AVV	651	Sohag	12:05	JZR	504	Luxor	12:15
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	IRM	1189	Mashhad	12:20
MSC	491	Alexandria	12:30	IRC	6512	ABD	12:25
KAC	241	Amman	12:30	FDK	802	Dammam	12:45
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	IAW	158	Islamabad	12:45
FEG	933	Sohag	12:55	UAE	875	Madinah	13:00
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
RJD	132	Abu Dhabi	13:05	AVV	652	Alexandria	13:05
				JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
				FDB	076	Dubai	13:10

CROSSWORD 1394



ACROSS

- 1. A barrier constructed to contain the flow or water or to keep out the sea.
4. Tree-like tropical Asian herbs.
12. System of measurement based on centimeters and grams and seconds.
15. An agency of the United Nations affiliated with the World Bank.
16. The absence of mental stress or anxiety.
17. A statement that deviates from or perverts the truth.
18. A metric unit of volume or capacity equal to 10 liters.
19. A cyst on the underside of the tongue.
27. Accord or comport with.
28. Of or relating to Oman or its people.
24. The length of a straight line passing through the center of a circle and connecting two points on the circumference.
25. A small canoe consisting of a light frame made watertight with animal skins.
26. Beads threaded on a string.
29. (of animals) Fully developed.
32. The capital and largest city of Norway.
36. A soft yellow malleable ductile (trivalent and univalent) metallic element.
37. A group of Plains Indians formerly living in what is now North and South Dakota and Nebraska and Kansas and Arkansas and Louisiana and Oklahoma and Texas.
40. (physics and chemistry) The smallest component of an element having the chemical properties of the element.
41. The capital and largest city of Cyprus.
44. Half the width of an arm.
45. Be compatible or in accordance with.
46. A blue dye obtained from plants or made synthetically.
47. A cylindrical drawstring bag used by sailors to hold their clothing and other gear.
50. A Chad language spoken in northern Nigeria.
52. The 26th letter of the Roman alphabet.
53. Electrical conduction through a gas in an applied electric field.
54. Manufactured in standard sizes to be shipped and assembled elsewhere.
56. Remove and separate physically or socially.
58. A brittle aromatic resin used in varnishes.
61. A huge destructive wave (especially one caused by an earthquake).
67. An upright tripod for displaying something (usually an artist's canvas).
68. A port in western Israel on the Mediterranean.
71. (Polynesian) An alcoholic drink made from the aromatic roots of the kava shrub.
72. An unforeseen obstacle.
74. At any time.
75. The basic unit of money in Western Samoa.
76. The sixth month of the Hindu calendar.
77. A piece of furniture with a writing surface and usually drawers or other compartments.

DOWN

- 1. (Roman mythology) A princess of Tyre who was the founder and queen of Carthage.
2. (Old Testament) In Judeo-Christian mythology.
3. The capital and largest city of Equatorial Guinea on the island of Bioko in the Gulf of Guinea.

- 4. A chain of coral and volcanic islands in Micronesia halfway between New Guinea and Japan.
5. A reptile genus of Iguanidae.
6. The region of the shore of a lake or sea or ocean.
7. Wild sheep of northern Africa.
8. West Indian tree having racemes of fragrant white flowers and yielding a durable timber and resinous juice.
9. Examination of conscience (as done daily by Jesuits).
10. The branch of computer science that deal with writing computer programs that can solve problems creatively.
11. Physicist honored for advances in solid state electronics (born in Japan in 1925).
12. Soil that is plastic when moist but hard when fired.
13. An ancient Egyptian city on the west bank of the Nile opposite Cairo.
14. (computer science) The movement of a read/write head to a specific data track on a disk v.1.
21. A Powhatan Indian woman (the daughter of Jamestown) who befriended the English at Jamestown and is said to have saved Captain John Smith's life (1595-1617).
23. United States astronomer (1835-1909).
28. Recorded on film.
30. A person who destroys or ruins or lays waste to.
31. A trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.
33. A fixed number of lines of verse forming a unit of a poem.
34. United States physician who in 1863 founded a medical school for women (1813-1888).
35. Beaten eggs or an egg mixture cooked until just set.
38. A drawing intended to explain how something works.
39. An informal term for a father.
42. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
43. An Arabic speaking person who lives in Arabia or North Africa.
48. A formal charge of wrongdoing brought against a person.
49. Strike with disgust or revulsion.
51. (used of count nouns) Every one considered individually.
55. A Hebrew prophet in the Old Testament who opposed the worship of idols.
57. Somewhat ill or prone to illness.
59. Lake in northwestern Russia near the border with Finland.
60. At full speed.
62. The capital and largest city of Yemen.
63. A rounded thickly curled hairdo.
64. An extravagantly enthusiastic review.
65. United States composer noted for his innovative use of polytonality (1874-1954).
66. Disturb in mind or make uneasy or cause to be worried or alarmed.
69. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
70. An interest followed with exaggerated zeal.
73. A soft gray ductile metallic element used in alloys.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

There is an emotional seriousness to becoming focused now. You will want to dig deep for information, references or confirmations. It seems that time is not slow enough for all that needs accomplishing. You could be too strict with yourself, to insist that whatever does not contribute to security and other long-term goals is trivial.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Any type of improvements at this time will be successful. Some of the hardware stores have employees that will help show or teach you what to do for repair of simple things around the house.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Good fortune opens up for you when things happen in a very natural way. Situations are almost magic and it is easy to see which path is the one to take.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

It is a good thing that we have days, weeks, months and years to live our life and experience our adventures and lessons. It would be difficult to have all of our adventures in only a few days.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Today and tomorrow are the best times to begin a new habit-perhaps a diet. All the energies are working in your favor to be successful with this positive endeavor.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You may realize that there is a need for balance in your life. You may find it difficult to be spontaneous, to get away from routine and do something different.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Making your dreams real is not an impossible task. Some dreams just take a little longer to come to fulfillment and some are temporarily unworkable.



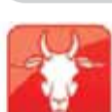
Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You enjoy your life situation today. A friend may occupy much of your day with activities that are enjoyable for the two of you. There is much communication between you and your friend.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 19)

Emotional security, a sense of belonging and nurturing are felt instinctively now. You want roots; you crave a sense of intimate connection that will last a castle against the vicissitudes of the world, so to speak.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Your mental thinking marks the single most active factor in your makeup. The key spot in your personality and circumstances is your mind-the world of ideas and communication.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

You may find yourself alone most of this day and it may be how you planned the day. After chores are completed, a special book, a music store or a long-awaited opportunity to dive into some favorite hobby is just where your energy has settled.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Someone with a tough shell, as far as personality is concerned, has not fooled you a bit. You are hard to fool and can turn a sour person into a very trusting friend.

WORD SEARCH

Chocolate

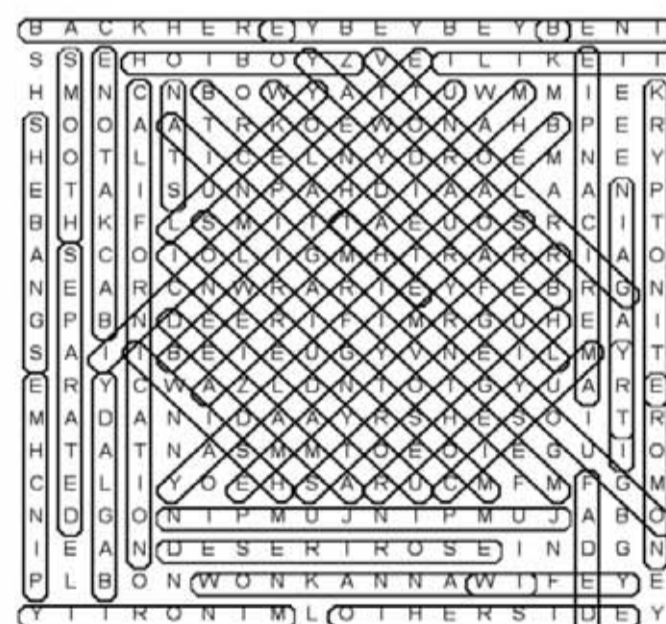
Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 55 letters spell a secret message.



- ADDICTIVE BAKING BARS BITTERSWEET BROWNIES CAKES CANDY CHIPS CHOCOLATIERS COCOA
CONFECTIONERY COOKIES CREAM PIE CUPCAKE DARK DECADENT DELICIOUS DESSERT DRINKS
FILLING FONDUE FOOD FUDGE ICE CREAM ICING INGREDIENT MILK MOUSSE
PUDDING SEMISWEET SUGAR SWISS SYRUP TREAT TRUFFLES UNSWEETENED WHITE

Yesterday Solution

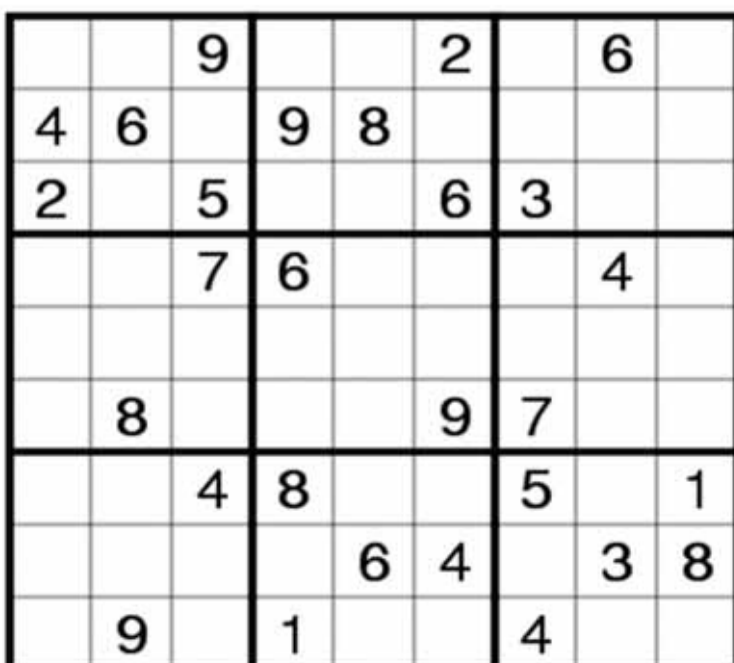
Songs From the Year 2000



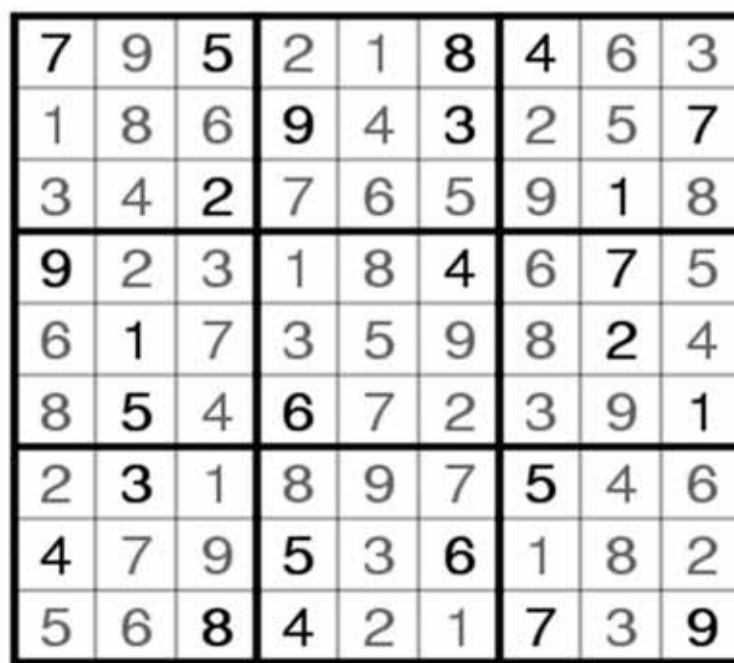
- AMAZED AMERICAN PIE BACK AT ONE BACK HERE BAG LADY BE WITH YOU BEAUTIFUL DAY BENT BREATHE BROADWAY BYE BYE BYE
CALIFORNICATION DESERT ROSE FADED GIRL ON TV HIGHER HOT BOYZ I LIKE IT I NEED YOU I WANNA KNOW I WISH
INCOMPLETE JUMPIN' JUMPIN' KRYPTONITE LUCKY MARIA MARIA MEET VIRGINIA MINORITY MOST GIRLS MUSIC NO MORE OTHERSIDE
PINCH ME SAY MY NAME SEPARATED SHE BANGS SMOOTH STAN STRONGER THERE YOU GO TRY AGAIN WIFEY WONDERFUL

The hidden message is: SHOW ME THE MEANING OF BEING LONELY

Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:  
Call MSAL hotline 128



**PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY**

**INTERNATIONAL CALLS**



**Hospitals**

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

**Clinics**

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khalidiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadisiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaee Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khaldiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina	0054	Malaysia	0060
Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan	00994	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Niger	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Togo	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lesotho	00266		

**STATE OF KUWAIT**  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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**Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours**  
Issued 08/10/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

**Max Temperature 39 °C**

By Day : Hot with light to moderate north westerly to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h  
By Night : Fair with variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h

**SFC. CHART**

**Four-Day Forecast**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	hot	hot	hot	hot
Min Temp °C	20	19	18	19
Max Temp °C	39	40	39	38
Wind Direction	north westerly to light variable	variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly	north westerly	north westerly to northerly
Wind Speed km/h	06 - 26	06 - 28	12 - 35	10 - 32

All times are local time (GHT+3) unless otherwise stated

**Warnings & Weather Watches**  
no warnings or weather watches

**Kuwait Forecast**

Station	MIN °C	REC	Max °C	EXP
KUWAIT CITY	27		39	
KUWAIT AIRPORT	20		39	
ABDULY	20		40	
BUBYAN	19		37	
JAHRA	27		40	
FALAKA ISLAND	23		37	
SALMIYAH	27		36	
AHMADI	27		33	
JAL ALIYAH	23		39	
QARCH ISLAND	29		34	
UMH AL-MARADEM	28		34	
NUWASIB	22		35	
WAFRA	21		38	
MANAGISH	21		38	
SALMY	21		37	
MUTRIBA	20		40	

**Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport**

Max Temp (°C)	40
Min Temp (°C)	19
Max Rel Hum (%)	37
Min Rel Hum (%)	07
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	25 NW
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

Sunrise: 05:46  
Sunset: 17:25

**Prayer Times**

Fajr	04:27
Sunrise	05:46
Zuhr	11:35
Aar	14:55
Sunset	17:25
Isha	18:42

**PRIVATE CLINICS**

<b>Ophthalmologists</b> Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor 25622444 Dr. Samy Al-Rabea 25752222 Dr. Masoma Habeeb 25321171 Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy 25739999 Dr. Mohsen Abel 25757700 Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl 25732223 Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly 25732223 <b>Ear, Nose &amp; Throat (ENT)</b> Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner 24555050 Ext 510 Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali 25644660 Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel 25646478 Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah 25311996 Dr. Mohammad Al-Daaoory 25731988 Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary 22620166 Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz 25651426 <b>General Practitioners</b> Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi 24555050 Ext 123 Dr. Yousef Al-Omar 24719312 Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaezem 23926920 Dr. Kathem Maarafi 25730465 Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah 25655528 Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi 24577781 Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rafea 25333501 <b>Urologists</b> Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy 22641534 Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul 22639955 Dr. Khaleel Abdallah Al-Awadi 22616660 Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C) 25313120 Dr. Leons Joseph 66703427	<b>Plastic Surgeons</b> Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf 22547272 Dr. Abdul-Redha Lari 22617700 Dr. Abdel Quttainah 25625030/60 <b>Family Doctor</b> Dr Divya Damodar 23729596/23729581 <b>Psychiatrists</b> Dr. Esam Al-Ansari 22635047 Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan 22613623/0 <b>Gynaecologists &amp; Obstetricians</b> Dr Adrian arbe 23729596/23729581 Dr. Verginia s.Marin 2572-6666 ext 8321 Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan 22655539 Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami 25343406 Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly 25739272 Dr. Salem soso 22618787 <b>General Surgeons</b> Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer 22610044 Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher 25327148 <b>Internists, Chest &amp; Heart</b> Dr. Adnan Ebil 22639939 Dr. Mousa Khadada 22666300 Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisani 25728004 Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra 25355515 Dr. Mobarak Aldoub 24726446 Dr Nasser Behbehani 25654300/3	<b>Paediatricians</b> Dr. Khaled Hamadi 25665898 Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed 25340300 Dr. Zahra Qabazard 25710444 Dr. Sohail Qamar 22621099 Dr. Snaa Maarouf 25713514 Dr. Pradip Gujare 23713100 Dr. Zacharias Mathew 24334282 <b>Dermatology</b> Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University 23845955 <b>Dentists</b> Dr Anil Thomas 3729596/3729581 Dr. Shamah Al-Matar 22641071/2 Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed 22562226 Dr. Abdallah Al-Amer 22561444 Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan 22619557 Dr. Abdalateef Al-Katrash 22525888 Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan 25653755 Dr. Bader Al-Ansari 25620111 <b>Neurologists</b> Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri 25633324 Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan 25345875 <b>Gastrologists</b> Dr. Sami Aman 22636464 Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly 25322030 Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali 22633135	<b>Endocrinologist</b> Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman 25339330 Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari 25658888 Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr 25329924 <b>Physiotherapists &amp; VD</b> Dr. Deyaa Shehab 25722291 Dr. MUSAED FARAJ KHAEMEES 22666288 <b>Rheumatologists:</b> Dr. Adel Al-Awadi 25330060 Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah 25722290 <b>Internist, Chest &amp; Heart</b> DR.Mohammes Akkad 24555050 Ext 210 Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital 25339667 <b>Consultant Cardiologist</b> Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC 2611555-2622555 Inaya German Medical Center Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123
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Psychologists /Psychotherapists	Soor Center Tel: 2290-1677 Fax: 2290 1688 info@soorcenter.com www.soorcenter.com	Kaizen center 25716707	Noor Clinic 23845955	William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677 Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677
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## ANNA KENDRICK GETS ANNOYED BY PEOPLE WHO DON'T UNDERSTAND HER TWEETS

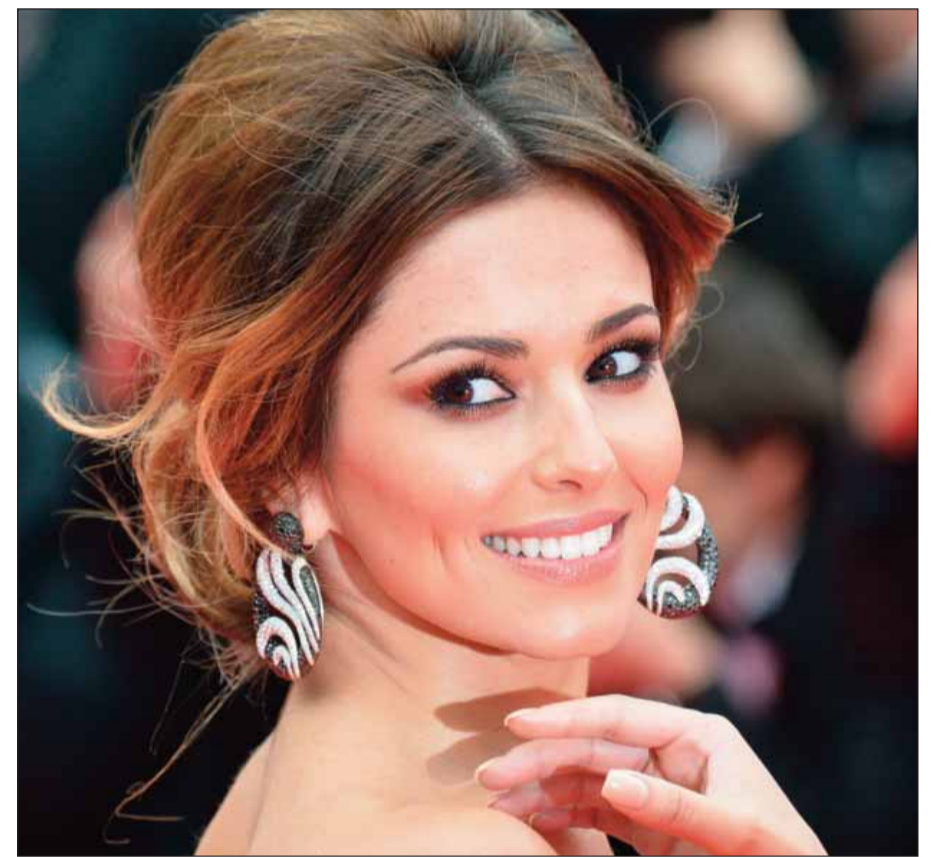
The 31-year-old actress is an enthusiastic Twitter user and has become widely known for her humorous online posts - but feels irked when her followers do not grasp the point she is trying to make. The 'Pitch Perfect' star - who has more than five million Twitter followers - explained: "People don't always get them. There was one where I thought 'oh yeah, this is the one - they're not ready for this!' And it didn't work at all. "It was: 'I hate it when you can tell a comedian has done something just for the material. Like going on a blind date, or having children.' And everyone was like, 'oh you mean how they all talk about airplane food?' Um, no?" Despite her larger-than-life nature on social media and in interviews, Anna admitted to frequently flipping between "feeling painfully shy and being super outgoing" during her childhood. The Hollywood star revealed she still suffers similar problems to this day. She told the Daily Telegraph newspaper: "I

get terrible imposter syndrome - 'this has all been a terrible mistake!' - and then there are times when I think I have so much more to prove." And even though she is now one of the most in-demand actresses in Hollywood, Anna has experienced her fair share of setbacks en route to stardom. She recalled: "I remember once coming back for round two of auditions, and the place was closed, so I was literally peering through the glass. It turned out my agent just sent me the call time from round one by accident. "So yeah, there were lots of rejections and I had to go, 'no, I'm definitely good at this, right?' It helped knowing lots of other talented people who were also not working. Sometimes it's just luck and timing."

## George and Amal Clooney's new multi-million dollar apartment in Manhattan



The Hollywood star and the 38-year-old human rights lawyer have acquired a spectacular-looking property at 100 East 53rd Street, a luxury apartment building designed by the revered architect Norman Foster and set to open in 2017. A source told the New York Post newspaper: "The high-profile couple did not purchase the penthouse, but instead opted for a high-floor residence in the upcoming building." The two-floor penthouse is for sale for \$65 million, while the next highest-floor apartment for sale is valued at \$14.75 million. The luxurious abode features three bedrooms and three bathrooms, as well as a "spacious great room with dramatic northern, western and eastern exposures" with "floor-to-ceiling windows and nearly 11-foot ceilings". What's more, the desirable property boasts a "private corner master bedroom suite with southern and eastern exposures ... with a grand dressing room and a tranquil five-fixture en suite bathroom with sweeping city views". But according to a source close to the power couple, George and Amal opted for their chosen property on account of its design and amenities, as well as its close proximity to the United Nations for Amal, who also teaches at Columbia Law School. In addition to their latest purchase in New York City, George and Amal - who tied the knot in September 2014 - already own a property in California, a retreat in Lake Como in Italy and a 17th-century mansion in England.



## Cheryl Fernandez-Versini to become the new face of Childline

The 33-year-old pop star is reported to have secretly filmed a series of adverts for the charity NSPCC at the end of September at a studio in London, with the adverts said to be filled with emotion. A source told The Sun newspaper: "The adverts are sure to get a lot of people talking. They're very emotive and there's no gimmicks. Cheryl was delighted to be asked to take part in the ads as it's a cause very close to her heart." The adverts will reportedly feature the former Girls Aloud star sat on a stool and giving a speech. But rather than the viewers hearing Cheryl's distinctive voice, they will hear those of various Childline callers who have been the victims of abuse. One of the voice recordings, for instance, has been created by a child who has been sexually abused. Cheryl is the latest big-name celebrity who has thrown her support behind the charity, which has previously been fronted by her long-time friend and former co-star on the UK 'X Factor' Simon Cowell. Meanwhile, the music mogul recently addressed widespread rumours that Cheryl is pregnant with the baby of former One Direction star Liam Payne, revealing he'd love to be handed the role of godfather. Asked about the speculation, Simon said: "I expect him to be called Simon. Or Simone, either one I'm happy with that. I doubt Cheryl will be."

## Candice Swanepoel and her fiance Hermann Nicoli have welcomed a baby boy called Anaca

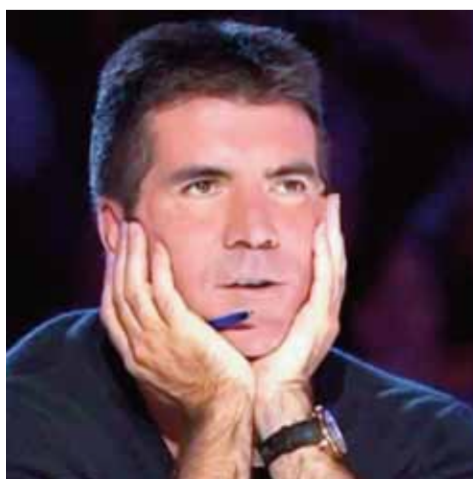
The 27-year-old model gave birth to her first child on Friday (07.10.16) and has already received public congratulations from her photographer Jerome Duran, who posted a pregnant nude he had taken of her on Instagram. He captioned the black and white image: "THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MAMA Congratulations!! @angelcandices @hermannnicoli Welcome Anaca!!! Already sooo much LOVE for you and the new family! (sic)" The Victoria's Secret beauty and Hermann, 34, have been together for 11 years and announced back in August that they intended to call their first child Anaca. Candice has kept fans up to date with her pregnancy via Instagram over the last few months, frequently posting pictures of certain landmarks

moments, like a safari-themed baby shower thrown for her in Brazil in August. At that event, Candice revealed the name of her son, which is a Brazilian word for a bird. The word Anaca was, in fact, hung from the wall over a table featuring a host of desserts. More recently, the South African model posed in nothing but underwear and a sheer white blouse to show off the size of her baby bump. Since the news of Anaca's birth was announced, Lily Aldridge - the model who is a good friend of Candice - took to Instagram to congratulate her and Behati Prinsloo, who also recently had her first child. She wrote: "Words can not express how much I love these mamas!!! Congrats. (sic)"



## Simon Cowell has beefed up his own security

The 57-year-old music mogul is currently busily filming the UK version of 'The X Factor' alongside Nicole Scherzinger and Sharon Osbourne - and has pledged to protect the show's contestants at the TV studios in Wembley, north London. Asked if he intended to hire extra staff to protect the show, Simon - who was burgled last year and had £1 million of jewellery stolen - said: "Yeah, we are. We are. You have to nowadays. It's just gone a bit nuts. There's a really dark side out there and Christ you've got to be careful." In December 2015, Simon was robbed while he, partner Lauren Silverman, 39, and son Eric, one, were asleep in their London mansion. And earlier this week, the name of the outspoken TV personality appeared on a spreadsheet of potential victims of an alleged murderer. Simon told The Sun newspaper: "It's the crazy world we live in. 'I opened up a newspaper and you've got one guy who's in court because he's robbed my house, second guy has murdered somebody and I'm number two or three on his list. It's like 'this is getting a bit nutty.'" However, Simon also insisted he did not wish to become unduly concerned about security issues in light of recent incidents. He shared: "At the same time you don't want to get too paranoid. Because it is what it is. I only mentioned what I said because in terms of perspective that was about as bad as it can get yesterday. Not so much for me, but for Lauren and Eric. I'm very conscious now."



## Michael Douglas was 'too absent' from his first wife Diandra Luker

The 72-year-old Hollywood icon has admitted he was not as close to his film producer ex-wife - whom he was married to from 1977 to 2000 - as he is to his current wife Catherine Zeta Jones, the mother of his 16-year-old son Dylan and his 13-year-old daughter Carys. He confessed: "I was too absent from my first marriage. Second time round, I'm so much more hands-on. By the time Dylan and then Carys were born, I was well ensconced in my career. They both want to be actors and Catherine and I have seen enough of them on stage to know they have got it. You'll be hearing from another generation of Douglases. I've no doubt about it." Michael - who also has a 37-year-old son with Diandra - warned of the dangers of hanging on to a marriage for the sake of young children. He explained to the Guardian newspaper: "A lot of marriages hang on too long for the sake of the children. But, if you start asking questions when they are older, those chil-

dren will often tell you that you could have cut the tension with a knife when their parents were together and that divorce was rather like letting the air out of a balloon." Meanwhile, Michael recently admitted he "lacked confidence" following in his father's footsteps. The actor said he took a long time to feel "a sense of security" in his work because he always worried he would be compared unfavourably to his dad Kirk Douglas. The 'Fatal Attraction' actor said: "I lacked confidence I would say. It took me a while to have a sense of security. I mean clearly when you have a father like Kirk, he was a big figure to look up to and think, 'wow how do you be the man that he is?' "But I'm not complaining you know, everybody has got their strengths and weaknesses and you just try to overcome those situations and improve your lot in life."

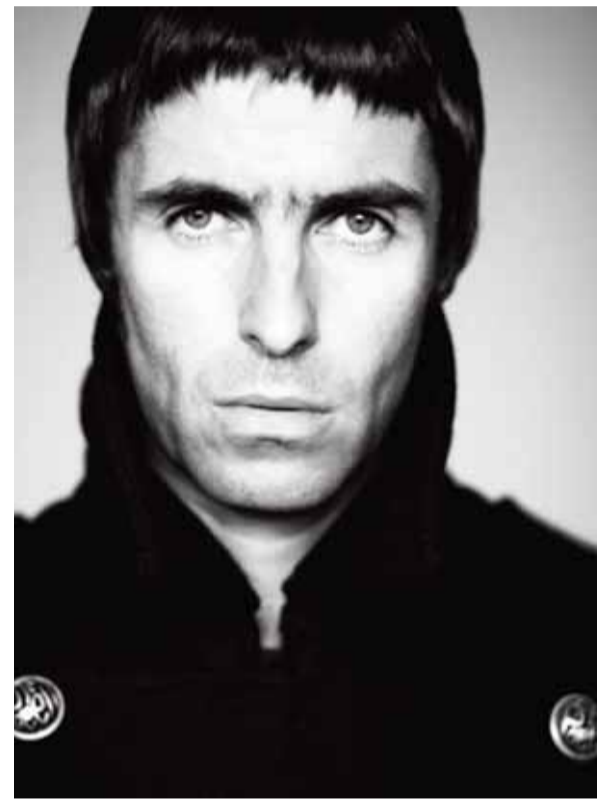
GOSSIP



## Angelina Jolie warned by former nanny

The 'Maleficent' star filed for divorce from husband Brad Pitt last month and is seeking primary custody of their six kids - Maddox, 15, Pax, 12, Zahara, 11, Shiloh, 10, and eight-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne - and Krisann Morel, who cared for the actress and her brother James Haven when they were young, is concerned about the parallels between their split and the 'By the Sea' filmmaker's own parents, Jon Voight and the late Marcheline Bertrand. Krisann said: "I want to send a message to Angelina, who I care about very much. I want to tell her, don't cut Brad out of the children's lives. Don't demonise your husband. Because that is exactly what your mother did when she was breaking up with your father. And the result was you had a lonely and traumatic childhood. Why would you inflict the same tragedy on your kids? I am worried that Angie is repeating the past and the same mistakes her mother made during her divorce. I want to get this message across to her before it is too late." After Jon left Marcheline for a young drama student, the actress barred her former husband from seeing the kids, and to this day Angelina is said to have a strained relationship with the actor. Krisann commented: "Jon was portrayed as this evil figure and Marcheline succeeded in turning both his children against him. But it led to years of heartbreak and wounds that still haven't healed to this day. I'm so surprised Angie is now doing the same to her children." The former employee claims Marcheline struggled to bond with Angelina so much, the 'Girl, Interrupted' star was sent to live with a team of nannies in a rented apartment above the main family home. And with

reports all of Brad and Angelina's kids have their own nanny, Krisann is concerned about "an exact repeat of the past". She added: "There were so many helpers that Angelina often had one nanny to put her to bed at night and another to wake her up in the morning. I always thought that must be so unsettling for a child." Krisann went on to urge the 41-year-old beauty not to cut Brad, 52, out of the children's lives or they will lose their only "stability". She told Grazia magazine: "Angie has abandonment issues that are still being played out now. She doesn't have any concept of what a normal family is like. Brad does, because he came from one." "These kids have been through enough. There is so little stability for these children as they travel so much. By cutting off their dad, she is threatening to take away the one bit of stability that they have."



## Liam Gallagher has no regrets in his life

The 44-year-old rocker has certainly had his ups and downs over the years, but it seems his string of bad luck began to unravel in 2008 when he dramatically left his band Oasis in 2008 after he locked horns with his brother Noel - who was also a member of the group - and the pair are still yet to make up. During that same year, Liam married Nicole Appleton, with whom he has 15-year-old son Gene, but their marriage didn't last for long as they split in 2014 when it was revealed he was expecting a child with Liza Ghorbani following a one-night stand. And that wasn't his first divorce as the former Beady Eye star was forced to go through the same proceedings in 2000 when he split from Patsy Kensit, with whom he has son Lennon, 17. He also has 19-year-old daughter Molly following an affair with Lisa Moorish four months after he married Patsy but, despite his rough time, Liam is proud of everything he's done in life. He told BANG Showbiz: "Nothing, I don't regret anything. It's like dominoes innit, you take one out and they all come falling down, it is what it is. You start taking one thing away and then the whole f\*\*\*ing thing falls away. I'm very proud of what I've done. I most proud of getting a record deal, getting in the studio and putting my life on hold to go and make some music. Not getting a silly 9-to-5 job like all the other d\*\*kheads do, having a dream. And not ever wearing leather trousers if I get out of this life without being a k\*\*bhead and without ever floating around in a pair of leather trousers then I think I can call that a success." And, although he doesn't regret leaving Oasis when he did, Liam has made no secret of the fact he'd reform the group "tomorrow" if his brother Noel, 49, agreed to jump on board the reunion. He explained his reasons for a reunion: "Not because of money - I'm far from skint, believe you me. I love that band. That's putting it out there. I still think we could make good records. I'd love it. There has been a big hole in my life since 2008."



## Penny Lancaster feels 'very lucky' to be married to 'extremely romantic' Rod Stewart

The 45-year-old model and the 71-year-old singer - who have sons Alastair, 10, and five-year-old Aiden together - will renew their wedding vows to mark 10 years of marriage next year, and the blonde star couldn't be happier with her spouse, who she met in 1999. She said: "I can't wait [to renew our vows] - we've been in the longest relationship he's ever been in so that's a record! Rod is extremely romantic and I'm very lucky. Keeping the romance and passion alive is very important to both of us. It helps that Rod is older. I've always preferred older, more mature men and he's such a gentleman." Penny and Rod never row because they are aware of how important it is to communicate with one another before problems arise. She said: "We're particularly good at communicating and are very open about how we feel. We're never shy about expressing our opinions to one another and that kind of prevents you having rows. I was shy and not very confident when I met Rod. He's always saying how proud he is of me and loves to support my work. You initially fall in love with someone and sort of have an idea of what your ideal man is. Rod's fulfilled all and more of what I wanted." But things weren't always easy for the couple as Penny had to work hard to bond with Rod's other children, Sarah, 52, Kimberly, 37, Sean, 39, Ruby, 29, Renee, 24, and Liam, 22, from his various past relationships. She told Closer magazine: "It's taken time to blend the family together but like any good relationship you have got to build from the roots up and take it slowly - and that's what I've done."

## Kendall and Kylie Jenner and Khloe Kardashian cancel appearances

The reality TV siblings have decided to call off some upcoming signings in the wake of their sister Kim Kardashian West's recent traumatic ordeal in Paris, where she was held up at gunpoint in her hotel room and robbed of millions worth of jewels. A source told Access Hollywood: "Due to recent events and ongoing security issues, all signings have been cancelled." This comes after it was revealed that filming on 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians' has been put 'on hold indefinitely'. E! News have confirmed the crew were not filming at the time of the robbery, and have sent their "love and support" to the TV personality following the attack. A spokesperson from the broadcasting network told Us Weekly: "All of us at E! are incredibly thankful that Kim Kardashian West is safe, and we send her and her family our love and support. 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians' was not filming at the

time of the robbery. Our focus right now is entirely on Kim's well-being." And Kim - who has three-year-old daughter North and 10-month-old son Saint with her rapper husband Kanye West - has since left New York to fly home via a private jet to California with extra security. Speaking about the 'Selfish' authors travel methods since her ordeal, a source said: "They had several security guards with them and only had two SUVs to take them to the airport... They are flying private." Kim reportedly blames herself for the accident, and is worried she attracted the attention of the thieves by posing with her jewels on social media. An insider previously said: "Kim's in shock and blaming herself. She's tearing herself up that she Snapchatted the ring so much and wore it all the time. This incident is making her question everything. How she dresses, what she does."



## Michael Buble hopes he isn't nominated for a BRIT Award



The 41-year-old singer has signed up to host the annual UK music awards ceremony in 2017 but would prefer not to be nominated because it would be too awkward if he lost. Speaking to Kate Garraway, for Global's Make Some Noise, he said: "I don't even think I'll be nominated to be honest with you. Can I be completely frank about something? I'm not a big fan of hosting in a year when I'm up for stuff. I just think it kind of looks weird. When I hosted the JUNO Awards in Canada, I tried to make sure it was in a year when the record couldn't be nominated, because it can look kind of strange. There was one year when Drake was the host, he was nominated for six and he lost all six so it was kind of just like those 'urgh' moments every time he's up on stage going 'and the winner is...not me again!', it's such a subjective thing winning awards, that's not what it's about. It's about getting to hang out and get drunk with celebrities." Michael has been nominated for three BRITs during his career but has never won. The Canadian star is taking over hosting duties from presenting duo Ant and Dec, who previously revealed that 2016's ceremony would be their last and he has nothing but praise for his predecessors. He said: "I actually know them very well, and I love them so much. Not just how great they are because obviously you guys know, you've watched them for years on television now and you know how talented they are but what's beautiful is getting an opportunity to hang out with them and their families and to know that they're everything you'd hoped they would be. I mean they're just real guys, they're beautiful people with beautiful families and I think the truth is, the reason I'm doing it isn't because I got chosen over anyone else, I think that they had other commitments because I'm sure they would have had them back for the third time." Michael was interviewed by Smooth's Kate Garraway for Global's Make Some Noise. The charity helps disadvantaged youngsters across the UK by giving a voice to small charities and projects that struggle to raise awareness.

## Tori Spelling's husband says her pregnancy is a 'testament' to her for standing by him

Dean McDermott, 49, and 43-year-old Tori's marriage was in trouble three years ago when he admitted to cheating on her but they got their relationship back on track and she is now expecting their fifth child. Dean told PEOPLE: "This baby is a testament to how much we love each other. And it's a testament to Tori for staying with me. It's amazing. Love does conquer all. And that's what this pregnancy says about our relationship. It's everlasting." Tori added: "Obviously three years ago we hit a really rough patch and we made the conscious decision based on our love for each other and our love for our family as a whole to tough it out and work through it and get through it. And I'm so happy that that happened and there was never a doubt in my mind that I wanted to do that." The former 'Beverly Hills 90210' actress and her husband already have children Liam, nine, Stella, eight, Hattie, five, and Finn, four, together and Dean also has an 18-year-old son, Jack, from his previous marriage. And they admitted that Tori's fifth pregnancy came as a surprise. She said: "It was a total surprise. But we always wanted a big family. I'm really excited. Dean was saying, 'We just got Finn out of diapers; I thought we were in the clear!' For the first time this year, they're all in school. So it's like, wow. We're basically starting over. But this baby happened at the best time. Nothing is ever perfect, but I'm so madly in love with my husband and with our kids. The idea of adding to that is such a blessing."



FASHION

# CANADIAN DESIGNER CELEBRATES UNISEX AT DUBAI SHOW

Canadian-Jordanian designer Rad Hourani creates avant-garde designs with a vision: To break all boundaries, starting with gender. His revolutionary unisex garments were showcased in the Middle East for the first time ever during a show late Friday at Arab Fashion Week in Dubai.

In thick pieces of material tied up in different styles, male and female models walked down the runway wearing dark sunglasses. The 34-year-old, an invited member of the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture in Paris, was the first ever designer to present a unisex haute couture collection in 2013.

His Spring-Summer 2017 collection presented in Dubai is a reworked mix of his past archives and aims to showcase "the timelessness" of his 10-year-old genderless works, the soft-spoken designer, wearing a simple black cotton T-shirt and matching trousers, told AFP in an interview.

"People didn't really understand it (unisex) at the beginning," he said. "They were always asking which pieces are for men and which pieces are for women." "I had to work very hard in the past 10 years to communicate the neutral unisex vision," which has become his signature style, he said.

#### 'Free of limitations'

For Friday's show, Hourani said he re-edited his old collections "in a new way, adding new forms and new shapes." But it was the first time the designer, known for his clean A-lines and minimalist looks, has worked with draped folds. "I think working with these shapes in a new drapey and architectural way was an interesting exercise for me," he said.

Behind his work, Hourani has his own unbounded philosophy or "vision", as he likes to call it. "I live in a way which is free of (the) limitations of gender, race, age or nations," he said. "I see the world as one place and I see the people as one as well."

Through his garments, he tries to offer customers some of this freedom by creating unisex clothing that could be transformed to menswear or womenswear through simple styling such as adding a belt, or tying up the piece in a certain way. "What I'm trying to do is to create neutral graphic shapes and then to give each individual the options of wearing it: feminine, masculine, casual, or whatever style they like it to be." "I don't work in a way that I can limit you in the way you style the garment. So my garments are really very transformable in terms of style."

While his fabrics are generally cotton, silk, and crepe, he used a plastic-like material for his Dubai collection and added bright colours—a change from his usually monochrome palette of black, white, grey, and blue. "This time it's more of a fun show" with the models even appearing wrapped up "like gifts" to celebrate the decade he has spent in the industry, Hourani said with a grin.

#### 'Lady Gaga style'

His designs drew mixed views from the audience with an elderly Iraqi man exclaiming: "They're aliens!" as the models walked past. But Nora, a Frenchwoman of Arab origin, said she did see some "interesting" pieces which she could consider buying. "We don't have this kind of fashion here in the Middle East... I see it (as) a bit special," she said after the show. "To understand this kind of design you need to... understand the designer himself how he thinks."

Daryl Scott, a fitness trainer from New York, agreed that "it was pretty interesting. It's different in a good way." "It's something more like Lady Gaga" style, said Scott, referring to the all-famous American pop star who has already worn Hourani's designs.

But the designer said he does have Arab clients. "I see a great evolution" in the Arab world in terms of fashion. "We have Emirati clients", male and female and of different ages. — AFP



# 'Woodstock for Geezers': Baby boomers unite for rock icons

**S**ome fans rarely go to shows these days; others sport recent tour T-shirts. But one idea unites the graying crowd at this weekend's concert of rock all-stars—this may be the last chance to see their musical heroes. Desert Trip, which could be the most profitable music festival of all time, is bringing out six acts from the rock canon never seen before together led by the Rolling Stones and Paul McCartney.

The fruit of the booking prowess of the company behind Coachella, the annual festival in the California desert that has helped shape youth pop culture, Desert Trip offered nostalgia and a fleeting sense of community for baby boomers.

Instead of crushing standing-room crowds, the festival provided seats and let others bring in lawn chairs; instead of Coachella's bare-as-much-skin-as-legal fashion rules, Desert Trip's standard attire was T-shirts and shorts. And, rather than Coachella's omnipresent smell of marijuana, the attractions at so-nicknamed "Oldchella" included sommelier-selected wines. "Woodstock for geezers—that's what this is," joked Mike Beach, 64, who flew in from Florida, leaving behind his two dogs with friends as Hurricane Matthew approached.

Beach, who spent 32 years as a radio DJ playing rock classics, was excited not just for the scheduled acts but the prospect of surprise appearances. "Anybody who's anybody in the rock world will want to be here," he said. Enduring pull of rock greats -

Gerri Redpath, 71, has seen Mick Jagger before—when she was a flight attendant for now-defunct airline Pan Am and

serviced him in first-class on a flight to London. Redpath, who recalls Jagger as well-mannered, described Desert Trip as her first concert in her 70s. "I'm impressed that this music has lasted so long," she said.

Her husband, John Doutsas, said that he waited three hours online to buy tickets for Desert Trip after the couple decided they needed to make the journey from their home in the San Francisco area. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity because some of them may not be around for much longer," he said.

The three-day festival's other performers are Bob Dylan, Neil Young, The Who and Roger Waters. Of the artists, all are septuagenarians with the sole exception of Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood—who is 69.

While the festival industry has boomed thanks to young people, the Desert Trip crowd was dominated by older people and was also overwhelmingly white, in line with the makeup of the artists. The artists—who have collectively sold more than \$3.1 billion tickets since 2000, according to industry site Pollstar—will return the following weekend for the same lineup, with total attendance expected at 150,000.

### 'Bucket list' experience

Ernie Demarbiex, 77, grew up in nearby Palm Desert, which like many cities near the Coachella grounds has a large population of retirees whose relationship has at times been awkward with young partygoers.

Demarbiex said he would be on his feet and dancing from the moment Mick Jagger came out with the Rolling Stones. "He's on my bucket list. He's up in age and this may be the last time to see him," said Demarbiex, whose previous "bucket list" achievements have included trekking to Machu Picchu.

While Coachella and other sweaty summer festivals have taken to setting up tents for clubs, Desert Trip's indoor attraction was a 35,000-square-foot (3,250-square-meter) air-conditioned photo gallery full of classic shots of the Desert Trip rockers.

Brooke Adamic, 21, snapped photos with her phone of her nearly two-year-old daughter Vera in front of a portrait by Terry O'Neill of Stones guitarist Keith Richards shaving.

Adamic said she had expected most of the crowd to be older but was pleasantly surprised at the number of young people. "Probably never in my 21 years of living would I have an opportunity like this. This is my one chance to go back in time," she said. And, pointing to her daughter, she said, "Maybe by the time she is 12 or 13 years old she is going to thank me as well."—AFP



INDIO, CALIFORNIA: Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones perform during the Desert Trip music festival on Friday. — AFP



CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA: This June 4, 2016, file photo shows, Matt Damon, left, and Ben Affleck accepting the guys of the decade award at the Guys Choice Awards at Sony Pictures Studios. — AP

## Damon and Affleck resurrect 'Good Will Hunting' roles

**M**att Damon and Ben Affleck resurrected their "Good Will Hunting" roles, not to mention their Boston accents, in a special one night only live read from the script Friday in New York.

John Krasinski hosted and served as a guest director for the night before an audience that benefits a non-profit arts organization called Film Independent. Tickets ranged from \$65 to \$150. He began saying the "Good Will Hunting" script was special to him, not only because he's from Boston, but because it makes him emotional.

Krasinski introduced a cast to read the different roles including his wife, Emily Blunt, in Minnie Driver's role, and Margo Martindale, reading Robin Williams' part of a therapist who helps Damon's emotionally damaged orphan, who also is unusually intelligent, let go of his past and realize his potential.

Keegan Michael Key and "Hamilton"'s Daveed Diggs also had parts. The read kicked off with Krasinski taking Damon's lead role of Will Hunting when Damon walked on stage and surprised the audience. Krasinski then attempted to begin Affleck's role of Hunting's wise-cracking friend, when he appeared.

The crowd screamed and gave a standing ovation and Krasinski took over the duty of narrator. The reading went off script a few times, like when Krasinski would jokingly protest to Blunt and Damon's portrayal of lovers and when Affleck and Damon pointed out inside jokes. A few lines were flubbed, but the theater was silent when Martindale recited Williams' dialogue in an emotional scene.

"Good Will Hunting" won Damon and Affleck the Oscar for best writing of an original screenplay in 1997. Williams won the best supporting actor Academy Award. Live Read events began in 2011 in Los Angeles with director Jason Reitman gathering actors together to read popular scripts like "Breakfast Club," "The Princess Bride" and "Reservoir Dogs," to raise money for Film Independent.

Recordings are prohibited to preserve the exclusivity and spontaneity of the event. Live Reads are co-presented by The New York Times.—AP

## Forest Whitaker joins 'Black Panther' cast

**F**orest Whitaker is coming to the Marvelverse. Marvel says the Oscar-winning actor is joining the cast of "Black Panther." Whitaker will portray an elder statesman named Zuri from the fictional nation of Wakanda.

Chadwick Boseman was introduced as Wakanda ruler T'Challa earlier this year in "Captain America: Civil War." The character of Zuri in the comics was a loyal ally of T'Challa's father and a fierce warrior. Other cast members in the stand-alone "Black Panther" film include Michael B. Jordan, Lupita Nyong'o, Danai Gurira, Daniel Kaluuya, Winston Duke and Florence Kasumba.

"The Last King of Scotland" and "Roots" star will next be seen Dec. 16 in "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" as Rebel leader Saw Gerrera. "Black Panther" is set for release Feb. 16, 2018.—AP



NEW YORK: This Sept. 22, 2016, file photo shows actor Forest Whitaker speaking with Aristarick Joseph during the Global Citizen Festival. — AP



## 'KEEPING UP WITH THE KARDASHIANS'

### ON HOLD AFTER ROBBERY

**T**he E! Network has shut down production on "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" since Kim Kardashian West was held up in Paris. A spokesperson for the network tells Variety that "Kim's well-being is our core focus right now" and "no decision has been made as to when production will resume."

El said in a statement Monday that the show wasn't filming at the time of the robbery. Police in Paris say they are investigating the heist in which armed robbers forced their way into a private residence where Kardashian was staying, tied her up and locked her in a bathroom, then stole \$10 million worth of jewelry.—AP

NEW YORK: In this May 16, 2016 file photo, Kim Kardashian West attends the 20th Annual Webby Awards. — AP

## Bob Dylan plays 80-minute set to open Desert Trip festival

**B**ob Dylan kicked off the historic Desert Trip music festival Friday with an 80-minute set. The 75-year-old rocker spent most of his time behind the piano as he performed songs from throughout his catalog, including "Tangled Up in Blue," "Highway 61 Revisited" and "Make You Feel My Love."

He opened with "Everybody Must Get Stoned." Wearing a white hat and white shoes with a black tuxedo jacket and trousers, Dylan did not speak to the audience or say anything between songs. He occasionally crept out from behind the piano to sing at a microphone center stage, pulling a harmonica from his pocket to play.

Dylan's set officially launched the Desert Trip festival, dubbed "Oldchella" when it was first announced. The three-day concert features six legendary acts: Dylan, the Rolling Stones, Paul McCartney, Neil Young, Roger Waters and the Who. It's the first time they've all performed at the same event.

Desert Trip is being staged at the same Southern California desert venue where

the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival is held each spring. But where Coachella is aimed at millennials, Desert Trip targets the more affluent baby boomers who grew up with the festival's featured rockers. Luxury camping, gourmet dining and yoga classes are among the amenities being offered.

When tickets first went on sale, 53-year-old Cathleen Ellsworth of Greenwich, Connecticut, knew she had to attend with her best friends from college.

"She introduced me to Tequila and Bob Dylan!" Ellsworth said of pal Charlene Hare, 54, whom she met in 1980. Along with fellow friend Christine Trauth, 53, they wore matching macramé tops and light-up flower headbands. Their husbands had light-up eyeglasses shaped like peace symbols.

"It's a rock festival. We have to represent!" Ellsworth said. The Rolling Stones are set to take the stage later Friday night. Neil Young and Paul McCartney perform Saturday night. The festival repeats next weekend.—AP

## In '20th Century Woman' with Annette Bening, an ode to a mom

**D**irector Mike Mills had some advice for his audience at the New York Film Festival: Make a movie about your mom. Mills premiered his "20th Century Woman," starring Annette Bening, on Friday at Lincoln Center, where his film is playing as the festival's centerpiece. In it, Bening stars as Dorothea Fields, a woman born during the Great Depression who's raising her 14-year-old son (newcomer Lucas Jade Zumann) by herself in 1979 California, albeit with the help of the colorful tenants (Greta Gerwig, Billy Crudup) living her old Santa Barbara home.

The film is a lushly lived-in coming-of-age dramedy about a mom and her son, told with a keen eye to how historical currents shape emotional lives. Mills, at a press conference Friday, said the movie could be

reduced to "As Time Goes By" meets the Buzzcocks."

Mills, the writer-director of "Beginners," said he wrote "20th Century Woman" primarily as a love letter to his mother. "You all should make movies about your mom because it's really a trip," said Mills. "And then have an amazing actress do it."

The film, which A24 will release Dec. 25, has been lined up as an awards season contender, with Bening's lead performance particularly trumpeted. Her Dorothea is part a cigarette-smoking traditionalist (she tells her son: "Wondering if you're happy is a great shortcut to being depressed"), and part an open-minded child of the 1960s, willing to try dancing to both the Talking Heads and Black Flag.

Bening was 19 during the film's time period, but grew up in San Diego near the movie's coastal setting.

"My world was a different world than this world that I grew up in, but the time was the same," said Bening. "I loved the script because I thought it contextualized that period for me in a way that I had never seen."

The challenge of playing the part, Bening said, was in finding the character herself while also being faithful to Mills' descriptions of his mother. The balancing act, she said, was "fascinating but not easy." "To me Dorothea was very much Annette, in body and timing and soul," said Mills. "It was fun to sort of show her my mom, always saying to her to take what's interesting and dump the rest."

Mills said he was inspired not just by his mother, but other women in his life, who he interviewed almost like a journalist. Their stories informed other characters and scenes. "I'm very much trying to base everything on real women," said Mills. "Ultimately, I'm a straight white cisgender male guy trying to write about women, but I can only go so far. I'm on the outside looking in. I was trying to make those limitations of my perspective part of the story."—AP



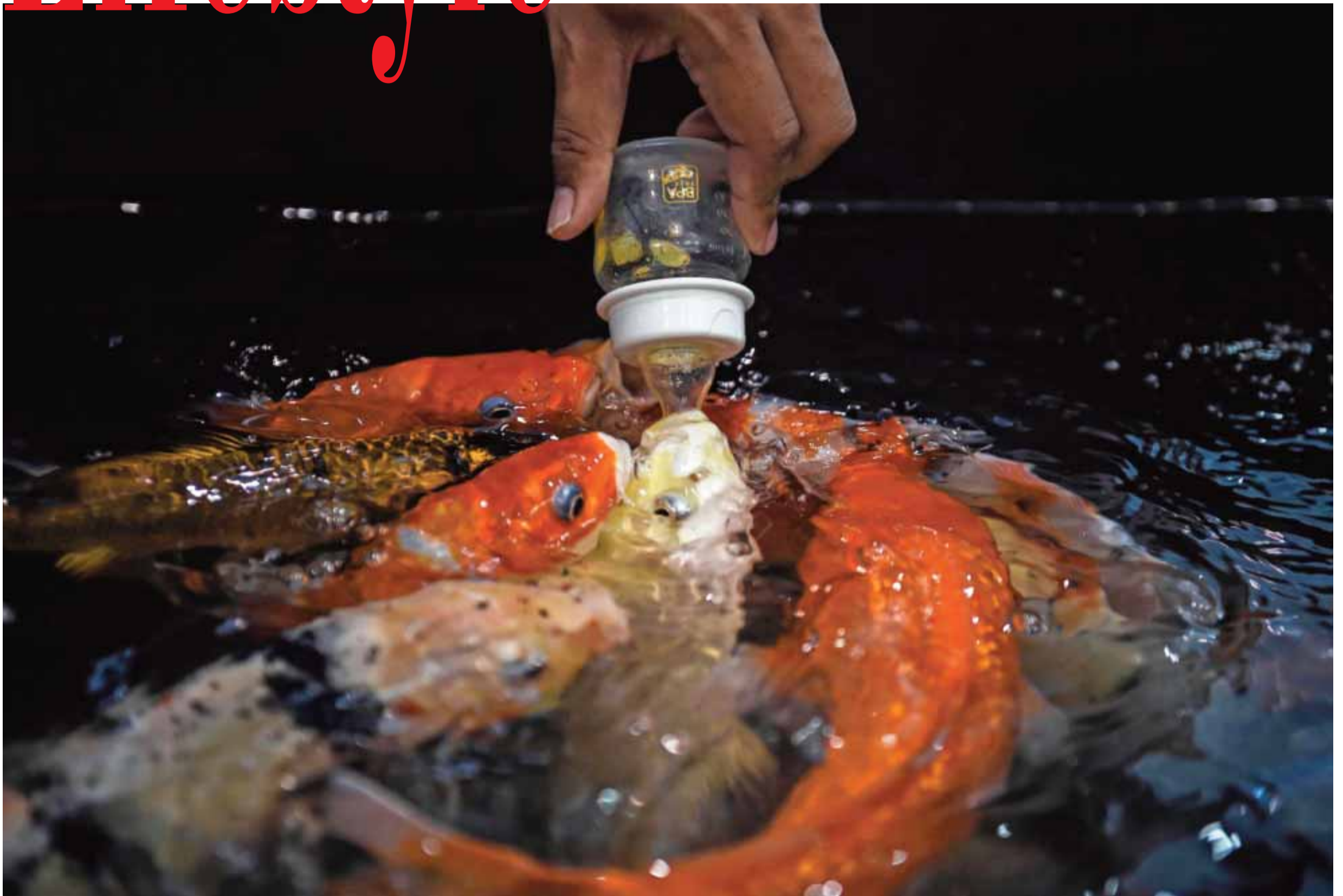
HOLLYWOOD: This image released by A24 shows Annette Bening, left, and Lucas Jade Zumann in "20th Century Woman." The film, about three women who explore love and freedom in Southern California during the late 1970s, also stars Greta Gerwig and Elle Fanning. It makes its world premiere at the New York Film Festival. — AP

# Lifestyle

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Canadian designer celebrates unisex at Dubai show

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BANGKOK: Young carp are fed supplements with a bottle at a tropical and ornamental fish exhibition yesterday. — AFP

## Jay Z, Serena, Kendrick help Beyoncé wrap up tour



**B**eyoncé wrapped up her "Formation World Tour" with onstage assists from Jay Z, Kendrick Lamar and Serena Williams, while Hugh Jackman, Tyler Perry and Frank Ocean watched from the crowd.

The pop star performed Friday night at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, singing and dancing to songs from her six solo albums, including her latest effort, "Lemonade."

Jay Z earned loud roars when he joined his wife for "Drunk In Love," while Lamar matched some of Beyoncé's dance moves in a pool of water during "Freedom." Williams, who appears in the music video for "Sorry," brought the clip to life by twerking onstage while Beyoncé sang the song.

Beyoncé originally was supposed to perform at MetLife last month, but postponed the show to rest her voice. — AP



EAST RUTHERFORD, NEW JERSEY: Beyoncé performs during the Formation World Tour at MetLife Stadium on Friday, October 7, 2016. — AP



## Kanye West resumes touring, appears in Chicago

**K**anye West returned to his tour Friday night after canceling dates earlier in the week when his wife Kim Kardashian West was robbed at gunpoint in Paris.

The rapper resumed the Saint Pablo Tour in his hometown of Chicago without mentioning the crime at the show. He did tell the crowd "it's good to be home." West performed for about 90 minutes straight.

The rapper abruptly cut short a New York concert earlier this week citing a "family emergency." It was later reported that robbers held Kardashian West at gunpoint Monday and locked her in the bathroom of a Paris residence before stealing more than \$10 million worth of jewelry.

She returned to the US later Monday and West announced that he had rescheduled for December planned concerts on Tuesday in Philadelphia and Thursday in the Detroit area. Kardashian West, known for prolific posting on social media, has been publicly silent since the ordeal. No arrests have been made. — AP

CHICAGO: Kanye West performs at the United Center on Friday, Oct 7, 2016. — AP



CHICAGO: Kanye West performs at the United Center on Friday, Oct 7, 2016. — AP