

Candidate: Laws are proposed by MPs who are not specialists



Kuwaiti security unit to engage in GCC joint drill in Bahrain



Ivanka Trump backs her father but doesn't want to fall with him



Last-gasp Messi penalty seals dramatic Barcelona win



KUWAIT, US AGREE ROADMAP FOR DEEPENING PARTNERSHIP

US COMMITTED TO KUWAIT'S SECURITY, HAILS ANTI-TERROR ROLE



Min 18°
Max 36°
High Tide
03:38 & 18:35
Low Tide
11:27 & 23:35

INDIANS LEAD AS EXPATRIATE NUMBERS RISE

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The interior ministry's residency affairs department stated that the total number of expatriates holding valid residency visas in Kuwait is 2,670,000, including 901,000 Indians (an increase of 100,000 in six months), followed by 587,000 Egyptians. The number of Syrians has been stable for six months at 145,000.

Statistics also showed that Bangladeshi number 202,000 (an increase of 60,000 in six months), 243,000 residents from the Philippines, 39,000 Iranians and 60,000 Nepalese. The statistics also showed that 665,000 people held article 20 visas for domestic work, 108,000 held article 17 visas for government jobs and 1,350,000 residents working for the private sector held article 18 visas. A report in Al-Shahed daily earlier this month said official figures indicate seven nationalities make up more than 90 percent of the foreigners living in Kuwait.



WASHINGTON: Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah (left) and US Secretary of State John Kerry are seen after the Kuwait-US Strategic Dialogue session late Friday. — KUNA

WASHINGTON: Kuwait and the United States have agreed, at the conclusion of the first Kuwait-US Strategic Dialogue, on a roadmap for deepening bilateral relations and partnerships in various domains. "The two sides recognize that today's meeting was a comprehensive exchange that established a roadmap for deepening the Kuwait-US partnership in the coming years," read the final statement of the meeting held in Washington on Friday.

The meeting, co-chaired by Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and US Secretary of State John Kerry, discussed specific initiatives to enhance defense, security, economic, commercial, political, educational, scientific and consular cooperation, and established working groups to make progress in all these and other areas before the next Strategic Dialogue in Kuwait in 2017.

The US also commended Kuwait's role in the war on terror worldwide, especially the operations against Daesh or the so-called Islamic State group. "US Secretary Kerry thanked (Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and) Foreign Minister (Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad) Al-Sabah for Kuwait's help in the fight against Daesh and its leadership in the Global Coalition

to Counter ISIL," read the final statement.

The statement also welcomed Kuwait joining the Netherlands and Turkey in co-chairing the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL's Foreign Terrorist Fighter working group. Both sides pledged to continue their efforts in countering violent extremism and in other security matters, such as cyberspace, and agreed to establish a working group to follow up and ensure continued progress.

"The United States and Kuwait undertook to bolster their security partnership - including but not limited to countering terrorism and terrorist financing, particularly through enhanced information sharing - and look forward to Kuwait's chairing of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENA-FATF) in 2017," read the statement.

The US also re-committed itself to the security and stability of Kuwait and the Gulf. "The United States is committed to Kuwait's security, and to working with Kuwait to secure its homeland," it stated. "The United States is prepared to work jointly with the GCC states, including Kuwait, to deter and confront an external threat to any GCC state's territorial integrity that is inconsistent with the UN Charter."

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KIRKUK: Iraqi Kurdish security forces patrol a street in the southern suburbs of this city yesterday. — AFP

IRAQI FORCES IN FIERCE KIRKUK CLASH WITH IS

TURKEY HITS SYRIAN KURD GROUP

KIRKUK, Iraq: Security forces battled for a second day yesterday with Islamic State group gunmen who infiltrated Kirkuk in a brazen raid that rattled Iraq as it ramped up an offensive to retake Mosul. A toxic cloud released by a fire IS militants started at a sulfur plant south of Mosul earlier this week killed at least two civilians and forced some US service members to wear masks. A day after the shock attack on the Kurdish-controlled city of Kirkuk, snipers and suspected suicide bombers

were still at large, prompting Baghdad to send reinforcements.

Special counter-terrorism and intelligence units were hunting down some of the dozens of IS fighters who stormed public buildings early on Friday. "We have 46 dead and 133 wounded, most of them members of the security services, as result of the clashes with Daesh (IS)," an interior ministry brigadier general told AFP.

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INFO MINISTER ISSUES POLL GUIDELINES

PRIMARIES, VOTE-BUYING BANNED • MEDIA COVERAGE CURBED

CYBER ATTACKS CRIPPLE MAJOR INTERNET SITES

SAN FRANCISCO: Cyber attacks pounded the underpinnings of the Internet Friday, crippling Twitter, Netflix and other major websites with the help of once-dumb devices made smart with online connections. Waves of attacks incapacitated a crucial piece of Internet infrastructure, hampering or outright blocking access to popular online venues. "When I see something like this, I have to think state actor," said Carbon Black national security strategist Eric O'Neill, a former "spy hunter" on the FBI counter-intelligence force. "This is not some hacker sitting in his basement typing away on a keyboard."

The attack was said to put a troubling new spin on an old hacker attack known as distributed denial-of-service (DDoS), where millions of devices in the fast-growing Internet of Things took part in the cyber onslaught. Armies of computers infected with malicious code are typically used in DDoS attacks intended to overwhelm targets with simultaneous online requests.

Hacker software referred to as Mirai that takes control of IoT devices was evidently linked to the attack, with the broad range of devices making requests helping get past Dyn defenses.

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KUWAIT: The minister of information has issued a ministerial resolution stipulating a total ban on primaries, mudslinging among hopefuls for parliamentary seats and granting "financial incentives" to voters. Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah issued the ministerial resolution (143/2016), setting terms and restrictions for the media cover-

age and promotion of the forthcoming parliamentary and municipal elections.

The first article of the resolution stipulates that it goes into force as of the date of its publication, or the publishing of the decision calling for the parliamentary and the municipal elections, in the official gazette till the declaration of the polls' results.

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KUWAIT: Islamist candidates, former MPs and opposition leaders (from right) Nayef Al-Merdas, Mohammed Hayef Al-Mutairi, Osama Al-Menawer, Walid Al-Tabtabaei and Bader Al-Dahoum pose yesterday as they arrive at the department of elections to register for the upcoming parliamentary polls. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

WONDER WOMAN NAMED UN AMBASSADOR

UNITED NATIONS: The United Nations celebrated Wonder Woman's 75th birthday on Friday by naming the comic book character as its new Honorary Ambassador for the Empowerment of Women and Girls, despite frustration from both inside and outside the world organization that the spot should go to a real - and less sexualized - woman. The carefully choreographed ceremony was marred by some 50 UN staffers protesting by the visitors' entrance to the UN, who then went inside the Economic and Social Council chamber and silently turned their back to the stage during the opening speech, some with their fists in the air.

UN staffer Cass DuRant, who held a sign saying "Real Women Deserve a Real Ambassador", said the protesters "don't think that a fictitious comic book character wearing basically what looks like a Playboy-type bunny outfit is really the right message we need to send to girls or even boys for that matter". The super heroine's image will be used by the UN on social media platforms to promote women's empowerment, including on gender-based violence and the fuller participation of women in public life (using the hashtag WithWonderWoman). The push,

hoping to reach young people, is backed by DC Entertainment and Warner Bros., which produce both comics and films featuring Wonder Woman.

But an online petition, started by UN staffers, asked the secretary-general to reconsider the appointment, saying, "The message the United Nations is sending to the world with this appointment is extremely disappointing." As of Friday afternoon, it had more than 1,100 signatures. Honorary ambassadors - as opposed to goodwill ambassadors like Nicole Kidman and Anne Hathaway - are fictional characters. The UN previously tapped Winnie the Pooh to be an honorary Ambassador of Friendship in 1998, and Tinker Bell as the honorary Ambassador of Green in 2009. But the protest on Friday seemed to unsettle many of the UN's press officers.

The Friday event brought together actress Lynda Carter, who played Wonder Woman in the 1970s TV series, and Gal Gadot, who has taken on the role in the forthcoming "Wonder Woman" film, as well as Girl Scouts in Wonder Woman T-shirts and UN staffers' kids who skipped school, with one girl wearing a full Wonder Woman costume, complete with head piece. Diane Nelson, president of DC

Entertainment, gave a speech in which she argued that stories - even comic book stories - can "inspire, teach and reveal injustices".

Carter, who gave a moving speech about how Wonder Woman embodies the inner strength of every woman, was the only one to acknowledge the protesters in her remarks, saying "Please embrace her," she said. "To all those who don't think it's a good idea, stand up and be counted." As for Gadot, she said after the event: "I'm the kind of person who always looks at the half-full glass. I care for the people who care and I'm here for a wonderful cause today." She added, through a thin smile: "That's all what my focus is."

But among those thinking the glass was half empty was Shazia Z Rafi, managing director of the consulting firm Global Parliamentary Services. She argued that the choice of Wonder Woman was tone deaf at a time when real women are fighting against sexual exploitation and abuse. "I think it's a lot of rubbish that you can appoint a cartoon female to represent gender equality in this day and age, even if it is to reach younger women," said Rafi. Rafi said there were plenty of real heroines that could be the face for gender equality.

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NEW YORK: Actress Lynda Carter speaks during a ceremony as the UN named the comic character Wonder Woman its Honorary Ambassador for the Empowerment of Women and Girls at the United Nations Economic and Social Council Chamber on Friday. Carter played Wonder Woman in the 1970s television show. — AFP



WASHINGTON: Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled meets with heads of Arab diplomatic missions based in Washington. — KUNA



Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled participates in a lecture at the Atlantic Council.

Local Spotlight

THE 2016 ELECTIONS



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

KUWAIT FM MEETS WITH US GULF WAR VETERANS SHEIKH SABAH AL-KHALED MEETS BOEING CEO

WASHINGTON: Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met late Friday with a number of US military veterans who took part in the Gulf War which led to the liberation of Kuwait from the Iraq aggressors. This meeting came on the sideline of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's visit to Washington where he is participating in the US-Kuwaiti Strategic Dialogue. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled thanked the US military for the efforts in liberating Kuwait, stressing that the American soldiers' sacrifices will be forever remembered by the Kuwaiti leadership and people.



CEO and President of the Desert Storm War Memorial Association Scott C. Stump.

Meanwhile, CEO and President of the Desert Storm War Memorial Association Scott C. Stump said that the US troops were honored to have taken part in the war that resulted in the liberation Kuwait. He affirmed that a memorial will be unveiled soon to honor those who participated in operation Desert Storm. The meeting was attended by senior officers and officials at Kuwait's Foreign Ministry as well as members of the Kuwaiti diplo-

Arab diplomats

Earlier Friday, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled received heads of the Arab diplomatic missions based in Washington. The meeting, held on the fringes of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's visit to the United States to co-chair the first Kuwait-US Strategic Dialogue with Secretary of State John



Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Sabah speaks during a meeting with a number of US military veterans who took part in the Gulf War.

Kerry, reviewed a range of regional and international issues of common concern for the Arab countries and the US.

The meeting focused on the need to enhance the Arab-US joint action, serve the common interests, resolve regional crisis and combat terrorist. The Arab diplomats highly appreciated the audience with Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, saying it helped promote the

intra-Arab coordination and the Arab-US cooperation.

The meeting gathered Kuwait Ambassador to the US Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Chief of Staff of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's Office Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, and Minister Plenipotentiary and Assistant Foreign Minister for the Two Americas Affairs Rim Mohammad Al-Khaled, as well as a number of senior officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Also, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled met with Boeing Chief Executive Officer Lian Carti who briefed him about the group operations in Kuwait. It was attended by Ambassador Sheikh Salem, Sheikh Dr Ahmad Al-Nasser, Director General for Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) Sheikh Meshaal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and other officials. Furthermore, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled delivered a lecture at the Atlantic Council. The lecture dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East region and Kuwait's views on various regional and international issues. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets the Bangladeshi envoy S M Abul Kalam.



KUWAIT: Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets with Russian Ambassador Alexey Solomatn. —KUNA

INFO MINISTER EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF BOOSTING TIES WITH ALL NATIONS

KUWAIT: It is essential for Kuwait to enhance bilateral ties with all friendly nations and international organizations to realize the UN's development goals, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah said. The Minister made this remark during a meeting he had held with ambassadors of Russia, Germany and Bangladesh, a statement by the Ministry of Information said yesterday. Each envoy lauded the bilateral ties enjoyed by their countries with Kuwait, the statement pointed out. The Russian Ambassador Alexey

Solomatn admired democratic and parliamentary movement in the country, while the Bangladeshi envoy S M Abul Kalam expressed appreciation to the Ministry of Information for allocating a radio station that addresses the Bangladeshi population in the country.

German Ambassador Karlfried Bergner, meanwhile, touched on many fields of cooperation: culture, art, sports and youth, noting that Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud revealed his plans to set up many sports establishments and to add more foreign languages to news segments on radio and TV. — KUNA



Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah meets the German Ambassador Karlfried Bergner.

KUWAIT AIRWAYS CHAIRPERSON TOURS BOEING FACTORY AHEAD OF NEW AIRCRAFTS DELIVERY

SEATTLE/KUWAIT: As part of a high-level delegation to Seattle, USA, ahead of the delivery of the first of 10 Boeing 777-300ERs, Rasha Al-Roumi, Chairperson and CEO of Kuwait Airways, the national carrier of the State of Kuwait, went on a tour of The Boeing factory at Everett, to look at the first of the new additions to the airline's fleet.

Roumi was given a tour of the Boeing factory and was also briefed on the progress of Kuwait Airways' second Boeing 777-300ER currently being built. The first airplane is scheduled to be officially handed over by November 2016. Under the delivery agreement, Kuwait Airways will have all 10 aircraft delivered and in commercial service by Q3 2017.

As part of her visit, Roumi met with Elizabeth Lund, Vice-President and General Manager of the 777 program. Lund leads the design, development, certification, production and delivery of all models of the Boeing 777 family of airplanes currently in production.

While on the tour, the Kuwait Airways delegation was informed that Boeing is using the latest "moving line" production technologies and systems to build the airline's 10 new aircrafts. This allows the airplane manufacturer to produce one 777-300ER - from start to finish - in just 46 working days.

On completion of the tour, Roumi said: "We are delighted to be here in Seattle and to note the progress of both our first and second Boeing 777-300ERs. These new additions are in line with Kuwait Airways' 'Transformation Strategy' that will see the airline have the youngest commercial airline fleet - in the world - by 2021 and offer a superior product for our passengers." While the arrival of the Boeing 777-300ERs will improve Kuwait Airways' fleet, the aircraft will also open up future possibilities for the airline to serve new, long-haul routes and destinations. This is part of the airline's stated goal of becoming the "preferred airline linking Kuwait to the world."



SEATTLE: Rasha Al-Roumi, Chairperson and CEO of Kuwait Airways meets with Elizabeth Lund, Vice-President and General Manager of the 777 program at Boeing.

ARAB MEDIA FORUM TO HONOR YOUTH INITIATIVES

KUWAIT: The Arab Media Forum will honor youth voluntary and humanitarian initiatives next week, said the forum's Secretary General Madhi Al-Khamis. Awards will be offered to 10 initiatives, and winners will receive due care, he told a press conference yesterday, adding the

honoring ceremony will be held on October 29.

The award was launched few months ago in a bid to assess the youth voluntary non-profitable initiatives in different fields, Khamis said. The organizing committee has received 640 youth initiatives

from several Arab countries, and they have been sorted out and submitted to an arbitration panel.

The award is part of the forum's keenness to support youth and their positive projects, caring for their ideas and creativity and creating atmosphere of com-

petition among them, for the good of the society, the secretary general said.

The ceremony will be held under patronage of Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah. A fair will be held on the sidelines of the ceremony for young entrepreneurs to offer their voluntary activities, achievements and future projects. Up to 40 initiatives, both from Kuwait and abroad will be reviewed during the fair, Khamis said.

Meanwhile, communication director at Ooredoo Mujbl Al-Mutawh, said they are sponsoring the event to reiterate the company's eagerness to support youth as part of its social responsibility. Ooredoo believes that the Kuwaiti youth own great capabilities and they only need support, he said. Executive Director of Public Relations at the Kuwait Finance House (KFH) Yusuf Al-Ruwaih, told the conference that youth initiatives top the KFH's priorities. Sponsoring the Arab Media Forum awards reaffirms KFH's support to youth in various fields, he added. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Arab Media Forum's Secretary General Madhi Al-Khamis (center) speaks during the press conference. — KUNA

LEGISLATIONS PROPOSED BY PERSONS NOT SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD: CANDIDATE ALI

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: Lawyer Ali Mohammed Al-Ali is running for the National Assembly elections as he believes he can bring positive changes to the country. Ali is the head of the legal committee of the Kuwait Society for the Ideal Family and a member of various NGOs. He has participated in a host of legal conferences that came up with many recommendations. A first-time candidate, he is running from the first constituency. Kuwait Times met Ali to learn about his preparations for the elections and the issues he will be focusing on.

Kuwait Times: Why are you running in the elections and what do you want to change?

Ali Al-Ali: We have noticed that laws and legislations are proposed by persons who are not specialists in the field. So a majority of legislations passed by the previous parliament were later canceled by the court, including the petrol price hike, electronic media, children's rights, the DNA test and many others.

DNA law

KT: Why did the DNA law elicit such strong opposition from the public?

Ali: We all are for applying the law to expose those who obtained Kuwaiti citizenship fraudulently by DNA tests, but on the other hand, we are against destroying families. According to this much-discussed law, a sample from both parents will be taken along with samples from the children. So if they find that a child is from a different father, it will be great problem, especially for the children if they are grown up.

I propose to have the test done only from the mother's side, and in this case we can find the forgers. All the cases of forgery that have been busted are of foreigners who were registered to the family file to get citizenship, so they are not related to the mother.

I have received anonymous letters from women asking me for help to find a solution for them and save them from great scandal that may even lead to their deaths, as their children are not from their husbands. Even HH the Amir has instructed to review this law and keep the test results secret, and only for the purpose of exposing forgers.

KT: What else do you think should be changed?

Ali: Today, there is a budget deficit. This was caused by the abortive development plan that didn't provide an alternative. The parliament showed very weak performance and wasn't productive at all. And due to not having alternatives and completely depending only on oil, the fall in crude prices caused

'Expats are one of the main pillars of this country'
'I will focus on changing the financial disclosure law'
'We want to approve more laws related to the youth'



KUWAIT: Lawyer and candidate for National Assembly elections Ali Mohammed Al-Ali speaks to Kuwait Times. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

this crisis that affected people living in this country. Also, many employees at various state institutions have complained that allowances paid to them have been stopped due to the budget deficit.

We should have a rescue plan to solve this problem. We should realize the vision of HH the Amir of transforming Kuwait into a commercial and financial center. The previous parliament failed to achieve this, so we should have hope in the younger generation and give a chance to new and young people to bring about positive changes.

The election and voting culture should be changed, because if we continue with the same system, no development will take place. Voters should be aware and work on bringing about change. I think about 50 percent of MPs may change. I believe that turnout will be higher too, and I want to advise those who are hesitating to vote that even if they don't go, some candidates will win and become MPs anyway.

So it's better if they vote for a suitable person to represent them.

Elections program

KT: What is your plan or program for the elections? What are the issues that you will be focusing on?

Ali: I will focus on changing the financial disclosure law for MPs, ministers and undersecretaries to submit their financial statements in order to avoid squandering of public funds. In addition, we want them to be paid fixed amounts by issuing a law that forbids them from receiving other amounts. If those who are in these positions are not sanctioned, it will lead to corruption.

We want to approve more laws related to the youth. We have a huge number of young unemployed people who are waiting to get a job. We should benefit from their abilities and make them benefit from their free time. They can work in the pri-

vate sector. We also want employees in the public sector to have a chance to take up a second job, as now they are not allowed to work in two places. If the government catches someone working in another place besides his main job, he will be terminated from his main job.

I also want to focus on the disabled. Many of them are disabled but not listed as handicapped. Also, the allowance they receive is very low. The serv-

ices available for them at public institutions are unsatisfactory, such as special elevators and others, as they need special care.

The issue of children of Kuwaiti mothers from non-Kuwaiti fathers is another category that I have included in my agenda. The mother doesn't receive rent allowance, while a Kuwaiti man gets a house, and until that he receives rent allowance. Also, there are many other rights that men receive but women do not, including citizenship, inheritance and many others.

Expats are one of the main pillars of this country, and we can't live without them. So we also should work on reforms in their favor. We should care for their rights as well, as they do many main jobs here. Mainly, we should eliminate human trafficking including the so-called 'iqama traders' who bring in laborers on visas of 'paper companies' without ensuring jobs for them.

PROFESSOR ENRICO LETTA TALKS CRISES FACING EU

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: The European Union is witnessing a crisis never seen before and discussing about it before an international audience is not easy, Professor Enrico Letta, Dean of the Paris School International Affairs, said during a lecture at Kuwait Economic Society on Wednesday. Letta said the EU is embroiled in an unprecedented and saddening reality. "We never had the same dimensions of the crisis which we are facing right now. What we are experiencing are very unique experiences which never happened before in the history of the European Union," he said. According to Letta, for the first time, EU is battling four different crises, each of which has its own surreal characteristics and is unprecedented in form. He named them as: 1) economic and financial crisis, 2) immigration crisis, 3) terrorism and 4) 'Brexit', or the recent decision by Britain to leave the European Union. He said these four major crises are not easy to deal with, but the EU shall overcome them.



KUWAIT: Professor Enrico Letta, Dean of the Paris School International Affairs, speaks during a lecture at Kuwait Economic Society.

"Brexit is unprecedented because earlier we used to have trouble deciding whom to accept in this regional grouping, about expansion or enlargement of the bloc. But for the first time in the history of the EU, the UK has voted to exit, which will not be easy. The role of Britain in the defense and security of the EU is real-

ly crucial. We need to stay united, so maybe we will need to separate the issue of defense and security from Brexit," Letta said. He added that in order to deal with the unprecedented problem of terrorism, the EU should unite and reinforce its defense and security in order to readily react when terrorism strikes.

AUDIT BUREAU CALLS FOR MORE SCRUTING OF INVESTMENT PLANS

TUNIS: Kuwaiti Audit Bureau called for more scrutiny on the general approach for the state's investment

plans. This remark was made by Observer at the Audit's financial and investment department Dr Abdullaah

Al-Hajji at the Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI) General Assembly meeting.

Hajji said yesterday that the Kuwaiti Audit participated in two seminars: one on the role of supreme audit entities in correcting the general approach of investment for the state's general budget; while the second on the challenges that face these entities.

The two seminars resulted in few recommendations such as setting up a comprehensive program to subjectively scrutinize investment projects which entail increasing the number of the staff of these monitoring bodies to cover the size and the geographical locations of these projects.

The meeting also recommended the use of the latest technologies to serve the end purpose of audit bureaus. The Kuwaiti Audit Bureau held, on the fringes of this meeting, an exhibit that showcased many publications that lead Kuwait to seize the title of the Capital of Islamic Culture. The exhibit also displayed the fruits of the Kuwaiti Audit Bureau in the past 50 years. — KUNA

1,000 WORKERS TO SURVEY SOUTH MUTLAA CITY LAND

By A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The company entrusted with executing the first contract of the South Mutlaa City project got official approval to recruit and hire 1,000 laborers to clean and survey the project's land. Meanwhile, the Public Authority for Housing Welfare is preparing to invite high-ranking celebrities to attend a special ceremony to mark laying the cornerstone of the South Mutlaa residential city project by the end of December.

No smoking

In collaboration with the Environment Public Authority (EPA), Farwaniya Hospital's Manager Dr

Hani Al-Mutairi announced launching an antismoking campaign and pointed out that the aim of the campaign was to stop law violators, both employees and visitors, in hospital corridors. Mutairi added that EPA's PR and Environmental Awareness Manager Dr Khaled Al-Enezi visited the hospital and inspected the corridors, which resulted in fining some violators. He added that the hospital's administration will not tolerate smoking. Enezi said that his inspection tour was made on a request from the hospital administration. He also reminded of the environment protection penalties that range from KD 50 to KD 1 million to capital punishment.

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KUWAIT: Queen Silvia of Sweden visits a function against drugs organized at the Kuwait National Library in Kuwait City yesterday. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

QUEEN SILVIA OF SWEDEN LAUDS KUWAIT'S ANTI-DRUG EFFORTS

KUWAIT: Queen Silvia of Sweden, who is also chairperson of Mentor Foundation International, has commended efforts by the Kuwaiti official and private bodies for the prevention of drugs, and awareness on their dangers. Drugs are no local or even regional problem, but an international one that worries the entire world, Queen Silvia said yesterday, during her current visit to Kuwait. She said that the world has been suffering from the spread of narcotics and drug-taking at early age, as they have become easy to buy under various names and at low prices. It is a global worry.

The Queen voiced pride of the hard efforts and achievements of Mentor Arabia in Kuwait and the entire Arab region. Mentor Arabia is a regional non-governmental foundation which advocates for drug prevention among Arab children and youth. It is an affiliate of

Mentor International, operating under the mission of "A world where children and young people are empowered to make healthy decisions and avoid drug use." Kuwait has fruitful cooperation with Mentor Arabia, through the Ministries of Education, and Information, and the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs.

Queen Silvia highly appreciated Kuwait's support to the foundation, referring to the leading national program for drug awareness, known as Gheras, that has been a major partner in Mentor's efforts and goals. The Queen stressed the prior importance of targeting people at early age with anti-drug campaigns, as parents are too busy at work to provide dignified living conditions for their children.

Members of Mentor International, 22 countries around the globe, have been working together in harmo-

ny and integration to bring about the aspired effective and positive effects, and to achieve the noble aim of the foundation, namely protecting children and youth against drugs.

Queen Silvia established Mentor International in 1994 in collaboration with the World Health Organization, as the leading international federation of not-for-profit organizations working to develop evidence-based youth development programs that focus on preventing drug abuse.

Queen Silvia arrived in Kuwait on Friday to attend a ceremony honoring trainers and educators of the global program, peer education, to protect youth against drugs, organized by Gheras in cooperation with Mentor Arabia. Students taking part in a drawing contest to promote the anti-drug campaign will also be honored. — KUNA



KUWAITI SECURITY UNIT ENGAGES IN GCC JOINT DRILL IN BAHRAIN

KUWAIT: A Kuwaiti security unit has left for Bahrain to engage in a GCC joint security mobilization exercise, Ministry of Interior announced yesterday. The drill, dubbed 'Arabian Gulf Security 1', is part of the implementation of the decisions of GCC Interior Ministers to face regional security challenges, the

Ministry's security media department said in a press statement. The exercise, which will take place next month, aims at raising the level of preparedness of the GCC security forces in the face of any emergencies, especially terrorist attacks. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Officials attend the opening of The Kuwait Red Crescent Society's (KRCS) Hospital in northern Lebanon. — KUNA

KRCS HOSPITAL IN NORTHERN LEBANON 'BEACON OF HOPE'

BEIRUT: The Kuwait Red Crescent Society's (KRCS) Hospital in northern Lebanon is considered as a beacon of hope where thousands of patients seek to receive treatment. The hospital, which was built by a Singaporean international firm on an area of 5,000 square meters, cost around \$6.5 million and was opened by the Lebanese Health Ministry in 2013. In addition to receiving many Lebanese citizens, the hospital also provides treatment to Syrian refugees residing in the northern part of the country.

The hospital's director Dima Jamal said that the KRCS had a major impression in the region, stressing that the building of the hospital was another milestone achieved by the society. Thousands of Lebanese and refugees benefited from the hospital's services, affirmed Jamal who

added that Kuwait was always on the forefront of providing humanitarian assistance to people in the region and the world.

On his part, patient Ayman Mustafa stressed that the presence of the KRCS hospital in the region had helped many people to receive proper treatment for various ailments, adding that instead of heading to far-away medical facilities, the people in the northern region of the country could seek medical help from the hospital.

Meanwhile, Syrian refugee Jamal Jasem took the chance to thank the State of Kuwait and its people for constructing the much-needed medical facility, saying that many Syrian refugees were grateful for the services that the KRCS hospital was providing. — KUNA



KUWAIT LAUNCHES FRESH RELIEF CAMPAIGN FOR IDPS IN BAGHDAD

BAGHDAD: The State of Kuwait has commenced a humanitarian relief campaign purposed to extend aid to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad. The latest aid is part of Kuwait's humanitarian efforts aiming at alleviating the sufferings and woes of Iraqi people.

Kuwait's mainly food aid has been handed out to IDPs at camps at Al-Durah area in Baghdad, in presence of Kuwaiti Ambassador to Iraq Salem Al-Zamanan. The ambassador said the relief campaign, which started today, is primarily intended to support Iraqi people and to ease out the humanitarian sufferings of IDPs. He added that today's aid came within the framework of continuing relief campaigns launched by Kuwait, including health,

educational and humanitarian sectors. The ambassador noted that 21 Kuwait-funded schools were opened in most of Iraqi provinces. Meanwhile, United Iraqi Medical Society for Relief and Development Chairman for Distribution Ahmad Al-Heiti said today's aid is part of a series of relief campaigns targeting the distribution of around 50,000 food baskets at IDP camps. Food baskets have been handed out to 520 families in southern Baghdad, he said, noting that it includes sugar, oil, tea, milk, legumes, canned fish and flour. Heiti voiced thanks and appreciation to the Kuwaiti government for this humanitarian initiative which reflected Kuwait's eagerness to help Iraqi people under such hard circumstances. — KUNA

In Brief

RETIRED CITIZENS

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Health (MOH) recently approved increasing the number of committees inspecting private hospitals and clinics in order to deal with the complaints filed by retirees. MOH added that the total number of insured retirees was 117,615, which required more inspection committees to make sure that retired citizens received proper medical treatment, especially since each of them is insured by up to KD 17,000.



VEGETABLE MARKET

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality's legal affairs manager Mohammed Al-Jasser said that a restaurant could not be added to the activities annexed to Sulaibiya Coop Society's fruit and vegetable branch without receiving approval from the Finance Ministry and Kuwait Municipality. In response to an inquiry made by the Municipal Council's technical committee, Jasser stressed that obtaining approval from both state departments is necessary for the project.



GRAND PRIZE

KUWAIT: The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) recently announced that Kholoud Saleh Al-Ajmi won its Najma Account's third quarter prize of KD 200,000. The draw was carried out recently at CBK's headquarters under supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Accordingly, Lina Darweesh, branches manager at CBK's individual banking services sector, received Ajmi and congratulated her on winning the grand prize.



Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: A local fisherman throws his fishing net into the sea. — KUNA

SWISS NGO HONORS KUWAITI INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL EFFORTS

BRUSSELS: The Arab Planning Institute (API), based in Kuwait, has been awarded the prestigious Gold Medal by the Crans Montana Forum in recognition of its successful achievements for a more humane world. Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders handed the medal to Dr Bader Othman Malallah, Director General of API, at the closing ceremony of the Forum held in Brussels Friday night. Reynders told the Forum that he was pleased to see so many people involved in the same process to face global challenges and to promote some actions to face a lot of challenges.

Jean-Paul Carteron, Chairman and Founder of Crans Montana Forum, announced that the Arab Planning Institute

has been awarded the gold medal for its role in economic and social developments, capacity building, and efforts to promote regional integration in the Arab world.

Dr Malallah said that he was proud of this honor by the Crans Montana Forum. He noted that this medal reflected the important role played by the API in supporting development in the Arab region. He said the Kuwaiti-based Institute, established in 1966, worked in the area of capacity building, research, institutional support, consultancy, youth development, and others. The API derived its uniqueness from being the only Arab institute that works in the field of social and economic developments at large and it used all its tools for this purpose, he noted.

The API has 19 Arab member countries. It organizes conferences and work-shops, prepares reports, and also trains around 2,000 people annually within the domains of development, social economy, and capacity building.

Meanwhile, Ali Dashti, founder and CEO of the Development Kuwaiti Union, participated in the New Leaders Initiative of the Crans Montana Forum which is focused on the youth. Dashti said that they will also launch the youth initiative in Kuwait next year under the patronage of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The aim of the youth initiative is to raise awareness among the youth in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region of political economic, social, and cultural issues. The initiative will be organized by API in Kuwait, he added.

Meanwhile, Crans Montana Forum's 18th annual session ended in Brussels last night. The theme of the 3-day forum was Homeland and Global Security. Participants discussed issues like women's role in global security, the fight against terrorism, migration crisis, and youth issues.

The Crans Montana Forum is a Swiss Non-Governmental International Organization established since 1986 with the aim to build a more Humane and Impartial World and encourage international cooperation and overall growth. — KUNA



Director General of API Dr Bader Othman Malallah



BRUSSELS: Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders hands the prestigious Gold Medal to Director General of API Dr Bader Othman Malallah. — KUNA

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Crime

Report

NEWBORN DUMPED IN HOSPITAL TOILET

KUWAIT: A search is on for a woman who dumped a newborn baby inside a Farwaniya Hospital toilet a few hours after its birth. Security sources said there is no information about the mother or the person who dropped her at the hospital.

Fatal accident

A bedoon was arrested for running over and killing a 24-year-old Canadian woman along Gulf Road, said security sources.

Phone hacked

A female citizen filed a complaint accusing an unidentified person of hacking her mobile phone, stealing its contents and threatening to post it on social media unless she paid him KD 5,000, said security sources. The girl explained that she received a call from the suspect who apologized, claiming he called her by mistake, before he called her again to blackmail her after sending a sample of the photos she had on her mobile. Arranging with detectives, the girl pretended to yield to the caller's demands, and he was arrested red-handed on receiving the money.

Car theft

A citizen was arrested in Farwaniya for allegedly breaking into and stealing the contents of 13 vehicles. Security sources noted that the suspect was arrested with a bag full of tools he used in smashing the vehicles' windows.

Traffic violations

Farwaniya traffic police filed 84 tickets to non-disabled motorists parking their cars in disabled parking spaces, said security sources, noting that the forces also removed their license plates to prevent violators from driving their vehicles.

Absconders caught

Four Asian maids who had been reported absconding were arrested working in a cafe, said security sources, adding that the suspects were referred to relevant authorities pending deportation. Meanwhile, a Pakistani wanted for a KD 1,000 financial claim was arrested in Farwaniya.

Smuggling foiled

An Asian was arrested on arrival at the airport with 2 kg of heroin he hid in a secret layer inside his bag. Security sources said the man looked nervous and was sweating, which made customs inspectors search his luggage.

— Al-Rai and Al-Anbaa



Al-Jarida

الجريدة

Al-Jarida

ARABS' TEARS... GAME OVER!

By Yousef Abdullah Al-Enaizi

Videogames usually end with the phrase 'Game Over', then the winner is declared and the points he earned are tallied. The Arab world is currently witnessing a very serious game played by players with different goals and affiliations. This dangerous game is not over yet, the winner is not selected and the points are still not counted. The sure thing is that Arabs are the biggest losers in this game because they have not scored any positive points and are up to their ears in negative ones.

Just like the levels in video games, the dangerous regional game has many phases, and we have lost all of them. The cards we played did not work, but unfortunately, we are still using them. So, when will that magic phrase 'Game Over' pop up to stop the shedding of Arab blood?!

Arabs have been weeping over the past five years and complaining to the entire world - the UN, the Security Council, the US and Western countries concerning Iran's interference in Arabs' domestic concerns, smuggling weapons and missiles into our countries, recruiting our children in terrorist groups founded by the Iranian regime and transferring billions to parties and Arab personalities who serve Iran's interests.

Here, we have to wonder about what Arab countries did to fight this other than complain. Why do we complain about Russian air strikes on Syrian cities and villages killing civilians, women and children, while at the same time, turn a blind eye and encourage the Arab alliance air strikes on Yemeni cities and villages? Are Syrian Arabs different from those in Yemen? How painful it is to watch TV scenes of Arab women, children and old men weeping and young men looking towards the unknown after losing any hope for a better future!

On the other hand, we see images of a militant fully armed with machinegun and grenades launch missiles towards people, killing and injuring many of them without even knowing why he killed them or why he is fighting in the first place. It has been five years and we are still suffering from poor planning and fluctuating policies. Our mistakes are becoming so many that we have lost our allies and taken part in destroying Syria, forgot about Lebanon, got Iraq torn apart, made the great Libya vanish and destroyed historic Yemen.

Then, and this is the real big question, has Egypt willfully drifted away from the Arab arena or has it been alienated? For whose interests was Egypt's voice silenced and faded away? Other Arab countries have been also alienated - even the GCC's voice has faded out and the Yemeni peace talks in Kuwait were foiled, while the Arab League seems to be gone for good. Days, months and years have gone by and we are still waiting for that magic phrase to pop up - GAME OVER!

— Translated by Kuwait Times

النبا

Al-Anbaa

THE CULTURE OF ART

By Nermin Al-Houti

I have written and commented many times that our societies do not have the culture of many forms of art, the first of which is opera. I wrote over many years and months about how to build an opera house and revive this noble art in our society, most of whose members do not have an opera culture. Many got angry with what I wrote, many attacked my dialogues and some thought that my words are pessimistic. Calls are getting louder and knives are sharpened against organizers of celebrations held at malls and other gatherings. They say art belongs to other cultures, so why do you want an opera house?

Today I repeat and remind decision makers to change concepts and smash the rock-hard molds of the concept of culture and arts. For example, when Kuwait was chosen as the

Islamic Cultural Capital this year, it was a must that the meaning of Islamic culture should have been taught to some of our society members. What does the choice of Kuwait mean? And what are the arts that will be presented on this occasion?

All what I mentioned should have been done earlier through schools and universities, newspapers, radio and TV programs in order to pave the way for this historic event and sow the seeds of art and culture presented through this cultural festival. Yet some of us in the society do not have the culture of art. I tell all those who hold their swords against opera: What do you know about this art? And what are your merits regarding cultural relations between countries?

— Translated by Kuwait Times

KIB SILVER SPONSOR OF 'DIABETES CHALLENGE TRIP' IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BLUE CIRCLE

KUWAIT: Blue Circle, the non-profit movement founded by a group of local diabetic youth, recently honored Kuwait International Bank (KIB) for their silver sponsorship towards the 'Diabetes Challenge Trip'. The initiative, which is focused on raising awareness of diabetes, sent a group of diabetic youth on an international trip to take part in a number of sporting challenges.

The initiative sought to highlight how diabetic patients are able to take charge of their conditions and successfully manage their disease, through determination and strong will. Irrespective of their diagnosis, these individuals are able to live a normal and fulfilling life, and are more than capable of actively taking part in demanding and challenging activities.

"KIB is always striving to support such significant social initiatives and activities, which aim to raise awareness and drive real change in the community. We are also dedicated to offering support to local youth projects and initiatives, as these young activists are the ones who will be shaping the future of this country, and it is vital that we offer them all the help they need in order to become active partners in social development," said Nawaf Najia, Manager of the Corporate Communications Unit at KIB.

"KIB is especially focused on supporting healthcare-focused initiatives, in its efforts to promote a greater sense of health consciousness across the country," added Najia. KIB's sponsorship of the 'Diabetes Challenge Trip' comes within the context of its holistic and robust social responsibility program, and in line with its efforts to promote a culture of volunteering, collaborative initiatives and non-profit programs nationwide.



KFH ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced partnership and cooperation agreement with the Society of Industrial Engineering, which affirms the bank's keenness to support and sponsor the Kuwaiti youth, particularly the scholars. KFH spares no efforts in boosting the educational process and the cultural and social activities organized by the association at the Petroleum Engineering College.

It is worth noting that the Society of Industrial Engineering is a professional association aims at highlighting the role of

the industrial engineers and serves them by preparing training programs, field trips, and specialized workshops.

Moreover, the Society of Industrial Engineering contributes to several events such as the annual day, graduation ceremony, training courses, and forums, in addition to cultural and educational lectures. KFH's partnership with the Society of Industrial Engineering reiterates its commitment towards the social responsibility, while confirms its ongoing efforts to support the youth's initiatives.



KUWAIT: The General Department of Civil Defense organized an evacuation drill at the General Department of Residency Affairs' building, featuring participation from other Interior Ministry departments. Major General Talal Al-Maarafi, Director of the General Department of Residency Affairs and Colonel Jamal Al-Foudari, Acting Director of the General Department of Civil Defense attended the drill.



Jewel of Syrian rebellion faces possible collapse

DESPERATE PAKISTANI FAMILY STILL TO RECEIVE US VISA

WHAT IF TRUMP DOESN'T CONCEDE?

CLINTON CAMPAIGN PONDERES COMPLICATED FALLOUT

WHITE PLAINS: Hillary Clinton's campaign is increasingly preparing for the possibility that Donald Trump may never concede the presidential election should she win, a development that could enormously complicate the crucial early weeks of her preparations to take office. Aiming to undermine any argument the Republican nominee may make about a "rigged" election, she hopes to roll up a large electoral vote margin in next month's election. That could repudiate the New York billionaire's message and project a governing mandate after the bitter, divisive presidential race.

Clinton's team is also keeping a close eye on statements by national Republican leaders, predicting they could play an important role in how Trump's accusations of electoral fraud might be perceived. That's according to several Clinton campaign aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss internal strategy. Campaign officials stress they are not taking the outcome of the election for granted. But Clinton and her team have begun thinking about how to position their candidate during the postelection period. Long one of the country's most polarizing political figures, Clinton has begun telling audiences she'll need their help in healing the country.

Healing the divides

"I've got to figure out how we heal these divides," she said in a Friday interview with a Tampa radio station WBTP. "We've got to get together. Maybe that's a role that is meant to be for my presidency if I'm so fortunate to be there." A refusal by Trump to accept the election results would not only upend a basic tenet of American democracy, but also force Clinton to create a new playbook for handling the transfer of power. And a narrow victory would



CLEVELAND: Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton points to the crowd while speaking at a rally at Cuyahoga Community College. —AP

make it more difficult for her to claim substantial political capital at the start of her administration.

"Donald is still going to whine if he loses. But if the mandate is clear, I don't think many people will follow him," said Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, Clinton's running mate, in an interview Thursday with CNN's "New Day." While Clinton's campaign has long focused on maintaining pathways to cross the threshold of 270 elec-

toral votes, it's now looking to capture an expanded number of states that could also help determine control of the Senate - including Republican-leaning Arizona. Polls indicate that Clinton has extended her advantage in several toss-up states during the three fall debates, giving her campaign more confidence. She has maintained stable leads in states such as Pennsylvania, Virginia and Colorado, as well as a narrow edge in Florida

and North Carolina.

"They're looking at it like this: We've got these doors of opportunity open, let's make sure we go down all of them," said Jeremy Bird, the national field director for President Barack Obama's 2012 campaign who is helping Clinton's team. If Clinton wins the White House, she will enter as one of the least popular first-term presidents in generations. While Trump has suffered from high unfavorable ratings,

particularly among women, Clinton has been hampered by polls showing more than half of the public considers her to be untrustworthy.

Downplaying triumph

Some Republicans are already preparing for Trump's defeat, downplaying the significance of a Clinton triumph. "On Nov 8, Clinton's claims of a mandate will fly in the face of reality. She only won by not being Trump," tweeted conservative writer Erick Erickson. Rolling up a big victory in the Electoral College would let Clinton push back against that notion and assert that voters had rejected what she has called Trump's mean, divisive message.

In a race against Trump and independents Gary Johnson and Jill Stein, Clinton may struggle to reach 50 percent of the vote. But competing in states such as Arizona and pushing for Senate victories in Missouri and Indiana might help Democrats in their quest to recapture the Senate and give her a better chance of surpassing Obama's 332 electoral votes in the 2012 campaign.

Clinton's campaign is making a significant push in Arizona, which offers 11 electoral votes and has stayed in the Republican column in all but one presidential election since 1952. Bill Clinton was the last Democrat to carry the state, in 1996. First lady Michelle Obama courted voters in Phoenix on Thursday, following appearances by Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and the Clintons' daughter, Chelsea Clinton. The campaign is spending \$2 million in advertising and toying with sending Clinton herself there before Election Day. "I think it's clear that Hillary Clinton has a chance to win Arizona just like her husband did 20 years ago," said Rodd McLeod, a Phoenix-based Democratic strategist who helped Clinton's campaign during the primary. —AP

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LIBYA NAVY DENY CHARGES ON MIGRANT BOAT ATTACK

TRIPOLI: Libyan naval forces denied charges from a rescue organization that one of their crew had attacked a migrant boat packed with around 150 people, causing some to fall into the sea and at least four to drown, a spokesman said. Some reports said that with the missing the death toll could rise into the 20s. The Germany-based humanitarian group Sea-Watch said on Friday a speedboat labeled "Libyan Coast Guard" attacked a migrant boat packed with some 150 migrants, beating them with sticks. Four bodies were later recovered.

Migrant rescues are often complicated in Libya, where the UN-backed Tripoli government

struggles to impose its authority, coast guard operations are under-equipped and police units are run by some of the competing armed brigades. Sea-Watch, one of several non-governmental organizations operating vessels off the coast of Libya, said the speedboat swooped in just as they were about to go to the aid of the overcrowded rubber boat in the early hours of Friday.

The spokesman for the naval forces in Tripoli, Ayoub Qassem denied the allegations about an armed attack on the Sea-Watch operation and said a patrol had only boarded one vessel to check why it was in Libyan waters. "The crew alleged that we attacked them and a number of

casualties have been reported but this is not true at all and we call on them to prove this incident if they are right," he said. Qassem said at around 2:30 am on Friday, the coast guard of the western region of Libya spotted three vessels off the coast. The patrol commander boarded the vessel and found Sea-Watch was involved.

"The commander asked them why they are in the Libyan waters but the crew of the organization did not answer logically. The crew was asked to leave," he said. "It's a breach and disrespect to Libyan sovereignty according to international rules and norms." Sea-Watch said the violent intervention caused mass panic onboard the rubber

boat in distress. One of the tube of the boat collapsed and caused the majority of the 150 people onboard to slip into the water.

The Sea-Watch crew recovered four bodies, spokesman Ruben Neugebauer told Reuters. They brought about 120 others safely onto their ship and transferred them to an oil tanker from which they were later moved to another rescue ship bound for Italy. The incident happened before the planned start of training next week of up to 100 Libyan coast guard members as part of the EU Mission Operation Sophia. A spokesman for Sophia had no comment on whether it would affect the program. — Reuters



LONDON: Demonstrators hold placards during a protest calling on the British government to take action to protect the children of the Syrian city of Aleppo outside Downing Street. — AFP

WOUNDED AWAIT EVACUATION ON DAY THREE OF ALEPPO TRUCE

SECURITY CONCERNS WERE AGAIN PREVENTING EVACUATIONS

ALEPPO: Hundreds of wounded civilians were stranded in rebel-held areas of Syria's Aleppo yesterday as the UN said security concerns were again preventing evacuations despite Russia extending a ceasefire into a third day. The unilateral "humanitarian pause" in the Syrian army's devastating Russian-backed assault on the opposition-controlled east of the city has largely held since it began on Thursday morning.

The army says it is an opportunity for civilians and rebel fighters who lay down their arms to leave. But so far only a handful of the 250,000 civilians still living in the rebel sector have left, and the UN's plan to evacuate injured people has stalled. An AFP photographer in the Bustan Al-Qasr neighborhood at one of the crossings the army has set up for evacuations said it was deserted on Saturday morning.

After three months of siege by the army and nearly four weeks of relentless air strikes by Syrian and Russian warplanes, trust in government assurances of safe passage is minimal. "Members of popular civil committees from regime districts entered the eastern neighborhoods to try to evacuate the injured but failed," said Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Syrian state media and Russian authorities have accused rebels in the east of preventing civilians from leaving and using them as "human shields."

UN evacuations on hold

On Friday, the UN human rights council called for a special investigation into the violence in Aleppo in a resolution fiercely critical of

Damascus. More than 2,000 civilians have been wounded since the army launched its offensive to drive the rebels out of the eastern districts they have held since 2012. Nearly 500 people have been killed. The United Nations had hoped to use the ceasefire to evacuate seriously wounded people, and possibly deliver aid. But a UN official said on Saturday that for a second day the requisite security guarantees had not been received. "You have various parties to the conflict and those with influence and they all have to be on the same page on this and they are not," said David Swanson, a spokesman for the UN humanitarian office in neighboring Turkey. He said discussions were continuing and UN staff and partner organizations were on standby in government-held west Aleppo to begin evacuations if an agreement is reached.

The UN has drawn up a four-day plan that would start with two days of medical evacuations to west Aleppo, rebel-held Idlib province, and Turkey, and continue with more evacuations as well as aid deliveries. No aid has entered Aleppo since July 7 and food rations will run out by the end of the month, UN chief Ban Ki-moon warned on Thursday. In the face of a mounting international outcry over Aleppo's plight, Moscow announced that the ceasefire, which was originally scheduled to last just eight hours, would be extended until 1600 GMT on Saturday. But the UN has asked Russia to consider a further extension until Monday evening.

Fears of renewed fighting

Moscow accuses rebels in the east of the city

of preventing civilians from leaving, with senior military official Sergei Rudskoi saying they were "doing everything to prevent the exit of civilians and members of armed groups from east Aleppo." "The terrorists are using the ceasefire in their interests," he said. "We are seeing them massing around Aleppo and preparing for another breakthrough into the city's western neighborhoods."

The Observatory said both rebels and regime forces appeared to be bolstering their positions in preparation for renewed fighting if the truce collapsed. "The regime and the rebels are both bolstering their forces, which raises fears of a massive military operation if the ceasefire fails," Abdel Rahman told AFP. The UN human rights council called in its resolution on Friday for "a comprehensive, independent special inquiry into the events in Aleppo", and for those responsible for the most serious violations to be identified.

The resolution demanded that warring parties "in particular the Syrian authorities and their allies", allow unrestricted humanitarian access to desperate civilians and "end immediately all bombardments and military flights over Aleppo city". Also Friday, UN experts said the Syrian army was responsible for a March 2015 chemical weapons attack on the village of Qmenas. But they said they were unable to determine who was responsible for two other chemical weapons attacks, one in the same month and the other in April 2014. More than 300,000 people have been killed in Syria since the conflict began with anti-government protests in March 2011. — AFP

FIGHTING RAGES ON IN YEMEN DESPITE TRUCE

ADEN: Fierce gun battles erupted overnight between Yemeni rebels and pro-government forces along the border with Saudi Arabia despite a three-day ceasefire due to end late yesterday, military officials said. Warplanes from the Saudi-led coalition fighting in support of President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi also bombed suspected Houthi rebel missile launchers east of the capital Sanaa late Friday, a military official said.

The air raids came after Patriot missiles shot down two rebel missiles on Thursday over Marib, east of the rebel-held capital. UN special envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed said on Friday the ceasefire was "fragile but largely holding", urging all parties "to show restraint, avoid further escalation, and strictly adhere to the 72-hour ceasefire". The truce took effect just before midnight on Wednesday to allow aid deliveries in Yemen, where the war has killed thousands of people and left millions homeless and hungry.

The UN envoy is liaising with the parties in an attempt to extend the ceasefire in order "to create a conducive environment for a long-lasting peace" in Yemen, he said in a statement. He met late Friday with Yemen's Vice President Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar in Riyadh, Yemeni state media reported. Ahmar said government forces were "exercising restraint" and stressed that there were orders to "abide by the truce and respect UN efforts". But he accused the rebels of 449 violations within 24 hours after the ceasefire took effect. Rebel-controlled media, meanwhile, accused the coalition of conducting air strikes across the country, including in the provinces of Sanaa, Saada and Jawf in the north, and Shabwa in the south.

Drone strike

A senior rebel, Hassan Al-Sharafi, was killed in border clashes on Friday night in Saada province, the fiefdom of the Iran-backed Houthis, military officials said. The rebels seized two hills in the Al-Border area from government forces who had previously advanced from Saudi Arabia, a military official said. Nine other rebels and four government soldiers were killed in clashes Saturday on the western outskirts of Mudi, a northwestern town close to the Saudi border and the Red Sea coast, military officials said.

The fighting erupted when troops advanced towards Mudi in an attempt to recapture it. It is the sixth ceasefire attempt since the Saudi-led coalition intervened in March last year to support Hadi's government after Houthis overran much of the impoverished country. Nearly 6,900 people have been killed in the conflict, more than half of them civilians, while an additional three million are displaced and millions more need food aid.

Meanwhile, five suspected Al-Qaeda militants including a local chief were killed overnight Friday in a suspected US drone strike in Marib province east of Sanaa, a security official said. They were in a vehicle that was targeted in the Wadi Obeida area. Washington is the only government to operate drones over Yemen, but the United States rarely releases statements on its long-running bombing campaign against the country's powerful Al-Qaeda branch. The United States considers Al-Qaeda's Yemen-based franchise, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, to be its most dangerous. On Tuesday, eight Al-Qaeda suspects were killed in a similar drone strike in south Yemen. — AFP

BAHRAIN TO AUCTION BANNED OPPOSITION'S SEIZED ASSETS

DUBAI: Bahrain will auction the confiscated assets of the main Shiite opposition in the Sunni-ruled Gulf kingdom after it was dissolved over terrorism-related charges, a judicial source said yesterday. An administrative court on Thursday ordered the auctioning of Al-Wefaq's assets to be held on October 26, the source said. The group's dissolution in July drew strong criticism from UN chief Ban Ki-moon and Bahrain's allies in Washington and London, as well as Shiite-dominated Iran which Manama accuses of meddling in its affairs.

After the latest court decision, security forces seized Al-Wefaq's assets including its headquarters outside Manama and two other offices in Shiite villages, the source said. The accusations that led to the ban-upheld by an appeals court last month included "harboring terrorism", inciting violence and encouraging demonstrations

which threatened to spark sectarian strife in the Shiite-majority country.

Al-Wefaq's leader, Sheikh Ali Salman, has been behind bars since December 2014 on charges of inciting hatred and calling for forceful regime change. But on Monday Bahrain's casation court overturned his nine-year jail sentence and ordered a retrial. Al-Wefaq was the largest group in parliament before its lawmakers resigned en masse in protest at the crushing of Arab Spring-inspired demonstrations in 2011 calling for an elected government. Political parties are banned in Bahrain, as in other Gulf Arab states, so Al-Wefaq operated as an association. Also known as the Islamic National Accord Association, Al-Wefaq is heir to the Bahrain Freedom Movement which played a key role in Shiite-led protests in the 1990s that sought the restoration of the elected parliament scrapped in 1975. — AFP

JEWEL OF SYRIAN REBELLION FACES POSSIBLE COLLAPSE

BEIRUT: The Aleppo that Ibrahim Al-Haj's son Laith was born into 10 months ago is now being destroyed. The opposition-held districts of the Syrian city have been surrounded and under siege for months. Russian and Syrian warplanes are bombing the streets into rubble and government forces are chipping away at the pocket of opposition control. For the 270,000 people holding out there, everything is getting harder to find - food, drinkable water and fuel. Residents are planting vegetables in bomb craters and digging wells.

Al-Haj and his wife increasingly argue over what to do for Laith's future. And there's a more immediate issue: What to feed him. His mother is weaning him off breast milk, but there's little else to give him. So he eats what his parents do. Grains, thyme and cracked wheat. "It's better than him not growing," Al-Haj said. Potatoes, the little boy's favorite, are a distant dream. "The hardest thing about the siege is when your son asks you for something and you can't get it for him."

Families in danger

Families like Al-Haj's across Aleppo's opposition-held eastern districts are wrestling with how to get by day to day. They're also weighed down with the fear that all their dreams for the crown jewel of the opposition's territory are on the verge of collapse. Ever since it joined the uprising four years ago, eastern Aleppo tried to

make itself a model for a Syria without President Bashar Assad. It elected local leaders, ran its own education system and built an economy trading with the rebel-held countryside and neighboring Turkey. Its residents were able to keep life going amid four years of ferocious fighting with the pro-government western districts.

Now all that is breaking down. The local council and rebels had prepared for siege, stockpiling food and fuel. But their plans risk being overwhelmed under the pounding of missiles and bunker-busting bombs in the most relentless assault Aleppo has ever seen. Near Aleppo's Old City, Zahraa Al-Sayed tugged the children by the hands down the street, hurrying to stay under the shadows of the balconies. A drone was hovering over their heads. She felt tagged as a target.

She was holding her 6-month daughter in one arm and her 8-year-old son by the other hand, followed by his three cousins, leading them to the building where their school is held. "What exactly are they filming? A woman and four children?" the 29-year-old al-Sayed said, growing agitated as she recounted the scene to The Associated Press. "In the middle of all this destruction, they still keep an eye on us." The school is one of the few still operating. Most have closed amid the bombardment. To keep herself busy, Al-Sayed teaches at the same school.

In April 2015, while she was out shopping with her mother, an airstrike crushed her parents' home and killed her father and two of her three brothers. "With one missile, I lost my family," she said. Now amid the siege, she said, "I am trying to have a normal life. To be a wife and husband with their children, and maybe have a garden for them to play in." "But life is hard. By day and by night, it is hard."

Any cooking is done on wood fires, streaking the walls of their home with soot. "Even making a cup of tea to start the day is an ordeal," al-Sayed said. Mostly they eat zaatar - a dried thyme mix - and olives. Fried eggplants are a treat. Once a week, they have a plate of rice and meat. To ensure a water supply, her husband, Mohammed Zein Khandakani, dug a well and is sharing the cost of a generator with neighbors to pump it. It's enough for essentials and for showers every other day. But it's a dangerous walk to the well with the warplanes overhead.

Dealing with tragedy

Everyone is dealing with tragedy even while finding ways to get by. When a strike killed his best friend, Ahmed Farawati started a garden of greens and vegetables in the rubble of his friend's home. "Every day I water the plants and I remember my friend, who was like a brother," the 21-year-old Farawati said. "The plants will also be useful in this siege."

Aleppo was Syria's largest city and its com-



ALEPPO: In This April 21, 2014, file photo, provided by the anti-government activist group Aleppo Media Center (AMC), which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, shows a Syrian man holding a girl as he stands on the rubble of houses that were destroyed by Syrian government forces' air strikes. — AP

mercial center, with a sense of its own identity and pride bolstered by a unique cuisine, distinct local culture and millennia of history in its Old City. When anti-Assad protests erupted across Syria in 2011, affluent merchants and professionals centered in Aleppo's western districts shunned the uprising.

The eastern parts, however, eventually threw in enthusiastically with the opposition. The east was Aleppo's poorer section, crowded, industrial and more religiously conservative. When rebel fighters from the rural north arrived in the

summer of 2012, eastern Aleppo became the opposition's biggest urban holding. It was never an easy hold. The government has wreaked destruction in fighting to regain the lost half of the city. It has been four years of stalemate, with neither side able to make significant gains. But the balance of power changed when Russian warplanes joined the fight in late 2015. Backed by airstrikes, government forces advanced until they cut off all access to eastern Aleppo in July, sealing off a pocket about eight miles long and three miles wide. — AP

EARLY VOTING DATA REVEALS REGION STRENGTHS FOR TRUMP AND CLINTON

WASHINGTON: Hillary Clinton appears to be displaying strength in the crucial battleground states of North Carolina and Florida among voters casting ballots before Election Day, and may also be building an early vote advantage in Arizona and Colorado. Donald Trump, meanwhile, appears to be holding ground in Ohio, Iowa and Georgia, according to data compiled by The Associated Press. Those are important states for Trump, but not sufficient for him to win the presidency if he loses states like Florida or North Carolina.

"The Trump campaign should be concerned," said Scott Tranter, co-founder of Optimus, a Republican data analytics firm. His firm's analysis suggests a "strong final showing for the Clinton campaign" in early voting. Early voting - by mail or at polling stations - is off to a fast start. More than 4.4 million votes have been cast already, far outpacing the rate for this period in 2012. Balloting is underway in 34 out of 37 early-voting states. In all, more than 45 million people are expected to vote before Election Day - or as much as 40 percent of all votes cast.

Both parties are encouraging their supporters to vote early. The outcome of those ballots won't be known until counting begins after polls close on Nov. 8, but some clues are available. Some states report the party affiliations of early voters, as well as breakdowns by race and gender. The data that is available represents a small sample of the more than 120 million people who will cast ballots in the presidential election, but a notable one. A look at early voting trends:

Good signs for Clinton: Florida, North Carolina, Maine

The Clinton campaign is looking to build an insurmountable lead in Florida and North Carolina during early voting. If she wins either of those states, she'll probably be the next president. Using 2012 as a guidepost, she appears to be in a strong position in early voting. While Democrats tend to do better in early voting, Republicans usually post an initial lead with mail-in ballots before Democrats surpass them during in-person early voting in mid to late October.

Democrats so far have kept it close with mail-in ballots, giving Clinton a chance to run up the score with in-person early voting. To do that, she'll need

non-whites and young people to turn out near the high levels they did in 2012 for Barack Obama. In North Carolina, Democrats have moved ahead of Republicans in early voting. Republicans had held a modest lead based on mail-in ballots returned, but that was at a much narrower margin than in 2012, when Mitt Romney narrowly won the state. After in-person voting began on Thursday, Democrats overtook Republicans in overall votes cast. In Florida, a record 3.1 million people have requested ballots, more than one-third of the total voters in 2012. Democrats have requested almost as many ballots as Republicans: 39 percent vs. 40 percent. By comparison, in 2008, Republicans held a lead of 49 percent to 32 percent in requests, according to an analysis for AP by Catalist, a Democratic analytical firm. Obama won in Florida in 2008 and 2012. Democrats are also showing momentum in the 2nd congressional district of both Maine and Nebraska. The two states allocate electoral votes by congressional district.

Good signs for Trump: Ohio, Iowa and Georgia

Early vote data for now points to potential Trump strength in Ohio, Iowa and Georgia. In Ohio, data compiled by Michael McDonald, a University of Florida professor who runs the US Elections Project, continue to show big declines in ballot requests in the heavily Democratic counties of Cuyahoga and Franklin.

The state does not break down ballots by party affiliation. By race, voter modeling by Catalist found the white share of Ohio ballot requests was up, to 91 percent from 88 percent. The black share declined from 10 percent to 7 percent. In Georgia, which also does not report party affiliation, both ballot requests and returns from black voters also trailed 2012 levels. And in Iowa, Democrats lead early requests, 43 percent to 36 percent. But that level is down significantly from 2012. Obama won the state that year based on a strong early vote in his favor. In a statement, the Republican National Committee said it was focused on boosting turnout in 11 battleground states and predicted a strong Election Day performance. "Democrats are not turning out new voters, just turning out people who would have voted on Election Day," it said. — AP



NOGALES: US Border Patrol agent Kevin Hecht, walking past the US-Mexico border wall near the Morley Gate Border Station at the US-Mexico border in Nogales, Arizona on October 13, 2016, points to cement blocks with a date, signifying the date a tunnel across the border was closed off. — AFP

US BORDER TOWN SHRUGS OFF TRUMP'S MEXICO WALL PLAN

'BIG, BEAUTIFUL, POWERFUL WALL'

NOGALES: Guadalupe Manriquez sums up the feeling of many in the small US border town of Nogales, when asked about Donald Trump's promise to build a giant wall dividing the country from Mexico. "He is cuckoo," blurted out the 32-year-old Manriquez, who works at a perfume shop just steps away from the border between Arizona and Mexico.

The Republican presidential candidate's vow to build a "big, beautiful, powerful wall" and force Mexico to pay for it has been a centerpiece of his campaign. But for many like Manriquez on the frontlines of America's battle to curb illegal immigration, the idea elicits chuckles and is entirely implausible. "This whole town is Mexican, all the families here are Mexican and everyone thinks he and his ideas are a joke," she told AFP, launching into a diatribe in Spanish against the billionaire businessman.

Many residents pointed to an 18-foot metal barrier that already separates Nogales from its sister city in Mexico as an example of why Trump's wall is unlikely to discourage migrants or drug smugglers headed to the US. "We already have a wall here and people still manage to cross," said Adriana Ortega, an employee at a bridal dress shop that overlooks the border.

"A lot of people manage to climb over the wall within sight of border patrol agents and don't even get caught. So the solution is not to build more fences, but to have more enforcement."

The barrier in Nogales, a town of some 21,000 mainly Hispanic residents living in the US legally, cuts across the downtown area and snakes into the desert hills surrounding the city on either side. And like other towns scattered along the almost 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) US-Mexico frontier, the economy in the American side of Nogales is deeply intertwined with that of the Mexican part of the city. "Most of the shops here rely on customers from Mexico," said Ortega, whose store features elaborate wedding gowns priced between \$600 and \$3,000. "And right now we are suffering because the economy in Mexico is down."

'Wall won't stop them'

A recent poll conducted by Spanish-language network Univision, the Dallas Morning News and Arizona State University's news channel showed that the overwhelming majority of residents in communities along both sides of the US-Mexico border — 86 percent in Mexico and 72 percent in the US — are opposed to the construction of a wall between their countries.

The majority also feel the tone of the presidential campaign could hurt relations with America's third-biggest goods trading partner. Mexico is a key customer for the four border states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Everything from cars, computers and machinery transit the border daily, and millions of jobs on both sides depend on that relationship. For Irwin Perez, who works at a Mexican restaurant in Nogales that is popular with locals, including border patrol agents, Trump's anti-immigrant rhetoric harks back to a dark time in history.

"Even though he's not calling for Mexicans to be put in gas chambers or labor camps, he's still calling for families to be deported and these are people who pay taxes and have established roots in the US," Perez said, referring to the 11 million undocumented workers, many of them Mexican, who Trump has vowed to deport. "These people are part of the US workforce, doing jobs that Americans won't even touch," added Perez, 26, who was born in the US to Mexican parents. "They are fleeing persecution in their country, poverty and even a 2,000-foot wall won't stop them. "But sadly, Trump has already built so many walls just with his words." — AFP



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GAY RIGHTS PROGRESS FACES EUROPE BACKLASH: ACTIVISTS

NICOSIA: Europe has made enormous progress on gay rights since the 1990s, but those gains are now being threatened by rising intolerance, according to activists from across the continent. Campaigners at Europe's biggest annual conference on LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual and intersex) rights, which ended on Saturday, said a conservative backlash was marginalizing them and fuelling attacks.

ILGA-Europe, an umbrella organization for LGBTI groups, was marking its 20th anniversary in the Cyprus capital Nicosia. It said the movement had achieved things "we would not have dreamed of back in 1996", with countries passing laws allowing same-sex marriage and letting transsexual people gain legal recognition in their preferred gender. But conference-goers said hate speech and the scapegoating of LGBTI campaign groups were fuelling a rise in attacks.

Poland's Campaign Against Homophobia (KPH) said anti-LGBTI attacks there had spiked since the

rightwing Law and Justice (PiS) government took power in October 2015 elections. KPH president Agata Chaber said the government had created an atmosphere of fear, sacking public servants with a record of promoting LGBTI rights. Chaber said the KPH's office in Warsaw was attacked in the night with bricks and bottles several times early in 2016. In March, three men tried to force their way into the office in the middle of the day, before standing outside shouting homophobic slogans, Chaber told AFP.

Physical violence

Seventy percent of Poles thought homosexual relations were unacceptable, the independent Warsaw-based CBOS institute found in a 2014 opinion poll, the most recent survey in the country on the topic. But the March incident was the worst the group had experienced in 15 years of operation, Chaber said. "When the authorities in a country... say things that incite hate, you don't only get negative comments on Facebook-at some point it turns

into physical violence." Phillip Ayoub, an assistant professor at Drexel University in Philadelphia, told AFP: "We've seen a lot of successes in Europe. Many of the leaders in LGBTI rights are European countries. That said, we do see some backsliding in recent years." He said the migrant crisis had sparked a rise in rightwing activism and nationalist rhetoric around protecting traditional values from outside threats. "LGBTI people fall under the bus with that as well," he said.

Several activists at the conference said organized activism against LGBTI rights was growing in countries across Europe. Tens of thousands of protesters demonstrated in Paris this month against a 2013 law legalizing same-sex marriage. Ayoub said populist politicians in Poland, Hungary and other European countries were presenting gay rights as a threat to family values. "That's been promoted by key figures around the globe including the Russian state and the Orthodox church," he said. As tensions with Brussels spiraled over Ukraine in 2014, some of

Russian President Vladimir Putin's supporters took to calling Europe "Gayropa" and promoting Russia as the antithesis of the West.

Fuelling homophobia

"Moscow saw it advantageous to define itself as a protector of traditional values in broader geopolitics," said Ayoub. "In as much as the world is becoming globalised, the campaigns against LGBT people are becoming globalised as well," said Brian Sheehan, who co-chairs ILGA-Europe's executive board.

Ayoub said legislation such as a law in Latvia against "homosexual propaganda" was attempting to remove LGBTI symbols from the public sphere altogether, leading to activists being arrested for things such as waving rainbow flags at demonstrations. Chaber said Poland's government had blamed the "homosexual lobby" for inciting pro-democracy street protests this month in order to "make Poland look bad". — AFP



WISCONSIN: Ivanka Trump (R), the daughter of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, greets guests while making a campaign stop for her father. — AFP

IVANKA TRUMP BACKS FATHER BUT WILL NOT FALL WITH HIM

DRAWN ON HER FAMILY EXPERIENCES TO DISTINGUISH HERSELF

NEW YORK: She is as calm and thoughtful as her father is strident and impetuous. She is Ivanka Trump, and the distance she has taken from her father Donald has earned her both the respect of Democrats and the head-scratching of analysts. So the Republican candidate shocked the nation by saying he might not recognize the results of the presidential election if he loses? Ivanka, the model-turned-business-executive, insists "he'll accept the outcome either way."

So Donald Trump is caught bragging in lewd terms that he can do whatever he wants to women, then insists this was only "locker-room talk"? His daughter calls the comments "inappropriate and offensive" and admits that her father's words can be "uncomfortable for us." Ivanka, soon to turn 35, is still clearly her father's protegee. He has been unstinting in his praise for his glamorous offspring, a graduate of the prestigious Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Trump counts on her to attract young and female voters.

In introducing her father at the Republican convention in July, Ivanka bragged about his "strength" and his "kindness and compassion." But she also knows when to step back. Having grown up in the spotlight from an early age, at a time when her father's extramarital affairs filled the tabloid press, Ivanka knows how to tend to

her own image-and that of the clothing line that bears her name.

Far from the Republican line

Her Twitter and Instagram accounts help nourish her brand, celebrating women who juggle family life and work-with impeccable style-as does a book she plans to publish next year. They portray an ideal family: her husband Jared Kushner, her "biggest fan," for whom she converted to Judaism, and their three children, aged five, three and six months.

She has drawn on her family experiences to distinguish herself during the campaign, quietly urging her father to make promises far removed from Republican orthodoxy, such as a call for six weeks of paid maternity leave and for childcare tax deductions. Beyond that, Ivanka insists, she does not delve deeply into politics, unlike her brothers and husband. "I am not the campaign mastermind, as people love to portray and speculate," she recently told MSNBC television.

But if she has edged away from her father at times in an effort to "salvage her brand," as The New Yorker magazine has suggested, the balancing act has not been easy. "Her quest to float along empowered but unswayed beside her father throughout this increasingly ugly campaign has been getting harder and harder," it added.

A 'together' woman

Her reserve, in any case, has earned her a certain degree of respect in the opposing camp. When, at the end of their second televised debate on October 9, the moderator pressed Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump to cite at least one quality in their opponent, Clinton said, without hesitation: "His children are incredibly devoted and able." It was an indirect homage to Ivanka, who is a long-standing friend of Chelsea Clinton, the candidate's daughter.

Even the caustic and strongly left-leaning film director Michael Moore, who just released a film strongly supportive of Clinton, seems to appreciate the young Trump. In an open letter posted on his website, he describes her as a "brilliant" and "very smart and together woman"-the only person capable, he said, of intervening to stop her father's quixotic campaign.

For Sam Abrams, a political scientist at Sarah Lawrence College and the conservative Hoover Institution, "When you listen to her... she's not engaged in the mud-slinging the way the others are; she is trying to be more professional, more mature." By taking some distance from her father's positions, she has given herself "quite a few options" for the future, he said. That future could be in television-she worked on her father's reality television program — AFP

AFTER REJECTING TRUMP, MCCAIN NAVIGATES TOUGHER GOP PATH

PHOENIX: In his pursuit of a sixth term, Republican Sen John McCain reluctantly stood by Donald Trump for months despite personal insults and the bombastic businessman's string of controversial claims. That tepid support ended earlier this month after the release of a 2005 recording in which Trump used crude, predatory language to boast about groping women. The Arizona lawmaker said the GOP presidential nominee's behavior and "demeaning comments about women and his boasts about sexual assaults" made it impossible to offer even conditional support.

Some Republicans are clearly angry. Conservatives routinely boo McCain when Trump mentions his name at rallies in Arizona, and some are unwilling to back his candidacy over his disavowal of the nominee. "It puts us into a very difficult position because I support the Republican candidates, but I will not support anybody who will not support our nominee, Donald Trump," Phoenix resident Vera Anderson said this week. "So I will not support McCain."

Campaign experience

The 80-year-old senator and two-time presidential candidate still has a solid advantage in polls over Democratic Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick, even as conservative Arizona grows more competitive in the presidential race. Democrat Hillary Clinton is investing money in the state and dispatching big-name surrogates, including first lady Michelle Obama and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. McCain has displayed confidence, leaving Arizona to campaign for other Republican Senate candidates in closer races in Pennsylvania and Indiana.

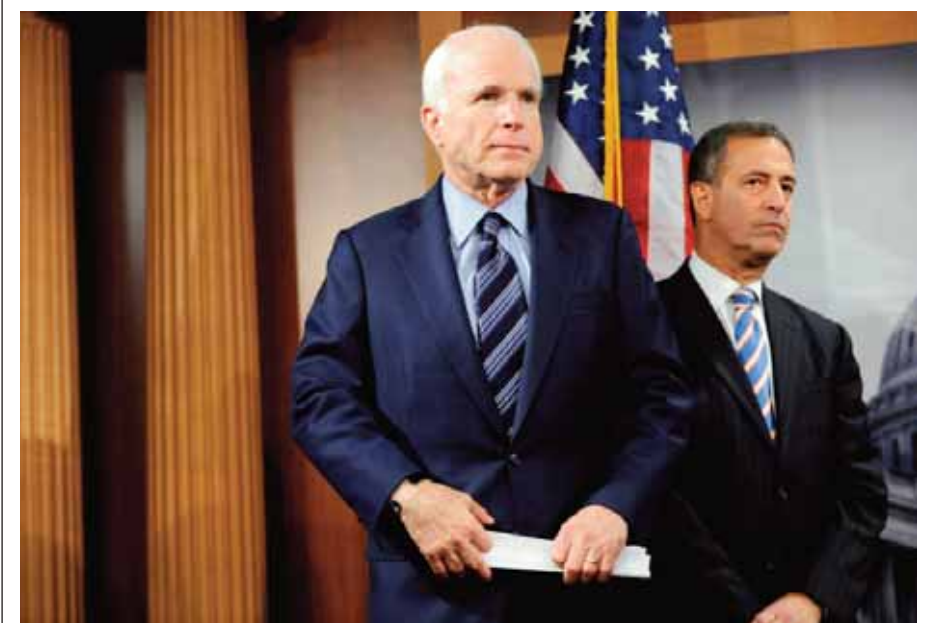
His campaign experience - five Senate races, two House races and two presidential bids - shows. Before groups, he's folksy, cutting self-deprecating jokes or nearly politically incorrect quips to loosen the

crowd. He gigs the Marine Corps (McCain was a naval aviator), tells a well-worn Irish joke (he says it's the only ethnic barb he can tell without backlash) and often mentions his first campaign ("during the Coolidge administration," he jests).

Then he swings through his top campaign topics, noting a list of things he's done for Arizona before warning of the growing threats across the globe from Russia, China and the Middle East. He blames the man who vanquished him in 2008 - President Barack Obama - for many of the world's problems. The pragmatic senator who has worked with Democrats on immigration took a surprising stand on Supreme Court nominees, pledging this week that Republicans would unite against any pick from Clinton if she becomes president.

An aide later clarified that he will examine the record of anyone nominated for the high court and vote for or against that person based on their qualifications. McCain has spent most of the year doing a delicate dance in offering lukewarm support of Trump even after the presidential nominee bashed McCain as a "loser" and "not a war hero" because he was shot down and captured during the Vietnam War. The senator criticized Trump for making disparaging remarks about NATO, immigrants, Muslims and a Gold Star family who lost a son in Iraq but stuck by him until this month.

McCain has grown visibly frustrated after reporters ask him about Trump, and his latest strategy essentially is to avoid the media. He's dodged reporters from The Associated Press and other outlets after events and refused to answer basic questions about the race. After Trump refused to say at the final debate whether he will accept the election results, McCain issued a sharp statement Thursday highlighting his 2008 concession, saying congratulating the winner and calling them "my president" is "the American way." — AP



WASHINGTON: In this Jan 7, 2009 file photo, Sen John McCain, R-Ariz, left, and Sen Russ Feingold, D-Wis, take part in a news conference on Capitol Hill. — AP

MOSCOW CALLS US 'ANTI-RUSSIAN' AS ELECTION OBSERVER ROW ESCALATES

MOSCOW: Moscow yesterday escalated a row over its attempts to send observers to the US presidential polls, accusing Washington of adopting an "anti-Russian" stance. Moscow has said that it is trying to send its own observers to various US states to monitor the November 8 vote, but has been refused accreditation so far. Deputy foreign minister Sergei Ryabkov accused US officials of treating the issue of observers in an "absolutely anti-Russian vein," speaking to RIA Novosti state news agency.

"If we are deprived of this for political reasons, we will draw our own conclusions," he warned. "Our American colleagues shouldn't count on us simply forgetting this in the future," he said, accusing them of "unacceptable statements". State Department spokesman John Kirby on Friday accused Moscow of a "PR stunt" and denied any federal policy to refuse Russian observers. He also pointed out that Russia had opted not to join the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) observer mission.

The Russian embassy in Washington said Friday that Moscow had sent several applications to local electoral commissions asking to "get acquainted" with the polling process. Russia received "mostly negative responses including threats that our interest and presence at polling stations could be seen as a criminal act," it said. It accused some of the states it approached of coordinating "their negative decision with the federal government".

US presidential candidate Donald Trump has voiced admiration for President Vladimir Putin and backed rapprochement with Moscow, while Hillary Clinton has said Trump would be Putin's "puppet". Putin has offered what appears to be veiled support for Trump, saying the Kremlin favors those who "publicly state that it is necessary to build a relationship with Russia". US officials this month formally accused the Russian government of directing cyber attacks "intended to interfere with the US election process" at American political organizations. — AFP

HELICOPTER CRASH KILLS 19 IN SIBERIA

MOSCOW: Nineteen people died when a helicopter carrying oil and gas field workers crashed in a remote area of Siberia in bad weather, Russian investigators said yesterday. The Mi-8 helicopter carrying 22 people including three crew crashed Friday night in the far-northern Yamalo-Nenetsky region some 2,400 kilometers northeast of Moscow, investigators said.

Photos published by the emergencies ministry

showed the helicopter broken into pieces and lying on snowy moorland close to woods. Fog and poor visibility had hindered the search for the crash site, as well as the rescue operation, according to the local emergencies ministry. Russia's civil aviation authority said that "based on preliminary data, the incident could be linked to unfavorable weather conditions" with low cloud, falling snow and gusty winds. It said a special commission would assess

the crew's actions as they made the decision to fly in adverse weather.

The victims died from multiple injuries at the scene, while three injured were taken to hospital, said a statement by the Investigative Committee, which probes major incidents. President Vladimir Putin expressed his condolences to the relatives and loved ones of the victims, his spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Russian news agencies. The helicopter was flying from an oil and gas field in the Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk to the small settlement of Urengoi when it crashed Friday between 1400 and 1500 GMT around 45 kilometers from Urengoi, investigators said.

Strong winds

Due to poor weather, rescuers in a helicopter only located the stricken aircraft some seven hours after the crash. Colonel Dmitry Alexandrov of the emergencies ministry in the Yamalo-Nenetsky region said in televised comments that the helicopter "fell on its right side, and the victims could not get out". The survivors were all passengers on the helicopter, the civil aviation authority said. They suffered serious but non-life-threatening injuries, Russian state television reported. One of the survivors managed to call rescuers on the phone from inside the crashed helicopter, saying it "flew into strong winds and fell". Life News website reported. The helicopter was transporting workers from a subcontractor of Russian oil giant Rosneft, TASS state news agency reported. Rosneft's French first vice president Eric Liron travelled to the scene, the company said, quoted by TASS. — AFP



A handout picture released by Russia's Emergencies Ministry shows Russian rescuers working at the site where a Mi-8 helicopter crashed overnight outside the city of Novy Urengoy. — AFP

CAMEROON RAIL ACCIDENT TOLL RISES TO AT LEAST 60

YAOUNDE... At least 60 were killed when a packed passenger train derailed between Cameroon's two main cities, a hospital source in the capital Yaounde said yesterday, giving a new toll the day after the accident. Almost 600 people were injured when the train, travelling from Yaounde to the economic hub of Douala, came off the rails near the central city of Eseka at around midday Friday.

"We have received between 60 and 70 bodies at the station this morning," a railway official who asked not to be identified told AFP in Yaounde yesterday. The train was crammed with people because a collapsed bridge had made travelling the same route by road impossible. "Some of the wounded are arriving unconscious. We think the death toll will rise," said the railway official, adding that the injured had been taken to various hospitals in the capital.

Passengers' relatives thronged the city's main hospital to look for their loved ones. At the hospital's morgue "there are 28 unidentified bodies. The identified bodies are at another morgue," said a policeman on duty there. The first person allowed into the morgue, a woman, emerged in tears. "She recognized the body of her sister," explained one of the people with her.

As she waited her turn to enter, another woman, Fadimatou, said, "We have had no news from our sister since yesterday. We don't know whether she is alive. Her phone was ringing yesterday but it wasn't since this morning. Her husband is looking

for her in Douala." Dan Njoya said he had come to the morgue "to see if the body of my four-month-old baby is here." Most of those injured in the accident were taken to hospitals in Douala, medical sources said. On Friday evening, the transport minister said 55 people were known to have died and 575 were injured in the accident. State-run television reported that many of the injured were in a critical condition and that the cause of the accident had not been discovered.

Stations cordoned off

Also Friday, rail operator Camrail, a subsidiary of French investment group Bolloré, said it had deployed "intervention and security teams" to the site of the accident. Emergency services were sent from Douala to reinforce teams closer to the scene, while firefighters were coming from Eseka, Douala regional governor Dieudonne Ivaha Diboua said. Police had cordoned off the railway stations in both cities yesterday.

The road bridge collapsed on Thursday night as a result of heavy rain, which also hindered the deployment of rescue services to the scene of the accident. The road is one of the busiest in the country and one of the main commercial routes in central Africa, carrying trade towards landlocked Chad and the Central African Republic. Many travelers were still stuck on either side of the collapsed bridge late Friday, Martial Missimikim of road safety NGO Securoute said. — AFP



CARACAS: University students protest to demand a recall referendum against Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro. — AP

VENEZUELA BRACES FOR TURBULENCE AFTER RECALL REFERENDUM STALLED

OPPOSITION LEADERS CALLING MOVE A 'COUP'

CARACAS: Venezuela is bracing for turbulence after the socialist government blocked a presidential recall referendum in a move opposition leaders are calling a coup. The opposition is urging supporters to take to the streets next week, while a leading government figure is calling for the arrest of high-profile government critics.

Polls suggest socialist President Nicolas Maduro would lose a recall vote. But that became a moot issue on Thursday when elections officials issued an order suspending a recall signature drive a week before it was to start. "What we saw yesterday was a coup," said former presidential candidate Henrique Capriles, who had been the leading champion of the recall effort. "We'll remain peaceful, but we will not be taken for fools. We must defend our country."

The socialists won power nearly two decades ago with the election of the popular former President Hugo Chavez, and for years enjoyed easy election victories. But with the economy in free-fall, polls show most Venezuelans have turned against the party, and over the years, the administration has gradually become increasingly autocratic.

Critical television stations have been closed and several leading opposition activists have

been imprisoned. The country's supreme court, packed with government supporters, has endorsed decree powers for Maduro and said he can ignore Congress following a landslide victory for the opposition in legislative elections.

The election commission, which has issued a string of pro-government rulings, halted the recall process on grounds of alleged irregularities in a first-round of signature gathering. Polls suggest 80 percent of voters wanted Maduro gone this year, and the electoral council on Tuesday also ordered a delay of about six months in gubernatorial elections that were slated for year-end which the opposition was heavily favored to win. It gave no reason for the delay.

The opposition charges that in the face of such overwhelming voter discontent, the socialist party has simply decided to put off elections indefinitely. The opposition coalition has called for a massive street protest Wednesday, on what would have been the start of the signature-gathering campaign. Maduro was traveling outside the country, but in a televised address Friday he urged calm at home. "I call on everyone to remain peaceful, to engage in dialogue, respect law and order and not to do anything crazy," he said.

Election fraud

Meanwhile, one of his most powerful allies, Diosdado Cabello, said top opposition leaders should be jailed for attempting election fraud. And opposition leaders said the government might be taking steps in that direction. Capriles and opposition spokesman Jesus Torrealba on Friday posted online what appeared to be a local court order barring eight leaders from leaving the country. The document gave no reason.

The opposition had centered its energy on rallying Venezuelans to sign petitions next week demanding a referendum on Maduro's removal. That would require collecting and validating 4 million signatures from 20 percent of the electorate within three days in each of the country's 24 states. "This is a big deal and reveals that the government was fearful of what could happen in the three-day signature collection period. They have effectively postponed the recall referendum indefinitely. This measure makes it difficult to think of Venezuela as a democracy," said David Smilde, a Venezuela expert at the Washington Office on Latin America. But the campaign had already become mostly symbolic because the election board ruled in September that no vote would take place this year. — AP



ESEKA: A passenger escapes a train car using a window as others leave from the site of a train derailment. — AFP

DUTCH FARMER ON RISING ETHIOPIA VIOLENCE: 'I WAS TERRIBLY SCARED'

ALAGA DORE: When protesters torched a nearby Dutch-run farm in Ethiopia's Oromia region, Marc Driessen watched anxiously as smoke billowed above the horizon, fearing his own business would meet the same fate. "I was really terribly scared because I saw AfricaJuice burning from our farm and we were getting noise from people that most likely our farm would be next," he told AFP from his flower farm, Maranque, which boasts recently installed solar panels worth 600,000 euros (\$650,000).

The farm, some 125 kilometers south of Addis Ababa, is at the heart of the restive Oromia region where anti-government anger erupted into violence after at least 55 people died in a stampede at a religious festival on October 2. An employee of Maranque was among those killed in the disaster. The stampede was blamed on police who fired tear gas at Oromo demonstrators, who are waging an unprecedented protest movement against the authoritarian Ethiopian government.

After nearly a year of protests demonstrators turned their anger to foreign investors who they blame for occupying land appropriated by the government. Not long after AfricaJuice, a Dutch fruit farm, went up in flames, hundreds of protesters brandishing sticks, rocks and a few guns gathered in front of Maranque. It was a group of elders from the nearby village who rushed to the farm on their scooters, who saved the day.

"We put ourselves in front of the protesters and we told them 'Maranque is our property, do not burn it. Burning this farm will not change the government. You'll kill us rather than destroying this farm'. And our youngsters backed away," said community elder Shumi Telila. More than 800 residents of the village of Alaga Dore work at the farm.

'It was like a war'

The spike in violence after the stampede, during which government buildings and more than a dozen foreign companies were targeted, prompted authorities to declare a six-month state of emergency for the first time since the

fall of communist dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in 1991. "It was like a war," said Abraham Negussie, an employee at AfricaJuice, describing an attack by thousands of men, some armed with Kalashnikov rifles, according to witnesses. "Protesters say we don't want to hurt the people, only to destroy this property completely," he added.

The attack left a trail of destruction with warehouses destroyed and vehicles and equipment burned. Outside the farm several tons of passion fruit now lie rotting in the sun as they can no longer be processed into juice destined for Europe. Calm has returned since the strict state of emergency was put in place, with government reporting over 1,500 people have been arrested. Large rocks used by protesters as barricades still line the road, which is now patrolled by numerous soldiers. The unrest began in November in the central Oromia region then spread to Amhara in the north. Together, the Oromo and Amhara people make up 60 percent of the population. The protesters accuse the country's leaders, who largely hail from the northern Tigray region, of monopolizing power.

'It will affect investors'

International rights groups estimate at least 500 demonstrators have been killed in a bloody crackdown on protests over the past 10 months. The violence in Ethiopia poses a threat to its reputation as an oasis of relative political stability and its double-digit growth, which make it a magnet for foreign investment. Driessen, who has been in Ethiopia for 12 years, is convinced that carefully nurtured ties to the local community helped protect his farm, where chrysanthemums, dahlias and lavender grow in greenhouses. "We built a water line in the village, we put a cement floor in the school, we fixed their electricity generator... we need to do what we can to help the people surrounding us," he told AFP. Driessen said he was drawn to the Horn of Africa nation by its low production costs and the ideal climate of the Rift Valley. His company has invested 10 million euros in Ethiopia. "It will affect new investors dramatically," he said of the recent violence. — AFP

CHILE'S BELEAGUERED PREZ FACES TEST IN LOCAL POLLS

SANTIAGO: Chilean President Michelle Bachelet faces a test of strength today in municipal elections that will serve as a political barometer with just over a year to go in her term. The local polls are the last vote before general elections in 2017 that will decide the Socialist leader's successor, at a time when the left in Chile — as in much of Latin America — is struggling.

The vote comes as Bachelet, Chile's first woman president, has been sideswiped by a corruption scandal involving her son and is struggling to deliver on the reform agenda that got her elected by a landslide in 2013. Opinion polls give Bachelet's center-left coalition a razor-thin lead going into the polls, which will elect 346 mayors, plus city councils. The elections serve as the unofficial opening of the 2017 campaign season.

After testing the political waters in the local polls, the country's parties will nominate their presidential candidates and launch their campaigns. On the left, the top name currently being floated is Isabel Allende — not to be confused with her distant relative of the

same name, who is a best-selling novelist. She is a senator and the daughter of former president Salvador Allende, who was overthrown by late dictator Augusto Pinochet in a 1973 coup. Journalist and independent Senator Alejandro Guillier also scores well in opinion polls. And former president Ricardo Lagos (2000-2006) has thrown his hat in the ring, too. On the right, former president Sebastian Pinera (2010-2014) is tipped as the likely nominee, but has yet to declare his candidacy.

Corruption, slowdown


Bachelet, 65, is one of the last remaining leaders from a "pink tide" of left-wing governments that swept Latin America in the last decade. She served a first term from 2006 to 2010, and — constitutionally barred from immediate re-election — returned in 2014. But her popularity has plunged since accusations emerged last year that her son and his wife used political influence and inside information to make \$5 million on a shady real estate deal. — AFP



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AUSTRALIANS RALLY FOR REFUGEES IN STAND AGAINST FAR-RIGHT SENTIMENT

SYDNEY: Thousands of Australians took part yesterday in rallies to welcome refugees and make a stand against rising far-right sentiment against foreigners. More than 20,000 people, including prominent politicians, attended demonstrations in 25 cities and towns across the country, Mohammad Al-Khafaji, chief executive of Welcome to Australia, said.

"Events like this are incredibly important, especially when you celebrate and go out in the thousands to welcome

refugees and people seeking asylum," Al-Khafaji told Reuters by telephone. "They feel like they've been marginalized, been targeted by these far-right radical movements. They just don't want to participate anymore for fear of their lives," he said. Outwardly easy-going Australia has a troubling record on ethnic diversity.

A White Australia Policy, which was only dismantled in the late 1960s, favored European migrants over non-

whites. Aborigines were administered under flora and fauna laws until then and remain far behind most people in literacy, health and economic standards. In recent months, race relations have deteriorated, with anti-immigration rhetoric from far-right groups and once fringe parties like Pauline Hanson's One Nation stoking divisiveness.

Fear of attacks by Islamist militants has also clouded the attitude of some people, though there have been no

major such attacks in Australia. The country's treatment of asylum seekers has been heavily criticized by rights groups over allegations of abuses of people in detention, including sexual assaults of women and children. Under Australia's tough immigration policy, asylum seekers intercepted trying to reach the country by boat are sent for processing at camps in Nauru or to Manus Island in Papua New Guinea and are not eligible for resettlement in Australia.

Amnesty International said this week conditions on Nauru, where about 400 Australian-bound asylum seekers are held, "amount to torture". Labor politician Jihad Dib, a member of the New South Wales state parliament, told a Sydney rally that Australia was stronger with multiculturalism. "What we need to do is make sure every single person that wasn't here today is aware that our future is better when we walk together." —Reuters

DESPERATE PAKISTANI FAMILY STILL TO RECEIVE US VISA FOR 6-YEAR-OLD GIRL

FRIGHTENED FAMILY NOW TURNING TO SOCIAL MEDIA FOR HELP

COLOMBO: A desperate Pakistani family anxiously awaiting a US visa for their ailing little girl is running out of time: Maria is just six years old but a rare genetic disease has left her frail body wracked with pain and stunted her growth. Soon she will be unable to walk because her vertebrae are compressing her spinal cord. A US hospital has offered to perform a surgery for free that could significantly improve Maria's quality of her life, but the American Embassy in Islamabad has so far twice refused to give the family visas to travel to the United States, said the girl's father, Shahid Ullah speaking to The Associated Press by phone from Rawalpindi in Pakistan.

When he submitted a visa application again, he was told it will "take time," he said. Frustrated and fright-

ened, Ullah has now turned to an American lawyer, Facebook and the media for help, starting a campaign he says could be his daughter's last resort. The surgery in the US has been scheduled for Nov 2 and Ullah is pleading with anyone who will listen that Maria's "case is different." "If we delay Maria's surgery, there will be too many problems," said Ullah, who runs a small store selling blankets in the town of Rawalpindi, near the capital of Islamabad. He said Maria has to be in the United States by next Wednesday for pre-surgery tests.

He said he embarked on the tortuous quest to find help for Maria nearly four years ago, researching her condition, sending her blood and urine samples to laboratories in India and Germany, connected with

families of children with the same disorder, known as Morquio Syndrome. Through the internet, he tracked down doctors with expertise in Maria's condition and families with children who suffer from the same disease from countries as far as Chile, Britain and America steered him to the Nemours/Alfred I DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware.

Global support

"From all over the world parents with children with the same disease helped me, they were so kind," he said. Families with children like Maria also rallied behind Ullah and began crowd funding on Facebook. Unlike in previous attempts to get a US visa, when Ullah applied for the entire family and was told US

authorities feared they would not return to Pakistan, this time he said he only applied for a visa for Maria, himself and his wife. He plans to leave his other two children, a 7-year-old daughter and a 2-year-old boy, behind with relatives during their stay in America, which is expected to take five months.

"I don't know what to do... who should I contact," he says. "Maria is in a lot of pain now... she can no longer hold a pencil or a pen." US Embassy spokeswoman Fleur S Cowan declined to comment on Maria's case, citing privacy laws, but said she would look into the matter. In Washington, the State Department said visa records are confidential under U.S. law and that it could not "comment on the specifics of an individual visa case."

The Delaware hospital first reduced the cost of the \$100,000 surgery to \$82,000, Ullah said, but when it was clear he could not afford it, the Nemours Foundation said it would cover the full cost of the procedure. "The hope is to do the surgery for the child... without any cost to the family," said Chris Manning, who is with the Nemours Children's Health System public relations department, adding that the hospital has done multiple surgeries such as the one required for Maria.

He added that the hospital also sent documentation to the embassy in Pakistan to facilitate Ullah's visa application. Melissa Harms, a California lawyer, offered to help pro bono when she heard of Maria's troubles from a client whose child has the same disorder. "I was appalled," she said. In an email to The Associated Press Harms said that housing for the family in the US has been arranged and "the airline tickets have been donated. All of this will go to waste if we can't get these visas approved this week," she said. —AP



RAWALPINDI: Pakistan's Maria, 6, center, who is suffering from MPS a rare genetics disorder, sits with her family members. —AP

PHILIPPINES TO KEEP US TIES BUT WILL NOT BE SUBSERVIENT

MANILA: The United States remains the "closest friend" of the Philippines but Manila wants to break away from a "mindset of dependency and subservience" and forge closer ties with other nations, the Philippine foreign minister said yesterday. The comments by Foreign Affairs Secretary Perfecto Yasay came two days after President Rodrigo Duterte announced his "separation" from Washington, though he went on to strike a more conciliatory tone on Friday. Yasay said in a Facebook posting that Duterte had "unmistakably" stated that severing ties with Washington was not in the nation's interest.

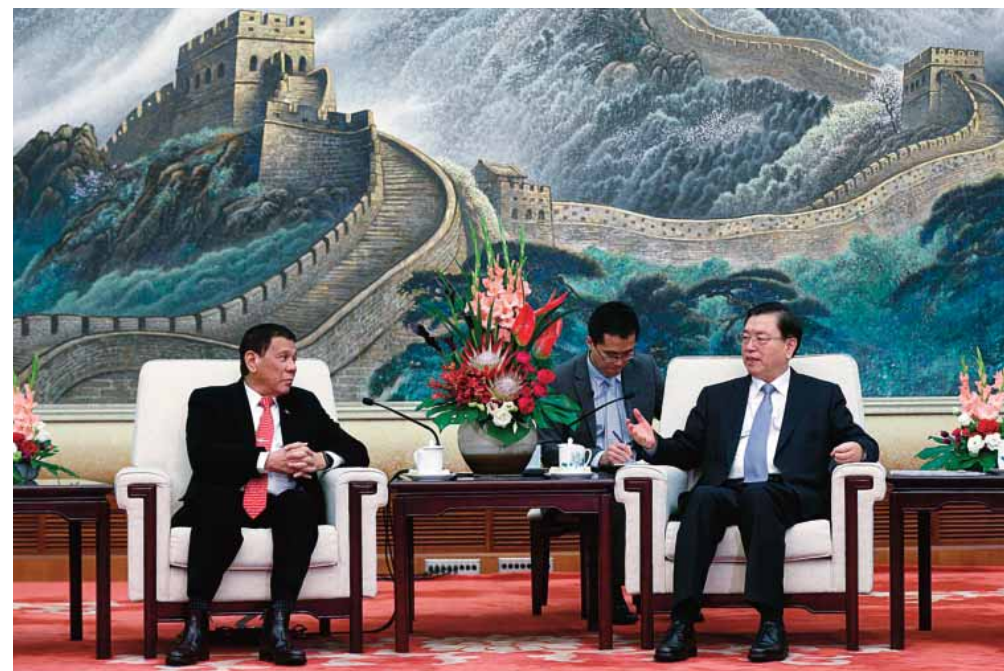
However, he wrote that separation "implies breaking away from the debilitating mindset of dependency and subservience - economically and militarily - that have perpetuated our 'little brown brother' image to America, which has stunted our growth and advancement." He said Duterte had told Chinese President Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders during a visit to Beijing that "if they are not willing to lend their support... the Filipinos will chart their destiny alone, despite great odds."

Yasay's posting is the latest sign of an administration once again scrambling to put out fires after Duterte's stunning declarations, which if delivered upon could upset the geopolitical balance in a region where China and the United States are vying aggressively for influence. On Friday, Duterte's economic managers were quick to clarify the Philippines was not cutting economies and trade ties with the United States. Prior to Duterte taking office in late June, China was a bitter rival of the Philippines, and Manila

was one of Washington's most dependable Asian allies.

Duterte's efforts to engage China, months after a tribunal in the Hague ruled that Beijing did not have historic rights to the South China Sea in a case brought by the previous administration in Manila, marks a reversal in foreign policy since the 71-year-old former mayor took office on June 30. "It is not severance of ties. When you say sever-

ance of ties, you cut diplomatic relations. I cannot do that," Duterte told reporters at a midnight news conference in his southern home city of Davao after he arrived from his four-day trip to Beijing. Duterte's abrupt pivot from Washington to Beijing is unlikely to be universally popular at home, however. On Tuesday, an opinion poll showed Filipinos still trust the United States far more than China. —Reuters



BEIJING: Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte, left, listens to Zhang Dejiang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, during a meeting at the Great Hall of the People. —AP



BANGKOK: Thais mourners sing a special version of Thailand's royal anthem in honor of King Bhumibol Adulyadej in front of Grand Palace. —AP

MASSIVE CROWDS SING ROYAL TRIBUTE TO LATE THAI KING

BANGKOK: Tens of thousands of black-clad Thais converged on Bangkok's Grand Palace yesterday to sing the royal anthem in a striking display of devotion to the recently deceased King Bhumibol Adulyadej. The monarch, who died on October 13 following years of poor health, was seen as a moral icon and rare figure of unity in a kingdom dogged by corruption and political turmoil.

His death has plunged the nation into grief, with the government declaring a one-year mourning period and urging the public to don black and dial down all festivities for at least 30 days. Crowds have been massing outside his glittering Bangkok palace for the past week, with many journeying from far away provinces to pay respects to a man celebrated as the father of the nation. Some have pitched tents on a large grassy field outside the royal compound, while others have slept on simple bamboo mats.

Yesterday, a sea of black filled the parade field and surrounding streets as tens of thousands of Thais stood to sing the royal anthem alongside a professional orchestra and choir. Many held up portraits or bank notes bearing Bhumibol's face as they sang, some through tears. "The atmosphere is amazing," said Sethabutra Biraseranee, who like most was dressed in all black despite Bangkok's sweltering midday sun. "As you can see, all these people here came just to pay their respects to him, which shows how great he was."

Uncertain future

Public displays of mass devotion have been encouraged by Thailand's arch-royalist military rulers, who grabbed power in a 2014 coup many believe was staged to ensure a smooth succession. Bhumibol served as an anchor of stability during his

70-year reign and his passing thrusts the kingdom into an uncertain future.

Little is known about what the heir, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, will do with a crown that is granted few legal powers but became a position of vast influence under Bhumibol's charismatic reign. In a move that surprised many, the 64-year-old asked to delay his proclamation as king in order to grieve with the nation, according to junta chief Prayut Chan-O-Cha, who has presided over the transition. The regime has not provided a clear timeline for when the prince will formally ascend the throne.

Bhumibol charmed Thais with his reputation as a hard-working monarch who eschewed a lavish lifestyle and dedicated himself to rural development projects, tromping up mountains and through jungles to meet his subjects and listen to their concerns. The crown prince, who has been attending to Buddhist funeral rights along with his siblings, is known for a flashier lifestyle and has spent much of his life overseas. While the outpouring of grief over Bhumibol's death has been overwhelmingly sober and dignified, it has also unleashed small pockets of ultra-monarchist forces that have shamed, mobbed and in some cases beaten Thais seen as criticizing the monarchy.

The government has condemned this vigilantism but stepped up its own surveillance of royal defamation—a crime that carries 15 years in jail per offence under the kingdom's lese majeste law. The legislation has seen scores of Thais thrown behind bars—sometimes for decades—for perceived slights against the monarchy. All media based inside the country must heavily self-censor to avoid violating the law, which has been wielded with renewed vigor by the junta. —AFP

TALEBAN ENVOYS IN PAKISTAN TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PEACE TALKS

ISLAMABAD: A delegation from the Taliban's political office visited Pakistan over the weekend, senior officials said yesterday, for discussions that could include the latest informal effort to restart talks to end Afghanistan's long war. The visit comes days after Taliban sources said they had held informal meetings with Afghan and US officials in Qatar, the first direct meetings in more than a year after a fledgling process to halt the 15-year-old conflict collapsed.

Taliban sources said Mullah Abdul Manan - brother of the late Taliban founder Mullah Omar - met with US and Afghan officials but there was no breakthrough toward restarting formal talks. The Taliban delegation will brief Pakistani security agencies on the Qatar meetings - which did not include Pakistani representatives - and complain about the recent arrests of some of its senior commanders in Pakistan, a senior member based in Doha said. Political office representatives Shahabuddin Dilawar, Jan Mohammad and Abdul Salam Hanafi travelled from Qatar and some other joined them in Pakistan, the official said.

Another Taliban member based in Afghanistan said the delegation had held one round of talks and would stay for few more days. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid confirmed a delegation was visiting Pakistan but would not comment on the Qatar talks,

which he has denied took place. "The delegation was sent to discuss some major issues with Pakistani leadership including the arrests of Afghan refugees and their repatriation to Afghanistan," Mujahid said.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman said he had no information about any Taliban visit. The Doha-based Taliban official said Pakistan was taken into confidence about the Qatar meetings, but they now believe Pakistan recently arrested some senior Taliban commanders to senior commanders to show their displeasure at being left out.

Another Taliban member said a few days ago Pakistani security agencies had raided a madrassa in Quetta and arrested another Taliban commander, Mullah Abdul Samad Sani. "We don't know what's going on but this is second time during the past two months that Pakistani authorities raided a madrassa in Quetta to arrest senior Taliban member," the Quetta-based Taliban said. Pakistan hosted the first and only round of official peace negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban insurgents to end a war that kills and maims thousands annually. A planned second round of talks was called off after news broke that founder Mullah Omar had been dead for more than two years, sending the insurgent leadership into turmoil. —Reuters

CHINA SLAMS 'PROVOCATIVE' US SAIL-BY IN S CHINA SEA

BEIJING: China has slammed the US for sailing a warship near disputed territory in the South China Sea, saying the move was a "serious illegal act" and "deliberately provocative". In a statement on its website late Friday night, the country's defense ministry said two Chinese naval vessels warned off a US ship after it entered "Chinese territorial waters" near the Paracel Islands, known as Xisha in Chinese. China controls all of the islands, which are also claimed by Vietnam and Taiwan.

The ship's "entrance into China's territorial waters is a serious illegal act and a deliberately provocative act," it said, adding that the ministry had made "solemn representations" to Washington. In a separate online statement, the foreign ministry said the action had "seriously violated China's sovereignty and security interests, and had seriously broken relevant Chinese law and international law."

The Pentagon said Friday it had sent the destroyer USS Decatur close to the Paracel Islands, but that

the ship had not passed within the 12 nautical mile zone that international law defines as territorial waters. The ships transited the area in "a routine, lawful manner without ship escorts and without incident," a spokesman said. The maneuver was the third South China Sea "freedom of navigation" operation conducted this year by the US, which has repeatedly stressed it will ignore China's "excessive" maritime claims.

Friday's operation was the first since a tribunal at

the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague in July ruled there was no legal basis to China's claims to nearly all of the sea—a verdict Beijing dismissed vehemently. China that month held a week of military drills around the Paracels in the northern part of the South China Sea, during which other ships were prohibited from entering the waters. Several other nations across the region including the Philippines and Vietnam have rival claims to various parts of the South China Sea. —AFP

CYBER ATTACKS CRIPPLE MAJOR INTERNET SITES

Continued from Page 1

"We are seeing attacks coming from a number of different locations," Level 3 Communications internet services company chief security officer Dale Drew said in a video posted online. "We are seeing attacks coming from an Internet-of-Things botnet that we identified called Mirai also involved in this attack."

Heavyweight cyber attacks that seem to yield trouble but no apparent payoff could be probing defenses to refine tactics for use on high value targets such as utilities or transportation systems, according to O'Neill and other computer defense specialists. The attack could also have been meant as a message from a foreign power, cyber security analysts told AFP. The onslaught commanded the attention of top US security agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security. "DHS and the FBI are aware and are investigating all potential causes" of the outages, a spokeswoman said.

The outages left Internet users unable to post messages, shop, watch videos and play games online for parts of the day. Dynamic Network Services Inc, which manages Internet traffic, said around 1100 GMT that its infrastructure had been hit by a distributed denial of service, or DDoS, attack in the eastern part of the United States. The initial attack was resolved within about two hours but the company, known as Dyn, was slammed with a second DDoS wave.

DDoS attacks involve flooding websites with more traffic than they can handle, making them difficult to access or taking them offline entirely. Domain name servers are a crucial element of internet infrastructure, converting numbered Internet Protocol addresses into the domain names that allow users to connect to internet sites. The DDoS attack hit what is akin to a directory assistance service used to route online traffic to the right addresses, meaning that even though networks such as Level 3 were running normally they couldn't be reached.

A map published by the website downdetector.com showed the effect was felt across the US and into Europe. "The critical point is how fragile our Internet is that these attacks can happen," O'Neill said. He worried

what damage such attacks might do in less computer security savvy sectors such as finance, energy or transportation. Dyn put out a status update at 2217 GMT saying the incident had been resolved.

Amazon Web Services, which hosts some of the most popular sites on the Internet, including Netflix and the homestay network Airbnb, said that it also staved off one attack, only to be hit with similar problems several hours later. DDoS attacks have been in the hacker arsenal for quite some time, but abated as companies learned how to defend against them. Security analysts say there has been a resurgence.

According to Verisign, the number of DDoS attacks rose 75 percent year-on-year in the second quarter of this year. Such attacks have escalated "thanks largely to the broad availability of tools for compromising and leveraging the collective firepower of so-called Internet of Things devices - poorly secured Internet-based security cameras, digital video recorders and Internet routers," cyber security specialist Brian Krebs wrote in a post at krebsonsecurity.com.

Attackers use DDoS attacks for a range of purposes, including censorship, protest and extortion. The loose-knit hacktivist network Anonymous in 2010 targeted DNS provider EveryDNS and others as retribution for efforts to block the anti-secrecy organization WikiLeaks. Roland Dobbins, principal engineer at the networks security company Arbor Networks, told AFP that, though it was spectacular, the attack was a constant and relentless fact of life on the internet. "It's like a combination of the Wild West, Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge on the Internet every day," he said.

He felt that the attack's scale did not necessarily mean the attackers had large resources. "It does not require a nation-state to launch a DDoS attack of this magnitude or impact," he said. "When it comes to DDoS attacks, states are just another player." James Scott, co-founder of the Institute for Critical Infrastructure Technology, said the attacks demonstrated well-known vulnerabilities of the internet. "Simply put, the Internet in its original and modern form was not designed with security in mind," he told AFP. — Agencies

IRAQI FORCES IN FIERCE KIRKUK CLASH WITH IS

Continued from Page 1

The toll was confirmed by a source at the Kirkuk health directorate, which called for blood donations to assist with the emergency.

The Kirkuk police chief said 48 attackers had been killed so far and several others wounded, including a Libyan believed to be among the raid's leaders. "The security forces control the situation now but there are still pockets of jihadists in some southern and eastern neighborhoods," Brigadier General Khattab Omar Aref told AFP. The large-scale "inghimasi" attack, a term for jihadist operations in which gunmen, often wearing suicide vests, intend to sow chaos and fight to the death rather than achieve any military goal, caught Kirkuk off guard.

The large city, which lies in an oil-producing region around 240 km north of Baghdad, woke up on Friday to find militants roaming the streets of several neighborhoods. They used mosque loudspeakers to broadcast praise of their self-proclaimed "caliphate", which has been shrinking steadily since last year and is looking closer than ever to collapse.

Abu Omar, a 40-year-old butcher, spent 24 hours locked up in his home with his wife, mother and three children. "It felt as if this day lasted a year," he said. "We could hear shooting and explosions all the time but we didn't dare venture outside to see what was happening." One attacker captured by the Kurdish security services on Friday claimed that the Kirkuk raid was planned by IS supreme Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi as a diversion from the offensive on Mosul. "Today's attack was one of caliph Baghdad's plans to demonstrate that the Islamic State is remaining and expanding and reduce the pressure on the Mosul front," he said, according to an AFP reporter who saw his initial interrogation.

Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi announced late Friday that he was sending reinforcements to Kirkuk, but there was no sign of any major impact on operations around Mosul. Pentagon chief Ashton Carter arrived in Iraq yesterday to review the offensive, which his country and around 60 other nations support. Mosul is the most populous city in the "caliphate" Baghdad declared in June 2014, and the operation to recapture it is Iraq's largest in years.

With 3,000 to 4,500 IS men facing tens of thousands of Iraqi forces backed by massive US-led air power, the outcome of the battle is in little doubt. But militants have been launching dozens of suicide car bombs against advancing forces, inflicting casualties and slowing their progress. Yesterday, Iraqi federal forces moved into Qaraqosh, which lies just east of Mosul and was Iraq's largest Christian town before its population fled the jihadists in 2014, the joint operations command said. Kurdish forces were also leading a major push northeast of Mosul, but complained that air support from the US-led coalition was insufficient and leaving them exposed.

In his meetings in Baghdad yesterday, the US defense secretary had been expected to attempt to convince the

government to lift its opposition to the participation of Turkish forces, who have a base north of Mosul. But Abadi reiterated his rejection of Turkish participation in the offensive, saying that "this is something the Iraqis will handle".

Separately, Turkey hit Kurdish militia targets in northern Syria for the second time in less than 72 hours, the military said yesterday, as Ankara vowed further action. Rockets struck 70 People's Protection Units (YPG) targets Friday, the Turkish armed forces said in a statement that did not reveal whether any militia fighters had been killed. The strikes came after two Ankara-backed Syrian opposition fighters were injured when YPG forces opened fire south of the flashpoint town of Jarabulus, the military said, quoted in the official Anadolu news agency.

Turkey views Syria's YPG and Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) as terror groups linked to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), staging an insurgency in Turkey since 1984. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu threatened further action against the YPG and PYD, saying that if they "continued to attack (Syrian opposition fighters) fighting against Daesh", the Islamic State group, Turkey would "do what is necessary".

Quoted by Anadolu, the minister again accused the YPG of seeking to create its own larger "canton" rather than focusing on the fight against IS, pointing to "attacks on moderate opposition" as evidence of this. The PKK is proscribed as a terrorist organization by the United States and European Union. Late Wednesday, Turkish jets struck YPG positions and the armed forces claimed they killed up to 200 fighters from the group, but the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights put the toll lower.

Turkey's Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said Friday the US was making a mistake supporting the Syrian Kurdish fighters. "Unfortunately their use by the United States against Daesh (IS) and being supplied with arms is a big mistake. We have made it clear to them," he said. On Aug 24 Ankara launched an operation in northern Syria to remove IS from its border and stop the YPG's westward advance. Turkey has sent dozens of tanks and hundreds of troops into Syria to support rebels seeking President Bashar Al-Assad's ouster, and the army says 1,265 sq km have been secured since August.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday that Turkish-backed rebels would next advance on Al-Bab after having recaptured from IS Jarabulus and Al-Rai in the early days of the operation. "We have to prepare a terror-free zone," he said during a televised speech from Bursa, northwestern Turkey. He reiterated Turkey's position that it would not work with the YPG in any US-led coalition operation to expel IS from its de facto capital, Raqqa.

Erdogan again voiced his opposition to the creation of a "terror corridor" - referring to the joining of the Kurdish "cantons" of Afrin and Kobane. Separately the Turkish military said it hit 52 IS targets in northern Syria, while the Dogan news agency said seven Ankara-backed rebels were killed in clashes with the group. — Agencies

WONDER WOMAN NAMED UN AMBASSADOR

Continued from Page 1

The Wonder Woman appointment came after many women were dismayed that another man, Antonio Guterres, the former prime minister of Portugal, was chosen to be the next secretary-general, even though more than half the candidates were women. Rafi, who had campaigned for a woman to be appointed the world's diplomat-in-chief, said the decision to name Wonder Woman as an ambassador was effort to appease

disappointed staffers.

Rafi and the petition also take issue with Wonder Woman's skimpy outfit, arguing that the world might not embrace a scantily clad character in a thigh-baring body suit with an American flag motif and knee high boots. It is not the first time the United Nations has partnered with a huge media company. In March, the UN appointed Red, the leader of the "Angry Birds" mobile game characters, as an envoy to tackle climate change. That campaign is in partnership with Sony Pictures Entertainment. — AP

KUWAIT, US AGREE ROADMAP FOR DEEPENING...

Continued from Page 1

On military cooperation, both countries announced that they intend to build on a defense partnership that helps secure mutual national and regional interests. "The two sides tasked their teams with designing a mutual strategy to implement specific measures to enhance this partnership, and committed to continue their coordination through the US-Kuwait Joint Military Committee," the statement disclosed.

On the economy, they have encouraged proposals to foster greater US business activity in Kuwait, increase investments by Kuwait in the United States and established a working group to make progress toward these goals. On education, the conferees argued that they see opportunities for further broadening and deepening people-to-people links through educational and scientific research cooperation. "The two sides established a joint working group and charged it with exploring ways to increase the number of exchange students, and devise specific means of expanding scientific research and technical cooperation," noted the statement. The US government also extended an invitation to the Kuwaiti minister of education to visit the US and meet private sector organizations and institutions of higher education and research.

Moreover, the two sides reaffirmed the importance of prompt consular notification for citizens detained in either country. They reiterated their commitment to keep-

ing each other apprised of consular-related matters, and committed to establishing a working group focused on consular issues. They also underscored the need for closer cooperation on customs and immigration matters. The United States and Kuwait look forward to the signing of a Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement before the end of 2016, which would allow greater information sharing, training and enforcement. "The working groups established at this meeting intend to consult regularly in order to make tangible progress for the peoples of both countries," the statement emphasized.

Earlier, Kerry reiterated US' commitment to maintaining Kuwait's security and stability, and defend it against any foreign threats. During his meeting with his counterpart Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled at the Kuwait-US Strategic Dialogue, Kerry expressed satisfaction with the distinguished relations with Kuwait. He commended the special partnerships between the two countries in various domains.

The US top diplomat acclaimed Kuwait for its strenuous efforts to resolve regional crises, voicing admiration of Kuwait's leading humanitarian role worldwide, especially in the conflict-ravaged countries of Syria, Yemen and Iraq. He said Kuwait has played a great role to alleviate the humanitarian suffering of people in need.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled lauded the strong relations between his country and the US, expressing hopes of the fulfillment of the aspirations of the two countries' leaders and people to expand strategic partnerships in all fields and at all levels. — KUNA

INFO MINISTER ISSUES POLL GUIDELINES

Continued from Page 1

The resolution, in its second article, slaps a ban on publishing, broadcasting or rebroadcasting calls for primary elections and those involving or promoting such votes, in addition to prohibiting any action that might undermine "the elections' freedom or its system". All audiovisual or electronic media, reads the third provision, are obliged to distinguish between nominees' "news and advertisements, by underlining the latter with such a term."

Media coverage of the elections must be free of any words, pictures, symbols, written terms or drawings that might be deemed as offensive to the nominees or others, directly or indirectly, reads the fourth item. "It is prohibited that the promotion or the coverage of the elections imply financial incentives, either paid or promised with the aim of stimulating the voters to cast their votes for a certain candidate or abstain from casting their ballots," says the fifth article of Sheikh Salman's resolution.

Audiovisual and electronic media as well as the press, when publishing or broadcasting opinion polls and statistics, must adhere to the following: First, mentioning the party that conducted the opinion poll or means of gathering the statistics, number of the polled persons, the date and means of assembling the information. Moreover they must be issued by companies that are licensed by relevant

state authorities.

The second article of the resolution bans publicizing results of opinion polls and statistics during the day of balloting or the day before. Thirdly, it bars publicizing outcome of the elections, turnout or proportions before announcement by official sources. The seventh article prohibits broadcasting or rebroadcasting interviews, reports involving the nominees for election of the National Assembly or the Municipal Council - or on their behalf - during the balloting day or the preceding day.

The eighth term bars broadcasting reports, articles or reports about the candidates unless they conform with rules of the laws 3/06, 16/07 and 08/16. The ninth item stipulates forming a commission tasked with monitoring the media during the electoral process to ensure adherence to the set rules and laws. The panel is entitled to receive complaints and reports and "taking the proper measures in this respect".

The 10th article reads that in cases where terms of this resolution have been breached, the rules outlined in law 35/62 and its amendments, along with the law 3/06, are to be applied. The 11th article repeals the ministerial resolution 78/12. The 12th says the relevant authorities are instructed to implement this decision, each according to the set jurisdictions. The resolution is to be published in the gazette and adhered by, effective the date of publicizing it. — KUNA



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P.O. Box 1301 Safat, 13014 Kuwait.
E MAIL: info@kuwaittimes.net
Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

Washington Watch

GCC SCORES HIGH
IN 'QUALITY OF LIFE'

By Dr James J Zogby

Citizens in several of the Arab Gulf states appear to have a higher appreciation for the quality of life available to them in their countries than do citizens in most European countries. This was one of the key findings of a Zogby Research Services (ZRS) study conducted earlier this year. As part of a larger omnibus study that surveyed a range of attitudes of 24,000 citizens in 22 countries, ZRS measured rates of satisfaction, optimism, confidence, and perceptions of personal security. The countries covered in the study included all of the GCC and Egypt. In Europe, ZRS surveyed Germany, UK, France, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark. In Asia, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and Hong Kong were covered in the study. The United States and Australia were also included.

Among the questions asked of the respondents in the survey were: whether they believed their countries were moving in the right or wrong direction; whether they personally felt better off or worse off than they were five years ago (and the degree to which they felt that they were better off than their parent's generation); whether they felt they would be better or worse off five years from now (and whether they thought that their children would be better off in the future); and their concern with their financial, personal, and physical security.

In the end, in order to create an overall "Quality of Life" rating ZRS compiled, for each country, the average of the percentages of their citizens who expressed confidence in the direction of their country, their satisfaction with their current situation, their optimism about the future, and their assessment of their personal security. This average was termed the Quality of Life Quotient (QLQ).

Of the 22 countries covered in the study Malaysia and Singapore finished in first and second place, with overall QLQs of 59 and 56. They were followed closely by the United Arab Emirates which recorded a 53 QLQ. Oman (50) and Qatar (46) came in fourth and fifth place, followed by Denmark (42) and Sweden (42). Saudi Arabia was also in the top ten with a 39 QLQ. Bahrain came in twelfth place with a QLQ of 37.

The United States ranked fourteenth at (35), with the United Kingdom (30) and Germany (29) finishing seventeenth and nineteenth, respectively. The other Arab countries covered in the study, Kuwait (27) and Egypt (23), ranked twentieth and twenty-first. The lowest ranking country was Indonesia - receiving a QLQ of 2 and the poorest scores in all of the categories covered in the study.

Among the Arab Gulf states, the UAE was exceptional, ranking in the top tier in each of the areas covered: Confidence (60), satisfaction (62), optimism (58), and personal security (38). Oman scored quite high in satisfaction (57) and ranked highest in personal security (51). And Qatar received high scores in confidence (57) and personal security (41). The lower ranking received by the US was due to the poor grades Americans gave their country in the areas of confidence (29) and personal security (19). Confidence and optimism levels in the UK and Germany were also quite low.

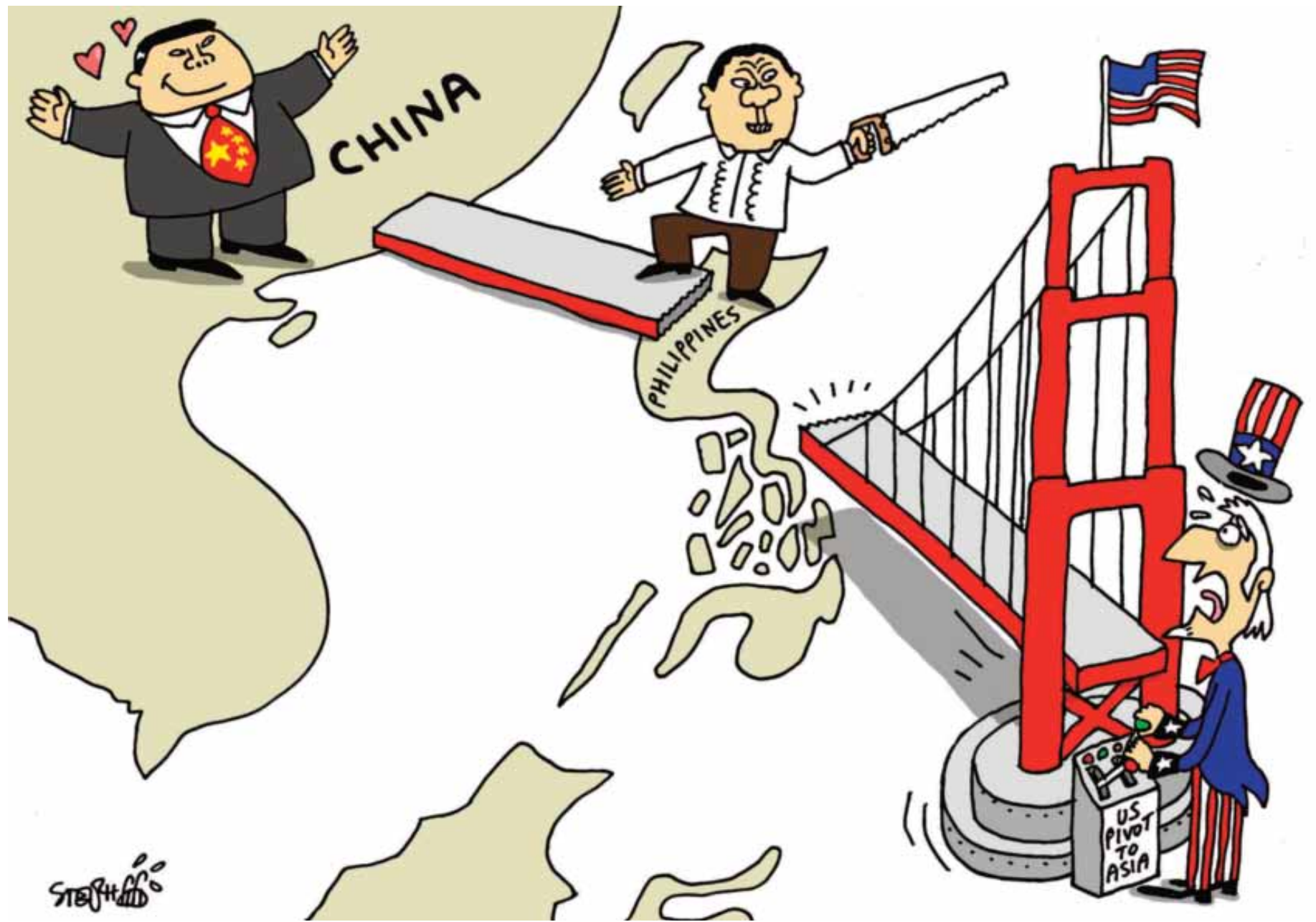
Political Ramifications

While this was not a political survey, per se, there are political ramifications implicit in the results. For example, what the study establishes is that despite the continuing conflicts plaguing the region (in Iraq, Syria, and Yemen) and the concerns that may exist with Iran's regional policies, the governments of the GCC have done well by their citizens and have earned a measure of stability and security. At the same time, coming through quite clearly is the unease shaping the political landscape in the US, UK, and Germany. As we have seen, with Brexit, the emergence of Trumpism and other far-right nationalist currents, this unease has already had an impact on the politics of these countries.

In contrast, it is worth noting that despite reports of unrest and social dislocation resulting from the influx of refugees in the Scandinavian countries, they have fared quite well. In most areas covered in the study, Denmark, Sweden and Norway scored high, receiving QLQs that placed them in the top ten in overall rankings. Thus, despite the pressures being experienced in some Scandinavian countries, their governments appear to be taking care to provide for their citizens and this is reflected in the relatively high confidence, optimism, and personal security ratings they receive.

Worrisome, however, are the very low ratings given by Egyptians in the areas of confidence (24), satisfaction (20), and optimism in the future (24). This should be noted by those concerned with the future of Egypt.

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



KIRKUK RAID GLIMPSE OF POST-CALIPHATE IS

The assault on the Iraqi city of Kirkuk is typical of the kind of attacks the Islamic State group is likely to carry out after its "caliphate" falls apart, analysts said. Tens of thousands of Iraqi forces backed by a 60-nation US-led coalition and other powers are closing in on Mosul, the IS group's last stronghold in Iraq. The "caliphate" that IS supremo Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi proclaimed there in 2014 straddling Iraq and Syria has shrunk steadily, however, and the loss of Mosul could end the group's days as a land-holding force in Iraq.

With fewer fixed positions and no population to administer, the most violent and ambitious group in modern jihad could revert to the kind of insurgent attacks it used to conduct in its previous incarnations. "I think it is what is to be expected as IS continues to lose territory, a switch back to traditional terrorism and insurgency," said David Witty, an analyst and former colonel in the US special forces.

IS has often responded to major offensives against its bastions in Iraq and Syria by opening new fronts to stretch enemy forces, retain the initiative and keep media attention away from its setbacks. The "inghimasi" raid on Kirkuk, a term used to describe gunmen who usually wear explosive vests or expect to die at the end of their attack, sowed chaos in Kirkuk. At least five suicide bombers targeted key government buildings, at least six policemen were killed in the ensuing clashes and dozens of residents were wounded.

Impact on Mosul

Besides grabbing headlines, the attack may compel the Kurdish forces - a key component of the six-day-old Mosul offensive - to take another look at their deployment. Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi announced late Friday that he was sending reinforcements to Kirkuk, where a senior interior ministry officer said 46 people, mostly members of the security forces, had already been killed in the clashes.

Patrick Martin, Iraq analyst at the Institute for the Study of War, said some elements of the Kurdish peshmerga may consider pulling some of their resources from the Mosul theatre. "The PUK (Patriotic Union of Kurdistan) have primary responsibility for the defense of Kirkuk and are in particular concerned about long term control of the city and its oil fields," he said.

One of the Kirkuk attackers captured by Kurdish security forces on Friday claimed Baghdadi ordered the attack to demonstrate the "caliphate" would continue to "remain and expand". Those two words were a key slogan of the "state" proclaimed in 2014 and were shouted by militants through mosque loudspeakers as they took over Kirkuk streets on Friday. Yet the attack on Kirkuk is likely to serve few long-term military goals for IS, a sign it may no longer seek to hold territory and instead focus on spectacular terrorist attacks. A few fighters remained holed up in

Kirkuk buildings yesterday but the initial fear that IS might seek to seize control of the city quickly receded.

'Harder to Fight'

"Daesh (IS) do fight to retain territory, but have been more inclined to fall back in recent months," said Colonel John Dorrian, the US spokesman of the coalition assisting Iraqi forces in the war against IS. He said the group had lost many of its top leaders in recent months and been stripped of some of its sources of revenue, but he expected the jihadists to fight hard to keep Mosul. Martin argued IS may have had Mosul in mind when attacking Kirkuk but had most likely already accepted the idea they would lose it.

"The Kirkuk attack was launched in response to ongo-

ing and projected losses in Mosul, but ISIS (IS) has likely shifted its mindset away from physical control of terrain," he said. "If ISIS can continue fielding attack capabilities like this in the future then ISIS will continue to pose security threats to the Iraqi security forces and the peshmerga," he said. Witty also said the Kirkuk attack was a taste of things to come, since the predicted retaking of Mosul by Iraqi forces could seal the fate of IS's caliphate, at least its Iraqi side. "They (IS) will increasingly use terror attacks and go back to more of a pure insurgent and terrorist organization in Iraq. In many ways, they are harder to fight then," Witty said. "When they openly hold cities and terrain, it is much easier for the coalition and Iraqi Security Forces to destroy them than it is when they function as an insurgency." — AFP

BRAZIL POLITICIAN INSPIRES
DREAD FROM BEHIND BARS

The jailing of Eduardo Cunha on corruption charges put one of Brazil's most Machiavellian politicians out of play - so why is the country's elite so nervous about him? Cunha was jailed Wednesday to await trial on charges of bribe taking, money laundering and stashing his illicit gains in Swiss accounts. It was a shocking comedown for the former speaker of the lower house who launched the impeachment of former leftist president Dilma Rousseff, leading to his fellow center-right PMDB party member Michel Temer taking over the presidency.

But the possibility that the Brazilian wheeler dealer, often compared to Frank Underwood in Netflix's dark political series "House of Cards", could cooperate with prosecutors is causing alarm among other politicians, analysts say. Prosecutors leading the investigation into a huge embezzlement and bribery scheme at state oil company Petrobras have repeatedly used plea bargains to extract new information and expand their probe. Cunha, the ultimate insider, would potentially be a mother lode.

"Who in Brasilia would be safe from a plea bargain with Cunha?" asked law professor Ivar Hartmann at the Getulio Vargas Foundation in Rio de Janeiro. "Cunha has a major destructive potential," Alberto Almeida, director of the Analysis Institute, said.

Who's Next?

The Petrobras scandal has already put a host of leading politicians in the crosshairs. Ex-president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the mentor of Rousseff, is the subject of

three cases and there is speculation that he could be next to face arrest. However Temer's government is also reeling from the probe. Three of his ministers facing investigation had to step down soon after he took over the presidency in August. One of them, Romero Juca, resigned as planning minister after the leak of a recording in which he appeared to discuss wanting to shut down the investigation, dubbed Operation Car Wash.

Although Cunha was a close ally of Temer and others in the new government, they are likely to be fearful of what he might say if prosecutors put him under pressure. "I have no doubt that if Cunha has to choose between saving his party's reputation or his own skin that he'll opt for his own skin," Hartmann said. Even without a plea bargain, Cunha is keeping Brasilia on its toes with his promise to write a book - something that being incarcerated will give him plenty of time to do.

If Cunha spills the beans on his insider knowledge "the crisis could affect the inner core of the government," said analyst Marco Antonio Teixeira at the Getulio Vargas Foundation. So far the Temer government has reacted with notable caution. Brazilian media reports said that ministers had been instructed to avoid comment. Temer, on a trip to Tokyo, would not be drawn on speculation that more cabinet members could be downed by the Car Wash probe. "For now these are just allegations," he said. But Temer may end up having to sacrifice ministers, Hartmann said. The priority is "to shield Temer, protect him, because losing another minister is acceptable as long as Temer doesn't fall." — AFP

WITHOUT PARTNERS, TWITTER FACES TOUGH CHOICES

The apparent lack of interest in Twitter Inc by potential suitors may force the social media company to consider a route anathema to aspiring tech startups: A major restructuring and cutting some of its nearly 4,000 employees. The popular but money-losing micro-blogging service spent aggressively on product development and marketing in recent years, betting that it could afford to post losses as long as it attracted new users.

But that growth stalled this year after it exceeded 300 million active monthly users, less than a fifth of Facebook Inc's users and below Facebook's Instagram. Earlier this month, Twitter hired bankers to explore selling itself. Technology and media companies including Salesforce.com Inc, Walt Disney Co and Alphabet Inc's Google looked at the company but ultimately passed on buying it. The aborted sales process - and the company's strategy as an independent company - will be back in the spotlight when Twitter reports earnings on Oct 27. The company declined to comment.

"It's going to take some bold moves here," said David Hsu, a management professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, suggesting job cuts may be an option. "It takes a very lean staff to maintain the core Twitter as an advertising and messaging platform," Hsu said. According to SunTrust analyst Robert Peck, Twitter could cut 10 percent of its workforce and save about \$100 million a year. Major layoffs, though, could hurt the company's image in San Francisco, where the competition for engineering talent is fierce.

Big Spender

The company may look first at cutting sales and marketing, an area in which it spends more than twice as much as its rivals to earn each dollar of revenue. "Twitter's cost structure was originally built to grow into a much larger user base," said Peck. "But with user growth stagnating, the company likely needs to reduce excess costs."

In the first six months of this year, Twitter's sales and marketing spending totaled \$473 million, or about 40 percent of its revenue. By comparison, spending in that area accounted for 19 percent of revenue at Yahoo, 15 percent at Facebook, and 12 percent at Google-parent Alphabet, according to a Reuters analysis of quarterly financial reports.

Twitter also spends more, proportionately, than its peers on research and development. First-half spending on R&D accounted for \$334 million, or 28 percent of revenue, compared to 24 percent at Facebook, 23 percent at Yahoo and 16 percent at Alphabet, according to a Reuters analysis. Twitter could also reduce expenses by cutting products and moving some engineering positions to lower-cost overseas locations, analysts said.

It may also need to reform its stock-based compensation plans when it hires new employees. Twitter doled out \$682 million in stock-based compensation last year, a large portion of its roughly \$2 billion in annual revenue, which weighs on its profitability. Private equity firms that examined a buyout of Twitter last year were turned off by the amount of equity-based compensation that would have to be paid out to employees in a deal, according to sources at the time.

Activist in the Wings?

If Twitter does not slash its costs, activist investors - who have aggressively pushed US companies in recent years for better cash management, leadership changes and new strategies - may see Twitter as an appealing target. "Carl Icahn - Twitter needs you," Bronte Capital's John Hempton, an investor known for short-selling, or betting against stocks, wrote in a blog post earlier this month, referring to the well-known activist investor. Twitter "should be fixed with extreme prejudice by a disinterested outsider before it is sold again to a strategic buyer," he added.

Companies often resist activist campaigns, and sometimes a proxy fight takes place, where the investor tries to replace board members with its own nominees. On rare occasions, companies invite friendly activists to get involved before they become hostile. Last month, hard-drive maker Seagate Technology PLC invited ValueAct Capital in as an investor, selling a roughly 4 percent stake to the activist hedge fund. ValueAct received an observer board seat as part of the deal, but no voting power.

Twitter could also explore ways to bring in an outside strategic investor to assist in a turnaround. But finding the right company to invest in Twitter without it looking like a desperate move could be tricky, private equity executives said. Whatever Twitter does, it needs to act fast. Former high-fliers Zynga Inc and Groupon Inc, which now trade at a fraction of their initial public offering prices, stand as startling evidence of how quickly an Internet star can fade. — Reuters

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BALOTELLI AGAIN SIDELINED FOR NICE



NICE: Mario Balotelli will again be missing for Nice when the French Ligue 1 leaders travel to Metz today, coach Lucien Favre indicated. The Italian has been a revelation since joining Nice, scoring five goals in four league appearances and also netting once in the Europa League. However, he missed Thursday's 1-0 win away to Salzburg in Europe with an adductor problem that has not yet cleared up. "We will see at the start of the week if he can return to training," Favre said of the former Liverpool and AC Milan striker. Nice will also be weakened by the absences of centre-back and captain Paul Baysse and Brazilian full-back Dalbert as they seek to extend their unbeaten start to the French campaign. The latter will be out for a month with a knee ligament injury suffered against Salzburg. —AFP

MUNSTER HONORS DEAD COACH WITH PRE-MATCH TRIBUTE

LIMERICK: With an emotional pre-match tribute and a spirited win with 14 men, Munster did all it could Saturday to honor Anthony Foley a week after the sudden death of its popular coach. Munster beat Glasgow 38-17 in a European Champions Cup game as the Irish rugby province returned to action at its Thomond Park ground, six days after Foley died from fluid in the lungs caused by a heart condition. He was 42. Determined to honor their coach with a victory, Munster's players produced a gutsy performance in tough circumstances - and wasn't troubled by loss of winger Keith Earls to a red card midway in the 19th minute because of a tip tackle. No. 8 - Foley's number as a player - was retired for the game, with C.J. Stander wearing No. 24 instead. Before kickoff, spectators in one of the stands held up placards which spelt out Foley's nickname, "Axel," along with the No. 8 jersey that he wore with such distinction for Munster and Ireland. All of the Munster players' jerseys had "AXEL" sewn on under the club crest. —AP

GUT WINS SEASON OPENER AT SOELDEN

SOLDEN: Switzerland's Lara Gut won the opening race of the World Cup season yesterday with victory in the giant slalom on the Rettenbach glacier of Soelden, Austria. Gut won the overall World Cup globe last season and got her 2016/17 campaign off to a successful start, but took the advice from Marcel Hirschi, the men's 2015/16 overall World Cup winner, to 'just ski'. "It's always special in Soelden and it's my first time coming as an (overall) winner, so I tried just not to think and ski," said Gut. "I'm glad I had a fast first run because the second one was a fight." The 25-year-old, who won a downhill bronze at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi, clocked 2:23.02 over the two runs to finish 1.44secs ahead of second-placed Mikaela Shiffrin of the USA and 1.93 ahead of Italy's Marta Bassino, who was third. Gut was the fastest in the morning's first run down and put in a solid display in the second to claim the victory. —AFP



FOUAD ALGHANIM & SONS AUTOMOTIVE REWARDS KUWAIT'S OLYMPIC, PARALYMPIC CHAMPIONS

KUWAIT: Kuwait's leading premium automotive dealer, Fouad Alghanim & Sons Automotive Company, celebrates Kuwait's athletic achievements at the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The exclusive dealer of Audi in Kuwait celebrates the participation of the nine Kuwaiti athletes and their notable achievements in the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic games and awards the athletes with Audi SUV's and cash rewards to recognize this historic event and

further motivate future hopefuls. "We share in the Country's pride following the achievements of our Kuwaiti sportsmen at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Their achievements this year showcases the athletic talent on a global level, and their mere qualification to be able to participate in the games is a great achievement on its own, winning medals is an honor for all Kuwaiti citizens," stated Khalifa Fouad Alghanim - Owner representative of Fouad Alghanim & Sons

Automotive Company. "Audi have always been proud supporters of sporting success and outstanding performance. It is a privilege for us to share the joys of our Olympians with a humble token of our appreciation and wish them continued success in all future competitions." The veteran Kuwaiti shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani, who competed under the International Olympic Committee, was the first individual to win Gold under the

Olympic flag having come first in the Shooting Double Trap event. In honor of his achievement, Fouad Alghanim & Sons Automotive Company presented him with an Audi Q7. The Company also rewarded his fellow sportsman, Abdullah Al-Rashidi, with an Audi Q5, after he was awarded his first medal in six Olympic Games, achieving Bronze in the Men's Shooting Skeet at Rio 2016. Additionally, Audi Kuwait awarded the

swimmer Faye Al-Sultan an Audi Q3 for her participation in the Women's 50m Freestyle. Paying tribute to the Gold Paralympian and wheelchair racer Ahmad Al-Mutairi, who outpaced his fellow competitors in the Men's 100m, Fouad Alghanim & Sons Automotive Company awarded KD 21,000. Honoring the achievements of the remaining six Kuwaiti athletes each was awarded KD 3,000 for their participation at the Olympic Games.



— Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

AL-SHIHAB, REEM AL-ZAABI WIN KSPEED KARTING CHAMPIONSHIP

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: The first round of the Kspeed Karting Championship for this season was held at the Sirbb Circuit in Shuwaikh Industrial Area on Thursday. The participants were divided into three categories - youth (13- to 16-year-old boys), men (above 16) and women (all ages). An agreement was also signed between the Sirbb Circuit, Basel Salem Al-Sabah Motor Racing Club (BMRC), Historical, Vintage and Classic Cars Museum (HVCCM), Ministry of State for Youth Affairs (MSYA), and the Public Authority for Sports (PAS) to hold karting and other motorsports activities and championships. The participants were able to register through the mobile app Sirbbcircuit or personally at the reception of Sirbb Circuit free of charge.

Registration was open on a first-come-first-serve basis for 90 participants divided into 30 for each category from all nationalities, both professionals and amateurs. Ali Haidar, Marketing and Sales Manager of Sirbb Circuit, noted that the idea of bringing these authorities together is a new concept in Kuwait. "This great event was realized due to the efforts of Sheikh Ali Al-Fawaz Al-Sabah, Head of BMRC, and Abdulaziz Al-Yaseen, Director General of HVCCM, who came up with this idea," he told Kuwait Times. "We aimed through this cooperation to present useful activities for the youth, so they can practice their racing hobby in a safe environment, as we are applying the highest standards of safety measures at the circuit," he added. Mohammed Dashti, the representative of PAS, explained that international measures and

standards were applied. "Even the different weights of participants were balanced by placing weights to karts of lighter participants. Also, the participants couldn't choose the kart they drove, but were given the vehicles according to a draw," he pointed out. The race was judged by Nawaf Al-Safi, who also held the draw. Three winners from each category received cash prizes and certificates. The journalists covering the event had the opportunity to participate in a karting race. The winners: Men's category: Abdullah Saleh Al-Shihab, Saud Abdulaziz Saud and Bandar Ali Ghneim Women: Reem Al-Zaabi, Dalal Al-Zeid and Shahl Al-Hbeil. Boys: Adel Al-Shuweh, Abdullah Al-Shuweh and Adel Ali Ghaneim.



LAHIRI SURGES CLEAR IN PURSUIT OF MAIDEN PGA TOUR TITLE

KUALA LUMPUR: Anirban Lahiri moved into position to record a first PGA Tour victory when the Indian fired an exquisite third round seven-under 65 at the TPC Kuala Lumpur course to storm four shots clear of the field at the CIMB Classic yesterday.

Lahiri's nine birdies offset an ugly double-bogey six on the 12th as the Pune-born 29-year-old moved to 19-under for the tournament, well ahead of overnight leader and defending champi-

on Justin Thomas (71) and Scotland's Russell Knox (68). "I just have to try and do the same thing on the last round," Lahiri told reporters. "Everybody is making birdies all the way around so I don't think there's any other way to do it." First round co-leader Derek Fathauer, James Hahn and Hideki Matsuyama are a further shot adrift at the \$7 million event but with the rest of the field six or more strokes further back, the winner is likely to come from the top six on the leader-

board. Lahiri claimed one of his two European Tour wins on this course at last year's Malaysian Open and his familiarity with the layout and humid conditions will give him the confidence to convert his healthy advantage into victory today.

Now based primarily on the US circuit, Lahiri warmed up for the CIMB Classic in Macau and although he lost the Asian Tour event in a playoff, the six straight birdies he rattled off to tie for the lead after 72 holes showed he was in

great form. Displaying pinpoint accuracy with his irons, Lahiri has notched up 25 birdies in his opening three rounds but was held back by late lapses on Thursday and Friday when he dropped a total of four shots on the closing holes. Yesterday, however, he birdied both the 17th and 18th holes to maintain a sizeable advantage over the chasing pack. "I'm in a good frame of mind coming in after last week where I felt like I let one get away. I will do my best to improve on

that and I am glad I kept my focus all the way through the round today," Lahiri added.

Thomas started the day with a two-stroke lead but the 23-year-old suffered a mid-round meltdown, dropping four shots in three holes from the 10th, before the American rallied back into contention with five consecutive birdies from the 14th. The CIMB Classic is the second event on the 2017 PGA Tour and is co-sanctioned by the Asian Tour. —Reuters



AUCKLAND: New Zealand All Blacks' Ben Smith, center, runs through the Australian defense during their Bledisloe Cup rugby union test match in Auckland, New Zealand, yesterday. — AP



AUCKLAND: New Zealand All Blacks' captain Kieran Read poses with the Bledisloe Cup after defeating Australia in their rugby union test match in Auckland, New Zealand, yesterday. — AP

NEW ZEALAND SET WORLD RECORD WITH 37-10 WIN OVER AUSTRALIA

AUCKLAND: New Zealand overwhelmed Australia 37-10 yesterday in the third Bledisloe Cup rugby test to post a world record 18th-straight test win.

The All Blacks outscored Australia six tries to one to surpass the record streak of the New Zealand team which won 17 tests between 1965 and 1969, the Springboks who won the same number in the late 1990s and a later All Blacks team whose 17-match streak was ended by Australia in 2014.

New Zealand faced a much more competitive Australia team on Saturday than the ones they had beaten 42-8 and 29-9 in earlier Bledisloe Cup matches this season to extend its 14-year hold on that trophy.

New Zealand also continued its winning streak against Australia at Eden Park which stretches back 30 years to 1986 and remained

unbeaten against the Wallabies at all New Zealand venues since 2001.

The All Blacks remain unbeaten in a world record 45 tests at home since 2009 and Kieran Read became the first test captain to lead his team to 19 consecutive test victories.

"We had a good buildup during the week and there was a lot of talk in the media about the record," Read said. "I'm really stoked for the lads."

"The Wallabies really brought it to us tonight. We had to dig deep. It took 70-odd minutes before we really opened them up." The records helped to disguise the worst performance by the All Blacks this season, which was induced by a combative Australian team.

After scoring three early tries, New Zealand was busted into errors by the Wallabies who were especially aggressive and competitive at the tackle and at breakdowns, winning more

than 60 percent of possession and spending more than seven minutes inside the All Blacks' 22. "They put us under pressure in certain areas and played really well in doing that," Read said. "I think once we held onto the ball we were much better and it was pretty awesome there at the end." The difference between the teams was finishing ability, as it has been repeatedly between New Zealand all of the teams it has faced since its winning streak began at Eden Park in August 2015.

WEAKNESSES

New Zealand had a handful of scoring chances yesterday and converted nearly all of them. Australia had few and converted only one, though they also had a try contentiously disallowed during the second half which would have drawn it level with New Zealand at 15-15.

That incident and another almost immediately afterward highlighted one of the weaknesses of this Wallabies team under its current coach Michael Cheika. In the 45th minute Henry Speight was dashing away to score the try which would have tied the scores when his winger Dane Haylett-Petty shoulder checked All Blacks winger Julian Savea who was in fruitless pursuit. Savea wouldn't have prevented the try being scored but Haylett-Petty's action, spotted by the video referee, led to Speight's try being disallowed. Two minutes later, All Blacks hooker Dane Coles was in pursuit of a ball kicked behind the Wallabies line when he was impeded by Australia flyhalf Bernard Foley. Referee Nigel Owens considered video footage and decided no offense had been committed but Foley's challenge on Coles was clumsy and easily could have yielded a penalty try.

That focus on needless off-the-ball play, a feature of the Wallabies' style under Cheika, let them down Saturday when they were more than competitive for 50 minutes.

New Zealand once again over-ran its opponents in the last 30 minutes, as it has throughout the season, when Savea scored two tries and contributed to another for Coles.

Australia had trailed 15-10 after 50 minutes and must have thought it had a chance on a ground where it hadn't won in the last 30 years. When the Wallabies next were able to draw breath and look up at the scoreboard, the All Blacks had an unassailable lead.

Savea scored his first try in the 53rd minute, after a quiet first half, when All Blacks fullback Ben Smith pounced on a Wallabies turnover and put in a kick ahead which the winger retrieved.

ERROR

He scored again in the 68th minute when he was given space down the left flank and bumped off the ineffectual tackles of Speight and Nick Frisby. Savea then powered down the touchline in the 72nd minute and, when held, handed off to Coles who dotted down in the corner. The All Blacks had seemed on course for a substantial win when they scored two tries early in the first half. Winger Israel Dagg scored after only six minutes after a break by center Anton Lienert-Brown and some marvelous interplay involving Ben Smith, who handled twice, Read and Dagg.

Lienert-Brown scored four minutes later from a defensive error at a scrum and, at 10-0 in as many minutes, it seemed the All Blacks would overwhelm their opponents. But the Wallabies hit back with a try to rookie lock Rory Arnold and the All Blacks needed a charge-down try to scrumhalf T.J. Perenara in the 33rd minute to take a 15-7 lead to halftime.

Flyhalf Beauden Barrett missed the conversions of each of those tries and was replaced in the 44th by Aaron Cruden, who kicked three of his four shots at goal. The Wallabies were almost dominant in the middle stages of the match but were unable to turn a heavy advantage of possession into points. They have now lost seven of 10 tests this season. — AP

EAGLES AWAIT UNBEATEN VIKINGS, FAMILIAR FACE IN SAM BRADFORD

PHILADELPHIA: When the Eagles were 3-0, the schedule called for a bye. They haven't won since. Into Philadelphia today come the Minnesota Vikings, the NFL's only unbeaten team. They are coming off a bye. "I think it's 0-0 now, and we start a new season," says Mike Zimmer, coach of the 5-0 Vikings. "You just forget about what has happened in the past, and we start moving on. So, now it's, for us, I think it's an 11-game season, and we'll see where we're at then." Where they are at now is the Linc, and the Eagles have looked weak in dropping to 3-2. They were particularly unsightly last week at Washington. But they are 2-0 at home. Among their biggest challenges is slowing down a guy named Sam Bradford, who until just before the regular season was their starting quarterback. Then he was dealt to Minnesota, where he has been superb.

"I think it's been a win-win, honestly," Eagles coach Doug Pederson says. "In our case, our first-round (and) second overall pick (Carson Wentz) getting a chance to play this early; getting his feet wet, learning, putting us in a great spot. ... He's played a lot of football. He's getting better every week."

"And from their standpoint, they got a good quarterback. He went to a playoff-caliber football team with a tremendous defense."

The action began Thursday night with Aaron Rodgers throwing for 326 yards and three touchdowns in Green Bay's 26-10 home victory over Chicago. Rodgers was 39 of 56, setting a franchise record for completions in a game. The Packers are 4-2. The Bears (1-6) lost quarterback Brian Hoyer to a broken left arm in the second quarter. With Jay Cutler already out with a right thumb injury, Chicago turned to third-stringer Matt Barkley. Off this week are Dallas (5-1) and Carolina (1-5).

SEATTLE (4-1) AT ARIZONA (3-3)

A Seahawks victory gives them solid control of the NFC West. Their offense has been hit or miss with a revamped offensive line and trying to find a running game - where are you, Beast Mode? The defense has been primed, ranking first overall. The Cardinals have lost all three home games against Seattle under Bruce Arians, outscored 105-34. "It doesn't matter if it's on the road or at home, we've got to beat them," Arians says. "If we're going to win the division, we've got to beat them."

NEW ENGLAND (5-1) AT PITTSBURGH (4-2)

Boy, did this matchup have some spice. Then Ben Roethlisberger damaged his knee, and suddenly this takes on the look of another Patriots romp - particularly if the Steel Curtain that was ripped apart by Miami doesn't lend itself quickly. "A lot of people came in a lot more focused,"

says Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell, who will need to step up with Roethlisberger sidelined. "Not to say we weren't focused last week, but I think losing the game the way we did, in the fashion that we did, kind of opened people's eyes and let them know that you can get beat on any given week, no matter the team you're playing."

HOUSTON (4-2) AT DENVER (4-2), MONDAY NIGHT

Brock Osweiler took the money and passed, heading from the Broncos to the Texans for \$72 million. He returns to the Mile High City, where he shouldn't expect a kind reception from the fans. Nor from the Broncos, who are in a nasty mood after dropping two straight. They still have a defense that can be dominant, and the Texans have been among the most inconsistent teams in the league, despite their record.

With J.J. Watt gone for the season, Houston is getting solid work from 2014 top overall pick DE Jadeveon Clowney, who's tied for the NFL lead with eight tackles for loss.

WASHINGTON (4-2) AT DETROIT (3-3)

Washington goes for its fifth straight win and has not opened a season with three consecutive road victories since 1999. But the Lions have won three straight against the Redskins.

To beat the Redskins, Detroit might need a quick start: Washington's defense has not given up a TD after halftime during the winning streak. It might come as a surprise that when Lions QB Matthew Stafford makes his 100th career start, he will top the NFL list in completions, yards passing and 350-yard passing games among NFL players in their first 100.

BUFFALO (4-2) AT MIAMI (2-4)

After the Dolphins pulled off a stunner in beating Pittsburgh, South Floridians tended to shrug. A win over the hot Bills, who have taken four in a row, might get folks down there a bit excited. The matchup, though, doesn't favor Miami. Yes, Buffalo's top-ranked running game might be without LeSean McCoy (hamstring), but the Dolphins rank ahead of only San Francisco defending the rush. There's no truth to the rumor Thurman Thomas will line up in the backfield for the Bills.

SAN DIEGO (2-4) AT ATLANTA (4-2)

After winning at Denver and perhaps getting robbed on a late non-penalty call in Seattle, the Falcons have proven they are for real. They also are 8-1 against San Diego and rank first in total offense.

The Chargers have lost an incredible 10 fumbles so far, and that's a recipe for failure. They also have struggled in the late portions of games. — AP

DENG LOOKING FORWARD TO LAKERS RENAISSANCE

LOS ANGELES: Whether fleeing civil war in Sudan with his family or moving to the United States on a scholarship as a 14-year-old, Luol Deng is no stranger to new beginnings. The 31-year-old British forward's nomadic existence has now taken him to Hollywood, where he is expected to be a key figure as the Los Angeles Lakers attempt to rebuild after the worst season in their history. Deng joined the Lakers on a four-year \$72 million deal in July, lured by the possibility of working with new coach Luke Walton at the start of a long-term project to revive the iconic franchise.

Deng's arrival provides a young Lakers squad with a pillar of maturity, bringing grit and a wealth of experience gleaned from previous stints with the Chicago Bulls, Cleveland Cavaliers and Miami Heat. "It's a new chapter for me. This is my 13th year now. I'm looking forward to being a part of it and leading the young guys," Deng told AFP at a Lakers media session.

"I'm only 31, so I still have a lot of playing in me. I'm looking forward to being a leader on and off the court through my work ethic." If Deng's past is anything to go by, the Lakers have made a shrewd investment. Time and again, Deng has faced down all challenges successfully. A tumultuous early life saw him move to Egypt with his mother and eight brothers and sisters as Sudan's civil war raged.

His father, a government minister, was later arrested and imprisoned after a military coup before fleeing to Britain in 1993 and claiming political asylum. Reunited with his family in London, Deng quickly embraced his new surroundings. He became an avid Arsenal fan, idolizing striker Ian Wright, before his rapidly developing frame persuaded him to concentrate on basketball.

REBUILDING PROJECT

While playing for his local club-the Brixton Topcats-he was spotted by an

American talent scout, who swiftly offered him a scholarship to the prestigious Blair Academy private school in New Jersey. Deng arrived as a wide-eyed 14-year-old, alone and homesick, but determined not to waste the opportunity of a lifetime.

By the time of his senior year, he was regarded the second most valuable high school prospect in the United States after LeBron James. After one season at Duke University-playing for legendary "Coach K" Mike Krzyzewski-Deng entered the NBA draft in 2004, and was chosen as the seventh pick overall by the Phoenix Suns before being immediately traded to Chicago. Twice named to the NBA All-Star team in 2012 and 2013, Deng has yet to land an NBA Finals ring, with the closest he has come being a defeat in the Eastern Conference finals with Chicago in 2011. With the Lakers crashing to their worst-ever 17-65 season last year, Deng is unlikely to be challenging for championship honors with his new employers any time soon. Nevertheless, he remains enthused by the challenge of a daunting rebuilding project.

"At this point in my career, even though I've been in the league 13 years, I've still got a lot of basketball to play. There's a lot I could do," Deng said.

"From my perspective, whatever happened here last season, that's the past."

"For the group now, this is a new beginning and we've got a lot to prove. We've got young guys who've got a lot to learn but also who are willing to work hard and improve. We've got a system that is really exciting." Deng is wise enough to avoid setting concrete season targets for an inexperienced team still in transition.

"Success for everybody's going to be something different," he said. "The important thing for us is to focus on the fundamentals-build the right atmosphere, play hard every game, play unselfishly, play for each other. That's what I'm here to try and do." — AFP



SAN ANTONIO: San Antonio Spurs guard Dejunte Murray (5) shoots next to Houston Rockets guard K.J. McDaniels (32) during the second half of a preseason NBA basketball game, Friday, in San Antonio. — AP

RADWANSKA HOPING FOR LUCK AND PLUCK IN WTA FINALS DEFENCE

SINGAPORE: Agnieszka Radwanska returns to the scene of her greatest triumph next week when she opens the defence of her WTA Finals title and the 27-year-old Pole is the first to admit that luck can be as important as skill to emerge victorious in Singapore.

Radwanska became the first player in the history of the elite eight-woman tournament to lose two of her three round robin matches before claiming the title after she made the most of her good fortune to secure a surprise victory. Seeded fifth, Radwanska lost to

Maria Sharapova and Flavia Pennetta and looked all but out of the tournament before a straight-sets win over Simona Halep sneaked her through to the semi-finals with a 1-2 record on sets won.

The Pole then displayed all of her usual resilience to rally past Spaniard Garbine Muguruza in three sets before she held off Petra Kvitova to claim the title with a 6-2 4-6 6-3 victory.

"I definitely had couple of great matches," she told reporters on Saturday as she recalled last year's tri-

umph. "Obviously not the great start but I think it's a tournament that you can come back and a tournament that you don't need to win every match just to win the title," the world number three added.

"There is always the hope. A little bit of luck as well. Depends of the other scores in the group and then you can still win it. So I think that's what I actually proved last year."

Radwanska admits that she loves the unpredictable nature a tournament involving the top eight players of the

season can provide, despite the absence of world number two Serena Williams for a second straight year due to injury.

"Every year is a bit different. I think it's always very interesting because pretty much every match is 50/50 and you are really going to see good tennis," she added.

"But of course what's different? I'm just getting older and older and still glad I can qualify for another year here."

Williams' long reign as world number one was ended this year by Germany's

Angelique Kerber, who won the Australian and US Opens with her solid baseline game and also claimed an Olympic silver medal and reached the Wimbledon final.

"I think Angie (Kerber) showed everyone, all of us, that it's possible. You can beat Serena also in the grand slam final. She definitely proved that everybody can be on the top," Radwanska added in praise of the German. "That's why I think it's very tight right now. I think next year will be very interesting for a lot of girls." — Reuters

KEYS TO DEBUT IN WTA FINALS

SINGAPORE: Madison Keys is the first American outside of Serena and Venus Williams to earn a berth at the year-end WTA Finals in more than a decade. The last American other than a Williams to play at the season-ending tournament was Lindsay Davenport, a former coach to Keys, who last appeared in the 2005 Finals.

Keys debut in the WTA Finals, being held this coming week in Singapore, came courtesy of her winning a second career title in Birmingham, England, and reaching finals at Rome and Montreal.

She also played in the Olympic semifinals, just missing out to Petra Kvitova for the bronze medal.

"It's always been a big goal of mine to make the Finals, so being here is a huge accomplishment for me," Keys said. "I definitely want to do well here, and prove that I've worked really hard to get here and I'm here for a reason."

The 21-year-old Keys, who joined the top 10 rankings at No. 7 earlier this month, is also the first American to debut in the top 10 since Serena Williams in 1999. "I think it was definitely really surprising that I was the first American to break into the top 10 for that long," Keys said. "There have been a lot of great American players who I thought had made it, but obviously not."

She added, "I just look at it as a great accomplishment and a huge opportunity to go out and play tennis, and have fun and maybe inspire some more young American girls to pick up some racquets."

Second-ranked Serena Williams pulled out of this year's WTA Finals for the second consecutive year having won the

title in 2014, the first year the event moved to Singapore.

Williams, who hasn't played since a semifinal loss to Karolina Pliskova at the US Open, cited a persistent right shoulder injury as reason for not competing.

Keys will face Simona Halep in her first of three round-robin matches on Sunday. They are in the round-robin Red Group along with world No. 1 Angelique Kerber and Dominika Cibulkova.

The White group consists of defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska, reigning French Open champion Garbine Muguruza, US Open finalist Karolina Pliskova and either Johanna Konta or Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Konta, who would be the first Briton to play in the year-end event since Jo Durie in 1984, already is in Singapore. Kuznetsova needs to defeat Daria Gavrilova in the Moscow final on Saturday to snatch the eighth position from Konta.

Kerber overtook Williams for the No. 1 ranking after she won the US Open last month, her second career grand slam title. In January, Kerber upset Serena Williams in the Australian Open final to win her first major.

Kerber, who became the first German woman since Steffi Graf to attain the top ranking, also won the Olympic silver medal in Rio.

"As a player I change a lot," Kerber said of this season. "I have much more confidence right now. I know how to play the big tournaments also mentally, how to win really tough matches in tough situations, or like playing finals in big tournaments, big stages." — AP



DETROIT: Detroit Red Wings center Frans Nielsen (51) defends Nashville Predators center Calle Jarnkrok (19) during the first period of an NHL hockey game yesterday in Detroit.—AP

NYQUIST LEADS RED WINGS PAST PREDATORS

DETROIT: Gustav Nyquist had a goal and an assist for Detroit. Justin Abdelkader, Drew Miller, Tomas Tatar and Darren Helm also scored as Detroit won its third straight. Petr Mrazek stopped 30 shots. P.K. Subban, Mike Ribeiro and Mike Fisher scored for Nashville, which has lost three straight. Pekka Rinne finished with 38 saves. Fisher's power-play goal with 4:46 left pulled the Predators within 4-3. It was Fisher's third goal, all on the power play. Helm had an empty-net power-play score with 22 seconds left, his fourth goal of the season, to seal the win.

COLUMBUS 3, CHICAGO 2

Rookie defenseman Zach Werenski had a goal and an assist, and teammates Nick Foligno and William Karlsson picked up their first goals of the season as Columbus beat Chicago 3-2 on Friday night. Columbus' Sergei Bobrovsky blocked 32 shots as the Blue Jackets picked up their first win of the season, avoiding a repeat of last season's disastrous 0-8 start. Tyler Motte and Richard Panik scored for Chicago (2-3-0), and Corey Crawford had 25 saves. The Blue Jackets (1-2-0) took the lead when the 19-year-old Werenski netted a wrist shot from the point during a power play at 9:10 in the first period. It was his team-leading second goal of the season.

ISLANDERS 3, COYOTES 2

Johnny Boychuk's short-handed goal early in

NHL results/standings

NY Islanders 3, Arizona 2; Columbus 3, Chicago 2; Detroit 5, Nashville 3.

Western Conference						Eastern Conference						
Central Division						Atlantic Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS	
St. Louis	3	1	1	13	11	7	Montreal	3	0	1	16	7
Minnesota	3	1	0	15	11	6						
Colorado	3	1	0	14	11	6						
Dallas	2	1	1	14	13	5						
Winnipeg	2	2	0	14	16	4						
Chicago	2	3	0	18	18	4						
Nashville	1	3	0	10	14	2						
Pacific Division						Metropolitan Division						
Vancouver	4	0	0	10	6	8	Washington	3	0	1	11	6
Edmonton	4	1	0	20	16	8	Pittsburgh	3	1	1	12	14
San Jose	3	2	0	14	15	6	NY Rangers	2	2	0	15	12
Anaheim	1	3	1	10	14	3	Carolina	1	1	2	13	14
Calgary	1	3	1	14	21	3	NY Islanders	2	3	0	12	14
Los Angeles	1	3	0	10	15	2	New Jersey	1	2	1	6	8
Arizona	1	3	0	12	18	2	Philadelphia	1	2	1	13	16
							Columbus	1	2	0	8	11

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L).

the third period lifted New York to the victory. Dennis Seidenberg and Ryan Strome also scored for New York, and Jaroslav Halak stopped 23 shots in the Islanders' second win in three home games after opening with two road losses. Brad Richardson and Radim Vrbata scored 13 seconds apart in the first period to tie the score for the Coyotes. Louis Domingue

had 28 saves as Phoenix lost its third straight on the road after one home win. The game marked the first NHL meeting between the Strome brothers. Dylan Strome, 19, was the third overall pick by the Coyotes in the 2015 draft and made his debut earlier this week. Ryan Strome, 23, was the fifth overall pick in the Islanders in the 2011 draft.—AP



BEIJING: In this Oct. 7, 2016 file photo, Madison Keys of the United States serves against Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic during the women's singles quarterfinals of the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing. Keys is the first American outside of Serena and Venus Williams to earn a berth at the year-end WTA Finals in more than a decade.—AP

KUZNETSOVA RETAINS KREMLIN CUP TITLE

MOSCOW: Top-seeded Svetlana Kuznetsova retained her Kremlin Cup title yesterday with a straight-sets win over Australian Daria Gavrilova in the final to claim the last spot in the season-ending WTA Finals in Singapore.

Russia's two-time Grand Slam title winner, ranked ninth, won 6-2, 6-1 in one hour, 11 minutes to record her third win over the 22-year-old Gavrilova in as many meetings. "I felt worn out ahead of the start and had no idea of how I would play today," Kuznetsova admitted.

"Luckily, my desire to play prevailed and I managed to overcome the tiredness. I really wanted to show my best tennis here and I'm happy that everything worked well." With her Kremlin Cup win veteran Kuznetsova, 31, leapfrogged Johanna Konta of Great Britain to take the last spot in next week's WTA finals.

Moscow-born Gavrilova, who was playing in her first WTA tour final, started in a lively fashion, breaking early for a 2-0 lead, but Kuznetsova broke back on three occasions to take the opening set in 43 minutes.

In the second Kuznetsova underlined her supremacy on the hard court of Moscow's Olympic indoor stadium, claiming the set and the match after three more breaks of serve. "I played twice a day since Tuesday and was almost exhausted by today," said Gavrilova, who became an Australian citizen last year.

"I have always loved playing here. It's been a very special tournament for me since my childhood, when I came here to watch the matches after tennis practice. And I'm really happy that I played my first career final in Moscow." — AFP



MOSCOW: Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova kisses her trophy as she won the first place at the Kremlin Cup tennis tournament against Australia's Daria Gavrilova in Moscow, Russia, yesterday.—AP

DODGERS SAVE CLAYTON KERSHAW FOR GAME 6

LOS ANGELES: Clayton Kershaw gripped a baseball in his left hand and grimaced while he watched Game 5 of the NL Championship Series from the dugout. The Los Angeles Dodgers' best pitcher was ready and eager, and he was sitting on three days of rest. Manager Dave Roberts could have deployed him Thursday night in Chavez Ravine and probably again in relief at Wrigley Field.

Roberts declined to play his ace, instead holding his top card for the weekend. The Dodgers decided to rely on rookie Kenta Maeda and their busy bullpen against the NL's best offense.

Those pitchers hung in for the first three hours, but eventually proved to be no match for Jon Lester in the Chicago Cubs' 8-4 victory. Los Angeles now trails the NLCS 3-2 after getting outscored 18-6 in two straight home games.

But the Dodgers didn't sound discouraged as they packed up for their flight. "We can grab that momentum by one name," Dodgers first baseman Adrian Gonzalez said. "Kershaw."

Although Roberts has already proven unafraid to do unorthodox things with his pitchers in October, he stuck to a conventional plan to save Kershaw for Game 6.

And instead of pitching to clinch a pennant Saturday night, Kershaw must attempt to save the Dodgers' season again. "We've got Clayton going in Game 6, so that's a game we expect to win," Roberts said.

Kershaw volunteered to pitch Game 5, but Roberts had several reasons to turn him down. Roberts figured he would need to

start Maeda at some point in the next three games, and he hoped the home crowd would benefit the inconsistent Japanese right-hander. With a day off Friday, Roberts also knew he could go deep into his bullpen - which has thrown a majors-high 43 innings in the postseason - with no repercussions.

"It's not an elimination game," Roberts said after Game 4. "And I think the accumulation of (Kershaw's) usage over the last ten days plays a factor in our decision."

Instead of pitching on three days' rest in Game 5, Kershaw will be pitching on a luxurious five days' rest in Game 6. Although the three-time NL Cy Young Award winner already has pitched 19 1-3 innings in the postseason, a midseason injury kept him off the mound for 2 1/2 months, leaving his arm with much less accumulated action than in a normal season - 168 1-3 innings combined this year, compared to 246 1-3 last season.

Kershaw shrugs off that notion, saying he feels pretty much the same as he did in previous Octobers. The biggest difference is that Kershaw, who acquired a reputation for postseason struggles over the past several seasons, has begun to erase that reputation this fall while he attempts to reach his first World Series.

"That's who you want in your decision game," Dodgers shortstop Corey Seager said. "We're looking forward to the battle."

After pitching decently in his two starts in the NL Division Series against Washington, Kershaw dominated the Cubs with seven innings of two-hit ball in Game 2, and closer Kenley Jansen finished off a 1-0 victory.

Regardless of the success of this call, Roberts has made a series of canny decisions in the postseason. His clever pitching staff management in the decisive Game 5 of the NLDS against Washington thrilled long-suffering fans who found manager Don Mattingly too reactive.

Roberts used setup man Joe Blanton in the third inning, kept Jansen in for 51 pitches and seven outs, and went to Kershaw to close out a 4-3 thriller.

Although Kershaw wasn't chosen for Game 5, Roberts clearly didn't have much faith in the alternative, pulling Maeda after just 3 2-3 innings and 76 pitches.

Maeda trailed 1-0 after three batters in Game 5, but after striking out two Cubs to end the first, he held them without a hit until Javier Baez's leadoff double in the fourth. Moments later, Roberts curiously pulled him with Lester coming up for Chicago. Roberts said he thought Maeda's stuff was fading, and he decided to rely on his high-mileage bullpen.

"I was a little surprised," Maeda said through a translator. The Dodgers' bullpen kept it even until the sixth, when Addison Russell hit a tiebreaking two-run homer off Blanton, one of Roberts' most reliable arms until recently.

The wheels fell off for Los Angeles in Chicago's five-run eighth inning, turning a tense game into a second straight blowout victory. The Cubs are one win away from a chance to end the championship drought that dwarfs all others, but Kershaw will finally get another shot to shut them down.—AP

APPEAL OF WOMEN'S SOCCER GROWING, FIFA CHIEF SAYS IN JORDAN

AMMAN: The U-17 Women's World Cup hosted by Jordan shows that the sport "is not only confined to some parts of the world," FIFA's president said after watching North Korea win the title in a 5-4 penalty shootout against Japan.

The competition, which ended late Friday, marked the first time an international women's soccer tournament was held in the Middle East. FIFA's Gianni Infantino said more needs to be done to develop soccer in a region where women aren't typically encouraged to take up sports.

"That's why it was important to have this U-17 World Cup here," the head of world soccer's governing body told reporters after the title match.

"The resounding success of this World Cup shows that women's football is not only confined to some parts of the world, but it's really worldwide," he said.

"More needs to be done," he said. "Girls have to come out, have to play, the parents have to bring them to play football, and I think the future will show that we were right in coming here."

Infantino said women's soccer has already come a long way, citing what

he said were strong skills displayed in the 16-team competition in Jordan.

"Women's football, even at the youth level, has nothing to do any more with what it was only some years ago," he said. "Now the girls are really athletes with top skills." For Jordanian girls and women, the tournament offered a rare opportunity to watch a game in a stadium. Typically, crowds are overwhelmingly male and women tend to stay away because of a rowdy atmosphere, said Mohammed Abu Samak, event manager at the Jordan Football Association.

Over the years, repeated efforts to attract more families and female spectators have failed, he said, adding that he's not optimistic about change. Ibraheem Qudaisat, 46, attended Friday's game with his three young daughters, a first for the family. Qudaisat, a physician, said he agreed because he was counting on a relaxed family-friendly atmosphere in the stadium.

His oldest daughter, 11-year-old Sarah, had been pleading with him to go to a match because former students from her school play in the Jordanian U-17 national team.

Sarah, who became interested in



AMMAN: FIFA President Gianni Infantino, second left, awards the silver trophy to Japanese captain Fuka Nagano after the final game against North Korea at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup at Amman International Stadium in Amman, Jordan, Friday. — AP

taekwondo after a Jordanian won the country's first Olympic gold medal in the sport this year, was excited to watch her first soccer game. "When I

saw the Olympics this year, I got inspired by seeing sports," she said. "And now I am inspired by football." The U-17 Women's World Cup was first

held in 2008 and takes place every other year. North Korea won in 2008 and became champion for the second time Friday. — AP

STOKES TO THE RESCUE AS ENGLAND LEADS BANGLADESH BY 273 RUNS

CHITTAGONG: Ben Stokes came to England's rescue yesterday with a fine all-round performance which gave the tourists a 273-run lead against Bangladesh in the first test with two days left.

Stokes ripped through Bangladesh with reverse-swing to finish on 4-26 - including three wickets in the morning session - as the hosts were all out for 248 in their first innings after resuming on 221-5. At the change of innings, England led by 45 runs. Then Stokes' restrained 85-run knock helped England end the third day on 228-8 in its second innings, with its lead looking significant on a pitch offering turn and variable bounce.

Chris Woakes and Stuart Broad were undefeated on 11 and 10, respectively. "If we can get up to 300, 310, 320 lead, it would be nice. We are lucky that we have a really strong batting lineup," Stokes said.

Stokes and Jonny Bairstow combined for a 127-run partnership after England was stuttering on 62-5. Shakib Al Hasan claimed his 15th five-for, returning figures of 5-79. Shakib claimed two quick wickets to reduce England to 28-3, aided by Mehedi Hasan before lunch.

Mehedi broke through with the prized wicket of Alastair Cook for 12, induced by a quicker delivery.

Joe Root (1) and Ben Duckett (15) failed to negotiate the straighter delivery of Shakib as England lost three wickets for two runs. Garry Ballance perished to a sweep shot off Taijul Islam for 9, and Moeen Ali went for 14 against Shakib to

leave England only 17 runs ahead with five wickets remaining.

Stokes and Jonny Bairstow resisted, showing the patience the increasingly deteriorating pitch demanded. Fast bowler Kamrul Islam was the unlikely man to break the partnership and grabbed his maiden wicket as Bairstow's attempted cut dragged the ball onto his stumps.

Bairstow's 95-ball knock, with six fours, helped him become the highest run-scorer as a designated wicketkeeper in a calendar year, eclipsing Andy Flower's 1,045.

Stokes approached his fourth century until Shakib broke his resistance as he tried to sweep one that didn't turn as much as he expected. Stokes smashed six fours and three sixes in 151 balls. Shakib then completed his five-for with the wicket of Adil Rashid.

Earlier, Bangladesh survived just 12 overs to add 27 runs to its overnight total. Offspinner Ali broke through in the second ball of the day as Shakib played a reckless shot to throw away his wicket on his overnight score of 31.

Legspinner Rashid then got night-watchman Shafiq for 2 after which Stokes' reverse-swing burst accounted for three debutants - Mehedi, Sabbir Rahman and Kamrul in the space of just nine runs.

"For me the game is still in the balance," Bangladesh fast bowling coach Courtney Walsh said. "We have to bat well second time around." England scored 293 in its first innings. — AP



ABU DHABI: Pakistani spinner Yasir Shah tries to stop the ball on the second day of the second Test between Pakistan and the West Indies at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi yesterday. — AFP

WINDIES CRUMBLE AFTER MISBAH'S NEAR MISS

ABU DHABI: West Indies lost two late wickets to hand the initiative to Pakistan on the second day of the second Test in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

West Indies had defied Pakistan's bowlers well until the 44th over with the score 106 for 2, but they then lost Marlon Samuels (30) and Kraigg Brathwaite (21) in the space of three balls without adding any further runs.

Nightwatchman Devendra Bishoo and Jermaine Blackwood were yet to score as West Indies trail Pakistan's first innings total of 452 by 346 runs with six wickets intact.

Darren Bravo, who made 87 and 116 in the first Test in Dubai, made an attractive 43 but his dismissal left Pakistan in a dominant position. A late collapse hit the West Indies hard as Samuels edged fast bowler Rahat Ali to slip before Brathwaite was run out by Misbah-ul-Haq's throw after setting off for a quick single. Bravo, who opened the innings after Brathwaite was off the field when Pakistan were batting and could not come in at the start, helped the tourists reach 27 without loss at the tea interval.

But in the third over after tea Rahat gave Pakistan the breakthrough when he trapped Leon Johnson leg-before for 12. Bravo and Brathwaite took the score to 65 before drama unfolded involving English umpire Michael Gough as two of his decisions were overturned on referral.

Leg-spinner Yasir Shah struck Bravo on his back pad as the left-hander tried to pull a short ball but Gough turned down a vociferous appeal from Pakistan players.

Misbah reviewed the decision and television replays resulted in Bravo being sent on his way trapped leg-before for 43. The very next ball Shah trapped Samuels in front of his stumps and Gough raised his finger, only for a review to grant the batsman a reprieve as replays showed he had hit the ball.

SCOREBOARD	
ABU DHABI: Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the second Test between Pakistan and West Indies played at Sheikh Zayed Stadium yesterday:	
Pakistan first innings (overnight 304-4)	20-1-65-0, Holder 22-8-47-3, Bishoo 26-0-112-1, Chase 19-1-80-0, Brathwaite 9-0-36-1
Sami Aslam b Bishoo	6
Azhar Ali b Gabriel	0
Asad Shafiq b Gabriel	68
Younis Khan c Chase b Brathwaite	127
Misbah-ul-Haq lbw b Gabriel	96
Yasir Shah c Bishoo b Holder	23
Sarfraz Ahmed b Gabriel	56
Mohammad Nawaz b Holder	25
Sohail Khan c Johnson b Holder	26
Zulfiqar Babar c Hope b Gabriel	0
Rahat Ali not out	0
Extras: (b1, lb15, nb9)	25
Total: (all out; 119.1 overs)	452
Fall of wickets: 1-6 (Ali), 2-42 (Aslam), 3-129 (Shafiq), 4-304 (Younis), 5-332 (Misbah), 6-342 (Shah), 7-412 (Ahmed), 8-430 (Nawaz), 9-452 (Sohail).	
Bowling: Gabriel 23.1-1-96-5 (9nb), Cummins	
West Indies first innings	
L. Johnson lbw b Rahat	12
D. Bravo lbw b Shah	43
K. Brathwaite run out	21
M. Samuels c Aslam b Rahat	30
D. Bishoo not out	0
J. Blackwood not out	0
Extras:	0
Total: (for four wkts; 45 overs)	106
To bat: R. Chase, S. Hope, J. Holder, M. Cummins, S. Gabriel	
Fall of wickets: 1-27 (Johnson), 2-65 (Bravo), 3-106 (Samuels), 4-106 (Brathwaite)	
Bowling: Rahat 12-6-31-2, Sohail 9-3-16-0, Babar 11-1-29-0, Shafiq 1-0-2-0, Shah 12-5-28-1.	

MISBAH FALLS SHORT

Earlier, Pakistan skipper Misbah missed out on his 11th Test century by just four runs, but Sarfraz Ahmed (56) and Mohammad Nawaz (25) added 70 for the seventh wicket to ensure Pakistan crossed the 450-mark.

Shannon Gabriel, who took a career best five for 96, had dismissed Misbah in the first session before bowling Ahmed soon after lunch. He dismissed Zulfiqar Babar for nought to wrap up the innings. "There is not much for the bowlers in the pitch so it's great to get five wickets and I am very happy," said Gabriel, following his first Test five-wicket haul.

Sohail Khan hit five boundaries before he became one of three victims for Jason Holder, who finished with 3-47. Pakistan had resumed the day on 304-4 in the hope that Misbah and

nightwatchman Shah would survive the second new ball which the West Indies took at the start of play. Shah was fortunate to escape a leg-before review off Holder but Misbah was not so lucky as he was dismissed in the next over. Misbah missed an inswinging delivery which hit him in front of the wicket, with umpire Gough raising his finger. The Pakistani skipper reluctantly reviewed the decision but without success. Shah was the next to go as he pulled Holder straight to square-leg fielder Bishoo after scoring 23. Ahmed paced his innings well, hitting six boundaries in his 59-ball knock, as Pakistan compiled an imposing first-innings score.

Pakistan lead the three-match series 1-0 after winning the first Test—a day-night affair played with a pink ball—by 56 runs. — AFP

SCOREBOARD

CHITTAGONG: Scores at stumps on the third day of the first Test between Bangladesh and England at the Zahir Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday:

England first innings 293 (M. Ali 68, J. Bairstow 52, Mehedi Hasan 6-80)	Root 2-0-5-0
Bangladesh first innings (overnight 221-5)	England 2nd innings
Tamim Iqbal c Bairstow b Batty	78
Imrul Kayes b Ali	21
Mominul Haque c Stokes b Ali	0
Mahmudullah c Root b Rashid	38
Mushfiqur Rahim c Bairstow b Stokes	48
Shakib Al Hasan st Bairstow b Ali	31
Shafiqul Islam c Broad b Rashid	2
Sabbir Rahman c Cook b Stokes	19
Mehedi Hasan lbw b Stokes	1
Tajjul Islam not out	3
Kamrul Islam b Stokes	0
Extras (b2 lb 4 w1)	7
Total (all out, 86 overs)	248
Fall of wicket: 1-29 (Kayes), 2-29 (Mominul), 3-119 (Mahmudullah), 4-163 (Tamim), 5-221 (Rahim), 6-221 (Shakib), 7-238 (Shafiq), 8-239 (Mehedi), 9-248 (Sabbir), 10-248 (Kamrul).	
Bowling: Broad 8-2-12-0, Batty 17-1-51-1, Woakes 7-2-15-0 (w1), Rashid 16-1-58-2, Ali 22-4-75-3, Stokes 14-5-26-4,	
A. Cook c Mahmudullah b Mehedi	12
B. Duckett c Mominul b Shakib	15
J. Root lbw b Shakib	1
G. Ballance c Kayes b Taijul	9
M. Ali c Rahim b Shakib	14
B. Stokes lbw b Shakib	85
J. Bairstow b Kamrul	47
C. Woakes not out	11
A. Rashid lbw Shakib	9
S. Broad not out	10
Extras (b2 lb8 pen 5)	15
Total (eight wickets; 76 overs)	228
Fall of wickets: 1- 26 (Cook), 2-27 (Root), 3-28 (Duckett), 4-36 (Ballance) 5-62 (Moeen), 6-189 (Bairstow), 7-197 (Stokes), 8-213 (Rashid)	
To bat: G. Batty	
Bowling (to date): Mehedi 18-1-54-1, Shakib 31-7-79-5, Taijul 15-2-40-1, Kamrul 8-0-24-1, Mahmudullah 1-0-6-0, Shafiq 3-0-10-0.	



ABU DHABI: West Indies' batsman Leon Johnson (2ndR) plays a shot on the second day of the second Test between Pakistan and West Indies at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi yesterday. — AFP

REID'S STOPPAGE-TIME WINNER ADDS TO SUNDERLAND STRIFE



LONDON: Winston Reid's 94th-minute goal enabled West Ham to grasp a last-gasp 1-0 win over Premier League basement club Sunderland at the London Stadium yesterday.

Defeat left Sunderland still searching for their first league win of the season. But it had appeared the northeast club would at least come away with only their third point of the campaign and a first clean sheet after surviving some early pressure from the Hammers.

But in the fourth minute of added-on time all that changed when New Zealand defender Reid shot through a crowded penalty area to give the Hammers just a second win at their new home following the east London club's move from Upton Park. Former Manchester United manager David Moyes had set Sunderland up to defend and they all but invited the Hammers to attack them. As a result, the hosts created several chances early on, Simone Zaza going close with two headers before playmaker Dimitri Payet curled a shot just wide.

The Frenchman then evaded several Sunderland defenders obly to be denied

by a good save from Black Cats goalkeeper Jordan Pickford. Zaza then played in Manuel Lanzini but Lamine Kone, covering back, blocked the Italy striker's effort.

Payet was unlucky not to put the Hammers in front shortly before the half-hour mark when his low shot beat Pickford only to hit the post.

Eventually, Sunderland created chance of their own as former Hammers striker Jermain Defoe gave Adrian his first save of the match. Zaza, on the stroke of half-time, managed an acrobatic overhead kick following John O'Shea's half-clearance but the shot flew well wide of Pickford's goal.

Despite a largely one-sided opening 45 minutes, Sunderland had an excellent chance to break the deadlock early in the second half.

A defensive mix-up left Wahbi Khazri one-one-one with Adrian, but the Spanish keeper was quickly off his line to block.

West Ham continued to have the lion's share of possession without truly testing Pickford and there was frustration for the home side when Hammers substitute Ashley Fletcher made a mess of a return pass following another fine run by Payet.

But just when a draw looked assured, West Ham snatched all three points. A later corner was played short by Payet and, having received a return pass, he squared the ball to centre-half Reid who, in one stylish movement, turned on the edge of the box and struck a low shot through a crowd of legs and beyond Pickford. — AFP



LONDON: Arsenal's Chilean striker Alexis Sanchez (R) fails to make a header in front of Middlesbrough's Spanish goalkeeper Victor Valdes (L) during the English Premier League football match between Arsenal and Middlesbrough at the Emirates Stadium in London yesterday. — AFP

BATTLING BORO DENY WENGER BIRTHDAY WIN

BUZZING BOURNEMOUTH KEEP SPURS FROM SUMMIT



BOURNEMOUTH: Tottenham Hotspur had to settle for a third successive draw in a hard-fought but goalless encounter with Bournemouth at the Vitality Stadium yesterday. Overrun by Eddie Howe's hard-running Bournemouth side in the opening stages, Tottenham battled their way back into the game and were in charge for most of the final hour.

But although both teams hit the woodwork, neither was able to muster enough shots on target to claim that they had deserved all three points.

Mauricio Pochettino's Tottenham will be content to have preserved their unbeaten Premier League record, although they spurned an opportunity to supplant leaders Manchester City.

Bournemouth looked as confident early on as would have been expected of a team who had beaten Hull City 6-1 at home in their previous match.

Tottenham, for their part, appeared weary after their mid-week 0-0 draw at Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League and they almost fell behind inside six minutes. Spurs failed to clear Jack Wilshere's short corner and Charlie Daniels met Dan Gosling's cross four yards out, but France goalkeeper Hugo Lloris got his knee in the way and deflected the ball onto the crossbar. Tottenham tried to settle, but found it difficult as Bournemouth's energy kept them at full stretch and it was not until the 17th minute that they went close.

Erik Lamela took a pass from Dele Alli and advanced to within 25 yards of goal before sending in a speculative shot that clipped the angle of post and crossbar with goalkeeper Artur Boruc unable to do more than spectate.

That seemed to give Spurs confidence and they began to find their rhythm, Lamela twisting past players and Christian Eriksen finding plenty of space.

In the 27th minute Boruc was forced into action, saving low to his left when Eriksen's shot flicked off Harry Arter and looked likely to creep in at the near post.

Shortly after, Son Heung-Min set up Danny Rose on the corner of the six-yard area and the England left-back should have done better than hit the ball across goal.

Tottenham's dominance meant that Bournemouth were struggling to make more chances, a header and a shot from Callum Wilson—both off target—their only further efforts before the interval.

Spurs' control of the game continued

after the break. Alli drew a full-length save from Boruc from 20 yards, then Eriksen's flick in midfield sent Lamela through in a test of speed with two defenders, but he was unable to make quite enough space for a shot.—AFP

Live Matches on TV (Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Man City V Southampton 15:30
beIN SPORTS 2 HD
Chelsea V Man United 18:00
beIN SPORTS 2 HD

SPANISH LEAGUE

Celta de Vigo V Deportivo 13:00
beIN SPORTS 3 HD
Sevilla V Atletico de Madrid 17:15
beIN SPORTS 3 HD
Villarreal CF V Las Palmas 19:30
beIN SPORTS 3 HD
Malaga CF V CD Leganes 19:30
beIN SPORTS
Real Madrid V de Bilbao 21:45
beIN SPORTS 3 HD

ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE

Udinese Calcio V Pescara 13:30
beIN SPORTS 4 HD
Atalanta V Internazionale 16:00
beIN SPORTS 4 HD
Cagliari V Fiorentina 16:00
beIN SPORTS
Crotone V SSC Napoli 16:00
beIN SPORTS 7 HD
Empoli V AC Chievo Verona 16:00
beIN SPORTS
Torino FC V SS Lazio 16:00
beIN SPORTS 12 HD EN
Bologna V Sassuolo Calcio 19:00
beIN SPORTS 4 HD
AS Roma V Citta di Palermo 21:45
beIN SPORTS 4 HD

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Leipzig V Werder Bremen 16:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD
Schalke 04 V FSV Mainz 05 18:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD

FRENCH LEAGUE

Caen V Saint Etienne 16:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD
FC Metz V OGC Nice 18:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD
PSG V Olympique de Marseille 21:45
beIN SPORTS 6 HD



LONDON: Arsenal went top of the Premier League, for a few hours at least, but their seven-game winning run came to an end as Middlesbrough secured a goalless draw at the Emirates Stadium yesterday.

The North London side have gone above Manchester City, who play on Sunday, but could yet be leapfrogged by Liverpool, who face West Bromwich Albion in Saturday's late kick-off. But the Gunners were a touch fortunate to gain even a point in a match where visitors Middlesbrough had arguably the better chances, especially in the first half, and Arsenal were indebted to the performance of goalkeeper Petr Cech. Arsene Wenger's side had a rare off day in front of goal as the Arsenal manager suffered disappointment on his 67th birthday. Arsenal were without two midfielders in Granit Xhaka (suspension) and Santi Cazorla (injury) so Francis Coquelin and Mohamed Elneny both started.

Middlesbrough looked set up to defend and it appeared as if it would be a difficult match for them early on as Arsenal dominated, with the northeast side struggling to get out of their own half. Mesut Ozil, who had scored a hat-trick in Arsenal's 6-0 Champions League victory over Ludogorets on Wednesday, shot just over with a free kick before Elneny's long-range drive narrowly cleared the crossbar.

But from nowhere, Middlesbrough should have taken the lead as Adama Traore's pace helped him get the better of Laurent Koscielny and go one-on-one with Cech. The Arsenal keeper brilliantly saved before Alvaro Negredo somehow missed the rebound.

Within seconds, Gaston Ramirez hit the bar with a free kick as Arsenal enjoyed another let-off. Wenger's side went close with a free-kick of their own as Victor Valdes saved well to keep out Alexis Sanchez's effort. Middlesbrough, however, continued to create chances with Cech's acrobatics denying Ramirez from Negredo's deflected header on.

WALCOTT CHANCE

Arsenal still could have been ahead at the break but Ozil could not quite reach a Theo Walcott cross. Wenger's side had a chance to take the lead moments after the restart as Valdes dropped the ball straight at

Walcott's feet, but Ben Gibson was able to clear.

Sanchez then shot wide with another free-kick from 25 yards out while the Chilean was also denied by a fabulous Valdes one-handed save following his powerful shot on the edge of the penalty area.

At the other end, the pace of Traore continued to cause problems and the former Aston Villa forward was denied by another Cech stop after he had got the better of Koscielny.

Shkodran Mustafi was fortunate to stay on the pitch when, after giving the ball away, he hauled down Ramirez but referee Mike Dean made do with just a yellow card.

Arsenal fans were getting frustrated but their side continued to create chances with Walcott feeding Sanchez who shot straight at the keeper.

Wenger then took off a disappointing Alex Iwobi and brought on Lucas Perez in his place, while Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain came on for Elneny. But the changes appeared to make little difference as Boro continued to defend solidly, with Sanchez unable to reach an Ozil cross from the right.

Walcott could only shoot straight at Valdes after linking up well with Perez down the right and then headed straight at the visiting keeper from another Ozil delivery.

Middlesbrough might have won it late on but it took a brilliant saving challenge from Koscielny to foil Negredo, who appeared to have broken clear. Arsenal's disappointing day was completed deep into stoppage time as Oxlade-Chamberlain's cross was turned into Middlesbrough's goal by Ozil only for an offside flag to cut short the Gunners' celebrations. — AFP

LEICESTER CAP FINE WEEK WITH VICTORY OVER PALACE



LEICESTER: Champions Leicester City left striker Jamie Vardy on the bench but capped a fine week with a 3-1 defeat of Crystal Palace that manager Claudio Ranieri described as their best performance of the season.

Ahmed Musa and Christian Fuchs both scored their first goals for the club while Shinji Okazaki grabbed his first of the season as Leicester returned to the kind of form that propelled them to the title in May. Yohan Cabaye scored a late consolation for the Londoners. "That was our best performance so far this season. It was the shape and model of last season and we concentrated on doing our job," Ranieri, who turned 65 on Thursday, told the BBC. "I said I would share my birthday cake in the dressing room if I got a clean sheet... They clearly don't want a piece!"

After continuing their 100 percent start in the Champions League on Tuesday, Leicester's disappointing domestic form came back under scrutiny but they responded emphatically.

Initially it was Palace who were the more threatening though and Christian Benteke's powerful header cannoned off the crossbar with Leicester slow to get into their stride.

Leicester had created little until three minutes before halftime when record signing Musa lashed home an unstoppable shot from Islam Slimani's set-up.

Ranieri's side doubled their lead when Okazaki fired home in the 63rd minute after Danny Drinkwater's cross was only half cleared by the Palace defence and Austrian defender Fuchs iced the cake with a thunderous third from 25 metres.

Palace, who were perhaps a little hard done by to be trailing 3-0, grabbed some reward for an impressive 23 goal attempts when Cabaye struck five minutes from time.

Leicester are now unbeaten in 20 Premier League matches at home—just one short of matching the longest streak in the top flight since Chelsea's 21 unbeaten run ended in August 2015. — Reuters



LEICESTER: Leicester City's Austrian defender Christian Fuchs (2nd L) shoots to score their third goal during the English Premier League football match between Leicester City and Crystal Palace at King Power Stadium in Leicester, central England yesterday. — AFP

ARFIELD LATE WINNER BREAKS EVERTON HEARTS



BURNLEY: Canada international Scott Arfield's 90th-minute winner earned Burnley an improbable 2-1 victory over a dominant Everton at Turf Moor yesterday.

Everton impressed in a 1-1 draw with Manchester City last weekend and were looking to close to within a point of Pep Guardiola's side in the Premier League table.

But after Yannick Bolasie had cancelled out Sam Vokes's opener for Burnley, Arfield slid home at the death to lift Burnley three

points clear of the relegation zone and prevent Everton breaking into the top four.

It was only a second win in seven league games for Sean Dyche's Burnley as Ronald Koeman's Everton registered a fourth successive match without victory.

Koeman made two changes to his starting XI, recalling Ross Barkley and bringing in Kevin Mirallas, who warmed home goalkeeper Tom Heaton's palms with an early effort following a Bolasie surge.

Barkley was left on the bench for the draw at Manchester City and he signalled his determination to prove his worth to Koeman with a powerful strike that Heaton pushed away.

Everton totally dominated the opening stages, seeing over 70 percent of possession in the first half hour. But it was Burnley who took the lead, six minutes before half-time,

after a blunder by goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg. The Dutch international, who saved two penalties at City, could only palm Arfield's tame poked shot into the path of Wales striker Vokes, who gleefully tucked the ball into an unintended net.

After Heaton had saved comfortably from Barkley, Bolasie equalised just before the hour, pinching the ball from team-mate Lukaku and slamming home his first Everton goal. Everton had all the momentum and Burnley spent the last half an hour on the ropes, Michael Keane intervening to deny Lukaku and Heaton swatting away a cross from Bolasie as Lukaku closed in.

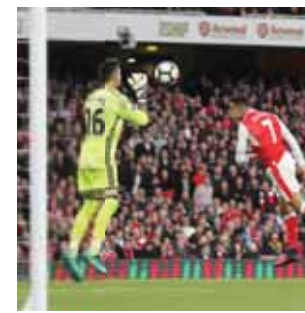
But with stoppage time approaching, Johann Berg Gudmundsson's shot came back off the bar and Arfield pounced on the rebound to earn the hosts a smash-and-grab success. — AFP

Sports

New Zealand set world record with 37-10 win over Australia



Battling Boro deny Wenger birthday win



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

APPEAL OF WOMEN'S SOCCER GROWING, FIFA CHIEF SAYS IN JORDAN Page 18



VALENCIA: FC Barcelona's Lionel Messi, center, duels for the ball during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Valencia and FC Barcelona at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia, Spain, yesterday. — AP

MESSI PENALTY SNATCHES THRILLING BARCA WIN

VALENCIA: Lionel Messi shrugged off his recent woes from the penalty spot with a decisive 94th-minute spot-kick to move Barcelona top of La Liga with a pulsating 3-2 win at Valencia yesterday.

However, the dramatic victory came at a cost for Barca as a tearful Andres Iniesta suffered ligament damage in his right knee that could keep him out for several months.

Messi netted twice and his opener midway through the first half was allowed to stand despite Luis Suarez straying into an offside position. Valencia hit back with two goals in six second-half minutes through on-loan Barca winger Munir El Haddadi and Rodrigo.

However, Suarez levelled and was then upended inside the area by Aymen

Abdenour to allow Messi to hold his nerve and slot past penalty-stopping specialist Diego Alves for all three points.

Victory moves the champions a point clear of Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid, who face Sevilla and Athletic Bilbao respectively today.

He may be one of the finest footballers ever but Messi has struggled from the spot in recent seasons, most notably blazing over as Argentina lost the Copa America final to Chile in June.

"Our best penalty-taker is Leo Messi without any doubt," Barca boss Luis Enrique said. Valencia stopper Alves had saved three penalties this season and from Messi in the past, but was beaten low to his right.

"Messi took responsibility in the best

moment and it is a glorious feeling for us," added Enrique. A bad-tempered encounter spilled over after Messi's strike, though, as Suarez and Neymar were hit by a plastic bottle thrown by the Valencia fans as Barca celebrated. "We celebrated as it is normal to celebrate a last-minute winner," said Enrique.

WILD CELEBRATIONS

The game was only 14 minutes old when Iniesta was carried from the field in tears holding his right knee, which buckled under a heavy challenge from Enzo Perez.

Enrique was furious with referee Alberto Undiano Mallenco as Perez avoided even a yellow card, whilst a series of other fouls on Barca players went unpunished.

Barca confirmed Iniesta suffered lateral collateral ligament damage, but said further tests would be carried out to determine the exact extent of the injury.

However, it was Valencia who were up in arms at the officials when Messi opened the scoring on 22 minutes. The Argentine's fifth goal in three games since returning from a groin injury sneaked in at Alves's near post, but the Brazilian goalkeeper had been distracted by the presence of the offside Suarez jumping over Messi's effort.

Valencia turned the game around early in the second half as Dani Parejo's cut-back was drilled into the bottom corner by El Haddadi against his parent club.

The 21-year-old held his hands up apologetically after finding the net, but there

were wild celebrations led by new Valencia boss Cesare Prandelli moments later when Rodrigo swept home Nani's through ball.

Valencia's lead lasted just six minutes despite Alves's best efforts as Suarez pounced to smash home a rebound after Ivan Rakitic's powerful header had been saved by the Valencia stopper.

Barcelona swarmed forward in the final quarter in search of the winner, but looked set to settle for a point when a Suarez free-kick flew inches wide.

However, deep into stoppage time, Messi stroked home his 14th goal of the season to secure a vital three points in the title race. — AFP

SWANSEA STOP ROT ON BRADLEY'S HOME DEBUT



Swansea City 0



Watford 0

SWANSEA: Swansea City are still without a win since the opening day of the season but did take a step in the right direction by drawing 0-0 at home to Watford on Bob Bradley's home debut.

The result ended a sequence of four consecutive defeats for the struggling Swans, including their 3-2 loss at Arsenal last weekend in Bradley's first game at the helm.

However, the Welsh side have now gone eight matches without a victory and remain in the relegation zone, two points from safety. In contrast, Watford are still in the top half having been beaten only once in their last six games after this stalemate at the Liberty Stadium.

Swansea had not won in front of their own fans since May and in an attempt to kick-start his new team's season American boss Bradley made five changes to the side beaten narrowly by Arsenal.

Among the changes, young defender Alfie Mawson, a £5 million (\$6.1m, 5.6m euros) summer signing from second-tier Barnsley, came in to make his Premier League debut.

The big centre-back helped Swansea frustrate Watford's powerful strike pairing of Troy Deeney and Odion Ighalo, although the Hornets almost got a lucky breakthrough just before the interval.

Deeney nudged a free-kick 30 yards into the path of Younes Kaboul and his shot took a massive deflection off the Swansea wall only to loop narrowly over with Lukasz Fabianski beaten. The hosts should have been in front just after the hour mark, but when Mike van der Hoorn stretched to meet a Gylfi Sigurdsson free-kick five yards out, Heurleho Gomes made a fantastic save.

The lively Modou Barrow then set up Sigurdsson for a shot from just outside the area that beat Gomes but came back off the post with seven minutes left.

It was a frustrating finish for Swansea, and Bradley will now hope to oversee a first win when his team visit an improving Stoke City next weekend. — AFP

FLUENT LIVERPOOL BEAT WEST BROM



Liverpool 2



West Bromwich 1

LIVERPOOL: A fluent Liverpool moved second in the Premier League with a 2-1 victory over West Bromwich Albion at Anfield yesterday but will rue missing the opportunity to top the table.

Victory by a two-goal margin would have put Jurgen Klopp's side ahead of Arsenal on goals scored and when Sadio Mane and Philippe Coutinho scored in a rampant first half it looked good for the Reds.

Mane volleyed in Roberto Firmino's perfectly flighted pass after 20 minutes and with Liverpool attacking in waves Coutinho then showed great footwork to collect Mane's pass and shoot past Ben Foster in the 35th minute.

Foster made several saves to keep West Brom in touch before the visitors gained an unlikely lifeline in the 81st minute when Gareth McAuley volleyed home from close range. Liverpool have 20 points from nine matches but Arsenal, who drew 0-0 at home to Middlesbrough, have a marginally better goal difference, Manchester City (19) can return to the top if they beat Southampton today. — Reuters



LIVERPOOL: Liverpool's Emre Can, left, and West Bromwich Albion's Craig Dawson challenge for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Liverpool and West Bromwich Albion at Anfield stadium, Liverpool, England, yesterday. — AP

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GE USHERS IN NEXT ERA OF MANUFACTURING IN SAUDI



BRUSSELS: Wallonia's socialist government head Paul Magnette (L) and European Parliament President Martin Schulz leave after holding a joint press conference following their meeting regarding CETA (EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) at the European Parliament in Brussels yesterday. —AFP

EU'S 'JOB' TO SAVE TRADE PACT: CANADA

TOP EU LAWMAKER INTERVENES TO SALVAGE CETA TALKS

BRUSSELS: Canada turned up the heat on the EU yesterday saying it was the bloc's "job" to save a trade pact put in doubt by a Belgian region's refusal to sign on. Chrystia Freeland, the Canadian trade minister, was firm after leaving last-ditch talks with European parliament head Martin Schulz to salvage the proposed accord that is seven years in the making.

"Now the ball is in Europe's court and it's time for Europe to finish doing its job," she said, adding that she was returning to Toronto yesterday. "I very much hope that I will be able to return here in just a few days to Europe with my prime minister and that we will be able to... sign this agreement with Europe on October 27." Schulz also planned an 11th-hour huddle with Paul Magnette, head of Wallonia's socialist government which is blocking the agreement between Ottawa and the 28-nation European Union. The Brussels meetings are aimed at "reviving CETA talks. We can't stop at the last mile," Schulz wrote on Twitter, referring to the agreement's name. CETA would link the EU market of 500 million people with the world's 10th biggest economy. The accord was initially scheduled to be signed next Thursday with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Brussels and Schulz said that that date remained in the diary.

"The problems are on the Europeans' table and we have to try to resolve them," he said. "This meeting was very constructive and will perhaps be decisive. 'I remain optimistic.'"

Canada blasted the European Union on Friday as incapable of signing international agreements, as talks to persuade Wallonia to sign up to the huge trade deal broke down. Freeland's comments fed into warnings that the EU, beset by rising anti-globalization sentiment, may never be able to land any other deals including one with the United States.

"It seems obvious to me, to Canada, that the European Union is incapable now of having an international agreement, even with a country with such European values as Canada, and even with a country as kind and patient as Canada," Freeland said Friday.

'Democracy takes time'

Wallonia's government chief Magnette told AFP on Friday that his Belgian region needed more time but that there was still scope for an agreement. "Democracy takes a little time, Magnette said. "I wasn't asking for months, but you can't carry out a parliamentary process in two days."

The Walloon parliament earlier this week refused to let the federal Belgian government

approve the deal between Canada and the European Union, which needs to be backed by all 28 EU member states.

Belgium has seven elected assemblies: the geographic regions of Wallonia, Flanders and Brussels; the three linguistic communities; as well as a parliament and senate at the federal level.

EU trade commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said she was still hopeful a deal could be reached.

"We have engaged wholeheartedly with Wallonia the last days. Truly sad talks have been halted. Still hope to find solution in order to sign CETA," the Swede said on Twitter. The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada is opposed by anti-globalisation groups who say it is a test model to push through an even more controversial EU-US trade deal called TTIP, talks on which have also stalled.

There have been protests against both deals in several cities. Magnette on Friday pointed in particular to a highly controversial investment protection scheme buried in the deal that has drawn the fury of activists, and which is also involved in TTIP.

Wallonia enjoyed support from activist groups like Greenpeace which charged that the deal risked satisfying "corporate greed" and trampling on people's rights and health standards on both

sides of the Atlantic. British Prime Minister Theresa May on Friday dismissed warnings that the EU-Canada deal raised serious questions about whether London could strike a similar agreement after Brexit.

Intervention

The Belgian region of Wallonia affirmed yesterday it still stands in the way of a trade deal between the 28-nation European Union and Canada, but its leader and a top EU lawmaker were cautiously optimistic that the standoff could be resolved within days.

"I think it's worth taking a little more time," Walloon leader Paul Magnette after European Parliament President Martin Schulz waded into the dispute to try to salvage the pact.

Politicians in Wallonia, which is smaller than New Jersey, argue that the proposed deal would undermine labor, environment and consumer standards and allow multinationals to crush local companies. They have vowed to block a pact that the world's biggest trading bloc and Canada want to sign Thursday. Magnette said Wallonia still saw "some small difficulties." He said a better deal would bolster EU standards and set a strong precedent for future trade talks between Europe

and its trading partners.

Canada's International Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland walked away from the talks Friday on the verge of tears, saying that the EU appeared incapable of signing the deal. The pact was produced two years ago but must be endorsed unanimously.

After yesterday's separate talks with Freeland and Magnette, Schulz said he was hopeful that a compromise could be found to clear the way for Thursday's planned EU-Canada summit.

"To my eyes, there is no problem we cannot resolve," Schulz told reporters. Freeland said "the ball is in Europe's court and it's time for Europe to finish doing its job." She said she was heading back to Canada but hoped to return with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to sign the CETA accord, short for Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.

EU leaders have warned that failure to clinch the deal with Canada could ruin the bloc's credibility as a trade partner and make it more difficult to strike such agreements with the United States, Japan and other allies. A similar free trade agreement being negotiated between the EU and the United States is facing far more opposition than the Canada pact. Progress on the American deal appears unlikely until a new US president takes office in January. —Agencies



MIAMI LAKES: People fill out job applications at a job fair in Miami Lakes, Fla. Tepid income growth and shrinking opportunities for blue-collar workers have kept many Americans anxious about jobs and the economy, seven years after the Great Recession ended. —AP

TEPID GROWTH, SHRINKING JOBS HAVE MANY AMERICANS WORRIED

WASHINGTON: Tepid income growth and shrinking opportunities for blue-collar workers have kept many Americans anxious about jobs and the economy, seven years after the Great Recession ended. The unemployment rate has fallen to a relatively low 5 percent. But many Americans are struggling to keep up with an economy that has been fundamentally transformed since the recession, and is very different from the one their parents experienced.

Most jobs with decent pay require more education than in the past. And some of the best-paying, fastest-growing jobs are in newer fields such as data analytics, computer network security, and software development. Such jobs typically require very specific skills.

WHERE THEY STAND

Trump wants to spur more job creation by reducing regulations and cutting taxes to encourage businesses to expand and hire more. He also says badly negotiated free trade agreements have cost millions of manufacturing jobs. He promises to bring those jobs back by renegotiating the NAFTA agreement with Canada and Mexico, withdrawing from a proposed Pacific trade pact with 11 other nations, and pushing China to let its currency float freely on international markets.

Clinton has promised to spend \$275 billion upgrading roads, tunnels and modern infrastructure such as

broadband Internet, to create more construction and engineering jobs. Trump has said in interviews he would spend twice as much. Clinton also says she would make state colleges and universities tuition-free as well as community colleges. That would enable more Americans to qualify for higher-paying jobs. She plans to pay for these proposals by lifting taxes on wealthier Americans.

WHY IT MATTERS

For most Americans, the most obvious measure of the economy's health is whether they have a job, and whether their incomes are rising. By those measures, the verdict is mixed. Hiring, while initially sluggish, has picked up since the recession ended in June 2009. Job gains in 2014 and 2015 were the highest in any two-year period since 1998-99. Still, wages have been slower to recover. A typical household's annual income jumped in 2015 by the most in any year on records dating back to 1967, according to recent Census Bureau data. Yet incomes that year were still 1.6 percent below 2007 levels and 2.4 percent below the 1999 peak. Analysts at Sentier Research estimate that household income finally returned to pre-recession levels in July.

Average hourly pay is slowly rising, but the growth rate is below levels that are consistent with a healthy economy. One factor probably fueling anxiety about jobs and pay has been the disproportionate growth of

jobs in lower-paying industries, such as fast-food restaurants, and higher-paying sectors, such as information technology. Middle-income jobs in areas like manufacturing and administrative support barely recovered.

Yet that trend appears to be reversing. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York has found that middle-income job growth - in areas such as trucking and construction - outpaced growth in higher- and lower-paying work in the past two years.

Still, sluggish pay may be one reason many Americans remain on the sidelines. The proportion of Americans working or looking for work has fallen sharply since the recession. It has leveled off in the past two years but remains near 40-year lows. About half that decline reflects increased retirements as the baby boomers age. Other choices have also played a role, such as the increasing likelihood that young people are in school. Yet the percentage of Americans in their prime working years - 25 through 54 - who are working or looking for work is about 1.5 percentage points below pre-recession levels. Many have become discouraged about their prospects for finding work and have given up looking. Others have joined the government's disability rolls. Neither group is counted in the unemployment rate. That is one reason the economy feels less healthy to many Americans than a lower unemployment rate would suggest. —AP

THE BEST PERSONAL BRANDING METHODS YOU SHOULD USE TODAY

When you hear the word "brand" you will most likely think of the most renowned businesses and service providers you have previously interacted with or used. But in today's hyper-social and hyper-competitive world, branding is no longer exclusively associated with products and services offered by companies. As a tactic for self-marketing and for getting a competitive edge over other job seekers, branding has become an essential component for the success of any professional. Personal branding is growing to be one of the most important strategies for securing a job and advancing on the career ladder.

Despite the conceptual similarities, personal branding remains distinct from corporate branding in practice. Evidently, a personal brand is not a nickname or a catchy phrase, but a collection of competencies, skills, work experience, and everything else that makes someone an ideal employee. The trick is knowing how to promote a per-

sonal brand and to make it stand out from the crowd in order to secure one's career objectives.

From Bayt.com, the Middle East's #1 job site, here is a quick review of the best methods to creating a powerful personal brand that grabs the attention of peers, employers and clients alike:

1. Build your Public Profile

Having a Bayt.com Public Profile is similar to having an online business card; it is the core of your online personal brand and it can automatically grab the attention of both employers and clients. A public profile is essentially your window to the job market and it is more inviting than a simple CV document. With a Bayt.com Public Profile, you are easily searchable on major engines (such as Google) by potential employers, clients, and other professionals who want to connect with you for career enhancement opportunities. Your connections can also endorse your skills or even write recommendations

BAYT.COM WEEKLY REPORT

that will be visible on your profile and make your personal brand more authentic. You can take the self-promotion one step further by sharing your public profile on all forms of social media. Join more than 11 million professionals who already have a public profile on Bayt.com, and start highlighting your skills, experiences, roles and aspirations in order to stand out.

2. Join the Conversations

A Professional networking platform such as Bayt.com Specialties is one of the easiest way to establish a presence for your personal brand within your field and to highlight your expertise among a community of career-driven individuals. Using Specialties, you can answer questions that other professionals in the industry may have as well as ask any questions you may need answered by peers. The way your per-

sonal brand can shine is by integrating keywords and formulating intelligent responses for the existing conversations. Bayt.com specialties enables you to expand your online network, include you in the top ranked professionals in your field, and present you as an ideal candidate within your field. Through your contribution to discussions, you can also be endorsed by other experts and receive ranks and badges for your personal brand to prove your expertise.

3. Perfect Your CV

We all know that it can take less than 30 seconds for your CV to be reviewed by an HR manager or a recruiter. In fact, it takes less than six seconds for your personal brand to grab the attention of the hiring manager. Employers are constantly on the lookout for candidates that match their needs, and regularly skim through thousands of CVs to find the professionals they're looking for. Integrating keywords into your CV is extremely important to boost your job

application, since the search algorithm takes your keywords into consideration before assigning your application a rank that is visible to employers. The higher your rank, the quicker an employer will view your CV. Your rank also helps boost your result when employers are conducting a general CV search to spot the ideal candidate. An enriched, detailed, and regularly updated CV is a vital component of your online personal brand. Over 40,000 employers use the Bayt.com CV search service to find their employees. They type in specific keywords, and if your CV matches what they're looking for, you will appear at the top of the result list.

In addition the aforementioned tools, always ensure that all of your social profiles, whether on Bayt.com or other platforms, are professional, void of anything you wouldn't want your boss to see, convey your best image and personal brand, and of course, a truthful reflection of who you are.



SACRAMENTO: Vehicles pass a highway construction site on Interstate 80 in Sacramento, California. The nation's infrastructure is in need of repair and improvement. On that, politicians generally agree. — AP

US INFRASTRUCTURE IN NEED FOR EXPANSION

INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM SHOWS ITS AGE

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo: The US interstate highway system, celebrating its 60th birthday this year, is showing its age. Many roads and bridges are in need of repair or expansion. Similar problems exist for public drinking and wastewater systems, dams and levees, airports, railroads and mass transit systems. Politicians generally agree the nation's infrastructure is in need of improvement. Deciding how to pay for it and which projects should take priority is more difficult.

WHERE THEY STAND

To hear either candidate talk, a staggering amount of money is going to be spent on infrastructure - if Congress goes along. Democrat Hillary Clinton has proposed spending \$250 billion over the next five years on infrastructure.

She proposes to repair and improve roads and bridges, expand public transit, make affordable high-speed internet access available to all households by 2020 and modernize passenger rail systems, airports, dams, levees and wastewater systems. Clinton also proposes to direct \$25 billion over five years to a new national infrastructure bank, which she said could support about \$225 billion in loans for local infrastructure projects. A similar lending bank was proposed by President Barack Obama during his first term but failed to win congressional approval.

Republican Donald Trump has said he wants to spend at least double the amount Clinton has proposed for infrastructure, financed through low-interest bonds. His campaign said a more

detailed plan is coming. In his 2015 book, "Crippled America: How to Make America Great Again," Trump said a large-scale public infrastructure plan could create the "biggest economic boom in this country since the New Deal," a series of programs started in the 1930s by President Franklin Roosevelt.

WHY IT MATTERS

A reliable infrastructure system strengthens the nation's economy, enhances public safety and can improve the quality of life.

Public health can be put at risk by poor infrastructure, such as when lead-tainted pipes contaminated the water supply of Flint, Michigan.

Commerce depends on the safe and efficient shipment of goods via air, rail, water and roads from manufacturers to retailers and homes. Poor infrastructure and traffic congestion can raise the cost of doing business, making products more expensive for consumers.

A long, slow commute due to inadequate capacity on roads or public transit can put an emotional strain on families. It can make the difference whether parents arrive on time for a family dinner or a child's soccer game or concert.

According to a report last year by the Congressional Budget Office, the share of gross domestic product generated by government spending on public transportation and water infrastructure peaked in 1959. Spending on such projects fell by 5 percent from 2003 to 2014 when measured as a percentage of GDP, with highway spending leading the decline.

Officials have taken some steps to try to reverse that. Congress broke a political logjam last year by passing a five-year, \$305 billion transportation plan. More than half the states also have acted since 2013 to boost transportation spending through higher taxes, fees and borrowing. — AP

PORTUGAL KEEPS ACCESS TO EU FINANCIAL HELP

LISBON: Portugal kept its much-needed access to EU financial help Friday after a European Central Bank-approved credit agency maintained its rating of Portuguese debt at investment grade level.

Toronto-based DBRS announced it had kept Portugal's rating at "BBB" level, with a "stable" perspective. "The rating reflects Portugal's eurozone membership and its adherence to the EU economic governance framework, which helps foster credible macroeconomic policies," it said in a statement. "The centre-left minority government continues to demonstrate commitment to comply with the EU fiscal rules and important structural reforms are not expected to be reversed," it added.

DBRS's decision was much anticipated as it is the only one of the four agencies accepted by the ECB to have maintained Portugal's rating in an investment grade category despite the country being hit hard by a debt crisis. If the agency had downgraded its rating, the ECB would no longer have been allowed under its rules to purchase Portuguese government bonds as part of its quantitative easing program. The ECB purchases of the bonds on the secondary markets help keep the interest rates down and ensures a market for new issues by governments, meaning a key source of financing for governments remains open and affordable.

But DBRS warned that "Portugal faces significant challenges, including elevated levels of public sector debt, low potential growth, ongoing fiscal pressures, and high corporate sector indebtedness."

Portugal received a 78-billion-euro

international debt bailout in 2011 that saved it from defaulting when it could no longer issue debt at affordable rates, but in return the country had to introduce a string of austerity measures. In four years, over 78,000 public sector jobs were cut-more than 10 percent of the total-alongside other steps the creditors said were needed to return the public finances to balance and put the economy back on track.

A minority Socialist government which came to power last year has reversed some austerity measures imposed by the previous conservative administration while continuing to reduce the deficit, although at a slower pace. The government, which relies on the support of two smaller hard left parties for its survival, unveiled a draft 2017 budget last week that seeks to raise pensions and gradually reduce an income tax surcharge introduced back in 2011 at the height of Portugal's debt crisis.

To compensate, the budget introduces a new tax on sugary drinks and a new levy on property wealth exceeding 600,000 euros per person. Prime Minister Antonio Costa's spending plan targets a budget deficit of 1.6 percent of economic output in 2017, down from a forecast 2.4 percent this year-well below an EU limit of 3.0 percent.

Portugal posted a budget deficit of 4.4 percent of gross domestic product in 2015, the third highest in the EU after Greece and Spain. The finance ministry welcomed DBRS's decision, saying in a statement that it "demonstrates the correctness of the path drawn by the Portuguese Government to promote economic recovery". — AFP

KUWAIT OIL PRICE FALLS TO \$46.53 PB

KUWAIT: Price of the Kuwaiti oil dropped 59 cents to \$46.53 per barrel in Friday's trades against \$47.16 pb on Thursday, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said yesterday.

In global markets, the crude oil rate also climbed due to a forecast agreement between the Organization of Petroleum

Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the major non-OPEC oil producer Russia, next week, on either maintaining the oil price or slashing it. Meanwhile, the Brent Blend crude rose upon settlement on Friday by 40 cents reaching \$51.78 pb.

The US West Texas crude also moved up by 22 cents to \$50.85 pb. — KUNA

ZIMBABWE PAYS IMF ARREARS, FIRST STEP TO RESTORING LENDING

WASHINGTON: Zimbabwe has paid off 15 years of arrears with the International Monetary Fund, taking the first key step towards restoring its access to international loans. The country paid off about \$108 million due to the IMF, and "is now current on all its financial obligations to the IMF," fund spokesman Gerry Rice said in a statement late Thursday. Zimbabwe had been behind in its payments to the global crisis lender since 2001, Rice said.

The move is a positive first step for the country as it tries to stabilize its economy and finances, but does not automatically make it eligible for IMF lending. It first must have a plan in place to clear arrears to other international financial institutions, the IMF said in a statement. This includes \$1.1 billion it owes to the

World Bank. The IMF has applauded Zimbabwe's reform efforts under a fund-monitored advisory program that ended in December 2015, which began to restore confidence and stabilize government finances.

But the commodity-dependent country has faced a decade-long crisis, and the IMF warns that without "bold reforms" the economic difficulties will continue. Zimbabwe adopted the US dollar as its currency in 2009 to end hyperinflation. But the strong dollar has made its exports more expensive. Unemployment is about 90 percent in Zimbabwe, which spends more than four-fifths of its revenue in the salaries of civil servants and is ranked by Transparency International as one of the most corrupt countries in the world. — AFP



BRUSSELS: A man holding a placard depicting a no entry sign with the TTIP and CETA logos, during a demonstration outside the European Union headquarters in Brussels, to protest against huge transatlantic trade deals linking Europe with Canada and the United States. — AP

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	2.927
Indian Rupees	4.560
Pakistani Rupees	2.901
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.070
Nepali Rupees	2.848
Singapore Dollar	220.040
Hongkong Dollar	39.140
Bangladesh Taka	3.871
Philippine Peso	6.306
Thai Baht	8.719

GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.017
Qatari Riyal	83.455
ani Riyal	789.111

Bahraini Dinar	806.830
UAE Dirham	82.716

ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	25.100
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.583
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.220
Tunisian Dinar	136.290
Jordanian Dinar	428.430
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.024
Syrian Lira	2.0165
Morocco Dirham	31.369

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	303.650
Euro	335.530
Sterling Pound	374.860
Canadian dollar	232.680
Turkish Lira	98.590

Swiss Franc	308.740
Australian Dollar	234.720
US Dollar Buying	302.450

GOLD

20 Gram	255.960
10 Gram	130.900
5 Gram	66.300

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	303.900
Canadian Dollar	231.170
Sterling Pound	373.810
Euro	334.130
Swiss Frank	301.905
Bahrain Dinar	803.385

UAE Dirhams	82.970
Qatari Riyals	84.185
Saudi Riyals	81.760
Jordanian Dinar	428.225
Egyptian Pound	34.126
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.067
Indian Rupees	4.547
Pakistani Rupees	2.896
Bangladesh Taka	3.866
Philippines Peso	6.320
Cyprus pound	160.170
Japanese Yen	3.920
Syrian Pound	2.420
Nepalese Rupees	3.835
Malaysian Ringgit	72.950
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	45.510
Thai Bhat	9.595
Turkish Lira	98.530



BOURSA KUWAIT HOSTS KUWAIT FOOD COMPANY DEAL

AN ESTIMATE DEAL OF KD 700 MILLION

KUWAIT: Boursa Kuwait yesterday announced that it hosted and witnessed the closing of the Kuwait Food Company deal, which was held on Thursday, 20 October, 2016, where 268,496,544 shares of the company were sold. This value represents (66.790 percent) of the company's capital, at the price of (KD 2.650) and a total value of KD 711,515,841.600. Details of parties who partici-

ated in the deal are as follows:
 * National Investments Company - Client Account in favor of Al-Khair National for Stocks and Real Estate (58.141 percent) - Seller- Al-Khair National for Stocks and Real Estate (8.649 percent) - Seller -National Investment Company - Client Account, in favor of Adepto AD Investments - Buyer Commenting on this deal, Khaled

Abdulrazzaq Al-Khaled, Boursa Kuwait Vice Chairman and CEO, said: "This deal is testament to the great trust the participating parties have in Boursa Kuwait and their faith in Boursa Kuwait's plan to create a restructured robust, transparent and accessible market".
 He added: "We are pleased to have hosted and witnessed the closing of this deal after Boursa

Kuwait's formal license acquisition, which reflects the promising outlook of the participating parties in the Kuwait economy and strengthens the faith of investors in Kuwaiti companies. Boursa Kuwait is sparing no efforts to develop its working environment and to raise the standards of the services it offers to its clients". For more information on Boursa Kuwait, please visit www.boursakuwait.com

LULU EXCHANGE DIRECTOR HONORED WITH EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL SECTOR AWARD

KUWAIT: The first Qadat Al-Tagheer Awards were presented during the second edition of the UAE India Economic Forum (UIEF) held at Madinat Jumeirah Hotel in Dubai on Wednesday. The awards honours and felicitates government leaders and businessmen who have made a mark and contributes to fostering growth and partnership between United Arab Emirates and India. Hosted by the Consulate General of India in Dubai and supported by the UAE Ministry of Economy, in strategic partnership with UAE International Investors Council, Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Invest India, Abu Dhabi Global Market and Dubai Economic Council, this year's UAE India Economic Forum was jointly inaugurated by Nitin Gadkari, Indian Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Belhaif Al-Nuaimi, Cabinet Member and Minister of Infrastructure Development.

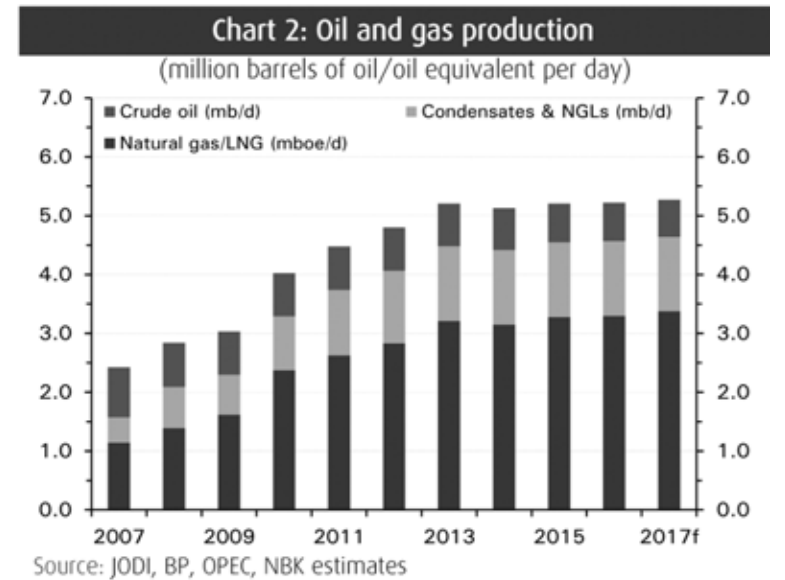
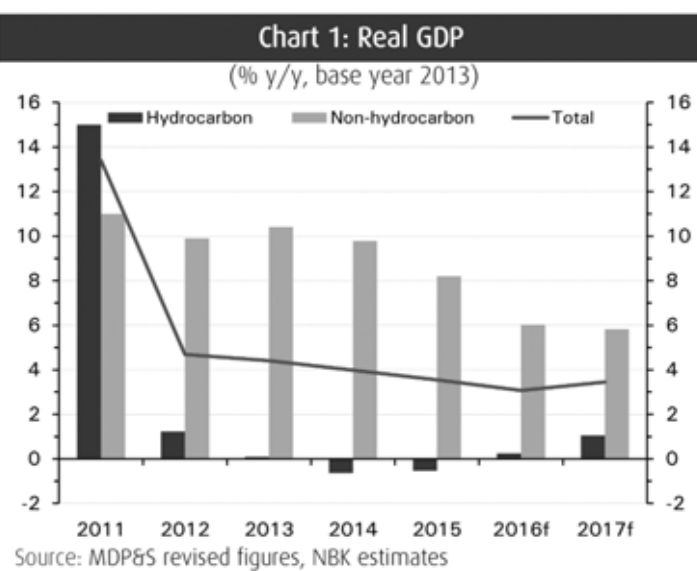


to have received this award. These awards reaffirm the continued efforts of the visionary leadership of UAE and India to increase business and investment between both countries. Events like these also highlights the opportunities that exist and continues to grow between the two countries. I would like to congratulate my fellow awardees who have been integral to this growing bilateral relation and have carved a niche of their own in their fields of expertise," said Adeeab Ahamed on receiving the award. The focus of this year's forum is investment opportunities in India's infrastructural projects with the event's sessions shedding light on sectors that offer attractive investment opportunities, including infrastructure, ports and railways, tourism and hospitality, healthcare, agriculture and food security.

Noted speakers like M J Akbar, Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of India in Dubai, Marwan Bin Jassim Al-Sarkal, CEO, Sharjah Investment and Development Authority (Shurooq), UAE, Jamal Al-Jarwan, Secretary General, UAE International Investors Council (UAEIIC) and other key speakers are scheduled to take part in the two-day event.

In recognition of the contribution and efforts towards promoting the trade relations between India and the UAE, Adeeab Ahamed, Director, Lulu Exchange was honoured with the Excellence in Financial Sector Award. Lulu Exchange has more than 65 branches spread between India & UAE and more than 130 branches spread across nine countries.

Many other noted luminaries and businesses were also honored during the ceremony, including Yusuff Ali MA, Managing Director, Lulu Group International for Indian Businessman of the Year Award, Mr. PNC Menon of Shoba Group for Excellence in Real Estate, Azad Moopen of Aster DM Healthcare for Excellence in Healthcare, Shaji Al Mulk of Mulk Holdings for Excellence in Construction, Sunny Varkey of Gems Education for Excellence in Education, Dr Dhananjay Datar of Al Adil Trading Group for Excellence in Retail and Brian Etamad of Tamelek for Emerging Emirati Brand. "We are extremely honored



QATAR GROWTH TO MODERATE AS NON-OIL ECONOMY COOLS

NBK ECONOMIC REPORT

KUWAIT: The Qatari economy is expected to continue its expansion over the next few years despite the slowdown in non-hydrocarbon sector activity observed against the backdrop of low energy prices and government fiscal restraint. Elevated public investment in the government's \$200 billion infrastructure development plan, including FIFA World Cup 2022 projects, will continue to drive economic growth. The hydrocarbon sector is also expected to get a boost from the commissioning of the Barzan gas production facility, which will supply additional volumes of gas for domestic use and petroleum products for export. Facing the prospect of a fiscal deficit this year and next, which will be financed primarily through debt issuance, the government has embarked on a concerted round of fiscal consolidation. It is merging ministries, scaling back infrastructure projects and cutting subsidies on domestic fuel and utilities. With state revenues impacted by lower energy prices, government deposit growth has trailed credit growth, leading to a tightening in banking sector liquidity and a rise in the cost of borrowing.

Non-oil economy cools

Ever since expansion in the country's LNG infrastructure came to end in 2011, economic growth in Qatar has been driven by the country's non-hydrocarbon sector. Underpinned by government infrastructure investment (11 percent of GDP), the non-hydrocarbon sector-and construction, manufacturing, financial services and trade and tourism especially-has grown by an impressive 10 percent year-on-year (y/y) on average over the last 5 years. However, this had moderated to 8.2 percent y/y in 2015, according to recently revised figures from the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics (MDP&S), as the authorities pared back capital spending in the context of tighter government finances. With the government expected to continue streamlining, downgrading or cancelling non-essential and non-FIFA related projects, growth is likely to slow even further, to around 6.0 percent y/y in 2016-2017. Investment will, nevertheless, continue in a range of government-sponsored strategic projects such as the Lusail Mixed-Use Development (\$45 billion), the Qatar Integrated Railway (\$40 billion), the Ashghal local roads and drainage program (\$14.6 billion) and the new Hamad Port (\$7.4 billion).

The government's diversification efforts take on added significance in view of the fact that output growth from the hydrocarbon sector has essentially plateaued after maximum LNG capacity was reached in 2012/2013. Moreover, crude oil production has been on a downward trajectory in the last few years due to maturing oil fields. Production averaged 0.66 million barrels per day (mb/d) in 2015, having been as high as 0.85 mb/d in 2007.

The hydrocarbon sector should receive a small boost from the launch of the \$10.3 billion Barzan gas production facility this year and in 2017, when the project is expected to near its full production capacity of 1.4 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d). While Barzan will predominantly provide gas to the power and water sectors, it will also supply additional volumes of condensates and natural gas liquids (NGLs) for export and to the country's refineries-including the upcoming Ras Laffan 2 refinery. Gains to hydrocarbon sector GDP growth should, consequently, be in the order of 0.2 percent in 2016 and 1.0 percent in 2017. Total GDP is, therefore, expect-

ed to grow by 3.1 percent and 3.4 percent in 2016 and 2017, respectively.

Fuel price hikes stoking inflation

Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index (CPI), is projected to rise to 3.0 percent in 2016 and to 3.1 percent in 2017, from 1.6 percent in 2015 (on an annual average basis). As of August, the headline rate had reached 2.9 percent y/y, driven up by costs in the recreation and transportation categories especially. The latter was up 6 percent year-to-date in August as a result of the increase in fuel prices following the government's fuel subsidy cut. On the other hand, food and rental costs, long major inflationary impulses, have been trending lower. A surfeit of new properties on the market has helped to restrain rental price rises.

Qatar's first fiscal deficit

Sharply reduced oil and gas revenues since 2014 (-30 percent y/y on average) have motivated the authorities to embark on a concerted round of fiscal consolidation. But this will not be enough to forestall Qatar's first fiscal deficit, equivalent to -4.7 percent of GDP, in 2016. Nevertheless, the government's efforts to get a handle on spending have not been in vain: current expenditures have been curtailed through a combination of cuts in the number of ministries, lay-offs of expatriates and freezes in public sector pay; subsidies on fuel, water and electricity have all been reduced; and non-essential infrastructure projects have been scaled back or shelved entirely. Indeed, judging by the staggering drop in the value of projects awarded so far in 2016 compared to 2015-\$9.7 billion worth vs. \$41.3 billion for 2015 as a whole, which is a decline of 76 percent-then the authorities may be at risk of dramatically undershooting their capital spending target this year. As a result, 2016 could see expenditures contract by as much as -9.7 percent y/y-the largest decline in years.

Borrowing is helping

The government has increasingly sought to shift the burden of deficit financing away from its foreign reserves and towards the debt markets, where it has been an active participant to the tune of \$11.6 billion in 2016. The largest sovereign issuance was a \$9.0 billion triple-tranche USD-denominated international bond in May. Along with \$2.6 billion in sovereign domestic bonds and sukuk plus a \$5.0 billion syndicated loan secured earlier in the year, recourse to the debt markets has helped support Qatar's finances and inject much-needed liquidity into the banking system. Pressure on the country's international reserves, which had declined by \$5.8 billion (-3.5 percent) to \$36.8 billion in 2015, was also alleviated. Indeed, as of last July net international reserves were actually up in 2016, by \$872 million to \$37.6 billion, after 2 successive months of increases since the international bond sale. These reserves are estimated to provide the equivalent of 6.8 months of import cover, more than twice the 3 months recommended by the IMF for fixed exchange rate regimes.

Central government debt has, unsurprisingly, risen as a result of the government's foray into the debt markets. Gross government debt (domestic and external debt) is projected to increase to 58 percent of GDP (\$94 billion) this year from 46.2 percent of GDP in 2015.

Nevertheless, fiscal buffers are ample given that the government could also draw on an esti-

mated \$256 billion worth of assets under management at the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), the country's sovereign wealth fund. Credit growth gets a boost from the public sector but reduced deposit flows into the banking system put pressure on liquidity.

Credit growth has rebounded from the single digit lows of early 2015 to come in at a robust 15.1 percent y/y in July, according to central bank figures. Much of this has been driven by the public sector as it supports the country's development plan.

In contrast, private sector credit growth is moderating, reaching 8.4 percent y/y in July. Demand from industry, contractors and retail consumers has been especially weak during the first half of the year.

Meanwhile, deposit flows into the banking system, especially government deposits, have been hit hard by the decline in oil prices since mid-2014. Deposit growth looks to have recovered over the last few months, however, reaching 9.8 percent y/y in July. This is largely on the back of a significant influx of non-resident deposits (92.9 percent y/y) and a small uptick in private sector deposits (1.0 percent y/y). Public sector deposits, in contrast, still remain down by -4.4 percent y/y. With deposit growth trailing credit growth, liquidity has been tight. The banking sector's loan-to-deposit ratio (LDR) was 116.7 percent in July, which is not far off February's high of 119.9 percent. It has been trending lower in recent months thanks to the inflow of deposits from non-residents and following the placement of some public funds in the wake of May's international bond sale. Interbank rates have also eased, with the QIBOR 3-month rate, for example, falling to 1.5 percent recently from its peak of 1.7 percent in June.

Given that deposits from non-residents (mainly from the GCC and Asia) in the banking system have almost doubled in the span of a year and that monies due from Qatari banks to overseas banks have increased by almost 29 percent, concerns about over-reliance by Qatari banks on foreign funds have once more resurfaced. Indeed, the net foreign liability position of Qatari banks was up at over \$40 billion in July, equivalent to 166.3 percent of foreign assets, which is a record high.

Given the demands of a fixed exchange rate regime, Qatari domestic interest rates tend to be closely aligned with US interest rates. However, the Qatar Central Bank (QCB), with one eye on keeping borrowing costs down, has yet to follow the US Fed's 25 bps rate rise from last December and increase its own benchmark lending and deposit rates. These are currently at 4.5 percent and 0.75 percent, respectively.

Qatari equities buoyed

Qatar's benchmark stock index, the Qatar Exchange (QE), at 10,465 on 28 September, was barely in positive territory on a year-to-date (ytd) basis. (Chart 15). The QE had reached a year-high of 11,408 in mid-August (up 19.5 percent in 2016) before market sentiment turned noticeably less bullish in response to a combination of weaker-than-expected corporate earnings and lingering banking sector liquidity constraints. Indeed, profits from a sample of listed companies for 1H16 showed a drop of 12 percent y/y, which was the biggest decline in the region. Nevertheless, the recent inclusion of the Qatari bourse in the FTSE Emerging Markets Index provided a major fillip to local equities.

BRAZIL MULLS EXPLORING GCC'S EXPANDING FRUIT MARKET

ABU DHABI: Brazil deliberates exploring the GCC's lucrative fruit market to further expand its food trade with the region. According to a recent research conducted by ApexBrasil—the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency, the South American country should concentrate on increasing the import of fresh eggs, Brazilian nuts, lemons and limes, grapes, melons, and cloves to expand its list of food supplied to the Arabian Peninsula. The survey is based on the study of Brazil's share in local imports and the expansion in the purchase of imported food by the GCC countries. In 2014, the UAE imported \$69.6 million worth of lime of which only 9.7 percent was supplied by Brazil.

While competing countries increased their sales by 29.8 percent between 2010 and 2014, Brazil surged its sales by 43.4 percent for the same period. Likewise, the UAE's import of grapes is \$85.9 million per year and Brazil expanded its supply to 185.6 percent between 2010 and 2014 while other supplying countries increased

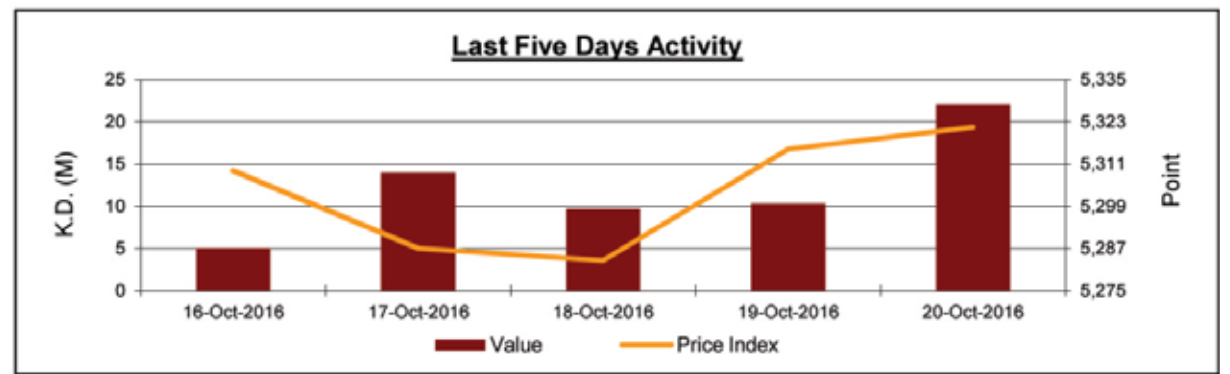
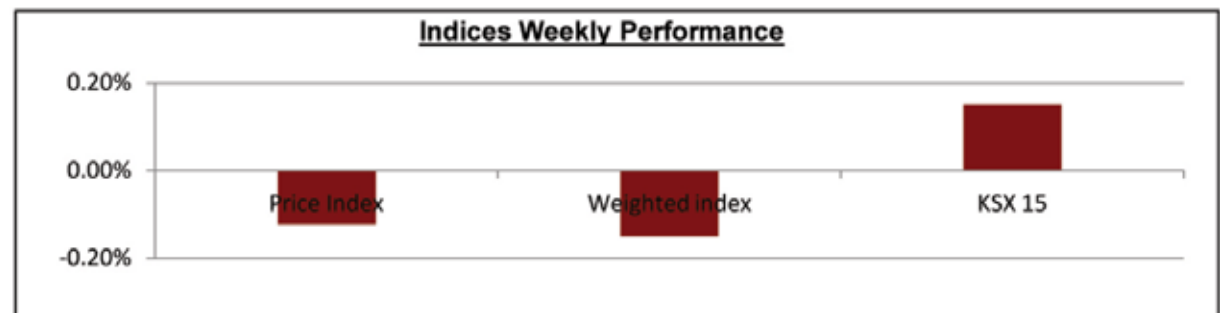
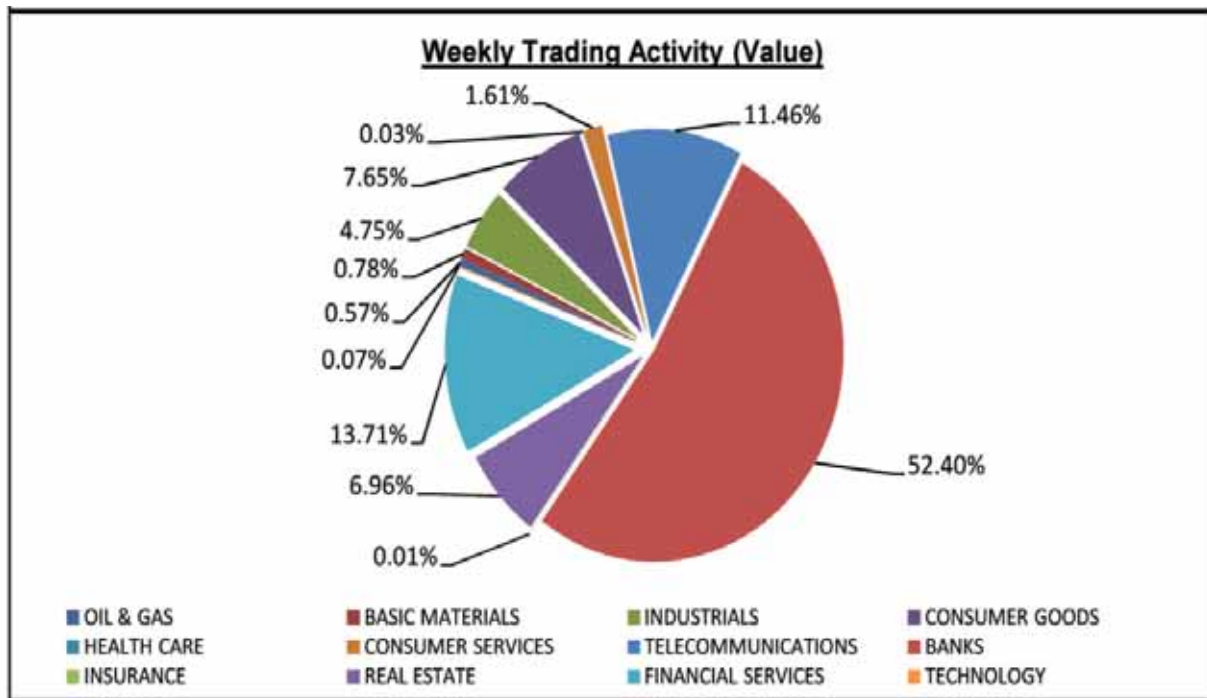
only to 21.5 percent. Lastly, Brazil accounts for 27.7 percent of import of fresh eggs to the UAE.

The study, though important, relies primarily on the data collected from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and the UAE as these are the region's premier destination for global food and beverage exports as well as Brazilian imports. Of the total exports from Brazil, the UAE accounts for 0.63 percent, while it was 0.56 percent for KSA with food and beverage category accounting for 1.1 percent and 2.5 percent in the respective countries.

Dr Michel Alaby, Secretary General and CEO, ABCC, said: "In the light of the recent survey indicating tremendous potential in food trade with the GCC countries, Brazil is exploring to expand in the fruit category. The demand for foreign food has surged significantly in the Arabian Gulf driven by population growth, low local production, and high economic standard. Responding to the demand, Brazil has also increased its share of fruit imports to the region.



HONG KONG: Pedestrians walk past traffic and shopfront signage in the Tim Sha Tsui retail district of Hong Kong yesterday.—AFP



KUWAIT STOCKS COME UNDER PRESSURE

BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

KUWAIT: Boursa Kuwait ended last week with mixed performance. The Price Index closed at 5,321.46 points, down by 0.12 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index decreased by 0.15 percent after closing at 346.11 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 805.00 points up by 0.15 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 126.92 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching KD 12.23 million, whereas trading volume average was 78.85 million shares, recording an increase of 115.13 percent.

The Bourse performance was weak in general during the last week, whereas the three indices recorded noticeable losses in the three first sessions of the week as a result to the selling trend that included many traded stocks of large-cap and small-cap, before it could realize increase in the last two sessions, which enabled it to compensate a large part of such losses, especially the KSX-15 Index which was able to compensate its loss totally and end the week in the green zone.

The Bourse witnessed such performance in light of a noticeable increase in the trading levels where it reached good positions compared to the previous weeks, as the total traded volume during the last week reached 115.13 percent compared to the previous week to reach 394.25 million share, while the total trading value grew by the end of the week to reach KD 61.15 million, against KD 26.95 million in the earlier week, and up by 126.92 percent. Such performance came in light of concentrating the pumped liquidity to the market on the leading stocks, especially in the Banks sector, which acquired over 52 percent of the Bourse's liquidity over the last week.

As per the daily trading activity, the Boursa Kuwait started its first session of the last week with a drop in all its indices affected by the selling pressures and the profit collection operations that included a wide range of stocks, especially the small-cap stocks that are expected to disclose negative results for the

KSE INDICES				
		Price Index	Weighted Index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,321.46	346.11	805.00
	Previous week	5,328.00	346.63	803.78
	Change (Point)	-6.54	-0.52	1.22
	Change (%)	-0.12%	-0.15%	0.15%
Annual	Last year	5,615.12	381.70	900.43
	Change (Point)	-293.66	-35.59	-95.43
	Change (%)	-5.23%	-9.32%	-10.60%

third quarter of the current year; while the Bourse continued its negative performance in the second session and its three indices closed in the red zone, amid continued selling pressures that concentrated on the leading stocks, which pushed the trading value to record a large increase by 174 percent. On the mid-week session, the Kuwait Bourse continued recording consecutive losses for the three indices amid continued selling pressures in controlling the trading direction and its concentration on the Banks sector's stock in particular.

On Wednesday's session, the Bourse was able to realize increase for its three indices for the first time in the week, supported by the return of the purchasing operations, amid concentration on the leading stocks especially in the Banks sector. Also, the Kuwait Bourse continued its positive performance at the end of week session in light of a noticeable purchasing activity on the leading stocks, which was positively reflected on the three indices, especially KSK-15 which was able to compensate all its losses recorded in the early sessions of the week, to end it in the green zone. Such performance came in light of a big growth in the pumped liquidity to reach KD 22.08 million, the highest level since last March.

By the end of the last week, the market capitalization for the listed companies in official market reached KD23.24 billion, down by 0.18 percent compared to its level in the week earlier, where it reached then KD 23.29 billion. On an annual level, the decline in market cap for the listed companies in the

official market increased to reach 8 percent from its value at end of 2015, where it reached then KD 25.27 billion.

As far as Boursa Kuwait's annual performance, the price index ended last week recording 5.23 percent annual loss compared to its closing in 2015, while the weighted index decreased by 9.32 percent, and the KSX-15 recorded 10.60 percent loss.

Sectors' Indices

Seven of Boursa Kuwait's sectors ended last week in the red zone, while the other five recorded increases. The Telecommunications sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 1.50 percent to end the week's activity at 558.65 points. The Real Estate sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 1.38 percent, closing at 794.25 points, followed by the Financial Services sector, as its index closed at 537.38 points at a loss of 0.87 percent. The Health Care sector was the least declining as its index closed at 1,046.80 points with a 0.40 percent decrease.

On the other hand, last week's highest gainer was the Technology sector, achieving 1.80 percent growth rate as its index closed at 991.79 points. Whereas, in the second place, the Industrial sector's index closed at 1,181.28 points recording 1.30 percent increase. The Insurance sector came in third as its index achieved 1.15 percent growth, ending the week at 946.68 points. The Consumer Services sector was the least growing as its index closed at 911.82 points with a 0.30 percent increase.

MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	394,251,652	183,263,294	115.13%
Value (K.D)	61,146,873	26,946,468	126.92%
Deals	10,935	5,997	82.34%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)			
Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
23,243,159,644	23,285,513,471	-0.18%	-8.00%

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
CABLETV	61.00	31.00	30.0	96.77%
HAYATCOMM	48.50	41.00	7.5	18.29%
ISKAN	43.00	36.50	6.5	17.81%
VIVA	182.00	164.00	18.0	10.98%
ZAIN	365.00	335.00	30.0	8.96%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
GNAHC	29.50	33.00	-3.5	-10.61%
FIRSTDUBAI	50.00	55.00	-5.0	-9.09%
JEERANH	62.00	68.00	-6.0	-8.82%
ALSALAM	38.50	42.00	-3.5	-8.33%
SANAM	27.50	30.00	-2.5	-8.33%

Sectors' Activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 123.33 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 31.28 percent of the total market trading volume. The Banks sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 21.90 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 86.36 million shares.

On the other hand, the Banks sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around KD 32.04 million or 52.40 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Financial Services sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. KD 8.38 million representing 13.71 percent of the total market trading value. — Prepared by the Studies & Research Department, Bayan Investment Co.

SECTORS' WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY				
Sector	Volume	To Market %	Value	To Market %
OIL & GAS	9,355,528	2.37%	349,697	0.57%
BASIC MATERIALS	1,899,494	0.48%	479,409	0.78%
INDUSTRIALS	23,513,161	5.96%	2,902,615	4.75%
CONSUMER GOODS	3,483,721	0.88%	4,676,872	7.65%
HEALTH CARE	40,000	0.01%	15,350	0.03%
CONSUMER SERVICES	15,898,177	4.03%	984,221	1.61%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	47,638,128	12.08%	7,009,302	11.46%
BANKS	86,355,612	21.90%	32,042,774	52.40%
INSURANCE	32,220	0.01%	8,371	0.01%
REAL ESTATE	81,805,025	20.75%	4,253,112	6.96%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	123,331,388	31.28%	8,383,630	13.71%
TECHNOLOGY	899,198	0.23%	41,522	0.07%

SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE				
Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
OIL & GAS	750.45	748.15	0.31%	-8.34%
BASIC MATERIALS	894.47	901.01	-0.73%	-9.32%
INDUSTRIALS	1,181.28	1,166.14	1.30%	13.25%
CONSUMER GOODS	1,108.44	1,114.74	-0.57%	1.24%
HEALTH CARE	1,046.80	1,051.00	-0.40%	13.13%
CONSUMER SERVICES	911.82	909.12	0.30%	-9.60%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	558.65	567.17	-1.50%	-6.68%
BANKS	775.78	780.18	-0.56%	-14.48%
INSURANCE	946.68	935.94	1.15%	-16.00%
REAL ESTATE	794.25	805.38	-1.38%	-15.57%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	537.38	542.12	-0.87%	-9.74%
TECHNOLOGY	991.79	974.28	1.80%	20.93%

US STOCKS CLOSE LOWER; EKE OUT GAIN FOR WEEK

WALL STREET WEEKLY ROUNDUP

NEW YORK: The major US stock indexes closed mostly lower Friday, capping a day spent wavering between small gains and losses. Phone companies were the biggest drag on the market following reports that AT&T was considering a deal to acquire the media conglomerate Time Warner. AT&T, Verizon, Sprint and T-Mobile US all fell.

Health care and energy stocks also took some losses, while consumer staples and technology companies held on to slight gains. Investors continued to focus on corporate America, reviewing earnings from General Electric, McDonald's and other big companies. Earnings from banks and other financial companies have been mostly better than anticipated, which has helped boost that sector.

"We're seeing a lot better earnings come out of the financial sector in particular, and some good earnings come out of technology," said David Schiegoleit, managing director of investments at the Private Client Reserve at US Bank. "That is reflected in some of the sector performance, but when you look at the market overall we're still being weighed down

by energy." The Dow Jones industrial average fell 16.64 points, or 0.1 percent, to 18,145.71. The Standard & Poor's 500 index slipped 0.18 points, or 0.01 percent, to 2,141.16. The Nasdaq composite index gained 15.57 points, or 0.3 percent, to 5,257.40.

The three indexes ended slightly higher for the week. The Dow is now up 4.1 percent for the year, while the S&P 500 is up 4.8 percent. The Nasdaq is up 5 percent. Roughly two weeks into the third-quarter financial reporting period, earnings for companies in the S&P 500 are projected be down about 0.8 percent overall from a year ago, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. That forecast is largely due to the energy sector, which has been hard hit by falling energy prices.

Several companies that reported results on Friday failed to impress investors. General Electric slipped 9 cents to \$28.98 after the company said its latest quarterly sales fell more than anticipated due to weaker results from its lighting and transportation businesses. The industrial conglomerate also trimmed its revenue forecast for the year.

Skechers USA slumped 17.3 percent after the footwear maker reported disappointing results for the second quarter in a row. The stock fell \$3.96 to \$18.98.

Others companies fared better. McDonald's rose 33 percent after the world's biggest hamburger chain served up earnings and revenue that exceeded Wall Street's expectations. The stock added \$3.36 to \$113.93.

Microsoft climbed 4.2 percent a day after the software giant posted a surprisingly high profit for its fiscal first quarter. The results help validate the company's increased focus on software and online services. The stock gained \$2.41 to \$59.66, eclipsing its previous record close of \$59.56 set in December 1999.

News and corporate deal talk also fueled big moves on Wall Street Friday. Reynolds American jumped 14 percent after London-based British American Tobacco offered to buy out the 57.8 percent stake in Reynolds that it doesn't already own. Reynolds was evaluating the offer, which analysts say would help both sides overcome a decline in smok-



NEW YORK: A sign for Wall Street is carved into a building located near the New York Stock Exchange on Friday. Solid, if uninspiring, US stocks veered lower in early trading on Friday as investors pored through earnings from General Electric, McDonald's and other big companies. — AP

ing rates in their home markets and competition from electronic cigarettes. Reynolds was the biggest gainer in the S&P 500, climbing \$6.61 to \$53.78.

AT&T fell 3 percent following reports that the company was considering a deal to acquire the media conglomerate Time Warner. AT&T slid \$1.16 to \$37.49. Beyond earnings, concerns about the implications of a rising dollar and a possible interest rate hike from the Federal Reserve this year have kept the market in a listless state recently, noted Krishna Memani, chief investment officer at

OppenheimerFunds. "The market is not taking a significant turn in a negative way, but it doesn't really see any positive impetus in the near term to go higher," Memani said.

After an early slide, crude oil prices recovered in afternoon trading. Benchmark US crude rose 22 cents to close at \$50.85 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 40 cents to close at \$51.78 a barrel in London. The major stock indexes in Europe barely budged Friday as investors increasingly factored in the likelihood of a US interest rate increase this year. — AP

'Desert meets city'



Nissan Kuwait presents the extended Patrol Family in An exceptional Desert Meets City experience



KUWAIT: Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al-Babtain Co. (AABC), the authorized agent of Nissan vehicles in the State of Kuwait held an extravagant event yesterday at Basel Al-Salem Al-Sabah Circuit, one of the largest circuits in the Middle East, to announce the launch of its all-new 2017 Nissan Patrol V6 which makes its debut in Kuwait to serve an even broader customer base in the market.

The event was held to celebrate the extended Patrol family, highlighting each model's unique aspect. These models included the Patrol Safari, Patrol NISMO and the full range of our Patrol vehicles that were in Kuwait, creating a mini museum to all Nissan Patrol lovers.

The new model with a V6 engine was unveiled in the presence of Nissan regional and local top management, media representatives, along with VIP guests who had the opportunity to enjoy the exciting experience of driving the new Patrol cars both in a city

created environment and experience its power in the desert. In an electrifying ambiance and with fabulous on-site entertainment, guests enjoyed first-hand the power, luxury and comfort that the Patrol vehicles offered. For adventure-lovers, professional 4x4 drivers took guests on an all exclusive exciting off-road experience, to witness live the power of the Nissan Patrol.

The Nissan Patrol range was on display, showcasing some of the most powerful and luxurious vehicles, which over the decades have become an integral part of the social and cultural fabric of Kuwait. Known as the 'hero of all terrains', the Nissan Patrol family has a heritage that stems back from 1951. It has now evolved to become one of the most iconic vehicles ever built, winning over 26 awards since 2014 and making it the most awarded SUV in the region.

"Every new addition to the Nissan Patrol family has its own distinct character and flavor

that make our vehicles stand out from the crowd. This is part of our commitment to always provide our customers with a unique driving experience, that combines both luxury and adventure," said Mohammad Shalabi Chief Operations Officer for Al-Babtain group.

Adding, "We are proud to announce the launch of the new V6 to the legendary Nissan Patrol family delivering the same on and off-road capability that would satisfy all tastes in the Kuwait market. We - at Al Babtain - strongly believe that the Nissan Patrol has exceeded all expectations."

Nissan Patrol V6

The new Patrol 4L V6 was designed for and tested in the region to meet all types of terrain and temperature conditions while delivering the same legendary off-road and on-road capability. It delivers best in class power in the V6 category. With 275 horsepower and 394 Nm, the Patrol V6 offers 12% more torque in

the driving range than the competition while retaining the same towing capacity as the Patrol V8. The Patrol V6 weighs less and enjoys lower ownership costs, making it the ideal choice as a practical, everyday family vehicle while retaining its go-anywhere readiness for any kind of adventure.

Nissan Patrol V8

The V8 Patrol offers a great deal of performance due to the two engine option. It is considered a highly sophisticated 4x4 SUV with for its new leather interior; accompanying its safety features like a reversing camera, 'around view' monitor, dynamic and traction control etc.

Nissan Patrol Safari

The "World Adventurer Vehicle" on the other hand, has an impressive styling and richly appointed interior, which transcends expectations of a 4WD vehicle. Its formidable all-ter-

rain prowess is underscored by superior engineering, letting one escape the ordinary and explore new possibilities. One could choose between the Station Wagon or the 2-door hard top, where both models feature 4.8L engines and are available in automatic or manual transmission.

The NISMO edition

The more luxurious and sporty version of the Nissan Patrol, with ultimate performance. It is a motorsports-inspired aerodynamics version of the Patrol SUV that offers an exhilarating drive and proposes customized body reinforcements to allow precision steering and quick response.

The Patrol Pickups

The Patrol pickup has excellent drivability and off road capabilities allowing it to be excellent for tough weather conditions and rough roads.



Mohammad Shalabi, Chief Operating Officer at Al-Babtain Group

NISSAN AL-BABTAIN UNVEILS NEW PATROL V6

By Nawara Fattahova

Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al Babtain Co, the authorized agent of Nissan vehicles in Kuwait, launched the all-new Nissan Patrol V6 on Oct 19 at the Basel Al-Sabah Circuit along the Seventh Ring Road. This vehicle is a new addition to the Nissan family, and it will be available in about 10 days' time at all Al-Babtain showrooms.

This is the first preview of the vehicle in the Middle East as part of the 'Desert v City' marketing campaign. "This slogan expresses that this vehicle has been modified to suit both desert and city driving through its wide array of abilities, strong body and off-road performance system, along with a luxurious cabin that provides a smooth driving experience on roads in the city. This vehicle has been designed for all conditions," said

Mohammad Shalabi, Chief Operating Officer at Al-Babtain Group.

According to Shalabi, Nissan's market share in Kuwait is around 11 percent, which he considers as good, as it's in second place. "All these campaigns and activities that we hold during the year should help us increase our market share and provide more value additions to the brand in Kuwait," he said. Al-Babtain also focuses on aftersales services. "Buying a Nissan vehicle is not just a purchase experience, but a user experience as well. Our aftersales service centers are both increasing in number and improving their quality," Shalabi told Kuwait Times.

The Nissan Patrol V6 is the newest addition to the Nissan family. "We have the pickup, hardtop and Safari, the new V6 and V8, and the desert edition, which was specially designed for the desert and was designed

to deal strongly with the heat, and the most luxurious Nismo," he said. The new Patrol V6 has all the advantages and functions of the V8. "It has all the features including the luxury, strong performance, safety options and others, but at a lower price, which will attract a new category of consumers for Patrol vehicles. So we now offer the full Patrol experience at a lower price. Typically, the V6 consumes lesser fuel as it's a six-cylinder vehicle, which will be an advantage for those who want to save money," he explained.

"Until now, the market has not been affected by the hike in petrol prices, as these were changed only recently. So we haven't noticed any effect yet. But after six months or a year, we will definitely conduct a survey on the effects of this increase on our sales," concluded Shalabi.



ARQAAM CAPITAL CONFIRMS AL-MAZAYA'S FAIR VALUE PER SHARE AT 160 FILS

KUWAIT: Arqaam Capital has confirmed Al-Mazaya Holding's fair value per share at KD 160 fils, 50 per cent higher than its current trading price at the Kuwaiti Stock Exchange.

According to a report issued by ARQAAM Capital, the new valuation is justified by the robust growth incentives of Al-Mazaya Holding's investments, which are centered in Kuwait, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain and Turkey. In addition, the profit mix generated by the company's real estate sales and rental returns earned the company the high valuation.

The report indicated that the Earnings Multiplier of Mazaya Holding's share at the current prices proves the resilience and attractiveness boasted by the company as compared to other firms, with its 2014's Earnings Multiplier placed at 8.6 times and 2015's at 7.4 times. The report forecasts that the multiplier will reach up to 6.1 times during this year, attributing the share's resilience to the company's ability to increase its total profit value over

the coming 5 years.

According to the report, Al-Mazaya Holding has managed to deliver up to 10,000 real estate units through the 25 projects it has been developing since 2004 until now, a fact that reflects the company's operating resilience.

The report shed light on the profits achieved and those anticipated until 2019, 70 per cent of which will be rental returns due to the approaching final delivery dates, a fact that confirms the company's high operating returns and cash flows at the regional level.

The share valuation mechanism is mainly based on discounting cash flows of ready investment properties as well as those under development and the available for sale ones. When affirming the fair value of share at 160 Fils, 50 per cent is deducted from the value of the land portfolio owned by the company. Any anticipated growth in sale or rental prices of the existing or available for sale properties is ruled out as well when affirming the fair value of share. The surplus cash has not been utilized in any

new projects over the coming years, and therefore, the report depends only on existing projects and those whose development has already started, which means that no profit has been reaped from the available or cumulative cash all through the valuation period.

In the meantime, the report, while evaluating the company's investment properties, conservatively increased the capitalization rate 47 per cent, higher than the company's used rate and thus discounting the investment properties considerably. In addition, the company's debt service risks are very low given that the interest coverage multiplier equals 3.5.

The report highlighted Al-Mazaya Holding's strengths at present and over the coming five years. The company's geographical investment diversity is likely to mitigate any operating risks, and rather keeps real estate returns at a stable growth level. In addition, according to the report, future earning quality is high, given that more than 60 percent of the incoming BUA is pre-sold.



GE USHERS IN NEXT ERA OF MANUFACTURING IN SAUDI

GEMTEC IN DAMMAM NOW REGION'S FIRST 'BRILLIANT FACTORY'

DAMMAM: GE marked a significant milestone in its eight-decade-long presence in Saudi Arabia by officially opening Phase II of GE's Manufacturing & Technology Center (GEMTEC) and announcing expanded capabilities including the ability to manufacture HA and F-class turbines at the facility. GE's HA turbines are the world's largest and most efficient, leading the industry in output.

The opening coincided with the completion and delivery of GEMTEC's first 7F turbine to Saudi Electricity Company's Waad Al-Shamal combined-cycle power plant. GE's Chairman & CEO Jeff Immelt joined senior officials of the company and partners to inaugurate the second phase of GEMTEC, which now joins the ranks of GE's global gas turbine manufacturing facilities such as in Greenville, South Carolina and Belfort, France.

"GE has been on the ground in Saudi Arabia for more than 80 years," said Immelt. "GEMTEC's expansion and transformation is a significant milestone in our operations here in the Kingdom. This facility will serve as a manufacturing, repair and research hub that services a wide market. GE's investment of digitally-driven advanced manufacturing capabilities in GEMTEC demonstrates our continued commitment to serving as a leading partner for transformational growth in Saudi Arabia."

Phase II of GEMTEC will continue to develop an integrated industrial ecosystem in the Kingdom, through local, Saudi-driven manufacturing, services and R&D. It creates more than 150 high quality jobs for Saudi professionals and draws on more than 300 Saudi suppliers to provide gas turbine parts that are manufactured locally. The expansion also adds 9,000 sq m of manufacturing space to the facility, taking the total area to 26,000 sq m - the size of 100 tennis courts. In addition to the enhanced manufacturing competencies, the facility offers services and repairs for gas turbines, as well as the first balance of plant (BOP) test and inspection services in the region.

The expanded GEMTEC also has a dedicated Monitoring & Diagnostics Center - Saudi PowerGen Efficiency Center (SPEC) - for gas and steam turbines, which opened earlier this year. Another core component of the expansion is construction of a dedicated building for the Hot & Harsh Center of Excellence. Researchers there will study the effects of high temperature, dust, corrosion, erosion, duty cycle, and fuel harshness on the reliability and efficiency of power plants. This facility - expected to be complete by the end of 2016 - will design and prototype gas turbines and auxiliary components for testing.

The announcement also marks the transformation of GEMTEC to a 'Brilliant Factory', the first

of its kind in the region. GE has introduced advanced digital industrial capabilities to GEMTEC, including sensor-enabled service center equipment to provide utilization and performance data in addition to diagnostics. GEMTEC also utilizes real-time monitoring of all utility consumption, and site equipment and infrastructure can be fully controlled and monitored remotely using GE's brilliant manufacturing suite of services. "With this expansion, GE can now build any heavy-duty gas turbine we offer right here in Saudi Arabia," said Steve Bolze, President & CEO of GE Power. "We've already completed an F turbine at GEMTEC, and we look forward to building our world-record-setting HA turbine in the Kingdom-for customers in the Kingdom and beyond."

"Since its opening in 2011, GEMTEC has helped build a strong local manufacturing ecosystem that today benefits Saudi small and medium enterprises," stated Hisham Al-Bahkali, GE's President & CEO for Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. "Led by Saudi technical talent, the Center's expansion enables us to serve our customers more efficiently - assuring not only repair services but 'Made in Saudi' heavy duty gas turbines with the shortest turnaround time. Our investment in localized manufacturing and research also highlights our commitment to the Saudi Vision 2030 to continue to strengthen the competitiveness of the local economy."

As part of GE's \$1 billion investment in the Kingdom, GEMTEC was expanded in 2012 intensifying its computerized numerical control (CNC) machining capabilities, coding and analytic services and robotics. With over 500 skilled workers, 70 percent of them Saudi professionals, GEMTEC today serves more than 70 customers from 40 countries around the world, servicing components from more than 600 turbines. More than 60 percent of all gas turbine manufacturing and components at GEMTEC are exported to customers around the globe, further strengthening Saudi Arabia's competitiveness and supporting the Saudi Vision 2030 to create an exports hub.

As part of GE's commitment to drive localization, GEMTEC also joined hands with National Power Academy (NPA) to train Saudi engineers to be a part of their skilled workforce. GE is also collaborating with KAUST and Technical & Vocational Training Center (TVTC) for training Saudi students for potential careers at GEMTEC. Of the 250 students trained to date, 200 are employed across diverse businesses of GE in the Kingdom including at GEMTEC. With a presence of over 80 years, three offices and seven facilities, Saudi Arabia accounts for the largest GE workforce in the Middle East with over 2,000 employees driving the Aviation, Healthcare, Oil & Gas, Power and Transportation businesses.



THREE KD 5,000 WINNERS IN NBK'S JAWHARA WEEKLY DRAWS

KUWAIT: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) announced three lucky winners in Al-Jawhara weekly draws during the month of October. The draws were conducted under the supervision of Ministry of Commerce Representatives.

Khalifa Ahmed Al-Qallaf, Vincent Lewis Sebriyam and Adel Abdul Reda Al-Khayat each won KD 5,000. The winners expressed their gratitude and thanked NBK for its great services and promotions.

NBK has doubled customers' chances to win in the weekly, monthly and quarterly draws when they do not withdraw or transfer from their accounts. NBK customers have chances to win KD 5,000 weekly, KD 125,000 monthly and a grand prize of KD 250,000 quarterly. Each KD 50 in a customer's account entitles them to one entry in the draw, thus more money in an account means more chances in each draw. The new feature introduced to Al-Jawhara Account enables customers to double their chances when maintaining their balance without withdrawing or transferring from Al-Jawhara account.

Al-Jawhara is the most popular prize-giving account in Kuwait. Al-Jawhara account entitles account holders to enter

the weekly, monthly and quarterly Al-Jawhara draws. All prizes are automatically credited to the winners' accounts the day after the draw.

Al-Jawhara accounts are available for both Kuwaitis and expats and can be opened at any of NBK's branches around Kuwait, or through NBK website for existing customers.



KFH LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR AL-TAMMAYOZ CLIENTS

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) launched marketing campaign for Al-Tammayoz Clients whereby the bank offers a vast array of promotions and discounts to this segment of clients.

The campaign, which is valid until November 31st, reflects KFH's policy of providing the best offers that cater to clients' aspirations, while confirms KFH's keenness to better serve Al-Tammayoz segment.

The offers encompass different brands, products and services. The campaign offers 0 percent profit on personal financing for some cars, in addition to exclusive offers for cars operational leasing, purchasing Gold Biscuits at the bank's branches, and a wide range of accessories, restaurants and other shopping outlets.

KFH attaches great interest to Al-Tammayoz segment. The bank dedicates qualified Relations Managers who work tirelessly to identify Al-Tammayoz clients' needs and meet their requirements in accordance with the highest quality standards.

Al Tammayoz' services at KFH provide a vast range of distinguished services tailored specially to fulfill all clients' needs and provide creative banking solutions to provide high level integrated banking services in an atmosphere of high privacy.

In order for clients to become one of Al-Tammayoz customers, their salary should range between KD 1500 to KD 3999. Total account balances and bank deposits at KFH shall not be less than KD 50000 to KD 99999 for a consecutive six months.



8 DAYS LEFT TO ENTER AL-DANAH'S KD1 MILLION DRAW

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank has announced that October 31st is the last date for customers to open an Al-Danah account or deposit more, as to increase their chances in becoming the next Al-Danah millionaire!

To participate in the Al-Danah draws, customers must have an Al-Danah account containing at least KD 200. Customers can open a new Al-Danah account at any one of the 56 Gulf Bank branches in Kuwait. Those who already have an account can enhance their chances of winning the upcoming draws by increasing and maintaining their deposits. The yearly millionaire draw will be held on January 5th 2017. Eligible customers will also enter the daily draw offering two KD1,000 prizes, which are drawn each working day.

Five reasons why the Al-Danah account is the best:

- 1) Kuwait's single biggest yearly cash prize of KD 1 million
- 2) Kuwait's biggest quarterly cash prizes, up to KD500,000
- 3) Two winners of KD1,000 every working day
- 4) The most chances to win
- 5) Only bank that transfers your chances to win from year to year

Only Al-Danah makes millionaires
For further information about the Al-Danah account, visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, or call Gulf Bank's Customer Contact Center on 1805805. General information about Gulf Bank's products and services, can also be found at the Bank's website at www.e-gulfbank.com



GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-DANAH DAILY DRAWS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank held its Al-Danah daily draws on 16 October 2016 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 9 October - 13 October 2016. The Al-Danah daily draws include draws each and every working day for two prizes of KD 1,000 per winner.

The winners are:

(Sunday 9/10): Hawraa Saleh Ali Jaweli, Abdullah Mohammad Abdullah Al-Muzaini
(Monday 10/10): Maher Ali Naser Aldeen Hayek, Jaseem Mohammed Al-Salem
(Tuesday 11/10): Hessah Al-Fassam, Ahmad Abdulwahab Taher Al-Herz
(Wednesday 12/10): Khalid Naser Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Hamza Zaid Khalaf Al-Tilaji
(Thursday 13/10): Ali Abdulkarim Joohar Al-Shatti, Ahmad Moussa Bou Al-Banat
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 KD1 million 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!

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- 4) The most chances to win

5) Only Bank that transfers your chances to win from year to year

Only Al-Danah makes millionaires.

Al-Danah also 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.

TALEBAN RELEASE DRONE FOOTAGE OF SUICIDE ATTACK

LASHKAR GAH, AFGHANISTAN: Afghanistan's Taliban have released drone footage showing a suicide bomber driving a Humvee into a police base in Helmand province and blowing it up this month.

An Afghan government official said the video posted online appeared to be authentic. The use of video taken by a drone is unusual for the Taliban but more common among the more media-

savvy Islamist groups fighting in Iraq and Syria.

The video, 23 minutes long, begins with the purported suicide bomber speaking in front of the Humvee, a vehicle provided to Afghan forces by American advisers. "This is the happiest moment of my life," the man says, dressed in a black turban and white tunic. "I am telling the Afghan stooge forces to repent and join the Taliban or

we will use this equipment the foreigners gave them, against them and they can't do anything about it."

Later, a drone-mounted camera silently films the Humvee speeding towards a compound. Facing no apparent resistance, the Humvee barrels into the middle of the base, detonating in flames in front of a large building and producing a cloud of smoke and dust, obscuring the entire compound.

A government official in Helmand said the district police chief and several other officials were killed in the attack on October 3, when Taliban militants overran much of Nawa district.

The official, who declined to be named, said the video depicting the attack appeared to be authentic. The video's producers used graphics of target-like overlays to give the footage a video game-like feel, an effect used by

Islamic State in Syria and Iraq.

US-led forces have often used military-grade drones against the Taliban in Afghanistan's long war since 2001. Commercial drones favored by hobbyists and video producers are far simpler and cheaper.

In June the Afghan government banned media from using camera drones near sensitive government sites on security grounds.—Reuters



HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY: This Oct. 1, 2016, file photo provided by the National Transportation Safety Board shows damage done to the Hoboken Terminal.—AP

NEW JERSEY TRANSIT'S LONGEST DELAY: MODERN SAFETY TECHNOLOGY

NEW JERSEY: Six years after New Jersey Transit won federal approval to install modern safety technology on its commuter rail lines, the project has languished and trains still operate with speed controls developed in the 1950s.

The technological divide was underscored last month when a packed NJ Transit train sped to double the 10 mph speed limit and hurdled into Hoboken Terminal, killing a woman on the platform and injuring more than 100 other people.

Instead of a sophisticated on-board computer regulating train speeds into the station, NJ Transit relies on an antiquated in-cab signaling system that's designed to alert engineers and stop trains only when they go faster than 20 mph.

Even at Hoboken Terminal - where NJ Transit had an exception from positive-train control requirements - experts say an on-board computer tied to the PTC system still would have worked to keep the train within the speed limit.

The Sept. 29 crash and other safety concerns - including an Associated Press analysis showing NJ Transit had more accidents than any other commuter railroad in the country in the past five years - has raised criticism of the transit agency and lawmakers in Trenton are holding a hearing on Friday to begin asking questions.

157 accidents since 2011

Trains run by NJ Transit, which operates the nation's second-largest commuter railroad, have been involved in 157 accidents since the start of 2011, three times as many as the largest, the Long Island Rail Road, according to an AP analysis of data from January 2011 through July 2016.

"When I see 57 percent of accidents are attributed to human error, to me that's indicative of an organizational problem," said state Sen. Bob Gordon, a Bergen County Democrat. "There's something wrong with the culture, the safety culture. That may necessitate wholesale changes."

NJ Transit's sluggishness on PTC is also expected to be a focus of Friday's hearing, with lawmakers looking to compare the agency's progress with that of other com-

muter railroads. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, which serves Philadelphia and its suburbs, has PTC functioning on 8 of its 13 branches. NJ Transit said in a June filing that it hasn't made any additional progress as a December 2018 deadline looms.

NJ Transit did not respond to a request for comment. The railroad industry has said installing PTC at train terminals like the one in Hoboken is impractical and cumbersome, given the high volume of trains arriving and departing at what are normally low speeds, as well as the multitude of signals and other infrastructure already in place.

"Although low-speed collisions do occasionally occur in these environments, the consequences are low; and the rate of occurrence is very low in relation to the exposure," the Federal Railroad Administration stated in a 2010 regulatory filing on positive-train control.

Investigators say the engineer on the Hoboken train hit the emergency brake when the train hit 21 mph, seconds before crashing into and then over a bumping post. Investigators are looking into whether the alert system kicked in. It's unclear if it would have slowed the train in time.

Under Federal Railroad Administration rules, the maximum authorized speed for areas exempt from positive-train control is 20 mph. NJ Transit, in its implementation plan, said that the maximum authorized speed at Hoboken Terminal is 15 mph.

That's still too fast, David Schanoes, a former superintendent at New York's Grand Central Terminal, said. He says cutting the speed to 10 mph would significantly reduce the risk of another Hoboken-type crash because it would give engineers far more time to slow, stop - or be alerted to stop - before crashing.

In the event of a crash, Schanoes said, a train going 10 mph would produce one-quarter of the force of one traveling 20 mph. "In terms of lowering speeds within a terminal that's certainly an option," said Federal Railroad Administrator Sarah Feinberg. "We will look at anything that we can across the board to improve safety anywhere."—AP



NEW DELHI: A young Indian rag picker is silhouetted against smoke rising from the garbage burning on the roadside yesterday.—AP

INDIA LAUNCHES PHONE APP TO MONITOR NEW DELHI'S POLLUTION

NEW DELHI: India's capital, laboring under the label of being the world's most polluted city, is trying something new to help clean up its air.

A smartphone application that allows residents to report the presence of construction dust or the burning of leaves and garbage in New Delhi's public parks to authorities was launched Friday. The "Hawa Badlo," or "Change the Air," app has two versions. One allows people to take pictures of likely pollutants. The other allows authorities to investigate and act on valid complaints.

Over the last few years, New Delhi has struggled with ways to handle the pollution, which becomes especially obvious during the colder winter months as the city's air turns to a gray haze.

The newest measure, the phone app, was launched by the Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority, a monitoring group set up on

the order of India's Supreme Court in April.

Over the last decade or so, India, like neighboring China, has seen pollution spiral as its economy has boomed and it has continued to rely on burning coal to generate electricity. The number of vehicles on the road has skyrocketed, while hundreds of millions of impoverished people still use wood, kerosene or whatever they can grab at the garbage dump to build fires for cooking or keeping warm on winter nights.

Over the last two years, the government has tried a slew of measures to control the air pollution, including stricter emission norms for cars and a tax on diesel-fueled trucks that enter the city.

New Delhi also has attempted to limit the number of cars during the winter months, when the air quality is at its worst. Twice the city had a two-week period in which cars were allowed on the roads only on even or odd days, depending on the vehicle's license plate number.—AP

NEW 3D TECHNOLOGY RAISES HOPES FOR THE COLDEST OF COLD CASES

HOPING TO SOLVE 20 CASES

TAMPA: The faces are haunting. They stare, straight ahead, unblinking and made of malleable clay. There are fourteen total, all busts of the missing, the unidentified, the murdered. The forgotten.

These faces appeared before law enforcement, University of South Florida experts and the public for the first time on Friday. The clay busts were the effort of University of South Florida forensic anthropologists and forensic artists who pulled images of unidentified bodies from cold case files, printed their skulls in 3D plastic, then molded heads and faces that someone might recognize.

They're hoping to solve 20 cases, including 13 from Florida, four from Pennsylvania, and one each from Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee.

Some are decades old. Investigators hope that updated DNA procedures and chemical isotope testing will help them identify the bodies and ultimately, learn what happened to them.

"Time stands still for these victims," said Cpl. Tom McAndrew of the Pennsylvania State Police. This is the second year of the Art of Forensics event. It was conceived by Joe Mullins, a forensic artist for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

While most of this year's 20 cold cases are of adults who were found dead, one was a baby. In August 2003, an infant's body was found in a pond in Gainesville. They think the remains are that of a girl. That's all investigators know; it's unclear how the baby died, and the artists did only a computer sketch of the baby.

Alachua County Sheriff Sadie Darnell talked about the case, and said there is a "tsunami" of missing and unidentified cases in Florida, par-



TAMPA: A clay bust and details surrounding an unidentified victim in a Florida cold case file is shown during the Art of Forensics conference Friday, Oct. 21, 2016.—AP

tially because of the state's transient population. "Every single person represented here today was somebody's baby," she said. "This is the why of what we do in our work."

For Dr. Erin Kimmerle, a USF anthropologist and director of the school's Institute for Forensic Anthropology & Applied Science, it's about justice for the families, especially in cases of homicides. "There's a reason there are no statutes of limitations on murder," she said. "Stripping someone of their life is the ultimate crime."

Investigators acknowledge it's a long shot to crack these cases, but say it's worth the effort. After last year's Art of Forensics event, one cold case victim was identified. This year's event also has raised hopes. Two sisters showed up, and intensely compared one of the clay faces to a picture they carried of their older sister, missing since the late 1970s. They teared up at the resemblance, and a detective whisked them away to collect information, possibly generating a lead.—AP

RUSSIAN INDICTED IN US ON CHARGES OF HACKING LINKEDIN

A federal grand jury in California has indicted a Russian man for hacking computers belonging to LinkedIn Corp, Dropbox and Form spring, the US Justice Department said on Friday.

Yevgeniy Nikulin was arrested on Oct. 5 by officials in the Czech Republic and remains in custody in Prague, the Justice Department said in a news release.

LinkedIn said at the time of his arrest that it was related to a 2012

breach at the social networking company that may have compromised credentials of 100 million users, prompting a massive password reset operation.

It was not immediately clear if US officials had begun extradition proceedings to have Nikulin, who was indicted on Thursday by a federal grand jury in Oakland, California, brought to the United States to stand trial.

According to the DOJ, Nikulin is accused of accessing computers

belonging to LinkedIn, Dropbox and Form spring and obtaining information from them.

The US attorney's office could not immediately be reached for further comment. It was not yet clear who would be representing Nikulin in the proceedings.

He is also alleged to have used credentials of LinkedIn and Form spring employees in connection with the computer intrusions. Further, Nikulin is alleged to have engaged in a conspiracy with

unnamed co-conspirators to traffic stolen Form spring user credentials.

The indictment charges Nikulin with three counts of computer intrusion, two counts of intentional transmission of information, code, or command causing damage to a protected computer; two counts of aggravated identity theft; one count of trafficking in unauthorized access devices; and one count of conspiracy.—Reuters

AMAZON STREAMING TV DEVICES WON'T BE SO AMAZON-FOCUSED

NEW YORK: Amazon's own video store will no longer have the starring role on the company's Fire TV streaming devices.

Software updates coming this year will give movies and TV shows from Netflix, HBO and other competitors equal prominence on the devices' home screen. The approach is similar to one Apple took when it refreshed its Apple TV device last year.

Amazon's Fire TV has offered solid performance at reasonable prices, but its home screen has been cluttered with Amazon products - whether to rent or buy, or offered at no extra charge through Amazon's \$99-a-year Prime program. That's made it tough to find video from competing providers without turning to a voice-search feature that, until recently, excluded Netflix. For the most part, finding video typically required opening a service's app first.

Now, competing services will be offered space on the home screen. Netflix, for instance, could choose to highlight its original series "Stranger Things" alongside personalized recommendations. Netflix could also include a short video trailer that plays on the home screen.

And while Amazon has long had a watch list for viewers to keep track of what they want to watch, choosing a title has directed the viewer back to Amazon's store. Now, Amazon will offer viewers a choice of providers. If a video is available for free through Netflix, for instance, that will be the most prominent option, even if Amazon's own store is selling the same title. The development comes as leading video services make major investments in original shows, making it difficult for any single service to fulfill all of a viewer's needs. An Amazon-centric approach penalizes viewers looking for not just Amazon's "Transparent" but also Netflix's "Luke Cage" and Hulu's "The Mindy Project."—AP



DECATUR, GEORGIA: This Sept. 29, 2014, file photo, shows the Amazon Fire TV, a product for streaming popular video services, apps and games in high-definition.—AP



SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA: In this photo taken Wednesday Oct. 19, 2016, art teachers Jo Sutton, left, and Jennifer Jervis, right, take pictures beneath a 55-foot nude statue.—AP

GIANT NUDE STATUE IN CALIF IS STIRRING CONTROVERSY

SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA: There have long been complaints about the lack of women in the tech industry. Now there's a towering female figure, in a tech park across the bay from San Francisco, although not quite what some people had in mind. A 55-foot tall statue of a nude woman unveiled this week in the working-class community of San Leandro is stirring controversy and a lot of conversation.

The statue - roughly three times as tall as Michelangelo's David - is made of steel mesh in the form of a graceful dancer, with an arched back and arms stretched overhead. At the base of the statue is a message in 10 languages that says: "What would the world be like if women were safe?"

The debate is not over the statue's artistic merit or its message of female empowerment, which is aimed at the general public, not the tech industry. It centers on whether the 13,000-pound nude is appropriate in public.

"If she's a ballerina, she should have some clothes on," said Tonette Watts, 57, a resident and mother of a teen girl, who stopped and stared at the statue on her way to work. "If you've got kids you do not want them seeing that." Another parent, Keith Verville, 48, studied the sculpture and then asked: "Why is it so big? And SO not clothed?" The statue, called "Truth is

Beauty," is on private property at the edge of a new tech office complex - in a highly trafficked and visible area just across from San Leandro's commuter rail station.

Reflection of change?

Many people, including city officials, have welcomed the statue as a reflection of the changing demographics in San Leandro, where young millennials now outnumber older residents. "This is something I'd never have thought would come to San Leandro," said Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter. "It's edgy and modern, and it makes me proud." The statue debuted in 2013 at Burning Man, the annual counterculture celebration in the Nevada desert. It was then bought by developers of the complex, for a price they haven't disclosed, under a requirement by the city to include public art at the site. Cutter said some city officials initially weren't thrilled by the choice but ultimately liked the idea of starting a conversation about art. The mayor says the statue sends a powerful message of female strength that's more apparent when seen up close. The sculptor, Marco Cochrane, says he was marked as a child by the rape of a neighborhood friend and tries through art to bring attention to sexual assault and to the fear of many women, but also to the strength women feel when not afraid.—AP

JUPITER SPACECRAFT DETECTS PROBLEM, TURNS OFF CAMERA

LOS ANGELES: A NASA spacecraft circling Jupiter has hit another snag. The space agency said Wednesday that Juno detected a problem, went into safe mode and shut off its cameras and instruments hours before it was supposed to pass over Jupiter's dense cloud tops. Juno rebooted its onboard computer and can communicate with Earth, but its activities are limited until engineers diagnose what went wrong.

"It's too early to take a guess," but the issue isn't caused by the intense radiation belts surrounding Jupiter because the spacecraft was far away when it entered safe mode, said mission chief scientist Scott Bolton of the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio. It's the



This undated artist's rendering shows NASA's Juno spacecraft making one of its close passes over Jupiter. — AP

second setback in less than a week for the solar-powered Juno, which has been orbiting the giant planet since July on a \$1.1 billion mission to explore its poles, atmosphere and interior.

Last week, mission managers decided to postpone an engine firing planned for Wednesday after a pair of valves in the spacecraft's propulsion system didn't work as expected. NASA said the two problems weren't related. The delay means Juno won't swing close again to Jupiter until December. The spacecraft made its first close pass in August, beaming back pictures of Jupiter's stormy north pole, which appeared bluer than the rest of the planet.

Scientists continued to pore over

close-up images from the first flyby, determining that Jupiter's magnetic fields and northern and southern lights were more powerful than expected. The Juno mission was designed to fly closer to Jupiter than previous spacecraft, coming within 2,500 miles of the surface. Some three dozen close passes are planned during the 20-month mission.

Over at Mars, an experimental lander that was supposed to touch down on the red planet Wednesday lost contact with ground controllers at the European Space Agency. The mother ship successfully slipped into orbit around Mars and will study the atmosphere, but the fate of the lander was still unknown. — AP

OBAMA: HEALTH CARE LAW WORKED, BUT IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

'MILLIONS HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE'

MIAMI: President Barack Obama on Thursday defended his namesake health care program, long a target of Republicans and recently criticized by some Democrats, saying millions of Americans "now know the financial security of health insurance" because of the Affordable Care Act. "It worked," he said, even while allowing that the program isn't perfect. "No law is."

Less than two weeks before the Nov. 1 start of the enrollment period for Affordable Care Act health plans, Obama flew to a south Florida college to kick off a push by the administration to encourage more people to sign up, with a particular emphasis on young adults.

Obama is trying to burnish his legacy as the president who, after decades of failed attempts by Washington, finally brought health care to millions. But what he attempted Thursday was a difficult sales job, as the 2010 law faces new and troubling challenges.

Premiums are rising by double digits in many parts of the country and some major insurers have quit the program, leaving consumers with fewer choices next year and contributing to higher prices that are plaguing the program.

Troubling arguments

The troubles have bolstered the arguments of Republicans and added some top Democratic allies to the crowd of critics. Former President Bill Clinton, while campaigning in support of his wife, Hillary's, presidential bid, called the Affordable Care Act "the craziest thing in the world." Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton said it is "no longer affordable."

In his remarks, Obama chalked up GOP criticism of the law to "nothing more than politics" and envy that "a Democratic president named Barack Obama passed the law. That's just the truth." He called on both parties to set aside the "political rhetoric" and "be honest about what's working, what needs fixing and how we fix it." He urged the new president and the next Congress to "take what we've learned over the past six years ... and make the ACA better."

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., wasn't buying the president's pitch. "At this point, one thing is clear. This law can't be fixed," Ryan said, calling for the law to be replaced with "patient-centered reforms" that would give people more choice and control over their health care needs.



MIAMI: President Barack Obama speaks about the Affordable Care Act, Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016, at Miami Dade College. — AP

Congressional Republicans have failed to repeal the law, despite numerous attempts. Obama said doing so would just make things worse. "Right off the bat repeal would take away health care from 20 million people," plus cancel other protections that benefit millions.

Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell said this week that she expects 13.8 million people will sign up for 2017 coverage, a modest increase over the 12.7 million consumers who picked health insurance plans during open enrollment for this year.

Obama presented his own prescription to make the law better, including getting Florida and more than a dozen states that haven't yet done so to accept federal funding to expand Medicaid and bring health insurance to millions more people. He also called for providing tax credits to help middle-class Americans and young adults afford coverage, creating a "public

plan fallback" to provide more options, particularly for people in rural and other hard to reach areas, and encouraging state innovation.

Obama compared problems in the law to a bug in new technology. He said, for example, that a company will fix a problem with a smartphone. "They upgrade it, unless it catches fire and then they just pull it off the market," Obama joked, in a reference to the recalled Samsung Galaxy Note 7 smartphone. "But you don't go back to using a rotary phone. You don't say, we're repealing smartphones."

Insurers say most of those who signed up for coverage since the law took effect turned out to be sicker than expected, which is costing them money. Young adults, who generally are in better health, make up a disproportionate share of the people who remain uninsured, the White House said. The administration says it will work aggressively to encourage more of them to sign up to help stabilize the program. Sign-ups end Jan. 31.

The Affordable Care Act was designed to help the roughly 20 percent of Americans who don't get insurance through their employers. Taxpayer subsidies are provided to help cover premiums for plans purchased through state marketplaces. The subsidies are designed to increase as premiums increase to help soften the blow to people's wallets. About 85 percent of customers get this kind of financial help.

Still, millions of people buy individual policies outside of the health care law's marketplaces and many will be hit with the full premium increases.

Under the law, more than 21 million previously uninsured people are now covered. The law also provides new protections, including allowing children to stay on their parents' plans through age 26 and providing cost-free preventive care. While in the Miami area, Obama headlined a campaign rally for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. He also addressed a fundraiser for Democratic governors that was closed to the news media. — AP



KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI: In this July 21, 2016, file photo, the sun sets beyond visitors to Liberty Memorial as the temperature hovers around 100 degrees. — AP

WHY IT MATTERS: CLIMATE CHANGE

WASHINGTON: It's as if Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump live on two entirely different Earths: one warming, one not. Clinton says climate change "threatens us all," while Trump tweets that global warming is "mythical" and repeatedly refers to it as a "hoax." Measurements and scientists say Clinton's Earth is much closer to reality. As heat-trapping gases in the air intensify and hot temperature records shatter, global warming is taking a toll on Americans' everyday life: their gardens, air, water, seasons, insurance rates and more.

Where they stand

Trump calls attempts to remedy global warming "just a very, very expensive form of tax." He tells coal miners he'll get their jobs back. Solar power now employs four times more people than coal mining. Clinton proposes to spend \$60 billion to switch from dirty fossil fuels to cleaner energy. She says clean energy is needed, otherwise it would "force our children to endure the catastrophe that would result from unchecked climate change." She promises to deliver on the President Barack Obama's pledge that by 2025, the US will be emitting 30 percent less heat-trapping gases than in 2005.

Why it matters

Dozens of measurements show Earth is warming. And it's worsening. The overwhelming majority of climate scientists and nearly every professional organization of scientists have said climate change is real, man-made and a problem.

From May 2015 to August 2016, 16 months in a row set records globally for heat, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The world is on pace to break the record for hottest year, a record broken in 2010, 2014 and 2015. The five hottest years recorded have all been from 2005 on and it is about 1.8 degrees

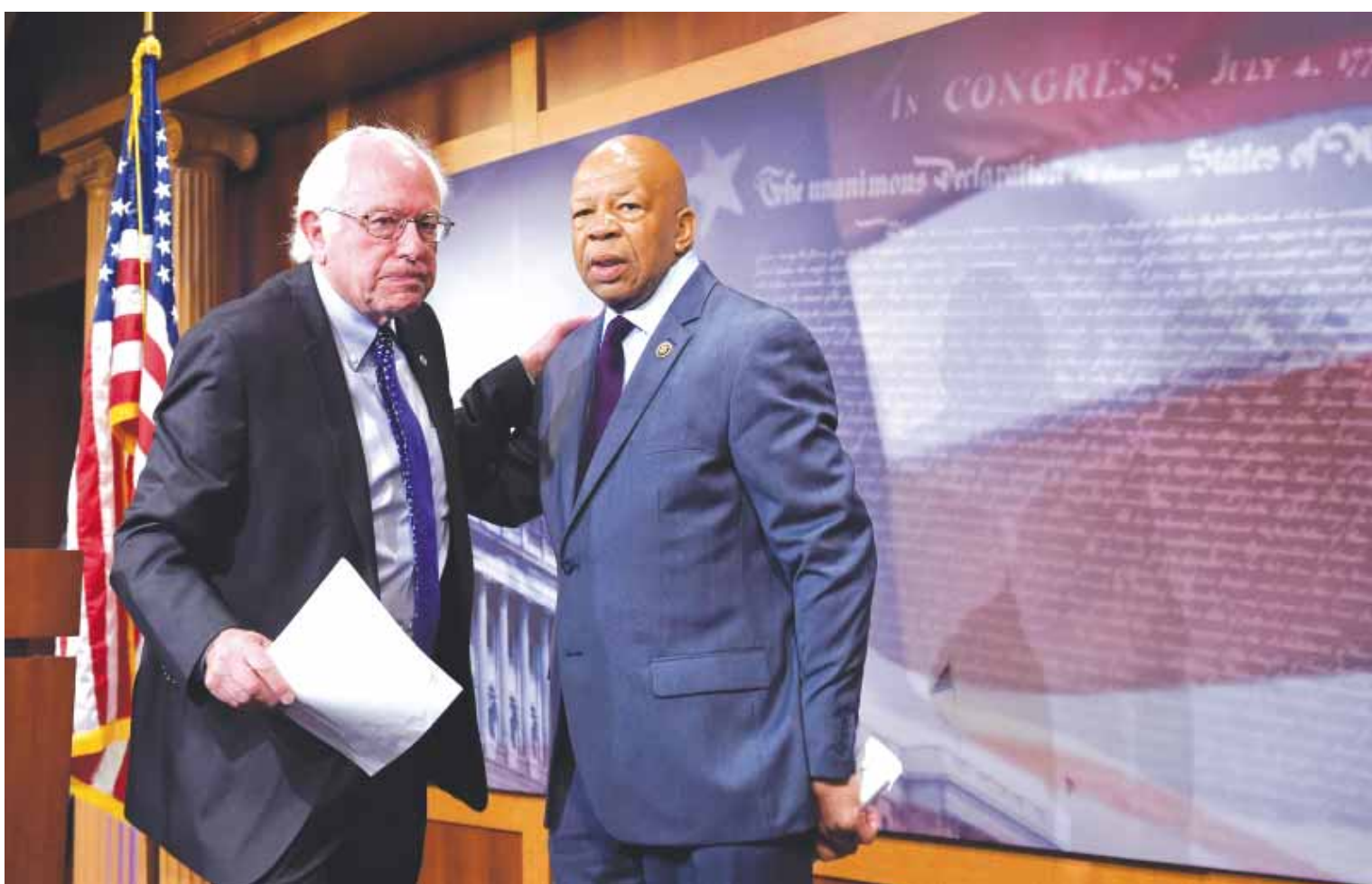
warmer than a century ago.

But it's more than temperatures. Arctic sea ice keeps flirting with record low amounts. Hot water has been killing coral as never before seen. Scientists have connected man-made climate change to extreme weather, including deadly heat waves, droughts and flood-inducing downpours. They even have connected it as one of several factors in the Syrian drought and civil war that led to a massive refugee crisis.

Climate change is causing the seas to rise, which threatens coastlines. Sea level has risen a foot in the waters around New York City in the past century, worsening flooding from Super storm Sandy.

And it is making people sicker with worsened allergies and asthma, heat deaths, diseases spread by ticks and mosquitoes, dirtier air and more contaminated water and food, a federal report said in April. Changing the world's economy from burning fossil fuel, which causes global warming, has a huge price tag. So does not doing anything. The world's average income will shrivel 23 percent by the year 2100 if carbon dioxide pollution continues at the current pace, according to a 2015 study out of Stanford and the University of California Berkeley. Just the Obama administration's efforts to cut carbon pollution from 1,000 power plants projects to cost about \$8 billion a year, but save several times more than in reduced health problems.

The world's largest general scientific society warns of "abrupt, unpredictable, and potentially irreversible changes with highly damaging impacts." It may seem improbable that government action can restore balance to something as vast as the climate. But presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush showed that big things can be done about air pollution. They took steps that reduced ozone depletion and acid rain. — AP



WASHINGTON: In this Sept 10, 2015 file photo, Sen Bernie Sanders, I-Vt, left, and Rep Elijah Cummings, D-Md, leave a news conference on Capitol Hill. — AP

LAWMAKERS DEMAND ANSWERS ON LEUKEMIA DRUG PRICE HIKES

WASHINGTON: Two top lawmakers on Thursday demanded information from a drug company that has raised prices on a leukemia drug, calling increases of tens of thousands of dollars a sign the company puts profits before patients.

Sen Bernie Sanders, I-Vt, and Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md, the top Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, wrote ARIAD Pharmaceuticals and asked about price hikes for Iclusig, which is used to treat chronic myeloid leukemia in some people. The company raised the cost of the drug four times in 2016 to an almost \$200,000 yearly cost, an increase of more than \$80,000 over the last several years. "These outrageous sales tactics indicate that ARIAD is more concerned with its profit than with its patients," Sanders and Cummings wrote.

Sanders also tweeted about the company last

week: "Drug corporations' greed is unbelievable. Ariad has raised the price of a leukemia drug to almost \$199,000 a year." According to data from Truven Health Analytics, the list price for a year's supply of Iclusig tablets has increased from \$114,960 in 2012 to \$198,732 in October 2016. Sanders and Cummings also said they are investigating whether the company tried to boost profits by tweaking pill dosages and quantities to charge insurers and patients more for less medicine.

The FDA approved Iclusig in 2012 as a treatment for two rare types of leukemia, but the company suspended sales the next October because of heightened concerns that patients could suffer from life-threatening blood clots. In December 2013, it re-launched with added warnings and to a smaller subset of patients. The inquiry comes as other pharmaceutical compa-

nies have come under fire from Congress for price hikes. Martin Shkreli, the brash former CEO of Turing Pharmaceuticals, became the poster child of pharmaceutical-industry greed last fall for hiking the price of a life-saving drug, Daraprim, by more than 5,000 percent. He invoked his Fifth Amendment rights and refused to answer any questions at a House hearing earlier this year. In September, a House panel grilled Mylan CEO Heather Bresch after the list price of the company's life-saving EpiPens grew to \$608 for a two-pack, an increase of more than 500 percent since 2007. Mylan is paying \$465 million to settle allegations that it overbilled Medicaid for the EpiPen. The settlement with the Justice Department followed the news that EpiPen has been incorrectly classified since late 1997 as a generic product under the Medicaid health program for the poor and disabled. — AP

ENDANGERED TOADS FLY TO PUERTO RICO

SAN FRANCISCO: More than 4,000 wiggling tadpoles conceived via wine fridges in California and then packed in a passenger plane headed to Puerto Rico on Thursday as part of a program to re-establish a Technicolor native toad once thought extinct. The Oakland Zoo since 2014 has taken part in a campaign by North American zoos breeding the critically endangered Puerto Rico crested toad for release into protected ponds on the island, their ancestral home.

Zoological manager Adam Fink was using flight-tracking apps Thursday to monitor the 4,069-week-old tadpoles on their layover in Atlanta. They were travel-

ing in double-bagged baggies topped up with oxygen. "Every single tadpole is important," Fink said. He and others had spent the day before the flight netting, packing and counting the tadpoles, bred from two pairs of the 19 Puerto Rico crested toads at the zoo.

The toads - their hides a mix of brown, red, green and yellow - thrived on Puerto Rico until sugar growers introduced a foreign toad they hoped would eat pests that feed on sugar cane. The introduced toad ate the native toad's young and took over its habitat, while human development eliminated much of the native toad's range. — AP



OAKLAND: In this Oct 12, 2016 photo provided by the Oakland Zoo shows one of two female Puerto Rican Crested Toads that bred almost 3000 tadpoles at the Oakland Zoo. — AP

WHY IT MATTERS: HEALTH CARE

WASHINGTON: About 9 in 10 Americans now have health insurance, more than at any time in history. But progress is incomplete, and the future far from certain. Millions remain uninsured. Quality is still uneven. Costs are high and trending up again. Medicare's insolvency is two years closer, now projected in 2028. Every family has a stake.

Where they stand

Hillary Clinton would stay the course, making adjustments as needed to major government health insurance programs. She'd build on President Barack Obama's health care law, with one exception - a tax on generous coverage that she'd repeal. Medicare, the health care program for older Americans and the disabled, would get new legal powers to negotiate prescription drug prices - even for some generics - are another major worry. Clinton would also offer some relief from rising out-of-pocket costs, like deductibles and copayments. Donald Trump would repeal "Obamacare." But recent studies found his plan would make 18 million to 20 million people uninsured. Stay tuned, because Trump has also said he doesn't want people "dying on the street." Similar to Clinton, he has promised not to cut Medicare. He agrees Medicare should be able to negotiate drug prices, unusual for a Republican.

Why it matters

Patients from all over the world come to America for treatment. US research keeps expanding humanity's ability to confront disease. But the US still spends far more than any advanced country, and its people

are not much healthier. Obama's progress reducing the number of uninsured may be reaching its limits. Premiums are expected to rise sharply in many states for people covered by his namesake law. That, along with some major insurers leaving the program, has raised concerns about the future.

The health care overhaul did not solve the nation's longstanding problem with costs. Total health spending is picking up again, underscoring that the system is financially unsustainable over the long run. Employers keep shifting costs to workers and their families.

No one can be denied coverage anymore because of a pre-existing condition, but high costs are still a barrier to access for many, including insured people facing high deductibles and copayments. Prescription drug prices - even for some generics - are another major worry.

The election offers a choice between a candidate of continuity - Clinton - and a Republican who seems to have some core beliefs about health care, but lacks a coherent plan. If the presidential candidates do not engage the nation in debating the future of health care, it still matters. Even if you're healthy, deeper national debt affects the economy and in some way everyone's standard of living, especially the next generation. If the government has to spend more on health care, it comes at the expense of more debt, cuts in something else or higher taxes. America's problem with health care spending can't be ignored or wished away. Political leaders can postpone hard choices, but that will mean consequences even more wrenching when the bill comes due.—AP

CLINTON CAMPAIGN: NO HEALTH ISSUES AFTER MAILED POWDER FOUND

NEW YORK: The Hillary Clinton campaign says four people have been examined by medical personnel after a white powdery substance arrived at a New York campaign office and they have reported no health issues.

Campaign spokesman Glen Caplin said federal and local officials determined the substance was non-hazardous; he provided

no further details yesterday. Police say preliminary tests showed the substance found Friday in an envelope at Clinton's Manhattan office, where mail is received, was not harmful. A police spokesman declined to identify what the substance was. The envelope arrived around 5:30 p.m. Friday. It was taken to Clinton's Brooklyn headquarters and the 11th floor there was evacuated.—AP



WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK: Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton arrives to board her campaign plane at Westchester County Airport.—AP



NAIROBI: Children stand on stage during a pageant hosted by the Albinism Society of Kenya.—AFP

KENYA FIGHTS DEADLY STIGMA WITH ALBINO BEAUTY PAGEANT

'WE WANT TO SHOW OUR TALENT AND CONFRONT DISCRIMINATION'

NAIROBI: In many parts of Africa albinos are stigmatized or hunted for their body parts, but for one night in Kenya those with the condition took to the catwalk to show off their unique beauty. Billed by organizers as the first pageant of its kind, young albino men and women on Friday competed for the title of Miss and Mr Albinism Kenya.

"People with albinism are not seen as beautiful and handsome so it is very rare to find those two words in the same sentence," said Isaac Mwaura, Kenya's first albino lawmaker and organizer of the pageant. "We want to show our talent, we want to confront stigma and discrimination, we want to change our narrative to show that actually, yes it is possible to have people with albinism who are beautiful, who are confident," he told AFP.

Albinism is a genetic condition that results in a reduction of pigment in the hair, skin, and eyes, and can also affect vision. "In Africa people are dark. When someone white is brought into the family, when a mother delivers a baby with albinism they say it is a curse," said Nancy Njeri Kariuki, 24, from central Kenya, who took part in the pageant. "There are a lot of challenges, even your fellow children when you are young they are so scared of you." However Kariuki, with a

brown wig and sparkling green eyes, bursts with confidence as she struts her stuff on the stage in front of a crowd including Deputy President William Ruto.

'Grow a tough skin'

Contestants dress up as their chosen profession - fisherman, cook, a female rugby player and a soldier - in one segment to highlight that they too can be part of the workforce. Educating and finding employment for people with albinism is still a massive challenge, says Mwaura.

Sarah Wanjohi, 21 — who dresses up as what she is, the only albino skateboarder she knows — wants Kenyans to learn "that we are beautiful ... we can love, we can catwalk ... we can do what we are perceived not to do. "It has been very hard for me, you know skateboarders don't wear heels and stuff."

The models, chosen in a countrywide selection process, were put through a grueling bootcamp to teach them how to walk and put on a show. Michael Ogochi, 21, said the process worked wonders for his self-confidence. "Growing up for me was a tough journey since everyone calls you a name and no one wants to be with you. You need to work on your self-

esteem and grow a tough skin."

Grisly attacks on albinos

While albino sufferers' pale complexion and features such as white eyelashes and red-toned hair can lead to rejection from their communities, in recent years there has been a rise in albino models in fashion magazines and on catwalks. However in eastern and southern African countries, such as Tanzania, Malawi, Burundi and Mozambique, it is more often grisly attacks on albinos, including children, that make headlines. Albinos are kidnapped and their body parts hacked off for use as charms and magical potions in the belief that they bring wealth and good luck. While such attacks are rare in Kenya, Mwaura said his Albinism Society of Kenya has had to step in and rescue children and adults from ritual killings, and one albino died in an attack last year.

At one point in the pageant, the rowdy crowd falls silent as Mwaura includes a bloody picture of albino body parts from a Tanzanian attack in a slideshow. Canadian charity Under The Same Sun (UTSS) has documented 161 attacks on people with albinism in Tanzania in recent years, including 76 murders, more than anywhere else in Africa. — AFP

CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times
248 33 199

Dr. Fabad Al-Mukhaizeem
مؤيد علي المخيزيم

استشاري أطفال
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM

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



Maribel Duarte Gonzalez, Elena Solomatina, Narjes Al-Shatti, Anna Solomatina, Maria Bayer, and Ghada Sarbia



Narjes Al-Shatti with Hala Al-Yassin



Dr. Ghanima Al-Sharhan

IWG'S BEAUTY EVENT AT COSTA DEL SOL HOTEL



The International Women's Group (IWG) held a Beauty event on Wednesday at Costa Del Sol Hotel. The event was attended by the spouses of ambassadors. During the event, Dr. Ghanima Al-Sharhan, a pharmaceutical and beauty specialist, spoke about skin care and the best beauty products for women who care about natural beauty products, that do not damage the skin with harmful chemicals. Sharhan explained that the lifestyles form is major stress factors that affect the appearance and behavior of bodies and minds, so she recommended the best natural products for the face, hair and body which are created from the purest olive oil, grape seed oil, as well as green tea and other herbal extracts. The International Women's Group is a multi-national group of women from more than 50 countries who have monthly meeting to entertain by various cultural activities and cross-cultural programs that aim to introduce the different cultures of the organization's members.



Elena Solomatina, Maria Bayer and Maribel Duarte Gonzalez



BISHOP MOORE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONDUCTED ONAM- EID SANGAMOM

Bishop Moore College Alumni Association of Kuwait Chapter conducted Onam- Eid Sangamom & Annual General Body Meeting at Kabad Chalet. Public function was presided by Mr. Jerry John Koshy (President). Inauguration of the Onam- Eid celebrations was performed by Mr. John M. V. by lighting the traditional Lamp. Felicitation address were given by Sathesh C. Pillai (Convener). Mr. Parimanam Manoj (General Secretary) welcomed the gatherings & Mr. Francis Laurence (Jt. Convener) delivered vote of thanks. The members of BMC family presented various cultural programs includes chendamalam, group dances, songs and many more which added color to the event. A Sumptuous "OnaSadhya" was served to all attendees in traditional way and style. The General body Meeting unanimously elected the following office bearers and executive committee members for the year 2016-17. Anil Kumar Ravi (Patron), Jerry John Koshy (President), Mrs. Pournami K.A. (Vice President), Jobin Babu (Secretary), Mrs. Dhanya Lekshmi (Jt. Secretary), Mathew Karoor (Treasurer) Sathesh C Pillai (Jt. Treasurer), Jayakumar (Auditor) Committee Members :- Shyam Sivan, Francis Cherukol, Mrs. Smitha Mathew, Parimanam Manoj, Manoj Chacko, Sangeeth Somanath, Mrs. Bini Manoj, Savio Febiah Fernandaz & Mrs. Lekha Shyam



KDA MAHILAVEDI HOLDS SEMINAR



Mahilavedi of Kozhikode District Association, Kuwait conducted a seminar on 'Role of Parents in Mental Development of Children' at Foke Hall, Abbasiya on October 18, 2016. Mr. Baiju Ayadathil, Family & Student Counsellor, who was state co-ordinator in Kerala Social Security Mission for 5 years presented the topic. Mr. Baiju who was on a short visit to Kuwait is an expert in the field of community development and had conducted many such classes and seminars for parents, children and organisations in Kerala. Mrs. Vanisree Santhosh, Mahilavedi President presided over the function. Kozhikode District Association President Mr. Rajagopalan.E and General Secretary Mr.Ramakrishnan.M offered felicitations. Mr.Haneef.C,Treasurer also participated in the meeting. The seminar proved to be very useful for all the participants and was well appreciated by all. Balavedi President Miss Keerthana Pramod offered welcome address and Mahilavedi Treasurer Mrs. Neena Rajagopal expressed vote of thanks.



LULU HYPERMARKET LAUNCHES PINOY FIESTA 2016



Lulu Hypermarket, the regional retailing giant, inaugurated its much-awaited annual Pinoy Fiesta at its Salmiya outlet on 19 October.

The Ambassador of Philippines to Kuwait H.E. Renato Pedeo O. Villa inaugurated the event, alongside the Hypermarket's top management, in front of a large crowd of shoppers, well-wishers and media personnel.

Pinoy Fiesta 2016, which will run till 29 October at all the outlets of Lulu Hypermarket in Kuwait, features a full-range of Philippine products at very special prices. Some of the leading brands on offer at very attractive pricing include C2, Century, Dole, Delmonte, Data Puti, Golden Mie, Hermano, Hobe, Jufuran, Ladies Choice, Mama Sita's, Newton, Star, Super and UFC.

The 11-day promotion period incorporates a host of distinctive elements that

highlight the exclusivity of Philippines, including large cut-outs of traditional cultural and social scenes that go to making Philippines such an attractive destination.

In a bid to make the Pinoy Fiesta 2016 even more attractive to shoppers, Lulu Hypermarket is partnering with Etihad Airways to offer five free air tickets to Manila. Shoppers can win one of the five tickets when they purchase KD3 worth of selected Filipino products.

Pinoy Fiesta 2016 is part of Lulu Hypermarket's ongoing initiative to regularly interact with their customers through highly popular promotions and festivals. This synergistic relationship with customers is just one of the reasons why the Lulu Hypermarket brand retains such a large and loyal following among shoppers in the region and beyond.



ASAR - AL RUWAYEH & PARTNERS RECEIVES IFLR 2016 'NATIONAL LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR THE 8TH YEAR IN A ROW

Al Ruwayeh & Partners (ASAR), Kuwait's leading and most prominent corporate law firm, and one of the region's top tier firms, is pleased to announce that it has for the 8th consecutive year been awarded the prestigious "National Law Firm of the Year Award" for 2016 presented by the International Financial Law Review (IFLR), the leading financial market guide for financial law firms worldwide. The awards ceremony that was held on 19th October 2016 at Burj Al Arab hotel, Dubai, saw the attendance of partners and representatives from other leading GCC and international law firms.

In addition to winning the above award, ASAR was also nominated for its role in five other major transactions namely, for debt and equity-linked deal of the year - the Burgan Bank Tier 2 bond issuance, for project finance deal of the year - Orpic Liwa Plastics transaction, 2 nominations under the restructuring deal of the year - the National Industries Euro Sukuk restructuring and the Wataniya Airways restructuring, and for the domestic deal of the year -

the National Industries Group bond issuance.

Mr. Sam Habbas - Senior Partner at ASAR noted that: "It was a successful evening for the firm at this year's IFLR Middle East Awards ceremony. We are delighted to have won the highly coveted National Law Firm of the Year Award for 2016 and to also have been nominated in so many other categories. We feel that this is a testament to the strength of our position as market leaders in Kuwait and in Bahrain. It is a reflection of our consistent diligence and commitment in providing quality legal services of the highest caliber. Always putting our clients first is a non-negotiable principle of our firm; their success is our success. We intend to keep it that way."

Ahmed Barakat - Managing Partner at ASAR noted that: "It is such a great honor for our firm to receive the Kuwait National Law Firm of the Year Award which we have now been fortunate to receive for an eighth consecutive year. We are also delighted to have been nominated in several other deal categories. The IFLR award and nominations recognize our expertise

across a whole range of legal areas and highlight the nature and extent to which we continue to forge ahead in leading the market. These awards reflect the strength and depth of our practice and the extraordinary efforts of all of our lawyers in Kuwait and in Bahrain."

With dedicated offices in Kuwait and Bahrain coupled with its associated offices and relationships, ASAR provides clients across an extensive range of industry sectors with comprehensive legal advice and support for their business activities in Kuwait, Bahrain, across the GCC and beyond.

The firm has been consistently rated as the leading corporate and commercial law firm in Kuwait by reputable legal guides such as the Chambers Global Guide, International Financial Law Review (IFLR) and the Legal 500. In 2016, ASAR was awarded with the IFLR National Law Firm of the Year Award; an award which ASAR has been delighted to receive for the 8th consecutive year. ASAR lawyers have also received multiple awards under different categories in the Fourth Edition of 'Best Lawyers' in Kuwait.

INAUGURATION OF THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT @ ICSK

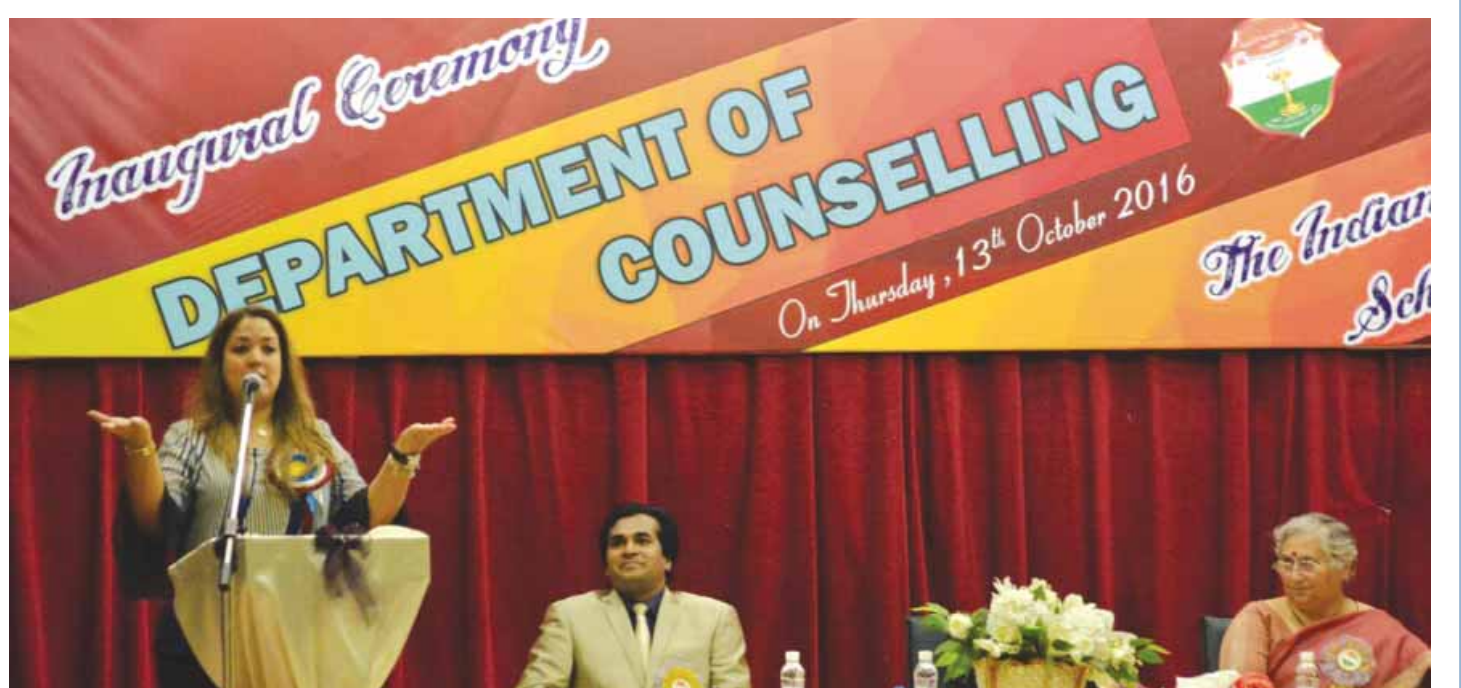
The Indian Community School (Senior) Kuwait witnessed an extraordinary inaugural ceremony of the Dept. of counseling on 13th October 2016. According to the modern education concept the school counselors are vital members of the education team. The main objective of the Counseling department is to help all students in the areas of academic achievement; personal/social development and career development, ensuring today's students become the productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow. School counselors are an important part of the educational leadership team and provide valuable assistance to students regardless of whether they work in an elementary school or middle school, high school or beyond.

The program began with invoking the blessings of the God Almighty. Dr V Binumon, Senior Administrator & Principal ICSK (Senior) welcomed the august gathering and introduced the chief guest Dr Joanne Hands, Director-Kuwait Counseling Centre to the audience. On this auspicious occasion, Dr Joanne Hands Inaugurated the Counseling

department and traditionally lighted the lamp along with other dignitaries. Dr. Hands expressed her great happiness and appreciated the department of Counseling for taking a new endeavor for the wellbeing of the Indian Community. She also whole heartedly offered her all support for the further growth.

Mrs. Asha Sharma, Kuwait Cluster Convener, felicitated the occasion and emphasized in her speech about the benefits of having an advanced counseling centre in Kuwait. She also appreciated the effort taken by the Department of Counseling. The program coordinator, Mr. Riaz, a faculty from the Department of Psychology spoke on the occasion about the merits of the counseling. Mrs. Aarushi, a teaching faculty of the same Department conducted a power point presentation, explaining the scope of counseling. Mr. K. Gangadhar Shirsath, Principal ICSK - Khaitan, Father Lionel Braganza, Principal Don Bosco - Kuwait were present to grace the occasion.

The meeting was over with the vote of thanks by Mr. Shirsath, Principal, ICSK - Khaitan.



OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

- 00:00 Bullet
- 02:00 Attila
- 04:00 Apocalypse Pompeii
- 06:00 The Taking Of Pelham 123
- 08:00 Hercules Reborn
- 10:00 Seventh Son
- 12:00 Batman vs. Robin
- 14:00 The Taking Of Pelham 123
- 16:00 In The Name Of The King: The Last Mission
- 18:00 Seventh Son
- 20:00 Sabotage
- 22:00 Kite

OSN MOVIES HD DRAMA

- 01:00 A Mother Betrayed
- 03:00 Before I Disappear
- 05:00 Cas & Dylan
- 07:00 First Response
- 09:00 A Stranger In Paradise
- 11:00 First Response
- 13:00 Before I Disappear
- 15:00 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 17:15 A Stranger In Paradise
- 19:00 Red Wing
- 21:00 Landmine Goes Click
- 23:00 The Devil's Violinist

OSN MOVIES HD FAMILY

- 01:00 A Far Off Place
- 03:00 My Girl
- 05:00 Eragon
- 07:00 The Hunchback Of Notre Dame
- 09:00 The Chronicles Of Narnia: Prince Caspian
- 11:30 Toy Story
- 13:00 Bolt
- 15:00 Diary Of A Wimpy Kid
- 17:00 The Chronicles Of Narnia: Voyage Of The Dawn...
- 19:00 101 Dalmatians
- 21:00 My Girl 2
- 23:00 Diary Of A Wimpy Kid

OSN MOVIES HD

- 00:00 Entourage
- 01:45 Kidnapping Mr. Heineken
- 03:30 Hotel Transylvania 2
- 05:00 Stoneheart Asylum
- 07:00 Step Up All In
- 09:00 Curious George: Back To The Jungle
- 10:30 Hotel Transylvania 2
- 12:15 Ant-Man
- 14:15 50 To 1
- 16:15 Where Hope Grows
- 18:00 Tracers
- 19:45 Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
- 21:00 Criminal Activities
- 23:45 Get Hard

OSN MOVIES HD FESTIVAL

- 01:00 The Education Of Little Tree
- 03:30 Escobar: Paradise Lost
- 05:30 Gridiron Gang
- 08:00 Atlas Shrugged Part 2: The Strike
- 10:00 The Horse Whisperer
- 13:00 Escobar: Paradise Lost
- 15:00 God Help The Girl
- 17:00 Atlas Shrugged Part 2: The Strike
- 19:00 Kill The Messenger
- 21:00 Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
- 23:00 Eden

OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

- 0:00 The Wedding Ringer
- 02:00 How Do You Know
- 04:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 06:00 Sister Act
- 08:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging
- 10:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 12:00 How Do You Know
- 14:00 Shanghai Noon
- 16:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging
- 18:00 The Invention Of Lying
- 20:00 Hostile Hostages
- 22:00 The Hooligan Factory

OSN MOVIES HD KIDS

- 01:30 Marco Macaco
- 03:00 Miffy The Movie
- 04:30 Mamma Moo And Crow
- 06:00 The Flintstones & WWE: Stone Age Smackdown
- 07:30 Daddy I'm A Zombie
- 09:15 Blackie And Kanuto
- 11:00 The Three Dogateers
- 12:45 Miffy The Movie

- 14:30 Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas
- 16:00 The Wild Thornberrys Movie
- 18:00 Blackie And Kanuto
- 20:00 Goat Story 2
- 22:00 Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas
- 23:30 The Wild Thornberrys Movie

OSN MOVIES HD PREMIERE

- 00:00 Wicked Blood
- 02:00 The Giver
- 04:00 The Lady In The Van
- 06:00 Batman Unlimited: Animal Instincts
- 08:00 Pompeii
- 10:00 Her Infidelity
- 11:30 The Judge
- 14:00 Manny
- 16:00 Pompeii
- 18:00 Oliver's Deal
- 20:00 The Curse Of Downers Grove
- 22:00 Child 44

OSN MOVIES HD

- 01:15 Crazy On The Outside
- 03:00 Feast Of Love
- 04:45 Resurrecting The Champ
- 06:45 Shanghai Noon
- 08:45 The Rover
- 10:45 America's Sweethearts
- 12:30 Whale Rider
- 14:15 Crazy On The Outside
- 16:00 The Talented Mr. Ripley
- 18:15 American Outlaws
- 20:00 Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights
- 21:30 The Recruit
- 23:30 The Art Of War

sundance CHANNEL

- 00:00 Hap And Leonard
- 00:45 Battle For Britain
- 01:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries
- 02:00 LOL
- 03:20 Radiator
- 04:55 Blood Thunder: The Sound Of Alberts
- 05:55 Blood Thunder: The Sound Of Alberts
- 07:00 The Matador
- 08:15 Gored
- 09:30 Elliott Smith: Heaven Adores You
- 11:15 Les Paul: Chasing Sound
- 12:45 Heaven
- 14:20 The Trip To Bountiful
- 16:05 Adela
- 17:30 The Listing Agent
- 17:45 The Matador
- 19:00 Gored
- 20:15 Elliott Smith: Heaven Adores You
- 22:00 Heaven
- 23:35 The Off Hours

UTV MOVIES INTERNATIONAL

- 00:43 Mera Gaan Mera Desh
- 03:00 Souten Ki Beti
- 05:09 On The Sets Of...
- 06:01 Refugee
- 09:19 Resham Ki Dori
- 11:28 Laila
- 13:41 Salaam Bacche
- 15:00 Speed
- 16:44 Shatranj
- 19:15 Karz Chukana Hai
- 22:04 Pathar Ke Insan

OSN FIRST HD COMEDY

- 00:00 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 00:30 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 01:00 Two And A Half Men
- 01:30 Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll
- 02:00 Girls
- 02:30 The League
- 03:00 The Grinder
- 03:30 Life In Pieces
- 04:00 Trophy Wife
- 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 05:30 George Lopez
- 06:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 06:30 Community
- 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 08:00 Trophy Wife
- 08:30 George Lopez
- 09:00 The Grinder
- 09:30 Wrecked
- 10:00 Fresh Off The Boat
- 10:30 Community
- 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 12:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 12:30 Trophy Wife
- 13:00 George Lopez
- 13:30 Community
- 14:00 Life In Pieces
- 14:30 Wrecked
- 15:00 Fresh Off The Boat
- 15:30 Two And A Half Men
- 16:00 Two And A Half Men



SEVENTH SON ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

- 16:30 The Bernie Mac Show
- 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 18:00 The Grinder
- 18:30 Life In Pieces
- 19:00 Crowded
- 19:30 Fresh Off The Boat
- 20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 21:00 Two And A Half Men
- 21:30 Two And A Half Men
- 22:00 It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia
- 22:30 Girls
- 23:00 The League
- 23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers

- 13:05 Impractical Jokers
- 13:55 Ridiculousness
- 14:45 Catch A Contractor
- 15:35 Tosh.0
- 16:00 Tosh.0
- 16:30 Nathan For You
- 17:25 Workaholics
- 17:50 Lip Sync Battle
- 18:39 Ridiculousness
- 19:27 Impractical Jokers
- 20:13 Urban Tarzan
- 20:37 Urban Tarzan
- 21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
- 21:30 I Live With Models
- 21:54 The Meltdown With Jonah And Kumail
- 22:18 Tosh.0
- 22:42 Di Hughley: The Endangered List
- 23:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

- 11:00 Cedar Cove
- 12:00 Project Runway
- 13:00 Three
- 14:00 American Idol
- 15:00 Switched At Birth
- 16:00 Private Practice
- 17:00 Private Practice
- 18:00 Desperate Housewives
- 19:00 Desperate Housewives
- 20:00 How I Met Your Mother
- 21:00 How I Met Your Mother
- 21:30 How I Met Your Mother
- 22:00 American Idol
- 23:00 Switched At Birth

TLC HD

- 00:20 Leah Remini: It's All Relative
- 00:45 Leah Remini: It's All Relative
- 01:10 Breaking Amish: Brave New World
- 02:00 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 02:50 Love, Lust Or Run
- 03:15 Cake Boss
- 03:35 Bride By Design
- 04:00 Bride By Design
- 04:20 Little People, Big World: Amy's 50th
- 05:10 Toddlers & Tiaras
- 06:00 Designer Darlings
- 06:50 Say Yes To The Dress
- 07:15 Say Yes To The Dress
- 07:40 Say Yes To The Dress: The Big Day
- 08:30 Little People, Big World: Amy's 50th
- 09:20 Jon & Kate Plus 8
- 09:45 Jon & Kate Plus 8
- 10:10 Love, Lust Or Run
- 10:35 Cake Boss
- 11:00 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 11:50 Designer Darlings
- 12:40 Bride By Design
- 13:05 Bride By Design
- 13:30 Oprah's Master Class
- 14:20 Oprah's Master Class
- 15:10 Toddlers & Tiaras
- 16:00 Little People, Big World: Down Under
- 16:50 Jon & Kate Plus 8
- 17:15 Jon & Kate Plus 8
- 17:40 Love, Lust Or Run
- 18:05 Cake Boss
- 18:30 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 19:20 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 20:10 Designer Darlings
- 21:00 Separated At Birth
- 21:50 Extraordinary Pregnancies
- 22:40 Monsters Inside Me
- 23:30 Separated At Birth

food network

- 00:00 Restaurant Stakeout
- 01:00 Mystery Diners
- 02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 03:00 Man Fire Food
- 03:30 Man Fire Food
- 04:00 Chopped
- 05:00 Guy's Grocery Games
- 06:00 Man Fire Food
- 07:00 Chopped
- 08:00 Barefoot Contessa
- 09:00 The Kitchen
- 10:00 Grandma's Secret Cookbook
- 11:00 Chopped
- 12:00 Guy's Big Bite
- 12:30 Guy's Big Bite
- 13:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 14:00 Man Fire Food
- 15:00 Chopped
- 16:00 The Kitchen
- 17:00 Grandma's Secret Cookbook
- 18:00 Chopped
- 19:00 Iron Chef America
- 20:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 21:00 Man Fire Food
- 22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 23:00 Iron Chef America

itv HD CHOICE

- 00:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 01:00 Emmerdale
- 01:30 Coronation Street
- 02:00 Coronation Street
- 02:30 The Chase
- 03:25 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 04:20 5 Star Family Reunion
- 05:15 Murdoch Mysteries
- 06:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 07:05 The Chase
- 08:00 Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
- 09:00 5 Star Family Reunion
- 10:00 Murdoch Mysteries
- 10:55 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 11:50 The Chase
- 12:45 Emmerdale
- 13:15 Coronation Street
- 13:45 Coronation Street
- 14:15 Who's Doing The Dishes?
- 15:10 The Chase
- 16:00 Victoria
- 16:55 Royal Stories
- 17:20 Catchphrase
- 17:50 Murdoch Mysteries
- 18:45 Emmerdale
- 19:15 Coronation Street
- 19:45 Coronation Street
- 20:10 The Chase
- 21:00 Victoria
- 21:55 Royal Stories
- 22:20 Catchphrase
- 22:50 Emmerdale
- 23:15 Coronation Street
- 23:40 Coronation Street

ANIMAL PLANET HD

- 00:45 Beasts Of The Bayou
- 01:40 My Cat From Hell
- 02:35 Tanked
- 03:25 Wildest Africa
- 04:15 Gator Boys
- 05:02 Beasts Of The Bayou
- 05:49 My Cat From Hell
- 06:36 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 07:00 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
- 07:25 Cats 101
- 08:15 My Cat From Hell
- 09:10 Beasts Of The Bayou
- 10:05 Tanked
- 11:00 Cats 101
- 11:55 Bondi Vet
- 12:50 My Cat From Hell
- 13:45 Gator Boys
- 14:40 Beasts Of The Bayou
- 15:35 Tanked
- 16:30 Wildest Africa
- 17:25 River Monsters
- 18:20 My Wild Affair: The Elephant Who Loved Too Much
- 19:15 Tanked
- 20:10 Wildest Africa
- 21:05 My Wild Affair: The Elephant Who Loved Too Much
- 22:00 Urban Predator: Lion On The Loose
- 22:55 Gator Boys
- 23:50 River Monsters

NAT GEO WILD HD

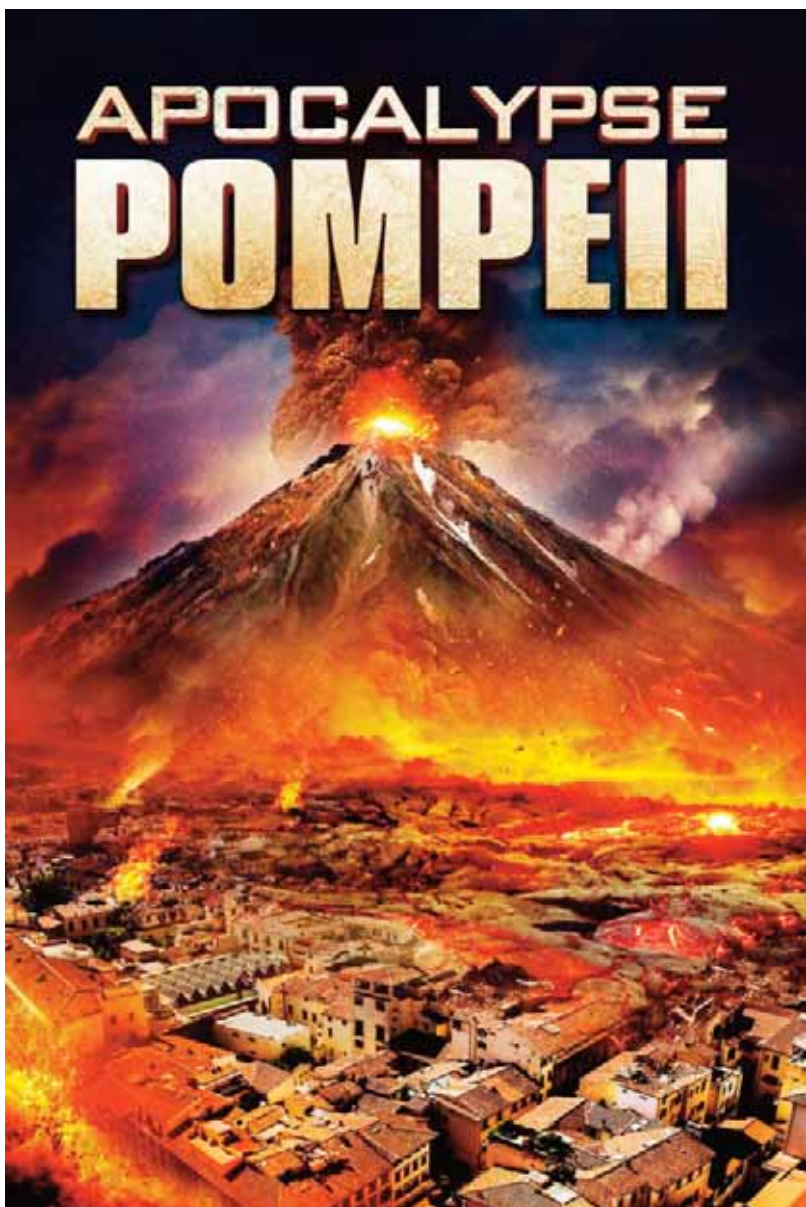
- 00:20 World's Deadliest Animals
- 01:10 Caught In The Act
- 02:00 World's Deadliest
- 02:50 Wild 24
- 03:45 Baby Animals In The Wild
- 04:40 The Incredible Dr. Pol
- 05:35 World's Deadliest
- 06:30 Wild 24
- 07:25 Baby Animals In The Wild
- 08:20 The Incredible Dr. Pol
- 09:15 Bandit Patrol
- 10:10 Jobs That Bite!
- 11:05 Cuba's Secret Reef
- 12:00 Kingdom Of The Oceans
- 12:55 World's Deadliest
- 13:50 Wild Case Files
- 14:45 Baby Animals In The Wild
- 15:40 The Incredible Dr. Pol
- 16:35 Bandit Patrol
- 17:30 Jobs That Bite!
- 18:25 Future Cat
- 19:20 Baby Animals In The Wild
- 20:10 The Incredible Dr. Pol
- 21:00 Bandit Patrol
- 21:50 Jobs That Bite!
- 22:40 Future Cat
- 23:30 Kingdom Of The Oceans

H2

- 00:00 Ancient Aliens
- 01:00 Brad Meltzer's Decoded
- 02:00 Ancient Discoveries
- 02:50 Ultimate Guide To The Presidents
- 03:40 Monster Quest
- 04:30 The Universe
- 05:20 Cities Of The Underworld
- 06:10 Ancient Discoveries
- 07:00 The Universe
- 08:00 Brad Meltzer's Decoded
- 09:00 Ancient Discoveries
- 10:00 Ultimate Guide To The Presidents
- 11:00 Monster Quest
- 12:00 Ancient Aliens
- 13:00 Brad Meltzer's Decoded
- 14:00 Ancient Discoveries
- 15:00 Ultimate Guide To The Presidents
- 16:00 Monster Quest
- 17:00 Ancient Aliens
- 18:00 Ancient Aliens
- 19:00 Brad Meltzer's Decoded
- 20:00 Ancient Discoveries
- 21:00 Ultimate Guide To The Presidents
- 22:00 Ancient Aliens
- 23:00 The Universe

Discovery HD

- 00:20 For The Love Of Cars
- 01:10 Gold Divers
- 02:00 Deadliest Catch
- 02:50 Railroad Australia
- 03:40 Fast N' Loud
- 04:30 Garage Gold
- 05:00 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 05:30 How Do They Do It?
- 06:00 Deadliest Catch
- 06:50 For The Love Of Cars
- 07:40 Fast N' Loud
- 08:30 Gold Divers
- 09:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 10:10 How Do They Do It?
- 10:35 Gold Divers
- 11:25 Deadliest Catch
- 12:15 Railroad Australia
- 13:05 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 13:30 Storage Hunters
- 13:55 Garage Gold
- 14:20 Gold Divers: Under The Ice
- 15:10 Alaskan Bush People
- 16:00 Deadliest Catch
- 16:50 Fast N' Loud
- 17:40 For The Love Of Cars
- 18:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars
- 18:55 How Do They Do It?
- 19:20 Gold Divers: Under The Ice
- 20:10 Storage Hunters
- 20:35 Garage Gold



APOCALYPSE POMPEII ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

BBC FIRST

- 00:45 The Kettering Incident
- 01:35 Thirteen
- 02:30 Silent Witness
- 03:30 Orphan Black
- 04:15 Casualty
- 05:10 Stella
- 06:00 Eastenders
- 06:35 Casualty
- 07:30 Casualty
- 08:25 New Tricks
- 09:20 Doctor Who
- 10:10 Stella
- 11:00 Casualty
- 11:55 New Tricks
- 12:50 Doctor Who
- 13:40 Stella
- 14:30 Casualty
- 15:25 New Tricks
- 16:20 Doctor Who
- 17:10 Stella
- 18:00 Doctors
- 18:30 Doctors
- 19:05 New Tricks
- 20:05 DCI Banks
- 21:00 One Of Us
- 22:00 Silent Witness
- 22:55 Orphan Black
- 23:40 Doctors

COMEDY CENTRAL

- 00:00 Lip Sync Battle
- 00:25 Idiotsitter
- 00:50 Chappelle's Show
- 01:15 Tosh.0
- 01:40 The Daily Show - Global Edition
- 02:05 Dave Attell: Road Work
- 03:00 Workaholics
- 03:25 Catch A Contractor
- 03:50 Ridiculousness
- 04:15 Key And Peele
- 04:40 Ridiculousness
- 05:05 Ridiculousness
- 05:30 Impractical Jokers
- 05:55 Impractical Jokers
- 06:20 Tosh.0
- 06:50 Tosh.0
- 07:15 Catch A Contractor
- 08:05 Ridiculousness
- 08:30 Ridiculousness
- 08:55 Impractical Jokers
- 09:20 Impractical Jokers
- 09:45 Nathan For You
- 10:10 Nathan For You
- 10:35 Ridiculousness
- 11:00 Catch A Contractor
- 11:25 Catch A Contractor
- 11:50 Workaholics
- 12:40 Workaholics

Syfy HD

- 00:15 The Magicians
- 01:10 Hunters
- 02:00 Sanctuary
- 02:50 Stargate SG-1
- 03:40 Eureka
- 04:30 Sanctuary
- 05:15 Smallville
- 06:00 Stargate SG-1
- 06:45 Sanctuary
- 07:30 Eureka
- 08:15 Smallville
- 09:00 Face Off
- 09:45 Sanctuary
- 10:30 Stargate SG-1
- 11:15 Eureka
- 12:05 Smallville
- 12:55 Sanctuary
- 13:45 Waterworld
- 14:00 Face Off
- 16:50 Smallville
- 17:40 Sanctuary
- 18:30 Stargate SG-1
- 19:20 Eureka
- 20:10 Smallville
- 21:00 12 Monkeys
- 21:50 The Magicians
- 22:40 Nocturna

WORLD HD

- 00:00 Private Practice
- 01:00 Private Practice
- 02:00 Cedar Cove
- 03:00 Cedar Cove
- 04:00 Project Runway
- 05:00 Three
- 06:00 American Idol
- 07:00 Switched At Birth
- 08:00 Private Practice
- 09:00 Private Practice
- 10:00 Cedar Cove

sci

- 00:00 Gangsters: America's Most Evil
- 01:00 When Life Means Life
- 02:00 Gangs Of Britain...
- 03:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 04:00 Gangsters: America's Most Evil
- 05:00 When Life Means Life
- 06:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 07:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook
- 08:00 The First 48
- 09:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 10:00 It Takes A Killer
- 10:30 Frenemies
- 11:00 Nightmare In Suburbia
- 12:00 Deadly Wives
- 13:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook
- 14:00 The First 48
- 15:00 It Takes A Killer
- 15:30 Frenemies
- 16:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 17:00 Deadly Wives
- 18:00 Nightmare In Suburbia
- 19:00 Fred Dinenage: Murder Casebook
- 20:00 It Takes A Killer
- 20:30 Frenemies
- 21:00 The First 48
- 22:00 The Jail: 60 Days In
- 23:00 It Takes A Killer
- 23:30 It Takes A Killer

Discovery Family

- 00:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
- 01:20 Baby Animals
- 01:45 Baby Animals
- 02:10 Baby Animals
- 02:35 Baby Animals
- 03:00 What Happened Next?

CLASSIFIEDS



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

Kuwait Times
 Now you can browse
www.kuwaittimes.net
 e-mail: info@kuwaittimes.net

Kuwait Times



KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (20/10/2016 TO 26/10/2016)

Time	Movie	Time	Movie	Time	Movie
1:30 PM	SHARQIA-1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	6:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO
4:00 PM	SACRIFICE	2:45 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	8:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO
6:00 PM	SACRIFICE	5:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	10:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO
8:00 PM	ASAL ABYAD	7:30 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	12:15 AM	PRECIOUS CARGO
10:15 PM	ASAL ABYAD	9:45 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO		
12:30 AM	SACRIFICE	12:05 AM	PRECIOUS CARGO		
11:45 AM	SHARQIA-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:30 PM	AVENUES-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	11:45 AM	AVENUES-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX
2:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	2:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	2:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX
4:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:30 PM	HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART II	4:45 PM	HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART II
7:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	6:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	7:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX
9:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	8:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	10:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX
12:15 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	12:30 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX
1:00 PM	SHARQIA-3 INFERNO	1:15 PM	AVENUES-3 LAF WA DAWARAN	1:15 PM	AVENUES-3 LAF WA DAWARAN
1:30 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	3:30 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	3:30 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN
FRI	FRI	5:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	5:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN
3:30 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	8:00 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	8:00 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN
5:15 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	10:15 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	10:15 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN
7:00 PM	INFERNO	12:30 AM	LAF WA DAWARAN	12:30 AM	LAF WA DAWARAN
9:30 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN				
11:45 PM	INFERNO				
11:30 AM	MUHALAB-1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:00 PM	AVENUES-4 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:00 PM	AVENUES-4 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
2:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	3:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	3:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
1:30 PM	ISM- Telugu	5:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	5:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
4:30 PM	ISM- Telugu	7:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
7:30 PM	ISM- Telugu	9:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
10:30 PM	ISM- Telugu	11:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
4:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN				
7:00 PM	ASAL ABYAD				
9:15 PM	ASAL ABYAD				
11:30 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN				
11:45 AM	MUHALAB-2 PRECIOUS CARGO	11:30 AM	MARINA-1 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	11:30 AM	MARINA-1 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES
1:45 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	1:30 PM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	1:30 PM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES
3:45 PM	INFERNO	3:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	3:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
6:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	6:00 PM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	6:00 PM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES
8:15 PM	INFERNO	8:00 PM	ASAL ABYAD	8:00 PM	ASAL ABYAD
10:45 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	10:15 PM	ASAL ABYAD	10:15 PM	ASAL ABYAD
12:45 AM	PRECIOUS CARGO	12:30 AM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES	12:30 AM	KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES
12:15 PM	MUHALAB-3 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:30 AM	MARINA-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:30 AM	MARINA-2 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
2:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	2:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	2:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
7:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
10:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
12:45 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
12:00 PM	FANAR-1 SACRIFICE	12:05 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:05 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
2:15 PM	SACRIFICE	12:15 PM	MARINA-3 INFERNO	12:15 PM	MARINA-3 INFERNO
4:15 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	2:45 PM	INFERNO	2:45 PM	INFERNO
6:30 PM	SACRIFICE	5:15 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	5:15 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS
8:30 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	7:00 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	7:00 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN
10:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	9:15 PM	INFERNO	9:15 PM	INFERNO
1:00 AM	SACRIFICE	11:45 PM	INFERNO	11:45 PM	INFERNO
12:15 PM	AVENUES-1 PRECIOUS CARGO	12:15 PM	AL-KOUT.1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:15 PM	AL-KOUT.1 JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
2:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	2:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	2:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
4:15 PM	PRECIOUS CARGO	5:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	5:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
		7:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
		10:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	10:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK
		12:45 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:45 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK

CHANGE OF NAME

The public is hereby notified that MS. ELIZABETH SYBINGCO has filed with the Embassy of the Philippines, State of Kuwait, Migrant Petitions for Correction of Entry in the Last Name of her children Mahmood Sybingco Abdel Rahman Bassiony and Ahmed Sybingco Abdel Rahman Bassiony in the Report of Births filed with the Philippine Embassy on 17 March 2002. The Last Name of the children should read as ABDELRAHMAN ABDEL FATTAH MOHAMED BASSIONY instead of ABDUL RAHMAN BASSIONY. Any person having knowledge and/or claiming interest or may be adversely affected by said Petition, file his written opposition with the Embassy within ten (10) working days.
 23-10-2016

Super Deluxe Apartments along the Gate Mall

1-2-3 Master model *The Price is a Surprise*

- 24 Hours A/C maintenance service + elevators. (FREE)
- DSL internet service. (FREE)
- 12 Hours electricity and plumbing services. (FREE)
- Integrated security system with night watch.
- The rent includes: electricity, water, internet, satellite TV, security and maintenance services. (FREE)
- Each apartment consists of 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, a maid's room with her bathroom and large livingroom and kitchen.

Land lines in the Complex (FREE)

Tel.: 66 8686 73 - 97 511 502 - 9969 1983
 Egeila - Block 2 - Street 212 on the same street of Gate mall

For Rent

Full deluxe apartment in Zazhra, block #4 with a basement and special yard. It includes a master bedroom + bath+ bedrooms with baths+ maid's room with bath+ large reception with bath + large equipped kitchen and two shaded car parking spaces.

Contact the owner directly on:
99604460/ 60311501

EMERGENCY 112

Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is
1889988

Indian ladies tailor required immediately
 Call: 99360277



PRAYER TIMINGS

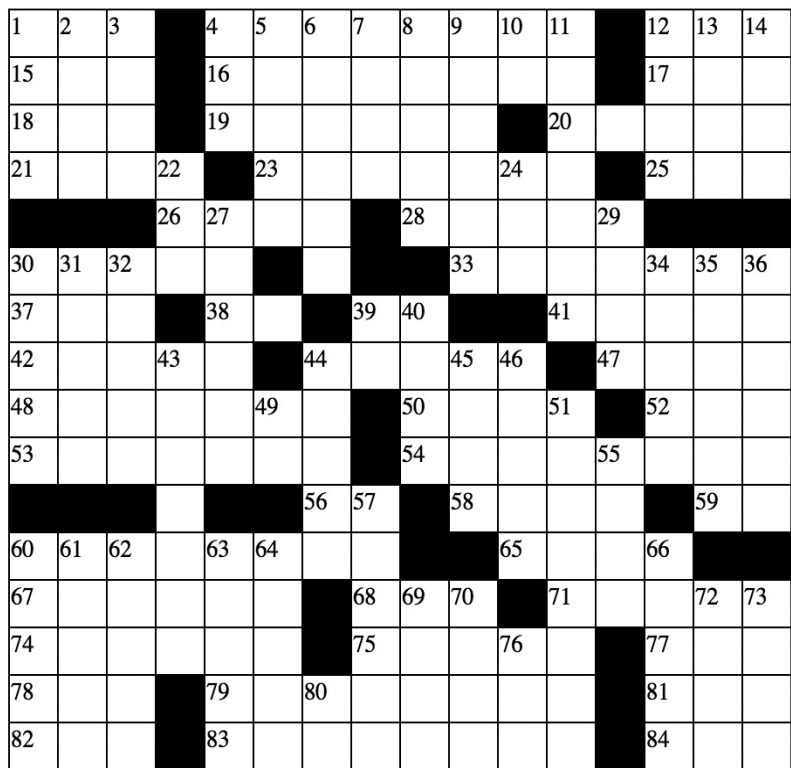
Fajr:	04:32
Shorook:	05:52
Duhr:	11:33
Asr:	14:48
Maghrib:	17:14
Isha:	18:31

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

Flight Schedule

Arrival Flights on Sunday 23/10/2016				Departure Flights on Sunday 23/10/2016			
Airlines	Fit	Route	Time	Airlines	Fit	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	SAW	702	Damascus	13:35
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	THY	767	Istanbul	14:10
JZR	239	Amman	00:50	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	AXB	394	Kozhikode	14:45
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
MSC	403	Asyut	01:30	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KAC	513	Tehran	15:40
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00	SVA	503	Madinah/Jeddah	15:45
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	KNE	530	Jeddah	15:55
CEB	018	Manila	02:20	KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	KAC	781	Jeddah	17:30
LMU	510	Cairo	04:00	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	JZR	238	Amman	17:45
ETH	3403	Addis Ababa/Riyadh	04:30	SYR	342	Damascus	18:00
DHX	170	Bahrain	04:35	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
QTR	8511	Doha	05:15	JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
BAW	157	London	06:40	QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	JZR	124	Bahrain	19:20
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	MSR	619	Alexandria	20:30
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:30
KAC	286	Dhaka	08:05	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	DLH	634	Doha	20:50
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	KAC	353	BLR	20:55
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
MSC	411	Asyut	08:45	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:25	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	FDB	5054	Dubai	21:55
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:10	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	KLM	417	Dammam/Amsterdam	22:25
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:00
SAW	701	Damascus	12:35	GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	KAC	155	Istanbul	23:15
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	JZR	528	Asyut	23:15
AXB	393	Kozhikode	13:55	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila	23:25
KAC	672	Dubai	14:05				

CROSSWORD 1408



ACROSS

1. A health resort near a spring or at the seaside.
2. A small cake leavened with yeast.
3. A benevolent aspect of Devi.
4. The syllable naming the sixth (submediant) note of a major or minor scale in solmization.
5. Of or relating to Liberia or its people.
6. A slight amount or degree of difference.
7. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.
8. A genus of tropical Asian and Malaysian palm trees.
9. The sacred city of Lamaism.
10. A small cake leavened with yeast.
11. Illusory auditory perception of strange non-verbal sounds.
12. Thigh of a hog (usually smoked).
13. United States writer (born in Poland) who wrote in Yiddish (1880-1957).
14. Spanish missionary who founded Franciscan missions in California (1713-1784).
15. A temporary police force.
16. Lose clarity or turn aside esp. from the main subject of attention or course of argument in writing, thinking, or speaking.
17. The administration of a strong electric current that passes through the brain to induce convulsions and coma.
18. 16 ounces.
19. Enthusiastic approval.
20. The state prevailing during the absence of war.
21. A man distinguished by exceptional courage and nobility and strength.
22. A Chadic language spoken in northern Nigeria.
23. Goddess of fate.
24. Relating to a recently developed fashion or style.
25. In place of, or as an alternative to.
26. Emitting or as if emitting blood.
27. A state in northwestern North America.
28. (Scottish) Bluish-black or gray-blue.
29. A brittle gray crystalline element that is a semiconducting metalloid (resembling silicon) used in transistors.
30. Provide with a terrace, as of a house.
31. (Babylonian) God of storms and wind.
32. Naked freshwater or marine or parasitic protozoa that form temporary pseudopods for feeding and locomotion.
33. A federal agency established to regulate the release of new foods and health-related products.
34. Bottle that has a narrow neck.
35. United States writer (born in Lebanon) (1883-1931).
36. Any member of the peoples speaking a Turkic language.
37. Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar.
38. (Norse mythology) One of the Aesir known for his beauty and skill with bow and skis.
39. A group of mountainous islands in the Atlantic off the northwest coast of Africa forming Spanish provinces.
40. A barrier constructed to contain the flow of water or to keep out the sea.
41. The seat within a bishop's diocese where his cathedral is located adv.
42. An esoteric or occult matter that is traditionally secret.
43. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

1. A coarse obnoxious person.
2. Large burrowing rodent of South and Central America.
3. According to the Old Testament he was a

4. pagan king of Israel and husband of Jezebel (9th century BC).
5. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
6. English theoretical physicist who applied relativity theory to quantum mechanics and predicted the existence of antimatter and the positron (1902-1984).
7. Large west African tree having large palmately lobed leaves and axillary cymose panicles of small white flowers and one-winged seeds.
8. A city in western Nevada at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.
9. (Greek mythology) A giant with 100 eyes.
10. Favoring one person or side over another.
11. A white soft metallic element that tarnishes readily.
12. Make larger.
13. A state in the western United States.
14. An independent group of closely related Chadic languages spoken in the area between the Biu-Mandara and East Chadic languages.
15. (Old Testament) In Judeo-Christian mythology.
16. An associate degree in applied science.
17. The use of nuclear magnetic resonance of protons to produce proton density images.
18. (Greek mythology) Goddess of the moon in ancient mythology.
19. (of persons) Highest in rank or authority or office.
20. A large body of water constituting a principal part of the hydrosphere.
21. A woman's close-fitting foundation garment.
22. Fragrant resin obtain from trees of the family Burseraceae and used as incense.
23. A loose skirt consisting of brightly colored fabric wrapped around the body.
24. Heavy filling (and usually starchy) food.
25. A light strong brittle gray toxic bivalent metallic element.
26. Material used to daub walls.
27. Someone who provides food and service (as for a party).
28. (Greek legend) The greedy king of Phrygia who Dionysus gave the power to turn everything he touched into gold.
29. Agency of the United States government charged with mediating disputes between management and labor.
30. An ancient upright stone slab bearing markings.
31. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
32. Among the largest bony fish.
33. Made of fir or pine.
34. An oral cephalosporin (trade names Keflex and Keflin and Keftab) commonly prescribe for mild to moderately severe infections of the skin or ears or throat or lungs or urinary tract.
35. The boy whose upbringing was described by Jean-Jacques Rousseau.
36. Large tree of Trinidad and Guyana having odd-pinnate leaves and violet-scented axillary racemes of yellow flowers and long smooth pods.
37. Having the wind against the forward side of the sails.
38. The capital and largest city of Yemen.
39. (Irish) Chief god of the Tuatha De Danann.
40. The outermost (and toughest) of the 3 meninges.
41. Fleishy and usually brightly colored cover of some seeds that develops from the ovule stalk and partially or entirely envelops the seed.
42. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
43. God of love and erotic desire.
44. Large brownish-green New Zealand parrot.
45. A soft gray ductile metallic element used in alloys.

Yesterday's Solution

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

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

There is a feeling that time is slipping away this afternoon and you may want to accomplish more than there is time for this day. Make a list and leave some of the projects for another day. Relax! A drive to the outskirts of town with a friend or loved one may find some foliage that you can take home with you for decorations representing the fall season. If you can treat this foliage with a spray of sorts, it will remain beautiful for some time. Make a fun project out of your day. This may also include painting or repair of some sort. There will still be time to set aside later for a different sort of relaxation. You find yourself quick-witted. There is a chance to give attention to your family through games or time around the dinner table. This is a special time.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Challenges will be handled with much energy today. You are wise to make sure this is positive energy. Flexibility is a part of your day and others could follow your example. If something is not working you could change direction or styles of working. Others may disagree with what you say or in some way oppose your ideas and thoughts but that is part of the art of being able to carry on a round-table discussion. Do not dwell too long on a situation you cannot change and did not cause. Be prepared this could be an interesting day. The positive results will depend on your actions. If you feel you need counsel, it will be available. Someone admires your honesty and may tell you this today. This is also a good day for love.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Others may find you especially witty and eccentric just now. This is another good day to start a diet or perhaps, a new and positive habit. There are favorable aspects pointing to success. You may have insights or breakthroughs concerning your living situation or life circumstances. Others value you for your unique qualities. An outgoing and very expressive cycle of experience has begun now. More than ever, you want to be admired and appreciated by others, to do and create things that stir their hearts. This is fun... This is child's play; this is romance; this is taking a chance. There is time to reflect upon your own situation, just how you feel about the way your plans are unfolding.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Staying inside your comfort zone might not seem very adventurous, but if you stick to familiar people and experiences right now, you will gain a deep confidence that could propel you into a very powerful phase of life. Try to be more receptive to the idea that something doesn't have to be new to be fascinating or instructive. You can look backwards and see your future. All it takes is a fresh perspective and the courage to see the value in your past mistakes.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

This is not a good time to seek big changes. It is a good day to get things done. Good eye-hand coordination and sustained effort makes almost any task run well. You may feel like exercising or getting outside sometime today. The more you get into the habit of exercising, the more you miss it when you skip a day or two. This is an important part of your day and today you may have someone join you in your endeavors. You may find yourself enjoying a long conversation, writing a letter or making a special phone call today. Getting caught up on a friend's activity is fun as you cook or do some menial work around your living quarters.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

If you can, enlist a friend or family member to exercise with you this morning, you will be pleased by how well your own thinking returns to a center point as you expel some of that chaotic energy. A bicycle ride will be sufficient but it would be good to begin a regular workout routine. Keep moving toward the completion of your goals and results will be self-evident. The afternoon is good for helping the young people that live around you... Perhaps a little sports achievement. There is a conversation over the dinner table this evening to help find some new security system. Disruptive events of some sort happen from time to time and you like it when everything is secure.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Family is the most important for you this weekend. You are at your most practical when it comes to knowing what others need; you are a good listener. You know just what to do and can act without haste. If you are living in your own home, today may be a good time to list any changes or upkeep you will want to make in the future. Sometime in the next few days, you may want to change the filter and check on the heating. Keep these things noted on a calendar so you will know the last time you did these chores. If the winter season is a time of celebration for your family, start now to purchase the gifts you will want to give.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Personal pleasures and the enhancement of your moneymaking abilities are beginning to become clearly defined. Networking while among groups of people brings you ideas, hints and insights into future plans. You will prosper by pursuing your main beliefs and dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to project your image-making your dreams real. People that don't find themselves with full-time jobs may find themselves, if they are lucky, with what are called "contract jobs" these days. Learn how to sell yourself and network often in order to keep updated and in touch with the present job industry. Close relationships take on more emotional depth and it is easy to show your appreciation to your loved ones this evening.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

If you decide to take a particular job for today, you will be helping a friend as well as yourself. You are pleased to use your skills and through your efforts you will find a line forming with new clients. The energies that are available are positive and ready to be used. Outer circumstances are favorable and it should be easy for you to push forward in projects and all aspects of life. Life may seem almost magical. Later this afternoon you may find an antique store has just what you were looking for earlier this spring. You might purchase this particular piece, clean it up and resell it. This can turn out to be a most rewarding day. If you look around in the store, there may be other things you can update and resell as well as this first piece.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You might feel confused in your romantic relationship right now, but unfortunately there is no instruction booklet to consult. Your friends are there to offer you advice, but be careful not to take what they say literally. Every situation is different, and while what they say might resonate with you, it also might not create the same results for you that it did for them. Be faithful to yourself and what's in your heart. Ultimately, your heart will tell you what you need to do to protect yourself.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Your sense of direction is perhaps the key element in your personality makeup. How you manage difficulties, find that diplomatic solution or come up with the right approach are all built around your talent. Traveling to a nearby city or to a friend's house today, you may find yourself getting sidetracked. You have been forewarned, so pull over and take notes of something you might want to see later or perhaps to share with your friend, but do not make your friend or an appointment wait. Your outward charm and ability to be all things to all people are most central to your personality; you enjoy your relationships. There is a greater than usual interest in social connections and the arts now- perhaps, on a more intellectual level than in the past.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You may be asked to attend a lecture or speak in a conference today. There is a yearning to lead and teach others all about the newest electronics. Law, politics, education, travel and religion are some of the areas where you are particularly interested and want to hear others lecture. Ideas are flowing and come with ease. You can talk, talk, talk. Circumstances bend to your will and your day comes together very well. There are real opportunities to complete and work out projects that require both long-term effort and a high degree of discipline. You could receive unexpected help or support from those around you, especially someone younger or a woman. This evening, you may get insights into your family support system. Write or record the new music you create.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

90's Songs 3

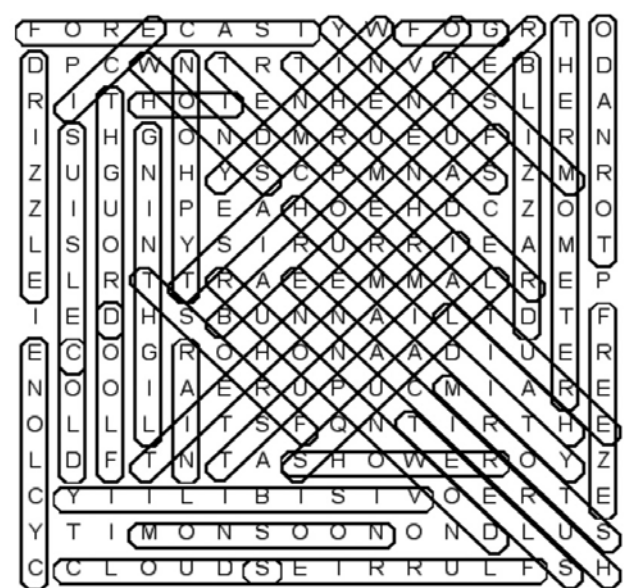
Find and circle all of the 1990's songs that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional song.



- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|----------------|
| ANGELS | HANDS | LULLABY | THE POWER |
| ANOTHER NIGHT | HIGH ENOUGH | MIAMI | THIS HOUSE |
| BABY | HOLD ON | MY BODY | TOGETHER AGAIN |
| BLACK | HOOK | ONE WEEK | TOO MUCH |
| CANDY RAIN | HYPNOTIZE | POISON | TUBTHUMPING |
| CUPID | I BELIEVE | REGULATE | UNPRETTY |
| DITTY | IMPULSIVE | RELEASE ME | WATERFALLS |
| DREAMLOVER | INSENSITIVE | SABOTAGE | WHAT'S UP |
| EVERY MORNING | IRONIC | SHINE | WHATTA MAN |
| FLY AWAY | JEREMY | SHY GUY | WILD NIGHT |
| FORTUNATE | KISS ME | SWEET LADY | ZOMBIE |
| FROZEN | LAST NIGHT | TEMPTATION | |

Yesterday's Solution

Weather



- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| BAROMETER | FLOOD | ICE | STORM |
| BLIZZARD | FLURRIES | LIGHTNING | SUNNY |
| CELSIUS | FOG | MIST | TEMPERATURE |
| CLOUDS | FORECAST | MONSOON | THERMOMETER |
| COLD | FREEZE | OVERCAST | THUNDER |
| CYCLONE | FROST | RAIN | TORNADO |
| DOWNPOUR | HAIL | SHOWER | TSUNAMI |
| DRIZZLE | HOT | SLEET | TYPHOON |
| DROUGHT | HUMIDITY | SNOW | VISIBILITY |
| FAHRENHEIT | HURRICANE | SQUALL | WINDY |

The hidden word is: PRECIPITATION

Daily SuDoku

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

medium

Yesterday's Solution

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

hard

For labor-related inquiries and complaints:
Call MSAL hotline 128

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
Qadsiya	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



PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaeel 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

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antigua	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



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630
Fax: (+965) 24348714
www.met.gov.kw

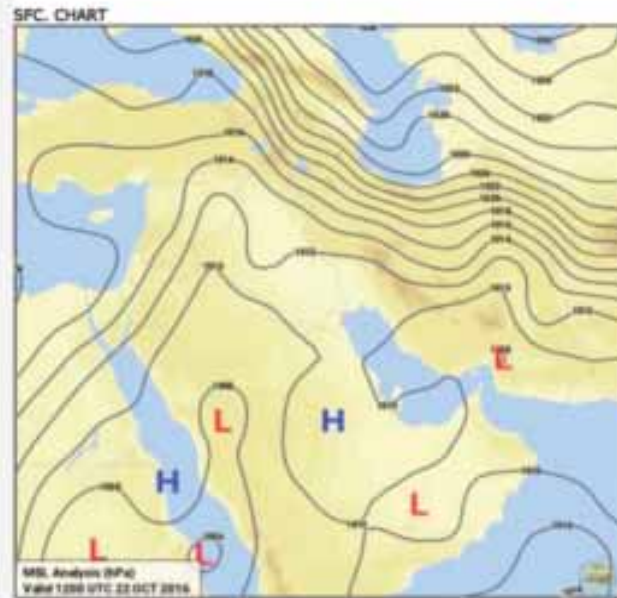
Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 22/10/2016-19:00 LT UTC +3hr

MIN Temperature 18 °C

By Night : Fair with variable wind changing to light to moderate south westerly wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h

By Day : Hot with light to moderate south westerly changing to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 26 km/h



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	hot	hot + scattered clouds	Hot and relatively humid over coasts + scattered clouds	Hot and relatively humid
Min Temp °C	18	19	19	18
Max Temp °C	36	36	35	36
Wind Direction	south westerly changing to light variable	variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly	variable wind changing to light to moderate south easterly	southerly to south easterly
Wind Speed km/h	06 - 26	06 - 26	10 - 32	15 - 40

Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

Station	MIN °C	EXP	Max °C
KUWAIT CITY	25		38
KUWAIT AIRPORT	18		37
ABDALY	19		36
BURBYAN	20		37
JAHRRA	21		38
FALAKA ISLAND	22		36
SALMIYAH	26		34
AHMADI	25		32
JAL ALIYAH	20		37
QAROH ISLAND	27		31
UMH AL-MARADEM	26		32
NUWAISIB	21		37
WAFRA	18		37
MANAGISH	19		37
SALMY	20		37
MUTRIBA	18		39

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	37
Min Temp (°C)	18
Max Rel Hum (%)	34
Min Rel Hum (%)	11
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	46 N
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

Sunrise	05:54
Sunset	17:10

Prayer Times

Fajr	04:35
Sunrise	05:54
Zuhr	11:32
Asr	14:45
Sunset	17:10
Isha	18:28



PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	Plastic Surgeons
Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752222
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700
Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)	Family Doctor
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-Daory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
General Practitioners	Psychiatrists
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
Urologists	Internists, Chest & Heart
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

Paediatricians	Endocrinologist
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 Gupaje	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatology	Physiotherapists & VD
Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University	23845955
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. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888
Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan	25653755
Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111
Neurologists	Rheumatologists:
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologists	Internist, Chest & Heart
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali	22633135
Dr. Deyaa Shehab	25722291
Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees	22666288
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi	25330060
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
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
Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555
Inaya German Medical Center	
Te: 2575077	
Fax: 25723123	

Dr. Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr. Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & Obstetricians	Dentists
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
General Surgeons	Neurologists
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher	25327148
Internists, Chest & Heart	Neurologists
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr. Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

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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JUSTIN BIEBER BLASTS HIS FANS AGAIN

Just days after telling concertgoers in Birmingham that their excited screaming was "obnoxious", Justin told fans in Manchester on Thursday to stay "as quiet as possible" while he was singing. According to BBC's Newsbeat, he said: "Try and stay as quiet as possible. You can scream as much as you want afterwards, but while I'm singing try and stay quiet." And Justin, 22, was also annoyed that fans would not listen when he started talking between songs. He reportedly said: "I just thought I could

have a moment to say something. If not, I'll just get to singing. I don't mind cutting the bulls**t because I don't need to talk. I'm just trying to engage, but if you guys don't want to do that then we can just play the music." This comes just days after Justin blasted fans for screaming at his show at the Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham, West Midlands.

Caitlyn Jenner's daughter gives birth to a baby boy

Cassandra Jenner Marino delivered her and her husband Michael Marino's third child on Tuesday, and took to her private Instagram account to share the news with those she allows to follow her. In one post, the 36-year-old beauty wrote: "He made it! One day before his due date and on Mike's dad's birthday. 8lb 13oz 22 inches long. I am elated and exhausted but a super happy non-pregnant mama :). (sic)" She also posted another photo of her two daughters Isabella and Francesca getting a first look at their new baby brother, whose name has not yet been announced. The photo was captioned:

"Proud big sisters. They are over the MOON (sic) Cassandra - who is Caitlyn's daughter from her first marriage to Chrystie Crowner - previously admitted she's grown closer to Caitlyn since her transition last year. She said: "My relationship with Caitlyn is much better than with Bruce, but we still have a lot of work to do. We didn't talk for years, and now we see each other every couple of weeks and talk on the phone, which I am grateful for."



Kylie Jenner among 30 Most Influential Teens

The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star was once again featured on TIME magazine's annual list for her "willingness to experiment with outside looks - plumping her lips, dying her hair and using bright makeup in bold combinations" whilst Jaden has been honored for "rebelling against mainstream culture". 'Lush Life' hitmaker Zara has made the list for the first time and has been dubbed "one of the most promising talents in pop music" whilst Shawn Mendes also gets a nod for "conquering singles charts" across the world. Elsewhere on the list, Fifth Harmony's Camila Cabello has been featured for her hit music and her activism, notably when she recently penned an essay about her experience when she arrived to the United States in the 2000s as an immigrant. In the essay, she wrote: "This country was built on immigrants. People who were brave enough ... to leave behind everything we know in hopes of finding something better. Chloe Grace Moretz certainly isn't afraid of voicing her own opinion, which is no doubt how she secured herself a slot on the list after she slammed Kim Kardashian West for her nude selfie."



Dita Von Teese wants people to be aware of 'staggering HIV statistics'

The 44-year-old burlesque dancer has been working closely with amfAR - the Foundation for AIDS Research - for their 'The Time Is Now' project, in which she lent her voice to the Boy George hit 'Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?' alongside singer-songwriter Sebastian Tellier. She said of her work with amfAR: "During my two years of service with [amfAR], I learned a lot about the staggering statistics of young people becoming infected with HIV. It's an important cause to me because I think that there are more and more young people that aren't concerned about this

disease, while the facts show that we should be." The project is a compilation album of 1980s hits, which was created to benefit the foundation and its research. The 14 track album includes performances from artists such as DNCE, Phantogram, and even Scarlett Johansson under her band Sugar for Sugar. Whilst Dita is quick to claim she's "not a singer", she says she still wanted to get involved with the project because she wants "to be of service" to the foundation.



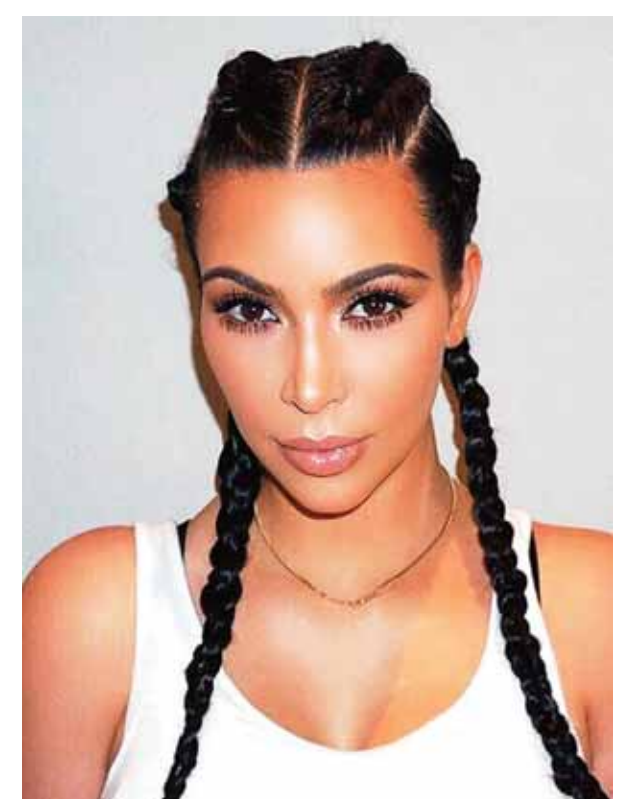
Lindsay Lohan owing almost £78,000 in rent

It has been claimed that the 30-year-old actress has been issued with court papers by lawyers acting for the landlord of a £3.5 million flat she was leasing in Knightsbridge, London after she failed to pay the outstanding amount. According to the Daily Mail, they are "demanding payment of £77,600, and will petition at court for her bankruptcy on November 8 if she fails to pay up". Her former fiancé Egor Tarabasov, 23, has also accused her of stealing items from him, worth a total of £24,000, including a Rolex Oyster watch, designer clothing and a small gold crucifix, which belonged to his late godfather. He has reportedly spoken to the police about the alleged theft. A friend of Egor told the newspaper: "Lindsay is in an absolute mess. She has blown virtually all her money, and has basically resigned herself to being declared bankrupt... The whole situation is incredibly tragic, and for Lindsay this is an astonishing fall from grace." "The thing he really wants back and which, ironically, is of very little monetary value, is a small gold Russian orthodox cross which was given to him by his dead godfather."



Kim Kardashian insists she could handle pitfalls of fame

The 36-year-old reality TV star attributed her career to social media and admitted that the lack of privacy could be difficult but insisted she was happy with her life in the TV interview, which she filmed before she was tied up by five gun-wielding robbers, who stole millions worth of jewels from her in her suite in the French capital earlier this month. Kim told '60 Minutes': "There are pitfalls. Lack of privacy, loss of privacy. And that's not for everyone. For me, I can handle it. I totally attribute my career to social media." Speaking about her talents, she added: "It is a talent to have a brand that's really successful off of getting people to like you for being you." Meanwhile, Kim's older sister Kourtney, 37, recently revealed the star is still "not doing great" after her ordeal. Kourtney said: "She's not doing great. I think we're all really still shaken up and I just - you know, I think she has a big supportive family and I know that all the traumatic things that we've been through, we get through them together as a family."



Eddie Redmayne got complete stage fright

The 34-year-old actor - who plays magizoologist Newt Scamander in the JK Rowling-penned movie - admits he was incredibly nervous about picking up a wand to use on set. He said: "It was so weird. Because when you get to pick up a wand, your inner nine-year-old is having the best moment of his life. 'Oh my god. I get to use one of these!' And then you pick one up and go, 'Oh. Why does this feel so weird? What do I do with it?' I got complete stage fright!" And Eddie loved being able to meet up with JK Rowling to discuss the character but admits he was a little "in awe" of her. He added: "I was lucky enough to meet

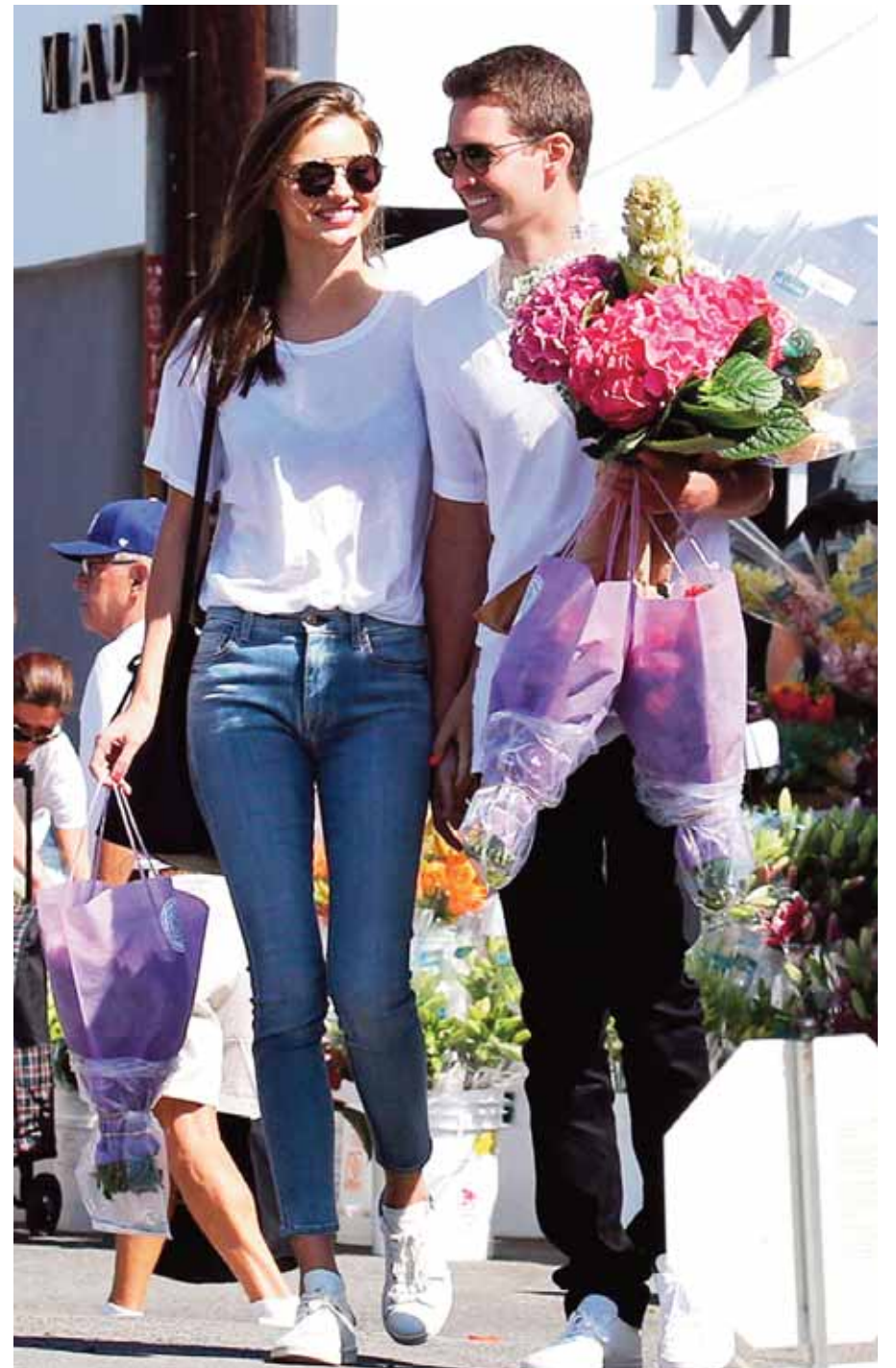
her just before we started filming. At that point I was so in awe of her. I wanted to be all, 'Lovely to meet you!' but we only had an hour so I just went, 'So, Newt?' "You can ask her anything. Any detail from the smallest nuance. She is so in love with her characters. By that point I'd done so much work on who Newt was, and it was two people just talking at each other. It was so helpful." There was one thing the father-of-one - who has four-month-old daughter Iris with his wife Hannah Bagshawe - wanted to perfect for his role as Newt - the walk.



Cara Delevingne is 'obsessed' with singer Heloise Letissier

The 'Paper Towns' star was devastated when she split from St. Vincent, aka Annie Clarke, in August, but has now turned her attentions to the bisexual French beauty, who performs under the pseudonym Christine and the Queens. A source told *Grazia* magazine: "Cara was heartbroken when Annie ended their relationship but she's made no secret of her crush on Heloise. "She really admires her artistry and thinks she's super-sexy, so I wouldn't be surprised if that ended up developing into something." It was recently claimed Cara and St Vincent - who is now believed to be dating Kristen

Stewart - ended their 18-month romance because their work kept them apart for long periods of time. A source previously said: "Cara and Annie still care about each other, but pressures of the long-distance romance just became too much. "The cracks were beginning to show on Cara's birthday in August when Annie wasn't there for her party. "They decided to call it a day but remain pals and are hoping they can work things out as it's no doubt they really love each other."



Miranda Kerr, Spiegel to marry next year

The 33-year-old beauty - who has a five-year-old son, Flynn, with ex-husband Orlando Bloom - got engaged to the Snapchat founder in June after dating for a year and a half, and their wedding plans are already underway. Asked if they've set a date, she said: "It'll be next year. I can't wait." Though the former Victoria's Secret Angel was overwhelmed with happiness when Evan, 26, popped the question, she wasn't expecting him to propose. She said: "[Was I expecting it?] Absolutely not. He said to me, 'Miranda, I'm telling you now, this is the first and last

time I'm going to kneel down in front of you," I was terribly nervous and emotional, trembling with happiness." Though Miranda didn't rush into introducing Evan to Flynn, she loves seeing the bond between them now. She said: "They adore each other. At first I was very careful as I wanted to be certain our relationship was serious. Now I love to watch them playing together." The Australian model shares a "conservative" attitude with Evan, as well as a number of other values and interests.

BRAD PITT AND ANGELINA JOLIE ARE SELLING CHATEAU MIRAVAL

The former couple are putting their vast estate and vineyard - where they tied the knot in 2014 - in the French village of Correns, up for sale. A source told *Us Weekly*: "The home has been valued and is going on the market any day now." The couple had been selling Jolie -Pitt wine produced at Chateau Miraval but they will be making changes to the product following their shock split. The insider explained: "It currently says 'Jolie-Pitt' on the Chateau Miraval bottles, and the next season's batch will have a new reprinted label with no names written on it." Another source said the pair are selling all of their joint property. Meanwhile, it was revealed this week that Brad will not file a legal response to Angelina's divorce petition. The 52-year-old actor was expected to file his own legal papers following the 42-year-old actress' filing in which she requested full physical custody of their six children - Maddox, 15, Pax, 12, Zahara, 11, Shiloh, 10, and eight-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne - but the deadline came and went without him or his legal representatives filing.



Reese Witherspoon uses Snapchat to communicate with her children

The 40-year-old actress has joked that the easiest way to get in touch with her daughter Ava, 17, and son Deacon, 12, is Snapchat because they rarely call her back. Speaking on the 'Today' show, she said: "I have two teenagers, and I've discovered that they will Snapchat me back, but they will not call me back. And I think it's important for people to communicate well with their children." And Reese also revealed that she relies on Ava for "brutally honest" fashion advice. She said: "I usually ask my daughter, my 17-year-old daughter, 'Does this look good?' and she'll be honest with me. She'll be like, 'No. You do not look good. You cannot wear that.' So I depend on her brutal honesty." Along with Ava and Deacon, from her first marriage to Ryan Phillippe, Reese also has a son, Tennessee, four, with her second husband Jim Toth and she admitted that the children poke fun at her for her Southern slang. Reese explained: "I'll say, 'He did do, but he didn't done do. He done did that.' They're like, 'What? Why you talkin' did done?' My little four-year-old will be like, 'He did done do.' They think it's hysterical, but they don't understand what I'm saying. I don't always know what I'm saying, but sometimes people do."



Michael Buble wants more children

The 41-year-old singer has sons Noah, three, and Elias, eight months, with his wife Luisana Lopilato and says he would love to expand their family but it will be Luisana's decision. He told *Entertainment Tonight*: "I would love to. Who knows what we have planned. Even asking me is like, no, because my wife is the boss. It's her body and she'll tell me when she's ready. If she's ready." And Michael says becoming a father is the best thing that ever happened to him. He said: "I love them more than I'll ever love anything, or anyone in the whole universe. I think it gave me perspective on life that I think I very badly needed. It's hard to be able to quantify

that level of love. "I didn't know that level of love existed. But it makes me better at everything. It allows me to pull more emotion and be more honest and to be in the moment." Michael recently revealed he wishes he had started a family when he was younger because he didn't understand the "perspective" having a child would give him. He said: "The only regret that I have in my life is that I took this long to have kids, because I had no idea the perspective it would give me. I had no idea how much I would love being a dad."



Azealia Banks apologizes to Zayn Malik

Five months after she first lashed out at the former One Direction singer in a racist attack, calling him a "curry scented b***h", Azealia has finally said sorry. In an open letter, which comes two months after she hit out at Zayn, 23, with a transphobic comment, Azealia said: "There are no words that can fully express how sorry I am. Recent events have taught me the importance of taking accountability for one's actions. I want and need to say I am sorry, I was wrong." "I reached out, on Twitter, to congratulate you on leaving One Direction and finding your own path. Many

artists sell their souls to this business and sacrifice their happiness for a career; walking away took bravery, strength, formidable principles and a powerful sense of self-worth. I applaud you for this. After my tweets, you tweeted something completely unrelated to me and I mistook it for a personal attack. "This set me off and I began a reckless and unacceptable rant; but every cloud has a silver lining and what happened has taught me that not everything is about me and not everything is directed at me."

Gavin Rossdale's former lover was 'hurt'

The Bush frontman initially insisted that he never dated cross-dressing singer Marilyn in the 80s but eventually confessed all in 2010 and Marilyn - whose real name is Peter Robinson - admitted that Gavin's denial was crushing. He told *Newsweek*: "It was extremely hurtful to be denied. As Shakespeare said: 'A love denied blights the soul.'" Although Marilyn, 53, previously called 50-year-old Gavin - who split from Gwen Stefani last year - the love of his life, he now admits he was wrong. He said: "I might have overemphasized that. I'm not sure about that at all-hindsight is 20/20. I don't think I was well when I said it." And while Marilyn stayed quiet about their relationship until 2009, he didn't care that his close pal Boy George wrote about it in his 1995 autobiography. He explained: "When I go out with someone, I feel they're in love with me and I'm in love with them, I'm proud. Why would I [hide]? I understand in a business sense, 20 years ago, it wasn't so [acceptable]. I didn't tell anybody; that didn't sit right with me but I was prepared to do it."





Japanese designer Keiichiro Yuri (center) and models greet at the end of the 'Keiichiro sense' collection show at Amazon Fashion Week in Tokyo. — AFP photos



Japanese model Rina Fukushi presents a creation by Japanese designer Tae Ashida.

Rina, young Japanese model taking world by storm



Japanese designer Yukihiro Teshima (center) gestures as members of Japanese girl pop music group, Yumemiru Adolescence and models look on after performing at the 2017 Spring/Summer Collection of Yukihiro Pro-Wrestling during the Tokyo Fashion Week in Tokyo.



A stylist works on the make-up for Japanese model Rina Fukushi in back stage before a show by Japanese designer Tae Ashida.



Aged just 17 and still living with her family, Rina Fukushi has seen more of the world than most Japanese school-girls. She is the newest model sensation making waves in Europe and New York, wowing on the runway for the likes of Miu Miu and Marc Jacobs when not chowing down on hamburgers or playing with her little brother. Discovered at 14, hailed by Vogue as "ultra-cool" and "eye-catching" with her enormous eyes, thick eyebrows and bee-sting lips, she is already the veteran of seasons in Paris, Milan and New York - giving American models Gigi Hadid and Kendall Jenner a run for their money.

"I always believed I could be a star from the moment I was scouted. But at the same time, I still can't believe it's real," says Fukushi, delightfully friendly and giggly, yet equally self-assured for her age. She arrives early for an interview with AFP, taking time out from her packed schedule at Tokyo Fashion Week to meet at a chic cafe.

Quick to laugh, she is a dab hand at sign language to ease gaps in lost in Japanese-English translation, yet both shy and vivacious, faultlessly polite and totally absorbed in the world of fashion. A girl who loves to rummage around vintage stores whenever she is travelling, she dresses for the interview in black-mini skirt from Paris, turtleneck from Japan-and brown handbag from Milan. A silver pendant inscribed "Rina," in Japanese script, hangs from her neck and she carries a leather jacket from Beautiful People, a Japanese label for whom she walked the previous night. Her schedule is punishing: she's up at 7am, rushes from show to show, working until 10pm and finally falls into bed around 1am.

Loves New York

In between it all, she is studying, which she does online to fit around her schedule. When high school ends in March she hopes to spend more time in New York, which she loved visiting in September. "I really like the people," she explains, laughing when asked if she thinks New York is loud and dirty compared to Tokyo. She loves the energy, the diversity and the get-up-and-go attitude. Marc Jacobs left a deep impression. She thought his spring/summer show of rainbow rastafarian locks "so cute," although she dissolves into more laughter when asked what his towering, seven-inch platform boots were like to walk in. "I was really careful not to slip." Wearing no make-up, her face is radiant with natural beauty, and her

dark brown hair falls just below the shoulder. It used to be longer, but was cut-without warning-backstage at Alexander Wang.

As a model it pays to be professional and amenable. Fukushi is both, and besides, the soft-spoken Taiwanese-American fashion genius of New York urban cool was "so kind" to her. "He didn't know where I was from," she giggled. Described in the Japanese fashion press as "exotic" Fukushi is the daughter of a Spanish-Filipino mother and a Japanese-American father. Born in Manila, the family returned to Japan when she was a baby, and she grew up in Tokyo, although she speaks Tagalog as well as Japanese. "I thought she had the perfect proportions," says her agent Mayumi Kozakura, incredulously one of three scouts who spotted her the first day she went out shopping with a friend in Tokyo's Harajuku district.

Being Japanese

But at 176 cm (five feet, nine inches) Fukushi is short for a runway model, by Western standards. It's one of the reasons she admires Kate Moss so much: the British model who defied beauty norms by pioneering so-called heroin chic is even shorter. "When she wears clothes, they look fabulous," Fukushi says of Moss. "She has inner beauty and I think that is so important." Tokyo Fashion Week sees Japanese designers mostly shun Asian models in favor of white Western girls, albeit with catwalks in Europe and New York under increasing pressure to show diversity.

"I like myself and I have confidence. What is wrong about being Asian or Japanese?" she says. "I don't feel 'I am sorry for being Japanese'. If I am confident that clothes look good on me, people don't see anything wrong. So it doesn't annoy me." She is dreaming big. She would love to front a campaign and walk for Chanel, and perhaps become an actress or singer later in life. She's a fan of J-pop and likes to retreat into nature when she gets occasional time off. But mostly she's working. Otherwise, she sleeps or eats, she jokes. Hamburgers in New York and steak are her favorites. — AFP



Japanese model Rina Fukushi checks her dress in the mirror in back stage of a show by Japanese designer Tae Ashida during the Tae Ashida 2017 Spring/Summer collection show in Tokyo.



Lebanese fashion designer Abed Mahfouz greets the audience at the end of the presentation of his Spring-Summer 2017 collection on October 21, 2016 during the 'La Mode a Beyrouth' (Fashion in Beirut) fashion week in the Lebanese capital. — AFP photos



Models present creations by Lebanese fashion designer Abed Mahfouz for the Spring-Summer 2017 collection.



A model presents a creation by Lebanese fashion designer Hanna Touma.



A model presents a creation by Lebanese fashion designer Hanna Touma for the Spring-Summer 2017 collection.



A model presents a creation by Lebanese fashion designer Hanna Touma for the Spring-Summer 2017 collection.



A model presents a creation by Lebanese fashion designer Abed Mahfouz.

'La Mode a Beyrouth'

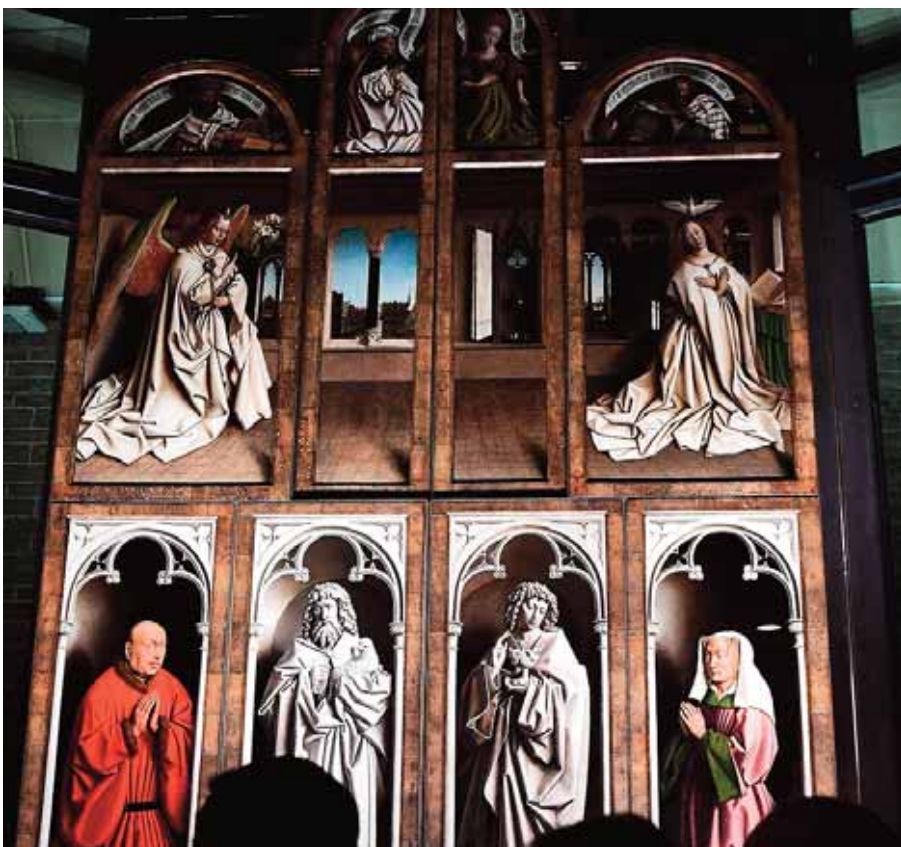


Models present creations by Lebanese fashion designer Abed Mahfouz.



Officials unveil the restored exterior panels of 'The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb,' an altarpiece painted by the Van Eyck brothers in 1432, at Saint Bavo Cathedral in Ghent. — AFP photos

Flemish 'Mystic Lamb' masterpiece restored after chaotic past



Visitors look at the newly unveiled restored exterior panels of 'The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb,' an altarpiece painted by the Van Eyck brothers in 1432, at Saint Bavo Cathedral in Ghent.

A painstaking restoration of a 15th-century Flemish masterpiece is revealing the long-lost detail and splendor that helped make the altarpiece one of the world's most stolen artworks. "The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb" by the Van Eyck brothers was unveiled 600 years ago at Saint Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent, but since then its full glory has dimmed, after being split into pieces, seized by Napoleon, then the Nazis, and nabbed by thieves. "You could say it is like the rediscovery of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel after its restoration," Marie Postec of Belgium's Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage told AFP.

"The original was hidden by layers of dirt and alterations, the colours had completely faded. Today, the same thing is happening here, and we have the chance to witness its rebirth," Postec said. The giant altarpiece, which measures 4.4 meters by 3.4 meters (15 feet by 10 feet), is attributed to Hubert Van Eyck and his better-known brother Jan, and was completed in 1432 when Ghent in modern-day northern Belgium was the wealthy powerhouse of the European wool cloth trade. The "Mystic Lamb" depicted on the lower central internal panel represents Jesus, and also refers to the emblem of the wool merchants guild which played a hugely important role in the city.

Nazis, Napoleon and a salt mine

Returning a restored "Mystic Lamb" to St Bavo's Cathedral is nearly the end of the story but there is literally one piece still missing. In 1934, thieves stole two of the work's 12 panels. One was recovered but the other, that of "The Just Judges", remains unaccounted for to this day. That capped

an incredible history of upheaval for the artwork that began in the Reformation, when it was hauled up the cathedral tower to protect it from attacking Protestants.

Two centuries later, panels that had been seized by the French were returned to the church by the Duke of Wellington after his victory at Waterloo against Napoleon. Then in World War II, the altarpiece was sent to the Vatican for protection but again ended up in France and was seized by the Nazis who hid the panels in an Austrian salt mine. The US army eventually saved them.

The complex work includes hinged panels that can be opened and closed to offer worshippers two very different views. At the heart, or interior, of the work, there are three vibrant scenes, each one made up of four painted panels. The two outer scenes can be closed, meeting in the middle to cover up the central scene. On the reverse, or exterior, these panels are painted with more somber imagery. Begun in 2012, restoration work has so far been completed on the exterior panels, which worshippers saw most often as the altarpiece would have been kept closed, except for major holy days and festivals.

In relatively muted tones-compared with the splendor and richness of the interior-they show the Annunciation, John the Baptist, the patron saint of Ghent-and the wealthy merchant and church warden Joos Vidjt and his wife Lysbette who donated the work to the cathedral. But even these external panels show newfound life after the removal of a yellowish sheen which had drained the colours of their vibrancy. The painting is complex, densely detailed and full of symbols relating to passages in

the Bible and daily life at a time when Ghent was ruled by the Dukes of Burgundy, whose court was among the most flamboyant and refined in late medieval Europe.

Restoring space, light, color

During the work, the team of 10 restorers have had to very delicately chip away, centimeter by centimeter, at layers of discolored varnish and the "repainting" of early preservation efforts, some of which may date back to the 1500s. "Nowadays, we would not cover over the original work but then, restorers would really have been painters themselves who would have repainted the whole thing, rather than just minutely retouch it bit by bit," Postec said. "Before, there was just a uniform black background but we have found space, light," she said.

"We have also found folds (in the clothes) from the 15th century which were simply painted over and (this sort of detail) really changes how you see the picture." Restoration work will now begin on the internal panels at the nearby Ghent Fine Arts Museum with the aim of finishing by 2020, when there will be a celebratory year dedicated to Van Eyck paintings. Until then, reproductions will have to suffice for the thousands of visitors who come to Ghent to see a painting many consider second only to Leonardo Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" in artistic achievement and cultural importance. — AFP

'Before the Flood'

The specter of celebrity activism hangs heavily over "Before the Flood," Fisher Stevens' documentary travelogue of Leonardo DiCaprio's endeavors to combat global climate change. Yet at times, that also provides its greatest strength, as the actor uses his clout to coerce such major world figures as Barack Obama and Pope Francis into appearing on camera, and uses his own admitted lack of scientific background to his advantage, acting as a plainspoken everyman guide to some extremely complicated concepts. Handsomely shot and entertainingly paced, "Before the Flood" may not tackle too much new ground, but given the sincerity of its message, its ability to assemble such a watchable and comprehensive account gives it an undeniable urgency.

"Before the Flood" begins with essentially two prologues. One features DiCaprio in voiceover talking about his early childhood, in particular the fact that he grew up with a print of Hieronymus Bosch's "The Garden of Earthly Delights" hanging above his bed, which helped instill an awareness of social and environmental degradation from a young age. The second features a procession of conservative talking heads - Sean Hannity, Bill O'Reilly, et al - ridiculing DiCaprio's environmentalist bonafides. It's an effective double-barreled introduction, offering both an unusually personal glimpse into the actor's thought process, and a

hint of what he's up against.

The meat of the film, however, concerns DiCaprio's role as a UN messenger of peace, an assignment for which he travels from the oil fields of Alberta to the smog-choked streets of Shanghai, not to mention India, Polynesia, Greenland, the Vatican, and the White House to interview various experts about the now-unequivocal evidence that the earth's changing climate will have - and indeed, is already starting to have - catastrophic consequences on human life. (He also visits with Alejandro Inarritu on the set of "The Revenant," and those brief scenes, along with DiCaprio's film-ending speech to the General Assembly, occasionally make the film resemble an extension of his 2015 Oscar campaign.)

On the whole, however, DiCaprio is a highly effective audience surrogate, asking scientists and leaders the sorts of to-the-point questions that many viewers might well have for themselves. He's not afraid to sometimes appear uninformed, nor to acknowledge that his own carbon footprint is certainly larger than most. In fact, perhaps the film's most intellectually stimulating moment comes during a visit to India, when he's challenged on his own America-centric biases by activist Sunita Narain, who poses a difficult question: How can a nation like the US ask a nation like India to risk its own, more tenuous, economic develop-



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ment with environmental measures that the US itself has been hesitant to adopt?

But where the film succeeds the most is by focusing on the ground-level victims of climate change, whether the polar bears of the Arctic, or the inhabitants of island nations like Kiribati, whose former president Anote Tong uses phrases like "relocation with dig-

nity" when planning for the uneasy future of his own homeland. Stevens keeps the film moving swiftly, alternating between images of inspiring beauty and horrifying dread, and the music - from Atticus Ross, Trent Reznor, Mogwai, and Gustavo Santaolalla - is a low-key achievement on its own. — Reuters