

SUBSCRIPTION

# Kuwait Times



ANNIVERSARY  
55  
Kuwait Times

THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

MUHARRAM 28, 1438 AH

NO: 17034



150 Fils

## HOUTHJI MISSILE SHOT DOWN NEAR MAKKAH



Min 18°  
Max 37°

### KUWAIT CONDEMNS ATTACK

RIYADH: Yemeni rebels have launched one of their longest-range strikes against Saudi Arabia, firing a ballistic missile that was shot down near the holy city of Makkah, the Saudi-led coalition fighting them said yesterday. Saudi Arabia has deployed Patriot missiles to intercept the rebel fire. Houthi rebels launched the missile "toward the Makkah area" on Thursday evening from their Saada province stronghold just across the border, a coalition statement said. "The air defense was able to intercept and destroyed it about 65 kilometers from Makkah without any damage." Islam's holiest sites are located in Makkah and Madina.

Angry Saudis soon denounced the missile fire online with hashtags questioning the faith of the Houthis. The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council condemned the attack which it described as "clear evidence" that the rebels are not willing to accept a political solution to Yemen's 19-month-old conflict.

Kuwait strongly condemned the missile attack by the "Houthi group and (former president) Ali Abdullah Saleh" towards the holy Makkah region. Targeting Muslims' qibla is a provocation of their feelings, neglect of the holiness of the blessed spot and disregard of Islamic sanctities, an official source at the foreign ministry said in a press statement. It added that the brutal aggression is considered a grave development, an insistence on rejecting and defying the will of the international community, as well as its efforts to enforce a truce for the aspired political solution that rids Yemen and the entire region from the continuation of the bloody conflict and its repercussions. The statement concluded with praying to Allah to protect Saudi Arabia from all harm.

The United Arab Emirates' Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan went further, criticizing Iran for the attack. "The Iranian regime backs a terrorist group that fires its rockets on Makkah... Is this an Islamic regime as it claims to be?" he wrote on Twitter. Qatar called the attack "a provocation to the feelings of millions of Muslims worldwide". All GCC states, apart from Oman, are members of the Saudi-led coalition. The UAE itself is a major pillar of the alliance. The coalition as well as the United States accuse Iran of arming the rebels, a charge denied by Tehran. In Iran, state media reported on the ballistic missile fire citing international reports, without any government comment.

The Houthis confirmed the launch of a Burkan-1 ballistic missile into Saudi Arabia in a statement on their official news agency, but said it had been aimed at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah, the kingdom's busiest airport. The Houthi-controlled SABA news agency said the missile "directly hit" the airport and caused massive destruction, though there were no delays or diversions affecting the airport yesterday. Makkah lies more than 500 km from the border. It is the second time this month that the rebels have fired a missile of that range. On Oct 9, the coalition said it had intercepted a missile near Taif, the site of a Saudi airbase some 65 km from Makkah. — Agencies



454 HOPEFULS REGISTER TO RUN

PAGE 2

WADE BEGINS BULLS CAREER

PAGE 44

@Alkhayyamkw

For Reservation للحجز 2290 9999



# 454 HOPEFULS SIGN FOR POLLS AS OPPOSITION MAKES A COMEBACK

## WITHDRAWALS END ON NOVEMBER 19



**KUWAIT:** Candidate Salah Al-Muhawesh registers on the final day of candidate's registration for the upcoming parliamentary elections, at the election's department, yesterday.



**Candidate Abdullah Al-Doub.**



**Jamal Al-Enezi**



**Saad Al-Mefreh**

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** As many as 454 candidates including 15 women have registered their names to run in next month's parliamentary elections and the opposition has almost ended its four-year boycott by fielding close to 30 candidates, many of them former lawmakers.

Only four of the 50-member dissolved house dropped out of the race with 46 ex-lawmakers have bid for re-election. Those not contesting include former Islamist MP Abdulrahman Al-Jeeran, former liberal MP Faisal Al-Shaye in addition to Saud Al-Hurajji and Madhi Al-Hajeri.

All the former 10 lawmakers from the first constituency, which is expected to witness the fiercest battle, are bidding for re-election while only one candidate has dropped out from each of the remaining four constituencies.

This year's number is greater than the 418 candidates who filed for the previous 2013 elections at close of registration and the 387 hopefuls who signed in the December 2012 polls. Dozens of the candidates are expected to withdraw from the race, especially after large Bedouin tribes conduct their primary elections although banned under the law.

The fifth constituency has the largest number of candidates at 140 followed by the fourth district with 116. The first constituency has 72 candidates, the third 65 and the second has 61 candidates. Kuwait has just above 483,000 eligible voters with women accounting for 52.3 percent and men for the rest. The reason is that servicemen in the army and the police force, overwhelmingly male, are barred from the ballot. In addition to 46 members of the dissolved house, there are around 40 ex-lawmakers from the previous assemblies, most of them from the opposition.

Prominent among the opposition figures who filed in the November 26 election are ex-MPs Osama Al-Shaheen and Adel Al-Damkhi from the first district, ex-MPs Jamaan Al-Harbash, Hamad Al-Matar, Abdulrahman Al-Anjari, Fahad Al-Khannah and Mohammad Al-Matar from the second constituency.

Other opposition figures include former Islamist MPs Waleed Al-Tabtabai, Mohammad Al-Dallal, Ammar Al-Ajmi and Abdulkarim Al-Kundari from the third constituency. There are eight opposition figures in the fourth constituency led by former MPs Mohammad Hayef, Ahmad Al-Shuraian, Ali Al-Deqbsi and Mubarak Al-Waalan.

Five opposition candidates filed to run in the fifth constituency led by former MPs Marzouk Al-Hubaini, Salem Al-Namlan, Al-Saifi Al-Saifi and Bader Al-Dahoum. A number of Islamic opposition groups have returned to the fray with full force. The Islamic Constitutional Movement fielded four candidates and has several supporters.

The Ummah Principles Group is fielding three candidates and is backing several others. In addition, eight Islamist candidates are running as independent opposition and the rest are either nationalists or independent opposition. The liberal National Democratic Alliance, which used to be part of the opposition, has fielded three candidates and is supporting a few others.

The liberal Kuwait Democratic Forum has decided not to take part in the polls saying that the outcome will have no impact on the political situation. The group said that taking part in the polls or not will not change the political equation in the country.

Around a dozen former opposition parliamentarians headed by former three-time speaker Ahmad Al-Saadoun, have also decided not to end their boycott, saying even if the opposition wins the election, it will not be able to affect any significant change.

Opposition members who registered said that they will try to stop the slide in the country's political system and contain rampant corruption that has sharply increased under the outgoing pro-government assembly. Under Kuwait's unique democratic system, political parties are barred and the government will be headed by a senior member of the ruling family regardless of the outcome of the election.

All but at least one of the 16-member cabinet are appointed from outside the elected members of the national assembly and the ministers will have equal voting powers like elected MPs. The national assembly has key legislative and monitoring powers and can grill the prime minister and other cabinet members and vote them out of office, but it remains far much weaker than powers enjoyed under the Western-style democracies.



**Candidate Bader Al-Muwaizri**



**Reem Al-Farhan**



**Saad Dashti**



**Fawzi Al-Saqr. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat**



# ANECDOTES CHEER UP REGISTRATION FOR 2016 PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS



Safa and Salah Al-Hashem



Mohammad and Ali Al-Sayegh



Hussein and Fakher Al-Qallaf

**KUWAIT:** With final name lists for the 2016 parliament hopefuls were filed, stories that sprung out of the registration process didn't fall short of few surprises and anecdotes. The 'siblings' phenomenon was the most prominent, as former MP Safa Al-Hashem is currently a candidate in the third constituency, while her brother, Salah, is running in the second constituency. A similar case is 'Al-Sayegh' brothers; Mohammad in the second constituency and Ali in the third. Finally, former veteran MP Sayed Hussein Al-Qallaf is running in the first constituency alongside; or maybe against, his brother Sayed Fakher.

As amusing, and somehow odd that seemed, yet, this is not

the first time these incidents took place. Back in 1963, late MP Khaled Al-Mueseib and his brother Mudhie both ran in the fourth constituency elections. Both won seats, but Mudhie then resigned. Another 2016 anecdote is when a nominee forgot to bring his citizenship; an essential document required to complete the registration process.

Meanwhile, another hopeful only had KD three in cash on him to pay for registration fees, thinking that the electronic payment service (K-net) was available at the Elections' Affairs Department. The registration fee is KD 50, which yet another nominee paid in full, but in the form of loose change.

Registration for the 2016 parliamentary election candidacy started on October 19. Elections are to take place on November 26.

Law number 35/1962, which deals with parliamentary elections, permits candidates to file their candidacies to contest elections, as all eligible candidates should be Kuwaiti citizens over 30 years of age and are required to be fluent in written and spoken Arabic. As per Law 20/2012, the first 10 candidates with most votes will win a seat in parliament in each constituency. The electorate can only vote for one candidate per constituency. —KUNA



**KUWAIT:** An officer closes the door at the end of candidates' registration for National Assembly elections. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



A group photo at the end of registration day.

## NAMES OF HOPEFULS FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS RACE ON LAST REGISTRATION DAY

**KUWAIT:** Some 42 candidates joined the electoral race on the 10th and last day of registration yesterday, a month away from parliamentary elections slated for November 26th. The First Constituency yielded the following eight hopefuls: Jasem Mohammad Bu Hindi Al-Ali, Saad Mohammad Farhan Al-Mufarreh, Abdulhadi Qambar Mohammad Ali Hussein, Abdulwahid Mohammad Shaaban Habib Mohammad Khalfan, Ali Darweesh Ali Hassan Ibrahim Al-Mansouri, Hani Ahmad Qurban Hajji Mohammad, Hani Mohammad Abdulrahim Bushehri and Waleed Ahmad Yaqoub Yousef.

Moreover, the Second Constituency produced candidates, who were: Bandar Mujaibil

Naser Al-Enezi, Hasan Naji Ibrahim Hussein Al-Bahrani, Saud Saad Mohammad Rashed Al-Mutairi, Abdulhameed Khalifa Mohammad Hamad Al-Shayji and Mohammad Barrak Al-Mutair.

Meanwhile, seven candidates registered in the Third Constituency, including Ahmad Mohammad Tahir Al-Bannai, Bassam Mohammad Abdulrahman Al-Asfour, Jamal Abdullah Mulla Saeed Mohammad, Zaid Saleh Faraj Saeed, Abdulaziz Saad Mohammad Saad Al-Munaifi, Abdullah Salem Hussein Khalaf Al-Doob and Fowzi Saqr Fahd Al-Saqr.

The Fourth Constituency produced the following 11 candidates: Ahmad Nassar Al-Shuraian, Bader Sahab Al-Muwaizri, Jamal Saad

Yateem Al-Enezi, Reem Ghafel Zayed Al-Adwani, Saeed Hameed Abdulraheem Al-Dashti, Ammar Hussein Abdullah Al-Sayegh, Ghazi Fares Abdullah Jwaizi Al-Oteibi, Fawaz Saud Maeedh Al-Azmi, Meshari Mohammad Thawab Al-Mutawtah, Mahdi Hussein Hajji Redha Fairuz and Yousef Sayyed Mahdi Sayyed Yousef Al-Radhwi.

The Fifth Constituency saw Jasem Abdullah Jamaan Al-Ali, Hussein Sarhan Haddad Al-Enezi, Khaled Salman Shabib Abd Raie Al-Azmi, Sudan Ali Oqab Al-Shammari, Aali Abdullah Qablan Mijbil Al-Rasheedi, Abdullah Salem Hussein Mahmoud Al-Failakawi, Alyan Alloosh Awadh Al-Murtairi, Falah Saleh Muhawesh Salman, Mani'a Mohammad Mubarak Al-Ajmi,

Hayef Nayef Mibtal Dwailan Al-Mutairi and Wael Mohammad Ghaleb Al-Busairi.

Starting from yesterday, and up until seven days before elections day, or November 19, candidates who wish to withdraw from the race can submit a request to the Elections' Affairs Department, Colonel Salah Al-Shatti, deputy director of the Department said.

He added that the Department, starting today will receive applications for candidates' representatives at polling stations in all constituencies. As per Law 20/2012, the first 10 candidates with most votes will win a seat in parliament in each constituency. The electorate can only vote for one candidate per the constituency they're registered in. —KUNA





## KRCS CONTINUES DISTRIBUTING BREAD TO SYRIAN REFUGEES



**BEIRUT:** Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) launched yesterday the 28th bread distributing project 'Raghif' aimed at providing food for Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Syrian refugee families, situated in Tripoli and nearby areas, will benefit from the project, the society's delegate to Lebanon Dr Musa'ad Al-Enezi yesterday.

Enezi noted that KRCS will distribute every day 2,000 packs of breads with each family receiving 14 large loaves. He revealed that KRCS will carry out a new campaign with the onset of winter to support thousands of vulnerable Syrians who were forced to flee their conflict-stricken towns and cities to seek refuge in neighboring countries.

Kuwait Red Crescent Society has been very much active in Lebanon, delivering more than 50 million loaves to Syrian refugees since the eruption of the Syrian crisis in 2011. The Kuwait Red Crescent Society and its main partner the Lebanese Red Cross coordinated efforts on various social and health projects to ease the lives of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. — KUNA



## KUWAIT FULFILLS ANNUAL OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS SYRIAN REFUGEES: AMBASSADOR

**GENEVA:** Kuwait had fulfilled its annual financial obligations towards the Syrian refugees as prescribed by the United Nations, said a senior Kuwaiti diplomat yesterday. Kuwait's permanent delegate to the UN and international organizations headquarters in Geneva, Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim said that he handed in Kuwait's financial contributions to various UN organizations involved in the humanitarian and relief aid operations aimed at helping Syrian refugees.

This step is in line with Kuwait's pledges to offer assistance to Syrian refugees as promised in previous events namely the fourth aid conference for Syrian which was held in London, said the Kuwaiti diplomat.

UN organizations are in need of financial assistance to cover the costs of humanitarian efforts worldwide, said Ambassador Ghunaim, adding that the Syrian war, raging since March of 2011, was one of the major world crises which required a serious resolve to end the bloodshed. He urged the world to pay attention to the suffering of the Syrian refugees, vowing that Kuwait will work with parties aiming at peaceful end to the conflict.

Meanwhile, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi lauded the ongoing cooperation between Kuwait and UN relief agencies, stressing that the GCC country could be depended on when it came to helping less fortunate people around the globe.

The UN honoring of Kuwait as a global humanitarian center and His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as a humanitarian leader are titles that were rightfully earned by the Gulf State and its ruler, affirmed Grandi. — KUNA



**GENEVA:** Ambassador Jamal Al-Ghunaim (left) meets with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi. — KUNA



**BEIRUT:** The Rayak Hospital where Syrian refugee Yasmine Muwafaq, 75, is undergoing cancer treatment. — KUNA

## KRCS FUNDS CANCER TREATMENT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE IN LEBANON

**BEIRUT:** Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) announced yesterday that it would be handling the cost of cancer treatment to one of the Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Yasmine Muwafaq, 75, was in need of radioactive therapy for her cancer case, KRCS delegate Dr Musa'ad Al-Enezi said in a statement.

He added that the KRCS was coordinating with the Lebanese Red Cross on this matter, noting that treatment for cancer was a long and horrendous process that usually burdens those suffering from this deadly disease both financially and physically.

KRCS will continue to help Syrian refugees residing in Lebanon, said the official, adding that covering the treatment cost will hopefully yield some fruitful results.

In similar statements, Husband of Muwafaq, Wael Qassem thanked the KRCS for this generous gesture to cover



**KRCS delegate Dr Musa'ad Al-Enezi speaks with Rayak Hospital's director Dr Hamad Al-Mohammad.**

the cost of treatment, affirming that Kuwait's leadership and people were always on the forefront when it came to

aiding Syrian refugees during their darkest hours. The Syrian conflict is ongoing since March of 2011. — KUNA





Students and teachers at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah school.



Children at the school yard.

# MAKESHIFT VILLAGE ACCOMMODATES 80,000 SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN



**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah village, which accommodates 80,000 Syrian refugees in Jordan. — KUNA



Electronic classes are given for students at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah school.



A medical center at the village.

**AMMAN:** A makeshift Kuwaiti-funded village in Jordan, bearing the name of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, has become a safe haven and home to some 80,000 Syrian refugees fleeing chaos in their country.

The International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO) inaugurated the well-equipped camp in October 2013 at the peak of the Syrian humanitarian crisis, with hundreds of thousands of people, many bare-footed and penniless, benefiting from the services offered by the village.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Village was set up at the refugee Al-Zaatari camp to secure

dwelling, health, schooling, and other necessities for the refugees. The Kuwaiti-financed village has drawn much admiration from international quarters and personalities with some dubbing it as one of the most successful experiences in the humanitarian field.

Construction of the village, run by the Jordanian Government in coordination with international agencies, cost some \$5 million. It was His Highness the Amir who had earmarked the sum to secure home-made houses and other necessary facilities for the village. It includes a mosque, two schools, toilets, and a medical center.

Last year, the IICO expanded the site to

include more residential units with more facilities. Some of the units are lighted with solar energy. Hovik Atmesian, a coordinator of the United Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said the Kuwaiti-financed village provides the best services and safest surrounding, as compared to shanty towns in other places and countries.

Robert Jinks, representative of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), lauded the Kuwaiti initiative of building the camp, noting that the available school and medical center greatly helped the organization in its mission.

Colonel Abdulrahman Al-Omoush, former manager of Al-Zaatari camp, said the State of

Kuwait is among the leading countries that have been securing aid for the refugees, particularly those living in the 15-sq-km makeshift village. The medical services are particularly vital considering the fact that birth rates at the camp amount to 5-8 per day. More than 1,000 students attend classes at the camp school.

Moreover, Kuwait contributes with \$18 million in the international funds allocated for securing food for residents of the camp. It has also covered some of the expenses for drilling water wells.

It also funds other regular activities and courses for teaching crafts. Jordan hosts some 1.4 million Syrian refugees. — KUNA



Students of Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah school.



Art classes at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah school.



# FAMILY ATTACKER 'NOT EXTREMIST': POLICE

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Interior's relations and security information department said a 35-year-old Saudi and his mother told Sulaibiya police they were attacked by his brother with a knife, and accused him of having extremist ideas. Police arrested the accused and questioned him, and authorities concluded what took place was a domestic dispute. They said the suspect is unstable and he was referred to determine his mental condition. Earlier reports based on unconfirmed information had speculated that the suspect could have acted from extremist motives.

## Gangsters caught

Farwaniya detectives arrested a nine-member gang that stole from several shops. The arrests were made following complaints about the thefts, and all were registered against unidentified persons. Patrols intensified their activities, and with the use of an undercover source, the culprits were identified and arrested. They confessed to committing several crimes.



Tools found with suspects arrested in Farwaniya on multiple theft charges.

## Weapons

A Kuwaiti born in 1978 was arrested for having several unlicensed firearms and ammunition. Weapons detectives arrested the suspect in Jahra with two pistols, a shotgun and ammunition. The man was taken to the proper authorities for further action.



KUWAIT: Weapons found with a man arrested yesterday in Jahra.

## Crime

Report

### Sorceress claimed she could 'control' husbands

**KUWAIT:** The criminal detectives' money crimes department arrested a Moroccan sorceress who claimed to "control" husbands and heal chronic diseases. A security source said the 26-year-old woman is considered to be the youngest sorceress in Kuwait. Detectives were provided information about her, and after it was verified, she was arrested red-handed. An undercover agent went to her and asked her to make her husband return to her. The sorceress told her it was an easy task and asked for money. The suspect was found with KD 20,000 and sorcery tools. She was sent to concerned authorities.

### Fugitives arrested

Security officers continued their campaign, arresting a citizen wanted to serve a four-year jail sentence, another for a five-year one, and a woman wanted to serve three years in jail. Meanwhile, they arrested an Egyptian for swindling in Farwaniya, a citizen wanted to serve three years, another for a KD 1,025 debt, a Syrian wanted over a KD 860 debt and a citizen wanted for a KD 7,804 debt. A Kuwaiti citizen wanted for a KD 6,300 debt and an Indian with liquor were also arrested.

### HIV positive

Assistant Undersecretary for Criminal Security Maj Gen Abdelhamid Al-Awadhi ordered an investigation to find how an Indian man infected with HIV/AIDS was able to enter the country, although he is on the banned list. A security source said information was received by Lt Col Saadoun Al-Barghash about an Indian who was deported for having AIDS in 2015 returning to the country using a forged passport. He was taken to the deportation department and placed in a room designated for those with dangerous diseases.

### Forgery

Criminal detectives solved several cases that were registered against unidentified persons over registering phone lines and receiving smartphones in the name of expats, who unknowingly faced financial burdens. The suspect was arrested and confessed to changing photos on civil IDs and using them.

### Traffic violations

The traffic department announced that the number of traffic violations during the period from Oct 16-22 was 39,707, while 1,287 vehicles and 15 bicycles were impounded, 34 persons were detained and 13 persons were deported for driving without a license. Also, 1,718 car accidents took place, resulting in 269 injuries. — Al-Rai



KUWAIT: The reinforcement brigade at Kuwait National Guard carried out an exercise recently at the Adaira Square, in which live ammo were used. Protection and Reinforcement Commander Major General Faleh Faleh attended the drill.



## News

in brief

### Kuwait's oil sold at specific price for all customers: KPC

**KUWAIT:** The prices of Kuwait's oil are the same for all customers at markets and there is no discount for anybody, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) spokesman Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled Al-Sabah said on Thursday. The Corporation works on commercial bases and announces monthly its prices for customers at global markets in the Far East, the Mediterranean region, Northwestern Europe and the American Continent, he added in a press statement. Prices at all markets are set separately after considering supply and demand, developments and all effective factors, he noted. — KUNA

### OPCW

**BRUSSELS:** Kuwait's ambassador to the Netherlands Shamlan Al-Roumi yesterday submitted credentials as the country's representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague. The credentials were offered to the OPCW's Director-General Ahmet Uzumcu in a meeting that also reviewed means of boosting bilateral ties, the embassy said in a release. Roumi reiterated Kuwait's support to the OPCW's activities, lauding the organization's role to get rid of chemical weapons. — KUNA

## KUWAITIS IN ITALY SAFE: EMBASSY

**ROME:** The Kuwaiti embassy in Rome said yesterday that all Kuwaitis in Italy, among them a group of students studying at the University of Perugia, are safe, after the quakes that hit the central region. A 5.5-magnitude quake yesterday struck near Visso in Macerata province, followed by 6.1 and 4.9 magnitude tremors in the same area. Weaker ones hit the area later. The major quakes were felt in Rome.

Soon after the incident, the embassy contacted the Italian civil defense and the registered Kuwaitis and members of the

Kuwaiti missions and offices in the country, and said they are all safe, the embassy added. Ambassador Sheikh Ali Al-Khaled Al-Sabah dispatched Third Secretary Salim Ali Abu Hadida to the city of Perugia, where four Kuwaitis are studying in the university. Abu Hadida met with the scholars who were all safe, and expressed gratitude to the embassy and to Sheikh Ali Al-Khaled for keenness on their safety. Visso is 70 kms from Amatrice, which was badly damaged in the 6.2 magnitude quake that killed up to 300 people in August. — KUNA



# International

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

**Slow and tough return  
of Iraq's Kakai minority**

8

**Trump speaks Hindi, tries to  
woo India American voters**

10

**Plane carrying VP candidate  
Pence skids off NY runway**

14



**DIDYMOTEICHO:** Adan's family members from the Syrian city of Aleppo cross the railway as they arrive at the train station of Didymoteicho some 400 km North-East from Thessaloniki, near the Greek-Turkish border. — AFP

## SYRIANS FIND GERMAN MOSQUES TOO CONSERVATIVE 'GOOD MUSLIMS GROW BEARDS, NOT MOUSTACHES'

**COLOGNE:** Hani Salam escaped civil war in Syria and survived the journey from Egypt to Europe. But when he saw men with bushy long beards at a mosque near his current home in Cologne last November, he was worried. The men's appearance reminded him of Jaish Al-Islam, the Islamist rebels who took over his hometown near Damascus, said Salam, 36, who wears a moustache but no beard. One of them told Salam that "good Muslims grow beards, not moustaches," he recalled - a centuries-old idea that he dismisses. "Everything about this mosque made me feel uneasy," he said. Syrians in Germany say many of the country's Arab mosques are more conservative than those at home.

Over two months, a dozen Syrians in six places of worship in three cities told Reuters they were uncomfortable with very conservative messages in Arabic-speaking mosques. People have criticized the way the newcomers dress and practice their religion, they said. Some insisted the Koran be interpreted word-for-word. It is a highly contentious issue in a country where Europe's migrant influx is already having deep political and social consequences. In Germany this year Alternative for Germany, a populist party that says Islam is incompatible with the German constitution, has gained ground. There have been several attacks by militant Muslims. Syrians and others say the mosque problem is adding to mistrust.

In Germany, other different faiths are traditionally supported by the state. But most of the country's four million Muslims originally came from Turkey and attend Turkish-speaking

mosques which are partly funded by Ankara. Last year around 890,000 asylum-seekers, more than 70 percent of them Muslims, entered the country. Around a third came from Syria. Many of them do not want to go to Turkish mosques because they do not understand the sermons. They prefer to worship where people speak Arabic.

Yet in these mosques, other problems arise. They are often short of funds, or else supported by Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. Some back ultra-conservative or highly literal interpretations of Islam, such as Wahhabism or Salafism. "Unfortunately it is true that a large majority of Arabic-speaking mosques are more conservative than Turkish mosques," said Professor Mouhannad Khorchide, who heads the Centre for Islamic Theology at Muenster University. That poses problems for integrating those who are less conservative. "How can one absorb these people if they are interested in their religion?" said Khorchide. "When there is a shortage of offers the Salafists try to fill the gap."

### 'Pure Islamic teachings'

In Cologne, Salam said that 75 Syrians live in the same hotel as his family. Of them, only one veiled woman prays at the nearest Arabic mosque. "One time when I was there, a Salafist asked a young Arab man to leave because he was wearing shorts," he added. "At the Turkish mosque no one cares what you're wearing." In a windowless ground floor room inside the Arabic mosque one Friday in August, some 200 men, including

about two dozen with bushy beards and trimmed moustaches typical of ultra-Orthodox Muslims, crowded for prayers.

Afterwards, a worshipper scolded three Lebanese men for saluting him when he entered the mosque. They had interrupted the sermon, which he said was forbidden. "Your Friday is gone!" he told them, lifting his hands toward his face and pressing his fingers together to emphasize that their actions had made their prayers void. The imam who led the prayers said the community is not political or violent. Asked about the Syrians who felt uncomfortable at mosques like his, he said: "It's an honor to be called a Salafist. We are only interested in giving members of our community pure Islamic teachings." Even though Salam can't understand the sermons in Turkish, he said he has started going to a Turkish mosque instead.

### 'Brainwashed'

A 2008 survey of Muslims and Christians in Europe by the state-funded WZB Berlin Social Science Centre found fundamentalist attitudes were less prevalent among German Muslims than elsewhere in Europe, but still quite widespread: For example, nearly half the Muslims it surveyed in Germany felt religious law to be more important than secular law. Germany's domestic intelligence agency has recorded more than 320 attempts by Salafist Muslims to contact refugees last year, often by offering food, clothes, free copies of the Koran and help with German to asylum seekers living in shelters. — Reuters



## MALAYSIA TO BUY NAVY VESSELS FROM CHINA IN 'A BLOW TO US'

**MANILA:** Malaysia will sign a contract to purchase Littoral Mission Ships from China when Prime Minister Najib Razak visits Beijing next week, according to a Facebook posting by the country's Ministry of Defense. The text of a speech to be delivered by Malaysian defense minister Hishammuddin Hussein was posted on Facebook on Tuesday, but was later removed after Reuters asked a defense ministry spokesman for comment. The purchase of the patrol vessels, if it proceeds, would be Malaysia's first significant defense deal with China and comes amid rising tensions in the South China Sea and as the United States and China compete for influence in the region.

China's foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said yesterday he was "unclear on the specifics of the situation". But responding to a Reuters question at the daily ministry briefing he noted China and Malaysia "continue to cooperate and communicate regularly across all spheres". Malaysia's ties with the United States became strained after the Department of Justice filed lawsuits linked to a money-laundering investigation at state fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), which Najib founded and had overseen as chairman of its advisory council.

Najib is travelling to China on Sunday for a week-long visit. "On November 5, 2016, the Defense Ministry will sign a contract for the procurement of Littoral Mission Ships (LMS) with SASTIND (the State Administration for Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense), which is an important part of the schedule during the Prime Minister's official visit to China," the Facebook post quotes Hishammuddin saying. However, a video recording of the speech at the Malaysian defense ministry by Hishammuddin does not mention this contract.

A defense ministry spokesman declined to comment and the prime minister's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Littoral Mission Ships are fast patrol vessels that can be equipped with a helicopter flight deck and carry missiles. They are primarily used for coastal security, maritime patrol and surveillance, but can also be deployed for disaster relief and search and rescue operations. China claims most of the South China Sea as its territory. But Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam also have rival claims to parts of the waterway, which commands strategic sea lanes which carry some \$5 trillion worth of trade a year.

### Peak in ties

Ties between Malaysia and China reached a new peak in December when China came to Najib's rescue with a \$2.3 billion deal to buy assets of scandal-hit state fund 1MDB, helping ease Najib's concern over the firm's mounting debt. Najib is travelling with dozens of government leaders and business people to China. In a statement on Wednesday, he said Malaysia was committed to strengthening friendship with China and pushing ties to "new highs". The push to strengthen China ties come after July lawsuits filed by the US Justice Department implicating Najib in a money-laundering scandal. The lawsuits allege over \$3.5 billion was misappropriated from 1MDB, some of which ended up with a 'Malaysian Official 1,' identified later by US and Malaysian authorities as Najib. Najib has denied any wrongdoing and said Malaysia will cooperate in the international investigations. Malaysia could buy up to 10 of the littoral mission ships at a cost of approximately 300 million ringgit (\$71.43 million) each, said Lam Choong Wah, senior fellow at REFSA, a Malaysia research institute. He is also the author of a book on Malaysian military capability. "The truth is we could have bought these from a number of countries. But China is the only country that has provided political support for Malaysia during the 1MDB scandal. This is pay-back for that political support." Najib's visit follows that of the Philippines president Rodrigo Duterte, who announced the country's "separation" from the United States and signed a raft of memoranda of understanding for Chinese investment in the country. Last week, Malaysia announced a 2 billion ringgit (\$476.19 million) cut to its 2017 defense budget from last year's levels. A project to develop an amphibious corps was among those jettisoned, said Euan Graham, director of the international security program at the Lowy Institute, a Sydney-based think-tank. — Reuters

# NORTHERN IRELAND COURT REJECTS BREXIT CHALLENGE

## COURT SAYS N IRELAND CANNOT OVERRIDE UK GOVT

**BELFAST:** Northern Ireland's High Court yesterday rejected an attempt to block Britain's exit from the European Union, saying that neither the province's parliament nor laws could override a decision by the British government. But it said it would defer to English courts on the wider issue of whether the British government has the right to invoke Article 50 of the EU Lisbon Treaty to leave the bloc, without the explicit backing of the British parliament. Prime Minister Theresa May welcomed the ruling, with a spokesman saying it would allow the British government "to proceed to trigger Article 50 as planned". One of the plaintiffs, human rights activists Raymond McCord, said he would appeal against the ruling in the Supreme Court, Britain's highest judicial body.

The case is the first judgment in legal disputes around Brexit that are being closely watched by politicians and markets. A case in London will rule on whether May can use the government's "royal prerogative" power to trigger Article 50 without consulting parliament. "The fact that the government has won in the Northern Ireland case could be seen to indicate that its prerogative power is holding up pretty well," said Stephen Tierney, director of the Edinburgh Centre

for Constitutional Law. "I would personally be surprised if the High Court in England reached a different conclusion," he said.

### Sterling dips

Sterling hit an eight-day low against the euro after the ruling. Overall, 52 percent of the United Kingdom voted in favor of leaving the EU in June's referendum, but 56 percent of those voting in Northern Ireland backed remaining in the bloc. There are fears that Brexit could undermine a 1998 peace deal, the Good Friday Agreement, which ended three decades of bloodshed in the province, and could lead to the reintroduction of unpopular controls on the border with the Republic of Ireland, an EU member. But justice Paul Maguire said it was "not viable" that Northern Ireland should overrule the 52 percent of the United Kingdom as a whole that voted in favor of leaving. The regional parliament would have a say on legislation passed to enact Britain's exit, but the triggering of Article 50 itself was not a "devolved matter". "The UK Parliament has retained to itself the ability to legislate for NI without the need to resort to any special procedure," Maguire said. The arguments about May's rights to trigger Article 50 "have been

held over pending the outcome of the English litigation", he added.

### Implications for Scotland

Rights activist Raymond McCord told journalists at the court that the ruling was just a setback and he would continue to fight Brexit. "I believe what we are doing is correct. Fifty-six percent of the people of this country (Northern Ireland) voted to remain." A group of politicians and rights groups who launched a parallel case that was merged with McCord's said they were "deeply disappointed" by the rejection of their case, but had not yet decided whether to appeal. Northern Ireland's largest Irish nationalist party Sinn Fein said it would study the judgment carefully and explore every legal and political option to ensure the remain vote was respected. The ruling may have implications for Scotland, whose government argues it should have a say on Brexit because it too voted to remain in the EU. Nicola Sturgeon, who heads the devolved Scottish government, has said it would be an act of "constitutional vandalism" to try to ignore Scotland's voice. Her party has drawn up draft legislation on a second referendum on independence from the UK, which it says is an option to protect Scotland's position within the EU. — Reuters



**BELFAST:** Victims' rights campaigner Raymond McCord (center) speaks to the media outside the High Court in Belfast yesterday after attending the ruling in a legal challenge against Brexit. — AFP

## AUSTRALIAN PARENTS JAILED FOR DAUGHTER'S 15 YEARS OF ABUSE

**SYDNEY:** An Australian husband and wife were sentenced to lengthy prison terms yesterday for sexually abusing, torturing and confining their daughter over 15 years. The District Court in Sydney was told that the father used various sharp tools to rape and torture the girl who was left tied up in a shed or in a plastic box for up to three days at a time on the family's rural property in northern New South Wales. The parents cannot be identified. The 59-year-old father, was sentenced to 48 years in prison. He will be eligible for parole after serving 36 years. The mother, 51, was sentenced to 16 years in prison and must serve at least 11 years.

The father began abusing the girl when she was 5 years old. He had also held the girl's head under water in a creek, wrapped her in barbed wire, forced her to eat hot chillies and threatened her with a chain saw. The mother began teaching her daughter how to sexually arouse her father from the age of 8. The father was convicted of 73 offenses and his wife of 13 offenses in June. They denied all charges. Judge Sarah Huggett described the crimes as "atrocious in the extreme." She also described the father as "selfish, depraved and sadistic." The victim, now aged 24, first complained about her parents in 2011, while she was a patient in a psychiatric hospital ward. Police arrested them in 2013. — AP



# IS KILLS HUNDREDS, KIDNAPS THOUSANDS AROUND MOSUL

## JIHADISTS SLAUGHTER 24 EX-ISF OFFICERS

**GENEVA:** Islamic State fighters have killed more than 250 people and kidnapped nearly 8,000 families around Mosul in recent days as Iraqi troops advanced on the northern city, the United Nations said yesterday. UN rights office spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani told reporters in Geneva that the jihadists are forcing civilians living in districts around Mosul into the city, hoping to use them as human shields in an upcoming battle. Those targeted in mass killings have especially included civilians who refuse relocation orders and people who previously worked for the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF), Shamdasani said. The IS jihadists slaughtered 24 ex-ISF officers on Tuesday and another 190 on Wednesday, according to rights office reports.

The latter group were shot dead at the Al-Ghazlani military base inside Mosul, Shamdasani said. Also on Wednesday, "42 civilians were reportedly shot in the head at the al-Izza military base" outside Mosul, a UN rights office statement said, apparently for refusing to follow the IS group's instructions. The rights office earlier in the week had listed a series of purported IS atrocities around Mosul but described the allegations as "preliminary" and needing more investigative work. Shamdasani said Friday that the fresh allegations had been "corroborated", but may not reflect the full toll as there were likely other atrocities that have gone unreported.

Meanwhile, the rights office said the extremists had kidnapped nearly 8,000

families around Mosul, the majority from the Al-Shura sub-district. "Credible reports suggest that ISIL has been forcing tens of thousands of people from their homes in sub-districts around Mosul," said Shamdasani, using another acronym for IS. She said the jihadists were using a "depraved, cowardly strategy" in the face of a US-backed Iraqi government offensive to retake Mosul, the IS group's last bastion in Iraq. The offensive, launched on October 17, has seen tens of thousands of Iraqi soldiers advancing on the city from the south, east and north. Last week, the rights office reported dozens of execution-style killings in villages near Mosul, including the shooting of a physically disabled girl who failed to keep up on a forced march. — AFP

# SLOW AND TOUGH RETURN OF IRAQ'S KAKAI MINORITY

**NEAR KALAK:** Guli Hassan Warani's village east of the Iraqi city of Mosul was retaken from jihadists five months ago but it is still a ghost town that its Kakai residents are struggling to rebuild. The Kakai are a secretive religious minority. Warani insisted the name of his village not be mentioned—that was badly hit when the Islamic State (IS) group swept through northern Iraq's Nineveh plain in August 2014. "Nobody is coming to help us so someone has to get the work done," he said, as he busily collected rubble from his front yard and discarded it in a bucket. "The jihadists set fire to my house, I'm sifting through the debris to salvage what I can," Warani said. An inscription IS militants spray-painted in black across his front door is still visible: "Property of the Islamic State."

The Kakai, whose men sport trademark bushy moustaches, follow a faith that draws on a number of beliefs, including reincarnation, and are found mostly in northern Iraq and neighboring Iran. Some of its followers say Kakaiism is a subgroup of Islam, but that claim appears to have risen mostly as a protective measure to ensure peaceful coexistence with Muslim neighbors. "We're different," said Saman Khalil, a 30-year-old man from the same village, explaining why IS considers them infidels. "Moreover, many of us have worked with the Americans and with the peshmerga," he said, referring to the 2003-2011 US occupation of Iraq and the forces of the autonomous Kurdish region. "For all these reasons, Daesh (IS) hates us. On the front line, no village suffered as much as ours. The jihadists wanted to destroy our culture," said Khalil. Salman Ahmed Abdullah, one of the villages' two mayors, said residents from only around 50 homes—or about 10 percent of the population—had returned. "It's understandable: there is no water, no electricity, no school... and bombs everywhere, in the empty houses, in the fields," he said.



**KALAK:** A picture shows houses in an Iraqi Kurdish Kakai minority village located near the town of Kalak, east of Mosul, after Iraqi forces recaptured it from Islamic State (IS) group jihadists a few months ago. — AFP

### Mine clearing

Large red crosses were painted on some buildings suspected of being booby-trapped. Abdullah, who fled with the rest of the village in August 2014, was among the first to return, in September this year. He found that his home had been used by IS as a command headquarters. His furniture was destroyed and slogans glorifying the "caliphate" that IS proclaimed two years were painted on his walls. In his kitchen, a large slab of concrete covered the entrance of a tunnel IS fighters used to conceal their equipment and communicate with a neighboring home. Freshly painted columns, decorated ceilings and elaborately festooned curtains: the mayor has spared no effort in trying to restore his home to its past glory. Others are less lucky. Just nearby, an explosion left a four-meter deep crater and leveled 10 surrounding homes.

"Daesh had rigged a suicide truck with explosives to attack peshmerga positions but it was destroyed in a coalition strike," said Saman Khalil's

twin brother Kameran. A mortar tube still stands on a little hill at the back of his garden that overlooks a plain where the front line between IS and Kurdish forces once was. "I was so excited, I came back the day the peshmerga retook the village, only to find the jihadists had torched my home," he said. "I felt really terrible and it was also very unwise to return so soon. One of my neighbors triggered a booby-trap rigged to the handle of his front door," Khalil said. "His house collapsed on top of him."

Clearing all the booby-traps left behind by IS's bomb makers when they retreat is a pre-requisite for a return to life in any liberated town and village. "Of course there was some military mine clearing on the main streets, but only very basic," said Jean Valette d'Osia, deputy president of Fraternite en Irak, a French NGO that supports minorities in Iraq. "Then comes the phase of civilian mine clearing, one home and one field at a time. Without it there is no reconstruction, and without reconstruction there is no return of the population." — AFP

## SYRIAN REBELS LAUNCH ALEPPO OFFENSIVE TO BREAK THE SIEGE

**BEIRUT:** Fierce fighting broke out around the northern Syrian city of Aleppo yesterday as rebels announced a large-scale offensive to break the government's nearly two-month siege of opposition-held areas. A reporter inside the city on the Lebanon-based Al-Mayadeen TV channel reported attacks on "all sides" of the city, "from the furthest points north to furthest south." Sounds of heavy gunfire, mortar fire, and explosions were heard in the background of his broadcast. Dark smoke was seen rising above the city on the overcast morning. Presumed government or Russian jets were also heard flying overhead.

Rebel factions in and around Aleppo have been preparing to launch a counteroffensive to try and break the government's suffocating siege off Aleppo's eastern-held neighborhoods for several weeks.

The area has been subjected to a ferocious campaign of aerial attacks by Russian and Syrian government warplanes, and hundreds of people have been killed in recent weeks according to opposition activists and trapped residents. The Syrian army said in a statement that troops repelled rebel attacks on all fronts in Aleppo and inflicted human losses among the attackers.

The army said the rebel attack concentrated on the Assad suburb west of Aleppo amid intense shelling with artillery and Russian-made Grad rockets. "The Syrian army and its allies are in control on the ground and armed groups were not able to change the map," the army statement said. "Fighting is still ongoing but the intensity dropped." This is the second attempt by rebels to break the government's siege. They opened a corridor to the east for the month of August after pro-government forces first applied a blockade in July, but government forces were able to reinstate the siege in early September.

Rebels launched the offensive yesterday as the Russian, Syrian, and Iranian foreign ministers met in Moscow. Iran and Russia are Assad's main backers and have committed air power, ground forces, and military advisers to the war. Aleppo is the focal point of the six-year war. President Bashar Assad has said he is determined to retake the country's largest city and former commercial capital. The government has maintained a siege on the rebel-held eastern quarters since September. The UN estimates 275,000 people are trapped inside with dwindling supplies of food and medicine.

Yesterday's attack began with rebels detonating three vehicle-borne explosives against government positions to the city's southwest and attacking with hundreds of rockets, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. It said at least one of the vehicles was driven by a suicide bomber for the Al-Qaeda-linked Fatah al-Sham Front, which also announced the offensive. Fatah-al-Sham claimed credit for two car bombs, saying in a statement that a "martyrdom-seeking fighter" drove a tank laden with explosives and parked it, before it was detonated and the fighter "returned to his brothers." In a second statement it said a suicide car bomb attack was carried out west of Aleppo. The Islamic Front rebel coalition also announced on Twitter that the ultraconservative Ahrar al-Sham group targeted a military airport to the east of the city with Grad rockets and destroyed a government position to the west of the city.

Ammar Sakkar, the military spokesman for the powerful Fastaqim faction inside the city, said "all the revolutionary factions, without exception, are participating in the battle." He said hundreds of advance fighters were participating in the attack, adding that the total number of participants was "much higher." In Moscow, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Al-Moallem told his Russian counterpart that the government in Damascus is "determined to liberate all our land from terrorists." "Our goals are common, therefore coordination between us continues on almost daily basis and we are thankful" for Russia, Al-Moallem said. — AP





Shoes lay abandoned in the entranceway of a tent in the makeshift migrant camp known as 'the jungle' near Calais, northern France. — AP

## LONDON BOROUGH OPENS DOORS TO 'JUNGLE' MIGRANT CHILDREN

### A NEW LIFE IN UK FOR UNACCOMPANIED YOUNGSTERS

**LONDON:** Horrified by the desperate plight of traumatized children in the "Jungle" migrant camp in France, one London borough is seeking to provide a new life in Britain for unaccompanied youngsters. As bulldozers raze the sprawling camp in the northern French port city of Calais this week, busloads of children have been arriving in Britain. With the UK promising to take in hundreds more, local authorities face the challenge of resettling these youngsters—many of whom have fled war and poverty in countries like Afghanistan, Eritrea and Sudan. But media reports say one in four local authorities have refused to take in any children of the Jungle.

One London borough, Hammersmith and Fulham, has been at the forefront of efforts to bring them to Britain under the so-called Dubs Amendment passed in May, vowing to accommodate 15 in total. While children with family ties in Britain have the right to claim asylum here, the Dubs legislation allows vulnerable youngsters with no such ties to seek refuge. Taking 15 of the 1,500 children housed temporarily in shipping containers in the Jungle may not seem like many. But Hammersmith and Fulham hopes

its example will encourage other local authorities to follow suit, as Paris and London squabble over who is to blame for their plight.

#### 'Driven mad by fear'

Stephen Cowan, the borough council's leader, visited Calais in August with other London officials and was shocked by what he saw. "You had this acute urine stench that hit you in the back of the throat," he said, describing the "dusty, intimidating environment". One child in particular struck him: a nine-year-old boy from Afghanistan who was "shivering" despite the summer heat.

"He looked overcome with stress. I asked the interpreter why he was shivering and he said: 'This boy has been driven mad by fear.'" The boy told Cowan: "I want somewhere where I will be safe at night and I will not be hurt anymore." Moved by the experience, Cowan pledged that his plush west London borough would find homes for such vulnerable children—though not all residents have supported the initiative. A week before the camp was razed, the borough allowed 13 social workers to go to Calais to assess the needs of unaccompanied minors.

#### Chaos and tears

Social worker Rebecca Harvey recalled "chaotic" scene on arriving the day after police used tear gas during clashes at the camp. She and her colleagues worked with an interpreter to take down key details: where the children were from, their state of mind and health, and hopes for the future. One 13-year-old boy said he had left his home in Afghanistan after his father was beheaded and his mother shot dead in front of him by jihadists.

At the camp, "he was living in a tent with a man he didn't know and crying all the time. He said he just thought every day 'maybe it would be better if I threw myself under a truck and I didn't have to suffer anymore'," Harvey said. "His story was not unique by any stretch of the imagination." Since mid-October, more than 200 children have arrived in Britain from Calais and more transfers are due in the coming days, the Home Office interior ministry says. French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve has said all minors "with proven family links in Britain" will eventually be transferred there, and that London has committed to reviewing all other cases where it is "in the child's interest" to settle across the Channel. — AFP

## DUTCH ANTI-ISLAM WILDERS TO SNUB HATE SPEECH TRIAL

**THE HAGUE:** Defiant Dutch anti-Islam politician Geert Wilders said yesterday he will refuse to attend his hate speech trial next week, dubbing it a travesty aimed at silencing him as the country prepares for 2017 elections. The trial opens on Monday before a three-judge bench with the far-right politician facing charges of insulting a racial group and inciting racial hatred for comments he made about Moroccans living in the Netherlands. "It is my right and my duty as a politician to speak about the problems in our country," Wilders said in a statement yesterday, dubbing the case "a political trial, in which I refuse to cooperate".

It comes as opinion polls have shown his far-right Freedom Party (PVV) doing well ahead of March elections. After riding high amid the migrant crisis, the party is now polling neck-and-neck with Prime Minister Mark Rutte's Liberals each predicted to win between 25 to 29 seats in the 150-seat parliament. Set to last until November 25, the trial focuses on a comment made at a March 2014 rally when Wilders asked supporters if they wanted "fewer or more Moroccans in your city and in the Netherlands?" When the crowd shouted back "Fewer! Fewer!" Wilders answered: "We're going to organize that." It is the second such trial for Wilders who was acquitted on similar charges in 2011.

#### 'Voice of millions'

Wilders said yesterday he would leave his defense in the hands of his lawyer Geert-Jan Knoops and instead "go to work" in the parliament in The Hague. The court confirmed in a statement that the trial would go ahead, adding like any defendant Wilders had the right not to appear. While the court can force someone to turn up, "it is not known whether it will do so in this case," it added. Wilders' 2014 statements were met with outrage including from the small, but vocal Dutch Muslim community. An avalanche of 6,400 complaints followed, and he faced condemnation from fellow MPs.

Judges earlier this month dismissed arguments by Wilders' lawyers that the trial was "politically motivated" adding they did not believe it will impact the PVV's election campaign. Politicians "are granted broad freedoms of expression because of their official position," the judges ruled last month. "Precisely therefore politicians have an important role to avoid feeding intolerance by making these kind of public statements." Wilders hit back yesterday saying "it is a travesty that I have to stand trial because I spoke about fewer Moroccans." "Millions of Dutch citizens (43 percent of the population) want fewer Moroccans," he claimed. "Not because they despise all Moroccans or want all Moroccans out of the country, but because they are sick and tired of the nuisance and terror caused by so many Moroccans."

#### 'Ban the Quran'

Wilders drew flak when he unveiled his party's controversial election program saying he would confiscate Korans and close mosques if he wins the elections. He is often described as "the most heavily guarded man" in The Netherlands and the trial is taking place in a high-security courthouse in Schiphol. His name has "appeared on hit-lists drawn up by Al-Qaeda, the Taleban and the Islamic State group", according to his lawyer. If found guilty, Wilders could face up to two years in jail or a fine of more than 20,000 euros (\$22,000). — AFP

## TRUMP SPEAKS HINDI, TRIES TO WOO INDIA AMERICAN VOTERS

**NEW YORK:** Donald Trump may have insulted Mexicans, Muslims and women but to woo Indian American voters he's even dabbling in Hindi for Diwali. The bombastic New York businessman is seen uttering "Ab Ki Baar Trump Sarkaar"—adapting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2014 vote-winning catchphrase as his own—in a presidential campaign ad released Thursday. "This time Trump government," translates the ad on the screen. Trump may speak in a thick US accent, but the 30-second ad is the Republican nominee's latest attempt to win votes among Indian Americans ahead of Diwali, the

Hindu festival of lights which falls on the weekend.

The video opens with the message "Happy Diwali" and borrows from footage of Trump speaking at a Hindu gathering in New Jersey this month, lighting an oil lamp and promising close US-Indian relations. "The Indian and Hindu community will have a true friend in the White House," he says in the ad. "We love the Hindus, we love India," he adds, saying that he looks forward to working with Modi. The candidate's daughter-in-law Lara Trump visited a Hindu temple this week in Virginia, the home state of Democratic rival Hillary Clinton's running mate Tim

Kaine which is expected to vote blue on November 8.

Trump trails 5.4 points in the latest poll average compiled by tracker RealClearPolitics in a national race against Clinton and two outsiders—pointing to a likely electoral college victory for the Democrat. There are an estimated four million Indian Americans living in the United States according to 2015 census figures. They are among the most educated ethnic groups and generally well off, according to the Pew Research Center. Only about half are Hindu and 65 percent are Democrat, or Democrat-leaning, the think tank found in a 2014 report. — AFP



## PAKISTAN POLICE FIRE TEAR GAS AT OPPOSITION LEADER SUPPORTERS

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistani police yesterday fired tear gas at stone-throwing supporters of opposition leader Imran Khan who defied a ban on public gatherings, adding to political deadlock ahead of his plans to shut down the capital next week. There was no immediate report of injuries but TV stations carried footage of police charging with batons, as plumes of tear gas billowed in the air.

Police surrounded the home of former cricket hero Khan, who called for nationwide protests after dozens of activists from his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party were arrested a day earlier. The protests have added to the chaos ahead of Khan's plans to lock down the capital on Wednesday in what he described as a final push to force Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to resign over corruption allegations.

Khan had vowed to join yesterday's planned rally but had not left his home, with a heavy police presence outside, by the afternoon and was scheduled to hold a press briefing. The rising tensions come at an awkward time for Sharif, with relations between his ruling PML-N party and the powerful military strained over a newspaper leak about a security meeting that angered army officials. Authorities on Thursday swooped on an indoor youth rally by Khan's party in Islamabad, beating activists with batons and detaining 38 people.

Police said the rally contravened a city order issued hours earlier to ban all public gatherings in the capital ahead of next week's protests. "Police manhandled our women and our boys. Because of that, Imran Khan has called for nationwide protests," a spokeswoman from PTI's media team said. Khan, who led a weeks-long occupation that paralysed the government quarter of Islamabad in 2014 after rejecting Sharif's decisive election win, has vowed to contest orders banning public gatherings in court but has hinted his supporters would march on the capital next week regardless.

A top administrative official in Rawalpindi has also banned protests in the city. Khan had been due to attend a rally for a political ally, Sheikh Rashid of the Awami Muslim League (AML) yesterday afternoon in Rawalpindi. TV footage showed the portly AML leader being ferried to the rally on the back of a motorbike via the backstreets of Rawalpindi. He then climbed on top of a van, shook his fist in the air to supporters and dared police to arrest him.

Police have told media they do not have orders for his arrest. Earlier in the day, officials appeared to be resolute that the ban on public gatherings will be enforced, setting PTI on a collision course with authorities. "It is not legal to hold a gathering (in Rawalpindi) right now, so we will try to stop (Khan) if he tries to go there," said Mushtaq Ahmed, the top administrative official in Islamabad.

### Shut down schools, airport

Khan has warned officials that arresting him would only enrage his supporters and bolster his party's resolve to lock down Islamabad. Authorities blocked main roads leading to the Rawalpindi rally with shipping containers. The rally site also was obstructed by trucks and containers, blocking PTI supporters from gathering en masse. Islamabad Deputy Commissioner Ahmed said PTI would need a permission in the form of a "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) if it plans to host any events, including Wednesday's shutdown strike.

"You need an NOC for anything - whether its a media function or a marriage function. Even for a birthday party of more than five people, you need an NOC," he told Reuters. Khan has said next week's protests will bring a million people to the streets. He has said that sit-ins would force the closure of schools, public offices and the main international airport. At the centre of Khan's latest challenge to Sharif's government are leaked documents from the Panama-based Mossack Fonseca law firm that appear to show that Sharif's daughter and two sons owned offshore holding companies registered in the British Virgin Islands. Sharif's family denies wrongdoing. Holding offshore companies is not illegal in Pakistan, but Khan has implied the money was gained by corruption. Khan acknowledged in May that he used an offshore company to legally avoid paying British tax on a London property sale. — Reuters



Missiles are paraded during a military parade during celebrations to mark the anniversary of North Korea's Workers' Party. — AP

## LOST CAUSE? NORTH KOREA NUKE THREAT AWAITS NEXT PRESIDENT HEADACHE FOR OBAMA, A MIGRAINE FOR HIS SUCCESSOR

**WASHINGTON:** If North Korea has been a foreign policy headache for Barack Obama's presidency, it threatens to be a migraine for his successor. The next president will likely contend with an adversary able to strike the continental US with a nuclear weapon. Whoever wins the White House in the Nov 8 election is expected to conduct a review of North Korea policy. It's too early to predict what that portends, but the North will grab more attention of the next president than it did for Obama, who adopted strategic patience: ramping up sanctions in a so-far fruitless effort to force the North to negotiate on denuclearization.

With surprising candor this week, National Intelligence director James Clapper said that persuading North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons is probably a "lost cause." That appeared to challenge to a key tenet of US policy shared by US allies and adversaries alike that agree on the goal of the denuclearization of the divided Korean Peninsula, however distant it may be. But Clapper was also channeling what many experts are thinking. Leader Kim Jong Un appears to see nuclear weapons as a guarantee of his own survival. Six-nation aid-for-disarmament talks have not convened since Obama took office in 2009, during which time the North's capabilities have leapt ahead.

"Without a shift in US strategy toward North Korea, the next US president will likely be sitting in the Oval Office when the regime finally acquires the ability to strike the continental United States with a nuclear weapon," said a recent Council on Foreign Relations report. Speaking at the council in New York on Tuesday, Clapper said that North Korea has yet to test its KN-08 intercontinental ballistic

missile, so it is unclear if it works, but the US operates on the "worst-case" assumption that Pyongyang is potentially capable of launching a missile with a weapon on it that could reach Alaska and Hawaii.

Experts have estimated the missile, which can be moved by road, making it harder to target in a pre-emptive strike, could be operational by around 2020. With five nuclear tests now under its belt, the North may already be able to miniaturize a warhead for use on a short-range missile, if not on an intercontinental missile. It has also launched two rockets into space, and has begun testing submarine-launched missiles. US experts estimate that it now has 13 to 21 nuclear weapons, and could have as many as 100 by 2020 - approaching what India likely has today.

Clapper said the best hope for the US is probably to negotiate a cap on the North's nuclear capabilities. But that implies recognition of North Korea as a nuclear weapons state, which the US has said it will not do. "The dilemma for policymakers in dealing with North Korea is that if one accepts that the door to negotiation of denuclearization with North Korea is closed, the alternative set of options involves either acquiescence to a nuclear North Korea on the one hand or pressure leading to regime change on the other," said Scott Snyder, senior fellow for Korea studies at the council.

Of the US presidential candidates, Democrat Hillary Clinton wants the international community to intensify sanctions as the Obama administration did with Iran, which eventually opened the way for a deal to contain its nuclear program. Divining what Republican Donald Trump might do is tricky. He wants the US to leverage its trade ties

to get China to rein in its unpredictable ally. But he's also said he'd be ready to meet Kim, and suggested detaching the US from the problem by allowing its allies Japan and South Korea to get nuclear weapons. US experts who held unofficial talks with North Korean officials in Malaysia last week maintain that negotiations on denuclearization are still possible.

"I think the best course would be to test the proposition by some serious engagement in which we see whether their (North Korea's) legitimate security concerns can be met," said Robert Gallucci, who negotiated a 1994 disarmament agreement that curbed North Korea's nuclear program for nearly 10 years. He added that the concerns of neighboring South Korea and Japan as they face the most immediate threat from Pyongyang. "We don't know for sure that negotiations will work, but what I can say with some confidence is that pressure without negotiations won't work, which is the track we are on right now," said another participant, Leon Sigal from the New York-based Social Science Research Council.

But there is a deep, bipartisan skepticism in Washington about talks with Pyongyang, which has recanted on past accords and says it will never give up its nuclear weapons. It claims it needs nukes to deter an invasion by the US, which has 28,500 troops in South Korea. Still, North Korea has not entirely closed the door to talks. A July government statement suggested it remained open to discussions on denuclearization of the peninsula. The US, however, slapped sanctions on Kim the same day for human rights abuses. The North said that was tantamount to declaring war. — AP





LAUNGDON, Myanmar: Myo ethnic children look at a Myanmar border police in LaungDon, located in Rakhine State as security operation continue following the October 9, 2016 attacks by armed militant Muslims. — AFP

## ROHINGYA WOMEN ACCUSE MYANMAR TROOPS OF RAPE

GOVT DENIES ACCUSATIONS, SAYS PROPAGANDA FOR MUSLIM GROUPS

**YANGON:** Rohingya Muslims say Myanmar soldiers raped or sexually assaulted dozens of women in a remote village in the northwest of the country during the biggest upsurge in violence against the persecuted minority in four years. Eight Rohingya women, all from U Shey Kya village in Rakhine State, described in detail how soldiers last week raided their homes, looted property and raped them at gun point. Reuters interviewed three of the women in person and five by telephone, and spoke to human rights groups and community leaders. Not all the claims could be independently verified, including the total number of women assaulted.

Soldiers have poured into the Maungdaw area since Oct 9, after an insurgent group of Rohingyas that the government believes has links to Islamists overseas launched coordinated attacks on several border guard posts. Citing evidence garnered by interrogating suspected militants, the government blamed the attacks on an armed group it says is made up of some 400 Rohingya fighters. The militants, who have identified themselves as the previously unknown Al-Yakin Mujahidin in videos posted online, are accused of killing nine police officers and five soldiers, and of stealing a cache of weapons.

The crisis in northern Rakhine marks the biggest challenge Myanmar's six-month-old civilian government has faced and raises questions over de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi's ability to maintain control of the country's military, observers and diplomats say. Suu Kyi's relationship with the army remains strained because of the constitution, drafted by the military in 2008, which bars her from the presidency. It also guarantees the army key ministerial posts, including defense, border affairs and home affairs. Diplomats and United Nations officials say privately that the

Oct 9 attacks and subsequent crackdown have shattered years of work rebuilding trust between the Muslim and Buddhist communities in Rakhine after ethnic and religious violence broke out there in 2012.

### 'They tore my clothes'

A forty-year-old woman from U Shey Kya told Reuters that four soldiers raped her and assaulted her 15-year-old daughter, while stealing jewelry and cash from the family. "They took me inside the house. They tore my clothes and they took my head scarf off," the mother of seven told Reuters in an interview outside her home, a cramped bamboo hut. "Two men held me, one holding each arm, and another one held me by my hair from the back and they raped me."

Zaw Htay, the spokesman for Myanmar President Htin Kyaw, denied the allegations. "There's no logical way of committing rape in the middle of a big village of 800 homes, where insurgents are hiding," Zaw Htay said. Zaw Htay telephoned a military commander in Maungdaw, whose name he did not disclose, during an interview with Reuters this week. The commander said troops conducted a sweep of U Shey Kya village on Oct 19, but left without committing abuses. The military did not respond to an emailed request for comment about the accusations.

### Security crackdown

The escalation of violence threatens to derail Suu Kyi's goal of ending years of ethnic war in Myanmar, undermining the nation's surprisingly smooth democratic transition that started a year ago with her historic election win, observers and diplomats say. Though feted as a champion of democracy, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate has faced international criticism for not doing enough to ease the plight of around 1.1 million Rohingya living in Rakhine, most of

whom are denied Myanmar citizenship.

After the first attacks, Suu Kyi urged the army to act in accordance with the law. The military - which oversaw decades of authoritarian rule and now presents itself as a responsible partner in Myanmar's transition - has declared an "operation zone" in northern Rakhine. Residents and activists say civilians are being caught up in the security crackdown, and say scores more have been killed than the 33 alleged attackers that official reports have acknowledged.

### 'Muslim propaganda'

U Shey Kya village's official administrator, Armah Harkim, said he was working to verify the latest accounts, adding most residents believed them to be true. Zaw Htay, the president's spokesman, accused residents of fabricating the allegations as part of a disinformation campaign led by the insurgents, which he compared to the tactics of Islamist groups Islamic State and Al-Qaeda. Colonel Sein Lwin, the police chief for Rakhine State, dismissed the claims as "propaganda for Muslim groups." Reuters reporters traveled to U Shey Kya village on Thursday passing nearby villages where dozens of houses were recently burned down - and interviewed three women who said they were raped by soldiers.

Five other women from U Shey Kya have also detailed in a series of telephone interviews how Myanmar soldiers raped them. The accounts are backed up by at least three male residents of the village and a Rohingya community leader in Maungdaw who has gathered reports about the incident. The residents said some 150 soldiers arrived near U Shey Kya on Oct 19. Most male residents left the village as they believed they would be suspected as insurgents. The women said they stayed behind in the belief the military would burn down empty homes. — Reuters

## CHINA VESSELS LEAVE SCARBOROUGH SHOAL

**MANILA:** Chinese ships are no longer at the disputed Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea and Philippine boats can resume fishing, the Philippine defense minister said yesterday, calling the Chinese departure a "welcome development". Philippine fishermen could access the shoal unimpeded for the first time in four years, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said, capping off a startling turnaround in ties since his country rattled China in 2013 by challenging its maritime claims at an international tribunal.

The departure of the Chinese coastguard comes after President Rodrigo Duterte's high-profile visit to Beijing and follows his repeated requests for China to end its blockade of the shoal, a tranquil lagoon rich in fish stocks. "Since three days ago there are no longer Chinese ships, coastguard or navy, in the Scarborough area," Lorenzana told reporters. "If the Chinese ships have left then it means our fishermen can resume fishing in the area." Though the Scarborough Shoal is comprised of only a few rocks poking above the sea some 124 nautical miles off the Philippine mainland, it is symbolic of the country's efforts to assert its maritime sovereignty claims.

Lorenzana did not explain the circumstances of the Chinese vessels leaving the shoal, which was the centerpiece of a case Manila filed in 2013 at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the Hague. Asked on Friday about the return of Philippine fishermen to the shoal, China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang made no mention of a coastguard withdrawal. The two countries "were able to work together on issues regarding the South China Sea and appropriately resolve disputes," Lu told a regular briefing. The Hague court in July declared that despite the Scarborough Shoal being located within the Philippines' 200 nautical mile exclusive economic zone, no one country had sovereign rights to it, so that all claimants may fish there. — Reuters

## FILIPINO MAYOR AMONG 10 DEAD IN CLASH WITH ANTI-DRUG POLICE

**MAKILALA:** Two months ago, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte publicly read out the names of a town mayor and more than 150 other officials he accused of involvement in drug trafficking. Yesterday, the mayor and nine of his men were killed in a clash with police, in the deadliest operation in Duterte's anti-drug crackdown. Police estimate that more than 3,600 suspected drug dealers and users have been killed since Duterte took office on June 30. After his name was read out in August, Mayor Samsudin Dimaukom of Datu Saudi Ampatuan township in southern Maguindanao province turned himself in to police and denied involvement. He told the media he was fighting illegal drugs himself and supported Duterte's crackdown.

Dimaukom and the nine others were killed at dawn yesterday after they opened fire from a van and an SUV on officers manning a checkpoint in Makilala town in North Cotabato province, police Superintendent Bernard Tayong said. "Our men were forced to retaliate when the heavily armed suspects who were on board two vehicles began firing at them," said Senior Superintendent Albert Ignatius Ferro, who heads a police anti-illegal drugs force. Police found an M16 rifle, four pistols, a 12-gauge shotgun, ammunition and at least 13 small plastic packs of suspected methamphetamine, a stimulant drug locally known as shabu, from the bullet-peppered vehicles of the suspects, police deputy regional chief Senior Superintendent Leonardo Suan said.

Police said they had received information that Dimaukom's group was planning to transport a "huge" amount of methamphetamine from Davao city, Duterte's hometown, to Datu Saudi Ampatuan town. Duterte's crackdown has drawn international concern over extrajudicial killings, but he has repeatedly dismissed criticisms and vowed to keep his election promise to rid the country of illegal drugs. He originally said he would do so in six months, but extended that deadline by half a year, saying he was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the drug menace.

The extent of Duterte's crackdown is unprecedented in the country. Since he took office, police have arrested more than 31,600 drug suspects, and more than 750,000 people, mostly drug users, have surrendered to authorities, largely due to fears they could end up dead. Police have visited more than 2.6 million homes to urge suspected drug users and dealers to stop. — AP



# MADURO'S OPPONENTS TIGHTEN SCREWS WITH VENEZUELA STRIKE OPPOSITION DECLARES 12-HOUR GENERAL STRIKE

**CARACAS:** Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro faces renewed pressure yesterday as the opposition calls for a nationwide strike, which he has threatened to break with army takeovers of paralyzed firms. Up in arms over the authorities' decision to block a referendum on removing Maduro from power, the opposition has declared a 12-hour general strike, threatening to exacerbate the shortages of food and basic goods gripping the country.

"This is a call to a citizens' strike for the people: to leave streets and workplaces empty... to pressure the government to obey the constitution and respect our right to choose," the opposition Democratic Unity Roundtable (MUD) said in a statement. The strike is scheduled to start at 6:00 am (1000 GMT). The center-right coalition's latest move to pressure the unpopular leftist leader comes after anti-government protests drew hundreds of thousands of people on Wednesday.

Maduro has vowed to respond forcefully. "If a company stops, it will be taken over," he said Thursday in a televised speech. He also extended a carrot to the struggling workers who have served as his socialist party's traditional base: a 40 percent increase in the minimum wage, to the equivalent of about \$140 a month. But economic analysts called that a drop in the bucket for a country the International Monetary Fund says is facing inflation of 475 percent this year, rising to 1,660 percent next year. And a wage hike may only add fuel to the inflationary fire.

### 'Attack' on presidency

Although Venezuela boasts the world's largest oil reserves, falling crude prices have plunged the country into an economic crisis. That has coincided with a messy political crisis ever since the opposition won a majority in the National Assembly last December. The election setback has forced the president to share power with an opposition legislature for the first time since Maduro's predecessor and mentor, the late socialist firebrand Hugo Chavez, came to power in 1999. Maduro accuses the National Assembly of staging a "parliamentary coup" by voting to put him on trial for alleged breach of duty. The



**CARACAS:** A woman carries her baby past a line of people waiting to buy products at a pharmacy in Caracas, Venezuela yesterday. — AP

opposition says it is Maduro who is staging a coup d'etat by blocking a referendum. Fears of violent unrest are mounting in the country, where rioting at anti-government protests killed 43 people in 2014.

### Army strike inspections

The opposition has vowed to march next week on the presidential palace, the scene of a short-lived opposition coup attempt against Chavez in 2002. Army chief Vladimir Padrino has declared loyalty to Maduro, vowing to defend the socialist government "with (his) life." The army will inspect some 700

companies yesterday to see whether they observe the strike, Maduro said. He wants to address the crisis in a "national dialogue" with opponents from Sunday, a plan he says is backed by Pope Francis. The MUD said it would agree to talks only if the government respects the constitutional right to a referendum and frees imprisoned activists and leaders, among other demands. Maduro has vowed to travel to the Caribbean island of Margarita, where he has proposed starting talks on Sunday. But it is unclear whether he will have anyone to talk to. The opposition insists that any talks be held in Caracas, "in the public eye." — AFP

Kuwait Times

# Premier Brands

To see your ad here, call:  
**+965 248 35 616 / 617**  
 E MAIL :info@kuwaittimes.net  
 ads@kuwaittimes.net  
 Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

best OFFERS

<p><b>iPhone 6s</b> 4.7 inches <b>LTE</b></p> <p><b>128GB</b></p> <p><b>219</b> <small>Price KD .900</small></p>	<p><b>iPhone 6s</b> 4.7 inches <b>LTE</b></p> <p><b>32GB</b></p> <p><b>169</b> <small>Price KD .000</small></p>	<p><b>iPhone SE</b> A big step for small. <b>LTE</b></p> <p><b>16GB</b></p> <p><b>104</b> <small>Price KD .900</small></p> <p><b>64GB</b></p> <p><b>134</b> <small>Price KD .900</small></p>	<p><b>Lenovo</b> <b>A6020</b> <b>LTE</b></p> <p><b>39</b> <small>Price KD .900</small></p> <p><small>56,000 16,100</small></p> <p><b>5.0"</b></p> <p><b>16GB</b></p>
--	---	--	--

**best** AL-YOUSIFI

BestAIYousifi @BestAIYousifi alyousifIBEST BestAIYousifi

Credit: Start from 5KD • Up to 48 month • Instant approval

Shop Online [www.best.com.kw](http://www.best.com.kw) Free Delivery

**1809 809**



## LEAKED MEMO REVEALS DETAILS OF 'BILL CLINTON INC'

**WASHINGTON:** A hacked memo released by WikiLeaks has shed light on how Bill Clinton profited-to the tune of tens of millions of dollars-from work channeled to him by an aide who also worked for the family's charitable foundation. In the 2011 memo, Clinton aide Douglas Band said he personally provided the former president with more than 50 million dollars in "for profit" activities while he was leader of the foundation. Band detailed his own moneymaking efforts both on behalf of Clinton personally, and of the foundation, in a network of activity he called "Bill Clinton Inc."

The latest disclosures have added to a drip-drip of WikiLeaks revelations plaguing Hillary Clinton in the final stretch of her run for the White House as the Democratic nominee. They come from a trove of email stolen from the account of John Podesta, who played a leading role in the foundation before becoming Clinton's campaign chairman. Podesta has refused to authenticate the emails, which US intelligence believes were stolen by Russian hackers to disrupt the US elections. But neither he nor the Clinton campaign has challenged their authenticity.

They show the foundation had become a source of

tension between aides to Bill Clinton and his daughter Chelsea, who accused them of taking "significant sums of money from my parents personally" and hustling clients for their own business at foundation events. Band's memo was sent in response to complaints by Chelsea Clinton. In it, Band defends his use of his private consultancy Teneo to raise funds for the foundation, saying it brought in large corporate donations from Coca-Cola, Dow Chemical, and Swiss bank UBS among others.

"Independent of our fundraising and decision-making activities on behalf of the Foundation, we have dedicated ourselves to helping the President secure and engage in for-profit activities-including speeches, books, and advisory service engagements," said. "In support of the President's for-profit activity, we also have solicited and obtained, as appropriate, in-kind services for the President and his family for personal travel, hospitality, vacation and the like." He said he had received no fees or percentages of "the more than \$50 million in for-profit activity we have personally helped to secure for President Clinton to date or the \$66 dollars in future contracts, should he choose to continue with those engagements."

### Campaign aides worried

The foundation, with its big foreign donors like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, has been a prime target of Republican nominee Donald Trump. Republicans have accused Clinton of giving big donors favored access when she was secretary of state from 2009 to 2013, but no evidence of conflicts of interest has emerged in the emails. Clinton campaign aides were worried, however, that the foundation's activities could present a problem for the former secretary of state as she ran for president.

In January 2015, campaign manager Robby Mook asked whether Clinton would take part in a foundation-sponsored conference in Morocco several months later, as she was launching her campaign. "This was HRC's idea, our office approached the Moroccans and they 100 percent believe they are doing this at her request. The King has personally committed approx \$12 million both for the endowment and to support the meeting," Clinton aide Huma Abedin wrote back. "It will break a lot of china to back out now when we had so many opportunities to do it in the past few months," Abedin said, adding: "She created this mess and she knows it." In the end, only Bill Clinton and daughter Chelsea attended the conference. —AFP

# FIRST LADIES 'ROCK'

## MICHELLE OBAMA STUMPS WITH HILLARY

**WINSTON-SALEM:** First Lady Michelle Obama brought her star power onto the campaign trail Thursday stumping for Hillary Clinton as the Democratic White House hopeful seeks to conquer battleground states before Election Day. Obama has emerged as a compelling force in the hard-fought campaign, delivering powerful arguments against Republican Donald Trump and in support of Clinton's bid to become the first female US president.

"She is ready to be commander-in-chief on Day 1, and yes, she happens to be a woman,"

is already under way. "First ladies, we rock!" said Obama, one of the most popular Democrats in America. "Here's where I want to get real. If Hillary doesn't win this election, that will be on us," the current first lady said, emphasizing that voter turnout is vital. The 52-year-old wife of President Barack Obama has energized the Democratic camp with a series of speeches taking Trump to task for his strident rhetoric and for what she brands his "frightening" attitude towards women. She warned that Trump's strategy was "to make

with our most amazing first lady," Clinton said.

### Combative Trump

The latest rolling poll average compiled by tracker RealClearPolitics showed Clinton with a 5.8 point lead in a national race against Trump and two outsiders-pointing to a likely electoral college victory for the Democrat. "I feel really good, energized, working hard," she told reporters aboard her plane Wednesday, her 69th birthday. Trump's standing has been hit hard, particularly among female voters, since the release earlier this month of a 2005 video in which he boasts that his celebrity allows him to grope women with impunity. But the 70-year-old Manhattan real estate mogul took heart from a new survey that shows him with a two-point lead in Florida, a state where presidential races are often won and lost - and a must-win state for him. "We don't want to give this away," a combative Trump promised supporters in battleground Ohio on Thursday. "We are going to Washington, DC. And we are going to drain the swamp."

### Polls narrow

The RealClearPolitics poll average still puts Clinton ahead in the Sunshine State by 1.6 percentage points, but she wants to lock it in. The president, who narrowly won Florida in 2008 and 2012, campaigns for her there yesterday, while Clinton is scheduled to join pop star Jennifer Lopez on stage Saturday in Miami. Trump also appears to have clawed back ground in Nevada, where a new NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll has the western state in a dead heat.

As Clinton called on voters to rise above the nastiness of the race, new WikiLeaks disclosures threatened her campaign, notably an email in which aide Douglas Band detailed his own moneymaking efforts both on behalf of Bill Clinton personally and on that of the foundation. Band wrote of helping the former president "secure and engage in for-profit activities-including speeches, books, and advisory service engagements." Trump pounced, calling the activity "outright corruption." "If the Clintons were willing to play this fast and loose with their enterprise when they weren't in the White House, just imagine what they will do if they are given the chance to control the Oval Office," he said in a statement. —AFP



**NORTH CAROLINA:** US First Lady Michelle Obama embraces Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton during a campaign rally in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. —AFP

Obama said of the former first lady to a roar from a crowd of 11,000 people in North Carolina, one of the swing states in play. Clinton has basked in the results of new polls showing the former secretary of state with an impressive lead just 12 days from the November 8 vote. But new revelations about how former president Bill Clinton took in millions of dollars from "for profit" activities as he led the Clinton family's non-profit foundation weighed on her campaign.

Michelle and Hillary joined forces on the trail for the first time at a rally at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, where early voting

this election so dirty and ugly that we don't want any part of it" and opt to stay home.

"Do not let yourself get tired or frustrated or discouraged by the negativity of this election, as you're out there working your hearts out for my girl," she said of Clinton. North Carolina voted for Obama in 2008, then Republican nominee Mitt Romney in 2012, but the southeastern state is leaning back toward the Democratic side in 2016. Clinton holds a two-point lead here and the state's Republican leaders worry that Trump's slow collapse will hurt them in congressional races. "It doesn't get any better than being here



**NEW YORK:** The plane that was carrying Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence sits on the runway at New York's LaGuardia Airport October 27, 2016 in New York. —AFP

## PLANE CARRYING VP CANDIDATE PENCE SKIDS OFF NY RUNWAY

**NEW YORK:** A plane carrying US Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence skidded off the runway after landing in the rain at New York City's LaGuardia Airport on Thursday, halting flights for at least an hour, officials said. No one was injured in the incident which occurred less than two weeks before the US presidential election, crucial campaign days for Pence and running mate Donald Trump.

Pence pledged to hit the campaign trail again yesterday. "So thankful everyone on our plane is safe," the Indiana governor said on Twitter after the incident. "Grateful for our first responders & the concern & prayers of so many." The Boeing 737 was coming in for a landing and went off the runway at about 7:40 pm local time (2340 GMT). The plane was stopped by a crushable type of concrete runway that arrested the aircraft's movement, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Jim Peters said.

The FAA and National Transportation Safety Board said they will investigate the cause of the incident. Trump called his running mate before a rally in Geneva, Ohio. "I just spoke to Mike Pence and he's fine," Trump told the crowd at the rally. "The plane skidded off the runway and was pretty close to grave, grave danger." Trump and Pence have slipped in the polls in recent weeks, in part due to negative public reaction to the release of a decade-old video in which Trump made lewd comments about women and said he could grab them by their genitals because he was a celebrity.

Since then, numerous women have come forward to say that they were groped by Trump, claims that he has denied. On Thursday, Pence had been scheduled to attend a fundraiser at Trump Tower in Manhattan, but was not able to make the event after his plane slid off the runway, a campaign aide said. Pence will resume his normal schedule using a different plane, the aide said. Live television footage showed Pence standing in the rain near the plane among emergency vehicles, talking to police and other officials. Trump's opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton, on Twitter said she was glad Pence and the rest of the passengers and crew were safe. —Reuters



# Kuwait Times 55 BUSINESS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

Mobile, video pump up profit at Google parent

18

BOJ loses bark and bite under humbled Kuroda

19



Trump name liability in luxe NY real estate

17



ALLAHABAD: Indian customers shop for utensils during the Dhanteras festival yesterday. Hindus consider it auspicious to purchase gold, silver and utensils during Dhanteras. — AFP

## STRUGGLING INDIA SAVERS THREATEN GROWTH

### LOW INTEREST RATES, TOUGH ECONOMIC CONDITIONS PRESSING SAVERS

**NEW DELHI/MUMBAI:** For India's dream of taking the baton of global growth from China, its savings rate is flashing a warning sign. Gross national savings as a percent of the South Asian nation's gross domestic product will slip this year to 30.2 percent, the lowest since 2003, and fall further over the next two years, the International Monetary Fund forecasts.

Since companies use domestic savings to fund their capital spending, the fall would increase their vulnerability to external risks - such as uncertainty over the US presidential election or the prospect of monetary tightening there - that could staunch the flow of cheap investment dollars to emerging markets such as India. It's a worry for Prime Minister Narendra Modi who aspires to achieve economic growth rates of 8-9 percent - much higher than the current 7.1 percent - not only to replicate China's growth miracle but also to create jobs for the one million people who join India's workforce every month.

Nearly two-thirds of India's 1.3 billion people are under 35 years old. But to fully harness the biggest youth bulge the world has ever seen, economists say its saving rate needs to be around 35 percent. "Raising the savings rate is one of the main pre-conditions for India's long-term sustainable growth," said

Hanna Luchnikava-Schorsch, senior economist for Asia Pacific at IHS Markit.

The tiger economies of China and East Asia realized their economic potential by keeping their savings rates above 30 percent for decades. But India's economic travails stem from flagging investment, which as a proportion of GDP fell by about 3 percentage points to 29.6 percent of GDP in the June quarter from a year ago. Its infrastructure development has failed to keep up with the increasing needs of the economy. The World Bank estimates that Asia's third-largest economy needs up to \$1.7 trillion to close its infrastructure gap

#### The Siege

Households are the main source of savings in India, but years of high inflation, weak job creation, sluggish growth in incomes and two successive droughts have left their finances under siege. Take Manohar Lal, a 50-year-old marketing manager at an electric cable company in New Delhi, who is struggling to pay for his kids' education and mother's medical bills on his monthly income of \$1,120. While his salary has grown by an average 8 percent in the past three years, Lal's spending on tuition fees and medicines have shot up by nearly 40 percent, leaving him with little to save for his retirement.

Pressing him further is India's bid to stimulate consumption through low interest rates. As inflation has fallen in recent years, the Reserve Bank of India has cut its official rates by 175 basis points - and banks have cut deposit rates accordingly. "In all, I am saving barely a fourth of what I used to," Lal said. "The way things are, I would be lucky if I just manage to provide a quality education to both the kids." To get by, Lal has cut down spending on movies and clothing. Dining out has become a "luxury" for his family, Lal said.

Government officials say the savings rate should bottom out of its own accord thanks to an expected improvement in rural incomes after a good monsoon, better corporate profits and, most importantly, a sharp moderation in retail inflation.

#### Savers vs Borrowers

The slide also poses a dilemma for the RBI, which is widely expected to respond to a decline in inflation to 4.3 percent with further cuts in its 6.25 percent policy rate. Former RBI chief Raghuram Rajan advocated maintaining a real interest rate of 1.5-2 percentage points to protect savers. Still, Rajan said small savers would send him heart-rending letters, complaining about cuts in retail deposit rates. Following his recent departure, the central

bank lowered its real interest rate target - or the margin by which its policy rate exceeds inflation - to 1.25 percent.

With the new regime at the RBI under Governor Urjit Patel sounding dovish, the odds are high the target would come down further. Globally interest rates are on a downward trajectory, with some central banks in the developed world using negative rates to boost consumption. "If you continue to compress real rates, savings will fall and dependence on capital inflows will rise, which can get risky if oil prices abruptly shoot up," said Sonal Varma, Chief India Economist at Nomura.

A search for higher yields by India's small savers has reduced growth in bank deposits to its lowest level in 53 years. Cash held by households has, meanwhile, surged 40 percent from last year to \$266 billion. Low returns on bank deposits are also goading some like Madhav Narayan to resort to riskier ways to augment their incomes. The 45-year-old school teacher in New Delhi lends a part of his \$745 monthly salary in unsecured short-term loans. The return he makes is twice the rates on bank deposits, but he also runs a greater risk of losing money. "The government, the RBI - no one cares for common people like us," Narayan said. "You have no option but to fend for yourself." — Reuters



# EUROPE MARKETS IN LULL, GROWTH AIDS WALL STREET

**LONDON:** European markets marked time yesterday following a dour Asian session as better than expected third-quarter US economic growth brought a measure of cheer to Wall Street. Frankfurt, London and Paris wobbled slightly with investors waiting on next week's vital central bank interest rate decisions. London had risen Thursday on news that the British economy grew 0.5 percent in the three months after the nation's shock June referendum in favor of exiting the European Union.

But it was just into negative territory early afternoon yesterday as investors bedded down before next week's hectic schedule of monetary policy decisions from many of the world's top central banks - and headline-grabbing data releases. In the eurozone, meanwhile, Frankfurt and Paris were just down. "It has been a relatively quiet week on the data front with little by the way of fundamental developments to drive the markets," noted XTB analyst David Cheetham.

"UK growth in the third quarter exceeded expectations and we have the US equivalent out this afternoon in arguably the biggest data point of the week." Kicking off next week will be the eurozone's third-quarter GDP on Monday. Both the Bank of Japan and the Reserve Bank of Australia will deliver their latest interest rate calls Tuesday, followed by the US Federal Reserve on Wednesday and the Bank of England on Thursday. The dollar extended gains heading into the weekend after breaking 105 yen Thursday on increasing expectations the Fed will lift interest rates by year's end.

At the opening bell on Wall Street, the Dow Jones index had added just 0.1 percent helped by news that US third-quarter economic growth accelerated to a 2.9 percent annual rate, topping analyst forecasts of 2.5 percent on an exports jump and strong consumer spending. However, the S&P 500 and the tech-heavy Nasdaq both dipped slightly amid disappointing earnings from Amazon, which took its share price down 5.1 percent.



**TOKYO:** A pedestrian stands in front of an electronics stock display in the window of a securities company yesterday. — AFP

## 'Calm before storm'

"The lull in action this week may very well prove to be a calm before the storm with next week's economic calendar jam packed with major events," added Cheetham. "There are four major central bank decisions next week from Australia, Japan, the US and UK, the latest manufacturing numbers from China, US and the UK as well as employment figures out of the US, eurozone, New Zealand and Canada. "Political risk could also be set to rise ahead with next week representing the last full trading week ahead of the US election and the ongoing Brexit saga remaining at the forefront of many traders' minds," he said. Yesterday, the biggest share price faller in London was Royal Bank of Scotland, which dropped 1.6 percent after revealing it sank into the red in the third quarter on litigation and restructuring costs. British Airways owner IAG was the top gainer, soaring six percent after third-quarter operating profit beat expectations. In Paris, oil and gas group Total saw its stock drop 0.9 percent, despite better-than-expected quarterly earnings. — AFP

## GE OIL & GAS EXPANDS TECHNICAL SERVICES FACILITY IN N RUMAILA

**BAGHDAD:** GE Oil & Gas has further strengthened its localization initiatives in Iraq with the expansion of its technical services facility in North Rumaila oilfield. An ongoing in-country investment by GE, the facility will offer a wide range of testing, repair and refurbishment services for its customers in the country as well as undertake fabrication and assembly of key products establishing GE as a complete technical solutions provider.

The expansion of the North Rumaila Facility was inaugurated by Jabbar Al-Luaibi, Iraqi Minister of Oil and Rami Qasem, President & CEO of GE Oil & Gas for the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey, in the presence of senior officials of GE Oil & Gas and Rumaila oilfield. It will help GE's partner in Iraq to optimize their operations, reduce overheads from machinery downtime, and bring down costs associated with repair and maintenance. It will also offer technical training classes and has a Field Service Engineer/Technician Academy.

Iraqi Ministry of Oil, H.E. Jabbar Al-Luaibi said: "We are placing a strong focus on strengthening the operational efficiency and productivity of our oilfields to meet the needs of the nation and our people. We can achieve significant breakthroughs in our asset utilization by integrating the newest technologies. GE's facility for testing, repair and related services will a value-

add for the Rumaila oilfield. It will also help build our next generation of Iraqi technical professionals for the oil industry."

Rami Qasem, President & CEO of GE Oil & Gas for the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey, said: "The expansion of the North Rumaila Facility by GE Oil & Gas within the oilfield underlines our commitment to be closer to our customers and to build on our strong long-term partnerships and local presence. It builds on our agreement with the Ministry of Oil to provide cutting edge technology, upgrades and maintenance support to strengthen the operational efficiency and productivity of Ministry's oil and gas assets. The

expansion will offer a comprehensive suite of complete technical solutions that will support our partners in the country with quick, efficient and advanced support, reducing operational downtime and increasing their productivity.

"An example of our in-country investment that enhances our local footprint, the North Rumaila Facility will also support all ongoing operations of one of Iraq's largest oilfields that contributes significantly to the local economy. Our goal is to create a local innovation-driven, technical services ecosystem, and we will train Iraqi professionals on diverse aspects including fabrication and assembly of critical equipment," he added.



**Jabbar Al-Luaibi, Iraqi Minister of Oil with Rami Qasem, President & CEO of GE Oil & Gas for the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey.**

## OIL PRICES FALL

**LONDON:** Oil prices slipped below \$50 a barrel yesterday and were set for the biggest weekly losses in six weeks over doubts about whether producers will be able to agree on an output cut big enough to curb a global glut that has weighed on markets for two years. Experts from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and counterparts from other oil-producing nations such as Russia started two-day negotiations yesterday over an output-capping agreement expected to be presented at the end of next month.

However, hopes for a milestone deal were slim as disagreements remain over which members should be exempt from a curb to reduce output to a range of between 32.5 and 33 million barrels per day (bpd). Russia thinks an output freeze could be short-lived due to an expected quick recovery in US shale oil production, Interfax news agency said, citing Russia's energy ministry. Brent crude futures were down 51 cents at \$49.96 a barrel by 1318 GMT. The contract was set to close the week more than 3 percent lower, in its steepest weekly loss since mid-September. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude was down 46 61 cents at \$49.11 a barrel, also on track for its biggest weekly loss in six weeks. "Doubts linger about OPEC's ability or willingness to implement any production cuts," said analysts at Cenkos Natural Resources. "The mar-

## GOLD HOLDS UP

**LONDON:** Gold rose yesterday, notching up to its second week of gains after shrugging off slightly better-than-expected U.S. third-quarter GDP data amid firm demand from Asia. Spot gold was up 0.3 percent to \$1,271.90 an ounce at 1445 GMT and is up 0.5 percent this week. US gold futures slipped 0.2 percent to \$1,267.10. The US economy grew by 2.9 percent in the third quarter, outpacing analysts' consensus forecast of 2.5 percent, strengthening the case for an interest rate increase and making non-yielding assets such as gold less attractive while boosting the dollar and US treasuries.

The reading of the world's biggest economy dragged gold to a session low of \$1,262.04 but the price rebounded shortly after. "The GDP data was not overwhelmingly strong, the rise was marginal and the contribution to underlying strength wasn't very strong," said Carsten Fritsch, commodity analyst at Commerzbank. "The fact that we have strong physical demand probably puts a floor to the price."

Demand for bullion in India is expected to pick up during the Dhanteras and Diwali festivals, when gold is traditionally given as a gift. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of currencies, strengthened briefly following the US data but then drifted 0.25 percent lower to 98.618. US interest rate futures are implying a near 80 percent chance of the US Federal Reserve raising rates by December, according to the CME Group's FedWatch tool.

## DOLLAR SLIPS ON DATA

**NEW YORK:** The US dollar slipped from a three-month high against the yen and fell against the euro yesterday after federal government data showing a deceleration in US consumer spending in the third quarter overshadowed a stronger-than-expected overall economic growth reading. Gross domestic product increased at a 2.9 percent annual rate, accelerating from a 1.4 percent pace in the second quarter, the Commerce Department said in its first estimate. That was the strongest growth rate since the third quarter of 2014.

Consumer spending, however, increased at a 2.1 percent rate, slowing from the second quarter's robust 4.3 percent pace. Consumer spending accounts for more than two-thirds of US economic activity. Analysts said the reading could be viewed as tepid given the consumer spending component and therefore did not further reinforce traders' confidence that the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates in December.

"What I think the Fed watches is not the GDP number per se, but final domestic demand, and that is the GDP number minus inventories and minus exports, and in that case the U.S. economy actually slowed down from Q2," said Marc Chandler, global head of currency strategy at Brown Brothers Harriman in New York. Analysts said the dollar was struggling to gain further since expectations that the Fed will raise interest rates in December have already largely been expressed in the greenback's rally this month. —Reuters





**NEW YORK:** One of the buildings on Riverside Drive bearing the Trump name is seen in this photo taken on Thursday. — AFP

## TRUMP NAME A LIABILITY IN LUXE NY REAL ESTATE

**NEW YORK:** Trump Place Apartments are luxury living at one of New York's finest addresses, with marble floors, grand entrance halls, attentive doormen and magnificent views across the Hudson River. But behind closed doors, residents are squabbling over whether to remove the Republican nominee's name from the facade to protest his divisive run for president and allegations that he sexually assaulted women.

A group of residents from the complex on Riverside Drive - on the Upper West Side, a wealthy, generally liberal enclave - launched a petition two weeks ago to take down the large letters that spell out Trump on the front of the building. The New York billionaire's name is his core asset, emblazoned on a dozen skyscrapers dotted around Manhattan, helping him amass a personal fortune that is partly bankrolling his bid for the Oval Office. The petition slams Trump's "appalling treatment of women," "history of racism," attacks on immigrants, mockery of the disabled, tax avoidance and "outright lying" as "antithetical to the values" in which the organizers believe. Many of the staff are minorities or immigrants, and working in a building that bears the Trump name is "insulting," it says. "Since Trump leases his name to buildings he does not own, part of our rent is being used to increase Trump's net worth," it complained.

So far, 465 supporters have signed the petition. But not everyone is on board in the cossetted corridors of homes to the rich and successful, including CEOs of companies such as KPMG, Viacom and HSBC. "I think it's nonsense," said one harried father disappearing into an elevator. "When they are going to have to pay for it, they are not going to do it. We live here regardless, and we love the staff, that's all that matters," said Ann Rae, who walks passes through the building at least three times a day to walk her dog and says she has always been friendly with everyone. "Some of the people who have signed - we don't even know them, not even sure they live here," she said.

### 'Not Going to Change Anything'

"It's not that we like the name... it's disgusting some of what Trump has said," Rae added. "But it's one of the things about living in New York - there are so many things and buildings in New York that say Trump. It's not going to change anything, taking out the name," she said. But Brittany Ashby, mother of two young children, said she was in favor of the petition. She rents a two-bedroom apartment for \$9,000 a month that she believes is worth several million dollars - not one of the building's priciest. — AFP

# EXPORTS BOOST US GROWTH; CONSUMER SPENDING SLOWS

## THIRD-QUARTER GDP INCREASES AT 2.9% RATE

**WASHINGTON:** US economic growth accelerated to a 2.9 percent annual rate in the third quarter boosted by a big jump in exports and solid consumer spending, the Commerce Department reported yesterday. Coming just 11 days before the presidential election in which the economy has been a major issue, the GDP data showed the strongest growth in two years, and beat the consensus forecast of 2.5 percent.

The strong report may increase the pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates this year, something it has not done since Dec 2015. Most analysts expect the Fed to do nothing at its meeting next week, and wait until December to act. Lawrence Yun, chief economist at the National Association of Realtors, cautioned against precipitous action, since the economy's expansion after the financial crisis has averaged only 2 percent.

"The Federal Reserve could be tempted to hurry the interest rate hike because of the good GDP number," he said, but policymakers should keep in mind the economy's "subpar performance" in the past six years. In this initial or advance estimate of gross domestic product, the Commerce Department said that export growth of 10 percent in the July-September period, the biggest jump since late 2013, drove the expansion. Many analysts revised their forecasts upwards this week, to as high as 3.0 percent, especially following the release of advance trade data Wednesday. Personal consumption also helped growth, as spending rose 2.1 percent in the period, though that was just half the rate of the prior quarter.

Federal spending rose 2.5 percent after declining in the previous two quarters. US stock markets rose in opening trading following the report while US Treasuries yields and the dollar strengthened, but all moved back shortly thereafter to remain flat.

### Exaggerated by Soybean Exports

Despite the strong headline number, some economists say the report exaggerates growth and could be revised lower over the next two months. "These data likely overstate growth significantly," Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics said in a research note. He pointed to a surge in soybean exports, saying "the headline GDP number looks good but the soybean export surge will reverse in Q4, and that's a significant headwind".

Jim O'Sullivan, chief US economist at High Frequency Economics, agreed. "The farm-led surge in exports in particular looks extreme. Even so, the data only reinforce the impression that the trend in growth remains strong enough to keep the labor market improving - the key precondition for more Fed tightening." White House chief economist Jason Furman noted that the recovery in oil

prices in recent months meant there was less of a drag on the economy from oil-related investments. In addition, "business fixed investment also contributed positively to GDP growth, though it continues to be restrained by slower global growth," Furman said in a statement. Private investment jumped 3.1 percent in the third quarter, the first increase following three quarters of declines. NAR's Yun, however, said: "On the downside, residential investment fell slightly as housing starts and home sales were stalling a bit in the third quarter." The key inflation indicator in the GDP report, the personal consumption expenditures price index, increased at a 1.4 percent annual rate, while the rate excluding food and energy prices rose 1.7 percent, both slightly slower than the second quarter. The Fed has focused its easy money policy on boosting inflation to 2.0 percent, based on the broader PCE price index. — AFP



**FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida:** This file photo taken on June 23, 2016 shows shipping containers offloaded from a cargo ship at Port Everglades. — AFP

## US MARKETS NOT FULLY BUYING A CLINTON WIN

**NEW YORK:** As the US presidential election moves into the home stretch, financial markets are not fully invested in polls that show a win for Hillary Clinton. Even though polls show the Democratic candidate with a strong lead over Republican Donald Trump, analysts say investors are waiting until after November 8 to lay their money on the table. "I don't think it's fully 100 percent Clinton is in," said JJ Kinahan, chief market strategist at TD Ameritrade, who sees a pullback in risk-oriented investments as a sign of investor caution.

"Usually people are looking to take on extra risk for reward," he said. "I think this is one case where people are paring back on their risk." Wall Street is thought to generally favor Clinton over Trump for president, and equity markets have hovered at historically high levels since July, with the S&P 500 less than three percent below its all-time peak.

Clinton is considered the more market-friendly outcome, expected to maintain the policies of outgoing President Barack Obama, while the market views Trump as a great unknown, both because of his penchant for controversy and his lack of a record in public office. Trump has attacked trade partners China and Mexico and accused Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen of being a political tool of the Democratic party.

Investors are also unsettled by Trump's seeming embrace of Russian President Vladimir Putin, a sign he may take foreign policy in radical new directions. Signs of nervousness have been seen in certain trades, analysts say, like the Mexican peso. Trump's pledge of immigration controls and trade restrictions with Mexico have raised worries over its economy. The peso sank against the dollar as Trump's campaign added momentum, but then rebounded on Clinton's gains following the first presidential debate on Sept 26. But it remains down about 9 percent since Trump secured his party's nomination in May. On the other hand, another gauge of market sentiment has been the biotechnology sector, which is seen as vulnerable in a Clinton presidency given the Democrat's vow to address runaway drug prices. The Nasdaq biotechnology index has fallen about nine percent over the last month. Some analysts say the markets have already assumed a Clinton victory. "To me, the markets clearly want a Clinton win and they have priced that in," said Nathan Thooft, senior managing director at Manulife Asset Management. "That's what they predict, and that's what they want. If that doesn't happen, I feel there's a great level of uncertainty and possible downside to the markets." — AFP



# MOBILE, VIDEO PUMP UP PROFIT AT GOOGLE PARENT

## ALPHABET NARROWS LOSSES ON 'MOONSHOTS'

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Google parent Alphabet on Thursday delivered higher profits for the third quarter, lifted by gains in mobile and video advertising as the tech giant narrowed losses on its "moonshots". Net profit climbed 27 percent to \$5.1 billion. Revenue rose to \$22.5 billion from \$18.7 billion in the same period a year earlier. Shares rose nearly one percent in after-market trades that followed the release of the stronger-than-expected earnings figures.

"We had a great third quarter," Alphabet chief financial officer Ruth Porat said in the earnings release. "Mobile search and video are powering our core advertising business and we're excited about the progress of newer businesses in Google and Other Bets." It has been about a year since the California internet titan revamped its corporate structure, making Google's Internet operations a division of Alphabet and putting units such as autonomous cars and Internet service balloons in an "other bets" or "moonshots" category.

The self-driving car effort that was once part of the X lab at Google - devoted to bold, futuristic projects - has become a separate business unit at Alphabet. Little has been revealed of its plans for going to market. The loss reported from Other Bets in the recently ended quarter came to \$865 million, compared with \$980 million in the same period a year earlier. "As we reach for moonshots that have a big impact in the longer term, it is inevitable that some



**MOUNTAIN VIEW, California: This Jan 3, 2013 file photo shows Google's headquarters. — AP**

efforts will have more success than other," Porat said. "We are taking the steps necessary to lay the foundation for a stronger future."

### New Hardware Strategy

Under its new structure, Alphabet is seeking to expand beyond its role as a search engine that provides advertising linked to queries. It has grown revenue in mobile search but is moving to further diversify its revenue stream. Earlier this month, Google took on rivals Apple, Samsung and Amazon in a new push into hardware, launching premium-priced, in-house designed Pixel smartphones and a slew of other devices showcasing artificial intelligence

prognosis. Google also revealed details about its new "home assistant" virtual reality headset and Wi-Fi router system. But getting more heavily into hardware would entail new costs in the current quarter, Porat cautioned. "We expect to spend more on marketing in the year-end quarter due to the new products," she said.

The company recently put on hold its "Fiber" initiative, which aimed to deliver ultrahigh-speed residential broadband to a number of cities. Kansas City in 2011 became the first city chosen by the group to test its Google Fiber internet network, promising transmission speeds of 100 times that of current networks. — AFP

# AMAZON TRIPLES PROFIT, SHARES SLIDE

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Online giant Amazon said Thursday its profits more than tripled in the third quarter, but shares fell as the rise was weaker than expected. Amazon extended its string of positive results after years of investments that produced little or no profit, helped by its cloud computing, streaming video and new products and services. Profit surged to \$252 million from \$79 million in the same period a year ago, while revenues jumped 29 percent to \$32.7 billion.

Amazon shares tumbled more than five percent in after-hours trade after profit fell shy of most analysts' forecasts. Earnings per share, closely watched by Wall Street, came in at 52 cents; the consensus estimate was 78 cents. Amazon founder and chief executive Jeff Bezos offered a cryptic comment on the financial results, referring to the company's digital personal assistant Alexa, which responds to queries on its Echo speaker and other devices using artificial intelligence.

"Alexa may be Amazon's most loved invention yet - literally - with over 250,000 marriage proposals from customers and counting," said Bezos. "And she's just getting better. Because Alexa's brain is in the cloud, we can easily and continuously add to her capabilities and make her more useful - wait until you see some of the surprises the team is working on now." Neil Saunders of the research firm Conlumino said Amazon "missed its earnings estimates by a wide margin and this will, inevitably overshadow the more positive news on sales." This result "undoes some of the recent progress Amazon has made on the profit front," Saunders said in a note to clients. He said the relatively weak profits resulted from increased costs and investments in new products and services. "Looking ahead we see no reason for the dominance of Amazon to diminish," the analyst said. "Indeed, we see some positive gains from services like music and we believe that, over the course of the next fiscal, devices like Echo will sell well and become a more integrated part of users lives."



### The Prime Strategy

Earlier Thursday, Bezos told an audience in New York that the disparate services offered by Amazon were part of a strategy to get more people on its Prime subscription service, which offers access to online video and music, free shipping on goods and other benefits. He said investments in award-winning shows such as "Transparent" and "Mozart in the Jungle" help boost the number of Prime subscribers who will later buy more goods, such as electronics, clothing and toys. "As you become a Prime member, you buy more from us," he said at the Economic Club of New York.

The company's earnings report showed that Amazon Web Services, its giant cloud-computing arm, pulled in \$3.2 billion in revenue, a sharp jump from \$2.1 billion in the same quarter last year. That produced some \$861 million in operating income. Amazon's international sales rose 28 percent to \$10.6 billion and North American sales grew 25 percent to \$18.9 billion. Amazon does not provide detailed breakdowns for sales of its Kindle devices or home speakers or the number of Prime members. But analysts at Consumer Intelligence Research Partners estimate that Amazon Prime now has 65 million US members, spending on average about \$1,200 per year. — AFP

# IAG: AIRFARES MAY STOP FALLING SOON

**LONDON:** British Airways-owner IAG said trading was holding up in a tough environment and the trend for falling fares was probably stabilizing, boosting its shares. Chief Executive Willie Walsh said he was seeing rival airlines trimming their capacity growth plans, providing investors with some comfort after the industry had warned that fares could fall further this winter on stiff competition. That outlook, and the fact that trading conditions for the group, which also owns Iberia, Vueling and Aer Lingus, had not deteriorated since July, offset any negative impact from the airline group's downgrade to its 2016 profit forecast, which it blamed on the weaker pound. Asked about passenger unit revenues, a reflection of air fares, Walsh said that the outlook was better today than it had been three months ago, and that those trends would continue in the first and second quarter of next year. "We're probably seeing some evidence of it having bottomed out," Walsh told analysts on a call. That contrasted with recent warnings from low cost European rivals Ryanair and easyJet, which said in October that fares would continue to decline.

US rival United Continental said last week it was seeing a glut in transatlantic capacity and it was unclear whether passenger unit revenue would stop declining in 2017. Shares in IAG rose 5.5 percent to 435.9 pence by 1059 GMT, topping Britain's blue chip index. "It's certainly a positive trend," said Davy analyst Stephen Furlong, after IAG's third-quarter results showed that passenger unit revenue on a constant currency basis fell 5.9 percent, an improvement on the 6.2 percent fall in the previous period. Walsh said that he was pleased with the group's performance and that the main change since July had been the devaluation of sterling. The pound has fallen 18 percent against the dollar since Britain voted in June to leave the European Union, and has shed 15 percent against the euro, causing headwinds for IAG. It reports in euros but gets a third of its revenues from the UK, and pays for fuel in dollars. — AP

# RBS BANK SLIDES INTO LOSS ON US LITIGATION CHARGES

**LONDON:** Britain's state-rescued Royal Bank of Scotland slid into the red in the third quarter on US litigation and company-wide restructuring costs, it said yesterday. Chief executive Ross McEwan meanwhile voiced caution over the potential impact of Brexit on the bank. RBS made a loss after tax of £469 million (\$570 million) in the three months to September 30 compared with one year earlier, when it posted a net profit of £940 million thanks to the sale of US bank Citizens.

Meanwhile, litigation and conduct costs of £425 million for the third quarter included a charge linked to a heavy fine in the United States, RBS said in a statement. Royal Bank of Scotland recently agreed a fine of \$1.1 billion with US authorities over the alleged mis-selling of mortgage securities ahead of the 2008 financial crisis that triggered a state bailout of the Edinburgh-based lender. Much of the underlying lending was worthless or fraudulent, delivering billions of dollars in losses to holders of the mortgage bonds when the housing market collapsed, bringing down numerous banks. The US Department of Justice last month ordered Deutsche Bank to pay a \$14 billion fine over its role in the subprime mortgage crisis - sparking fears it may have to raise fresh capital. A source told AFP in late September that the German bank was in talks with the DoJ to reduce its fine to about \$5.4 billion, while the bank's chief financial officer Markus Schenck on Thursday said discussions on reaching a final settlement were "ongoing".

### Missed Deadline

Royal Bank of Scotland, which remains 73-percent owned by the British taxpayer, added on Friday that it will miss a 2017 deadline for the sale of its Williams & Glyn unit. This comprises around 300 RBS branches that the EU has ordered to be offloaded as a condition of the lender winning a £45-billion government bailout nearly a decade ago - the world's biggest. Since the rescue, RBS has racked up losses of more than £50 billion. RBS, under the leadership of chief executive McEwan, launched a massive overhaul in 2015 that slashed the bank's investment banking activities and axed thousands of jobs. — AFP



## CRISIS AT PDVSA DEEPENS AS CARIB DEBTS PILE UP

**HOUSTON:** Unpaid debts and broken promises are making Venezuelan oil giant PDVSA an outcast in several Caribbean countries where it had been a guest of honor. The state-run company's crumbling finances are causing operational disruptions across one of its most essential regions, according to internal company documents, six sources with knowledge of its operations, and Thomson Reuters vessel-tracking data.

Business partners in the island nations of Curacao, Bonaire, Jamaica and the Bahamas are turning away from the firm as debts pile up to tugboat operators, ship brokers, maritime agencies and terminal owners, the sources and documents show. The company's problems include blocked loading operations in the Bahamas and threats from the governments of Curacao and Jamaica to replace PDVSA as a partner of refineries in both places. Many vessels are also anchored offshore, blocked from discharging cargoes at ports because PDVSA has not paid suppliers and business partners. The mounting Caribbean problems are adding to a broader crisis for PDVSA, which is already reeling from declining production, low crude prices and an unprecedented economic down-

turn at home. The company saw operating cash flow plummet by 63 percent, to \$2.1 billion, in the first quarter compared to the same period a year earlier, according to its most recent financial report. PDVSA's Caribbean operations represent a quarter of its global refining capacity and serve as a loading hub for a third of its exports of crude and fuel oil.

"PDVSA has absolutely lost ground in the Caribbean," said Lisa Viscidi, director of Energy, Climate Change and Extractive Industries at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, noting falling oil sales in the region for the past two years. PDVSA did not respond to repeated requests for comment. In the latest mishap, a PDVSA fuel-oil cargo bound for Asia has been trapped in the Caribbean sea for more than a month after a court ordered the detention of the tanker "Hero" in Curacao, according to sources with direct knowledge of the situation and Thomson Reuters vessel-tracking data.

Curacao's port authority barred the ship from leaving on Sept. 18 after a unit of Core Laboratories won the court order to force payment of delinquent debts, according to two people with direct knowledge of the matter. PDVSA had allegedly failed to pay

the unit, Saybolt, several million dollars for months of oil testing services. Mark Elvig, general counsel for Core Laboratories, declined to comment.

### Reversal of Fortune

The problems reflect a stark reversal for a company that has been a trusted partner of governments in the Caribbean. About a decade ago, Caribbean countries laid out red carpets for PDVSA executives, who came offering cheap oil under the Petrocaribe program that leftist President Hugo Chavez launched to win allies as a bulwark against Washington. Petrocaribe worked well for years, as poor islands curbed the impacts of rising global oil prices and Venezuela bartered oil for everything from medical services to black beans. PDVSA had used Caribbean facilities to offset frequent outages and incidents plaguing its storage, refining and port networks in Venezuela. The region offers vast storage capacity, ample refineries and crude blending facilities, and deep water docks to load Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCC) for trips to Asia. But the relationships of the past are now increasingly strained as suppliers and service providers go unpaid. — Reuters

## GROWTH, INFLATION STIR IN EURO ZONE

**LONDON:** With a more than trillion euro fuel injection and no interest rates worthy of the name, the euro zone economy is stirring, more data confirmed yesterday, leaving policymakers hunting for signs the nascent recovery is sustainable. Two ECB policymakers, in separate speeches, showed no indication they believed their job was close to done, although the bank continues to demand reforms from euro zone capitals to fix underlying problems.

France eked out very meager growth, but it was nonetheless an improvement. Spain showed its economy was barreling ahead, but still with a huge lagging unemployment rate. Economic confidence across the euro zone came in at its second highest level in more than five years. There were even signs of inflation creeping up in Spain and Germany - something dearly desired by the European Central Bank.

Furthermore, yesterday's data followed preliminary reports from purchasing managers that were much more bullish than predicted and suggested relatively solid growth in France, Germany and the euro zone as a whole. "October's rise in ... economic sentiment supports the message from the (purchasing managers) that euro zone growth accelerated towards the end of the year, albeit with continued divergence across countries," Jennifer McKeown, chief European economist at Capital Economics, wrote in a client note.

The improvement - albeit essentially baby steps - raises some questions about how much of the ECB's job is done, that is to say whether stimulus provided by ultra-easy interest rates and its 80-billion-euro-a-month bond buying program should continue. The ECB meets in December and will have to decide then whether it extends its bond-buying beyond an initial target date in March. To do otherwise would essentially subject markets and banks to a cold turkey cut-off.

ECB Executive Board member Benoit Coeure was clear yesterday that he and fellow policymakers wanted to see much more evidence before they pulled back. "Monetary accommodation will be maintained until we see a sustained adjustment (in inflation)," he said. And referring to growth, "The whole discussion will be how sustained is that." Irish central bank chief Philip Lane concurred. "Until inflation is at a sustainable path to the current target, the current policy of accommodation will continue," lane, also an ECB Governing Council member, said at a Reuters Newsmaker event.

### Waking Up?

Specifically, French third quarter growth came in at 0.2 percent, following a small contraction in the previous three months. It was arguably the worst data of the day, added to a downward revision in first quarter numbers, but Finance Minister Michel Sapin said there was nothing in it to suggest next year's 1.5 percent projection would be missed. —Reuters

## BOJ LOSES BARK AND BITE UNDER HUMBLER KURODA

### NO EASING EXPECTED AT OCT 31-NOV 1 MEETING

**TOKYO:** As his term winds down, Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda has retreated from both the radical policies and rhetoric of his early tenure, suggesting there will be no further monetary easing except in response to a big external shock. In a clear departure from his initial "shock and awe" tactics to jolt the nation from its deflationary mindset, he has even taken to flagging what little change lies ahead, trying predictability where surprise has failed.

This new approach will be on show next week, when the BOJ is set to keep policy unchanged despite an expected downgrade in forecasts that could show Kuroda won't hit his perpetually postponed 2 percent inflation target before his five-year term ends in April 2018. "The days of trying to radically heighten inflation expectations with shock action are over," said a source familiar with the BOJ's thinking. "No more regime change."

Kuroda told parliament last week that while the BOJ might again stretch the timing for its inflation target, he saw no need to ease at the Oct 31-Nov 1 policy meeting. "There may be some modification to our forecast that inflation will hit our 2 percent target during fiscal 2017," he said, the first time he has offered hints on upcoming projections. Japan's core consumer prices fell for a seventh straight month in September as household spending slumped, data showed on Friday, reinforcing the view it will take some time for inflation to accelerate to its target.

In the past, the market has learned to expect the unexpected. In 2013, when the BOJ deployed its massive asset-buying program, dubbed "quantitative and qualitative easing" (QQE), his shock therapy boosted stocks and weakened the yen. Further surprises came with an expansion of QQE in October 2014, and then the switch to negative rates early in 2016, which he had denied was an



**TOKYO:** This picture shows the Bank of Japan headquarters yesterday. — AFP

option just days before. But the law of diminishing returns bought him less bang for each buck. "When monetary policy options begin to wear out, the shock approach doesn't work anymore," said Toshiro Mutoh, former BOJ deputy governor and now chairman of Daiwa Institute of Research. "That's why the BOJ needs to avoid surprising markets and make its intentions more predictable through guidance."

### Out with the New

When inflation gave up the ghost again after initially showing signs of life, the BOJ was forced to revamp its policy framework last month to one better suited to a protracted battle against deflation. Since then, Kuroda has been jettisoning nearly everything that made his BOJ unique. He once derided his predecessor for blaming deflation on demographics and Japan's low growth potential, and in 2013 accepted sole responsibility for hitting 2 percent infla-

tion. Now he says monetary policy alone cannot beat deflation and has called for government efforts to boost growth. Gone are the fixed timeframes he set for hitting that price goal, along with his reassurances that he would do "whatever it takes" to beat deflation. In a sign that the rising cost of his 80 trillion yen (\$765 billion) a year bond buying could discourage further easing, the central bank said on Monday that some regional banks were struggling to earn profits as margins narrowed. "It would probably take something very damaging to the economy, like a huge yen spike, for the BOJ to ease again," said Masaaki Kanno, a former BOJ official who is now chief Japan economist at JPMorgan Securities. The BOJ's policy targeting the pace of money printing has been replaced by a complex "yield curve control" (YCC) with two targets - a short-term rate target of minus 0.1 percent and a 10-year bond yield target "around" zero percent. — Reuters



## MARKETS CAST DOUBT ON UK'S INFLATION GOALS

**LONDON:** If financial market gauges are to be believed, Britain will struggle to keep inflation in check for the next half century. Those signals are likely distorted by other factors, but they are contributing to questions over the Bank of England's ability to contain inflation as Britain prepares for an era of economic uncertainty outside of the European Union. Having watched sterling crash to a 31-year low against the US dollar on Brexit fears, the BoE will likely next week jack up its inflation forecast to show a bigger overshoot of its price target than any time since it gained independence in 1997.

In its August forecasts, the BoE already predicted inflation of 2.4 percent in two and three years' time, above its 2 percent target. Since then, sterling has fallen further on worries that Britain will take a hard-line approach to the Brexit talks. For Britain's monetary guardians, dealing with rising inflation could be difficult. Its ultra-easy approach has been criticized by some lawmakers while tightening conditions could risk choking off economic prospects altogether.

Economists are keeping a fairly cool head on near-term price prospects for now, and no one is expecting a return to the double digit inflation of the 1970s and 1980s. Like central bankers, they tend to look through blips caused by factors such as currency depreciation. But long-term worries are creating some concerns among investors. "The long-term inflation forecasts are high and that then increases the urgency of having to protect yourself against inflation, so it can become a vicious circle," said John Walbaum, head of investment at consultancy Hymans Robertson.

Over the past decade, inflation has overshoot the BoE's target eight times, and by more than 0.5 percent on five occasions, according to the Office for National Statistics. Several economists with leading international banks have said they expect prices to peak around 3 percent at the end of 2017, lower than 5 percent seen after the financial crisis and bouts of more than 15 percent seen in the 1970s and 1980s.

For longer-term forecasts, market pricing is seen

as one of the only signals, specifically breakeven rates on inflation-linked bonds. Breakeven rates - the difference between real yields on inflation-linked bonds and nominal bond yields - indicate the average rate of inflation needed for an inflation-linked bond to be a better investment than the regular bond.

Inflation-linked bonds are indexed to retail prices, which economists say is roughly around 1 percent higher than consumer prices, implying that a breakeven rate of around 3 percent suggests the BoE is hitting its target. Fifty-year breakeven rates are currently around 3.5 percent. Some economists say the fall in the currency since the Brexit vote is likely to blame, raising the risk that average inflation rates could stay elevated for many years. "The market is pricing in a short-term overshoot in inflation and that may be reflected all across the curve, even at maturities that you may not expect," said Sam Hill, senior UK economist at RBC Capital Markets. — Reuters

## ECONOMIC WOES ABROAD HIT MOLDOVA MIGRANT WORKERS

### COUNTRY RELIES HEAVILY ON REMITTANCES

**PORUMBREI, Moldavia:** With an economic crisis in neighboring Russia and growing uncertainty in Europe, the hordes of migrant workers from ex-Soviet Moldova face a huge dilemma: Whether to return home to grim prospects or ride out tough times abroad. Wedged between Romania and Ukraine, the country of 3.5 million and one of Europe's poorest, has relied heavily on remittances from abroad to boost its agriculture-based economy.

But economic woes in neighboring countries have seen remittances drop and migrants return in droves despite few opportunities in their country, which holds presidential elections tomorrow. "I'm done with Russia. There is no more work there," said Pasha, a construction worker from Porumbrei, some 40 km south of the capital Chisinau. Like Pasha, 28-year-old Grigore returned home after receiving only a fraction of the \$1,000 salary he was promised.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, mass emigration from Moldova has helped breathe life into its economy. The figures are nonetheless grim. Some 41 percent of the country's people live on less than \$5 a day while the monthly average salary stands at \$240, according to the World Bank. Olga Coptu, who heads the Bureau of Diaspora Relations, said 800,000 Moldovans - nearly a quarter of the population - live abroad. Up to 500,000 Moldovans live and work in Russia, while nearly 200,000 work in Italy, she said.

The outflow of Moldovans in search of a better life, including highly-skilled young people, has seen villages and towns depopulated. "One in 100 Moldovans leaves the country every year," Stela Grigoras, Moldova's minister of labor, social protection and family, told AFP. "This is the highest emigration rate in the region."

#### Remittances Sliding

Moldova is often viewed as a tug-of-



**RUHESTII NOI, Moldova:** A woman walks past a plaster statue of a Viking figure in this village on Oct 24, 2016. — AFP

war between Russia and the West, especially after it signed a historic EU free trade agreement two years ago despite bitter opposition from Moscow. In addition to facing political turmoil, the country has seen the remittances that once kept its economy afloat slide. In 2008, Moldova received \$1.66 billion in remittances from abroad, a figure that accounted for 27 percent of its GDP. But last year, that figure dropped 30 percent.

Remittances from Russia, whose energy-dependent economy was battered by low oil prices and Western sanctions, have dropped 45 percent. The Russian ruble lost nearly half its value in 2014 on the back of these economic troubles. But the crisis in Russia is far from being Moldovan migrants' only concern. Veronica, 32, had dreamt of joining her brother and three sisters in Italy but gave up on her plan because of economic problems there. "Paradoxically, my sister is a cleaning lady and she makes more

than her Italian husband who works in a real estate agency," she told AFP.

#### 'Work Live Slaves'

Moldovan authorities are striving to bring the country's citizens back home, offering them modest financial incentives if they make investments in the country. Ioana Jumir, 23, had hopes these measures would finally allow her to open a small business in her native country after having sought work in Russia, Poland and Greece. But she isn't optimistic. "When I made some calculations, I saw that it wasn't worth it," she said. Jumir, who was eight when her parents went looking for work in Russia and left her behind with her grandmother, dreams that one day her compatriots will no longer be forced to "work like slaves" abroad. But she fears that politicians, "whose only goal is to get as rich as possible," would ultimately not help the population live better. — AFP

## MIGRANTS, QUAKES, LOW GROWTH BEHIND ITALIAN BUDGET SLIP

**ROME:** Italy has defended its rule-breaking 2017 budget to the European Commission, saying the migrant crisis, post-earthquake reconstruction and lower-than-expected growth are to blame. Instead of cutting its structural deficit, which excludes one-off items and the effects of the business cycle, as euro zone countries are obliged to do, Italy plans to increase it. Prime Minister Matteo Renzi is keen to avoid belt-tightening ahead of a Dec. 4 referendum on his flagship constitutional reform, which polls currently suggest he is likely to lose.

He has put forward a budget that raises the lowest pensions, reduces sanctions and interest on unpaid fines, and ups investments. It also sets aside some €6.6 billion (\$7.20 billion) for emergency spending and reconstruction after a series of earthquakes this year, and for rescuing and sheltering migrants. Some 160,000 migrants have arrived by boat this year, and Italy is housing some 172,000 asylum seekers.

"The number of immigrants and refugees landing on our shores or rescued by our navy and coastguard has soared this year, and there are concrete risks that this trend will persist in 2017," Economy Minister Pier Carlo Padoan said in a letter to the commission published late on Thursday. On Tuesday, Renzi said Italy could not handle another year of arrivals like this one, and sharply rebuffed the commission's criticism of its fiscal targets, saying "instead of opening their mouths, they should open their wallets".

Brussels asked Italy's government this week to explain why its latest budget does not reduce the deficit, as the rules require. The commission could ask for budget corrections in feedback due by the end of November. Short-term emergency costs after major natural disasters may be classified as one-off events and be excluded from the calculation of member state budgets, but "hypothetical" costs may not qualify, a commission spokesperson said on Friday, declining to comment specifically on Italy's letter.

Among the planned earthquake spending are funds to make 42,000 schools safe if there are major tremors in the future. In the letter, Padoan does not offer to change the budget, which must be passed by parliament by the end of the year. Euro zone countries are obliged to cut their structural deficit by at least 0.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) per year until it comes into balance or surplus. But in Rome's draft plan, the structural deficit rises 0.4 percentage points to 1.6 percent of GDP, rather than falling 0.6 points to 0.6 percent of GDP as requested by EU finance ministers in July. Though the structural deficit is supposed to adjust for fluctuations in the economic cycle, Italy said another reason it was seeking budget leeway was because of a weaker global economic environment. — Reuters



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

Kuwait Times  
THE FIRST DASH OF THE ARABIAN GULF

55th  
Anniversary  
Kuwait Times

# Weekender

[www.kuwaittimes.net](http://www.kuwaittimes.net)



## Indonesian Muslim designer's hijab collection proves divisive

SEE PAGE 24

ANTARCTICA: This undated handout photo received from the Antarctic Ocean Alliance on October 28, 2016 shows a adelie penguin jumping onto the ice in the Ross Sea. — AFP





## CHARLI XCX'S HOUSE IS HAUNTED

The 'Boom Clap' hitmaker has admitted she is "afraid" of being in her home on her own because "a couple of people have confirmed" that there is in fact a ghostly presence there. Speaking at the KISS Haunted House Party, she said: "I'm afraid of ... I'm afraid, full stop. I get super scared when I'm in my house alone. I'm very, very superstitious." When asked if she thought her house was haunted, she added: "I try not to put that thought in my head, but a couple of people have confirmed that it is. But I don't want to dwell on it! I'm trying to be positive about the whole thing." Charli made the admission before she took to the stage at Wembley Arena on Thursday October 27 for the KISS Haunted House Party. She wowed the 12,000 fans who packed into the London venue whilst performers Craig David, Tinie Tempah, Clean Bandit, Sigala, WSTRN and MO also

thrilled the crowds. Meanwhile, Charli recently admitted she has a phobia of zombies. Asked how she'd deal with a zombie attack, she said: "I'd make sure I was in the second floor of an apartment - then I'd cut off the stairs. I'd make sure I had enough petrol in my car. I'd stockpile raisins that type of s\*\*t. And I'd cover my mouth in case I got infected by zombie blood. You know, the simple things. I'm so good at this!" And Charli was no doubt working on her fitness when she took to the stage in London as she previously revealed performing is her favourite kind of working out. She said: "Performing is my favourite workout. I do go pretty hard on stage. The gym is not my scene. I did an Insanity workout on tour for a while. It was hilarious. "Does pizza-eating count as a sport?! That's good for biceps, surely? Lift and bite! I love sushi, but I also love pizza. Let's just say it's balanced!"



**Justin Bieber splashes out nearly £1,000 at a burger restaurant**

The 22-year-old singer treated his entire entourage to a huge order of burgers, milkshakes and fries at the Sheffield branch of Five Guys this week ahead of show at the Sheffield Arena, South Yorkshire, on Wednesday (26.10.16) as part of his 'Purpose World Tour'.

Justin's huge order of calorific treats was confirmed by a Five Guys spokesperson. The 'Never Say Never' hitmaker is not the only celebrity known to have a penchant for the burger chain's offerings.

Hollywood actors Tom Hardy and Margot Robbie are big fans, as are One Direction and Sam Smith. Ed Sheeran loves the chain so much he once dedicated a whole tweet to his 16.6 million followers about the eatery. He

wrote: "Five Guys above everything (sic)." Pop superstar Adele is also a massive fan and earlier this year she stopped her own concert at London's O2 Arena in March to proclaim she had an urge to gobble some grub from the fast-food joint. Adele also likes to indulge in burgers to treat herself from time to time.

Following her performance at the Grammy Awards which was plagued with sound problems, the 'All I Ask' hitmaker took to Twitter to reveal one issue was because the piano microphones fell onto the piano strings making the song sound "out of tune". As a result, she decided to have a burger to get over the problem. The Vamps are also known to be big fans of Five Guys, as are Michelin Star chefs Heston Blumenthal and Marcus Wareing.

## The robbers who held Kim Kardashian West at gunpoint were interested in all of the hotel's guests

Abdulrahman, the concierge at the luxurious address, has claimed that the robbers were not targeting Kim because they asked about the different celebrities that were staying there that night before heading up to Kim and her husband Kanye West's suite. He says he was asked who was in the hotel but he refused to divulge any names, only telling them that there were some "important" people staying there. The robbers then asked how many rooms were there and if there were safes in the rooms. Abdulrahman shared: "[The robbers replied], 'Oh that is nice, we will do them all.' ... If all the guests were in the hotel, they would rob all the hotel.'" And the concierge has claimed that the robbers were not professionals and were simply just "improvising" as they went along. He told Entertainment Tonight: "They were not professional at all. They had no idea of how many floors, how many rooms. They were very confused. They were improvising ... They don't really know what they have to do. They told me, 'Don't panic, we are here for money.' I think they are not killers ... They are



older people like 40 to 50 years old. Maybe they have families." Meanwhile, Kim has been spotted out and about for one of the first times after the terrifying events, which

took place earlier this month. She was joined by a heavy security presence as she made her way to her husband Kanye's Saint Pablo tour in Inglewood, California on Thursday evening

(28.10.16). She attended the concert, for the third night in a row, alongside her sister Kourtney Kardashian, her mother Kris Jenner and Kris' boyfriend Corey Gamble.



## Khloe Kardashian 'despises' leaving the house



The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star has revealed she prefers to just "chill in the house" and try out new recipes in the kitchen rather than go out. She said: "I despise leaving the house. I'm really, like, a mellow person. I do like to just chill in the house. I like to cook."

"On Sundays, I normally try to cook something I haven't cooked before, so I just made all of these preserved jams. The other day I made homemade pretzels. I [also] made doughnuts for the first time. I try to do things I've never done, but because of my mother, I'm actually a really good cook. My mom used to make me cook starting really young and so I think I could cook, like, anything and I love that."

And the 32-year-old television personality also enjoys laid back nights in with her boyfriend Tristan Thompson. She told Us Weekly magazine: "I'm a homebody, so for me it's just, like, chill and watching TV and having a drink. It's like intimate one-on-one time ... I'm more of an at-home person."

"[We like to] just chill at home. That's really what we do, mellow. We're not that exciting. I feel like people think I'm, like, wild and like hanging from chandeliers." Meanwhile, Khloe previously admitted she has a wine fridge in her bedroom. She said: "I'm prepared 24/7! I like to set a certain ambience in my house, so I have specific candles that are lit every day, morning to night. I have a wine fridge in my bedroom and also a mini fridge that I keep stocked with water, too. Don't want my man to get dehydrated, honey!"

## Jennifer Lopez is set to star in new musical 'Bye Bye Birdie Live'

The 47-year-old singer will play the role of Rose 'Rosie' Alvarez in the live production next year and assist as executive producer on the forthcoming NBC remake of scriptwriter Michael Stewart's play and the 1960 Tony award winning Broadway show, and the musician has revealed she is "proud" to be cast in the production.

Speaking about the forthcoming project, the brunette beauty said in a statement: "Broadway musicals and films fueled my childhood and 'Bye Bye Birdie' was one of my favourites. I'm proud to be a part of the NBC family with 'Shades of Blue' and I thought it would be a blast to take on one of their big live musicals."

And the entertainment team behind the production are grateful to have the 'Jenny From the Block' hitmaker star in the show, and have revealed the musician willingly put herself forward for the role.

NBC Entertainment chairman, Bob Greenblatt, said: "To have a superstar like Jennifer Lopez starring in this classic show,



which every high school in America has done, will ensure that our holiday musicals continue to be must-see events for the whole family. "It was her idea to take on this classic singing and dancing role made famous by the legendary Chita Rivera, and we are so happy to oblige! This show has delighted audiences for generations with classic songs that include 'Put on a Happy Face' and 'A Lot of Livin' to Do,' and this will be an extravagant production built around this big star."

The news of Jennifer's upcoming acting role, which is the first casting to be unveiled, was confirmed on Thursday (27.10.16) during a Paley Media Council conversation, and Bob revealed Jennifer is currently singing tracks from 'Bye Bye Birdie' during her 40 performances a year at Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas. He explained: "She came to us and said 'I love this show, I discovered the music.' She has a big show in Vegas where she does 'Lot of Livin',' which is a song from 'Bye Bye Birdie.'"

## Gillian Anderson is dating Peter Morgan



The twice-divorced actress has reportedly found love again with 53-year-old Oscar-nominated screenwriter, whose credits include 'The Queen' and 'Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy'. According to the Daily Mail newspaper, Gillian, 48, attended a Netflix party to celebrate Peter's new series 'The Crown' earlier this week and told attendees that they are in a relationship. And a source told the New York Post: "She was telling friends she's dating the writer from 'The Crown'." Gillian was previously wed to Clyde Klotz, the father of her daughter Piper, for three years before they split in 1997 and tied the knot again with Julian Ozanne in 2004 but that ended after two years. She last dated Mark Griffiths, the father of her two sons, for six years but that relationship ended in 2002. Earlier this year it was revealed that Peter had split from his Austrian wife Lila Schwarzenberg, who was born Princess Anna Carolina zu Schwarzenberg. The couple have five children together and speaking previously about their relationship, he said: "We are so wildly chalk and cheese. People come to our house ... and they leave so happy not to be us." Lila also opened up about their sex life in a column for an Austrian society magazine. She wrote: "Peter still carries the fantasy that the combination of sun, sand and sea undoubtedly leads to countless sex sessions. Unfortunately, I have to admit that Shades Of Grey didn't really change much in the course of our holiday ..." And she also detailed how furious he once was when she served him fish fingers. She explained: "Peter always says you can gauge the state of our marriage on the number of fish fingers he gets served up in a week. "And it appears I went too far once again with my culinary neglect towards Peter as I served him the leftovers of the kids' meal. He took one look and said: 'I am neither five years old nor a f\*\*\*ing penguin.'"

## Suki Waterhouse 'dreams' about being in love

The 24-year-old model is signed up to celebrity dating app Raya but says she uses it to chat to her sister rather than any potential boyfriends. She said: "I'm on Raya. Me and my sister are on it. We just talk to each other instead of potential dates. I know that in the future I want to be in a committed, loving relationship and have kids. "Even though I'm happy being single, I spend a lot of time dreaming about being in love. But right now, I'm building ... I'm doing all these things for me. I don't know if I have the tools to be in a relationship right now." And Suki - who has dated the likes of Bradley Cooper in the past - also slammed social media for making everyone's lives "distorted". She added to Glamour

magazine: "It's all grossly inaccurate; everything that's put on social media is distorted. All these steps that you take to show everyone on the internet that you're perfect. "It's not even a tiny bit like it. But still, I'll look at someone's account and think, 'Wouldn't it be great to be her?' It's stupid. I know that people are looking at my account and might be thinking the same." Meanwhile, the blonde beauty previously revealed she is after a man who could save her in a natural disaster. Asked what her type is, she said: "A man who, in a natural disaster, could take me and my future child to safety in a calm, collected manner." And whilst people may think Suki is a bit of a girly girl, she insists she is a tomboy. She added: "The biggest misconception is maybe that I'm a girly girl. I love getting dressed up but, generally, I'm a bit of a tomboy."







Models present creations by Indonesian Muslim designer Anniesa Hasibuan during Jakarta Fashion Week yesterday.



## INDONESIAN MUSLIM DESIGNER'S HIJAB COLLECTION PROVES DIVISIVE

**JAKARTA:** An Indonesian Muslim designer has drawn global attention with a collection featuring hijabs combined with glittering gowns and flowing tunics, defying conservative critics in her homeland who say the outfits are not modest enough. When Anniesa Hasibuan showcased her collection at last month's New York Fashion Week, it was the first time the prestigious annual event saw all the models on the catwalk sporting hijabs.



**Indonesian Muslim designer Anniesa Hasibuan holds a bouquet of flowers after she presented her collection during Jakarta Fashion Week. — AFP**

The 30-year-old, who was the first Indonesian designer to have her own show at the event, won praise from fashion critics around the world, which she said was "totally unexpected". "Everyone appreciated my designs, praise be to God," she said Friday at Jakarta Fashion Week, as she brought her collection back to the city where she lives.

Hasibuan's works have previously featured at shows in London, Istanbul and Cannes but New York Fashion Week cemented her status as a ris-



ing star. Her current collection features colorful tunics, a modern take on the Japanese kimono and sparkly evening gowns with lacey trains, all combined with the hijab—the traditional covering for the head and neck worn by many Muslim women. The elaborate outfits are decorated with sequins and embroidery, and combine warm, earthy colours with more vibrant ones such as pink, gold, peach and green. Called "D'Jakarta", the collection—which was also showcased on Friday—is inspired by Hasibuan's love for the Indonesian capital Jakarta where she lives, a metropolis of 10 million people that is a melting pot of different cultures and traditions.

The attention on Hasibuan's work comes after Islamic clothing earlier this year hit global headlines due to a row in strictly secular France over whether Muslim women had the right to wear the burkini swimsuit, which covers all but the hands, feet and face.

French courts ultimately ruled that a burkini ban by some 30 towns was "clearly illegal" and a violation of fundamental rights. But for

Hasibuan, the reception of her work abroad has sometimes been better than in Indonesia, which has the world's biggest Muslim population, and where conservative critics have attacked her for making clothing they deem immodest.

### 'Just a designer'

The designer said that when she was in New York, people focused more on the artistic side of her designs rather than the religious aspects. "I felt very comfortable because they didn't care whether I was a Muslim designer or not—I was just a designer to them," she told AFP.

She is not the first designer from the country to experiment with mixing the hijab with glamorous gowns. Islamic fashion in Indonesia, where most practise a moderate form of Islam, is often more daring and experimental than in other Muslim countries.

Hijabs can be elaborate and expensive in Indonesia, and wealthy women can be seen wandering Jakarta's fancy malls wearing hand-stitched headscarves decorated with precious

gems. Nevertheless rising conservatism across society, which has led to increased attacks on religious minorities and calls for alcohol to be banned, has also targeted designers who try to push the boundaries of Islamic fashion. While she has received a great deal of praise at home, photos of Hasibuan's designs on her social media accounts have also been flooded with criticism.

"The hijab is not worn correctly because it still shows the neck and chest," Facebook user Ummie Salamah wrote on Hasibuan's account. "Covering your chest is a must—it is God's order, please do not negotiate." Some conservative Muslims argue the true aim of wearing the hijab is for women to remain modest and not draw any attention to themselves, and the head coverings should not be elaborately decorated or colorful. Nevertheless, Hasibuan is determined to stick to designing Islamic clothing with a modern, glamorous twist. "Controversy is everywhere, I faced it here (in Indonesia) and all over the world," she said. "But I try to stay positive." — AFP



# Basquiat showcased in Italy retrospective



People visit the exhibition "Jean-Michel Basquiat", a retrospective on Jean-Michel Basquiat's career from graffiti's in New York to more complex work, on October 27, 2016 at the Mudec Museum in Milan. — AFP



**MILAN:** New York's Eighties art scene is coming to Milan with a show dedicated to the late Haitian-American artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, whose works now sell for phenomenal sums.

From his child-like skull and crown paintings to his poetic and enigmatic anatomical depictions, the Museum of Culture in the north Italian

Deitch, who had been one of the painter's friends. The retrospective, which runs near chronologically, exhibits works executed between 1980 and 1987, largely on loan from the private collection of prominent New York art dealer Jose Mugrabi, who also knew Basquiat.

Some 140 paintings, drawings and ceramics await visitors, from street art to the youngster's collaboration with pop art master Andy Warhol, who he met and formed a close relationship with in 1980.

Basquiat, who was a regular museum-goer as a child but dropped out of school at 16, first rose to prominence in the 1970s with graffitied statements across SoHo, done with friend Al Diaz and signed "SAMO" ("same old, same old bullshit"). His work then began to evolve into colourful paintings, using acrylics, oils, pastels and creating collages on paintings, tables or doors. Many of his creations feature words and have been described as bridging traditional tribal art and socio-political missives.

### Pride and anger

His friendship with Warhol would mark him forever. "The relationship between Warhol and Basquiat was a very close one: Basquiat regarded Warhol as his spiritual father, and Warhol saw

in Basquiat the son he never had," Mercurio told AFP. But the fruits of their collaboration, exhibited in Zurich and New York, "met with a negative reaction in the press".

"Some critics said it was a commercial ploy to revitalize Warhol and consolidate Basquiat's suc-

cess, others said Warhol did what he wanted with Basquiat, criticisms which deeply hurt the already fragile" New York artist, he said.

Basquiat broke off the collaboration but appeared to suffer his decision. Warhol's death in 1987 worsened his depression and his heroin



city is holding a retrospective until February into the works of the art prodigy who died from a drug overdose aged just 27. Born in 1960 in Brooklyn to a Haitian father and Puerto Rican mother, the young, handsome Basquiat became one of the most celebrated and influential artists of his generation, leaving more than 2,000 drawings or paintings. "Basquiat conquered the world" with his "genius", said Gianni Mercurio, who co-curated the exhibition with Jeffery



addiction spiralled, leaving him dead a year later of an overdose.

"Basquiat was an artist full of contradictions. His personality was based on pride. He wanted to be a famous artist, not just a famous black artist," said Mercurio. "He said 80 percent of his work was done in anger. But at the same time, he was a sweet, hesitant person. His fragility came from his fear of losing his success from one moment to another," he added.

He need not have worried: his paintings and drawings today regularly beat the expected price at auctions. Between July 2015 and June 2016 his works were sold for a total of \$139.4 million, according to specialists Artprice. And a new record was set in May at Christie's in New York, with a huge self-portrait going for \$57.2 million to a Japanese billionaire. According to Artprice, between January 2000 and October 2016 the value of works of Basquiat rose a whopping 506 percent. — AFP





**Chef Chan Hon Meng (R), also known as "Hawker Chan", and Hersing Chairman Harry Chua shake hands after a press conference in Singapore yesterday. — AFP**

## Singapore Michelin-starred food hawker to start chain

**A** Singapore street-food chef who was awarded a Michelin star this year announced yesterday a partnership with a multinational culinary company to offer customers across Asia a taste of his prize-winning braised chicken dish.

Chan Hon Meng announced in a joint press conference with Singapore-based Hersing Culinary, which holds the Asia franchise for the popular Tim Ho Wan chain, that the partners will collaborate on a new Singaporean restaurant before expanding across the region. "I'm very happy to find the right partner," Chan told reporters. "It's important that they are very enthusiastic about the food and beverage industry and they put their customers first." Their first venture will be a restaurant called Hawker Chan, which will offer the signature chicken dishes Chan currently

serves at his stall in Singapore's Chinatown.

Malaysian-born Chan is one of two "hawkers"—so-called because many started out as street peddlers—awarded one star by the culinary bible when it launched its inaugural Singapore guide in July.

The 80-seater Hawker Chan, just three minutes' walk from the current stall, will feature air-conditioning and sit-down dining at higher prices. Chan will get a 50 percent stake in the restaurant, whose set-up costs are estimated at Sg\$1 million (\$720,000). Chan's stall, which serves up his award-winning dish for just Sg\$2.50 (\$1.80), has been called the cheapest Michelin-starred food establishment in the world. His wife and other family members will continue to run his stall while he will oversee operations at both outlets.

Hersing chairman Harry Chua declined

to give a timeline for international expansion, with financial terms for future outlets to be negotiated between the two parties. Hersing holds the Asia Pacific franchise rights to Tim Ho Wan, a Hong Kong dim sum chain that has also been awarded one Michelin star.

It has 38 Tim Ho Wan restaurants in nine countries, including Australia, Taiwan and the Philippines. Chan in previous interviews indicated his desire to "be like Tim Ho Wan". The diminutive cook saw his fortunes change after he was awarded a Michelin star, with diners lining up for hours just to order a plate of chicken and rice. "I'm very happy that I can bring something small that belongs to Singapore to go across the world," he said Friday. "If you work hard, you can be recognized and your day will come." — AFP

## Donald Trump Suggests He May Sue NBC Over 'Illegal' 'Access Hollywood' Tape



**D**onald Trump said that the 2005 "Access Hollywood" recording in which he makes lewd remarks to co-host Billy Bush was "illegal," telling Fox News' Bill O'Reilly that he was considering legal action.

The leak of the tape earlier this month was a bombshell in the campaign, forcing him to make a rare videotaped apology and to address it at the second presidential debate. Earlier on Thursday, Trump told the Catholic network EWTN that the microphones that captured the conversation "should never have been on."

On "The O'Reilly Factor" later on Thursday, Trump said that the recording "was certainly illegal." It's unclear whether he was referring to the release of the tape—which was leaked to The Washington Post—or the fact that he was being recorded. Trump and Bush were having a conversation aboard a bus as the cameras rolled outside, capturing their arrival at the NBC sound stages where "Days of Our Lives" is filmed. Trump was to record a cameo.

As the bus rolled along, Trump and Bush's conversation can be heard, with the audio so clear that they were obviously speaking while wearing mics or with mics nearby. Trump, however, called the bus a "private dressing room."

The A question is whether Trump gave his consent to the recording—even by implication, given that he was wearing one. California state law makes it illegal to record a conversation without consent. But the law makes an exception to circumstances "in which the parties to the communication may reasonably expect that the communication may be overheard or recorded."

Trump told O'Reilly that "you're going to see after the election if he takes legal action." He said that the remarks "shouldn't have been said," but that they were "locker room talk." In his conversation, Trump boasted of how he approaches women. "You know, I'm automatically attracted to beautiful—I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet. Just kiss. I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything." "Whatever you want," Bush said. "Grab 'em by the pussy. You can do anything," Trump said. Bush was ousted from his role on NBC's "Today" in the wake of the furor over the tape. — Reuters

## Former E! Talent Executive Claims She Was Fired Because of Cancer Diagnosis

**A** senior vice president of talent and casting for E! Entertainment Television claims that she was fired from her job because of her appearance while she recovered from treatment for breast cancer. Blythe Asher filed a lawsuit against E! and NBCUniversal on Thursday, citing age and disability discrimination and wrongful termination, among other claims. In her suit, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, she contends that that she received accolades for her work, along with promotions and salary increases, until she was

recovering from cancer treatments.

She contends that as she was recovering and was showing the physical side effects of her treatment, she heard comments from management about her sickly appearance. In December of 2015, the lawsuit states, E! executive Jeff Olde "suggested that she wear a poncho to cover her arm." She had been suffering complications from her treatments and was diagnosed with lymphedema in her arm. "Asher was shocked, offended, and embarrassed by the insensitive comment,"

according to the lawsuit.

During her recovery, she continued to perform her duties, including public appearances, executive meetings, and meetings with celebrities. In 2016, Olde gave her a low performance rating on her annual review. "Olde's poor evaluation was a significant change from Asher's (pre-cancer) history of exceptional reviews," according to the suit. "The basis for the lowered review was that 'the environment is changing.'" Her employment was terminated on Feb. 9, with the cause being a

"business decision" because of corporate restructuring, the suit claims. But she was replaced temporarily by a "younger, less experienced, physically attractive, and cancer-free individual." Then, her suit claims, additional positions were created and her duties were given to those employees.

"She was released as a result of the physical effects of her ongoing battle with breast cancer," her suit states. The lawsuit seeks an unspecified amount in damages. A spokeswoman for E! said that they do not comment on personnel matters. — Reuters



# Paramount Teases Martin Scorsese's 'Silence,' 'Ghost in the Shell'

Paramount is back! At least that was the message studio chief Brad Grey tried to convey Thursday night at a slate preview for members of the media at Viacom's corporate headquarters in New York. It was a night that boasted sneak peeks at upcoming releases such as Denzel Washington's "Fences," Martin Scorsese's "Silence," and Robert Zemeckis' "Allied"—films that are likely to factor into this year's Oscar race.

The presentation came after a punishing period for the film studio. Not only has Paramount suffered through a string of flops such as "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles":

Out of the Shadows," "Zoolander 2," and "Ben-Hur," but it has also become entangled in a bitter feud for control of its parent company, Viacom. That fight, between the Redstone family and former Viacom chairman Philippe Dauman, may have unfolded in a series of legal battles, but it sent shockwaves across the company's various divisions. It ended last month with Dauman's ouster. Now, the Redstones and the Viacom board are moving forward with a plan to merge the

company with CBS, another media company that the family controls.

"I know our company has been in the news quite a bit recently and not for the movies," Grey said, shortly before the footage rolled. "But I am excited for the changes being made here at Viacom, and I am really excited for what they mean for the next chapter of Paramount." It may be too early to declare a revival underway at Paramount. The problems the studio faces are deep and the competition in the movie space is fierce. However, the upcoming releases did look promising. "Allied," a World War II spy thriller with Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard, had a glossy, erotic glow. The presentation included a scene between Pitt and Cotillard, who play husband and wife spies who may be double-crossing each other, that crackled with tension.

In his opening remarks, Grey said "Silence," a look at monks in feudal Japan, was "seminal Scorsese." The director is still toiling away in the editing room, but the footage screened on Thursday had a hallucinatory quality. There were shots of a gaunt Liam Neeson



Martin Scorsese

dropping to his knees in prayer, images of Japanese men being hung on crosses, and cloud-flecked vistas of stunning mountainous countryside. It's a film, Grey said, that Scorsese has been trying to make for 28 years.

"Fences" included a powerful monologue delivered by a drunk Washington, in which he

relays a fight with his father that caused him to strike out on his own. The picture is expected to compete in several Oscar categories, including for Washington's acting and directing, as well as Viola Davis' supporting turn as his long-suffering wife.

But the evening wasn't just about Oscar bait. There was also a first-ever look at "The Ghost in the Shell," an anime adaptation featuring Scarlett Johansson as a cyborg police-woman, who shoots up criminal gatherings while wearing a skintight jumpsuit. The footage featured kinetic action sequences with Johansson in full-"Lucy" mode, mowing down armies of bad guys. There was also a look at "xXx: The Return of Xander Cage" complete with Vin Diesel skating on the side of a bus.

The Paramount presentation closed with a rapid series of clips of upcoming titles such as Darren Aronofsky's "Mother!" with Jennifer Lawrence, Alexander Payne's "Downsizing" with Matt Damon, and George Clooney's "Suburbicon." Paramount, it seems, is betting on filmmakers to push it out of its recent doldrums. — Reuters

## Warner Bros. and Team Downey Set Writers Room for Sherlock Holmes 3

Though his "Avengers" film begins production in February, Robert Downey Jr. is still focused on getting his next "Sherlock Holmes" movie off the ground. Sources tell Variety that Warner Bros., Village Roadshow and Team Downey have selected a writers' room that includes "Guardians of the Galaxy" scribe Nicole Perlman, "Baywatch" scribe Justin Malen, "Rogue One" writer Gary Whitta, "Tomb Raider" Geneva Dworet-Robertson and "Snowden" screenwriter Kieran Fitzgerald to help shape the script and story for next installment.

The previous two films both brought in more than \$500 million worldwide. The threequel has always been a priority for the studio but Downey's schedule has been busy considering his commitment to playing Tony Stark (Iron Man) in the Marvel universe.

Downey is attached to star and Jude Law, who played Watson in the previous pics, is also expected to return. Guy Ritchie, who directed the first two films, is expected to return to direct. Susan Downey, Dan Lin, Joel Silver and Lionel Wigram are attached to produce. The writers room concept first commonly used in TV, has become a trend more studios are using for films, especially when it comes to shaping universes. Paramount set one up for "Transformers" and Universal is doing something similar with their classic monster universes.

This is a rare case in which a room is being set up for just one film. However one source said that in this case it makes sense to gather a good group, rather than have several writers rewrite or polish, which happens to films often in the development process.

Perlman is not only is penning Marvel's first female superhero film "Captain Marvel" but is also on board to write the "Pokemon" movie "Detective Pikachu" for Legendary. Malen already has a history with the studio having recently written the comedy "Bastards" for WB and also has "Office Christmas Party" which opens in December.

Besides "Rogue One", Whitta has a handful of pics in development including "The War Magician" with Benedict Cumberbatch. Fitzgerald is currently working on "Cascade" for Fox. Dworet-Robertson has also written "Dungeons and Dragons" for Warner Bros. as well. — Reuters



A woman stands on the black beach in Vik, Iceland, near the Volcano Katla yesterday. — AP

## Wonder Woman Original Artwork Up for Bid, Proceeds Go to Children's Hospital

An original piece of Wonder Woman artwork drawn by comic book legend Jim Lee is up for bid. Lee illustrated the iconic DC superheroine exclusively for Variety's "Power of Women" issue in honor of Wonder Woman's 75th anniversary. This Wonder Woman original artwork was published in Variety, Vol 333, No. 14 for their October 11, 2016 issue as a

feature Power of Women illustration and exclusive newstand print. Wonder Woman stands tall and proud in the 11x17 print, sword and shield in hand.

You can bid on the one-of-a-kind piece of art at charitybuzz.com. Bidding ends Nov. 3. The auction is to support Children's Hospital Los Angeles. "The most important thing about drawing a character like

Wonder Woman—who is so iconic, so well known—is really capturing the emotional state of the character," the artist explained. "Trying to represent visually the things she stands for: power, equality, strength, wisdom." You can watch Jim Lee's creation come to life in an exclusive video here and learn more about the artist and the iconic hero below. — Reuters





## Pack toothbrush and garlic for night at Dracula's castle

**A**rmed with courage and hopefully garlic, two horror fans dying for a thrill will become the first guests in almost 70 years to spend a night at Dracula's castle in Transylvania on Halloween.

More than 80,000 subscribers to the home-sharing service Airbnb have taken part in a global contest for the unique chance to stay at the brooding fortress, perched on a rock above the misty Carpathian valley in central Romania. Officially called Bran Castle, the 11th-century mansion is a landmark tourist

attraction made famous by Irish author Bram Stoker's 1897 Gothic novel "Dracula". In the book's opening pages, unsuspecting London lawyer Jonathan Harker travels to the remote Transylvanian woods for business dealings with the mysterious Count Dracula.

Several blood-drenched chapters later, the reclusive aristocrat reveals himself to be an ancient vampire with an insatiable appetite for young women's arteries. Although Stoker never visited Romania, his description of the count's eerie home matches that of the Bran

fortress, thus giving rise to the myth.

Like young Harker in the novel, a horse carriage will take the Airbnb competition winners-to be announced by Friday-up a winding road to Bran Castle on October 31. Here, they will be greeted by none other than Stoker's great-grandnephew who will play host for the evening. After a candlelit dinner, the visitors will then be shown to their night's resting place-two large velvet-lined coffins. "We want to instil a sense of fear in an authentic way, not like some fairground attraction," Dacre Stoker,

a self-proclaimed "vampire expert" and author, told AFP. "During his first few hours at the castle, Harker had no idea about the horror that was about to befall him," he added with a conspiratorial grin.

But while the Airbnb pair may be the sole overnight guests, they certainly won't be the only living souls to haunt around the premises during Halloween.

### Sorting fact from fiction

Of the 500,000 annual tourists, many choose this time of year to cram inside the castle and explore its many spooky nooks and crannies. "The castle has 57 rooms across four floors. But I can't tell you how many vampires there are," guide Anemona Todor told a group during a recent tour. The fortress's fear factor left some visitors unfazed, however. "We know that Dracula is just a legend so the situation is under control," said an Israeli woman Dorit who was visiting the place with her husband and five-year-old son. For those more interested in real ghosts of the past, Bran also offers a rich treasure trove in history. Built in 1212 by the Teutonic Knights, the property housed numerous aristocrats over the centuries before eventually becoming the summer residence of Queen Mary of Romania.

The Romanian communist regime seized the residence at the end of World War II. It was only returned to the queen's grandson in 2006, who has since turned it into a profitable private museum. Folklore has it that the castle's prison cells also once held the cruel 15th-century prince Vlad Tepes, who notoriously impaled his victims and inspired Dracula's character. Managing the blurred lines between fiction and facts requires "surgical precision", confirmed the castle's marketing director Alexandru Priscu. But, he added, the fortress "offers exactly what we expect from it: it's romantic and mysterious in equal measures." — AFP







A room inside the Bran Castle is pictured in Bran, Romania on October 18, 2016. — AFP

## 'Death must be a Viennese' and not just at Halloween

**D**ominik Creazzi, "Paranormal Investigator" embossed on his jacket, strains his ears among the decaying tombstones of Vienna's central cemetery, the last resting place of three million mortals from Beethoven to "Rock Me Amadeus" singer Falco.

Armed with an array of high-tech gadgets to detect ghostly activity, the leather-clad 26-year-old calls out into this mist: "Is there anybody there apart from us? Do you want to talk to us?" Nothing but raindrops and crows, but they will check their data later. "In the past 15 years we have amassed a great deal of material where you really can see ghosts," Willi Gabler, 36, founder and chief of the Vienna Ghosthunters, told AFP. "Our customers include people who are lonely or who need someone to talk... but there are also people who are really having problems. They are scared, they hear noises, footsteps, see shadows. They call us and we go and investigate." Below the surface, the city of Sissi (Empress Elisabeth of Austria), Strauss and Wiener Schnitzel has a spookier side, much to the delight of adherents of the reportedly growing phenomenon of "dark tourism"—and not just at Halloween.

According to Peter Hohenhaus, the Vienna-based creator of a website detailing hundreds of "dark and weird places" worldwide, this is because locals have a bit of a thing about giving up the ghost. "Vienna has this reputation of having a special relationship with the topic of death. There is a saying 'Der Tod muss ein Wiener sein'—'Death must be a Viennese'," Hohenhaus, 53, wearing a black "dark-tourism.com" T-shirt, told AFP.

"I am sure the Viennese fear death just as much as everybody else. But a way of overcoming that is probably by creating all these rituals.

It has a long tradition, we know that." Indeed the Viennese are reputed to want more than anything a "schoene Leich"—a grandiose funeral, with the Habsburgs, the imperial dynasty that ruled until after World War I, leading the way.

A total of 149 of them—including 12 emperors and 19 empresses and queens are buried in the Imperial Crypt in central Vienna, their often opulent sarcophagi adorned with cherubs and skulls wearing crowns. Some 200,000 people visit it every year. Even more gruesomely, from 1654 to 1878 the tradition was for their royal hearts to be removed. These are now in silver urns below the Church of the Augustinian Friars. Their intestines are under St. Stephan's Cathedral.

### Visit 'the devil'

The Vienna Crime Museum displays the mummified head of an executed criminal and other grisly artefacts, while the Funeral Museum has death masks and a coffin visitors can lie in. The catacombs under St. Michael's Church contain mummified corpses.

The Madhouse Tower, once a mental asylum, houses medical curios like the preserved stomach of a patient who ate the contents of his cell, or a preserved stillborn baby nicknamed "The Devil". Some can only be seen by special arrangement. Vienna's tourist board is well-attuned to the city's morbid attractions, guiding tourists to the best sites, most recently with a

special YouTube video. How many people come just for the macabre is unclear, however, it says.

Other sites though are more off the beaten track, for example the creepy labyrinthine cellars underneath Vienna's central first district, many of them four or five stories underground—deeper than the buildings are tall—and hundreds of years old. Even many locals don't know about what's under their feet, said Gabriele Lukacs, a guide and author specialising in macabre Vienna, as she showed AFP around one such 13th-century cellar, formerly part of a nunnery and now a private members' club.

In the Middle Ages, "if nuns fell pregnant they were shut away in the cellar," she said. Babies' bones have even been found. She and a handful of other enthusiasts spend their spare time exploring "tunnels that no one knows about". The cellars were used to store food but also as a place of refuge in times of war like during the Ottoman sieges of 1529 and 1683 or the Allied bombings of World War II. Until the 1960s, they were all linked.

"Over the last 1,000 years when these cellars were built, there were of course lots of gruesome stories," Lukacs said.

"In Vienna there is some sort of energy that pulls things down, down into the cellars, or into the coffin."

Many Viennese claim they don't believe in the paranormal, she said, but when it comes to going down into these cellars, they come up with all sorts of excuses not to venture down there. "There are lots of cellars in Vienna where there are souls that have not been released, of people who were murdered or imprisoned whose souls are still there... I know cellars that nobody will go down to. They claim 'the stairs are too steep.'" — AFP



Tomb of Emperor Joseph I one of 149 members of the Habsburg dynasty at the Imperial Crypt (Kaisergruft) in Vienna, Austria on October 19, 2016. — AFP



## TWITTER CUTS STAFF, KILLS OFF VINE APP AMID PRESSURE TO GROW

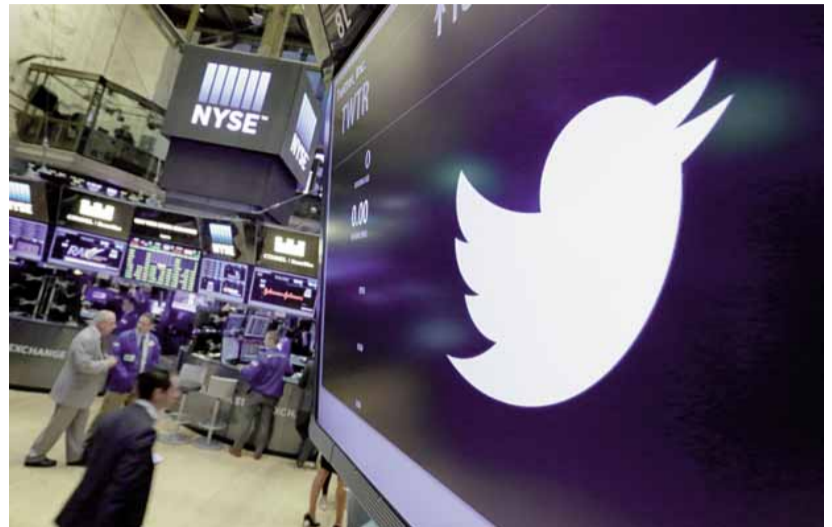
**NEW YORK:** Twitter, seemingly unable to find a buyer and losing money, is cutting about 9 percent of its employees worldwide. It is also killing off Vine, a mobile video app where people share short video clips that play in a loop. While beloved by users and a pioneer in its own right, Vine, which launched in 2013, never took off with the masses and has lost its luster as of late. Twitter has failed to keep pace with rivals Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram and in recent months, rumors abounded that it would be acquired. In a conference call with analysts on Thursday, CEO Jack Dorsey quickly brushed aside what he called "recent market speculation." He said the company is committed to growing long-term shareholder value, and that he doesn't plan to comment "any further on this topic."

Shares of Twitter, which have tumbled 27 percent in the past month as possible suitors have wandered away, rose 34 cents, or 2 percent, to \$17.63 in afternoon trading on Thursday. The San Francisco company

said it expects to take \$10 million to \$20 million in charges as it lays off more than 300 of its 3,860 workers. "We have a clear plan, and we're making the necessary changes to ensure Twitter is positioned for long-term growth," CEO Jack Dorsey said in a company release. Since the end of 2014, Twitter has lured 15 million monthly users to expand its audience to 313 million people. In that same period, Facebook brought in 319 million users, expanding its reach 1.7 billion people.

### Twitter's popularity

Twitter's service is used heavily by celebrities, journalists and politicians, giving it an outsized role in public discourse. But it has struggled to extend that appeal to a broader audience and has wrestled uncomfortably with bullying on its site and racist posts. Twitter is placing a big bet on live video, and recently landed a high-profile deal to show National Football League games over 10 Thursdays. —AP



**NEW YORK:** In this July 27, 2016, file photo, the Twitter symbol appears above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. —AP

## RISING STAR: YOUTUBE PLAYING KEY ROLE IN GOOGLE'S SUCCESS

### YOUNG VIEWERS LOOKING FOR AMUSEMENT

**SAN FRANCISCO:** YouTube has emerged as a break-out star in Google's cast of services as the online video site upstages cable television for a younger generation of viewers looking for amusement, news and music on their smartphones. The trend is contributing to an advertising shift away from traditional network television programming to the more eclectic and diversified mix of clips ranging from cute cat videos to sobering shots of street violence found on YouTube. As more advertising dollars flow to YouTube, it's making the already hugely profitable Google even more prosperous. In

investments in far-flung projects ranging from self-driving cars to internet-beaming balloons. That segment, known as "Other Bets," lost \$865 million during the July-September period, narrowing from a \$980 million setback last year as Alphabet imposed more expense controls.

### Smart deal

YouTube already has proven to be one of the best bets that Google has ever made since it bought the video site for \$1.76 billion a decade ago. At that juncture, YouTube consisted mostly of crudely made videos shot by ama-

that have chosen to leave their material on the site and share in the ad revenue generated by their clips.

Meanwhile, YouTube's audience has surpassed 1 billion, with 80 percent of the viewers outside the US. YouTube also boasts that its site reaches more people between the ages of 18 and 34 years old - the "millennial" generation - than any cable network. That segment of YouTube's audience is a major reason why more than half its video clips are watched on mobile devices. Google CEO Sundar Pichai likened YouTube to prime-time TV "for the mobile world" in a Thursday conference call that was streamed on YouTube. He told analysts that YouTube "continues to shine" as more major advertisers promote their brands on the site. Alphabet doesn't disclose how much money YouTube is making, but RBC Capital analyst Mark Mahaney estimates YouTube's annual revenue has now reached \$10 billion and is increasing by as much as 40 percent a year. The growth makes YouTube "one of the strongest assets fundamentally on the internet today," Mahaney wrote in a research note earlier this week.

### Still lacking

Despite its progress, YouTube has been slow in realizing its full potential, leaving it vulnerable to new challengers for viewer's attention, such as Facebook's Live video feature, says Edward Jones analyst Josh Olson.

The problem, as Olson sees it, is that YouTube has had trouble persuading TV and movie studios to license more of their content on their site, something that that might have made YouTube as dominant in video as Google is in search. But YouTube could be on a major breakthrough, according to a report published earlier this month in The Wall Street Journal. Citing unidentified people familiar with the matter, the newspaper said Google had reached an agreement with CBS to include its network in a cable-like service called "Unplugged" that will debut on YouTube next year. Google is also negotiating for the rights to the Fox network, ESPN and NBC, among others, the Journal said. —AP

## EX-PIXAR EXECUTIVE TO HEAD FEDERAL TECH INNOVATION SERVICE

**WASHINGTON:** A former Pixar executive who won the first ever Oscar for software is taking over a US government agency responsible for improving federal digital technology. Rob Cook, whose credits include "Toy Story" and "Toy Story 2," will become commissioner of the Technology Transformation Service on Oct. 31. He will have top secret security clearance.

Cook is credited with advancements in software-driven animation. He said in a statement that the US needs first-rate technology expertise, effective relationships with industry and partnerships throughout government. He declined, through a spokesman, to speak to The Associated Press. Cook's appointment was for three years. He has been a Democratic donor to the campaigns of President Barack Obama and presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

The Technology Transformation Service is part of the US General Services Administration. It was created in April to "transform the way government builds, buys and shares technology." It includes "18F," a Silicon Valley-style startup for government digital projects that was the subject of a highly critical review by the agency's inspector general over its financial losses of \$32 million and lack of viable financial planning, among other issues.

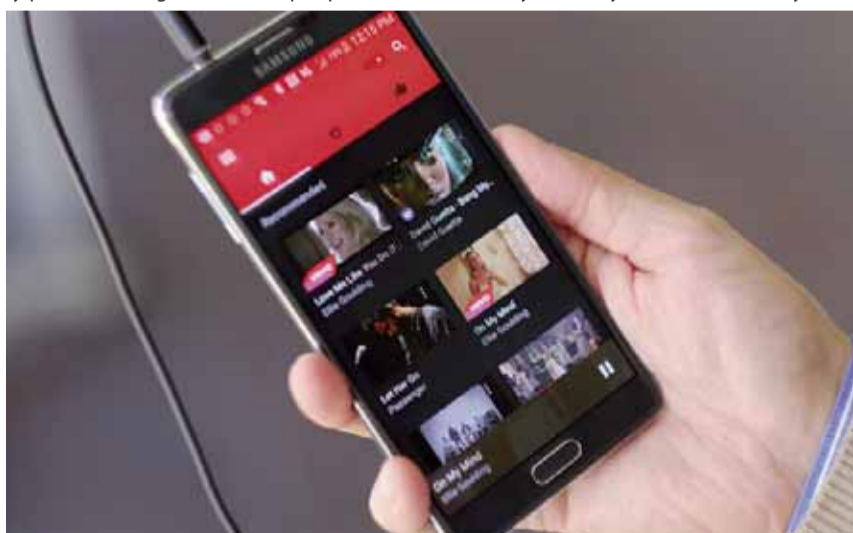
### Other responsibilities

Cook will also oversee investments, acquisitions and the presidential innovation fellows program, among other offices.

Cook joined Pixar in 1981 when it was part of Lucasfilm and was the primary author of Pixar's RenderMan software, which creates photo-realistic computer images for animation, effects and design. It has been used in 19 of the last 20 films to win Oscars for visual effects. Cook later started a digital imaging company and headed a software company he sold to Microsoft, before returning to Pixar as vice president of software development. Since 2012, he has been a business consultant to prominent Silicon Valley companies.

"Rob's renowned experience, both as a software developer and in cultivating innovative teams throughout his career, are incredible additions to our long-term goal of enhancing the way government uses technology to deliver world-class services for citizens," Tony Scott, the US chief information officer, said in a statement.

Cook won an Oscar in 2001 for software and in 2009 an award for a lifetime of contributions to computer graphics from a computer professionals group. Cook's job pays between \$123,175 and \$185,100. —AP



**LOS ANGELES:** This Friday, Nov. 13, 2015, file photo shows the YouTube music app on a mobile phone. —AP

a third-quarter report released Thursday, Google's corporate parent, Alphabet Inc., said it earned \$5.1 billion, or \$7.25 per share, a 27 percent increase from the same time last year. After subtracting advertising commissions, revenue climbed 21 percent to \$18.3 billion. Both figures topped analyst projections.

All that money is providing Google with more financial firepower to buy the rights to stream cable networks' shows on YouTube, too, something likely to reel in even more viewers. It also is helping to finance Alphabet's

tears and clips pirated from movie and TV studios that were threatening to sue the site into oblivion. It had built a worldwide audience of about 72 million viewers when Google took control in November 2006. Since then, YouTube has evolved into a far more polished channel that has spawned unlikely stars such as "PewDiePie" (Swedish comedian Felix Arvid Ulf Kjellberg) while largely making peace with studios by creating an automated screening system that detects pirated content. YouTube says it has paid more than \$2 billion to studios



## MEET GEORGE JETSON: UBER SEES FLYING COMMUTERS IN 10 YEARS

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Flying commuters like George Jetson could be whizzing to work through the sky less than 10 years from now, according to ride-services provider Uber, which believes the future of transportation is literally looking up.

Uber Technologies Inc released a white paper on Thursday envisioning a future in which commuters hop onto a small aircraft, take off vertically and within minutes arrive at their destinations. The flyers would eventually be unmanned, according to the company.

It sounds like the opening sequence to "The Jetsons", the 1962 US cartoon about a future filled with moving sidewalks, robot housekeepers and spaceflight, but Uber sees flying rides as feasible and eventually affordable.

Uber already offers helicopter rides to commuters in Brazil. The company plans to convene a global summit early next year to explore on-demand aviation, in which small electric aircraft could take off and land vertically to reduce congestion and save time for long-distance commuters, and eventually city dwellers.

### Other envisions

Others have also envisioned such aircraft, akin to a helicopter but without the noise and emissions. Vertical takeoff and landing aircraft (VTOL) have been studied and developed for decades, including by aircraft makers, the military, NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Uber is already exploring self-driving technology, hoping to slash costs by eliminating the need for drivers in its core business of on-demand rides. On-demand air transport marks a new frontier, set squarely in the future.

Uber's vision, detailed in a 97-page document, argues that on-demand aviation will be affordable and achievable in the next decade assuming effective collaboration between regulators, communities and manufacturers. —Reuters



**PITTSBURGH:** This file photo taken on September 13, 2016 shows Anthony Levandowski, Otto Co-founder and VP of Engineering at Uber, speaking to members of the press during the launch of the pilot model of the Uber self-driving car at the Uber Advanced Technologies Center. —AFP



**LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA:** Facebook chief product officer Chris Cox (L) and chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg (R) discuss the leading social network at a WSJD Live technology conference on October 25, 2016. —AP

## FACEBOOK EXECUTIVES FEEL THE HEAT OF CONTENT CONTROVERSIES

### PHOTO VIOLATION POLICY IN QUESTION

**SAN FRANCISCO/WASHINGTON:** After Facebook's removal of an iconic Vietnam war photo stirred an international uproar last month, the social network's executives quickly backtracked and cleared its publication.

But the image - showing a naked Vietnamese girl burned by napalm - had previously been used in training sessions as an example of a post that should be removed, two former Facebook employees told Reuters. Trainers told content-monitoring staffers that the photo violated Facebook policy, despite its historical significance, because it depicted a naked child, in distress, photographed without her consent, the employees told Reuters. The social network has taken great pains to craft rules that can be applied uniformly with minimal discretion. The reversal on the war photo, however, shows how Facebook's top executives sometimes overrule company policy and its legions of low- and mid-level content monitors.

Facebook has often insisted that it is a technology company not a media company - but an elite group of at least five senior executives regularly directs content policy and makes editorial judgment calls, particularly in high-profile controversies, eight current and former Facebook executives told Reuters.

One of those key decision-makers - Justin Osofsky, who runs the community operations

division - wrote a Facebook post acknowledging that the removal of the war photo was a "mistake." "Sometimes," he wrote, "the global and historical significance of a photo like 'Terror of War' outweighs the importance of keeping nudity off Facebook."

Facebook spokeswoman Christine Chen declined to comment on the company's use of the photo in training sessions.

Facebook has long resisted calls to publicly detail its policies and practices on censoring postings. That approach has drawn criticism from users who have had content removed and free-speech advocates, who cite a lack of transparency and a lack of an appeals process for many content decisions.

At the same time, some governments and anti-terror groups are pressuring the company to remove more posts they consider offensive or dangerous.

### High-level review

The current and former Facebook executives, most of them speaking on condition of anonymity, told Reuters in detail how complaints move through the company's content-policing apparatus. The toughest calls, they said, rise to an elite group of executives.

Another of the key decision-makers is Global Policy Chief Monika Bickert, who helped rule on the fracas over the war photo.

"That was one we took a hard look at, and we decided it definitely belonged on the site," said Bickert, a former federal prosecutor.

She declined to elaborate on the decision-making process. Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg followed up with an apology to Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg, who had posted the photo on her own account after Facebook removed it from others in her country.

In addition to Sandberg, Osofsky and Bickert, executives involved in sensitive content issues include Joel Kaplan, Facebook's Washington-based government relations chief; and Elliot Schrage, the vice president for public policy and communications. All five studied at Harvard, and four of them have both undergraduate and graduate degrees from the elite institution. All but Sandberg hold law degrees. Three of the executives have longstanding personal ties to Sandberg.

Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg, a Harvard drop-out, occasionally gets involved with content controversies, Bickert said. These executives also weigh in on content policy changes meant to reflect shifting social context and political sensitivities around the world, current and former executives said. Facebook officials said the five people identified by Reuters were not the only ones involved in high-level content decisions. —Reuters

## EU DATA PROTECTION WATCHDOGS WARN WHATSAPP, YAHOO ON PRIVACY

**BRUSSELS:** European privacy watchdogs warned WhatsApp yesterday over sharing user information with parent company Facebook, and cautioned Yahoo over a 2014 data breach and scanning of customer emails for US intelligence purposes.

The European Union's 28 data protection authorities said in a statement they had serious concerns about WhatsApp's recent change in privacy policy in which it would share users' phone numbers with Facebook. It was the first policy change since Facebook bought the messaging service in 2014. The authorities, known as the

Article 29 Working Party (WP29), requested that WhatsApp stop sharing users' data with Facebook until the "appropriate legal protections could be assured" to avoid falling foul of EU data protection law. WhatsApp's new privacy policy involved the sharing of information with Facebook for purposes that were not included in the terms of service when users signed up, raising questions about the validity of users' consent, the regulators said.

A spokeswoman for WhatsApp said the company was working with data protection authorities to address their questions. "We've had constructive conversations,

including before our update, and we remain committed to respecting applicable law," she said. Facebook has had run-ins with European privacy watchdogs in the past over its processing of users' data. However, the fines that regulators can levy are paltry in comparison to the revenues of the big US tech companies concerned.

The EU data protection authorities also wrote to Yahoo over a massive data breach that exposed the email credentials of 500 million users, as well as its scanning of customers' incoming emails for specific information provided by US intelligence officials.

They asked Yahoo to communicate all aspects of the data breach to the EU authorities, to notify the affected users of the "adverse effects" and to cooperate with all "upcoming national data protection authorities' enquiries and/or investigations." "The reports (about email scanning) are concerning to WP29 and it will be important to understand the legal basis and justification for any such surveillance activity, including an explanation of how this is compatible with EU law and protection for EU citizens," the watchdogs said in their letter to Yahoo. —Reuters



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
ACTION

00:00 Child's Play 3  
02:00 Jersey Shore Shark Attack  
04:00 Jurassic Hunters  
06:00 X-Men: The Last Stand  
08:00 The Taking Of Pelham 123  
10:00 The Fugitive  
12:15 In The Name Of The King: The Last Mission  
14:00 X-Men: The Last Stand  
15:45 The Taking Of Pelham 123  
17:45 The Fugitive  
20:00 S.W.A.T.  
22:00 Predators

**OSN MOVIES**  
DRAMA

01:15 Every Thing Will Be Fine  
03:15 Draft Day  
05:15 Odd Thomas  
07:00 Red Wing  
09:00 A Mother Betrayed  
11:00 Every Thing Will Be Fine  
13:00 Draft Day  
15:00 Cas & Dylan  
17:00 A Mother Betrayed  
19:00 Serena  
21:00 The Zero Theorem  
23:00 Two Mothers

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
FAMILY

01:00 Oz The Great And Powerful  
03:15 White Fang  
05:15 Inspector Gadget  
07:00 The Game Plan  
09:00 College Road Trip  
11:00 Black Beauty  
13:00 Atlantis: The Lost Empire  
15:00 Dinosaur  
17:00 Storm Rider  
19:00 Clockstoppers  
21:00 Turner & Hooch  
23:00 Dinosaur

**OSN MOVIES HD**

01:30 The Curse Of Downers Grove  
03:00 Everest  
05:00 Star Wars: The Force Awakens  
07:15 Barely Lethal  
09:03 Everest  
11:00 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I  
13:00 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part II  
15:15 Far From The Madding Crowd  
17:15 Hotel Transylvania 2  
19:00 San Andreas  
21:00 The Benefactor  
23:00 Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
COMEDY

00:00 The Right Kind Of Wrong  
02:00 Ghostbusters  
04:00 My Girl 2  
06:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging  
08:00 How Do You Know  
10:00 My Girl 2  
12:00 Ghostbusters  
14:00 Caveman  
16:00 How Do You Know  
18:00 Ghostbusters II  
20:00 The To Do List  
22:00 Scary Movie 4

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
FESTIVAL

00:15 Breaking And Entering  
02:30 Beyond The Edge  
04:00 The Railway Man  
06:00 The Horse Whisperer  
09:00 The Signal  
11:00 Beyond The Edge  
13:00 The Railway Man  
15:00 Monkey Kingdom  
17:00 The Signal  
19:00 A Perfect Day  
21:00 Titli  
23:30 The Hand That Rocks The Cradle

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
KIDS

001:15 Tom And Jerry: Spy Quest  
02:45 Justice League: Attack Of The Legion Of Doom

04:15 Gladiators Of Rome  
06:00 Delhi Safari  
07:45 Memory Loss  
09:30 Jock The Hero Dog  
11:00 Barnyard  
12:45 Justice League: Attack Of The Legion Of Doom  
14:15 Evolution Man  
16:00 Jack And The Cuckoo Clock Heart  
18:00 Jock The Hero Dog  
20:00 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory  
22:00 Evolution Man  
23:45 Jack And The Cuckoo Clock Heart

**OSN MOVIES HD**  
PREMIERE

01:30 Step Up Revolution  
03:30 Hello Carter  
05:00 Interstellar  
08:00 About Alex  
09:45 Chef  
11:45 The Judge  
14:15 Some Girls  
16:00 About Alex  
18:00 The Longest Ride  
20:15 Kidnapping Mr. Heineken  
22:00 Scouts Guide To The Zombie Apocalypse

**OSN MOVIES HD**

00:30 The Good Shepherd  
02:45 Cold Creek Manor  
04:45 The English Patient  
07:30 Kite  
09:00 Arthur Newman  
10:45 Annapolis  
12:30 Frozen  
14:15 Cold Creek Manor  
16:15 The Animal  
17:45 The Good Shepherd  
20:00 The Time Being  
21:45 Beneath The Blue  
23:30 John Rabe Part 1

**sundance**  
CHANNEL

01:10 Detroit Unleaded  
02:40 Leave To Remain  
04:10 Gored  
05:25 Charge!  
07:00 All On The Line  
08:00 A Ballerina's Tale  
09:25 Mary Is Happy, Mary Is Happy  
11:30 Kill The Poor  
13:00 Made In China  
14:30 Radiator  
16:05 A Ballerina's Tale  
17:30 Springsteen & I  
18:50 Battle For Britain  
19:10 Quiet City  
20:30 Street Thief  
22:00 The King  
23:40 Cole

**ANIMAL**  
APLANETHD

00:45 Man-Eating Super Squid  
01:40 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert  
02:35 Tanked  
03:25 Africa's Trees Of Life  
04:15 Gator Boys  
05:02 Man-Eating Super Squid  
05:49 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert  
06:36 Meet The Sloths  
07:25 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert  
08:15 My Wild Affair: The Rhino Who Joined My Family  
09:10 The Vet Life  
10:05 Wildest India  
11:00 Treehouse Masters  
11:55 Ten Deadliest Snakes With Nigel Marven  
12:50 Crocodile Hunter  
14:40 Africa's Trees Of Life  
17:25 Crocodile Hunter  
18:20 Gangland Killers  
19:15 Predators Up Close With Joel Lambert  
20:10 The Vet Life  
21:05 Gangland Killers  
22:00 Blood Lake: Attack Of The Killer Lampreys  
23:50 Beasts Of The Bayou

**ci**

00:00 The Haunting Of...  
01:00 My Haunted House  
02:00 Monster In My Family  
03:00 My Crazy Ex  
04:00 The Haunting Of...  
05:00 My Haunted House

06:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
07:00 The First 48  
08:00 The First 48  
09:00 Killers  
10:00 Killers  
11:00 The FBI Files  
12:00 When Life Means Life  
13:00 Private Crimes  
14:00 Frenemies  
15:00 Homicide Hunter  
16:00 It Takes A Killer  
17:00 It Takes A Killer  
18:00 What The Killer Saw  
19:00 Monster In My Family  
20:00 Deadly Wives  
21:00 Diabolical Women  
22:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
23:00 Motive For Murder

**Discovery**  
Family

00:30 Man v Expert  
01:20 The Big Brain Theory  
02:10 Now That's Funny  
03:00 Destroyed In Seconds  
03:50 Ultimate Survival  
04:40 How It's Made  
05:05 How It's Made  
05:30 Strangest Weather On Earth  
06:20 Mythbusters  
07:00 Kenny The Shark  
07:25 Kenny The Shark  
07:50 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild  
08:40 Too Cute! Pint-Sized  
12:50 Mythbusters  
17:00 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
18:40 The Big Brain Theory  
19:30 Kids Do The Craziest Things  
20:20 Guinness World Records Smashed UK  
21:10 Dynamo: Magician Impossible  
22:00 Destroyed In Seconds  
23:40 Kids Do The Craziest Things

**HISTORY**  
HD

00:20 Ozzy & Jack's World Detour  
01:10 Counting Cars  
01:35 Counting Cars  
02:00 American Pickers  
02:50 Pawn Stars South Africa  
03:15 Pawn Stars South Africa  
03:40 Shark Wranglers

04:30 American Restoration  
05:00 Mankind The Story Of All Of Us  
06:00 Leepu And Pitbull  
06:50 Leepu And Pitbull  
07:40 Pawn Stars South Africa  
08:05 Pawn Stars South Africa  
08:30 Counting Cars  
08:55 Mountain Men - Closest Calls  
09:45 American Restoration  
10:10 American Restoration  
10:35 Shipping Wars  
11:00 Shipping Wars  
11:25 Car Hunters  
11:50 Car Hunters  
12:15 The Curse Of Oak Island  
13:05 Ozzy & Jack's World Detour  
13:55 Pawn Stars South Africa  
14:20 Pawn Stars South Africa  
14:45 Time Team  
15:35 Counting Cars  
16:00 Car Hunters  
16:25 Car Hunters  
16:50 American Restoration  
17:15 American Restoration  
17:40 Shipping Wars  
18:05 Shipping Wars  
18:30 Pawn Stars  
18:55 Storage Wars  
19:20 Ozzy & Jack's World Detour  
20:10 Alone  
21:00 Billion Dollar Wreck  
21:50 Forged In Fire  
22:40 Time Team  
23:30 Alone

**NAT GEO**  
people

00:10 Eat Street  
00:35 Baking Good, Baking Bad  
01:00 The Shelbourne  
01:25 Carnival Eats  
02:15 Raw Travel  
03:05 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
03:30 Tales From The Bush Larder  
03:55 Croatia's Finest  
04:45 The Shelbourne  
05:35 David Rocco's Dolce India  
06:25 Poh & Co  
06:50 Raw Travel  
07:15 Maximum Foodie  
07:40 Eat Street  
08:30 Top Tables, Top Cities  
08:55 Croatia's Finest  
09:45 Street Food Around The World  
10:10 Tales From The Bush Larder

**NATIONAL**  
GEOGRAPHIC  
CHANNEL HD

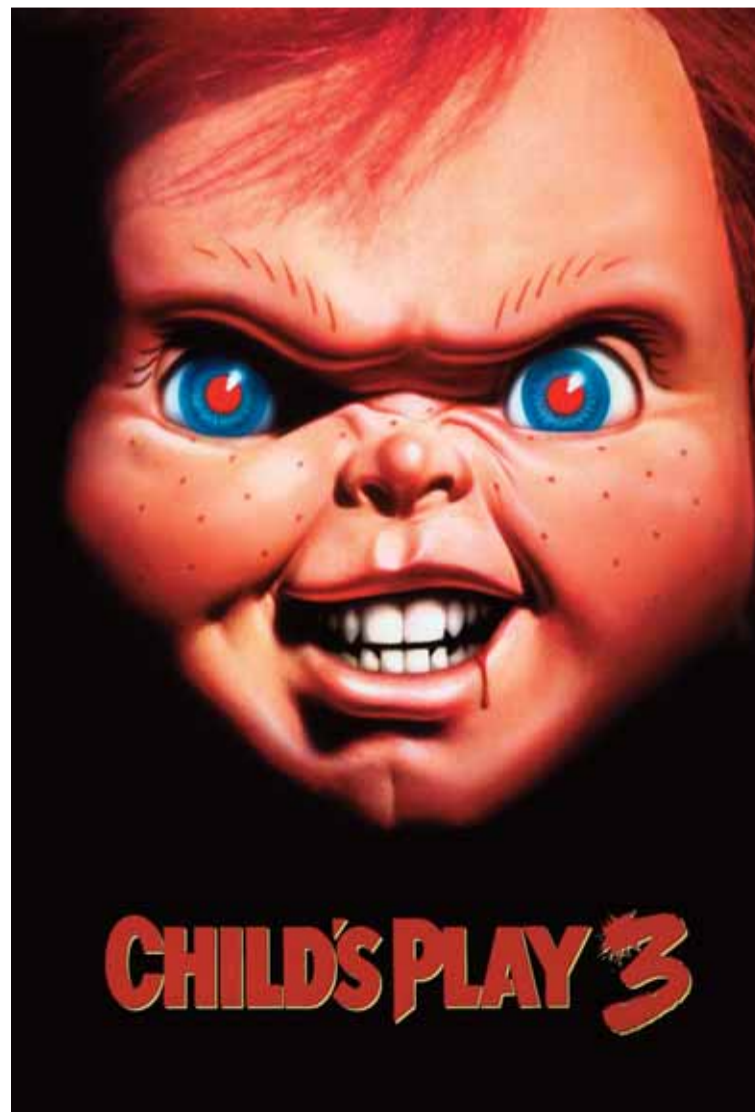
00:10 Locked Up Abroad  
01:00 Airport Security: Colombia  
02:00 Nazi Megastructures  
02:55 Nazi World War Weird  
03:50 Kabaddi: The Great Indian Sport  
04:45 Operation Sumatran Rhino  
05:40 Air Crash Investigation  
06:35 Disappeared: The Search For Cody Dial  
07:30 Facing...  
08:25 Dog Whisperer  
09:20 Dog Whisperer  
10:15 Monster Fish  
11:10 Wicked Tuna: North vs. South  
12:05 Science Of Stupid  
12:30 Science Of Stupid  
13:00 Nazi World War Weird  
14:00 Facing...  
15:00 Air Crash Investigation  
16:00 Planes That Changed The World  
17:00 Mega Factories  
18:00 Disappeared: The Search For Cody Dial  
19:00 Cold Water Gold  
20:00 Planes That Changed The World  
20:50 Mega Factories  
21:40 Disappeared: The Search For Cody Dial  
22:30 Cold Water Gold  
23:20 Planes That Changed The World

**NAT GEO**  
WILD HD

00:20 Predator Battleground  
01:10 World's Deadliest Animals  
02:00 Wild Russia  
02:50 Wild Survivor  
03:45 South Africa  
04:40 1000 Days For The Planet  
05:35 Hunter Hunted  
06:30 Monster Fish  
07:25 Hooked  
08:20 Unlikely Animal Friends  
09:15 Baby Animals In The Wild  
10:10 Amazing Animal Selfies  
11:05 Animal ER  
12:00 River Jaws: Monster Catfish  
12:55 Monster Jellyfish  
13:50 Mission Critical  
14:45 Wild Congo  
15:40 1000 Days For The Planet  
16:35 Moody Beasts  
17:30 Dangerous Encounters  
18:25 Animals Gone Wild  
19:20 Wild Congo  
20:10 1000 Days For The Planet  
21:00 Moody Beasts  
21:50 Dangerous Encounters  
22:40 Animals Gone Wild  
23:30 River Jaws: Monster Catfish

**DISCOVERY**  
SCIENCE

00:30 How Do They Do It?  
00:55 Food Factory  
01:20 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
02:10 NASA's Greatest Missions  
03:00 Superhuman Showdown  
03:48 Ways To Save The Planet  
04:36 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
05:24 NASA's Greatest Missions  
06:12 How Do They Do It?  
06:36 Food Factory  
07:00 How Do They Do It?  
07:26 Food Factory  
09:26 How The Universe Works  
10:14 NASA's Greatest Missions  
11:50 How The Universe Works  
13:26 How Do They Do It?  
15:26 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
16:14 Redesign My Brain



**CHILD'S PLAY 3**

CHILD'S PLAY 3 ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

17:02 Mind Control Freaks  
 17:50 The Science Of Fear And Lust  
 18:40 Superhuman Showdown  
 19:30 Ways To Save The Planet  
 23:40 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman



00:20 Doctors  
 00:50 The Coroner  
 01:40 War And Peace  
 02:25 The Kettering Incident  
 03:15 The Detectivists  
 03:45 Him & Her  
 04:15 The Coroner  
 05:00 Doctors  
 09:30 Eastenders  
 11:00 Stella  
 13:20 Casualty  
 14:15 Doctors  
 15:15 New Tricks  
 18:00 Doctors  
 18:30 Eastenders  
 19:05 The Coroner  
 20:00 Death In Paradise  
 21:00 The Durrells  
 22:00 Class  
 23:00 The Kettering Incident  
 23:55 Doctors



00:00 Underground With Dave Attell  
 00:25 Chris Hardwick: Mandroid  
 01:15 Broad City  
 01:40 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
 02:05 I Live With Models  
 02:30 Broad City  
 03:00 Nathan For You  
 03:25 Workaholics  
 04:15 Key And Peele  
 04:40 Ridiculousness  
 05:30 Frankenfood  
 06:20 Key And Peele  
 07:15 Ridiculousness  
 08:30 Workaholics  
 09:20 Tosh.0  
 09:45 Tosh.0  
 10:10 Catch A Contractor  
 10:35 Key And Peele  
 11:25 Ridiculousness  
 11:50 Catch A Contractor  
 13:05 Workaholics  
 13:55 Tosh.0  
 14:45 Workaholics  
 15:10 Key And Peele  
 15:35 Tosh.0  
 16:00 Tosh.0  
 16:30 Key And Peele  
 17:50 Tosh.0  
 19:03 Ridiculousness  
 19:50 Brotherhood  
 20:13 Lip Sync Battle  
 21:00 The Daily Show - Global Edition  
 21:30 South Park  
 21:54 Broad City  
 22:18 Chris Hardwick: Mandroid  
 23:05 Underground With Dave Attell  
 23:30 The Daily Show - Global Edition



00:00 Cutthroat Kitchen  
 01:00 BBQ Crawl  
 01:30 BBQ Crawl  
 02:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
 02:30 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  
 06:30 Man Fire Food  
 07:00 Chopped  
 08:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes  
 09:00 The Kitchen  
 10:00 Siba's Table  
 10:30 Siba's Table  
 11:00 Trisha's Southern Kitchen  
 11:30 Patricia Heaton Parties  
 12:00 Halloween Wars  
 13:00 Halloween Wars  
 14:00 The Kitchen  
 15:00 Chopped  
 16:00 Guy's Big Bite  
 16:30 Guy's Big Bite  
 17:00 Siba's Table  
 17:30 Siba's Table  
 18:00 Paul Hollywood - City Bakes  
 18:30 Paul Hollywood - City Bakes  
 19:00 Chopped  
 20:00 Halloween Wars  
 21:00 Halloween Wars  
 22:00 Paul Hollywood - City Bakes

22:30 Paul Hollywood - City Bakes  
 23:00 Chopped



00:30 Young & Hungry  
 01:00 Young & Hungry  
 01:30 The Detour  
 02:00 The Detour  
 02:30 Bordertown  
 03:00 Superstore  
 03:30 The Goldbergs  
 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 Superstore  
 09:30 The Goldbergs  
 10:00 New Girl  
 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 The Goldbergs  
 14:30 The Goldbergs  
 15:00 New Girl  
 15:30 Young & Hungry  
 16:00 Young & Hungry  
 16:30 The Bernie Mac Show  
 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers  
 18:00 The Mindy Project  
 18:30 The Mindy Project  
 19:00 Baby Daddy  
 19:30 Modern Family  
 20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon  
 21:00 Young & Hungry  
 21:30 Young & Hungry  
 22:00 Saturday Night Live  
 23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers



00:00 Prison Break  
 01:00 Dead Of Summer  
 02:00 Survivor: Millennials vs Generation X  
 03:00 Sleepy Hollow  
 04:00 Good Morning America  
 06:00 Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders  
 07:00 Heartbeat  
 08:00 Criminal Minds  
 09:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
 10:00 Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders  
 11:00 Heartbeat  
 12:00 Criminal Minds  
 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
 14:00 Recovery Road  
 15:00 Live Good Morning America - Weekend  
 16:00 Grey's Anatomy  
 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
 18:00 Criminal Minds  
 19:00 Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders  
 20:00 The Blacklist  
 21:00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow  
 22:00 Supernatural  
 23:00 Grimm



00:00 The Night Of  
 01:05 Code Black  
 02:00 Game Of Thrones  
 03:00 Westworld  
 04:00 The Knick  
 05:00 Lackawanna Blues  
 07:00 Walkout  
 09:00 Taking Chance  
 11:00 Everyday People  
 13:00 Primo  
 15:00 The Laramie Project  
 17:00 Everyday People  
 19:00 The Night Of  
 20:00 Code Black  
 21:00 Silicon Valley  
 21:30 Silicon Valley  
 22:00 Quarry  
 23:30 Angry Boys



00:30 12 Monkeys  
 01:20 Eureka  
 02:10 Eureka  
 03:00 Warehouse 13  
 05:15 Face Off  
 06:00 Stargate SG-1  
 10:10 Smallville  
 11:00 Smallville  
 11:50 Smallville

12:40 Smallville  
 13:35 Smallville  
 14:30 Snowmageddon  
 16:00 Killjoys  
 16:50 Face Off  
 17:40 Sanctuary  
 18:30 Sanctuary  
 19:25 Nuclear Hurricane  
 21:00 Barricade  
 22:35 Village Of The Damned



00:00 Bones  
 01:00 House Of DVF  
 02:00 Married At First Sight  
 03:00 Married At First Sight  
 04:00 Married At First Sight  
 05:00 Three  
 06:00 How I Met Your Mother  
 06:30 How I Met Your Mother  
 07:00 The Secret Life Of The American Teenager  
 08:00 Cedar Cove  
 09:00 Cedar Cove  
 10:00 Married At First Sight  
 11:00 Married At First Sight  
 12:00 Married At First Sight  
 13:00 Three  
 14:00 Da Vinci's Demons  
 15:00 Transporter: The Series  
 16:00 Private Practice  
 17:00 Gallery Girls  
 18:00 Grey's Anatomy  
 19:00 Grey's Anatomy  
 19:59 Fashion Star  
 21:06 House Of DVF  
 22:01 Bones  
 23:00 Bones



00:20 Extraordinary Pregnancies  
 01:10 Secret Eskimo Escape  
 02:00 Leah Remini: It's All Relative  
 02:25 Leah Remini: It's All Relative  
 02:50 Monsters Inside Me  
 03:35 My Big Fat Fabulous Life  
 04:20 Toddlers & Tiaras  
 05:10 Toddlers & Tiaras  
 06:00 Jon & Kate Plus 8  
 08:30 Cake Boss  
 09:20 Separated At Birth  
 10:10 Designer Darlings  
 11:50 Say Yes To The Dress  
 14:45 Say Yes To The Dress: The Big Day  
 15:35 My Big Fat Fabulous Life  
 17:40 Oprah's Master Class  
 19:20 Suddenly Royal  
 20:10 Cake Boss  
 21:00 Oprah: Where Are They Now?  
 21:50 Oprah's Master Class  
 22:40 Body Bizarre  
 23:30 Diagnose Me



00:00 Violetta  
 00:45 The Hive  
 00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 01:40 Hank Zipzer  
 02:05 Binny And The Ghost  
 02:30 Violetta  
 03:15 The Hive  
 03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 04:10 Hank Zipzer  
 04:35 Binny And The Ghost  
 05:00 Violetta  
 05:45 The Hive  
 05:50 Mouk  
 06:00 Jessie  
 06:25 Jessie  
 06:50 Tsum Tsum Shorts  
 06:55 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
 07:20 Star Darlings  
 07:25 Austin & Ally  
 07:50 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 07:55 Jessie  
 08:20 Descendants Wicked World  
 08:25 Elena Of Avalor  
 08:50 Star Darlings  
 08:55 Alex & Co.  
 09:20 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 09:25 Girl Meets World  
 09:50 Stuck In The Middle  
 10:15 Disney Cookabout  
 10:40 Harriet The Spy: Blog Wars  
 12:10 The 7D  
 12:20 Liv And Maddie  
 12:45 Liv And Maddie  
 13:10 Liv And Maddie  
 13:35 Liv And Maddie  
 14:00 Liv And Maddie  
 14:25 Austin & Ally



X-MEN- THE LAST STAND ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

14:50 Austin & Ally  
 15:15 Bunk'd  
 15:40 Bunk'd  
 16:05 Descendants Wicked World  
 16:10 Elena Of Avalor  
 16:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
 17:00 Gravity Falls  
 17:25 Wendy Wu: Homecoming Warrior  
 19:00 Star Darlings  
 19:05 Disney Cookabout  
 19:30 Elena Of Avalor  
 19:55 Liv And Maddie  
 20:20 Best Friends Whenever  
 20:45 Good Luck Charlie  
 21:10 H2O: Just Add Water  
 21:35 H2O: Just Add Water  
 22:00 Binny And The Ghost  
 22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 22:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 23:10 Hank Zipzer  
 23:35 Binny And The Ghost

13:00 Breadwinners  
 13:24 The Loud House  
 13:48 Harvey Beaks  
 14:12 Rabbids Invasion  
 14:36 Henry Danger  
 15:00 Game Shakers  
 15:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 16:36 The Loud House  
 17:00 Sanjay And Craig  
 17:24 Harvey Beaks  
 17:48 Breadwinners  
 18:12 Henry Danger  
 18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
 19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School  
 19:24 Game Shakers  
 19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 21:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 21:24 Breadwinners  
 21:48 Breadwinners  
 22:12 Sanjay And Craig  
 22:36 Sanjay And Craig  
 23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 23:48 Henry Danger



00:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
 00:36 Max & Shred  
 01:00 The Haunted Hathaways  
 01:24 Sanjay And Craig  
 01:48 Sanjay And Craig  
 02:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 02:36 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 03:48 Henry Danger  
 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
 04:36 The Haunted Hathaways  
 05:00 Max & Shred  
 05:24 Henry Danger  
 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 06:36 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 07:48 Winx Club  
 08:12 Harvey Beaks  
 08:36 Breadwinners  
 09:00 Get Blake  
 09:24 Rabbids Invasion  
 09:48 Rufus  
 10:36 The Haunted Hathaways  
 11:00 Winx Club  
 11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
 12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
 12:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles



00:20 Wanda And The Alien  
 00:31 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom  
 00:42 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom  
 00:54 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
 01:17 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
 01:40 Zack & Quack  
 01:50 Zack & Quack  
 02:01 Team Umizoomi  
 02:25 Louie  
 02:32 Louie  
 02:37 Louie  
 02:43 Paw Patrol  
 02:57 Paw Patrol  
 03:21 Paw Patrol  
 03:45 Paw Patrol  
 04:08 Wanda And The Alien  
 04:18 Wanda And The Alien  
 04:28 Dora And Friends  
 04:51 Dora And Friends  
 05:15 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
 05:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
 06:00 Paw Patrol  
 06:14 Paw Patrol  
 06:37 Dora The Explorer  
 07:00 Wanda And The Alien  
 07:11 Zack & Quack





# ‘SHADE YOUR DAY WITH A COLORFUL SMILE’

India International School celebrated “Shade your day with a colorful smile” on 19th of October in their KG section. Fun, Frolic and Fruits were the 3F’s that dominated the day and made it a grand success. The tiny tots of the seven sections were dressed up brightly and smartly, each representing a col-

or from the rainbow. Decorations done by the teachers of the venue added charm to the event. “Thoughtful” parent’s contribution which too complimented our theme was a real treat for the children. The performance by our little angels who had been practicing for this event over the past few weeks was

flawless. The School Director Malayil Moosa Koya, Principal F M Basheer Ahmed, Sr Vice Principal and Vice Principals who graced the occasion with their presence, appreciated the KG Head Nilofar Qazi whose inspirational guidance made this event a successful one.







**KUWAIT:** Interior Ministry Undersecretary Lt Gen Suleiman Al-Fahad recently received Assistant Undersecretary for Land Border Security Affairs and Chairman of the Police Sports Association Maj Gen Abdullah Al-Muhanna and Assistant Undersecretary for Financial and Administrative Affairs and Deputy Chairman of the Police Sports Association Waleed Al-Sane. Fahad congratulated the new board members and asked them to continue their efforts to get more achievements.



**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah met recently with the judging committee for the first mixed martial arts tournament for special task forces. Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad and other officials attended the meeting.

## KUWAITIS GRANTED TAIWAN'S E-VISA

From October 7, 2016, Kuwait Nationals are granted e-VISA (electronic VISA) privilege to Taiwan. The e-VISA will allow Kuwaiti passport holders to travel to Taiwan for a visit of up to one month by applying online <https://visawebapp.boca.gov.tw> - A fee of 16 KD will be charged for the application. Taiwan has granted e-VISA service to 27 countries since January 12, 2016. Kuwaitis are welcome to visit Taiwan by using this service. For further information, <https://visawebapp.boca.gov.tw>



**KUWAIT:** Retired officers held their weekly meeting on Tuesday at the diwaniya of the Interior Ministry's Retirees' Care Department, in attendance of its director Major General Adeb Suwaidan.





# MYANMAR DETECTS FIRST ZIKA INFECTION

## UPTICK IN NUMBER OF RECORDED CASES IN RECENT MONTHS

**NAYPYIDAW:** Myanmar's government said yesterday that a pregnant foreign woman has been diagnosed with the country's first case of Zika, a mosquito-borne virus linked to birth defects. The World Health Organization warned earlier this month that Zika was likely to spread throughout Asia after being detected in 70 countries, including at least 19 in the Asia Pacific region.

While the virus has been present in Southeast Asia for years, there has been an uptick in the number of recorded cases in recent months. "Authorities confirmed the infection in the 32-year-old foreign woman

yesterday following a laboratory test," the state-run Global New Light of Myanmar reported yesterday. Soe Lwin Nyein, the director of Myanmar's public health department, told reporters she was the country's "first Zika victim".

He did not disclose the woman's nationality but said she had been living in Myanmar for several years and was currently in Yangon, the country's largest city. Zika causes only mild symptoms in most people, including fever, sore eyes and a rash. But pregnant women with the virus risk giving birth to babies with microcephaly—a defor-

mation that leads to abnormally small brains and heads.

A WHO report released this month warned that Asian countries should expect to see "new cases and possibly new outbreaks of Zika". It said the virus is "highly likely to further spread in the region" which includes China, Japan, Australia, most Southeast Asian nations and the Pacific islands. At least 400 Zika cases have been detected in Singapore this year, while Thailand last month reported its first cases of Zika-linked microcephaly in two babies. There is no cure or vaccine for the virus. — AFP



**NAYPYIDAW:** Soe Lwin Nyein, director of Myanmar's public health department speaks at a press conference. — AFP

# GERMAN HOSPITAL USES THERAPY TO HELP 'TREAT' PEDOPHILES

**BERLIN:** A man looks with interest at the child sitting in front of him in the metro, as a voice asks off-screen: "Do you like children in ways that you shouldn't?" "Help is available," adds the advertisement broadcast on German television and over the internet, urging people who feel sexually attracted to children to join a unique therapy program called "Don't offend" (Kein Taeter werden).

Launched some 11 years ago, the largely publicly funded project by Berlin's top university hospital Charite calls on pedophiles to undertake a treatment that helps them control their urges. More than 7,000 people have sought information on the program which is offered in 11 centers across Germany. Of these, 659 people have undertaken the therapy, with 251 completing the entire program. Another 265 are currently being given treatment either in group or individual sessions.

The German initiative is unique because it deals with potential sex criminals, or those who have already committed abuses but have managed to escape justice. Other programs deal with convicted pedophiles who have also been issued specific orders to seek medical care.

Klaus Beier, who leads the prevention network as well as Charite's sexual medicine institute, has no illusions about the program. "Pedophilia is not curable," he said. "But it can be treated," he added, stressing that "a pedophile can learn to control his urges." Treating urge to prevent crime - The project is grounded on the principle that sexual attraction to children is a medical problem, and as Beier said, "not a crime" until the urge is acted upon.

### Sexual preference disorder

The World Health Organization too classifies pedophilia as a "sexual preference disorder". Over one or two years, during two-hour sessions every week, the patient is taught to develop strategies to stop himself from acting on his tendencies or from consuming child pornography. The program also helps the patient to acquire a level of empathy towards potential victims, which could go towards dissuading him from hurting them.

The patient can choose to remain anonymous throughout the treatment, even with his therapist, and at the end of the program, he can request follow-ups. Medical help, such as chemical castration, is also offered

on a voluntary basis. Scientists from around the world including countries in North America as well as Switzerland and India, have been watching the project with interest. "In France, we are still at the starting point on creating a program that is similar to Germany's," said a psychiatrist at France's health and medical research institute Inserm, Serge Stoleru. He said the response from authorities had been that "pedophilia is a tricky subject."

But even in Germany, one of the countries scarred by a massive pedophile priest scandal in the Roman Catholic Church, the therapy program is controversial. Not only is there strong societal pressure against the program, Beier said that even in the pharmaceutical world, there is "great reticence" towards developing medicine for pedophiles that could take effect rapidly. However, Jerome Braun, who leads a child protection foundation called Hansel and Gretel that co-funds the therapy program, said that prevention work must not only be targeted at bringing awareness to potential victims in kindergartens or schools. "It should also look at potential criminals because each act prevented is a child saved," he said. — AFP

## US STUDENTS STILL LAG IN SCIENCE LEARNING

**WASHINGTON:** The vast majority of US students still lack a solid grasp of science despite some modest gains by fourth and eighth graders, especially girls and minorities. The problem is particularly acute among the nation's high school seniors. The 2015 National Assessment of Educational Progress, often called the Nation's Report Card, released Thursday shows only about a third of fourth and eighth graders demonstrated strong academic performance in the sciences. Among 12th graders, just one in five were proficient or above in science.

"We still are not at a place as a country where we are preparing the future STEM workforce that we need," Education Secretary John B. King Jr., said referring to science, technology, engineering, and math courses. "We think there's significant work still to do, but we are heartened by the progress that we see in these results."

### Gender gap

Average scores on the science exam were up four points in grades 4 and 8, and unchanged for 12th grade, compared to 2009. The results also show that fourth-grade girls had closed the gender gap and were now performing as well as boys. In eighth grade, that gender gap had tightened. Achievement gaps narrowed, too, at grades four and eight, as minority students made greater gains, said Peggy Carr, acting commissioner at the National Center for Education Statistics.

Before the results were released, science teacher Lisa Hegdahl at McCaffrey Middle School in Galt, California, said her eighth-grade students have a huge interest in science, often wanting to continue their work outside the classroom. "It's great because we were trying to show kids that science isn't just about the classroom. It's about the world you live in," Hegdahl, president of the California Science Teachers Association, said in an interview. "It's about why that tree is growing. It's why it's making a shadow and why that shadow changes over time. It's getting them to see the world a little bit differently and starting to be curious."

Nationally, the test results showed that 38 percent of fourth-grade students were considered proficient or above in science. In eighth grade, 34 percent were proficient or above. Only 22 percent of 12th graders scored proficient or above. The rest were at or below the basic level.

At the state level, Arizona had the biggest gain for fourth graders, scoring 11 points higher on the exam compared to 2009. Tennessee and Georgia followed, each with an eight-point gain. In eighth grade, the winners were Utah and Tennessee with tied for first place with a nine-point gain, followed by South Carolina and Mississippi, which each had an eight-point score gain over 2009. State level results were not available for 12th grade.

The Nation's Report Card is the largest nationally representative continuing assessment of what American students know and don't know in various subjects. The science test measures students' knowledge of physical science, life science, and Earth and space sciences. In fourth grade, the overall average score was 154 on a scale of 300 total points. The average score also was 154 for eighth grade. For high school seniors, the average score was 150, flat from the last time the test was administered in 2009. — AP



# COUNTRIES OK WORLD'S LARGEST MARINE RESERVE

## AGREEMENT COMES AFTER YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC WRANGLING

**WELLINGTON:** The countries that decide the fate of Antarctica's waters reached an historic agreement yesterday to create the world's largest marine protected area in the ocean next to the frozen continent. The agreement comes after years of diplomatic wrangling and high-level talks between the US and Russia, which has rejected the idea in the past. Proponents of the reserve say it sets a precedent for multiple countries working together to protect a large swath of ocean, which falls outside any single nation's jurisdiction. The agreement covers an area about twice the size of Texas in the Ross Sea. The deal was clinched after 24 countries and the European Union met in Hobart, Australia, this week. Decisions on Antarctic fishing require a consensus among the 25 members, a hurdle which has confounded past efforts.

The US and New Zealand have been pushing for a marine reserve for years. They first submitted a joint proposal in 2012, but it was rejected five times before Friday's agreement. Ukraine, China and Russia had expressed concerns in the past, with Russia becoming the final holdout before the deal was made.

The marine protected area covers 1.6 million square kilometers. There will be a blanket ban on commercial fishing across about three-quarters of that area. In the remaining ocean zones, some commercial fishing will be allowed. A small amount of fishing for research purposes will be allowed throughout the protected area. Several countries fish in the waters surrounding Antarctica for lucrative toothfish, which are often marketed in North America as Chilean sea bass.

### 'Win for marine conservation'

Evan Bloom, who led the US delegation in Hobart, said that US Secretary of State John Kerry has been a passionate advocate for the reserve and has been pushing for it in high-level talks with Russian leaders, including President Vladimir Putin. Bloom said he was "thrilled" with



In this Jan 26, 2015 photo, pieces of thawing ice are scattered along the beach shore at Punta Hanna, Livingston Island, in the Antarctica. — AP

the result. "We've been working on this for so many years and had so many disappointments trying to get here," he said. "This is a real win for marine conservation."

In a statement, Kerry said the agreement "will safeguard one of the last unspoiled ocean wilderness areas on the planet - home to unparalleled marine biodiversity and thriving communities of penguins, seals, whales, seabirds, and fish." New Zealand's Foreign Minister Murray McCully said the final agreement included some concessions to Russia, including adjusting the reserve's boundaries and allowing a little more

commercial fishing outside the no-take zone.

Nevertheless, he said, he was pleasantly surprised that Russia and the US had managed to reach any kind of agreement, given the current tensions over Syria. "It goes to demonstrate that you can never jump to conclusions," he said. "Every now and then you get lucky." Andrea Kavanagh, who directs Antarctic and Southern Ocean work for The Pew Charitable Trusts, said the environment had become a passion project for Putin's former chief of staff, Sergei Ivanov.

"We couldn't be happier about this result," she said. "This is history. This has never been

done before." She said she hoped the agreement represented the first step in what would become a worldwide network of marine reserves that would help protect the Earth's oceans. The nations are already considering proposals for marine protected areas in East Antarctic waters and the Weddell Sea. "We are confident that these areas will be protected in the coming years," said Mike Walker, the Project Director of the Antarctic Ocean Alliance. The agreement will take effect from December 2017 and, for most of the reserve, will last an initial 35 years. — AP

CLINIC  
PAGE



Kuwait Times  
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
د. فهد علي المخيزيم

Consultant Pediatrician استشاري أطفال  
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM

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



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016

## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (27/10/2016 TO 02/11/2016)



<b>SHARQIA-1</b>					
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:45 AM	THE ACCOUNTANT	4:30 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:00 PM
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	2:15 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:15 AM
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:45 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	9:30 PM	<b>AL-KOUT.4</b>	
HAMLET FRAZER	7:15 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	12:05 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:30 AM
HAMLET FRAZER	9:45 PM			JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:45 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	12:15 AM			JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:15 PM
		<b>MARINA-2</b>		JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	6:45 PM
<b>SHARQIA-2</b>		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:15 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:45 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:15 PM		
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:30 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	6:45 PM	<b>BAIRAQ-1</b>	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	5:45 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	9:15 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	8:00 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	11:45 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:30 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:15 PM			JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	4:00 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:30 AM	<b>MARINA-3</b>		HAMLET FRAZER	6:30 PM
		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:00 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	9:15 PM
<b>SHARQIA-3</b>		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:15 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	11:45 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	11:30 AM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	5:30 PM		
THE ACCOUNTANT	2:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	7:45 PM	<b>BAIRAQ-2</b>	
SPACE DOGS ADVENTURE TO THE MOON	4:30 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:00 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	12:15 PM
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	6:30 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:15 AM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	3:00 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	9:45 PM			THU	
THE ACCOUNTANT	12:15 AM	<b>AVENUES-1</b>		SPACE DOGS ADVENTURE TO THE MOON	3:00 PM
		THE ACCOUNTANT	1:30 PM	NO THU	
<b>MUHALAB-1</b>		THE ACCOUNTANT	4:15 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	4:45 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	7:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	8:00 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	1:30 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:30 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:15 PM
SHIVAAY - Hindi	4:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:05 AM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:15 AM
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	7:15 PM				
THE ACCOUNTANT	10:15 PM	<b>AVENUES-2</b>		<b>BAIRAQ-3</b>	
THE ACCOUNTANT	12:45 AM	THE ACCOUNTANT -2D 4DX	1:30 PM	AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	12:30 PM
		HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART II- 3D 4DX	4:15 PM	THE MERMAID PRINCESS	1:30 PM
<b>MUHALAB-2</b>		THU+FRI+SAT		FRI	
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	12:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	4:15 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	3:30 PM
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	3:00 PM	NO THU+FRI+SAT		AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	6:00 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	5:30 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT -2D 4DX	7:00 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	9:00 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	8:00 PM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK - 2D 4DX	9:45 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	11:45 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	10:30 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT -2D 4DX	12:15 AM		
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	1:00 AM			<b>PLAZA</b>	
		<b>AVENUES-3</b>		SHIVAAY - Hindi	3:30 PM
<b>MUHALAB-3</b>		HAMLET FRAZER	12:00 PM	NO FRI+SAT	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:00 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	2:30 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	6:45 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:15 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	5:00 PM	THU	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	5:15 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	7:30 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	10:00 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	7:30 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	10:00 PM	THU	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	9:45 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	12:30 AM	KODI- Tamil	3:45 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:05 AM			FRI+SAT	
<b>FANAR-1</b>		<b>360°- 1</b>		KODI- Tamil	6:45 PM
THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS	11:30 AM	JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	11:30 AM	NO THU	
SHIVAAY - Hindi	1:30 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	1:45 PM	KODI- Tamil	9:45 PM
THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS	4:45 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	4:30 PM	NO THU	
THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS	7:00 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	7:15 PM	KODI- Tamil	
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	9:30 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	10:00 PM	NO THU	
JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK	12:05 AM		12:45 AM		
<b>FANAR-2</b>		<b>360°- 2</b>		<b>LAILA</b>	
HAMLET FRAZER	11:45 AM	THE ACCOUNTANT	12:30 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:45 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	2:15 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	3:15 PM	NO SUN	
HAMLET FRAZER	4:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	6:00 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	5:45 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	7:15 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	8:15 PM	NO SUN	
HAMLET FRAZER	9:45 PM	LAF WA DAWARAN	11:00 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	8:15 PM
HAMLET FRAZER	12:15 AM			NO SUN	
<b>FANAR-3</b>		<b>360°- 3</b>		Special Show "THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN"	7:30 PM
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	12:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM	SUN	
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	3:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:45 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	10:45 PM
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	6:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	4:00 PM		
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	9:00 PM	KODI- Tamil	4:00 PM	<b>AJIAL.1</b>	
AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	12:05 AM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	7:00 PM	AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	3:30 PM
		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	7:00 PM	AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	6:30 PM
<b>FANAR-4</b>		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:00 PM	AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL -Hindi	9:30 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	11:30 AM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:00 AM		
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:30 PM	<b>AL-KOUT.1</b>		<b>AJIAL.2</b>	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:45 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	11:45 AM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	5:45 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	6:00 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	2:15 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	9:00 PM
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	8:15 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	4:45 PM		
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	10:30 PM	HAMLET FRAZER	7:15 PM	<b>AJIAL.3</b>	
OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	12:45 AM	HAMLET FRAZER	9:45 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	4:00 PM
		HAMLET FRAZER	12:15 AM	WHITE- Malayalam	7:00 PM
<b>FANAR-5</b>		<b>AL-KOUT.2</b>		THU+FRI+SAT	
THE ACCOUNTANT	11:45 AM	THE ACCOUNTANT	12:30 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	7:15 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	2:15 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	3:00 PM	NO THU+FRI+SAT	
THE ACCOUNTANT	4:45 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	6:00 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	10:15 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	7:15 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	8:45 PM		
THE ACCOUNTANT	10:00 PM	THE ACCOUNTANT	11:30 PM	<b>AJIAL.4</b>	
THE ACCOUNTANT	12:30 AM			SHIVAAY - Hindi	3:30 PM
<b>MARINA-1</b>		<b>AL-KOUT.3</b>		THU	6:30 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	11:30 AM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	1:00 PM	SHIVAAY - Hindi	9:30 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT	2:00 PM	OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	3:15 PM	THU	
		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	5:30 PM	KODI- Tamil	3:30 PM
		OUIJA: ORIGIN OF EVIL	7:45 PM	NO THU	
				KODI- Tamil	6:30 PM



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016



Flight Schedule

DIAL 161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Saturday 29/10/2016

Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55
DLH	635	Doha	01:00
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20
SAI	441	Lahore	01:30
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45
RJA	642	Amman	01:45
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50
JZR	553	Alexandria	01:50
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25
OMA	643	Muscat	02:35
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40
KAC	514	Tehran	03:50
AVV	653	Alexandria	04:30
DHX	170	Bahrain	04:35
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15
SYR	341	Damascus	06:00
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30
BAW	157	London	06:40
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40
KAC	204	Lahore	07:40
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40
IRM	1188	Mashhad	11:10
JZR	325	Al Najaf	11:20
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30
FDK	801	Damascus	11:45
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50
IAW	157	Al Najaf	11:55
AVV	651	Sohag	12:05
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10
SVA	2502	Jeddah	13:30
SVA	2504	Jeddah	13:55
KAC	672	Dubai	14:00
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:00
KNE	535	Jeddah	14:05
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05
MSR	575	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:15
FDB	057	Dubai	14:20
GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20
JZR	779	Jeddah	14:25
KAC	512	Mashhad	14:30
KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50
KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00
KNE	683	Madinah	15:05
KNE	529	Jeddah	15:05
ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10
OMA	645	Muscat	15:10
ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35
UAE	857	Dubai	15:45
NIA	251	Alexandria	15:50
RJA	640	Amman	16:00
FDB	051	Dubai	16:10
QTR	1072	Doha	16:15
JZR	535	Cairo	16:20
KNE	531	Jeddah	16:35
SVA	2508	Jeddah	16:40
JZR	787	Riyadh	16:45
KAC	680	Muscat	16:55
KAC	562	Amman	16:55
KAC	118	New York	17:00
SAW	705	Damascus	17:05
IRA	669	Mashhad	17:10
SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15
JZR	357	Mashhad	17:30
GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30
JZR	177	Dubai	17:45
KAC	792	Madinah	17:45
JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50

SVA	500	Jeddah	17:55
QTR	1080	Doha	17:55
KAC	176	Geneva/Frankfurt	18:20
MSR	620	Cairo	18:30
KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35
KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35
KAC	502	Beirut	18:35
KAC	742	Dammam	18:50
CLX	856	Luxembourg	18:50
KAC	542	Cairo	18:55
KAC	618	Doha	18:55
KAC	104	London	19:00
GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05
UAE	875	Dubai	19:05
KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10
FDB	063	Dubai	19:10
ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15
JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35
KAC	674	Dubai	19:45
FDB	059	Dubai	19:50
OSJ	4116	XQC	20:00
DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05
KNE	381	Taif	20:10
MEA	402	Beirut	20:15
OMA	647	Muscat	20:20
JZR	189	Dubai	20:25
MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30
QTR	1088	Doha	20:35
FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55
KAC	174	Munich	20:55
ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05
UAE	859	Dubai	21:15
ALK	229	Colombo	21:20
KLM	415	Amsterdam	21:25
KAC	676	Dubai	21:35
FDB	8053	Dubai	21:40
QTR	1082	Doha	21:55
GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00
KAC	564	Amman	22:05
ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10
NIA	151	Cairo	22:10
JZR	125	Bahrain	22:15
AIC	987	Chennai/Hyderabad	22:25
KNE	533	Jeddah	22:45
JZR	185	Dubai	22:55
THY	764	Istanbul	22:55
JAI	574	Mumbai	23:05
JZR	513	Sharm el-Sheikh	23:30
MSR	614	Cairo	23:30
FDB	071	Dubai	23:35
JAD	301	Amman	23:45

Departure Flights on Saturday 29/10/2016

Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
AIC	976	Goa/Chennai	00:05
BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10
JAI	573	Mumbai	00:10
MSR	615	Cairo	00:30
FDB	072	Dubai	00:30
PIA	240	Sialkot	00:40
MSC	416	Sohag	01:05
KLM	413	Amsterdam	01:05
JZR	502	Luxor	01:15
THY	773	Istanbul	01:40
DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00
SAI	442	Lahore	02:30
PGT	859	Istanbul	02:40
ETH	621	Addis Ababa	02:45
THY	765	Istanbul	02:45
KKK	6505	Istanbul	02:55
UAE	854	Dubai	03:45
OMA	644	Muscat	03:50
MSC	502	Alexandria	04:00
ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10
MSR	613	Cairo	04:15
PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30
QTR	1077	Doha	04:35
OSJ	4115	XQC	05:00
AVV	654	Sohag	05:30
THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00
FEG	934	Sohag	06:00
RJA	643	Amman	06:25
QTR	1087	Doha	06:30
THY	771	Istanbul	06:45
GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50
SYR	342	Damascus	07:00
FDB	070	Dubai	07:05
JZR	164	Dubai	07:15
JZR	324	Al Najaf	07:55
FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55
BAW	156	London	08:25
FDB	054	Dubai	08:30
KAC	173	Munich	08:35
KAC	511	Mashhad	08:40
JZR	778	Jeddah	08:50
SVA	513	Riyadh	08:50
KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50
KAC	671	Dubai	09:15
KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30
JZR	534	Cairo	09:30
ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45
UAE	856	Dubai	09:50
KAC	101	London/New York	10:00

ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:05
QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
FDB	056	Dubai	10:40
KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
KAC	561	Amman	11:20
KAC	679	Muscat	11:25
KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25
GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35
JZR	356	Mashhad	11:40
KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
RBG	554	Alexandria	12:10
JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15
IRM	1189	Mashhad	12:20
FDK	802	Damascus	12:45
IAW	158	Al Najaf	12:55
KAC	791	Madinah	13:00
KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
OSJ	4115	XQC	13:00
AVV	652	Alexandria	13:05
JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
JZR	786	Riyadh	13:20
MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
THY	767	Istanbul	14:10
SVA	9302	Jeddah	14:30
PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
KNE	382	Taif	14:55
SVA	3904	Jeddah	14:55
KNE	536	Jeddah	14:55
KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
MSR	576	Sharm el-Sheikh	15:00
KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
KAC	617	Doha	15:15
QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
KAC	741	Dammam	15:30
JZR	188	Dubai	15:50
KNE	530	Jeddah	15:55
KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
KNE	684	Madinah	16:00
OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
KAC	563	Amman	16:30
NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KAC	675	Dubai	17:00
FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
JZR	512	Sharm el-Sheikh	17:15
QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
KNE	532	Jeddah	17:25
UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
SVA	9308	Jeddah	17:40
IRA	666	Esfahan	18:10
SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
JZR	184	Dubai	18:20
SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
JZR	238	Amman	19:15
JZR	124	Bahrain	19:20
SVA	505	Jeddah	19:25
MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	285	Dhaka	19:40
GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
CLX	856	Hong Kong	20:20
FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
DLH	634	Doha	20:50
KAC	353	BLR	20:55
KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
MSR	607	Luxor	21:30
QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
FDB	5054	Dubai	21:55
ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
KLM	415	Dammam/Amsterdam	22:25
KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
KAC	1205	Islamabad	23:00
GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
NIA	152	Cairo	23:10
FDB	8054	Dubai	23:15
KAC	155	Istanbul	23:15
QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila	23:25



WORDSEARCH PUZZLE

Family Ties

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a special occasion for families.

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

- |             |              |           |            |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| ANCESTOR    | FATHER       | MOTHER    | SISTERS    |
| AUNT        | FOLKS        | NEICE     | SON        |
| BOND        | GENELOGY     | NEPHEW    | SPOUSE     |
| BROTHERS    | GRANDPARENT  | NEWLYWED  | STEPPARENT |
| CHILDREN    | HALF BROTHER | OFFSPRING | TRIPLETS   |
| CLAN        | HALF SISTER  | PARENTS   | TWINS      |
| COUSINS     | HUSBAND      | PROGENY   | UNCLE      |
| DAD         | KIN          | RELATIONS | WIFE       |
| DAUGHTER    | MARRIAGE     | RELATIVES |            |
| DESCENDANTS | MOM          | SIBLING   |            |

Yesterday's Solution

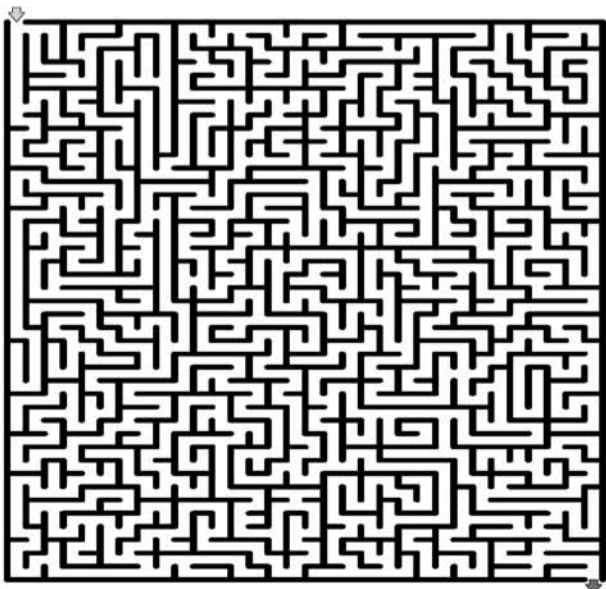
90's Songs 1

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

- |                 |               |               |                |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| ALL STAR        | HOLE HEARTED  | MY ALL        | SOMEDAY        |
| ALWAYS          | I WISH        | NEVER EVER    | SUMMERTIME     |
| BLACK VELVET    | I ESHA        | ONLY YOU      | TENNESSEE      |
| CARNIVAL        | INVISIBLE MAN | PUSH          | THE CROSSROADS |
| COME UNDONE     | JOYRIDE       | RHYTHM NATION | THE ONE        |
| DO ANYTHING     | JUMP          | ROAM          | TOM'S DINER    |
| EVERY HEARTBEAT | LITHIUM       | ROMANTIC      | TORN           |
| FREAK ME        | LOSER         | RUN AWAY      | VOGUE          |
| GLYCERINE       | MACARENA      | RUSH RUSH     | WICKED GAME    |
| HAZARD          | MMMBOP        | SCAR TISSUE   | WONDER         |
| HEARTBREAKER    | MOVE THIS     | SENSITIVITY   | YOU LEARN      |
| HEY LOVER       | MR. WENDAL    | SHOOP         |                |

The hidden song title is: MY HEART WILL GO ON

CHALLENGING MAZE



CROSSWORD 1414

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

ACROSS

- Scottish chemist noted for his research into the structure of nucleic acids (born in 1907).
- The occurrence of a change for the worse.
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls.
- An Asian river between China and Russia.
- A range of mountains (usually with jagged peaks and irregular outline).
- The work of caring for or attending to someone or something.
- Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- (Greek mythology) Founder of Troy.
- Type genus of the Anatidae.
- English Quaker who founded the colony of Pennsylvania (1644-1718).
- Avatar of Vishnu.
- Unable to relax or be still.
- Having or showing knowledge and skill and aptitude.
- A white soft metallic element that tarnishes readily.
- The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy.
- (psychology) An urge to accept or approach a situation or an object.
- An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
- (of complexion) Blemished by imperfections of the skin.
- A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
- A drug combination found in some over-the-counter headache remedies (Aspirin and Phenacetin and Caffeine).
- A tight-fitting headdress.
- Ragout of game in a rich sauce.
- Moving quickly and lightly.
- A room equipped with toilet facilities.
- Type genus of the Alaudidae.
- (Greek mythology) Fire-breathing she-monster with a lion's head and a goat's body and a serpent's tail.
- Membranous tube with cartilaginous rings that conveys inhaled air from the larynx to the bronchi.
- United States writer (born in Lebanon) (1883-1931).
- Being nine more than ninety.
- The wool of a sheep or similar animal.
- North American evergreen with small pinkish bell-shaped flowers and oblong leaves used formerly for shinplasters.
- English courtier (a favorite of Elizabeth I) who tried to colonize Virginia.
- A brief description given for purposes of identification.
- The basic unit of money in Western Samoa.
- A genus of European owls.
- Relating to or characteristic of or occurring in the air.
- Extravasation of urine into the scrotal sac.
- An inclined surface or roadway that moves traffic from one level to another.
- A machine-readable version of a standard dictionary.
- (Greek mythology) Goddess of fertility and protector of marriage in ancient mythology.
- A person who is tricked or swindled.

DOWN

- The basic unit of money in Bangladesh.
- A sign of something about to happen.
- Port city in the United Arab Emirates on the Persian Gulf.
- Forceful and extreme and rigorous.
- An honorary degree in science.
- Aromatic bulb used as seasoning.
- A state in New England.
- Type genus of the Ardeidae.
- The father of your father or mother.
- Gained or acquired.
- A card game for 2 players.
- (Irish) Mother of the Tuatha De Danann.
- Starch resembling sago that is obtained from cuckoo-pit root.
- Flat tableland with steep edges.
- Fertility goddess in ancient Greek mythology.
- A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
- West Indian evergreen with medium to long leaves.
- A broad highway designed for high-speed traffic.
- Strike with disgust or revulsion.
- A worker who attaches something by nailing it.
- A historical region of southwestern India on the west coast.
- Capital of Armenia.
- Enthusiastic approval.
- Someone (especially a woman) who annoys people by constantly finding fault.
- Constituting or having to do with or suggestive of a literary epic.
- Large genus of tropical shrubs or herbs some of which yield fibers of mucilaginous substances.
- German physicist who developed the Geiger counter (1882-1945).
- Of or relating to or transmitted by a member of the family Muridae (rats and mice).
- A gonadotropic hormone that is secreted by the anterior pituitary.
- An inflammatory disease involving the sebaceous glands of the skin.
- Any of various minerals consisting of hydrous silicates of aluminum or potassium etc. that crystallize in forms that allow perfect cleavage into very thin leaves.
- French philosopher and theologian.
- Remove completely from recognition or memory.
- A seat for one person, with a support for the back.
- A United Nations agency created to assist developing nations by loans guaranteed by member governments.
- (Welsh) A warrior god.
- (physics and chemistry) The smallest component of an element having the chemical properties of the element.
- (Old Testament) The eldest son of Isaac who would have inherited the Covenant that God made with Abraham and that Abraham passed on to Isaac.
- Disability of walking due to crippling of the legs or feet.
- A specific instance of feeling hopeful.
- A serve that strikes the net before falling into the receiver's court.
- Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to but heavier than beer.
- A rare heavy polyvalent metallic element that resembles manganese chemically and is used in some alloys.
- A trivalent metallic element of the rare earth group.

Yesterday's Solution

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

Daily SuDoku

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

Yesterday's Solution

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



## COWBOYS-EAGLES MEET IN CLASH OF ROOKIE QBs

**LOS ANGELES:** Dak Prescott leads the Dallas Cowboys against Carson Wentz and the Philadelphia Eagles tomorrow in an NFL showdown that could mark the start of a long-running quarterback rivalry. Prescott has been outstanding in place of injured Cowboys signal-caller Tony Romo, ranking fifth in the NFL in passing through the first six games, with seven touchdown passes and only one interception. He's taken Dallas to the top of the NFC East, ahead of the Eagles and their own sensational rookie QB Wentz.

Wentz, the second overall selection in the NFL draft, has thrown eight touchdowns with three interceptions since taking the helm in Philadelphia—who traded veteran Sam Bradford before the start of the season and opted to hand the reins to their young recruit. "It's exciting," Wentz said of the showdown with Prescott. "It's exciting for him, for me. Obviously it's going to be played up into something. It's cool to see another young guy like him that I've come to know and to see the success he's having."

But Prescott, who was drafted in the fourth round and went into training camp as the Cowboys' third-string quarterback, says it's not about a duel with Wentz but about getting a needed win against a division foe. "No, it's the Cowboys versus the Eagles," Prescott said. "I'm worried about this team, the Cowboys, and how this team can finish and be remembered this season." Prescott became the Cowboys starter after No 2 QB Kellen Moore broke his leg in training camp and veteran starter Tony Romo broke a bone in his back in the third pre-season game.

"I think it's circumstantial," Eagles head coach Doug Pederson said. "But I think some of it too is the fact that these kids, how well they prepare, how well they execute in pre-season games and in practices that catches the coach's attention, catches the coach's eye." Prescott doesn't know how long he'll have the reins in Dallas. Romo took part in a practice for the first time this season on Thursday and could conceivably be back on the field for a November 6 game against Cleveland.

Prescott has handled the feverish speculation in Dallas about a possible quarterback controversy with the same aplomb he's shown on the field. For as long as he's asked, he'll just keep trying to pile up wins. This week he's expected to have the help of receiver Dez Bryant, who missed three games with a hairline fracture in his right knee. Cowboys rookie running back Ezekiel Elliott leads the league with an average 117.2 rushing yards per game and is the first rookie in NFL history to rush for at least 130 yards in four consecutive games.

### Pats eye payback at Bills

Tomorrow's action kicks off in London, where after a foray to the rugby bastion of Twickenham the NFL returns to Wembley with a clash between the Washington Redskins and Cincinnati Bengals. The Oakland Raiders put their perfect 4-0 road record on the line at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the New England Patriots will try avenge an embarrassing 16-0 home defeat to the Bills when they travel to Buffalo.

That game four weeks ago marked the first time the Pats had failed to score in a game since 2006. But it also marked the fourth game of superstar quarterback Tom Brady's Deflategate suspension, with backup Jimmy Garoppolo sidelined by a shoulder injury and third-string rookie Jacoby Brissett getting the start despite a thumb injury. Since Brady's return New England have beaten Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh by a combined 49 points. — AFP



**LONDON:** Washington Redskins quarterback Kirk Cousins, centre, takes part in a training session at Wasps rugby union team training ground. — AP



**MINNEAPOLIS:** This file photo taken on October 2, 2016 shows Josh Brown #3 of the New York Giants as he converts a field goal at the end of the first half of the game against the Minnesota Vikings at US Bank Stadium. — AFP

## HANDLING THE PSYCHE OF NFL KICKERS A SPECIALIZED DANCE

**RENTON:** The aftermath of the first NFL tie since 2014 became a study in the delicate psyche of kickers, and how they are handled by their coaches. Last Sunday's 6-6 tie between Seattle and Arizona was remarkable from many aspects. One of the lasting memories were the reactions from Arizona coach Bruce Arians and Seattle coach Pete Carroll to a pair of short missed field goals in overtime that could have won the game for either team.

Arizona's Chandler Catanzaro had a 24-yard field goal clang off the left upright, and minutes later Seattle's Steve Hauschka pulled a 28-yard attempt wide left. Then came the reactions, and a study in how two coaches seeking the same goal took differing tones. Arians was gruff, Carroll was supportive. Arians on Catanzaro: "Make it. This is professional, this ain't high school, baby. You get paid to make it."

Carroll on Hauschka: "He made his kicks to give us a chance, and unfortunately he didn't make the last one. He's been making kicks for years around here ... but he's gonna hit a lot of winners as we go down the road here. I love him and he's our guy." Two divergent reactions, all with the same goal of getting their kickers to be better. "It means a lot to me," Hauschka said this week. "Coach is incredible. He is the reason that this team is so good and why this whole atmosphere up here in Seattle is so positive. And it all starts with him. I couldn't

ask for a better head coach."

### Specific skill

With such a unique role on the team, and such a specific skill in stark contrast to the rest of the roster, kickers really only have their peers who can relate to their highly visible and deeply scrutinized mistakes. How coaches handle those mistakes can be all over the spectrum. Back in 2009, then-Seattle coach Jim Mora unloaded on kicker Olindo Mare immediately after he missed 34- and 43-yard field goals in a 29-25 loss to Chicago.

"We're not going to fight our (tails) off, and have a field goal kicker go out there and miss two field goals and lose a game. It's not going to happen," Mora said. A day later, Mora apologized for his harsh assessment. There was no such recanting from Arians. Catanzaro was already drawing the ire of his head coach before his overtime miss Sunday. A bad snap helped lead to Catanzaro's missed field goal that would have beaten New England in the season opener. And while Arians said he still fully supports Catanzaro, he expressed it in an acerbic way. "The kicker just needs to kick it through the two poles and we'd be 5-2," he said.

Minnesota's Blair Walsh didn't watch the game Sunday night, but he sure knew how Catanzaro and Hauschka were feeling afterward. Walsh missed a 27-yard field goal last January that kept

the Vikings from beating the Seahawks in the first round of the playoffs. "Those are two great kickers, and they'll be fine," Walsh said. "I know both of those guys will have great years, and they shouldn't worry." The fraternity of kickers is tight. Catanzaro had a similar reaction after seeing Hauschka miss.

"I never pull for another kicker to miss," Catanzaro said. "It was tough. My reaction the other night, I wanted another shot to win it for the team because they deserved for me to put that through. But I hated to see Hauschka go out there and miss it. He's a great kicker and he'll come back from it." Being a kicker puts them in a glaring spotlight. Walsh knows that all too well.

He also missed two field goals and an extra point in the Vikings' season opener, shanked another extra point two weeks later, and missed another field goal the game after that. The Vikings won all of those games comfortably, but they've clearly lost some patience. "We need to make those, or it's going to bite us in the rear end," coach Mike Zimmer said after Walsh's last miss on Oct 3. Zimmer's public stance on supporting Walsh has fallen somewhere between the reactions of Carroll and Arians, though tilting more toward Arians lately. "We're going to need Blair Walsh down the stretch and need him to play well for us," special teams coordinator Mike Priefer said, "and hopefully that's what he'll do." — AP





**LINCOLN:** In this Oct 2, 2014 photo, Joe and Marlene Ricketts, parents of Republican gubernatorial candidate Pete Ricketts, attend a political debate. — AFP

## MIX OF SAVVY, CASH, LUCK AND FANS HELPS RICKETTS LIFT CUBS

**CHICAGO:** Ever since they bid to buy the Chicago Cubs in 2009, the Ricketts family has been credited with making sound business decisions that have brought the team to the brink of its first World Series championship since 1908. But Chicago Cubs Chairman Tom Ricketts, who has led the organization since the acquisition, also has had a hearty dose of luck. He has benefited from an insanely loyal fan base that could tolerate years of poor results while the deep-pocketed Ricketts family rebuilt the entire team - a luxury that many other baseball teams might not have had.

"They (the Rickettses) have had the rare combination of having great management, great resources and great luck all coming together at the same time," said Marc Ganis, president of consulting firm SportsCorp Ltd, which advised Tribune Co in its sale of the Cubs to the Ricketts family. The World Series between the Chicago Cubs and Cleveland Indians, currently locked in a 1-1 tie, now moves to Chicago's Wrigley Field for three games, with the Cubs seen by many analysts as having a slight edge.

The Cubs were worth \$1.2 billion in 2009, Ganis said, but with credit tight during the financial crisis, the field of bidders was limited and the Ricketts family was able to snag the team for \$900 million. Real estate investor Sam Zell, who had bought Tribune Co by loading it up with debt, was motivated to sell in an ultimately unsuccessful effort to avoid a Tribune bankruptcy. Tom Ricketts, an investment banker whose father Joe Ricketts founded TD

Ameritrade Holding Corp, immediately engaged with fans after buying the team. He stated at the annual Cubs convention in January 2010 that his aim was to win a World Series.

Ricketts in 2011 hired Theo Epstein, the wunderkind who as team president of the Boston Red Sox in 2004 helped lead the team to its first World Series championship since 1918. The two announced a long-term plan to build a perennial playoff contender by unloading costly veteran contracts, rebuilding the Cubs' farm system and making a limited number of key free-agent signings. Young stars Kris Bryant and Kyle Schwarber have come up through the Cubs' farm system.

"Ricketts and Epstein have been transparent that it would take years to rebuild the team, and that has helped them with fans," said ESPN reporter Sarah Spain. Ricketts' vast family wealth has helped the team recover from its few missteps. When free-agent pitcher Edwin Jackson could not perform, Epstein was able to release him and eat the \$26 million remaining on his contract. "You need to have huge, deep pockets to be able to walk away from contracts like that," said Irving Rein, a Northwestern University professor who formerly consulted for Major League Baseball. "If a team like the Minnesota Twins made a mistake like that, they would have to live with it."

### Baseball and business

Ricketts has shown a savvy appreciation of the Cubs' famously loyal fans. Paul Sullivan, who covers the Cubs for the Chicago Tribune, said fan loyalty

kept revenue high during some ugly seasons from 2010 to 2014. "The fans were subjected to some pretty awful baseball and some pretty awful baseball players, but many of them stuck with it," he said.

Ricketts has shown a deft hand on the business side, too. He bought a number of buildings across the street from Wrigley Field, ending a long-standing dispute with owners who sold pricey rooftop seats so people could view the games. And working around the local landmark status that protects Wrigley's hand-operated scoreboard and other parts of the ballpark from alteration, he has installed large video screens that generate revenue, and begun tearing up adjacent properties to build a hotel and entertainment complex.

The changes have disappointed people like longtime fan Floyd Sullivan, 66, who writes a blog titled "Waiting4Cubs." "I believe what the team says because they do what they say they are going to do," he said. "But I think the organization is just about making money." Ganis, the SportsCorp consultant, said he believes changes by Ricketts have increased the value of the Cubs' franchise to \$3 billion. He points to the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 2012 for \$2.15 billion, as well as investments by the Cubs owners like a new complex in the Dominican Republic to develop raw talent and a spring training facility in Arizona. "We're seeing the results on the field and the Cubs are going to be one of the top teams in baseball for a number of years to come," Ganis said. — Reuters

## SERIES TICKET PRICES GIVE TRAVEL DAY NEW MEANING

**CHICAGO:** Record-shattering resale ticket prices for World Series games in Chicago sent devoted Cubs supporters driving to Cleveland, where cheaper tickets let them watch two games and travel for less than one comparable Wrigley Field seat. With the Cubs not having played in a World Series since 1945 and owning the longest title drought in American sports dating to 1908, tickets are already at Super Bowl price levels.

And if they win Friday and Saturday to reach the brink of a crown, tickets to Sunday's showdown could become the most expensive resale seats in US sports history-rivaling the Manny Pacquiao-Floyd Mayweather fight and certain Super Bowls. Facing that expense and following so many decades of heartache, many Cubs fans decided to drive to Cleveland for the first two games and pay less for resale seats there, still a relative bargain even figuring in gas, food and lodging.

Cubs players took notice of the fan support in enemy territory, notably a "Let's Go Cubs" chant Wednesday after Chicago scored the game's opening run. "It was great to see all the blue," said Cubs outfielder Ben Zobrist. "There was a lot of royal blue out there, Cub fans all over the stadium. So that was really cool. "Knowing there are Cubs fans everywhere and they travel to follow us, that's what makes it fun and makes the motivation high for us to try to win this."

### 'Kindred spirits'

It's a tale of two cities and two long-suffering sets of supporters that played out Thursday over 343 miles on the Ohio Turnpike, Indiana Toll Road and Chicago Skyway, as Cubs fans returned home on a travel day for both clubs in Major League Baseball's best-of-seven final. "We got priced out at Wrigley. That's why we did it," said Shaun Longworth, who took a friend and went to games one and two in Cleveland, a 6-0 Indians victory followed by a 5-1 Cubs triumph.

After the Cubs lost the series opener, Longworth said the pair "decided we can't go home like this"-and they dropped \$1,500 each for game-two seats in the second row. "We kind of blew our budget," he said, but "we got the real experience. "It was incredible just to be there and soak up the atmosphere. Cleveland fans were really great and they understood. Kindred spirits." If anyone can understand Cubs fans, it would be Indians backers. They own the second-longest championship futility streak in baseball, not having won the crown since 1948. They last reached the Series in 1997.

But the only person in Indians gear at the rest stop named for three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Wilbur Shaw on the Indiana Toll Road-dubbed "The Road to the World Series" by highway department signs-was Matt Driscoll, and he wasn't Wrigley bound. "I wish," he said.

As a cashier put it when she rang up two snack item prices together that came up \$6,000 and was told that's a World Series ticket price: "No, then I would have to double it." — AFP



**CHICAGO:** The bronze lions guarding the steps of Chicago's Art Institute are decked out in giant caps emblazoned with the blue and red logo of the city's baseball team. — AFP



SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day in the second and final Test between Bangladesh and England yesterday in Mirpur, Bangladesh.

**Bangladesh 1st innings**

T. Iqbal lbw b Ali	104
I. Kayes c Duckett b Woakes	1
M. Haque b Ali	66
Mahmudullah c Cook b Stokes	13
S. Al Hasan c Bairstow b Woakes	10
M. Rahim c Cook b Ali	4
Sa. Rahman c Bairstow b Stokes	0
S. Hom c Bairstow b Woakes	6
M. Hasan lbw b Ali	1
T. Islam not out	5
K. Rabbi c Root b Ali	0
Extras (b-1 lb-9)	10
Total (all out, 63.5 overs)	220

Fall of wickets: 1-1 I. Kayes, 2-171 T. Iqbal, 3-190 M. Haque, 4-196 Mahmudullah, 5-201 M. Rahim, 6-202 Sa. Rahman, 7-212 S. Hom, 8-213 M. Hasan, 9-215 S. Al Hasan, 10-220 K. Rabbi.

**Bowling:**

C. Woakes 9-3-30-3, S. Finn 8-1-30-0, M. Ali 19.5-5-57-5, Z. Ansari 6-0-36-0, B. Stokes 11-5-13-2, A. Rashid 10-0-44-0.

**England 1st innings**

A. Cook lbw b M. Hasan	14
B. Duckett c Rahim b Al Hasan	7
J. Root not out	15
G. Balance c Rahim b M. Hasan	9
M. Ali not out	2
Extras (b-1 lb-2)	3
Total (for 3 wickets, 12.3 overs)	50

Fall of wickets: 1-10 B. Duckett, 2-24 A. Cook, 3-42 G. Balance

To bat: B. Stokes, J. Bairstow, Z. Ansari, C. Woakes, A. Rashid, S. Finn

Bowling: M. Hasan 6.3-1-26-2, S. Al Hasan 6-2-21-1.

# ENGLAND STUTTER AFTER BANGLADESH COLLAPSE

**DHAKA:** Tamim Iqbal scored his eighth Test century before Moeen Ali took 5-57 to help England dismiss Bangladesh for 220 runs on the first day of the second Test yesterday. In a topsy-turvy day's play in Dhaka, opener Tamim made a quickfire 104 off 147 balls while Mominul Haque scored 66 as the hosts surged to what should have been a commanding score of 171 for one. But Tamim's dismissal, lbw to Ali, sparked a spectacular collapse, as Bangladesh lost their last nine wickets for 49 runs with seven of their batsmen failing to make double figures.

England then suffered their own mini-collapse as they were reduced to 50 for three before rain brought an early end to proceedings, 11.3 overs before the scheduled close of play at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium. Shakib Al Hasan removed Ben Duckett for seven before young Mehedi Hasan ended Alastair Cook's innings at 14 through lbw.

Cook, who equalled Michael Atherton's record of 54 Tests as England

captain at the start of play, was initially given not out but the decision was overturned after Bangladesh reviewed. Mehedi then dismissed Gary Ballance for nine, the batsman's third single figure score of the series, to bring Bangladesh right back into the game, with England still trailing them by 170 runs. Ali was unbeaten on two at the close, leaving him centre stage at the start of day two of the Test after his starring role in the drama of the opening day.

Tamim and Mominul dominated the morning session after Woakes earned England an early breakthrough removing opener Imrul Kayes for one, with Duckett taking a spectacular catch at point. Tamim smashed 12 boundaries but he became Ali's first victim of the day shortly after driving the same bowler for back-to-back fours through cover to bring up his third century in six Tests against England.

It ended his 170-run stand with Mominul, who had also looked solid until he too was bowled by Ali for 66. The all-rounders Ben Stokes and Chris

Woakes shared the other five wickets as the tourists tightened the noose on a Bangladeshi side still reeling from the disappointment of losing the first Test by just 22 runs.

Bangladesh skipper Mushfiqur Rahim had called on his team before the start of the Test to show more consistency and learn how to drive home their advantage at key points in matches. But the rapid succession of wickets in the afternoon session pointed to Bangladesh's continued frailty in high-pressure situations, severely damaging their hopes of squaring the two-match series.

England made two changes to the team that won the first Test last Monday in Chittagong, with left-arm spinner Zafar Ansari handed a Test debut for Gareth Batty and paceman Steven Finn coming in for Stuart Broad who has been rested. Bangladesh picked all-rounder Shuvagata Hom ahead of Shafiqur Islam in their only change. They are playing with just one specialist fast bowler. — AFP

## JOHNSON SLAMS 'TOXIC' CULTURE UNDER CLARKE

**SYDNEY:** Retired pace spearhead Mitchell Johnson has slammed the Australian team culture under former captain Michael Clarke and coach Mickey Arthur as fractured and "toxic", saying the dynamics changed when Ricky Ponting retired. In his newly-released autobiography 'Resilient', Johnson suggested things were so bad that some teammates did not want to play, with cracks emerging after veteran Ponting called it quits in late 2012.

"The dynamics definitely changed. It became more groups in the team. It wasn't a team. There was different little factions going on and it was very toxic," Johnson told Fox Sports News late Thursday. "It just built very slowly but everyone could see it, everyone could feel it and nothing was being done at that time."

The left-arm paceman, who took the fourth-most wickets (313 at 28.40) of any Test bowler in Australian history, was one of four players suspended by Arthur and Clarke for not completing a feedback task during Australia's shambolic tour of India in 2013.

Arthur was eventually sacked before the side's next Test campaign, the 2013 Ashes. It was reported during that tour that Arthur alleged Clarke had described senior teammate Shane Watson as "a cancer on the team". Clarke was back in the headlines last week following the release of his autobiography, which revisited his run-ins with Watson and Simon Katich.

He said Watson was part of a group that was "like a tumour" on the team, to which Watson replied that bringing up history reflected poorly on the former captain. Katich, meanwhile, denied Clarke's claims the two were now friends following a volatile showdown between the pair in the Sydney Cricket Ground changing rooms after a Test win in 2009. "(Our relationship) has been non-existent, so to suggest we are mates now after everything that has happened is a bit of a stretch," said Katich. — AFP



**DHAKA:** Bangladesh's Mominul Haque plays a shot during the first day of the second Test cricket match between Bangladesh and England at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium. — AFP

## SA BOWLERS TRASHED BY SECOND STRINGERS

**ADELAIDE:** A second-string South Australian XI, led by Tim Ludeman, gave South Africa's bowlers a solid workout in their pre-Test warm-up game in Adelaide yesterday. Ludeman hammered 167 off 134 balls as the local selection amassed 435 for eight in reply to the tourists' 489 on the final day of their two-day game ahead of next week's opening Test against Australia in Perth.

Recognising that the placid pitch on which they had totted up almost 500 in 90 overs a day earlier was only going to deliver hard work for their bowlers, the Proteas opted to keep their prized strike pair of Dale Steyn and Kagiso Rabada safely under wraps ahead of the series opener. South Australia's second XI made a fist of their notional pursuit of the tourists' 489, rattling along at 5.41 runs an over before the match was called a draw late in the day.

Morne Morkel put in 14 overs for one for 67 while Vernon Philander went wicketless for 72 off 14 overs Morkel has spent

months on the sidelines with a back injury that only allowed him to return to bowling in recent weeks. Morkel was the most threatening of South Africa's pace attack in the absence of Steyn and Rabada on the most benign of surfaces.

Even though it was the final session before he was rewarded with a wicket - rattling the stumps of Alex Ross with the second new ball - Morkel showed he was capable of the sorts of spells that might prove decisive on a more responsive WACA surface next week. "He bowled some really quick spells throughout the day and you saw that spell with the second new ball, he looked really, really good," said left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj, who finished with three for 59.

"He looked at 100 percent from the Morne Morkel we know and hopefully he can carry that into the matches that follow." Ludeman blazed 20 boundaries and eight sixes for the local side while opener Sam Raphael hit 91 off 120 balls with 17 fours. — AFP





CHICAGO: Dwyane Wade #3 of the Chicago Bulls reacts to a three point shot late in the fourth quarter against the Boston Celtics at the United Center. —AFP

NBA results/standings

Atlanta 114, Washington 99; Chicago 105, Boston 99; San Antonio 102, Sacramento 94; LA Clippers 114, Portland 106.

Eastern Conference Atlantic Division

	W	L	PCT	GB
Toronto	1	0	1.000	-
Boston	1	1	.500	0.5
Brooklyn	0	1	0	1
Philadelphia	0	1	0	1
NY Knicks	0	1	0	1

Central Division

Indiana	1	0	1.000	-
Chicago	1	0	1.000	-
Cleveland	1	0	1.000	-
Milwaukee	0	1	0	1
Detroit	0	1	0	1

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	0	1.000	-
Miami	1	0	1.000	-
Charlotte	1	0	1.000	-
Orlando	0	1	0	1
Washington	0	1	0	1

Western Conference Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	-
Denver	1	0	1.000	-
Portland	1	1	.500	0.5
Minnesota	0	1	0	1
Utah	0	1	0	1

Pacific Division

LA Clippers	1	0	1.000	-
LA Lakers	1	0	1.000	-
Sacramento	11	.500	0.5	-
Phoenix	0	1	0	1
Golden State	0	1	0	1

Southwest Division

San Antonio	2	0	1.000	-
Memphis	1	0	1.000	0.5
Dallas	0	1	0	1.5
New Orleans	0	1	0	1.5
Houston	0	1	0	1.5

# DWYANE WADE BEGINS BULLS CAREER IN STYLE

CHICAGO: Dwyane Wade tallied 22 points in his Chicago homecoming as the Bulls showed off their retooled roster with a 105-99 win over the Boston Celtics on Thursday at the United Center. After trading point guard Derrick Rose to the New York Knicks, Chicago overhauled last season's roster with the addition of Wade and Rajon Rondo, who signed with the Bulls in the offseason.

Wade, who finished with 22 points, hit four-of-six from the three-point line in his first game with the Bulls. Wade had just seven threes during all of the last NBA season for the Miami Heat. Wade, who grew up in Chicago, sealed the victory Thursday with his final three pointer of the night. He nailed a long-range shot over guard Avery Bradley with 26 seconds left in the fourth quarter to put Chicago up 104-99.

"It was special," he said of getting a chance to play for his hometown team. "I had an amazing career and 23 years ago I had a dream of playing basketball and a dream of playing with this organization and tonight it became a reality." Wade has never been known as a three-point shooter but he's been working on getting better at it. "For a guy who has been in the league that long it says a lot that he is willing to work hard and add a new element to his game," said Bulls coach Fred Hoiberg.

Jimmy Butler led Chicago with 24 points and Rondo added four points and nine assists. "For some guys who can't shoot, I think we did pretty well tonight," said Butler. Forward Taj Gibson finished with 18 points and 10 rebounds for Chicago as he earned a starting role to begin the season. Nikola Mirotic had 15 points off the bench for the Bulls, who dominated the glass 55-36. Guard Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 25 points, while

Bradley had 16 points, Jae Crowder added 14 and Al Horford—a high-profile offseason signee—finished with 11 points, seven rebounds and five assists.

The Celtics played their second game in as many days after defeating the Brooklyn Nets 122-117 on Wednesday at home. Chicago led the entire first half. That included a 57-49 lead at halftime, after getting a combined 28 points, 12 rebounds, 11 assists from Wade, Butler and Rondo. The Celtics are coming off two straight playoff appearances. This season they added four-time all-star Horford, who inked a four-year deal worth \$113 million. Wade said he likes the way the Celtics are playing and that teams are going to have trouble stopping them this season. "You have to be at your best if you are going to beat them," he said.

HAWKS 114, WIZARDS 99

Dwight Howard dominated the boards in his Atlanta debut, Paul Millsap scored 28 points and Tim Hardaway Jr. ignited the new-look Hawks in a victory over Washington. Howard grabbed 19 rebounds to go along with 11 points, just what the Hawks expected from their new center, and it certainly wasn't unusual for three-time All-Star Millsap to lead the way in scoring. But Hardaway's performance was totally unexpected given the way he struggled in his first season with the Hawks, when he was largely confined to the bench and even forced to spend time in the D-League. He scored 21 points, matching his high in an Atlanta uniform, and broke open a close game with back-to-back 3-pointers in the fourth. The Hawks, who led only 81-80 heading to the final period, outscored the Wizards 33-19 over the final 12 minutes.

SPURS 102, KINGS 94

Kawhi Leonard scored 30 points and San Antonio spoiled the regular season opener at Sacramento's new downtown arena. LaMarcus Aldridge added 16 points as the Spurs clamped down on defense in the second half led by Leonard's strong play to win their second straight game to open the season. San Antonio spoiled Kevin Durant's home debut for Golden State on Tuesday before sending Kings fans home unhappy on what began as a celebratory night in Sacramento. The arena was raucous pregame for its first game that counts as there was plenty of emotion from fans who remembered how close the franchise was to moving to Seattle before Vivek Ranadive bought the team in 2013 and reached a deal to build the arena. It didn't end as well despite a strong night from DeMarcus Cousins, who led Sacramento with 37 points and 16 rebounds.

CLIPPERS 114, TRAIL BLAZERS 106

Blake Griffin had 27 points and 13 rebounds to lead Los Angeles. It was a contentious game that had fans booing the officials after two flagrant fouls on Portland players in the fourth quarter. Chris Paul hit a 3-pointer that gave the Clippers a 102-90 lead with 4:07 left and the crowd headed for the exits. Damian Lillard's layup got the Blazers within 107-102 with 35.9 seconds left but the rally fell short. It was the season opener for the Clippers, the last team in the Western Conference to start the season. Portland opened at home on Tuesday with a 113-104 victory over the Utah Jazz. Paul also finished with 27 points for the Clippers. Lillard led the Blazers with 29 points and 10 rebounds before fouling out late. —Agencies



## CHINA'S WC CHANCES WORRYING, SAYS LIPPI

**BEIJING:** China's chances of qualifying for the 2018 World Cup finals in Russia are "not impossible but definitely worrying", new Italian coach Marcello Lippi said yesterday. The 68-year-old, who won the tournament with his own country in 2006, was named the national team's new boss by the Chinese Football Association (CFA) over the weekend. He faces the difficult challenge of steering the hapless Asian giant to the tournament, a near impossible feat after recent losses to Uzbekistan and war-torn Syria.

"The qualifying table for the 2018 World Cup is worrying, not impossible but definitely worrying," Lippi told his first press conference in Beijing. "I want to build the team, help the players improve, to have confidence in themselves. If we win three or four games and miss out on qualification by just one point, that will still represent progress." Lippi boasts an impressive CV that includes nine successful years at Juventus, although his second turn in charge of Italy ended in an ignominious first-round exit at South Africa 2010.

He went on to coach Chinese club Guangzhou Evergrande to three consecutive Chinese Super League titles between 2012 and 2014, and the AFC Champions League crown in 2013, their first win in the Asian tournament. Improving Chinese football at the club and national level has been a priority for President Xi Jinping. Even before taking office he underlined his ambitions for China to qualify for, host and one day win the World Cup. But it is a Herculean task.

China is the most populous nation on earth but holds a lowly 84th place in the FIFA world rankings, between Guatemala and Kenya. They have only ever qualified for one final tournament, in 2002, when they lost all three of their group games and did not score a single goal. In the current campaign China have claimed just one point from four games in the latest World Cup Asian qualification phase and are bottom in Group A, which includes Iran, Uzbekistan, South Korea, Syria and Qatar.

Their previous coach Gao Hongbo announced his resignation after a 2-0 away defeat to Uzbekistan earlier this month. At yesterday's briefing, Chinese Football Association president Cai Zhenhua acknowledged that "the national team's level is pretty weak. We hope that under our new high-level coach we will be able to play well in the qualifiers."

### 'Jaw-dropping' salary

According to state broadcaster CCTV, Lippi will earn a salary of 4.5 million euros (\$4.9 million). He and his team will also be paid 15.5 million euros annually by Evergrande's football academy to act as its "advisers". He declined to confirm the figure, saying it was confidential. Lippi is the latest foreigner to receive a hefty salary for running the national side following in the footsteps of Spaniard Jose Antonio Camacho and France's Alain Perrin.

Some commentators have expressed doubts about his appointment and its cost. Writing in the China Daily newspaper, which is published by the government, Huang Xiangyang said he "cannot understand the logic" of the move and Lippi's "jaw-dropping" salary. "History shows monetary incentives are not a panacea for success for the national men's soccer team," he wrote. "As far as I can recall, the players have rarely played like men, though their incomes have reached astronomical figures."

Chinese entrepreneurs have pumped vast sums of money into domestic clubs, even luring international stars away from European leagues. There has also been a splurge of Chinese investment in some of Europe's top clubs, among them Inter Milan, Manchester City, Aston Villa, Espanyol and Atletico Madrid. Officials and clubs were eager to "squander money on famous players and coaches", but much more needed to be done to cultivate young talent, with more players, more soccer schools, and more children playing "just for fun", Huang said. —AFP



**LYON:** Lyon's fans display a banner reading "A reaction and fast" after their team lost the French L1 football match between Olympique Lyonnais and EA Guingamp on October 22, 2016, at the Parc Olympique Lyonnais. —AFP

## CRISIS-HIT LYON DESPERATE TO HALT ALARMING SLUMP

**PARIS:** Struggling Lyon will attempt to halt their alarming dip in form away to Toulouse today as the pressure mounts on Bruno Genesio following a run of five defeats in six matches. Lyon lurched into crisis mode after crashing to a 3-1 home reverse against Guingamp last weekend, and it won't get any easier against a Toulouse side that has been rejuvenated under Pascal Dupraz. "We're going through a difficult period. We must rediscover our confidence. Lots of things are linked to that. We have to keep working together," Genesio told the club's in-house television channel.

Captain Maxime Gonalons was seen remonstrating with unhappy supporters after Lyon's latest defeat, their second already at Parc OL this season, and admitted the current outlook at the club was troubling. "The situation is serious, very serious even," said Gonalons. "We understand the unhappiness of the fans but we're in the same situation. It's worrying and we must get back on track."

Lyon president Jean-Michel Aulas set the team a target of 31 points by the winter break, a demanding assignment for a side beaten five times in 10 outings with games against Paris Saint-Germain and

Monaco still to come. Alassane Plea's hat-trick ensured Nice remained four points clear at the top, and coach Lucien Favre is set to welcome back Mario Balotelli for Sunday's visit to Nantes after the Italian sat out the 4-2 win at Metz through injury.

The Ligue 1 leaders have also raised more than 120,000 euros (\$130,000) for the victims of July's Bastille Day truck massacre in the city after auctioning off a commemorative kit that bore the names of those killed in the attack. PSG coach Unai Emery backed midfielder Marco Verratti to return to his best after the Italy international's strop reaction to being substituted in Sunday's 0-0 draw at home to Marseille that left PSG six points behind Nice. "I'm happy with Marco. He's important for the team. The way I manage him is the same as the others," said Emery, whose side visit Lille on Friday. "He started (pre-season) later so it's important to look after his physical state. Now, he has to improve as we move forward and I'm sure he will."

### All change at Marseille

PSG go to Basel in the Champions League next Tuesday and would provisionally move up to second, above

Monaco, with a victory at the Stade Pierre Mauroy this weekend. Monaco could have Portugal midfielder Joao Moutinho back for today's trip to Saint-Etienne, but Leonardo Jardim will also have an eye on Wednesday's European tie at home to CSKA Moscow.

Rudi Garcia will take charge of Marseille at the Stade Velodrome for the first time in Sunday's game against Bordeaux. American owner Frank McCourt continued his overhaul of the nine-time French champions on Thursday with the appointment of former Spain and Barcelona goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta as the club's new sporting director.

Zubizarreta carried out the same role between 2010 and 2015 at Barcelona and helped the Spanish champions lure Neymar and Luis Suarez to the Camp Nou. Bottom side Lorient are still searching for a new manager after Sylvain Ripoll was sacked last weekend in the wake of their latest defeat. Former Montpellier and Rennes boss Roland Courbis had been close to taking over but was forced to rule himself out of the job after being unable to free himself from contracted media work. —AFP

## MAZEMBE COACH DISOWN FAVORITES TAG IN CAF FINAL

**JOHANNESBURG:** TP Mazembe coach Hubert Velud does not accept that his Democratic Republic of Congo outfit are favorites to beat Algerian club Mouloudia Bejaia in the CAF Confederation Cup final. The first leg of a classic David-versus-Goliath showdown is set for Stade Mustapha Tchaker in Blida Saturday with the return match eight days later at Stade TP Mazembe in Lubumbashi.

France-born Velud is adamant that Mazembe winning nine CAF titles and Bejaia competing in Africa for the first time this year will have no impact on the destiny of the trophy. His belief is based on two tight tussles between the clubs at the group stage with the first ending goalless and Mazembe winning 1-0 at home

through a Rainford Kalaba goal.

"The final is a 50-50 affair," the coach who has previous experience with several top-flight Algerian clubs told the Congolese media. "Mouloudia have proved their worth and I am not surprised that they qualified for the Confederation Cup final. "Having worked at several Algerian clubs as a coach, I know the mentality of the players extremely well.

"While some Algerian footballers may lack a little in talent, they more than compensate for that with incredible fighting spirit. "Bejaia have been written off regularly during this competition and now they are in the final," said the 57-year-old former goalkeeper. "On our side, there is a need for better finishing. We created many scoring chances during

the two legs of the semi-final against Tunisian club Etoile Sahel yet scored only one goal." Mazembe, whose nine CAF triumphs include five in the elite Champions League, boast the most multi-national club side in Africa with stars from DR Congo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali and Zambia.

Among those stars is Zambia dribbling wizard, captain and winger Kalaba. He has netted six times in the Confederation Cup this season, making him joint leading scorer with Arsenio 'Love' Cabungula, whose Angolan club were eliminated in the play-offs. Congolese pair Jonathan Bolingi and Merveille Bope, who boast five CAF goals between them, are others who will require close policing from a mean Bejaia defence. —AP



## UNITED FOCUS ON BURNLEY BOOST

**MANCHESTER:** Jose Mourinho's mood was a little brighter on Wednesday after an EFL Cup victory over Manchester City, but there is still much work to be done in order to get his season back on track. The Manchester United manager issued a public apology to the club's supporters after an embarrassing 4-0 defeat at Chelsea last Sunday, which left his team seventh in the Premier League.

Despite only winning one of their last six league matches, United are just six points behind leaders City as they go into today's home match against Burnley.

There is plenty of time to close the gap, and winger Juan Mata is optimistic that an improvement in form is imminent. "After a defeat, everyone is going to speak badly about the team, about the manager. But we, as a group, need to stay strong and believe we can do great things together," said Mata. "We showed that after our heavy defeat, we are back. We were very strong in our minds these past days after critics and we showed on Wednesday that if we are focused 100%, we can win against such a good team."

The concern for Mourinho is that injury problems are mounting. Striker Marcus Rashford limped out of Wednesday's match with nine minutes left clutching his thigh, and is being assessed by United's medical team. That setback came after defender Eric Bailly was ruled out for two months with lateral knee ligament damage sustained during the defeat at Chelsea, while forwards Wayne Rooney and Anthony Martial are battling injuries too, along with centre-back Chris Smalling.

Martial, withdrawn from the squad to face City because of a minor inflammation in his foot, is expected to be fit to play against Burnley, with Rooney and Smalling likely to overcome muscle problems to be available for selection too. As he monitors his squad's injury problems, Mourinho is likely to be less concerned about the prospect of another touchline ban, having been charged with improper conduct by the Football Association on Thursday.

Mourinho, who has until Monday to respond to the charge, faces being punished for breaking FA rules that prevent managers from speaking about referees before matches. He questioned the decision to appoint Manchester-based referee Anthony Taylor to take charge of United's match at Liverpool on October 17. It is not the first time that Mourinho has got into trouble with the authorities for comments about referees, and although he will be on the touchline for the Burnley game, United's players may have to cope with the manager spending some time in the stands soon.

Few would give Burnley much chance of causing an upset at Old Trafford, but they have beaten Liverpool this season, and are in upbeat mood after Scott Arfield's late goal gave them a 2-1 victory over Everton last Saturday. Sean Dyche's side, though, have yet to pick up a point away from home this season, with Sam Vokes' penalty in a 3-1 defeat at Southampton two weeks ago being the only goal they have scored on their travels.

Andre Gray is available to return to Burnley's attack, having served a four-match suspension imposed for offensive social media posts made in 2012, which came to wider attention earlier this season. Dyche will celebrate the fourth anniversary of his appointment as Burnley manager on Sunday, but has acknowledged that he faces a difficult task to mark the weekend with a win.

"For all the noise that's been made about the ups and downs of Manchester United over the past couple of weeks they're still a fine side," said Dyche. "I look at the manager, the club, the players they've got and they're still a super strong group of people operating at the highest level." —AFP



**MANCHESTER:** Manchester United's Portuguese manager Jose Mourinho (L) watches as Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola gestures on the touchline during the EFL (English Football League) Cup fourth round match between Manchester United and Manchester City at Old Trafford. —AFP

## GUARDIOLA SEEKS TO END RECORD WINLESS STREAK

**MANCHESTER:** Manchester City's form under Pep Guardiola is beginning to show similarities to their final season under his predecessor Manuel Pellegrini, with a fast start followed by an autumn stumble. Last season, City won their opening five matches under Pellegrini, then fell away so badly that they only just secured England's fourth and final Champions League qualification place. Guardiola, whose team visit West Bromwich Albion in the Premier League today, would not be satisfied with a repeat performance.

Yet having won his first 10 competitive games with the club, he has gone six without victory since. It is the longest winless run of his managerial career, an unwanted record secured on Wednesday as his team were beaten 1-0 at Manchester United in the fourth round of the EFL Cup.

City have had some hard luck stories to tell during that run, as they should certainly have beaten Everton two weeks ago, missing two penalties in a 1-1 draw, and only took a point against Southampton last weekend despite controlling the second half. It is also worth remembering that, for all their difficulties in recent weeks, City remain top of the Premier League and well placed to progress from the Champions League group stages.

Guardiola certainly did not field his strongest side at Old Trafford in midweek, making nine changes and fielding 19-year-olds Pablo Maffeo and Aleix Garcia in his starting line-up. Those changes were made in the knowledge that more significant tests lie in wait, with Barcelona in Manchester for a pivotal Champions League Group C game next Tuesday. There will be serious reasons for concern, though, if Guardiola's lengthening wait for a victory is not ended at The Hawthorns.

"Every weekend we need to win and we need to show personality to play," defender Maffeo said. "We have six games in a row without a win. I think we are going to win and we go in a good way. 'Barcelona

is another game. We showed on Wednesday we can compete in tough games, very hard games, and I think we can go there (to West Brom) and we are going to win."

### Good news

The manager received a piece of good news on Thursday, with captain Vincent Kompany able to train despite coming off at half-time against United on Wednesday, complaining of tiredness. Kompany, who has suffered persistent injury problems over the last two years, was making his second start in four days at Old Trafford, and there were concerns that he may have broken down again.

Winger Kevin De Bruyne may also be fit to play some part after recovering from a calf problem. West Brom have proved awkward opponents in recent weeks, almost rescuing a point at Liverpool last Saturday, but ultimately losing 2-1, which ended a run of three successive 1-1 draws. Saido Berahino remains out of the team, having not started a match since September 10, and has been placed on a fitness program after manager Tony Pulis revealed the forward was eight pounds overweight.

In Berahino's absence, Hal Robson-Kanu has established himself as the back-up to first-choice striker Salomon Rondon, playing 25 minutes at Anfield after midfielder James McClean—who is a doubt for this weekend—was forced off with a gashed leg.

Robson-Kanu, deployed as a winger last Saturday, is hopeful of more chances in a team he feels can improve on their current league position of 13th. "We've got all the ingredients, it's just about applying ourselves game in, game out and picking up points," said the 27-year-old Wales international, who scored a sensational goal for his country in their Euro 2016 quarter-final win over Belgium. "We probably felt we could have nicked a draw at Liverpool, but it wasn't meant to be. We move forward from that." —AFP

## LFC AIMS TO STORM PALACE IN TITLE BID

**LONDON:** Liverpool will look to underline the strength of their squad when they continue their Premier League title challenge away to Crystal Palace today. Having survived a nervous finish as his team beat West Bromwich Albion 2-1 in the Premier League last Saturday, Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp fielded a completely different starting 11 against Tottenham Hotspur in the EFL Cup on Tuesday, and secured another 2-1 victory. Such squad rotation should ensure Klopp has plenty of players fresh enough for the visit to Crystal Palace, when his team will seek to extend an unbeaten run in all competitions of 10 matches.

Most of those who impressed on Tuesday, among them 18-year-olds Ovie Ejaria and Trent Alexander-Arnold, will

return to the fringes this weekend, but midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum sees no reason why they should not be called on again. "I think it's a good sign for a team that you have players who can come in and fit into the team immediately," Wijnaldum said. "And it's easy to make changes for a manager. It's not a problem when someone is out, as you can change to a player with good quality. It's a good thing for the team. It's not easy for a young player to play in a big game for a big club. A lot of players get nervous and lose confidence, but I didn't see it in these players."

### 'True contenders'

Liverpool go into the weekend in third place, level on points with leaders

Manchester City, and with Alex Ferguson suggesting that this could be the season that the league title goes to Anfield for the first time since 1990. "You can now sense you truly have to count them in this year," said the former Manchester United manager in an interview with German magazine Kicker this week.

Liverpool are being helped in their title challenge by a relatively light fixture list. Last season, they played 63 games, 15 of them in the Europa League as they reached the final. With no European campaign this season, the schedule looks far less daunting and that in turn may explain Liverpool's relatively short injury list. —AFP





**MUNICH:** Augsburg's midfielder Dominik Kohr (R) and Bayern Munich's Portuguese midfielder Renato Sanches vie for the ball during the German Cup DFB Pokal second round football match FC Bayern Munich v FC Augsburg. —AFP

# BAYERN HUNT QUICK FIRE 2ND WIN OVER AUGSBURG

**BERLIN:** Bayern Munich face familiar opposition in neighbors Augsburg yesterday as the Bundesliga leaders take on their Bavarian rivals for the second time in four days. Bayern beat Augsburg 3-1 on Wednesday in the second round of the German Cup as US international Julian Green-deputising for striker Robert Lewandowski — David Alaba and Philipp Lahm all scored.

Carlo Ancelotti rested a host of stars including Arturo Vidal, Arjen Robben, Xabi Alonso and Lewandowski ahead of this weekend's league game at Augsburg's WWK-Arena stadium. The Munich giants need a win in their warm-up for next Tuesday's Champions League clash at PSV Eindhoven to ensure they remain clear at the summit.

The top clash of the weekend is today's Ruhr Valley derby between Borussia Dortmund and arch-rivals Schalke 04. Dortmund are unbeaten in their last three league meetings against Schalke but are struggling with a lengthy injury list and are winless in their last three Bundesliga games. Andre Schuerrle, Raphael Guerrero, Marcel Schmelzer, Sven Bender, Erik Durm, Neven Subotic and Marco Reus are all either out injured or returning from injury.

Dortmund hope to have striker

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang back from a calf knock after he missed Wednesday's nervy German Cup penalty shootout win over Union Berlin. Schalke made a disastrous start to the season when they lost their first five games, but Markus Weinzierl's side have steadied the ship by picking up seven points in the three matches since.

Midfielder Nabil Bentaleb, on loan from Tottenham Hotspur, has been a revelation during the revival with three goals in his last two games. Schalke are eager to make his move permanent, but director of sport Christian Heidel says Spurs want at least 20 million euros (\$21.8 million) for the Algeria international. "It was a double-digit sum and there was a two at the front," Heidel said. Bentaleb is relishing his first Ruhr derby and likened it to a match against Spurs' north London rivals Arsenal. "I don't know if you can compare it to a London derby, but I'm looking forward to it," said the 21-year-old.

### Record draws closer

Unbeaten RB Leipzig, who trail Bayern by just two points, can take a step closer to a record when they face Darmstadt away.

Under Austrian coach Ralph Hasenhuettl, Leipzig have won five of

their first eight games with three draws. They are just two short of the record of 10 matches unbeaten, set by MSV Duisburg in 1993/94, for a side at the start of their first season in Germany's top flight.

Wolfsburg and Bayer Leverkusen meet today with both coaches in desperate need of a victory. Leverkusen's Roger Schmidt serves the last of his two-match touchline ban for verbally abusing Hoffenheim's Julian Nagelsmann in last Saturday's 3-0 defeat. Leverkusen, who go to Tottenham in the Champions League on Wednesday, are winless in their last four games and suffered a shock German Cup defeat to third division Sportfreunde Lotte in midweek.

Wolfsburg are without a win in seven league games and caretaker coach Valerien Ismael, who lost his first game 3-1 at strugglers Darmstadt, has been tasked with reversing the team's fortunes. Bottom club Hamburg, who are still winless after their first eight league games, are at Cologne on Sunday. Unbeaten Hoffenheim host fellow high-flyers Hertha Berlin in south-west Germany, with Pal Dardai's side suffering their lone defeat to Bayern and starting to look like realistic contenders for a Champions League place next season. —AFP

## RONALDO DESERVES BALLON D'OR: ZIDANE

**MADRID:** Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane backed Cristiano Ronaldo's case for a fourth Ballon d'Or yesterday despite the Portuguese superstar's current struggles in front of goal. Ronaldo won both the Champions League with Real and Portugal's first ever major tournament at Euro 2016 to make him the favourite to land the award for the world's best player on January 9 next year.

"He clearly deserves the Ballon d'Or," said Zidane ahead of Saturday's trip to Alaves in La Liga. "Not just at an individual level, but above all on a collective level...he knows everything he is achieving is thanks to his hard work and the work of those around him." Ronaldo is expected to face competition from five-time winner Lionel Messi, Madrid teammate Gareth Bale and Atletico Madrid and France forward Antoine Griezmann for the award.

However, his form has slumped since his return from a two-month injury layoff after suffering knee ligament damage in the Euro 2016 final. "What Cristiano has done is raise the bar so high that every time he doesn't score it is a problem," added Zidane. Ronaldo has netted just four times in nine appearances for Madrid so far this season, by a distance his worst return at this stage of the campaign in seven seasons with the European champions. "He is angry (about not scoring), but there is no bigger worry than that," continued Zidane. "Every time he doesn't score there is a furore, but he has to live with these things. He is a phenom." Ronaldo is expected to be partnered by Bale and Karim Benzema once more in the Madrid front line despite the fine form of Alvaro Morata. —AFP



### Matches on TV (Local Timings)

#### ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Sunderland v Arsenal	14:30
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	
Middlesbrough v Bournemouth	17:00
beIN SPORTS	
Tottenham v Leicester City	17:00
beIN SPORTS 1 HD	
Manchester United v Burnley	17:00
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	
West Bromwich v Man City	17:00
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	
Watford v Hull City	17:00
beIN SPORTS 13 HD	
Crystal Palace v Liverpool	19:30
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	

#### SPANISH LEAGUE

Sporting Gijon v Sevilla	14:00
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Deportivo v Real Madrid	17:15
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Atletico de Madrid v Malaga	19:30
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
FC Barcelona v Granada	21:45
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	

#### ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE

Bologna FC v ACF Fiorentina	19:00
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	
Juventus v SSC Napoli	21:45
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	

#### GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Mainz 05 v Ingolstadt 04	16:30
beIN SPORTS 8 HD	
Wolfsburg v Bayer 04	16:30
beIN SPORTS	
FC Augsburg v Bayern Munich	16:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
SV Werder Bremen v Freiburg	16:30
beIN SPORTS	
Darmstadt 98 v RB Leipzig	16:30
beIN SPORTS	
Dortmund v Schalke 04	19:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	

#### FRENCH LEAGUE

Toulouse v Lyonnais	18:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	
AS Nancy Lorraine v Caen	21:00
beIN SPORTS	
Saint Etienne v Monaco	21:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	
Lorient v Montpellier HSC	21:00
beIN SPORTS	
Bastia v Dijon	21:00
beIN SPORTS 10 HD	
Guingamp v Angers	21:00
beIN SPORTS 9 HD	



# Sports



Dwyane Wade begins Bulls career in style

44



TURIN: Juventus' Gonzalo Higuain, right, kicks the ball past Sampdoria's Luca Cigarini during a Serie A soccer match between Juventus and Sampdoria at the Juventus stadium. —AFP

## ALL EYES ON HIGUAIN AS JUVE HOST NAPOLI

**MILAN:** The fallout from Gonzalo Higuain's move to Juventus has not settled over the bay of Naples, and the Turin giants host Napoli today in a Serie A sizzler that could see Roma go top. Higuain's record 36 league goals for Napoli last season gave the entire city a reason to cheer after the southerners fell out of contention late in the title race.

Then, the Argentina international moved to rivals Juventus in an Italian record transfer worth 90 million euros (\$98 million), prompting a fan backlash in Naples that is unlikely to settle at least until Maurizio Sarri's men host Juventus at the San Paolo on April 2. From enjoying the kind of adoration reserved for the likes of the legendary Diego Maradona, who steered Napoli to their sole league titles in 1987 and 1990, Higuain became a pariah overnight.

In the birthplace of the "Margherita", pizzas with Higuain's effigy were replaced by one-euro pizzas-sold at a knock-down price if he suffered an injury with Juventus. Higuain has so far avoided that fate, hitting six goals in 10 outings amid what has been a mitigated start for the champions. Juve, bidding for a record sixth consecutive title this season, sit top with a two-point lead on Roma, who are

away to Empoli on Sunday. Napoli are in third, a further two points behind.

### From idol to betrayer

How Higuain will react, if and when he scores against the club where he was idolized, remains to be seen. He reportedly told a fan in midweek he would "score a double". Napoli president Aurelio De Laurentiis, who said Higuain "betrayed" the club, responded: "When he said he wanted to score a double he didn't say it maliciously. 'It's just a sign of respect for a team (Napoli) that has a reputation for being dangerous.'"

Sarri has Napoli playing arguably the most exciting football in Italy, but after losing Higuain they are also without his replacement, Arkadiusz Milik. The Poland striker, who made a prolific start after he was bought from Ajax in the summer, is sidelined at least until January after suffering a knee ligament injury. With Juventus striker Paulo Dybala also sidelined with injury, Higuain will partner Mario Mandzukic. The Croat hit his maiden goal of the season in a 4-1 win over Sampdoria midweek, while Higuain is looking to hit the net for the first time since scoring a brace against Udinese on October 2.

Juve defender Giorgio Chiellini joked Higuain's recent lean spell was because: "He's saving his goals for Napoli." But Juve coach Massimiliano Allegri liked what he saw in midweek: "Both of them still have improvements to make, but they really worked well together." While a Juventus win would set Napoli adrift by seven points, a shock win in Turin would see Roma go top-if the "Giallorossi" account for an embattled Empoli side that has one win and two goals from 10 outings.

Roma travel to the Carlo Castellani buoyed after a 3-1 away win at Sassuolo, where Bosnia striker Edin Dzeko hit a brace to take his league-leading tally to 10 in nine appearances. Coach Luciano Spalletti said the Juventus v Napoli game: "Will have its say, it's a very important game." He will be without utility back Alessandro Florenzi, who is out for at least four months after rupturing the cruciate ligament in his left knee.

Elsewhere, AC Milan, fourth at five points adrift, host lowly Pescara looking to make amends for crashing 3-0 at Genoa in midweek. Embattled city rivals Inter face a tough away trip to Sampdoria four days after Mauro Icardi fired a brace, including a late winner, past Torino and England 'keeper Joe Hart to secure a precious 2-1 San Siro win. —AFP