

**FREE**

# Kuwait Times **Friday Times**



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NO: 16999 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

**Court upholds  
dissolution of  
Bahrain oppn**

11



**Boat tragedy  
leaves dozens  
dead in Egypt**

12



**Messi injured,  
as Real Madrid  
misses record**

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## Lawmakers fume as petrol hike bites

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Local Spotlight

# ROAD ACCIDENTS



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

Accidents happen all the time on all roads. This is normal, but what is not usual is when you are hit by someone - a female motorist for example - and end up dealing with a man. It is normal for both parties to go to the police station for getting paperwork done for the insurance and the garage, but it is not right to spend many hours at the police station waiting to make a statement. Time is important for hardworking people and unexpected delays could be a problem for them. Accident procedures by the police in Kuwait take a long time, and sometimes people can't afford to spend many hours at police stations, especially for minor accidents with no injuries.

I received a letter from a reader about a car accident she had a few weeks back. It brought back memories of when I was involved in a similar accident, with a lot of bad luck and wasta. Our friend's story starts with a minor car accident with another car driven by a Kuwaiti woman with kids. Our reader got out of the car, and before she could ask if the other woman was okay, the woman started yelling at her. This is normal when two women hit each other's cars, but what is strange is that the other woman called her husband, took his vehicle when he arrived, and left the scene. When police gave them the paper of the accident, our reader realized they wrote the name of woman's husband as if he was driving the car and he was the one who hit her car from behind and got into an accident.

Surprisingly, the lady completely got out of the scene as if she was never there when the accident happened. The police officer told our reader and

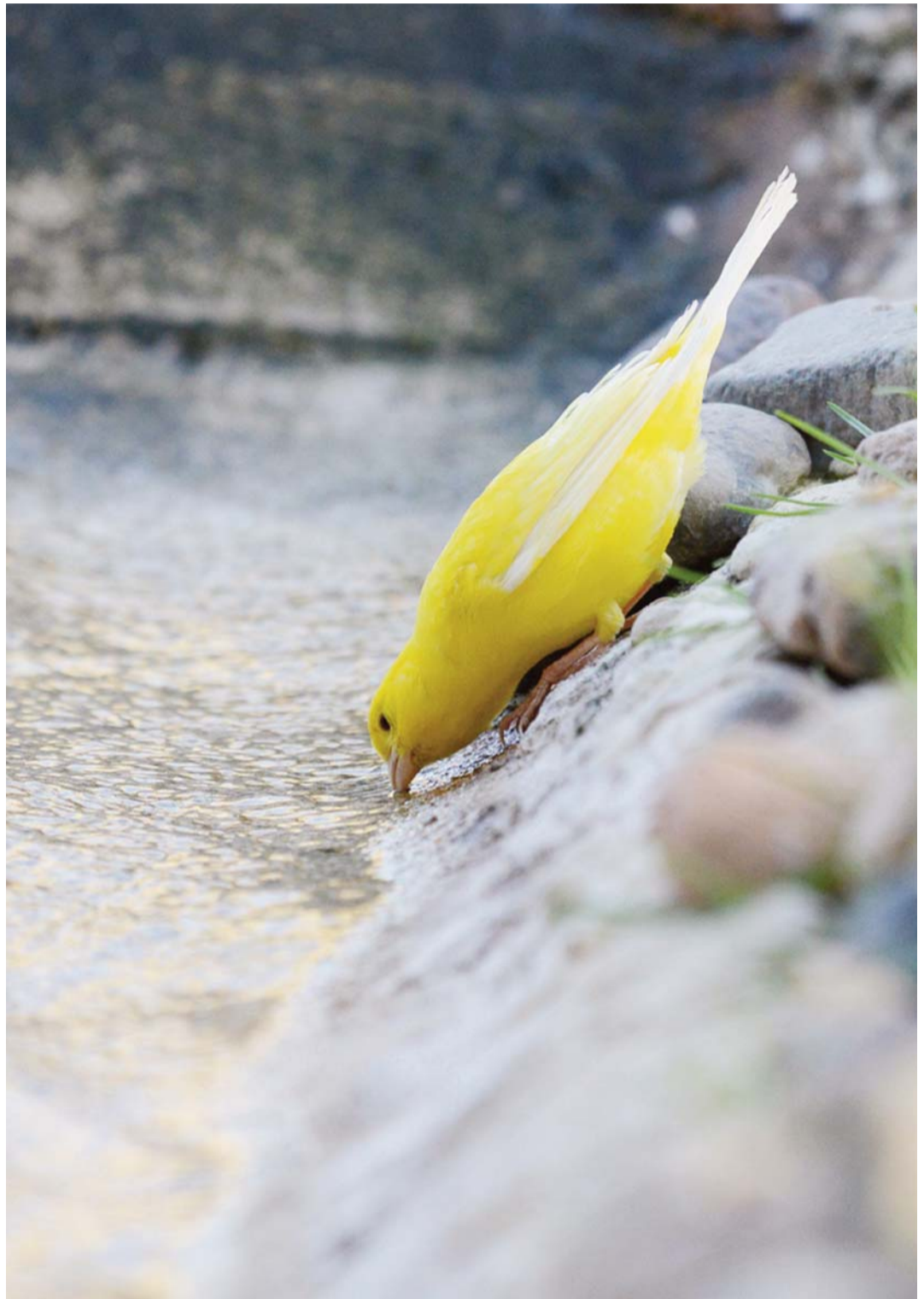
the Kuwaiti man to go to the police station at 6:00 pm. She did so and waited until 7:30 pm. When the officer called the man, he claimed that he came to the police station at 5:00 pm but she did not show up, so he left his number with the police officer. When the officer asked the Kuwaiti when will he be able to return to the police station, he said he is busy because of Eid.

After several attempts and failures to set an appointment, the officer gave the two the papers to go and see the investigator. At this stage, the language barrier appeared to be another problem. Without speaking proper Arabic, it is hard to explain what happened. The story ends with many bad memories. The reader asked me if I could publish her story because she feels that she was not treated with respect or justice because she is an expat who cannot speak Arabic.

Well, I think even if you speak good Arabic, such incidents can happen. A few years back, I was involved in an accident, and ended up at the police station, where I had to wait many hours for the man who hit my car to arrive, despite an officer's repeated calls to him. When we finally went to the investigator, he turned out to be his good friend, and you can all imagine what he put in writing - that it was my fault! I went to court and it took me three years to see justice served, luckily. But it also consumed a lot of money in legal fees, which many expats can't afford.

We need full automation at all police stations to reduce paperwork, and officers must learn to speak good English. The police are there to serve everyone, and with expats being a majority, this is not a choice.

PHOTO OF THE DAY



KUWAIT: A bird takes a drink of water. — Photo by Ali Al Roumi / KUNA

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## A DAY IN THE LIFE

## KUWAIT'S EVERY MAN: THE MANDOUB

By Nawara Fattahova

Most folks in Kuwait know what a mandoub is and have a general idea of what he does. But the daily reality of the mandoub can be shocking. Kuwait Times interviewed a company representative to learn more about the ins and outs of mandoub work. Hamad Al-Marei, 42, spoke about his daily activities and the challenges he faces. Some excerpts:

**Kuwait Times: When did you start working as a mandoub?**

**Hamad Al-Marei:** I started working in this job in 2014.

**KT: What benefits has this job brought you?**

**Hamad:** I do my job regardless of its benefits. I think that the best thing I gained from this job is the good relations with people in different positions at various institutions.

**KT: Which are the most common problems or obstacles that you face in your job?**

**Hamad:** The most problematic place is the Ministry of Social Affairs. It suffers from a staffing shortage, especially at the Capital governorate department, as this department has the highest rate of patrons. At some institutions, there are special counters for mandoubs, which makes our work easier.



Hamad Al-Marei

**KT: What are the most important requirements to work as a mandoub?**

**Hamad:** The person should have good knowledge of the locations of all public institutions, and be aware of the procedures followed there. Also, he should be polite to be a good representative of the company he works for. Being presentable is also an advantage! It can make the work easier as some paperwork that requires long procedures can be processed faster.

**KT: Is your work limited to public institutions, or do you also do transactions in the private sector?**

**Hamad:** My work is not limited to ministries, as I also have to complete paperwork at some private institutions such as banks and insurance companies.

**KT: Why did you choose this job? And do you love it?**

**Hamad:** This job teaches one patience and to respect time and appointments. In this job, the mandoub also comes in contact with people of different cultures and many nationalities, which teaches us new things. But it is a stressful and demanding job, with pressure from every side and sometimes I want to quit.

**KT: What was the job of your dreams?**

**Hamad:** When I was a child, I always dreamed to be a lawyer so I could defend the oppressed and unjustified acts. Unfortunately, my dream didn't come true.

**KT: How does your day start? Do you also work in the evening?**

**Hamad:** Usually, I start my day early in the morning by visiting the Public Authority for Residency Affairs, then I go to the Ministry of Social Affairs. This is followed by going to the ministries complex. Sometimes I go to other institutions depending on the papers I need to process. Then I head to the office. I stay there until 3:00pm, where I finish filing the paperwork and doc-

uments. Sometimes I collect the documents that need to be processed from the staff at the company where I work. Sometimes I also have to type, print, scan or photocopy some documents for the next day. Yes, sometimes I have to work in the evening if I have work to finish.

**KT: What experience have you gained from your work as a mandoub?**

**Hamad:** As I said before, this job has taught me patience. I have also gained valuable work experience and got to know many new people, which I consider great for my career and social life.

تخفيضات  
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Doll maker Dina Azar with one of her creations.  
— Photos courtesy Dina Azar and Yasser Al-Zayyat



**Artisanal crochet dolls  
come to life in Kuwait**



Pipi with other dolls made by Dina Azar.

By Faten Omar

Kuwait is home to a perhaps not-so-surprising array of local artisans. From handcrafted wooden signs to customized artisanal soap, from handmade playdough to tailor designed jewelry, Kuwait's craftsmen and women have melded the artistry of their craft with Kuwait's deeply rooted entrepreneurial spirit to grow a budding community of artisanal enterprises. In a Kuwait Times occasional series, we talk with some of these artisans about their work, their passions and what informs their creative choices.

In this issue, we speak with local crochet artist and doll maker, Dina Azar. Known for her detailed and exquisitely lifelike crochet dolls, Dina is a self-taught craftswoman from Iran who was born and raised in Kuwait. She shares with Kuwait Times about what got her started and how she creates a doll from conception to finished reality.

**Kuwait Times: When and how did you learn to crochet?**

**Azar:** I started when my pets passed away after spending 30 years of a lifetime with them. Four parrots died one after another because of old age. This depressed me so I had to do something to get through this pain and that is when I chose to learn crochet and it helped me a lot.

**Kuwait Times: How did you learn?**

**Azar:** I started to crochet three years ago. I spent several hours on YouTube watching instructional videos on how to do the different crochet

stitches and just started practicing. It wasn't long before I made my first granny square and soon after that I got interested in making dolls.

**KT: Crocheting dolls is an intricate and time consuming process. Why do it?**

**Azar:** I chose crochet because I love dolls that make adults and children happy. I started it as a hobby and never thought that it will turn into a business. It can take me about a week or more to create one doll, from conception to finished piece.

**KT: Do you have any other ideas for your crochet work?**

**Azar:** I would love to crochet a mandala rug.

**KT: What are some of the important tools of your trade?**

**Azar:** Lots and lots of crochet thread and yarn in many sizes and shades. I use crochet hooks, chopsticks, yarn, tweezers. I use also crayons, and special markers or colored pencils to make my dolls' cheeks rosy. I also choose high quality yarns and materials so that the dolls last longer.

**KT: What is your process for making one of these dolls?**

**Azar:** First you choose the color or the body yarn skin tone, light or dark skin. Choose the thickness and that depends if you want your doll to be big or small then choose the yarn for the clothes and hair. You make the head separately then stuff it and then sew all the body parts together. After filling the body, I use chopsticks for that, and

sometimes I use a skeleton to make it move. Then you sew the eyes. Sometimes I use wigs for my dolls instead of making the hair from yarn.

**KT: What is the toughest thing about owning your own business, and what's your favorite thing about it?**

**Azar:** The best thing is that I can be my own boss and work whenever I want to, even if you want to travel I can do that also.

**KT: How have you seen your craft in Kuwait change in the past five years?**

**Azar:** It has improved a lot, people are more aware of the craft because of social media. They respect what you do and respect the skills that I have, and now I have customers that like my work. We used to think that crochet is only for grandmothers but now a lot of women and even men crochet.

**KT: When you have a moment to spare these days, what are you crafting?**

**Azar:** It has to be new doll. But now I do not have even a spare moment for myself. It was a challenge for me to do this interview.

**KT: What other crafts do you enjoy? Or is there another craft you would like to learn?**

**Azar:** I love painting, drawing, photography,

and I take my own pictures for dolls. I like Arabic calligraphy but it is hard because you have to learn it from young age.

**KT: How did you manage to be a professional in crochet in such short time?**

**Azar:** I'm hard on myself. I can't be satisfied with what I've done until its perfect so I redo it again and again until I see good result, even if no one notice I know that it is not right and that I can do it better.

**KT: What is your favorite doll, why?**

**Azar:** My favorite one is Pipi. She is a very colorful doll and she belongs to my mother now.

**KT: How long does it take to go from just an idea in your head, to an actual finished work?**

**Azar:** It usually takes about one week to create a doll from conception to finished doll.

**KT: Where can people see your work?**

**Azar:** Only on Instagram @diblossom

**KT: Your last word?**

**Azar:** If you have time, do not waste it. You have to learn new things; you never know where you will shine.





Views of Kuwait City. — Photos courtesy Ramil Sunga

## Kuwait City through the eyes of longtime expats

By Ben Garcia

The two women have one thing in common - the length of their stay in Kuwait. Although Rosario Garcia and Sheila Tamayo did not witness the Iraqi invasion, as they both arrived in Kuwait in 1995, the incident was still fresh in the memories of every Kuwaiti when the two women came to the oil-rich state.

Garcia, 58, wondered how she would survive when she left Manila for Kuwait. "Kuwaitis had lived through a dark

"A massive transformation has taken place, and this is very clear to people who have been here for quite some time."

period of history," Garcia noted. "In fact, destroyed military trucks still littered some streets of Kuwait. But people were friendly and everyone was busy with their work," she reminisced.

Rosario came to Kuwait through a friend on a tourist visa. "She told me there were many jobs available in Kuwait. So I came over, and after a month, I got a job as a manicurist at a hotel in Bneid Al-Gar. I earned a good salary and worked there for eight years," she recalled. "There were small villas then in Bneid Al-Gar and it was not very crowded. People were very generous when it came to tipping, so I was able to save a bit. This helped a lot, especially in sending my children to school, who are now professionals," she said, beaming with pride.



Garcia loved Kuwait, but a time came when she finally decided to go back home for good, in 2003. "But after a few months, I missed the life I had in Kuwait. I requested my old employer to rehire me, so she obtained a new iqama for me and in a few days, I found myself back in Kuwait," she said.

### Returning 'home'

Returning to Kuwait wasn't easy though. "I convinced my husband that I was going back for our children's higher studies, but at the back of my mind, I really missed the country. I mean it - I didn't have a boyfriend here as many assumed.

Maybe it was the easy life I had experienced, maybe the tips from customers, or the people I met every day," she said.

Garcia lived in Bneid Al-Gar for many years. She has noticed the area's transformation from 2004 till now. "My God! That place only had a few small houses. The only prominent building at that time was the Continental Hotel and a few other hotels. Now the place is crowded with many towering buildings," she said.

Tamayo also witnessed the transformation of almost every corner of Kuwait City. She has been working as an optometrist for several years at the same company. "I have



been with them for 22 years. Since I was hired, I have never changed employers as they are good people. I am also very loyal to them. They entrusted the business to me, so I have stayed with them until now," she said.

The meeting point for many Filipinos and other nationals has always been in Kuwait City proper, near the Catholic Church. "This place in Kuwait City is the meeting place for many Filipinos and other nationals out to fulfill their weekly

religious obligations. You can notice the crowds of people here, especially on weekends. This has not changed since I came to Kuwait in 1995. On Christmas Day, it is as if the world has come to a standstill - you won't be able to move because of the crowd. It is same during the Eid holidays," Tamayo said.

Kuwait City now has many skyscrapers, but in the '90s, one could count the few high-rise buildings on one's finger-

tips. "At that time, we only had one major mall in Kuwait - Muthanna Complex. It used to be crowded at that time. Other tall buildings were the Kuwait Airways headquarters and Carlton Hotel, plus the ministry buildings on the other end," Tamayo notes. "Now, these are all dwarfed by several skyscrapers around them. A massive transformation has taken place, and this is very clear to people who have been here for quite some time."



News

in brief



**Kuwaiti Ambassador to Indonesia Abdulwahab Al-Sager meets with the Indonesian parliament's Deputy Speaker Fadli Zon. — KUNA**

**Indonesia touts Kuwait's support to the GOPAC**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Indonesian parliament's deputy speaker Fadli Zon appreciated yesterday Kuwait's contributions to the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC). Zon made the remark during a meeting with Kuwaiti Ambassador to Indonesia Abdulwahab Al-Sager, voicing willingness to develop parliament-to-parliament cooperation, the Kuwaiti Embassy in Indonesia said in a statement. During the meeting, he delivered the ambassador a message to Kuwaiti National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim, urging Kuwait to continue providing financial support to the GOPAC. He stressed the significance of developing cooperative relations between Indonesia and Kuwait in general and in terms of Indonesian housekeepers and technicians in particular, the embassy added. On his part, the Kuwaiti ambassador hoped that both sides would continue the exchange of official visits in order to reach more mutual understanding, it noted.

**Kuwait looks forward to friendship with Iran**

**NEW YORK:** Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Premier Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said he looks forward to relations of friendship and cooperation with Iran with mutual respect and understanding. His Highness the Prime Minister emphasized in his speech before the General Assembly's 71st session today, the importance of creating the appropriate conditions for any constructive dialogue to take place, in accordance with the rules and norms of international law, relating to the principle of good neighborly relations, respect of sovereignty of States, and non-interference in their internal affairs. Refraining from any practices that contravene international conventions and norms and that threaten the security and stability of the region, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak called for the need to end the occupation of the three Emirati islands.

**Kuwait leads in organ transplant in Mideast**

**AMMAN:** Kuwait among the first Arab countries in the field of organ transplants, as it comes second in the Middle East, Chairman of Kuwait Transplant Society Dr Mustafa Al-Musawi said yesterday. In a statement to KUNA on the sidelines of the 15th Congress of the Middle East Society for Organ Transplantation, which kicked off in the Jordanian capital Amman earlier evening, Al-Musawi said that the annual rate of kidney transplant is between 75 to 100 in Kuwait, noting that Pancreas transplant operations are also increasing. Al-Musawi pointed out that preparations are underway to start with conducting liver transplant soon, according to the guidelines and directives from Kuwaiti Minister of Health Dr. Ali Al-Obaidi. Regarding participating in the congress, Al-Musawi stressed importance of such gathering, which brings together specialists and those who work in the field of organ transplant from various Middle Eastern countries, as well as from the United States, Australia and Europe.

**KUWAIT CALLS ON UNSC TO KEEP PRESSURE ON ISRAEL**

**NEW YORK:** Kuwait urged UN Security Council to keep pressure on Israel to solve the Palestinian cause, saying it would host an international conference to highlight suffering of Palestinian children. Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said the international community's inability to find a permanent and comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict is threatening peace and security in the region more than ever.

Addressing UN General Assembly, he said this failure to address the Palestinian cause was coupled with oppressive practices of the Israeli occupation forces, and Israel's consistent and unjustifiable use of excessive force against the Palestinian people, in flagrant violation of resolutions of international legitimacy, and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. Israel was continuing its aggressive policies because it is "immune to any international accountability, except from any prosecution, and protected from any criticism or condemnations by the international organizations," said His Highness the Prime Minister.

He urged UNSC to live up to its responsibilities and keep pressure on Israel to compel it implement relevant UN resolutions in order to help the Palestinian people achieve their legitimate political rights and recognize their independent state over the June 4, 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital, in line with Arab peace initiative and land-for-peace principle. His Highness the Prime Minister said

out of Kuwait's desire to help the Palestinian people, it was working on hosting an international conference on suffering of the Palestinian children, through which Israel's serious and persistent violations of international conventions and norms relating to the rights of the child will be highlighted.

The Kuwaiti senior official also praised France's initiative and its effort to revive the Middle East peace process, hosting an international conference last June that reflected the French interest in launching the process, with a view to its leading to a just and comprehensive solutions in the region. On the other hand, His Highness the Prime Minister welcomed the decision of the President council in Libya to form a government of national accord, an important step towards the implementation of the Libyan Political Agreements. Kuwait, he said, hoped this step would help the Libyan people overcome the present challenges in order to preserve unity and independence of Libya.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Premier Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah has emphasized Kuwait's commitment to principles and purposes of UN Charter during its membership in Security Council. His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak thanked all Members States of the Asia-Pacific Group in New York, for their endorsement of Kuwait's candidature to the seat in the Security Council for the period 2018-19. Last Month, the Asia-Pacific group at the UN showed desire to support Kuwait's bid for the Asian group's non-permanent seat at the UNSC in 2018-19. — Agencies

**7 ARRESTED FOR HUNTING BIRDS**

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Seven Kuwaitis were recently arrested along Al-Salmi highway for hunting birds in restricted areas and bird sanctuaries.



**Prison contraband**

An employee of the women's prison has been arrested after being caught trying to smuggle in cigarettes and a mobile phone. The woman was attempting to smuggle the contraband into the prison for an inmate, the Ministry of Interior said. She has been referred to the authorities for further investigation.

**New traffic light**

In collaboration with MPW, the Traffic Department announced that a new traffic light-controlled crossroad would be launched at the junction of Sabahl Road and Al-Shohada Street at the dawn of Saturday, September 24, 2016.

**Safety inspection**

KFSD inspection teams have began a wide scale inspection campaign in Shu'aiba industrial area to safety code regulations at the factories and various facilities commitment, said brigadier, Khaled Abdullah Fahad. Meanwhile, KFSD yesterday signed a cooperation protocol with KNPC to boost cooperation in responding to contingencies and improve emergency teams' readiness. The agreement also included plans for joint training. The protocol was signed by KFSD director Lt General Khaled Al-Mekrad and KNPC's CEO Mohammed Ghazi Al-Mutairi.

**Awareness campaign**

For the second day in a row, Mol's Relations and Security Media Department carried on with its awareness campaign designed for the new school year under the title of 'Ya Zeen Aoudathom' (It's Good to Have Them Back). Also, Mol's Facilities Security Department recently concluded a training course on locating, identifying explosives and measures to be followed on finding strange suspicious objects. 10 security agents and 10 KOC security personnel took part in the course.

**MAN, GIRLFRIEND ARRESTED FOR KIDNAPPING AND DRUG ABUSE**

**KUWAIT:** A citizen and his Kuwaiti girlfriend were recently arrested on charges of drug abuse, said security sources. The girl's mother had accused the citizen of kidnapping and detaining her daughter in an apartment for six days where he allegedly forced her into taking drugs. On arresting the couple, police found that the girl had a criminal record and had been wanted.

**Wife-beating**

A female citizen filed a complaint against her husband accusing him of assaulting and detaining her.

**Stabbing case**

A search is on for two citizens who reportedly stabbed a third one during a fight in Sabah Al-Salem area over some unsettled scores.

**Compensation claim**

Two lawyers recently filed a case against MPW demanding compensation for the deterioration of the condition of streets in Riqqa area.

**Narcotic pills**

Abdali custom inspectors recently foiled an attempt to smuggle 1,300 narcotic pills into Kuwait, said security sources. An Iraqi truck driver was arrested on finding the pills hidden within his truck.

**Reckless driving**

Three citizens were recently arrested in Sabahiya for reckless driving, said security sources.

**Missing girl arrested**

A girl who had been reported missing by her family was recently arrested in Farwaniya. The girl justified fleeing her family house as she wanted to quit high school which is against the family plans.

**Drunk driving**

A citizen was recently arrested in Jahra for drinking and driving dangerously endangering the lives of others. — Al-Rai, Al-Qabas



## EU, GCC REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSS ENERGY POLICIES

**BRUSSELS:** The EU-GCC Energy Expert Group concluded its meeting on Wednesday after discussing recent developments in their respective energy policies. Throughout the two-day meeting, the GCC side presented a global energy, oil, and economic outlook, as well as various policies in the area of energy efficiency, a spokesperson for the European Commission, who requested anonymity said. The EU side presented the initiatives included in the EU's Energy Security Package of February as well as an overview of EU energy efficiency policies, said the spokesperson.

Meanwhile, both parties agreed on the importance of a continuous exchange on respective energy policies and agreed to meet again in a GCC country in 2017, he noted. The GCC Delegation was led by Farred Al-Asaly, Chair of the Energy Committee at the Secretariat of the six-member GCC, while the EU Delegation was led by Hans van Steen, Head of Unit for International Relations in the Directorate General for Energy in the European Commission. The Energy Expert Group was followed by a meeting of the EU-GCC Clean Energy Network and on Wednesday by a workshop on standard and labeling for equipment and appliances which allowed an in-depth discussion and exchange of views on various issues related to a sustainable use of energy. — KUNA

## LAWMAKERS DEMAND URGENT DEBATE ON PETROL PRICE HIKE

### MP DASHTI GETS FRESH 11-YEAR JAIL TERM

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** Lawmakers yesterday submitted a motion signed by 35 MPs demand to convene an emergency session for the National Assembly to debate the government decision to hike petrol prices. No date was given for the session but MP Ahmad Al-Qhudhaibi, who championed the move, said the date will be worked out between the Assembly Speaker and the Prime Minister. The National Assembly is currently on summer recess that continues until mid-October but MPs can submit motions signed by a majority of the House to demand convening emergency sessions to debate urgent matters.

Al-Qhudhaibi said that there was no constitutional problem with the motion after it was signed by 35 lawmakers, well

above the required majority of 33. The motion wants to discuss why the government has exploited the Assembly's summer recess and increased petrol prices thus negatively impacting consumer prices as a whole. In their motion, lawmakers said the move had resulted in a rise in the prices of commodities and goods. They said they want to discuss with the government a solution for the impact of the decision on Kuwaiti citizens, with some MPs demanding compensation for citizens who make up just over 30 percent of the population which reached 4.3 million.

Other MPs have vowed to file motions to grill the Finance Minister and other ministers over the petrol price increase which took effect at the start of September. The government has insisted that the increase is part of the reform

measures intended to meet rising budget deficit due to the plunge in oil prices.

In another development, Shiite MP Abdulhameed Dashti was handed a new 11-year jail term yesterday for insulting the Amir and Saudi Arabia by making statements and online comments. In July, Dashti was handed jail terms of 14 years and six months for insulting Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, endangering Kuwait's diplomatic relations with them and calling for people to join the Lebanese Shiite militia group Hezbollah. The sentences were issued in absentia as Dashti has been living overseas for the past several months.

The outspoken MP said on his Twitter account that he was handed the new sentence and expected his total jail terms to reach 100 years as he is facing several other similar cases.

## MINISTRY INKS DEAL TO SUPPORT YOUNGSTERS



**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of State for Youth Affairs and Ali Sabah Al-Salem Military Academy yesterday signed an accord for boosting cooperation in the sectors of sciences and investments, with aim of guiding the youth and bolstering patriotism among them. The Ministry's Undersecretary, Sheikha Al-Zain Al-Sabah, said in a statement that some provisions of the agreement stipulate cooperation for preparing leaders, boosting voluntary and entertainment activities and boosting nationalism. It also aims at boosting activities at the cultural and sports levels. The academy commander, Bader Al-Awadhi, affirmed that the accord aims at enriching the youth's personal and professional capacities to set as an example as defenders of the homeland. —KUNA

## CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONS TO REINFORCE COLLABORATIVE WORK

**RIYADH:** The meeting of the heads of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Civil Service Commissions will further reinforce collaborative work, Kuwait's Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah said yesterday. In a statement to KUNA after the conclusion of the 15th edition of this meeting, Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah said that a myriad of issues pertinent to GCC civil service were discussed. Moreover, the Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs noted that the meeting yielded plans to establish national databases in each GCC country, in

addition to strategies to develop and enhance civil service in the GCC.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary of Kuwait's Civil Service Commission Mohammad Al-Roumi told KUNA about plans to form a higher committee to study various methods to ensure parity amongst GCC nations in the civil service sector. Speaking on headway made in the GCC civil service sector, Al-Roumi said that recent accomplishments include a unified database system for the GCC that simplifies exchange of information and interaction amongst member states. — KUNA

## MINISTRY DENIES REPORTS OF KUWAITI TERROR FINANCING

**KUWAIT:** A Kuwaiti diplomat has denied recent media reports that accused Kuwaiti charities of funding terrorism, pointing out these charities' firm commitment to the country's laws and regulations. "I'm 100 percent sure that not a single fil from Kuwait goes to any terrorist organization or person in any part of the world," Assistant Foreign Minister for Follow-up and Coordination Affairs Ambassador Nasser Al-Sabeeh confirmed, demanding those reports

to prove otherwise. Al-Sabeeh made his remarks to reporters on the sidelines of attending Tajikistan's National Day ceremony at the Tajik Embassy earlier today.

He also indicated that there is a solid coordination between the Foreign Ministry and the social affairs and labor ministry in that regard, adding that each ministry perform its duty in accordance with the Kuwaiti laws inside and outside the country. — KUNA

Friday Times

# International

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

**Dreams of migrants on doomed boat end in tragedy**

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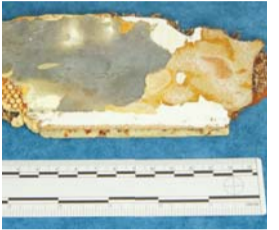
**Chicago's mayor to deliver major speech on city crime**

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**No evidence MH370 'debris' exposed to fire: Australia**

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**CLEVELAND:** Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump listens as he is introduced by boxing promoter Don King prior to speaking to the Pastors Leadership Conference at New Spirit Revival Center on Wednesday. — AP

## CLINTON, TRUMP DECRY LATEST POLICE SHOOTINGS OF BLACK MEN CONNECTING WITH THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

**CLEVELAND:** Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are decrying police-involved shootings in Oklahoma and North Carolina, with the Democrat calling them “unbearable” and the Republican saying he was “very troubled.”

Trump’s effort to court black voters Wednesday in Cleveland took a bizarre turn when he was introduced by boxing promoter Don King, who used a racial slur as he made the case for black voters to support Trump. In an interview later, Trump called for a national expansion of “stop-and-frisk,” the police tactic that a federal judge ruled can be discriminatory against minorities. Trump’s Cleveland event not only sought to connect with a large community of African-American voters key to Clinton’s prospects in Ohio, but also with moderate suburban voters, who frequently hear Clinton describe Trump as extreme.

### What Don King said

King, introducing Trump, raised eyebrows when he said a black man is always framed by his skin color, recalling that he once told pop

icon Michael Jackson “if you’re poor, you’re a ‘poor Negro.’ If you’re rich, you’re a ‘rich Negro.’” An educated black man is “an intellectual negro.”

King, who is black, continued: “If you’re a dancing and sliding and gliding n—— I mean Negro - you are ‘a dancing and sliding and gliding Negro.’” Gasps and laughs could be heard from the audience.

The King incident underscored the often clumsy way in which Trump has made his appeal to minority voters. His outreach has also been viewed cynically as an attempt by his campaign to soothe concerns among more moderate, suburban voters.

At the end of the Ohio church event, Trump was asked about recent high-profile police shootings in Oklahoma and North Carolina. Trump said 40-year-old Terence Crutcher, who was killed in Friday’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, shooting, “looked like he did everything you’re supposed to do. And he looked like a really good man.” “This young officer, I don’t know what she was thinking. I don’t know what she was

thinking but I’m very, very troubled by that,” Trump said, calling it a “terrible situation.”

But hours later he called for the expanded use of stop-and-frisk, a police tactic that a federal judge has ruled can be discriminatory against minorities. Trump said during a Fox News town hall taping that the tactic, which gives police the ability to stop and search anyone they deem suspicious, had “worked incredibly well” in New York, where it was expanded under former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Current New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, a Democrat who supports Clinton, slammed Trump’s call for more stop-and-frisk as “appalling.” Clinton’s speech Wednesday in Orlando, Florida, focused on helping people with disabilities thrive in the US economy. She pointed to the Oklahoma and North Carolina shootings at the start of her remarks, saying they added two more names “to a long list of African-Americans killed by police officers. It’s unbearable and it needs to become intolerable.”

Clinton has made curbing gun violence and police brutality a central part of her candidacy. She has campaigned alongside a group of black women called the “Mothers of the Movement,” who advocated for more accountability and transparency by law enforcement. The group includes the mothers of Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown, black victims of high-profile killings.

Video of the Oklahoma shooting shows Crutcher’s hands up as officers approach. Crutcher then appears to place his hands on a vehicle before the officers surround him. He then drops to the ground. Someone on the police radio says, “I think he may have just been tasered.” Then almost immediately, someone can be heard yelling, “Shots fired!” Crutcher is left lying in the street.

In Charlotte, North Carolina, on Tuesday, 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott was fatally shot by Charlotte police officer Brentley Vinson. Officers said Scott was armed and posed a threat. Street demonstrations continued into the early hours yesterday. — AP

## BAHRAIN COURT UPHOLDS DISSOLUTION OF MAIN SHIITE OPPOSITION GROUP

**DUBAI:** A Bahraini appeals court yesterday upheld an order dissolving the country's main Shiite opposition group despite international criticism of the Sunni-ruled Gulf kingdom's intensified crackdown on dissent.

A lower court had ordered the dissolution of the Al-Wefaq association in July over accusations including "harboring terrorism" and ordered its funds to be seized by the government. The accusations also included inciting violence and encouraging demonstrations which threatened to spark sectarian strife in the Shiite-majority country.

Al-Wefaq was the largest group in parliament before its lawmakers resigned en masse in protest at the crushing of Arab Spring-inspired demonstrations in 2011 calling for an elected government. The court order drew criticism from UN chief Ban Ki-

Moon, and the kingdom's allies in Washington and London.

The United States, whose Fifth Fleet is based in Bahrain, had labeled the crackdown on Al-Wefaq "alarming" and repeatedly appealed for "reform and reconciliation". Shiite-dominated Iran, which is accused by Gulf foes of meddling in Bahrain's affairs, also condemned the court order.

Al-Wefaq's defense team had withdrawn from court proceedings in June in protest at the government's push to accelerate the proceedings, which had initially been set for October 6. And a judicial source said the court still refused to grant lawyers access to the group's offices to prepare their defense. The court had ordered the closure of Al-Wefaq's offices earlier in June.

### 'Flagrant attack on freedom'

Amnesty International condemned yesterday's ruling as "flagrant attack on freedom of expression and association and a brazen attempt to suppress criticism of the government in Bahrain." "The Bahraini authorities have not presented any credible evidence that Al-Wefaq is anything but a peaceful opposition movement which has been seeking reform in the country in the face of increasing government repression," said Amnesty's Research and Advocacy Director, Philip Luther.

"Silencing critical voices encourages further human rights violations and abuse of power," he said. In October 2014, the administrative court banned Al-Wefaq for three months for violating the law on associations.

Political parties are banned in Bahrain, as

in other Gulf Arab states, so Al-Wefaq operated as an association. Also known as the Islamic National Accord Association, Al-Wefaq is heir to the Bahrain Freedom Movement which played a key role in Shiited protests in the 1990s that sought the restoration of the elected parliament scrapped in 1975. In recent months, Manama has intensified its crackdown on leading Shiite figures. Al-Wefaq's leader, Shiite cleric Ali Salman, is serving a nine-year jail term on charges of inciting violence after a court in May more than doubled his sentence. His arrest in December 2014 sparked protests in Bahrain. Authorities have also stripped at least 261 people of their citizenship since 2012, according to the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, including the country's Shiite spiritual leader Sheikh Isa Qassem. —AFP



**JERUSALEM:** Israeli border policemen stand guard at Damascus Gate yesterday. —AFP

## ISRAEL ARRESTS 35 PALESTINIANS IN RAIDS AFTER VIOLENCE SPIKES

**JERUSALEM:** Israeli authorities have arrested at least 35 Palestinians over the last few days in raids following a spike in violence ahead of upcoming Jewish holidays, officials said yesterday. The arrests have occurred in annexed east Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank for reasons ranging from stolen property to suspicions of "terrorism." Israeli police carried out raids in Issawiya and the Shuafat refugee camp in east Jerusalem over the last two days, arresting 23 people, they said. "Police operations took place to locate and seize arms and weapons, finding suspects involved in terrorist activity, in riots and criminal activity," a statement said.

Weapons and ammunition had been seized, it said. "As part of the police operation 23 suspects were arrested on suspicions of terrorism, rioting, possession of illegal weapons, drugs and stolen property," police said. Israel's military confirmed 12 Palestinians had been arrested overnight in various parts of the West Bank, including four accused of being Hamas operatives and others suspected of unspecified illegal activity. A spike in violence since Friday has shattered several weeks of calm, with at least nine attacks or attempted attacks by Palestinians since then, according to Israeli authorities. Nearly all of the incidents have been stabbings or attempted stabbings, carried out by lone-wolf attackers, an Israeli military official said. After a policewoman was left in serious condition from being stabbed in the neck, authorities confirmed officers were wearing a protective collar to block such attacks. Palestinian officials have decried an increased Israeli security presence, saying there have been new checkpoints, with more villages closed off.

### Reducing the amount of guns

Israeli authorities have been keen to reduce the amount of guns in east Jerusalem and the West Bank in order to prevent a further escalation in violence. The shooting deaths of two Israelis in the West Bank on October 1, 2015 helped set off a wave of violence that lasted months. The unrest included clashes between Palestinian youths and Israeli police at the Al-Aqsa mosque compound in east Jerusalem around the time of the Jewish high holidays. The compound is the third holiest site for Muslims and the most sacred for Jews, who refer to it as the Temple Mount. —AFP

## SAUDI-LED RAIDS KILL 20 CIVILIANS IN YEMEN PORT

### RARE ADMISSION OF A POSSIBLE 'ERROR'

**ADEN:** Saudi-led coalition air strikes have killed 20 civilians in a rebel-held port city in Yemen, a government official said in a rare admission of a possible "error" by the alliance.

The strikes came as Riyadh faces mounting international scrutiny over civilian casualties in its 18-month campaign against rebels in Yemen. The raids hit the Suq al-Hunod district in the Red Sea port of Hodeida Wednesday night, the official in the government of Yemeni President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi told AFP. The official said the residential neighborhood was "probably hit in error." US officials-whose country supplies bombs dropped by the coalition-have regularly urged their Middle East ally to avoid harming non-combatants. The rebel administration in the capital Sanaa also reported the Hodeida strikes, saying there were civilian casualties.

The Huthi rebels had been celebrating the second anniversary of their

seizure of Yemen's capital city. Khaled Suhail, a doctor at Hodeida's Al-Thawra Hospital, said his facility received 12 dead and 30 wounded from the strikes.

Pictures from Suq al-Hunod showed residents combing the rubble under arc lights in a search for survivors. The body of one child lay in a morgue, his head bloody above a left eye which remained open in death. Air strikes by the Saudi-led coalition are suspected of causing around half of all civilian deaths in Yemen, a United Nations report said last month. It called for an independent international body to investigate an array of serious violations by all sides in Yemen, where nearly 4,000 civilians have died. "It's difficult to see what strategic advantage the Saudis are gaining from their bombing campaign outside of the front lines," Peter Salisbury, an associate fellow at London's Chatham House think tank, told AFP before the Hodeida incident. He said Saudi aircraft

and weapon suppliers, Britain and the United States, "are under growing pressure" to explain why they cannot influence the Saudis over civilian casualties. Last month the US military said it had slashed the number of intelligence advisers directly supporting the Saudi-led coalition's air war in Yemen. The reassignment of personnel, around June, came because "there was not the same sort of requests coming in for assistance", Fifth Fleet spokesman Lieutenant Ian McConaughy said.

### Targets picked by Saudi

US cooperation with Saudi Arabia mostly involves "imagery that allows them to better assess the situation on the ground, and then advice and assistance", he said. Targeting is ultimately decided by the Saudis, McConaughy added. Riyadh formed the Arab coalition which began air raids in March last year, and later sent in ground forces, to support Hadi's internationally recognized government after the Huthis and their allies overran much of Yemen. Coalition spokesman Brigadier General Ahmed Assiri was not immediately available for comment. The coalition has told AFP it uses highly accurate laser- and GPS-guided weapons and verifies targets many times to avoid civilian casualties. Yet allegations of strikes on civilian facilities continue.

Last month the charity MSF (Doctors Without Borders) decided to withdraw staff from six hospitals in Yemen after 19 people died in an air raid on a hospital it supported. Amnesty International on Monday said the weapon involved was an American made Paveway-series precision-guided aerial bomb.

It called on Washington and London to stop supplying the coalition with arms. A coalition team is conducting "independent" probes into the hospital strike and an air raid two days earlier on a Koranic school that MSF said killed 10 children. Civilians have also died on the Saudi side of the border. More than 30 non-combatants been killed in the border district of Najran by rebel fire including from Katyusha rockets. —AFP



**HODEIDAH, YEMEN:** A general view shows buildings destroyed during Saudi-led air strikes yesterday. —AFP



ROSETTA, EGYPT: Egyptian policemen and medics stand over a body of a migrant along the shore on Wednesday. — AFP



ROSETTA, EGYPT: Egyptian men and policemen react upon the arrival of the bodies of migrants along the shore on Wednesday. — AFP

# DREAMS OF MIGRANTS END IN TRAGEDY

## 42 PEOPLE CONFIRMED DEAD

**ROSETTA, EGYPT:** Mutwali Mohamed watched helplessly as his wife and son slipped under the waves after the crowded migrant boat they boarded capsized off Egypt's coast on its voyage to Italy.

They were among 42 people confirmed dead in the disaster which unfolded on Wednesday. Dozens more are feared drowned. Mohamed, a 28-year-old Egyptian welder, managed to stay afloat until a rescue boat found him. He was arrested for trying to leave the country illegally and now lies handcuffed to a hospital bed in the Mediterranean port city of Rosetta, weeping for his lost family.

"I risked my life and the lives of my son and wife so they could have a nice life."

Mohamed said the rising cost of living had prompted him to leave behind his homeland and head for Italy, where he would have looked for a "job doing anything". He had agreed with a trafficker to pay an intermediary 50,000 pounds (\$5,600) when he reached Italy. "I was the only one who survived. I wish I hadn't survived."

**'Like the apocalypse'**

Next to him, also handcuffed to a bed, a



ROSETTA, Egypt: Survivors from a boat that capsized, off Egypt's north coast are seen in a police station yesterday. — AFP

weeping Badr Abdel Hafiz said about 400 people had been on board the boat. "I was with my wife and three children. They all died," the 28-year-old said. Ahmed Mohamed, 27, recounted how passengers had tried to save themselves when the vessel began to sink. "It was like the apocalypse. Everyone tried to get out alive. I swam for 10 kilometers," he said.

About 150 survivors were detained in a police station in Rosetta, most of them young men. There were Egyptians, Sudanese and Syrians. Dozens were sprawled out in the hallways, where police offered them water and clothes.

Mohamed Ahmed, a 17-year-old student, had borrowed 20,000 pounds to pay for passage on the doomed boat. He said he was among around 100 people in a hold used to store fish when the vessel capsized. "Me and my friend were the only ones who escaped." "Everything has become more expensive here. I couldn't gather the money to marry. I thought I would travel to Italy to start a new life," he said.

Others, like Sumuya from Sudan, wanted to join family who had already made the trip. Her husband is in Europe. "There were many in the boat's hold who died. The boat keeled over and they were locked in. By God, at least 100 people," she said.

On a beach near Rosetta on yesterday, a small crowd gathered with some reading verses from the Koran and others desperately seeking information on relatives who may have been on board. A municipal official in Rosetta told AFP that Wednesday's victims included one child, 10 women and 31 young men.

More than 10,000 people have died attempting to cross the Mediterranean to Europe since 2014, according to the United Nations.

Asylum-seekers have been seeking other ways to reach Europe since March, when Balkan countries closed the popular overland route and the EU agreed a deal with Turkey to halt departures. The head of EU border agency Frontex, Fabrice Leggeri, said in June that Egypt was becoming a "departure country" for migrants. More than 300,000 migrants have crossed the Mediterranean so far this year from various points of departure, the UN said this week. — AFP



ROSETTA, Egypt: Survivors from a boat that capsized, off Egypt's north coast are seen in a police station yesterday. — AFP

# DOZENS MORE FEARED DEAD IN EGYPT MIGRANT BOAT TRAGEDY

**ROSETTA, EGYPT:** Dozens of migrants were feared dead yesterday after their overloaded fishing boat capsized off Egypt's Mediterranean coast, as authorities arrested four suspected traffickers following the tragedy that killed at least 42 people.

The latest in a string of disasters to hit those undertaking the perilous sea crossing to Europe saw hundreds of mainly African migrants thrown into the sea on Wednesday about 12 kilometres (eight miles) from the Egyptian city of Rosetta. More than 150 people have been rescued but 42 migrants were confirmed to have died so far. Rescuers said search operations would focus on the boat's cold storage room where witnesses said around 100 people sought refuge as the vessel flipped over.

"The death toll is going to rise," a medical source told AFP. "On the boat there is a hold used to store fish. It hasn't been opened and there must be a lot of people inside." The deadly accident comes months after the EU's border agency Frontex warned that growing numbers of migrants bound for Europe were

turning to Egypt as a departure point for the dangerous sea journey.

Traffickers often overload the boats, some of them scarcely seaworthy, with passengers who have paid for the crossing. On a beach near Rosetta on Thursday, a small crowd gathered with some reading verses from the Koran and others desperately seeking information on relatives who may have been on board.

The military said in a statement that 163 passengers had been rescued so far, adding that they had stopped another boat elsewhere on the Mediterranean coast carrying 294 migrants. Many survivors were in police custody early yesterday.

Witnesses spoke of the harrowing moment their vessel, carrying up to 450 people, keeled over due to overcrowding, as well as the agonizing hours-long wait for help to arrive. "There was 200 of us and the boat was already full, 200 more than arrived. The boat tilted to the side then began to sink," said Ahmed Mohamed, a 27-year-old Egyptian. "It was like the apocalypse. Everyone tried to get out alive. I swam for 10 kilometers." — AFP



**UN HEADQUARTERS: Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari meets United Nations General Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Wednesday. —AP**

## NIGERIAN LEADER ASKS UN TO HELP FREE ABDUCTED CHIBOK GIRLS

**LAGOS:** Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari has invited the United Nations to help negotiations to exchange the kidnapped schoolgirls from Chibok for detained leaders of Boko Haram, a government statement said yesterday.

Buhari's government has been criticized for failing to free the Chibok girls by parents of the abducted students, community leaders and human rights activists. Boko Haram has kidnapped thousands of people, but the mass abduction of 276 schoolgirls in April 2014 brought international condemnation of Nigeria's home-grown Islamic extremist group. Dozens of the girls escaped, but 217 remain missing.

Buhari's request for UN intermediaries is a "show of commitment" made to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Wednesday on the sidelines of the annual UN gathering of world leaders in New York, said a statement from presidential adviser Femi Adesina. Buhari told Ban that his government is "willing to bend over backwards" to win the girls' freedom but finding credible Boko Haram leaders for negotiations has been difficult, especially because of the current leadership struggle among the extremists. — AP

# BATTLE OVER ABORTION LAW HEATS UP IN CATHOLIC POLAND

## LIBERALIZE OR FURTHER TIGHTEN

**WARSAW:** Poland's abortion battle will resume when the devoutly Catholic country's parliament debates rival initiatives to either liberalize or further tighten a law that is already one of the strictest in Europe. While the governing rightwing Law and Justice (PiS) party, which controls parliament, generally favors banning abortion, its leaders are well aware that most Poles support existing legislation. Passed in 1993, the current law bans all terminations unless there was rape or incest, the pregnancy poses a health risk to the mother or the fetus is severely deformed. A poll published this week by the Newsweek Polska magazine showed that 74 percent of Poles want to keep the existing law. But anti-abortion activists want to allow terminations only if the mother's life is at risk and to increase the maximum jail term for practitioners from two years to five.

The citizen's initiative tabled in parliament by the Stop Abortion committee of various pro-life groups would also make mothers liable to prison terms, though judges could waive punishment in their case. Poland's influential Catholic Church gave the initiative its seal of approval earlier this year, though its bishops have since come out against the provisions to jail women. The proposal, which the Council of Europe called a "serious backsliding on women's rights", has inspired several large pro-choice marches and a



**WARSAW: Women demonstrating against proposed changes to Poland's restrictive abortion law on June 18, 2016. —AFP**

rival drive to liberalize the law. The country of 38 million people sees less than 2,000 legal abortions a year, but women's groups estimate that another 100,000-150,000 procedures are performed illegally or abroad.

### Half a million signatures

The anti-abortion proposal garnered almost half a million signatures in support, much more than the 100,000 required for a citizen's bill to be tabled in parliament. In addition to punishing practitioners, the proposal would require state and local governments to offer support to women

and families with handicapped children as well as those born out of rape or incest. "We hope the measure will be adopted as soon as possible and will take effect before the end of the year," pro-life activist Sylwia Zborowska told AFP. She has some reason to be optimistic, as the PiS had backed a similar initiative that ultimately failed while the party was in the opposition, before it came to power in November. But the lack of broad public support for a near-total ban on abortion has now made the governing PiS wary of fully endorsing it, preferring instead for party members to vote according to their convictions. — AFP

Kuwait Times

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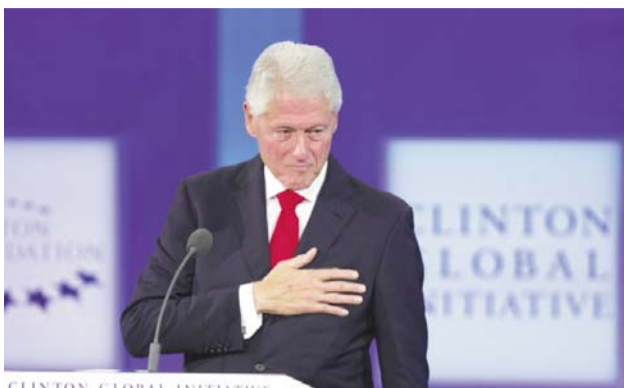
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## BILL CLINTON DELIVERS EMOTIONAL DEFENSE OF CHARITABLE WORK

**NEW YORK:** Bill Clinton delivered an emotional defense of his family's charitable foundation Wednesday, applauding contributors for having "validated hope and possibilities."

The former president spoke at the close of the final meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative, an arm of the broader Clinton Foundation. The annual CGI gathering in New York has brought together an unusual blend of political leaders, philanthropists and celebrities, with participants expected to make specific commitments for projects around the world.

This week's event was held under a cloud of election year questions fueled by Donald Trump, who is locked in a close race against Hillary Clinton. The Republican has accused the Clintons of using their charity to enrich themselves and to give foundation donors greater access to Hillary Clinton as secretary of state. Bill Clinton did not directly address those accusations Wednesday, but aides said he viewed his hour-long address touting CGI's work as an implicit rebuke to critics. He said the initiative had marked a "profound advance" in global philanthropic efforts and had helped 435 million people in 180 countries. Clinton spent much of his address recalling specific people who have been helped by CGI commitments, including making life-saving drugs more widely available and expanding



**NEW YORK:** Former US President Bill Clinton holds his hand to his chest to acknowledge applause as he makes departing remarks on the final day of the Clinton Global Initiative on Wednesday. —AP

access to clean drinking water. Clinton has pledged to step down from the foundation's board if his wife is elected president, a decision he says is as painful as a root canal. He's end-

ing CGI regardless of the outcome of the election.

Trump's campaign renewed its criticism ahead of the former president's speech, saying the Clinton Foundation presents "an unprecedented conflict of interest that would badly compromise a Hillary Clinton White House."

The Associated Press found that more than half the people outside the government who met or spoke by telephone with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state had given money - either personally or through companies or groups - to the Clinton Foundation.

The AP's analysis focused on people with private interests and excluded her meetings or calls with US federal employees or foreign government representatives.

AP's report was based on Clinton's formal calendars and daily schedules, the latter of which covered only about half her tenure as secretary. The AP sued the State Department in federal court to obtain the detailed schedules, and the State Department so far has only released half of them.

Trump's own charitable foundation has also faced scrutiny. The Washington Post reported this week that Trump spent more than a quarter-million dollars from the foundation to settle lawsuits that involved his for-profit businesses. —AP

## CHICAGO'S MAYOR TO DELIVER MAJOR SPEECH ON CITY CRIME

**CHICAGO:** Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel will deliver his new, more comprehensive public safety plan for the nation's third-largest city, drawing a spotlight on his leadership amid a troubling spike in street violence and an ongoing Department of Justice investigation of his police department.

The agenda is expected to include more support and mentorship of youth, a key theme he's expected to address in the evening speech at a community college campus. "You give the kids of the city of Chicago a positive alternative with a caring adult, they'll go the positive route," Emanuel told reporters Wednesday. "The gangs are out there trying to be both role models, mentors and a family for these kids."

### New cops

In recent days, Emanuel's administration has announced plans to add nearly 1,000 new police officers, an expansion

of the use of body cameras and mandatory de-escalation training for all officers. Emanuel, in his second term as mayor, has been trying to rebuild trust in his leadership, particularly after the 2014 death of Laquan McDonald, a black teenager shot 16 times by a white police officer. The officer was charged with murder, but only after a judge ordered the public release of the graphic squad car video last year. Circulation of the video prompted frequent protests, allegations of a cover-up and repeated calls for Emanuel to step down. The Justice Department has since launched a systemic probe of department practices.

In the interim, Emanuel has tried to make his own changes, ousting his police chief, abolishing the agency that handles police investigations and pitching a new system for reviewing police misconduct and department audits. The former White House chief of staff said

Wednesday that the approach to crime in the city has to be comprehensive.

Chicago has seen a dramatic rise in the number of shootings and homicides this year. In August alone, there were 90 homicides, marking the first time in two decades there have been that many in a single month. Overall, the city has recorded more than 500 homicides this year - higher than all of 2015 - and is on pace to climb past the 600-homicide mark for the first time since 2003.

Emanuel said the violence spike was new, noting the number of homicides in 2014 was among the lowest on record. That year closed with roughly 400 murders. "What happened this year is new," Emanuel said Wednesday, the day Chicago police announced the additional jobs. "So we're meeting it with a new response, which is more police, more technology, greater investment in mentoring, our summer jobs and our after-school."

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said he asked for additional officers and Emanuel "delivered." The plan, which will start in January 2017, is to add 516 new officers, 92 field-training officers, 200 detectives, 112 sergeants and 50 lieutenants. The changes will increase the number of sworn officers from about 12,500 to about 13,500.

What's missing is how the cash-strapped city will fund the officers. Emanuel declined to detail where the money will come from. Already his tenure has seen a property tax hike and the council approved new water and sewer tax increases earlier this month.

"We will have the resources in the budget to pay for this," Emanuel said. Activists who've called for additional community resources and leadership changes criticized the plan to add so many officers.

"The causes of crime and intra-communal violence exist because of the conditions of poverty that Rahm Emanuel has exacerbated for Chicago," Black Lives Matter Chicago said in a statement. "What more policing will accomplish is more violence, more lock ups and more trauma for our already suffering communities." —AP



**CHICAGO:** Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel, left, points out the city's architecture to London mayor Sadiq Khan during a boat ride Friday, Sept. 16, 2016. —AP



**MIAMI:** In this Monday, Dec. 20, 2010, file photo, Jean-Robert Lafortune, left foreground, talks to a reporter as Haitian-Americans protest against the deportation of Haitians, in the Little Haiti section. —AP

## US TOUGHENS STANCE ON HAITIANS SEEKING ENTRY FROM BRAZIL

**SAN DIEGO:** The US Department of Homeland Security said yesterday that it was widening efforts to deport Haitians, a response to thousands of immigrants from the Caribbean nation who have overwhelmed California border crossings with Mexico in recent months. The move lifts special protections that shielded Haitians from deportation after their nation's 2010 earthquake. Since 2011, US authorities have avoided deporting Haitians unless they were convicted of serious crimes or posed a national security threat.

Now they will be treated like people from other countries. Secretary Jeh Johnson said the new posture doesn't apply to Haitians who got temporary status to live and work in the US after the earthquake and have remained in the country since January 2011. The change may dramatically affect Haitians who have been showing up at US border crossings in California, claiming they lived in Brazil for several years, left for economic reasons, and traveled through Central America and Mexico.

Homeland Security officials say about 5,000 Haitians have been stopped at San Diego's San Ysidro port of entry since October, compared to only 339 for the 2015 fiscal year. Large numbers have also turned themselves in to US inspectors in Calexico, California, 120 miles east of San Diego.

### Influx

The influx is so heavy that inspectors at San Ysidro, the nation's busiest border crossing, are turning back Haitians with appointments to come at a later date, leaving hundreds waiting in Tijuana, Mexico. Many stay at one of the Mexican border city's five migrant shelters that volunteered in May to help. The Rev. Pat Murphy, director of Casa del Migrante in Tijuana, said Haitians arriving at the San Diego crossing on Wednesday wouldn't get an appointment until Oct. 12. His shelter now houses 1,000 people a month, up from 600 before the Haitians began arriving. About half who stay there are Haitians. — AP

## 2 MORE SOUGHT IN KIDNAPPING OF 4 HELD AT CALIFORNIA POT FARM

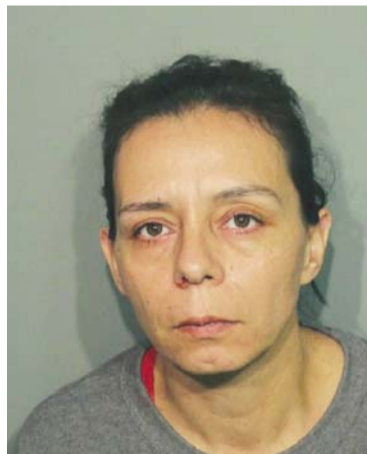
**SAN FRANCISCO:** Authorities say they arrested two women and are searching for two men who are all accused of playing a role in holding four brothers captive at an illegal marijuana farm in Northern California and forcing them to work there.

The brothers told police they ran away in July from the secluded pot-growing operation in the small Sierra Nevada foothills town of West Point after overhearing they would be killed once all the marijuana was harvested, Calaveras County Sheriff's Capt. Jim Macedo said Wednesday.

Two other men, including the brothers' nephew, are being sought by authorities from the small, impoverished county undergoing a dramatic transformation because of marijuana cultivation. The traditionally politically conservative board of supervisors on May 10 made it legal for farmers to grow commercial amounts of medicinal marijuana. The legislation was seen as a way to help the county recover from a devastating wildfire that charred 26 square miles, killing two people and destroying 860 homes in September 2015. The county itself raised \$3 million after receiving 700 applications for farming permits, which cost \$5,000 each. The cultivation law was passed over the objection of the sheriff and district attorney, who said the remote county was already overrun with too many illicit pot farms and warned of an influx of unsavory outsiders.

### 23,000 plants destroyed

Authorities said they destroyed 23,000 plants worth up to \$60 million found on July 28 at the forested compound where the brothers worked. The two women were arrested Sept. 14 in Modesto and charged with human trafficking, kidnapping, battery with serious bodily injury, terrorist threats and drug charges. "We've seen an increase in violence, theft and greed related to marijuana trafficking, and this appears to be an organized, violent group," Macedo said. Neither Guadalupe Sierra Arellano, 43, nor Medarda Urbieto, 44, entered pleas during a court appearance in San Andreas, California. Macedo said the two women are suspected of living in the United States without proper documentation. Macedo said investigators are looking into whether suspects have ties to any Mexican drug cartels. Authorities said they found a religious shrine popular among Mexican drug traffickers and cartels during a search of a Modesto home in connection with the case.



**SAN ANDREAS, CALIFORNIA:** This booking photo released Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, by the Calaveras County Sheriff's Office shows Guadalupe Sierra Arellano. —AP

client had any connections to cartels and said it appears the site was maintained and cultivated by locals. David Singer, a lawyer representing Urbieto, didn't return a call. Both women remain in jail on \$800,000 bail each.

Macedo said the victims, who were not identified, had bruises and black eyes after they escaped the marijuana farm and made it to a nearby home to ask for help. One of the brothers suffered a broken jaw and had to be hospitalized, court records show. The case began in February when Arellano hired two of the brothers to help clean a Modesto home, court records show. Instead, the two brothers said they were taken against their will to the marijuana farm and forced to live and work there at gunpoint. They told police that Arellano threatened harm to their family if they escaped or called police. Nine days later, investigators say Arellano lured the two other brothers to the farm under the guise of visiting the brothers held captive. Once there, all four brothers were forced to live and cultivate. They say they were beaten on three occasions, the last time three days before their escape.

The men worked the marijuana operation on several acres of land up a winding road with armed men standing guard over a house where the women lived. The men themselves slept in squalid and ramshackle conditions in a hut-like structure, Macedo said. —AP



**CHARLOTTE:** CMPD officers in riot gear block the intersection near the Epicentre on Wednesday. —AP

## CHARLOTTE WORKERS ASKED TO STAY HOME AFTER NIGHT OF VIOLENCE

### STATE OF EMERGENCY

**CHARLOTTE:** Streets appeared calm early yesterday in downtown Charlotte after a second night of violent protests over the deadly police shooting of a black man, although at least three major businesses were asking their employees to stay home for the day as the city remained on edge.

Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Duke Energy all told employees not to venture into North Carolina's largest city after Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency Wednesday night and called in the National Guard after Charlotte's police chief said he needed the help. Anger has continued to build over the shooting of 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott by a black police officer on Tuesday afternoon and the wildly different accounts about what happened from authorities and Scott's family and neighbors. A peaceful prayer vigil turned into an angry march and then a night of violence after a protester was shot and critically wounded as people charged police in riot gear trying to protect an upscale hotel in Charlotte's typically vibrant downtown. Police did not shoot the man, city officials said.

Video obtained and verified by The Associated Press, which was recorded right after the shooting, shows someone lying in a pool of blood as people scream and a voice yells for someone to call for help. People are then told to back up from the scene.

The unrest took many by surprise in Charlotte, the banking capital of the South with a population of 830,000 people, about 35 percent of them black. The

city managed to pull through a racially charged shooting three years ago without the unrest that erupted in recent years in places such as Baltimore, Milwaukee and Ferguson, Missouri.

### 2013 charges

In 2013, Charlotte police charged one of their own, Randall Kerrick with voluntary manslaughter within days, after the white officer shot an unarmed black man who had been in a wreck and was looking for help. The jury deadlocked and the charge was dropped last summer. The city saw a few protests but no violence. On Wednesday, hundreds of protesters who were shouting "black lives matter" and "hands up, don't shoot" left after police fired flash grenades and tear gas after the shooting. But several groups of a dozen or more protesters stayed behind, attacking people, including reporters, shattering windows to hotels, office buildings and restaurants and setting small fires.

At one point, television news helicopters showed protesters on the loop highway around downtown, trying to stop cars for several minutes before police arrived.

"My heart bleeds for what our great city is going through," McCrory said on WBTB-TV. He was mayor of Charlotte for 14 years before becoming governor.

Authorities said three people and four police officers were injured, but those figures had not been updated early Thursday morning. Videos and pictures on Twitter showed reporters and other people being attacked. The vio-

lence happened amid questions about what happened when Scott was shot and killed in the parking lot of his condominium complex. Police did not release dashboard or body camera footage, but said Scott had a gun and refused several orders to drop his weapon. Scott's family and neighbors said he was holding a book.

"He got out of his car, he walked back to comply, and all his compliance did was get him murdered," said Taheshia Williams, whose balcony overlooks the shady parking spot where Scott was Tuesday afternoon. She said he often waited there for his son because a bicycle accident several years ago left him stuttering and susceptible to seizures if he stayed out in the hot sun too long.

### Police Chief

Charlotte Police Chief Kerr Putney was angered by the stories on social media, especially a profanity-laced, hourlong video on Facebook, where a woman identifying herself as Scott's daughter screamed "My daddy is dead!" at officers at the shooting scene and repeating that he was only holding a book. Putney was adamant that Scott posed a threat, even if he didn't point his weapon at officers, and said a gun was found next to the dead man. "I can tell you we did not find a book," the chief said. Not long after the Facebook video was posted Tuesday night, the first night of destructive protests began near the shooting scene, about 15 miles northeast of downtown Charlotte. — AP

## US: BOMBER FLEW CLOSE TO NORTH KOREAN BORDER AMID STANDOFF

**SEOUL:** The US military said at least one of its supersonic bombers that flew over South Korea earlier this week in a display of military power approached the border with North Korea. The flight will likely anger North Korea, which is extremely sensitive to the deployment of high-tech US weapons systems. The United States often sends powerful warplanes to South Korea in times of heightened animosity between the Koreans, but it is still unusual for such aircraft to fly near the rivals' border, the world's most heavily fortified.

The United States flew two B-1B bombers over South Korea on Wednesday, in the second such flyover in about a week. The US Pacific Command said on its website

Wednesday that the flight was the closest a B-1 has ever flown to the border. It didn't say whether both or just one of the bombers approached the border. South Korean media said both bombers flew over a front-line US firing range about 30 kilometers (19 miles) from the border.

The United States sent two B-1B bombers to South Korea on Sept. 13, four days after North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test explosion, its most powerful to date. About 28,500 US troops are stationed in South Korea to deter potential aggression from North Korea in a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War that ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. —AP

## US WATCHDOG SLAMS AFGHAN ANTI-CORRUPTION BODY AND FORMER PRESIDENT

**WASHINGTON:** An Afghan anti-corruption body formed in 2008 has been ineffective, lacks independence and never verified the asset declaration forms of former President Hamid Karzai, the US government's top watchdog on Afghanistan said in a report published yesterday.

The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) found that asset declaration forms submitted by Karzai and senior members of his government had omissions and errors. The report highlights the challenges Afghanistan faces in battling corruption, which US officials say undermines the fight against the Taliban. Corruption is widely considered pervasive in Afghanistan, which the watchdog group Transparency International ranked 166th out of 168 nations in its annual corruption index this year.

The SIGAR report found that when Karzai submitted his asset declaration form in September 2015, he listed cash in a German bank account but did not give an account number and left the source-of-money field blank. "Under personal effects, the president listed jewels but again provided no purchase date, no current value, and no source of income to purchase the asset," the report added.

When then-Vice President Karim Khalili left office, his declaration form said he had "no cash assets or personal effects, and no vehicles, loans, off-duty activities, or educational expenses to declare," the report said.

Khalili declared a house and four plots of land but gave no information on their value. The report, citing an adviser with the anti-corruption body, said the asset declaration process was simply "window dressing designed to keep the international community happy."

Karzai, who has faced criticism for failing to curb corruption during his tenure, could not immediately be reached for comment. The United States has appropriated nearly \$113 billion for reconstruction in Afghanistan since 2001, when US-led forces invaded the country and toppled the Taliban regime.

SIGAR's website says, "These funds are used to build the Afghan National Security Forces, promote good governance, conduct development assistance, and engage in counter-narcotics and anti-corruption efforts." As the US-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has withdrawn troops, however, the Afghan government has been facing a growing threat from a renewed Taliban insurgency. — Reuters

## PAKISTAN'S SHARIF SAYS WORLD IGNORES SOUTH ASIA TENSION AT ITS PERIL

**UNITED NATIONS:** Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif accused nuclear-armed rival India on Wednesday of putting unacceptable conditions on dialogue and said the world would ignore rising tension in South Asia at its peril.

Sharif told the annual United Nations General Assembly Pakistan could not ignore India's "unprecedented" arms buildup and would "take whatever measures are necessary to maintain credible deterrence". India has accused Pakistan of being behind a deadly attack on an army base in the disputed Kashmir region on Sunday in which 18 soldiers were killed and said it had the right to respond when and where it chose.

Pakistan has rejected the allegation and accused India of apportioning blame before the incident had been investigated properly. Sharif said Pakistan wanted peace with India and had repeatedly offered dialogue. "But India has posed unacceptable preconditions to engage in dialogue," he said. "Talks are in the interests of both countries. They are essential to resolve our differences, especially the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, and to avert the danger of any escalation."

India has long accused Pakistan of playing a role in the 27-year-long insurgency against its rule in Jammu and Kashmir, its only Muslim-majority state. Pakistan denies sending fighters into Indian-administered Kashmir.

India has said it would only discuss terrorism-related issues, whereas Pakistan wants a wider agenda that would, among other things, discuss the Kashmir question. Kashmir, divided between India and Pakistan since 1947, is at the heart the neighbors' seven decades of distrust. Two of their three wars since independence from Britain have been fought over the region.

India's portion of Kashmir has been under a major security lockdown during more than two months of protests sparked by the July 8 killing by Indian security forces of Burhan Wani, a popular young commander of the Kashmiri separatist group Hizbul Mujahideen, whose leader is based in Pakistan. — Reuters



**ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN:** A Pakistani Kashmiri takes part in a protest led by All Parties Hurriyat Conference who have gathered to express solidarity with Kashmiris who are resisting Indian rule yesterday. — AP

## INDIAN AUTHORITIES RE-ARREST KASHMIR RIGHTS ACTIVIST 'LAWLESS LAW'

**SRINAGAR:** Authorities in Indian-controlled Kashmir have charged a leading human rights activist under a controversial security law after immediately taking him back into custody when a local court ordered him freed from police detention.

Police yesterday said Khurram Parvez was formally booked on Wednesday night under the Public Safety Act that allows detention for up to six months without a trial. Parvez and local and international human rights groups have long campaigned for abrogation of the act, saying it violates India's obligations under international law. Police gave no other details. The rights group Amnesty International, which has called the act a "lawless law," urged authorities to immediately release Parvez, "or charge him with a recognizable criminal offense and prosecute him in a fair trial."

### Week in review

Last Thursday, immigration officials at New Delhi's international airport barred Parvez from boarding a plane to Geneva, although he had a valid visa and a letter of invitation to participate in a session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

A day later, Parvez was arrested by police at his home in Kashmir's main city of Srinagar to prevent him from "causing a breach of peace." A local court ordered his release Tuesday but police immediately rearrested him at the prison gate. He was then charged under the Public Safety Act on Wednesday and sent to a prison 300 kilometers from his home.

"Detaining a person right after he is released, without any intention to charge him or bring him to trial, amounts to using a revolving door of persecution," said Aakar Patel, who heads the Indian chapter of Amnesty International. "This kind of arbitrary use of the law suggests that the ... police are determined to lock up Khurram Parvez at any cost." Patel said Parvez "must be protected from torture or other ill-treatment, given access to his family and lawyers, and provided adequate medical care."

Parvez uses a prosthetic limb because his left leg was amputated due to a land mine injury in 2004. His detention comes amid the largest protests against Indian rule in Kashmir in recent years, sparked by the July 8 killing of a popular rebel commander by Indian soldiers. The protests, and a sweeping military crackdown, have all but paralyzed life in Indian-controlled Kashmir.

More than 80 civilians have been killed and thousands injured, mostly by government forces firing bullets and shotgun pellets at rock-throwing protesters. Two policemen have also been killed and hundreds of government forces have been injured in the clashes. Parvez, 39, and his organization, the Coalition of Civil Society, were the first to report and draw attention to thousands

of unmarked mass graves in remote parts of Kashmir and to demand that the government investigate them to determine who the dead were and how they were killed. His organization also has written scathing reports about brutality involving some of the hundreds of thousands of Indian troops in the region and highlighted widespread powers granted to troops which led to a culture of impunity and widespread rights abuses.

He currently also heads a Philippine-based rights group, the Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances. The disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan but claimed by both. — AP

## INDIA SUMMONS PAKISTAN'S HIGH COMMISSIONER TO PROTEST REPEATED ATTACKS IN KASHMIR

**NEW DELHI:** Indian External Affairs Ministry said yesterday that it has summoned Pakistan's High Commissioner to register New Delhi's protest against the repeated terror attacks in the disputed Jammu and Kashmir.

In its statement the Indian Ministry said Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar summoned Pakistan's High Commissioner Muhammad Abdul Basit to remind the latter that his government has violated its pledge made in 2004 not allow its soil or territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India, adding that "the persistent and growing violation of this undertaking is a matter of very serious concern." This year, beginning with the Pathankot airstrike attack, there have been continuous attempts by armed terrorists to cross the Line of Control and International Boundary in order to carry out attacks in India. Seventeen such attempts have been interdicted at or around the Line of Control," the foreign ministry said in the statement.

"If the government of Pakistan wishes to investigate these cross-border attacks, India is ready to provide finger prints and DNA samples of terrorists killed in the Uri and Poonch incidents," it further stated.

In the Uri attack, 18 Indian soldiers and four militants were killed three days back while 10 more terrorists were also killed in an operation to foil attempts to sneak into Indian territories. — KUNA



## SCARLETT KEELING'S MOTHER ANXIOUS ABOUT INDIAN JUSTICE

**PANAJI:** The mother of a British schoolgirl found dead on an Indian beach in 2008 fears her daughter will not get justice when a court delivers a long-awaited verdict on two men accused of involvement in her death.

Fifteen-year-old Scarlett Keeling's bruised and half-naked body was discovered in shallow water on a beach in the popular Indian resort state of Goa eight years ago, making international headlines. After years of delays and controversy an Indian judge will on Friday finally deliver rulings against two local men accused over the drugging, sexual assault and death of the teenager.

"I don't know how I'm going to feel tomorrow. I'm getting more and more nervous about the judgement," Fiona MacKeown, Keeling's mother, told AFP in an interview yesterday. "It's been a long time. I've been waiting, waiting and waiting and I have no idea which way the verdict will go," she said at her lawyer's office in Goa's state capital Panaji.



**PANAJI, GOA, INDIA:** Fiona MacKeown, mother of murdered British schoolgirl Scarlett Keeling, looks through court documents at her lawyer Vikram Varma's office yesterday. — AFP

Keeling's death drew attention to the dark side of a tourist destination that has long been a hangout for Western hippies and later highlighted India's notoriously sluggish justice system. Police initially dismissed the teenager's death as an accident but opened a murder probe after MacKeown pushed for a second autopsy which proved the teen had been drugged and raped.

Samson D'Souza and Placido Carvalho were arrested and charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder, using force with intent to outrage a woman's modesty and of administering drugs with intent to harm. The trial started in 2010 but has been plagued by numerous delays, including infrequent hearings due to a backlog of cases and a public prosecutor withdrawing from proceedings.

### 'I regret it forever'

"If it's a guilty verdict I think they'll appeal. If we get not guilty then hopefully the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) will appeal so it might not be the actual end of it but it's pretty close to the end," MacKeown said.

Police allege D'Souza and Carvalho plied Keeling with a cocktail of drink and illegal drugs, including cocaine, before sexually assaulting her and leaving her to die by dumping her unconscious in shallow water where she drowned.

Prosecutors argued that dozens of bruises on Keeling's body were evidence of a struggle, while defence lawyers claimed the teenager died of accidental drowning after taking illegal drugs of her own accord.

MacKeown said she had been "devastated" by the decision of a key witness not to testify at the trial. "I felt we had a watertight case before then and without him it's made it a much more precarious balance about which way it might go," she told AFP.

The family was on a six-month holiday to India when MacKeown, Keeling and her other daughters went on an excursion to the southern state of Karnataka, but Keeling later returned alone to attend a Valentine's Day party. "I gave in and let her go back. Things went wrong and that's why she never came back to me. I will regret it forever," said MacKeown.

Whichever verdict is handed down MacKeown said there will never be closure for her. "I can't close the door on losing a child. I think about Scarlett every day. I miss her. There's a hole in our family and there always will be," she said. — AFP



**KABUL:** Afghanistan national security adviser Mohammad Hanif Atmar, left, and Amin Karim, representative of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, right, shake hands after signing a peace deal yesterday. — AP

## AFGHAN GOVERNMENT SIGNS DRAFT PEACE DEAL, FIRST SINCE 2001

### COMPROMISES FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE

**KABUL:** Afghanistan's government signed a draft peace deal yesterday with a designated "global terrorist" after lengthy negotiations that could pave the way for a similar accord with the Taliban, who have been waging war on Kabul for 15 years.

The deal with warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar is the country's first peace agreement since the Taliban launched their insurgency in 2001, after being driven from power in the wake of the 9/11 attacks on the United States. It grants full political rights to his Hezb-i-Islami Gulbuddin party and obliges the Afghan authorities to work to have it removed from the United Nations' list of foreign terrorist organizations. Hekmatyar himself was designated by the US as a "global terrorist" in 2003. He was blacklisted at Washington's request by the UN the same year, and has similar status with the British government. The agreement ends years of talks between Kabul and Hekmatyar, who is in his late 60s. It should enable him to return to Afghanistan after 20 years in exile - he is believed to live in Pakistan - as it includes provisions for his security at government expense. The signing ceremony was broadcast live on television. The agreement was signed by the head of Kabul's High Peace Council, Ahmad

Gilani, national security adviser Mohammad Hanif Atmar, and Hekmatyar's representative Amin Karim. Hekmatyar's son Habiburahman sat with an audience of officials. To be formalized, the agreement must be signed by President Ashraf Ghani and Gulbuddin Hekmatyar; no timetable has been announced though Atmar said it would happen "as soon as possible."

The deal marks a victory of sorts for Ghani, who has been unable to bring peace to Afghanistan despite election promises and early efforts to forge a close diplomatic relationship with neighboring Pakistan. The failure of those efforts has seen Ghani reverse course in recent months - he now openly accuses Pakistan of supporting and protecting the Taliban. Pakistan denies the accusations, though the Taliban's leadership councils are based in Quetta and other Pakistani cities.

### Sake of peace

Talks between Kabul and the Taliban, hosted by Pakistan and aimed at ending the war, broke down earlier this year. With this peace deal, Ghani can demonstrate to the Taliban's leaders that his government is willing to make compromises for the sake of peace. The key points are the removal from

international blacklists, immunity from prosecution for alleged war crimes, allowing unilateral political activity, and the release of prisoners. "It proves peace is possible," Franz-Michael Mellbin, the European Union's special representative for Afghanistan, said of the agreement.

"The political space to say no to peace in Afghanistan is now virtually nonexistent," he told The Associated Press, adding that the deal "creates a new narrative that has been missing for many, many years."

The final deal is believed to be little changed from a draft agreed by Hekmatyar's representatives and the HPC in May, and seen by the AP. Finalizing the deal was held up by three demands from Hekmatyar that do not appear in the final draft, a senior official said. He spoke off the record as he was not authorized to comment publicly on the issue. The contentious points were a demand that Afghanistan's insecurity be blamed "first and last" on the presence of foreign forces, a timetable for their withdrawal, and that he be granted a formal title as a savior of the country, he said. The deal enjoys the support of the international community, which has a vital role to play in bringing peace to Afghanistan due to the blacklists that also feature senior Taliban figures. — AP

## INDIA'S NAVY ON HIGH ALERT IN MUMBAI

**MUMBAI:** India's navy was put on high alert yesterday in the city of Mumbai, an official said, after reports that four men dressed in black and carrying weapons were seen near a base. Security has been strengthened at several naval facilities along the coast in and around India's financial capital, while officials investigate the reports.

"The navy is at a high state of alert in Mumbai and adjoining areas after receiving inputs regarding suspicious activity reported by school children," Navy spokesman Captain DK Sharma told AFP.

Sharma did not reveal the nature of the activity, but local

media reported that the children had seen gunmen, their faces covered, near a naval facility at Uran, about 50 kilometers from Mumbai. "We are taking utmost care and precautions," Mumbai police spokesperson Ashok Dudhe also told AFP.

Mumbai is particularly sensitive to security threats after gunmen, who arrived by sea, went on a three-day rampage in 2008 in the western city that left 166 people dead. India blamed the attacks on Pakistani militants.

India has also been on guard since militants raided an army base on Sunday near the defacto border that divides the northern Kashmir region with Pakistan, killing 18 soldiers. — AFP

## CHINA JAILS PROMINENT RIGHTS LAWYER FOR 12 YEARS

**BEIJING:** A Chinese court yesterday jailed a prominent civil rights lawyer for 12 years on fraud charges, his lawyer said, a punishment rights advocates called retaliation for his defense of high-profile clients who had challenged the government.

Xia Lin, detained by Beijing police in November 2014, is the latest in a series of activists and lawyers to be sentenced as President Xi Jinping's administration tightens control over civil society, citing a need to boost security and stability. "Our defense

maintained his innocence. We believe this sort of sentence goes against our own views," Xia's lawyer Ding Xikui told reporters outside the Beijing Number 2 intermediate court.

Xia's wife, Lin Ru, said they planned to appeal the sentence. Security outside the court, where a handful of supporters and family members waited for the ruling, was heavy.

Transcripts of defense documents that his lawyers released earlier showed prosecutors charged Xia had defrauded several people out of at least 10 million yuan (\$1.5 million) to

pay off gambling debts. But Ding argued that the money was in private loans and was being repaid, that there was no evidence of a gambling debt, and that the loans were personal or civil matters. Ding told Reuters the court convicted Xia for an unpaid amount of 4.8 million yuan. Under China's Criminal Law, fraud crimes involving "especially large" sums such as those alleged in Xia's case, are punishable by 10 years to life in prison, though official guidelines recommend 10 to 12 years.

Calls to the court were not answered. Its

website and official microblog made no mention of the case, and the extent of the evidence against Xia used in his conviction was not clear. Xia had worked with Pu Zhiqiang, one of China's best-known human rights lawyers, who was handed a three-year suspended sentence last year for writing internet posts the government said incited ethnic hatred. He had also represented prominent artist and dissident Ai Weiwei and other critics of the government. China consistently rejects any criticism of its human rights record. —Reuters



**BISCARROSSE, FRANCE:** In this photograph taken on May 22, 2016, a Rafale fighter jet flies during the Flying Spirit aerial meeting. —AFP

## INDIA NEEDS MORE THAN RAFALE TO MATCH CHINA

### JUST SPENT BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

**NEW DELHI:** India may have just spent billions of dollars on hi-tech French fighter jets, but experts say it needs to do a lot more if it is going to face up to an increasingly assertive China.

The world's top defense importer has signed several big-ticket deals as part of a \$100-billion upgrade since Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi took power in 2014. But it has been slow to replace its dwindling fleet of Russian MiG-21s—dubbed "Flying Coffins" because of their poor safety record. An agreement to buy 36 cutting edge Rafale jets from France's Dassault aims to fix that. "It will give the air force an arrowhead. Our air force has old aircraft, 1970s and 1980s generation aircraft and for the first time in about 25-30 years we will have a quantum jump in technology," defense analyst Gulshan Luthra told AFP. "Rafale is loaded with (the) best of the technologies and we need it." The air force says it needs at least 42 squadrons to protect its northern and western borders with Pakistan and China. It currently has around 32, each comprising 18 aircraft. Air force representatives warned India's parliament last year that the number of squadrons could fall to 25 by 2022, putting India on a par with its nuclear-armed neighbor and arch-rival Pakistan.

#### 'Pakistan we can handle'

But the real concern is China, an ally of Pakistan whose military capacities are way in excess of India's. "Pakistan we can handle. Pakistan we can muscle our way, but China, no way we can handle," said Luthra. "And if China comes to the aid of Pakistan, then we're stuck."

China and India fought a brief war in 1962, and the border between the neighbors has never been formally demarcated, although they have signed accords to maintain peace. The Rafale deal, due to be signed in New Delhi today, will supply another two squadrons, although it will be three years before delivery of the jets begins.

It falls way short of previous proposals for India to buy 126 of the jets, which stalled over costs and assembly guarantees. Currently being used for bombing missions over Syria and Iraq, the Rafale can fly distances of up to 3,800 kilometers.

Experts say it will allow the air force to strike targets in Pakistan and China from within Indian territory. But critics argue the Rafale purchase is a costly solution to the problem, even after India bargained hard to get the price down to a reported 7.9 billion Euros.

#### 'Can't afford Mercedes'

Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar reportedly said last year the larger Rafale deal was too expensive. "We are not buying the rest. I also feel like having a BMW and Mercedes. But I don't because I can't afford it."

Modi has said he wants to end India's status as the world's number one defense importer and to have 70 percent of hardware manufactured domestically by the turn of the decade. His government lifted a cap on foreign investment in defense to 49 percent last year. Many now believe India will use the money saved from scrapping the larger Rafale order to invest in its first domestically developed light fighter plane, the Tejas.

The aircraft, touted as the smallest and lightest supersonic fighter aircraft of their class, are designed and manufactured in India, although some components are imported.

Defense analyst Ajai Shukla said the purchase of 36 Rafales would "placate Dassault, the Indian Air Force and public opinion" after the larger deal was scrapped, but did not make good operational sense. "You don't replace a small, light fighter plane with an extraordinarily expensive heavy monster like Rafale," he said.—AFP

## NO EVIDENCE MH370 'DEBRIS' EXPOSED TO FIRE: AUSTRALIA

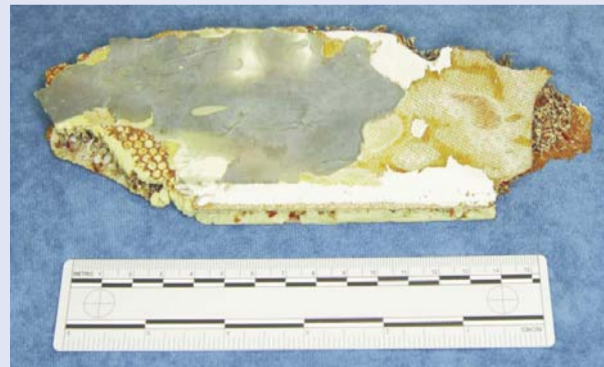
**SYDNEY:** Possible debris from missing passenger jet MH370 handed over by a US amateur investigator was not "exposed to heat or fire", Australian authorities said yesterday, following speculation it was blackened by flames. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), which is coordinating the search for the Boeing 777 Malaysia Airlines plane that disappeared en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8, 2014 carrying 239 passengers and crew, added that it was not yet able to link the pieces to MH370.

American Blaine Gibson brought the two recently recovered items from Madagascar to Australia to be forensically investigated by the ATSB on September 12 and told local media then that one piece appeared to show "some signs of melting... as you see when something is exposed to fire". But Australian Transport Minister Darren Chester said after an initial examination of the fibreglass-honeycomb composite debris that "what is known is that contrary to speculation there is no evidence the item was exposed to heat or fire".

"With the agreement of the government of Malaysia, the ATSB examined the items but found no manufacturing identifiers such as part numbers or serial numbers that provided clues as to the items' origins," Chester added in a statement. "At this stage it is not possible to determine whether the debris is from MH370 or indeed even a Boeing 777. Further work will be undertaken in an attempt to determine the origin of the items, specifically whether they originated from a Boeing 777 aircraft."

It is not yet known why the jet went down. No trace of the plane has been found in the current 120,000-square-kilometre (46,000-square-mile) search zone in the southern Indian Ocean, fuelling speculation it may have crashed outside the area. Several pieces of debris linked to the flight have been discovered along western Indian Ocean shorelines. The first piece found was a two-meter (six-foot) wing part known as a flaperon that washed up on the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion in July 2015.

The ATSB said in its report on the two pieces recovered near Sainte Luce on the southeast coast of Madagascar that a dark grey coloration on most of both sides of the items were due to "an applied resin and was not the result of exposure to heat or fire". — AFP



**CANBERRA, AUSTRALIAN:** This undated handout photo received yesterday, shows possible debris from missing passenger jet MH370 handed over by a US amateur investigator, which was not "exposed to heat or fire", Australian authorities said, amid speculation it was blackened by flames. —AFP

# Lifestyle

Friday Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

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A model poses at the backstage with a 2017 Spring/Summer design by Elena Rial at the EGO for young designers at the Madridis Fashion Week in Madrid, Spain. — AP

## Marion Cotillard announces pregnancy, denies Pitt reports

### 3 years after '12 Years,' Nyong'o's face is back on screen



Actress Lupita Nyong'o, a cast member in the film "Queen of Katwe," poses for a portrait at The Omni King Edward Hotel in Toronto. — AP

The filmmaker Mira Nair was familiar with the regal grace of Lupita Nyong'o long before most. The Indian-born, New York-based Nair has been close friends with Nyong'o's family for years. One of Nyong'o's first jobs in the movies was interning in New York for Nair's production company. She also later worked for Nair's Uganda-centered film school, Maisha Film Labs. What does Nair recall of Nyong'o as a younger woman? "Like she is: immensely thoughtful and stylish," Nair says with a laugh. "She wouldn't speak unless she had something to say. And full of fun, which sometime you guys don't see. But there's a real appetite for life there."

In the African chess prodigy tale "Queen of Katwe," a now much more established Nyong'o has reunited with Nair for a film that reflects much of the actress's past, as well as her future. It is, surprisingly, the first time moviegoers have gotten to see Nyong'o's face on screen since her breakout, Oscar-winning performance in 2013's "12 Years a Slave." In the three years since, she's appeared in "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" in a motion-capture performance, lent her voice to "The Jungle Book" and starred on Broadway in Danai Guirira's Liberian drama "Eclipsed," earning a Tony nomination. But "Queen of Katwe," she says, epitomizes the kind of film she wants to be in.

#### Cultural conversations

"The success of '12 Years of Slave' has put me in a position where I can choose," Nyong'o said in a recent interview. "I want to honor the opportunity that I've been given. So I've worked very hard to choose things that I'm passionate about because I think I'm most useful when I feel conviction. I want to continue to do work that moves me and develops cultural conversations. "It takes one film at a time, one story at a time, to actually shift the norm," she adds. "Queen of Katwe," which opens Friday, is itself an anomaly. It's a family-friendly film made in Africa with an entirely black cast - a first for Disney. The film tells of Phiona Mutesi's (newcomer Madina Nalwanga) rise from the Katwe slums in Kampala, Uganda, to elite levels of chess. Nair shot it in South Africa and Uganda. Nyong'o plays Phiona's head-strong mother.

The local flavor, as well as the real people the story is based on (who appear briefly but movingly at the end), gives "Queen of Katwe" an infectious spirit. During one celebratory scene in Katwe, extras mixed with nearby onlookers, eager to join in the exultation. "Because this doesn't happen very often, we were all filled with such gratitude to be able to tell this story," says Nyong'o. Even if Nyong'o wasn't sitting in a high-back chair at a Toronto hotel shortly after the film's screening at the Toronto International Film Festival, the 33-year-old would appear queen-like, herself, given her calm poise and precision with words.

Although Nyong'o now seems remarkably at home on any red carpet, she spent years hesitating to commit to acting. As an undergrad at Hampshire College, she initially explored other roles on film sets. "I was just trying to figure out where in this industry, if not in the front of the camera, I would fit in," she says. "I had always been discouraged that it was possible. I was from Kenya and I didn't know any Kenyan actors in America. It just didn't seem like a possible career path." Nyong'o, born in Mexico and raised in Kenya, had a very different upbringing than the impoverished ones of "Queen of Katwe." But, as Nair says, "Like Phiona, she's harnessed her potential and thankfully the world has rewarded her for it." — AP

### Depardieu says France becoming land of 'imbeciles and stinky cheese'

Larger-than-life actor Gerard Depardieu said his homeland France is becoming a playground for foreigners "populated by imbeciles making wine and stinky cheese", according to an interview published yesterday. The maverick performer, 67, has taken aim at France before. He was granted Russian citizenship in 2013 after befriending strongman President Vladimir Putin and lambasting tax rates on top earners in his native land.

When asked during the interview if he considers himself French, Depardieu told Corriere della Sera: "No, I'm a citizen of the world. France is likely to become a Disneyland for foreigners, populated by imbeciles making wine and stinky cheese for tourists." "There is no more freedom, people are being manipulated," he added. Depardieu also took a swing at the film industry saying, "cinema doesn't exist anymore. There is a world of entertainment and people, terrorized by the Americans, don't know anymore which language to speak."

"There are 10 stars and they are all American. Their films (are) crammed with special effects... and the rest of the world of cinema is struggling to exist," he added during the interview on the occasion

of the release in Italy of his autobiography "Innocent". In February Depardieu trashed the Oscars, criticizing Hollywood for its "comfort bubble." "When I think about the Oscars, with 'The Revenant', the caravans, the warmth and all of that. We tell them: go roll in shit,"



Gerard Depardieu

Depardieu, the star of "Green Card" and "Cyrano de Bergerac", told reporters in Berlin. But in Depardieu's eyes, Italy deserves some praise. "In Italy, happily, you have not lost your culture and your identity. Because you are a young country... Unlike half of Europe with its fear of migrants-that has become a bit fascist." — AFP

### Pakistan sends 'Mah E Mir' to the Oscars



Anjum Shahzad

Pakistan has picked Anjum Shahzad's "Mah e Mir" as its entry in the foreign language Academy Awards competition. The film follows a troubled modern poet who discovers the work of 18th century poetry legend Mir Taqi Mir. It stars Fahad Mustafa, Iman Ali and Sanam Saeed. The film was produced by Miraqsm Media which is also behind the Pakistani television morning talk show "Sunrise From Istanbul".

"For an ensemble of extremely creative cast and crew this film is a

labor of love," Shahzad said. Pakistan re-entered the foreign language Oscar race after 50 years in 2013 with "Zinda Bhaag" and since then has submitted a film every year.

The country has yet to secure a nomination in the category. However, Sharmeed Obaid-Chinoy won for "A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness" in 2016 and in 2012 with Daniel Junge for "Saving Face," both in the best documentary short subject category. — Reuters



Jing Tian

### 'Pacific Rim 2' adds Chinese actress Jing Tian

Jing Tian has joined the cast of Legendary's "Pacific Rim 2" starring John Boyega. Scott Eastwood also toplines with Steven S DeKnight is directing. Thomas Tull, Mary Parent, Jon Jashni, and Guillermo del Toro will produce the action-adventure along with Boyega and Femi Oguns under their Upper Room Productions shingle. Cale Boyter will serve as the film's executive producer.

The first "Pacific Rim," directed by del Toro, also starred Charlie Hunnam, Rinko Kikuchi, Idris Elba, Charlie Day, and Robert Kazinsky. "Pacific Rim" was set in the near future with Earth at war with the Kaiju, monsters that emerged from an interdimensional portal at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean. The movie went on to gross more than \$411 million at the worldwide box office. Boyega will play the son of Elba's character, who sacrificed his life in the original film. It's still unclear who Tian will play. The film begins production this November in Australia and will also film a portion in China. It will be released by Universal Pictures on Feb 23, 2018, worldwide, with the exception of China. Jing can be seen next in Legendary's "The Great Wall" as well as in "Kong: Skull Island." — Reuters

## Pitt, Jolie star power mightier than box office power



This file photo provided by Universal Pictures shows Brad Pitt, left, and Angelina Jolie Pitt in a scene from the film "By the Sea." —AP

**B**y the Sea didn't just flop at the box office. It was a flat-out rejection, making a mere \$538,000 domestically. How could a movie starring the modern king and queen of Hollywood, Angelina Jolie Pitt and Brad Pitt, the couple who can fetch \$14 million for baby photos, have so little audience appeal? That's the paradox of this movie star couple: Their star power has always been mightier than their box office power, whether together on screen or apart. And that's not likely to change, now that they're divorcing.

"There really is no quantifiable effect that I can see that this would have on their careers or their star power," says Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office tracker comScore. "No matter what movies Brad and Angelina are in, they will always be movie stars. That's just who they are. That's their persona. But I don't think there is anyone who makes a determination whether or not to buy a movie ticket based on the personal life of a star." The promise of "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" was somewhat of a false indicator for Pitt and Jolie Pitt. Sure, it was the movie that ignited one of the most observed Hollywood relationships of all time, amassing a cool \$186.3 million domestically in 2005, but it wasn't a sign of things to come.

Just look at "By the Sea," which marked the first time in a decade the couple that launched a million magazine covers would be back on the big screen together. Costing \$10 million to make, "By the Sea" debuted in limited release in November of 2015, already hampered by negative reviews, and sank nearly immediately. It stayed in theaters for only a few weeks, never going over 200 screens. In its final day, it averaged \$52 per screen. At the time, Forbes box office pundit Scott Mendelson wrote that the lackluster earnings were "an unsurprising result for a film that was almost biologically manufactured to be more talked about than actually seen ... It was not a test of Brad Pitt and/or Angelina Jolie's star power, but rather a reward for it."

It's somewhat unfair to compare the two films. One is a sexy assassin action comedy designed to appeal to all - the other, a languid, introspective and slow-burning art house film. But the truth is, "Mr & Mrs Smith" remains one of the top domestic openers and earners for both Pitt and Jolie Pitt, not adjusted for inflation. Pitt's highest opening weekend is still "World War Z," with \$66.4 million. Jolie's is "Maleficent" which took in \$69.4 million.

"They are perceived as movie stars because they look like movie stars, they act like movie stars, they have the money of movie stars, but when it comes to their box office? Brad Pitt used to be considered not a huge box office draw. He always did great work, but it wasn't like his movies were breaking records left and right, like his contemporary Tom Cruise," noted Dergarabedian. As with before their relationship, during, and after, it will come down to the quality of the movies they choose, Dergarabedian said. For the moment, future projects are likely getting a boost in buzz because of the divorce. Paramount Pictures, the studio releasing Pitt's upcoming WWII film "Allied," pushed out a new trailer just a few hours after news broke on Tuesday of the divorce.

"In the case of 'Allied,' it actually enhances its box office potential because a lot of people who are hearing about the divorce in the mainstream press may never have heard about that movie before. Now it's on their radar," said Dergarabedian. But, he says, that might only be temporary too. "Allied" doesn't bow until November. "By then this will be so far down in the news cycle it won't be an issue," he said. "But for now it has raised the profile." — AP



In this Nov. 16, 2013 file photo, Maddox Jolie-Pitt, from left, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt attend the 2013 Governors Awards in Los Angeles. — AP

## Not so fast on full custody, experts say of Jolie's demand

**I**n the global hubbub over the Brangelina divorce, Angelina Jolie Pitt's demand for sole physical custody of her six children with Brad Pitt has attracted its share of the attention. Yet experts say Jolie Pitt won't have the final say, and that Pitt and the couple's eldest son, Maddox, may even have a voice in custody arrangements. Stacy Phillips, a veteran divorce attorney, called Jolie Pitt's request for sole physical custody a "wish list," one that could change as the divorce progresses. Phillips, like many, saw the request as a message to Pitt, although what the actress is trying to convey won't be known for some time, if ever.

Pitt has yet to file his legal response to Jolie Pitt's divorce petition, but each actor released statements Tuesday indicating their children were the priority. The pair has six children, ranging in ages from 8-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne to 15-year-old Maddox. "It's not uncommon that a person would seek sole physical custody in their initial filing," said divorce lawyer Lori Howe. "That doesn't mean it is what they will end up seeking if they resolve the case through settlement or in a courtroom. ... She very well could change her mind as well. And there's nothing to stop her from doing that, despite having checked those boxes on her petition."

### An agreement

California law favors joint custody of children, and judges can generally consider the opinion of children who are 14 years or older about which parent they want to live with. Divorce lawyers, however, say the couple can avoid placing their children in the middle of a divorce if they work out an agreement in private. "The parents should be parents, as opposed to letting the children be the parents," said Phillips, an attorney in the Los Angeles office of Blank Rome LLP. "They didn't ask for this. They need to be kept as children."

Attorney Steven Mindel said in some instances, a judge may want to know the opinion of children younger than 14-years-old, but in general, courts encourage parents to work out the custody arrangements without protracted legal

fight. "You generally don't want a child testifying against a parent," Mindel said. "It's emotionally draining on the child." Testimony doesn't have to be in a courtroom. It can be solicited by an attorney appointed to represent the child's interests, or can be done in a judge's chambers, if necessary, Mindel said. If the actors get into a public custody fight, a judge might appoint an attorney for each of the Jolie-Pitt family's children.

"If you do it strictly by the book, each child should have separate representation," said Maya Shulman, a divorce attorney who specializes in resolving difficult custody cases. In most instances, Phillips, Shulman and Mindel said, parents will work out the arrangements behind the scenes. Pitt Jolie and Pitt have an incentive to do that, the lawyers said, because of their celebrity status. Previous Hollywood breakups provide some insight into how quiet, and how ugly, custody fights can become.

### Few court hearings

Mel Gibson's divorce from his wife Robyn was quiet, with very few court hearings and very little attention after the actor's wife filed for divorce in April 2009. The pair has seven children, although only one was a minor when they divorced. It took nearly two-and-a-half years - with Gibson's very public custody fight with ex-girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva playing out in the middle of it - for the Gibsons to finalize their divorce. Similarly, Maria Shriver's divorce from Arnold Schwarzenegger has remained out of the public eye for years.

After an initial flurry of filings in July 2011, no public hearings or documents have been filed in the case. Their youngest child turns 19 next week. Attorney Laura Wasser, who filed Jolie Pitt's divorce on Monday, also represented Robyn Gibson and Shriver. Couples can opt to pay a private judge to handle their cases, although the same rules apply and a public divorce judgment will be filed at the end of it, Shulman said. The level of detail varies widely, with some judgments offering no details on how custody or assets are being split. — AP



## Marion Cotillard announces pregnancy, denies Pitt reports

**M**arion Cotillard is announcing her pregnancy and shooting down rumors of any romantic involvement with Brad Pitt. "This is going to be my first and only reaction to the whirlwind news that broke 24 hours ago and that I was swept up into," the Oscar-winning actress wrote in a statement posted Wednesday on Instagram. "Many years ago, I met the man of my life, father of our son and of the baby we are expecting," wrote the 40-year-old Cotillard, who has been with her partner Guillaume Canet since 2007. "He is my love, my best friend, the only one that I need," she said. The star of such films as "Inception" and "Rust and Bone" said that she is "not used to commenting on things like this nor taking them seriously but as this situation is spiraling and affecting people I love, I have to speak up."

Cotillard affirmed her longtime relationship with actor Guillaume Canet. The couple are parents to a 5-year-old son. She said in her Instagram post alongside a photo of bird soaring through the sky that he is "the only one that I need" and they are expecting another child. — AP

# Jason Isbell extends legacy at Americana Honors and Awards



Performers sing "Will the Circle be Unbroken" during the finale at the Americana Music Association Honors & Awards Show.



Jason Isbell accepts the album of the year award for "Something More Than Free" at the Americana Music Association Honors & Awards Show. — AP photos

Singer songwriter Jason Isbell won album of the year and song of the year at the 2016 Americana Honors and Awards show, extending his legacy as the star of Americana music. Since launching his solo career after years with the Drive-By Truckers, Isbell has been racking up both critical acclaim as well as Americana and Grammy awards with his Southern rock albums. He won Wednesday night for his album "Something More Than Free," and his song, "24 Frames."

"This community has given us a place that was a lot bigger than it used to be," Isbell said during the show at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee. "I am not a part of the first generation or the second generation or even the third generation of Americana performers." Country singer and songwriter Chris Stapleton, whose

2015 album "Traveller" became a breakaway platinum hit, took home artist of the year. Stapleton said that before his successful solo country career took off, he wished he could play the Americana award show.

"I used to play in a little bluegrass band called the SteelDrivers," he said "We were just starting out and we would beg and beg and beg to do something. So to be here tonight means a great deal to me." The emerging artist of the year award went to Margo Price, who sounds like rock version of Loretta Lynn with her hard livin' lyrics on her critically acclaimed debut album "Midwest Farmer's Daughter."

Price spent years trying to shop her music to Music City's major labels and finally found a home at rocker Jack White's label, Third Man Records. She thanked her family, "my in-laws, my



Nathaniel Rateliff, center, and The Night Sweats perform at the Americana Music Association Honors & Awards Show.

outlaws, some of the people that passed on my record, who may be here." Emmylou Harris and Rodney Crowell won for duo/group of the year and fiddler Sara Watkins won the instrumentalist of the year.

After British singer Billy Bragg received the spirit of Americana free speech in music award, he thanked Nashville for its generosity to "wayward Englishmen." "Not only did you let Tom Hiddleston go out with Taylor Swift,

you let him stand on this very stage and impersonate Hank Williams," Bragg joked of Hiddleston's role in the Williams biopic "I Saw the Light." Grateful Dead guitarist Bob Weir got a standing ovation after receiving the lifetime achievement award for performance, while soul songwriter William Bell received the lifetime achievement award for songwriting and sang a duet with Bonnie Raitt.

Grammy-winning folk singer Shawn Colvin received the trailblazer award and the president's award went to the late folk singer-songwriter Woodie Guthrie. Jim Lauderdale, the longtime award show host, choked up after he was given the WagonMaster award by country legend George Strait, who has recorded several of Lauderdale's songs. The two performed a rousing rendition of "King of Broken Hearts." — AP



Chris Stapleton accepts the artist of the year award at the Americana Music Association Honors & Awards Show.



William Bell accepts the lifetime achievement award for songwriting.



Bob Weir accepts the lifetime achievement award for performance.



Bruce Hornsby presents an award at the Americana Music Association Honors & Awards Show.



Margo Price accepts the emerging artist of the year award.



Billy Bragg receives the Spirit of Americana Free Speech Award.



Emmylou Harris, left, and Rodney Crowell accept their awards for group/duo of the year.



Japanese in costumes react as they attend the Japan Ultra Music Festival at Odaiba Ultra Park in Tokyo. — AFP photos



Photo shows electronic music show during the Japan Ultra Music Festival at Odaiba Ultra Park in Tokyo.

# Processed beats: Ultra rocks Asia with a radio-friendly groove

Once a modest beach party in Miami, the uber-hip Ultra Music Festival has bold plans to further expand the global juggernaut after another year of empire building.

While techno-heads accuse Ultra of helping to 'commercialize' electronic dance music, or EDM, in recent years, 120,000 rain-soaked revelers appeared to heartily disagree after being whipped into a frenzy in Tokyo this past weekend. "There's a place for all genres of electronic music," co-founder Russell Faibisch told AFP. "A festival is all about having different genres."

"In the last few years, EDM has worked on the main stage for the masses but underground music always has and always will have its place. "Everything feeds off each other." A glittery haven for hardcore EDM junkies, Ultra's mega-rave has pitched up in 19 far-flung locations: including Argentina, Brazil and Chile in South America, and across the Atlantic in Spain and Croatia. Farther east, Ultra has extended its reach in Asia from Seoul to Tokyo, Taipei, Singapore, Bali, Bangkok and Hong Kong-with organizers set to announce "major additional expansion plans" for next year.

"We've always had a master-plan," said Faibisch, who staged the first edition of Ultra in 1999. "During the mid to late nineties in South Beach the club scene was really thriving. "There were a lot of great clubs like Liquid and Shadow Lounge so it was the right

timing for everything to come together. It was just like the perfect storm." A powerful typhoon failed to dampen spirits at last weekend's Ultra Japan, where over 70 acts, including chart-topping headliners Hardwell, Tiesto and Deadmau5, rocked enormous crowds with throbbing electronic beats over three days in Tokyo. A less radio-friendly 'Resistance' tent featured top house and techno artists such as Dubfire and Art Department-the yin to the cheesier yang on offer on the main stage, where it was often hard to work out where one track ended and the next began.

## 'Dig below the surface'

"In society, there's the commercial end of the spectrum, and then there's the alternative," said Dubfire, addressing the issue of processed electronica. "The same can be said of the electronic music scene. There are a lot of people who, once they dig below the surface of EDM, they find there is music there that is more interesting." British techno heavyweight Carl Cox has been the driving force behind Ultra's underground stage production, while organizers will launch stand-alone 'Resistance' events in South America next month.

"When something's happening in the underground, it affects the mainstream and the other way round," Dutch artist Hardwell

told AFP. "They need each other: like the bright side needs the dark side to keep going. "Commercial EDM is a great introduction for young kids to get into dance music, since the underground music styles never play on the radio." Outside in the rain, the heaving mass of fresh-faced Japanese 'Ultra-nauts' blowing whistles and pumping their fists-many in outlandish fancy dress-just wanted to party.

"You get a pretty young crowd at a festival, so I'll have a look in the first 15 minutes of my set to see what's what," said Japanese techno king Ken Ishii. "They might not know much about techno, but it's a genre with a long history and is one of the core pillars of dance music. It's never going to just fall off a cliff." Dubfire admits he has evolved with the changing dance scene. "I'm an old-school artist playing a new-school sound," he said, offering an insight into the potential rewards of becoming a DJ. "These days if you want to have a career in electronic music, you don't have to battle your parents anymore. They understand what's at stake-they understand you can make a very successful career out of it." — AFP



Dutch DJ Hardwell performs during the Japan Ultra Music Festival at Odaiba Ultra Park in Tokyo.



Japanese women wearing American Indian outfit gesture as they attend the Japan Ultra Music Festival at Odaiba Ultra Park.



Models wear creations by Gucci's Spring/Summer 2017 collection, presented during the Milan Fashion Week, in Milan, Italy. — AP/AFP photos

# Gucci unleashes fantasy, Puglisi stages torment



Italian Premier Matteo Renzi was on hand Wednesday to kick off Milan Fashion Week, putting his political clout behind an industry that sets the standard for the nation, if not the world. While Italian officials are reducing their economic growth forecasts for the country this year to between 0.8 percent and 1 percent, the fashion industry is set to grow by 1.4 percent and reach a value of 83.6 billion euros.

This was Renzi's second time opening fashion week - a sign of the premier's commitment to helping showcase Italy's fashion prowess. The big brands presenting their womenswear collections for next spring and summer in Milan through Monday are motors of that growth. Credit also goes to the supply chain that provides inspiration to designers around the globe. Gucci, Fausto Puglisi, Roberto Cavalli and Philipp Plein were among the brands showing their wares on the first day of fashion week. Highlights:

#### Gucci's sensual panic

Alessandro Michele has cast an eerie, dream-like spell over Gucci. The womenswear collection for next spring and summer was presented through a smoky, reddish light - the theatrical equivalent of rose-colored glasses. All the better for viewing the fantasy-filled collection. The

Gucci girl for next season - the looks require at least a youthful outlook - suggests an antique doll waiting to be dressed up. She can be styled as a Victorian lady, a pretty princess, an athletic boxer or even a denim-clad disco-lover.

The mood veered through eras, but was almost always pretty with a proliferation of ruffles or fringe. Headgear was central, as it is in any dress-up box, and included floppy hats, babushka bandanas and aviator hats. There also was spectacular, beehive-shaped netting that would be appropriate for tending a queen bee while offering protection from stings. The designer said all the clothes in the collection "tell a story stepped in wonder, phantasmagoria and unorthodoxy." He said the experience should provoke, "a sensual panic," citing French intellectual Roger Callois, and "cultivate the unexpected," in the words of the German writer Elias Canetti.

Eyewear was big, square and sequined, attached at the back of the head, and competed for attention with oversized bejeweled earrings. The lighting flattened the colors, but included bright yellow, green, orange and cotton candy pink. Lurex and sequin accents that would command attention in a crowded nightclub or a foggy alleyway were plentiful.

Michele nudged away from androgyny this





season, featuring pretty taffeta dresses with an asymmetrical, off the shoulder cut. Ruffles of varying doses embellished the dress, while fluffy, fringed flourishes on coat and dress sleeves produced an angelic effect. "Thank you for giving us dresses," yelled one admirer backstage in encouragement.

**Native American Spirit**

Norwegian designer Peter Dundas explored both his American and his Norwegian roots in a new Roberto Cavalli collection that embody a nomadic spirit. The Native American dream-catcher is a repeating motif in the collection that veers from free flowing . It appears as designs on shawls, prints, earrings and is even woven into a knit poncho top that finishes in a long, trailing fringe.

"It started with wanting to explore a little bit my American side. My mother was American,"

the designer said backstage. "I discovered Navajo artwork, which reminded me very much of the Norwegian snowflake." The wandering didn't stop there. He took inspiration from Japanese kimonos and French quilting, and mixed it all together. "It was a mental exercise as well," he said.

Many pieces are stitched out of patchwork, but this is not the prairie version. This patchwork seams together rich gold embossed fabrics in baby-doll tops, sheer lace into evening gowns and contrasting leather, denim and print into trousers. "It was more like having fun; it was really that. Mixing things and finding things that were surprising to me by collaging elements together," Dundas said. "It is a summer wardrobe. It means freedom." — AP



Models present creations for fashion house Roberto Cavalli.

# Spruce up your meat with an easy, warm salad

By Sara Moulton

This recipe is a template for topping sauteed steaks or chops of most any kind with a wilted salad, a splendid dish for a late summer dinner. Mostly, I'm taking my cues here from the Italians. In Florence, they like to pep up their grilled steaks with a drizzle of olive and a spritz of lemon, which cuts through the meat's fattiness. Then there's veal Milanese, a breaded chop with a salad on top. But the latter dish doesn't marry the salad dressing to the chops, as I do here,

and my chop isn't breaded. Also, Caesar dressing is rooted in Mexico, not Italy. All of which is to say I guess my inspirations were pretty diverse.

How to marry the meat to the salad? By taking advantage of the concentrated bits of reduced meat juices at the bottom of the pan, as well as the juices from the resting chops after they have been cooked. It's then that the salad's flavors - anchovies, garlic and shallots - are added to the skillet, followed by chicken broth, lemon juice and olive oil. As noted, these are basically the ingredients for

a Caesar dressing with a little chicken broth added. (The broth amps up the meat flavour while cutting down on the need for more olive oil.)

If the very thought of anchovies sends you screaming for the exit, steel yourself and add them to the recipe as called for. Try it that way just once. You assume that the little devils are going to overwhelm the dish, adding nothing but fishiness. Not true. In this context, the anchovies are surprisingly modest; they provide salt and depth of flavor, but no obvious fishiness. As for the

greens, feel free to experiment. If you prefer them to be more crispy and less wilted, don't add them to the pan; just toss them with the warm dressing.

Finally, I have called for lamb shoulder chops because they're more affordable than rib or loin chops. They're every bit as tasty as the pricier chops, even if they're also marginally chewier. Of course, if you feel like splurging, reach for the more expensive cuts. And know that this recipe works just as well with steak, pork chops and chicken on the bone as it does with lamb chops.



## LAMB CHOPS WITH WARM CAESAR SALAD

Start to finish: 35 minutes (15 minutes active)

Servings: 4

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided

Four 1/2-inch-thick lamb shoulder or round bone chops

Kosher salt and ground black pepper

4 anchovy fillets, chopped

2 tablespoons minced shallots

1 teaspoon minced garlic

1/4 cup low-sodium chicken broth

2 tablespoons lemon juice

4 cups chopped escarole, dandelion greens (tough stems removed) or romaine

1 ounce shaved Parmesan cheese

### Preparation

In a large skillet over medium-high, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil. Reduce the heat to medium and add 2 of the lamb chops, sprinkled with salt and pepper. Cook until lightly browned on

both sides, 5 to 6 minutes total for medium-rare. Transfer to a plate and cover loosely with foil. Repeat with the remaining 2 chops in the oil remaining in the pan.

Return the skillet to the heat and reduce to medium-low. Add 1 tablespoon of the remain-

ing oil, the anchovies, shallots and garlic, then cook, stirring, for 1 1/2 minutes. Add the broth and lemon juice and cook, scraping up the brown bits on the bottom, for 1 minute. Add the remaining 1 tablespoon of oil, the greens, and a hefty pinch each of salt and pepper.

Cook, stirring until the greens are slightly wilted, about 2 minutes. Add the juices from the resting lamb and remove from the heat. To serve, transfer the chops to each of 4 plates and top each chop with a quarter of the dressed wilted greens and the cheese. — AP



**Make a**

# Chicken Tikka Masala

## that's easy and full of flavor

By Melissa D'Arabian

I'm a big fan of saving takeout and delivery food for true cravings, not convenience. Even the healthiest of eaters has a few culinary vices - for us, it's Indian and Thai food and pizza delivery. Sometimes, we just want our favorite pizza delivered ("doorbell pizza" my girls called it when they were younger), and no homemade version will scratch the itch. Fine. But calling in an order of pad thai and dumplings just because we can't be bothered to spend a few minutes to make our own food is a troubling slippery slope. Delivery isn't the devil; but save it for cravings.

The key to fending off the temptation to order in takeout as a convenience on a busy weeknight is to have a few easy recipes in your toolkit that you can whip out at a moment's notice. And, it has to be easy enough to execute, even if I don't think of it until 5 pm. For me, bonus points if it's ethnic food. Since we don't have an Indian restaurant within a 20-minute radius of my house, I've been recreat-

ing the flavors at home.

Today's recipe, Weeknight Chicken Masala, is a bit of a recipe hack; not fully authentic, I'll admit. But the spices are easy to keep on hand (and truth: if you are missing one of them, make the recipe anyway and the world will continue to spin), the recipe is fast to prepare since it uses boneless, skinless chicken breast, and it can be made totally non-spicy or loaded up with whatever spice I have on hand, from sriracha to fresh serranos, or even just cayenne pepper.

Frozen chicken breasts won't slow you down either: microwave for a minute or two until the meat is thawed enough to cut into cubes small enough to thaw quickly. I indulge in a small amount of cream added at the end, which brings a lushness that is worth the few extra grams of fat, but feel free to sub plain Greek yogurt if you wish. This dish hits all the marks - full of flavor, easy, inexpensive, healthy and quick. Serve it over brown rice, zucchini noodles, cauliflower rice or just plain raw baby spinach leaves for extra nutrition.

### WEEKNIGHT CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA

#### Ingredients

Start to finish: 1 hour

Servings: 4

Marinade:

1/4 cup plain yogurt (Greek or regular)  
1 tablespoon lime juice  
1 teaspoon lime zest  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons fresh ginger  
3 chicken breasts, cut into 1 1/2 inch cubes  
3/4 cup chopped onion  
1 tablespoon vegetable or olive oil, divided  
1 tablespoon fresh grated ginger  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
2 teaspoons paprika  
1 1/2 teaspoons coriander  
1 1/2 teaspoons cumin  
1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom  
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg (or cinnamon)  
3/4 teaspoon smoked paprika  
1/4 cup tomato paste  
1 14-ounce can crushed tomatoes  
3 tablespoons heavy cream

Chopped cilantro, for garnish  
Lime wedges, for garnish

#### Preparation

In a medium bowl, whisk together all the marinade ingredients, and stir in the chicken cubes to coat. Let sit for at least 10 minutes or refrigerate up to a few hours. In a large heavy sauce pan, cook the onion in half the oil over medium high heat until onion begins to soften, about 5 minutes. Add the ginger and garlic and stir. Add in the dry spices and stir with a wooden spoon until very fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the sriracha and tomato paste and cook until tomato paste has deep color and aroma, stirring, about 2 minutes. Add the crushed tomatoes and bring to a simmer.

Meanwhile, in a large nonstick saute pan, heat the remaining oil over medium high heat and brown the chicken (remove any excess marinade). Cook the chicken on all sides until golden - it will not be fully cooked in center. Pour the chicken cubes into the bubbling sauce, add between 1/3-3/4 cup water and let it all cook together for 10 minutes, or up to 30 minutes. Remove the pot from the heat, stir in the heavy cream or Greek yogurt and serve with chopped cilantro and lime for garnish. — AP



Seoul's tallest  
skyscraper: the  
123-floor Lotte  
World Tower

# An architectural tour through **Seoul**

In the heart of Seoul a redundant overpass is getting a makeover. Other cities might have demolished the 1970 structure, but urban planners in South Korea's capital have more ambitious and, crucially, greener plans.

In the spirit of New York's High Line elevated garden promenade, Seoul will launch its Skygarden in 2017. It is the latest in a series of bold architectural and urban planning projects that have marked out this vibrant metropolis of 10 million people as the place to watch when it comes to a crafting a design-conscious, people-centric city for the 21st century.

Sixty five years ago, when Seoul lay in rubble following the Korean War,

such a transformation was beyond most people's wildest dreams. The priority then was to rebuild - fast. The results were far from pretty, but served their purpose. Seoul was the boiler room of South Korea's economic miracle, a non-stop city, crisscrossed by subways and elevated highways, its workers housed mainly in utilitarian, unlovely apartment blocks. Hosting the summer Olympics of 1988 and the FIFA World Cup of 2002 provided the impetus for some more imaginative city planning but mainly resulted in Seoul gaining new sports stadia and a couple of much needed parks.

**Waterside parks**

The pivotal moment came in 2003 when Lee Myung-bak, then mayor of Seoul and later to become the country's president, green-lighted a multi-million won plan to demolish a 5.6km stretch of elevated highway not far south of the imperial palace Gyeongbokgung. Beneath the concrete at the highway's base ran the course of the Cheong-gye-cheon a creek buried in the late 1960s when rampant development and pollution had made it an eyesore. Two years later, the highway was gone, replaced by a pristine stream flowing beside sinuous promenades and under reconstructed historic stone bridges.

Striking pieces of public artwork, including the giant pink and blue swirl Spring by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, were also part of the design. The public loved it and the project was hailed a success for returning a strip of nature to the city centre, as well as naturally cooling the area and dramatically decreasing vehicle traffic. In 2010, under the theme of 'Design for All', Seoul took on the mantle of World Design Capital. The same year it was appointed a Unesco City of Design. Across the city, hundreds of imaginative projects were softening Seoul's concrete and steel edges.



**Cheong-gye-cheon in the evening**

The highways that thundered along both sides of the Han River couldn't be so easily swept away, but the parks beneath them were upgraded. An old water filtration plant on Seonyudo, was transformed, Cinderella-like, into an award-winning garden oasis. The futuristic-looking recreation complex Some Sevit crowned artificial islands floating beside the Banpo Bridge, itself transformed at night by a fountain illuminated in rainbow colours arching forth from its girders into the river.

**Ambitious design projects**

Two key projects initiated in that period were so ambitious that it would take several more years for them to be completed. Finished in 2014, the inimitable design signature of the late Dame Zaha Hadid is immediately apparent at Dongdaemun Design Plaza & Park. Billed as the world's largest atypical building, and looking



more like a giant spaceship than a convention, exhibition and shopping centre, the curvaceous structure is coated with 45,000 aluminum panels, and glows from pulsating LED lights.

Around it Hadid crafted a remarkable, undulating landscape that incorporates fragments of the area's history, including remains of Seoul's 15th-century city walls and the 1925 sports stadium that once occupied the spot. It's one of Seoul's most fascinating structures.

Also making a bold architectural statement is the new Seoul City Hall opened in 2013. The design is based on the eaves of a traditional Korean house, which provide shade. But if you didn't know that, you might think the glass structure more resembles a giant wave, frozen as it is about to crash down on the former 1926-vintage City Hall (now a library). Inside, the eco-friendly building's lobby boasts a vertical garden that rises up seven floors and is hung with over 70,000 plants in 14 different species. Over the lobby also dangles Jeon Su-cheon's Meta Epic: SeoBeol - a giant cluster of hundreds of translucent spheres symbolizing Seoul's dynamism.

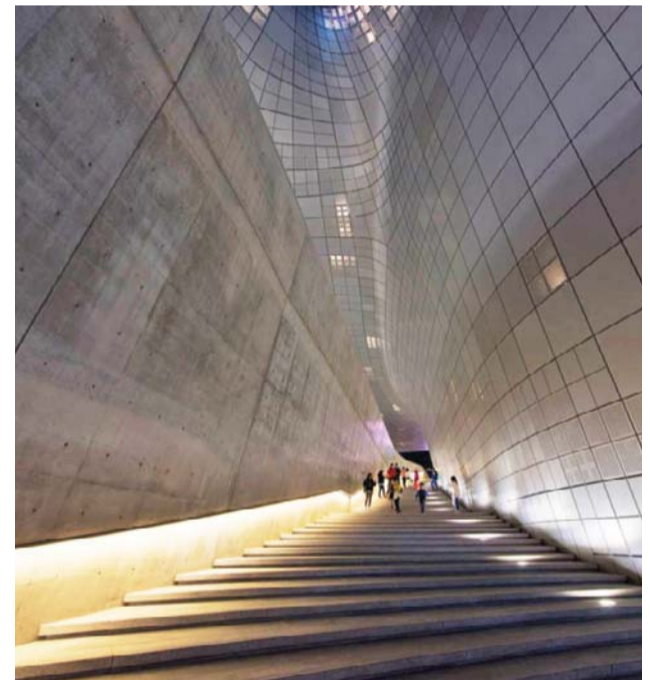
**Soaring towers and skygardens**

From all across the city, it's hard to miss the tapering fins of Lotte World Tower, the sixth-tallest building in the world, cutting 555m high into the sky. The 122nd floor of this sleek tower, designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, will be the best place to take in Seoul's full architectural sweep when the upper floors are completed, likely by the end of 2016. You can already visit the mammoth shopping mall, a 2000-seat concert hall, multiplex cinema and aquarium featuring South Korea's longest freshwater tunnel and first underwater escalator tunnel.

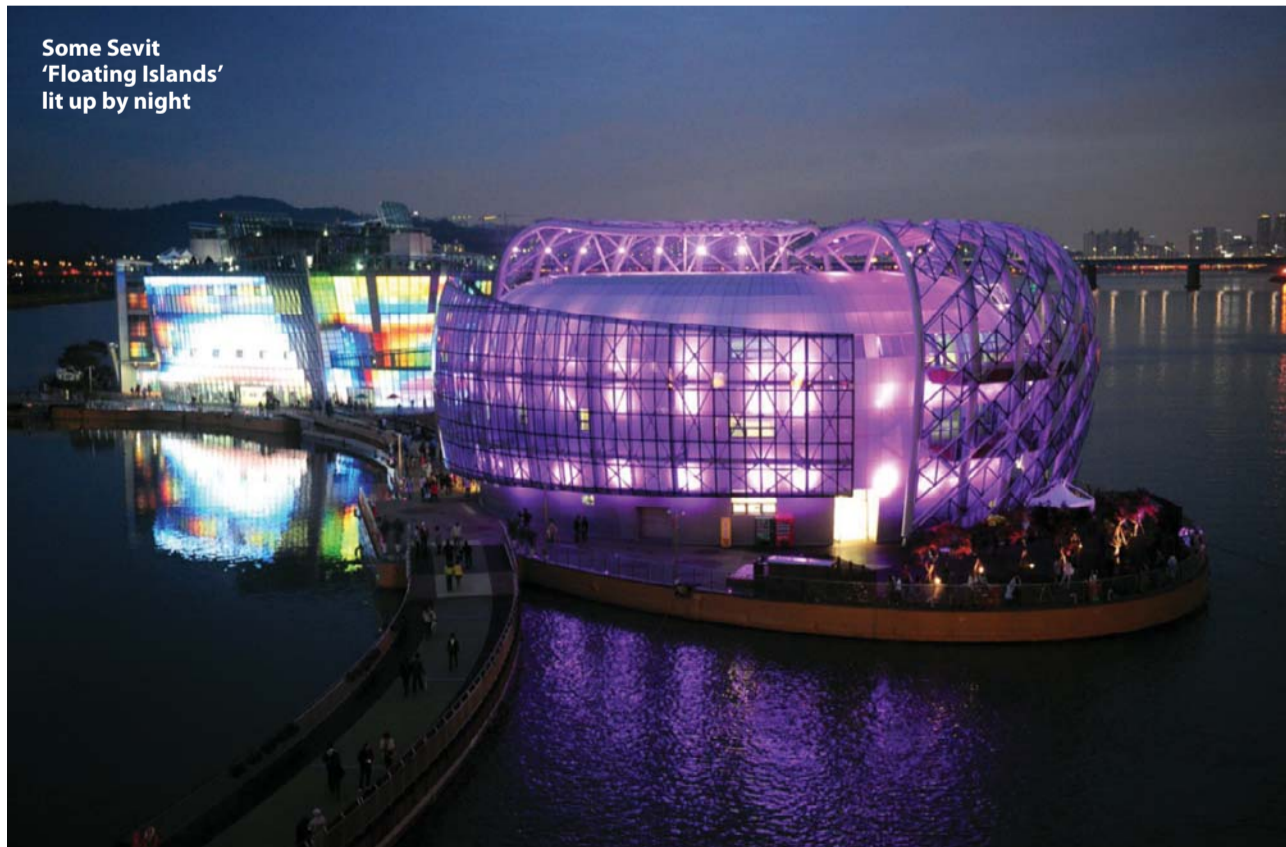
By April 2017, a nearly 1km-long stretch of disused highway next to Seoul Station will have been transformed into a 17m-high

platform on which trees, shrubs and flowers will be planted to create an arboretum of local species. The Skygarden will also include cafes, florists, street markets, a library and greenhouses. Set to become one of the most photogenic spots in an already highly Instagram-friendly city, the park will have free wi-fi - as will all public spaces in the city (including buses and subways) under Mayor Park Won-Soon's Seoul Digital Plan.

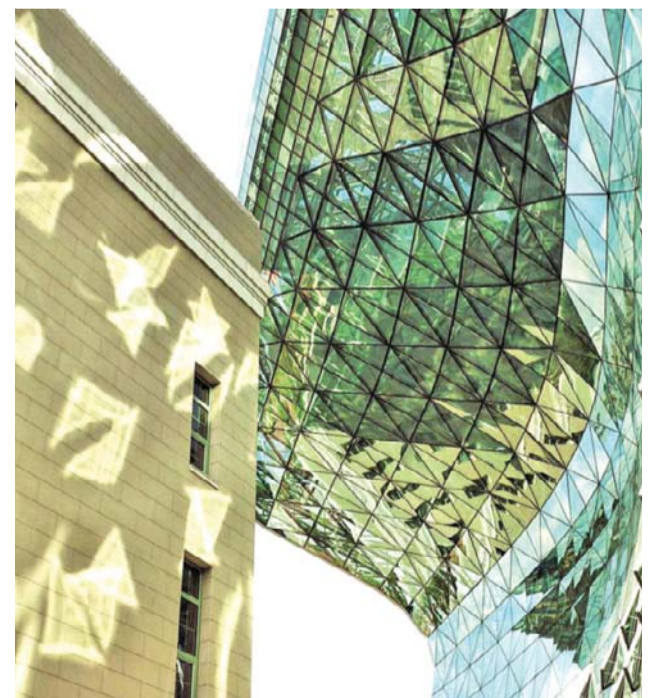
— www.lonelyplanet.com



**Hadid's Dongdaemun Design Plaza**



**Some Sevit 'Floating Islands' lit up by night**



**Seoul's new city hall towering over its historic one**

# Friday Times Books

Book Review

## Rook by Sharon Cameron

Reviewed by Radeeyah Ebrahim

**Genre: Action, Adventure, Romance**  
**Age: 10+**

In this action-packed novel, inspired by *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, a revolution is taking place in what was once Paris, now called the Sunken City. All those who oppose it are being sentenced to die. Unless the Red Rook can get to them first, freeing them and leaving a red-tipped rook feather in their empty cell.

In the Commonwealth, Sophia Bellamy dreads her arranged engagement to Rene Hasard. When all fingers in the government's search for the Red Rook point to someone in the Commonwealth, Sophia and Rene realize that neither is who they claim to be.

Whilst set in the future, the whole world seems to have reverted to a 17th-century style of living, where marriages are arranged, women wear restrictive dresses and technology is banned because of the dependency it causes in humans. Anyone caught breaking the new 'old' laws is arrested. The Red Rook is a sort of Robin Hood-inspired hero. Stealing prisoners instead of money, a savior to the people, a criminal to the government.

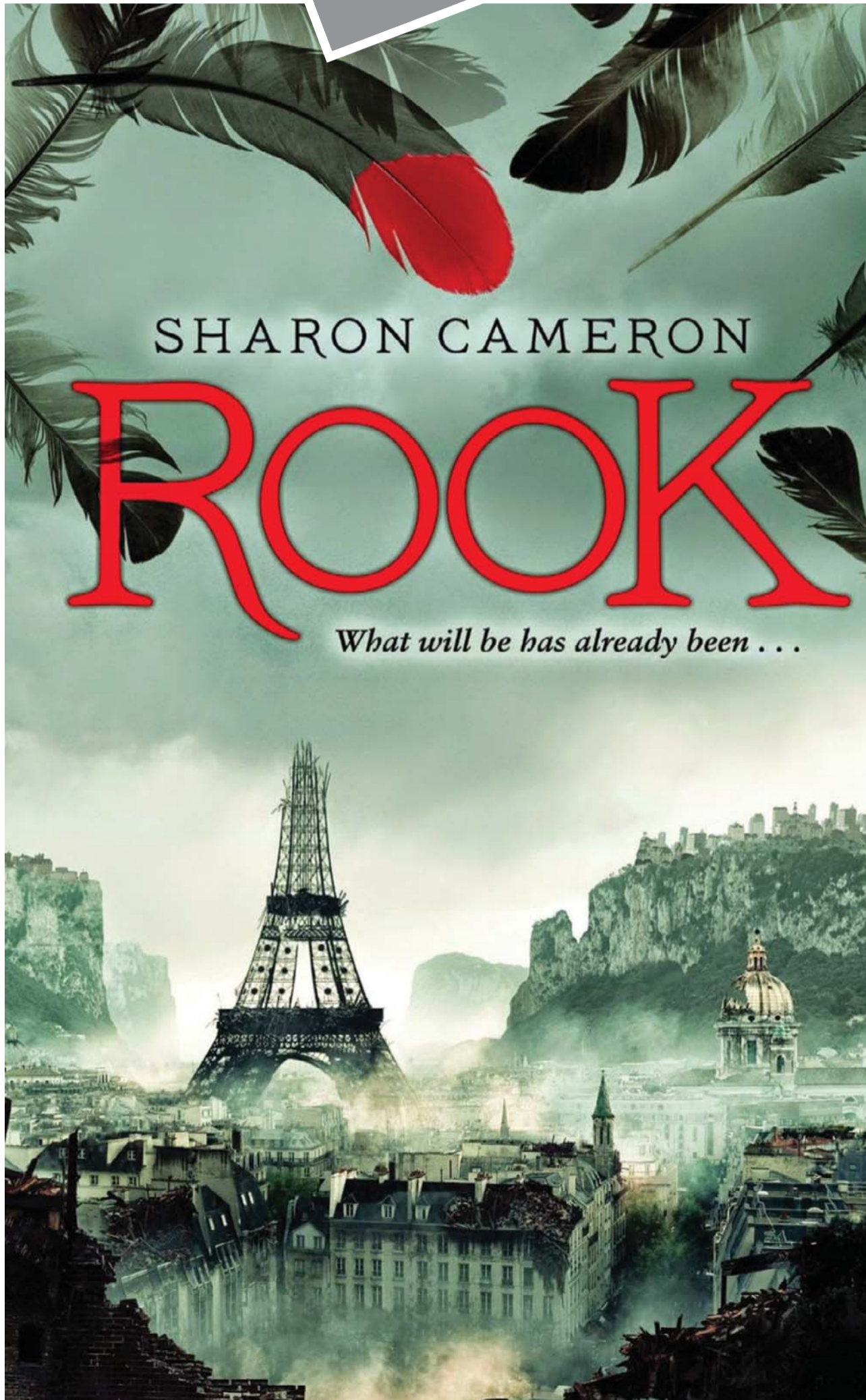
Sophia Bellamy is, at first glance, not much more than a typical female of the era. But underneath all the frills and makeup, she is more powerful, brave, and selfless than many of the men and women around her. When she and Rene first meet, they do not get along very well and their back-and-forth banter is highly entertaining. Our antagonist, LeBlanc can simply be simply described as a lunatic. He has a very medieval mindset (unusual even for the setting) and is a devout worshipper of "The Goddess", a deity that many of the characters mock and scorn. He is also convinced that Sophia's brother Tom is the elusive Red Rook and he will not rest until Tom is captured and executed.

Cameron keeps readers hooked with her nail-biting fight scenes and complex characters. Each of them has their own story to tell but it is not confusing because all their plots eventually overlap by the end. The plot moves briskly and is constantly forward-moving which makes for a fun and exciting read. By the end, all loose plot threads are tied up to bring us to a satisfying ending, perfect for a standalone novel.

*Radeeyah Ebrahim is a 16 year old blogger, passionate about reading, who blogs for Scholastic Middle East. You can read more of her work at [worldofpossible.tumblr.com](http://worldofpossible.tumblr.com)*

## 20 Young Adult Action Adventure Books

1. *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner
2. *Illuminae* by Amie Kaufman
3. *The Angel Experiment* by James Patterson
4. *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein
5. *Variant* by Robison Wells
6. *The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness
7. *Mockingjay (The Hunger Games, #3)* by Suzanne Collins
8. *Catching Fire (The Hunger Games, #2)* by Suzanne Collins
9. *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
10. *The Serpent's Shadow (Kane Chronicles, #3)* by Rick Riordan
11. *The Fire Seekers* by Richard Farr
12. *Need* by Joelle Charbonneau
13. *Dorothy Must Die* by Danielle Paige
14. *The Red Pyramid* by Rick Riordan
15. *The Forgetting* by Sharon Cameron
16. *Black Dove, White Raven* by Elizabeth Wein
17. *Under a Painted Sky* by Stacey Lee
18. *Court of Fives* by Kate Elliott
19. *Snow Like Ashes* by Sara Raasch
20. *The Call* by Peadar "Guilln"



WORD SEARCH

Christmas Tree

Find and circle all of the Christmas Tree words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 53 letters spell a secret message.

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

- ANGEL
- ARTIFICIAL
- BRANCHES
- CANDY CANES
- CELEBRATION
- DECEMBER
- DECORATE
- DECORATIONS
- FESTIVE
- FRESH CUT
- GARLAND
- GIFTS
- GREEN
- LARGE
- LIGHTS
- NEEDLES
- ORNAMENTS
- PINE
- PRESENTS
- PURCHASE
- REAL
- SCENT
- SETTING UP
- SKIRT
- SMALL
- SPRUCE
- STAND
- STAR
- TAKING DOWN
- TINSEL
- TOPPER
- TRADITION
- TREE FARM
- TREFF LOT
- TRUNK
- WATER
- YEARLY

CROSSWORD 1379

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	

ACROSS

- A platform raised above the surrounding level to give prominence to the person on it.
- Small genus of Eurasian herbs.
- Little known Kamarupan languages.
- Capital and largest city of the Ukraine.
- Evergreen Indian shrub with vivid yellow flowers whose bark is used in tanning.
- Not widely known.
- (prefix) In front of or before in space.
- 1 species.
- A ruler of the Inca Empire (or a member of his family).
- (superlative of 'near' or 'high') Most near.
- An antibiotic (trade name Azactam) used against severe infections.
- Short and fat.
- (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.
- United States tennis player who was the first Black to win United States and English singles championships (1943-1993).
- Marked by excessive enthusiasm for and intense devotion to a cause or idea.
- The cardinal number that is the sum of four and one.
- An informal term for a father.
- 'Father' is a term of address for priests in some churches (especially Roman or Orthodox Catholic).
- A unit of absorbed ionizing radiation equal to 100 ergs per gram of irradiated material.
- A sweetened beverage of diluted fruit juice.
- Resembling or characteristic of or appropriate to an elegy.
- Former name for the order Crocodylia.
- (of tempo) Leisurely n.
- A radioactive transuranic element synthesized from californium.
- Psychoactive substance present in marijuana.
- Tropical starchy tuberous root.
- The Mongol people living the the central and eastern parts of Outer Mongolia.
- A genus of Indriidae.
- Of or being the lowest female voice.
- A branch of the Tai languages.
- A rapid escape (as by criminals).
- A confidential or secret meeting.
- A master's degree in business.
- A federation of North American industrial unions that merged with the American Federation of Labor in 1955.
- A learner who is enrolled in an educational institution.
- Tag the base runner to get him out.
- (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.
- Used of conduct.
- A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

- A Kwa language spoken in Ghana and the Ivory Coast.
- Excavation in the earth from which ores and minerals are extracted.
- The 2nd letter of the Greek alphabet.

- A person who directs and manages an organization.
- A province in north-central China.
- A new embodiment of a familiar idea.
- The upper side of the thighs of a seated person.
- A period marked by distinctive character or reckoned from a fixed point or event.
- (Greek mythology) Goddess of the earth and mother of Cronus and the Titans in ancient mythology.
- Filled with the emotional impact of overwhelming surprise or shock.
- A member of the Caddo people who formerly lived in the Dakotas west of the Missouri river.
- Of or relating to the African people who speak one of the Bantoid languages or to their culture.
- Predatory black-and-white toothed whale with large dorsal fin.
- A large quantity of written matter.
- The atomic weight of an element that has the same combining capacity as a given weight of another element.
- A very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropic forms.
- A member of an agricultural people of southern India.
- Shade within clear boundaries.
- A blind god.
- Capital city of the Apulia region on the Adriatic coast.
- The content of cognition.
- (Norse mythology) God of poetry and music.
- (combining form) Indicating radiation or radioactivity.
- Any of several large deciduous trees with rounded spreading crowns and smooth gray bark and small sweet edible triangular nuts enclosed in burs.
- A toxic nonmetallic element related to sulfur and tellurium.
- (informal) Exceptionally good.
- A doctor who practices veterinary medicine.
- Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
- A cord that is drawn through eyelets or around hooks in order to draw together two edges (as of a shoe or garment).
- Sole genus of the family Naiadaceae.
- A contagious skin infection caused by the itch mite.
- East Indian tree bearing a profusion of intense vermilion velvet-textured blooms and yielding a yellow dye.
- A large commercial and industrial city in northeastern Texas.
- A constitutional monarchy on the western part of the islands of Samoa in the South Pacific.
- The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
- A genus of Lamnidae.
- Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- Jordan's port.
- Characteristic of false pride.
- Made agreeably cold (especially by ice).
- French filmmaker (1908-1982).
- Kitchen appliance used for baking or roasting.
- A lyric poem with complex stanza forms.
- A small lump or protuberance.
- A graphical record of electrical activity of the brain.

Yesterday's Solution

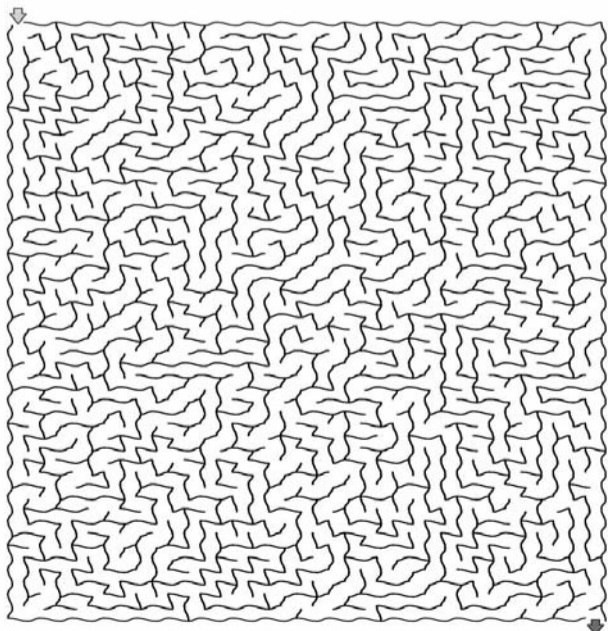
Songs From the Year 2002

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

- ADDICTIVE
- AERIALS
- ALL MY LIFE
- BABY
- BLURRY
- BY THE WAY
- COMPLICATED
- DAYS GO BY
- DILEMMA
- DISEASE
- ESCAPE
- EVERYDAY
- FOOLISH
- FOR YOU
- FULL MOON
- GIRL TALK
- GIRLFRIEND
- HALFCRAZY
- HANDS CLEAN
- HAPPY
- HEAVEN
- HELLA GOOD
- HERE I AM
- HERO
- HEY MA
- IN MY PLACE
- LOSE YOURSELF
- MOTIVATION
- MY LIST
- MY SACRIFICE
- NOTHIN'
- OH BOY
- RAINY DAYZ
- SPIN
- STILL FLY
- THE MIDDLE
- TOXICITY
- UH HUH
- WITHOUT ME
- WORK IT

The hidden song title is: CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY HEAD

CHALLENGING MAZE



Daily SuDoku

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

Yesterday's Solution

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

## OSN MOVIES HD

### ACTION

10:00 Heatstroke  
12:00 Swelter  
13:45 Airplane vs. Volcano  
15:30 S.W.A.T.  
17:30 Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes  
19:45 Grosse Pointe Blank  
21:45 Swelter  
23:30 S.W.A.T.  
01:30 Blackhat  
03:45 Duplicity

## BBC FIRST

09:15 Pramface  
10:15 Doctors  
10:45 Eastenders  
11:15 Stella  
12:00 Holby City  
13:00 Doctors  
13:30 Doctors  
14:05 Eastenders  
14:35 Casualty  
15:30 Dickensian  
16:15 Dickensian  
17:00 Dickensian  
17:45 Dickensian  
18:30 Casualty  
19:20 Holby City  
20:15 Doctors  
20:45 Eastenders  
21:20 The Musketeers  
22:15 The Musketeers  
23:10 The Musketeers  
00:05 Doctors  
00:35 Doctors  
01:05 New Tricks  
02:00 DCI Banks  
03:00 The Kettering Incident  
03:55 Happy Valley  
04:50 Friday Night Dinner  
05:15 Hunderby  
05:40 Doctors

## crime & investigation network

09:00 Homicide Hunter  
10:00 Killer Kids  
11:00 Britain's Darkest Taboos  
12:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
13:00 Beyond Scared Straight  
14:00 Homicide Hunter  
15:00 Nightmare In Suburbia  
16:00 Monster In My Family  
17:00 The First 48  
18:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
19:00 Beyond Scared Straight  
20:00 Homicide Hunter  
21:00 Monster In My Family  
22:00 The First 48  
23:00 Nightmare In Suburbia  
00:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
01:00 Beyond Scared Straight  
02:00 Monster In My Family  
03:00 Homicide Hunter  
04:00 Married, Single, Dead  
05:00 I Killed My BFF

## COMEDY CENTRAL

09:00 Catch A Contractor  
09:25 Catch A Contractor  
09:50 Catch A Contractor  
10:15 Catch A Contractor  
10:40 Catch A Contractor  
11:05 Lip Sync Battle  
11:30 Workaholics  
11:55 Workaholics  
12:20 Tosh.0  
12:50 Tosh.0  
13:15 Key And Peele  
13:40 Key And Peele  
14:05 Workaholics  
14:30 Workaholics  
14:55 Tosh.0  
15:20 Tosh.0  
15:45 Key And Peele  
16:10 Key And Peele  
16:35 Catch A Contractor  
17:00 Frankenfood  
17:25 Frankenfood  
17:50 Tosh.0  
18:15 Key And Peele  
18:40 Workaholics  
19:05 Workaholics  
19:30 Tosh.0  
19:55 Tosh.0  
20:20 Workaholics  
20:45 Workaholics  
21:10 Workaholics

21:35 Tosh.0  
22:00 Tosh.0  
22:30 Key And Peele  
22:55 Key And Peele  
23:25 Workaholics  
23:50 Ridiculousness  
00:15 Ridiculousness  
00:39 Ridiculousness  
01:03 Ridiculousness  
01:27 Urban Tarzan  
01:50 Urban Tarzan  
02:13 Lip Sync Battle  
02:37 Brotherhood  
03:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah  
03:30 Inside Amy Schumer  
03:54 Broad City  
04:18 South Park  
04:42 TUT  
05:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

## Discovery Family

09:00 Destroyed In Seconds  
09:25 Destroyed In Seconds  
09:50 Ultimate Survival  
10:40 How It's Made  
11:05 How It's Made  
11:30 Storm Chasers  
12:20 Mythbusters  
13:00 Doki  
13:25 Adventure 8: Zoo Games  
13:50 My Cat From Hell  
14:40 How It's Made  
15:05 How It's Made  
15:30 Science Of The Movies  
16:20 Mythbusters  
17:10 Animal Airport  
17:35 Animal Airport  
18:00 My Cat From Hell

18:50 Ultimate Survival  
19:40 How It's Made  
20:05 How It's Made  
20:30 Storm Chasers  
21:20 Mythbusters  
22:10 Doki  
22:35 Adventure 8: Zoo Games  
23:00 World's Funniest  
23:50 The Big Brain Theory  
00:40 Science Of The Movies  
01:30 Mythbusters  
02:20 How It's Made  
02:45 How It's Made  
03:10 World's Funniest  
04:00 The Big Brain Theory  
04:50 Destroyed In Seconds  
05:15 Destroyed In Seconds  
05:40 Ultimate Survival

## Disney Channel HD

09:15 The Hive  
09:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
09:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
10:10 Hank Zipzer  
10:35 Binny And The Ghost  
11:00 Violetta  
11:45 The Hive  
11:50 Mouk  
12:00 Jessie  
12:25 Jessie  
12:50 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
13:15 Tsum Tsum Shorts  
13:20 Disney Cookabout  
13:45 Bunk'd  
14:10 Austin & Ally  
14:35 Shake It Up  
15:00 A.N.T. Farm  
15:25 A.N.T. Farm

15:50 That's So Raven  
16:15 That's So Raven  
16:40 Good Luck Charlie  
17:05 Good Luck Charlie  
17:30 Jessie  
17:55 Disney Mickey Mouse  
18:00 The 7D  
18:15 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
18:40 Hank Zipzer  
19:05 Star Darlings  
19:10 Austin & Ally  
19:35 Austin & Ally  
20:00 Liv And Maddie  
20:25 Liv And Maddie  
20:50 Dog With A Blog  
21:15 Jessie  
21:40 Bunk'd  
22:05 Star Darlings  
22:10 Gravity Falls  
22:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
23:00 Backstage  
23:25 Adventures In Babysitting  
01:05 Bizaardvark  
01:30 Jessie  
01:55 Violetta  
02:45 Adventures In Babysitting  
04:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
04:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
05:10 Hank Zipzer  
05:35 Binny And The Ghost

## Disney Junior

09:10 Henry Hugglemonster  
09:20 Calimero  
09:35 Zou  
09:45 Loopdidoo  
10:00 Art Attack

10:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
10:35 Calimero  
10:50 Zou  
11:00 Loopdidoo  
11:15 Art Attack  
11:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
11:50 Calimero  
12:00 Zou  
12:20 Loopdidoo  
12:35 Art Attack  
13:00 The Hive  
13:10 Zou  
13:25 Loopdidoo  
13:40 Gummi Bears  
14:05 Sofia The First  
14:30 Goldie & Bear  
14:40 PJ Masks  
14:55 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
15:10 Doc McStuffins  
15:20 Miles From Tomorrow  
15:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
15:45 Goldie & Bear  
16:00 Sofia The First  
16:25 The Lion Guard  
16:55 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
17:20 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
17:25 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
17:50 The Hive  
18:00 Doc McStuffins  
18:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
19:00 The Lion Guard

## Discovery Channel HD

09:40 Fast N' Loud  
10:30 Garage Gold  
11:00 How Stuff Works  
11:30 How Do They Do It?  
12:00 You Have Been Warned  
12:50 World's Top 5  
13:40 Trailblazers  
14:30 Boy To Man  
15:20 The Island With Bear Grylls: USA  
16:10 Biketacular  
17:00 Fast N' Loud  
17:50 Diesel Brothers  
18:40 Aftershock: Disaster In Nepal  
19:30 Wheeler Dealers  
20:20 Misfit Garage  
21:10 Street Outlaws  
22:00 Mythbusters  
22:50 Mythbusters  
23:40 Mythbusters  
00:30 Mythbusters  
01:20 Mythbusters  
02:10 Mythbusters  
03:00 Wheeler Dealers  
03:50 Misfit Garage  
04:40 Deals, Wheels And Steals  
05:05 Deals, Wheels And Steals  
05:30 Aftershock: Disaster In Nepal

## Disney XD

12:00 Boyster  
12:10 Super Matrak  
12:35 Super Matrak  
13:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil  
13:25 K.C. Undercover  
13:50 Supa Strikas  
14:15 Danger Mouse  
14:40 Phineas And Ferb  
15:05 Counterfeit Cat  
15:10 Gravity Falls  
15:35 Lab Rats  
16:00 Rocket Monkeys  
16:25 Ultimate Spider-Man  
16:50 Boyster  
17:20 Boyster  
17:45 Pair Of Kings  
18:10 Pair Of Kings  
18:35 Lab Rats  
19:00 Lab Rats  
19:30 Phineas And Ferb  
19:55 Phineas And Ferb  
20:20 Kickin' It  
20:45 Kickin' It  
21:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
21:15 Supa Strikas  
21:40 Supa Strikas  
22:05 Lab Rats  
22:30 Danger Mouse  
22:55 Kirby Buckets  
23:25 K.C. Undercover  
23:50 Annedroids  
00:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
00:40 K.C. Undercover  
01:05 Counterfeit Cat  
01:10 Gravity Falls  
01:35 Pickle And Peanut

02:00 Lab Rats  
02:25 Supa Strikas  
02:55 K.C. Undercover  
03:20 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
03:45 Guardians Of The Galaxy  
04:10 Marvel Avengers: Ultron Revolution  
04:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
05:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA  
E! Entertainment HD  
09:40 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills  
10:35 Hollywood Cycle  
11:30 Fashion Bloggers  
12:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
12:55 E! News  
13:10 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
14:10 E! News  
15:10 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
16:10 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
17:05 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
18:00 E! News  
18:15 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
19:10 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
20:05 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
21:00 E! News  
21:15 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
22:15 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
23:10 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
00:05 LA Clippers Dance Squad  
01:00 E! News  
02:00 WAGs  
03:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
04:00 Rob & Chyna  
05:00 E! News  
05:15 WAGs

## itv HD CHOICE

09:25 Prince Philip: The Plot To Make A King  
10:20 Paul O'grady's Animal Orphans  
11:15 Murdoch Mysteries  
12:10 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
13:05 The Chase  
14:00 Prince Philip: The Plot To Make A King  
15:00 Paul O'grady's Animal Orphans  
16:00 Murdoch Mysteries  
16:55 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
17:50 The Chase  
18:45 Emmerdale  
19:15 Emmerdale  
19:45 Coronation Street  
20:15 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
21:10 The Chase  
22:00 Catchphrase  
22:30 Royal Stories  
22:55 Victoria  
23:50 Murdoch Mysteries  
00:45 Emmerdale  
01:15 Emmerdale  
01:45 Coronation Street  
02:10 The Chase  
03:00 Catchphrase  
03:30 Royal Stories  
03:55 Victoria  
04:50 Emmerdale  
05:15 Emmerdale  
05:40 Coronation Street

## NAT GEO people

09:05 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen  
09:30 Eat: The Story Of Food  
10:20 Gok's Chinese Takeaway  
11:10 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
11:35 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
12:00 East Bites West  
12:25 East Bites West  
12:50 Access 360 World Heritage  
13:40 Delinquent Gourmet  
14:05 Eat Street  
14:30 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen  
14:55 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen  
15:20 Eat: The Story Of Food  
16:10 Gok's Chinese Takeaway  
17:00 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
17:25 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
17:50 East Bites West  
18:15 East Bites West  
18:40 Access 360 World Heritage



SHE'S EX-CIA.  
HE'S EX-MIG.  
TOGETHER THEY'RE  
STEALING A FORTUNE.



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DUPLICITY ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

- 19:35 Delinquent Gourmet
- 20:00 Eat Street
- 20:30 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen
- 20:55 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen
- 21:25 Eat: The Story Of Food
- 22:20 Gok's Chinese Takeaway
- 23:15 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia
- 23:40 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia
- 00:10 East Bites West
- 00:35 East Bites West
- 01:05 Sara's New Nordic Kitchen
- 01:30 Eat: The Story Of Food
- 02:25 Gok's Chinese Takeaway
- 03:15 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia
- 03:40 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia
- 04:05 East Bites West
- 04:30 East Bites West
- 04:55 Access 360 World Heritage
- 05:45 Delinquent Gourmet



- 09:20 Innovation Nation
- 09:50 Machine Impossible
- 10:45 Innovation Nation
- 11:10 Innovation Nation
- 11:40 My Music Brain
- 12:35 Locked Up Abroad
- 13:30 No Man Left Behind
- 14:25 I Wouldn't Go In There: WW2 Special

- 15:20 Innovation Nation
- 15:45 Innovation Nation
- 16:15 4 Babies A Second
- 17:10 My Migrations
- 18:05 Brain Games
- 19:00 Family Guns
- 20:00 No Man Left Behind
- 21:00 Locked Up Abroad
- 22:00 4 Babies A Second
- 23:00 My Migrations
- 00:00 Man Hunt
- 01:00 World's Weirdest
- 02:00 4 Babies A Second
- 02:50 My Migrations
- 03:40 Man Hunt
- 04:30 World's Weirdest
- 05:20 My Music Brain



- 09:45 Snakes In The City
- 10:40 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn
- 11:35 Cougar vs Wolf
- 12:30 World's Deadliest Animals
- 13:25 Snakes In The City
- 14:20 Africa's Wild Kingdom Reborn
- 15:15 Animal Autopsy
- 16:10 Amur: Asia's Amazon
- 17:05 Secrets Of The Wild
- 18:00 Red Sea Jaws
- 18:55 Hippo vs Croc
- 19:50 World's Deadliest Animals
- 20:45 Snakes In The City
- 21:40 War Elephants
- 22:35 Animal Storm Squad
- 23:30 Amur: Asia's Amazon
- 00:25 Secret Life Of Predators
- 01:20 Snakes In The City
- 02:10 War Elephants
- 03:00 Animal Storm Squad
- 03:50 Amur: Asia's Amazon
- 04:40 Secret Life Of Predators
- 05:30 Red Sea Jaws



- 09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 09:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 09:48 Henry Danger
- 10:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 10:36 The Haunted Hathaways
- 11:00 Max & Shred
- 11:24 Henry Danger
- 11:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 12:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 12:36 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 13:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 13:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 13:48 Winx Club
- 14:12 Harvey Beaks
- 14:36 Breadwinners
- 15:00 Get Blake
- 15:24 Rabbids Invasion
- 15:48 Henry Danger
- 16:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 16:36 The Haunted Hathaways
- 17:00 Winx Club
- 17:24 SpongeBob SquarePants



INSIDE OUT ON OSN MOVIES HD

- 17:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 18:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 18:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 19:00 Breadwinners
- 19:24 The Loud House
- 19:48 Harvey Beaks
- 20:12 Rabbids Invasion
- 20:36 Henry Danger
- 21:00 Game Shakers
- 21:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 21:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 22:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 22:36 Lost In The West I
- 23:24 Lost In The West II
- 00:12 Lost In The West III
- 01:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 01:24 Game Shakers
- 01:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 02:12 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 02:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 03:24 Breadwinners
- 03:48 Breadwinners
- 04:12 Sanjay And Craig
- 04:36 Sanjay And Craig
- 05:00 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 05:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
- 05:48 Henry Danger



- 09:01 Paw Patrol
- 09:24 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 09:35 Dora The Explorer
- 09:59 Max & Ruby
- 10:07 Bubble Guppies
- 10:29 Little Charmers
- 10:41 Shimmer And Shine
- 11:05 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 11:27 Zack & Quack
- 11:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 12:00 Paw Patrol
- 12:13 Paw Patrol
- 12:36 Dora The Explorer
- 13:00 Wanda And The Alien
- 13:11 Zack & Quack
- 13:22 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 13:46 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 14:10 Paw Patrol
- 14:35 Shimmer And Shine
- 14:58 Dora The Explorer
- 15:21 Paw Patrol
- 15:45 Little Charmers
- 15:57 Bubble Guppies
- 16:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 16:40 Zack & Quack
- 16:52 Team Umizoomi
- 17:15 Louie
- 17:22 Louie
- 17:30 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 17:53 Olive The Ostrich
- 17:58 Olive The Ostrich

- 18:03 Max & Ruby
- 18:26 Wanda And The Alien
- 18:37 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 18:48 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 19:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 19:22 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 19:45 Zack & Quack
- 19:55 Zack & Quack
- 20:05 Team Umizoomi
- 20:28 Louie
- 20:35 Louie
- 20:40 Olive The Ostrich
- 20:44 Olive The Ostrich
- 20:49 Paw Patrol
- 21:01 Paw Patrol
- 21:24 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 21:35 Dora The Explorer
- 21:59 Max & Ruby
- 22:07 Bubble Guppies
- 22:29 Little Charmers
- 22:41 Shimmer And Shine
- 23:05 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 23:27 Zack & Quack
- 23:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 00:00 Paw Patrol
- 00:13 Paw Patrol
- 00:36 Dora The Explorer
- 01:00 Wanda And The Alien
- 01:11 Zack & Quack
- 01:22 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 01:46 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 02:10 Paw Patrol
- 02:35 Shimmer And Shine
- 02:58 Dora The Explorer
- 03:21 Paw Patrol
- 03:45 Little Charmers
- 03:57 Bubble Guppies
- 04:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 04:40 Zack & Quack
- 04:52 Team Umizoomi
- 05:15 Louie
- 05:22 Louie
- 05:30 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 05:53 Olive The Ostrich
- 05:58 Olive The Ostrich



COMEDY

- 09:00 Hot In Cleveland
- 09:30 Last Man Standing
- 10:00 Living With Fran
- 10:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 11:30 George Lopez
- 12:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 12:30 \$#! My Dad Says
- 13:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 14:00 Living With Fran
- 14:30 George Lopez
- 15:00 Hot In Cleveland

- 15:30 Uncle Buck
- 16:00 Uncle Buck
- 16:30 \$#! My Dad Says
- 17:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 18:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 18:30 Living With Fran
- 19:00 George Lopez
- 19:30 \$#! My Dad Says
- 20:00 Last Man Standing
- 20:30 Uncle Buck
- 21:00 Uncle Buck
- 21:30 The Simpsons
- 22:00 The Simpsons
- 22:30 The Bernie Mac Show
- 23:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 00:00 Superstore
- 00:30 The Goldbergs
- 01:00 The Goldbergs
- 01:30 New Girl
- 02:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 03:00 The Simpsons
- 03:30 The Simpsons
- 04:00 Getting On
- 04:30 The Big C
- 05:00 The League
- 05:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers



- 09:00 Better Call Saul
- 10:00 Good Morning America
- 13:00 C.S.I. Cyber
- 14:00 Stitches
- 15:00 The Amazing Race
- 17:00 C.S.I. Cyber
- 18:00 Stitches
- 19:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 20:00 Live Good Morning America
- 23:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 00:00 Stitches
- 01:00 The Amazing Race
- 02:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 03:00 Dead Of Summer
- 04:00 Survivor: Millennials vs Generation X
- 05:00 Outlander



FAMILY

- 09:00 Beyond The Mask
- 11:00 G-Force
- 13:00 The Princess And The Frog
- 15:00 102 Dalmatians
- 17:00 Toy Story 3
- 19:00 Hotel For Dogs
- 20:45 Up
- 22:30 The Lone Ranger
- 01:00 The Princess Diaries
- 03:00 Jem And The Holograms
- 05:00 Up



- 09:00 Inside Out
- 11:00 Big Game
- 13:00 Believe
- 15:00 Inside Out
- 16:45 Barely Lethal
- 18:30 Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
- 21:00 Love, Rosie
- 22:45 Tomorrowland
- 01:00 The Transporter: Refueled
- 03:00 The Finest Hours
- 05:00 Terminator Genisys



COMEDY

- 10:00 Serial (Bad) Weddings
- 12:00 Father Hood
- 14:00 Passed Away
- 16:00 Serial (Bad) Weddings
- 18:00 Just Married
- 20:00 Caveman
- 22:00 Passed Away
- 23:45 Julie And Julia
- 02:00 The Foot Fist Way
- 04:00 Top Five



FESTIVAL

- 10:30 What Maisie Knew
- 12:30 Steve Jobs: The Man In The Machine
- 15:00 Blackfish
- 17:00 The Guardian
- 19:30 Stone Markers
- 21:30 Breathe In
- 23:30 Blackfish
- 01:00 About Time
- 03:15 Begin Again
- 05:00 Taking Lives



- 09:00 Alaska Mega Machines
- 09:48 Mythbusters
- 10:36 Battle Factory
- 11:00 Battle Factory
- 11:24 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 12:12 How Do They Do It?
- 12:36 Food Factory
- 13:00 How Do They Do It?
- 13:26 Mythbusters
- 14:14 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 15:02 Alaska Mega Machines
- 15:50 How Do They Do It?
- 16:14 Food Factory
- 16:38 Battle Factory
- 17:02 Battle Factory
- 17:26 Mythbusters
- 18:14 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 19:02 How Do They Do It?
- 19:26 Food Factory
- 19:50 Alaska Mega Machines
- 20:38 Battle Factory
- 21:02 Battle Factory
- 21:26 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 22:14 Mythbusters
- 23:02 Alaska Mega Machines
- 23:50 Mythbusters
- 00:40 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 01:30 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 01:55 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 02:20 How Do They Do It?
- 02:45 Food Factory
- 03:10 Mega Builders
- 04:00 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 04:25 Bigger, Better, Faster, Stronger
- 04:50 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
- 05:40 Mythbusters
- Syfy HD
- 09:00 Stargate SG-1
- 09:45 Eureka
- 10:30 Sanctuary
- 11:15 Smallville



PASSED AWAY

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 ALASKA MEGA MACHINES MICHIGAN'S BEST BURGERS "PASSED AWAY" BASH BRUSH  
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 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: MATHIEU SHERET EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: LARRY BREZNER, TIMOTHY MARK

PASSED AWAY ON OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY



**Aries (March 21-April 19)**

A crowded room full of co-workers is relatively quiet today as everyone hovers over plans and drawings or scheduling itineraries. Each person wants to know where and when and what they will be working on and it is exciting to have the work ahead of them. You will be working in teams and possibly be the head of your own team. Improved powers of concentration insure that you will get a lot accomplished this day, no matter where you are directed. You have fun negotiating with a neighbor over a collectible item this afternoon. A guardian angel is at your side. This evening would be a good time to ask the young people around you about what they want for their future. If they want to travel, they need a good job, etc.



**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**

You may find yourself contributing a great deal of passion toward the care of someone who can no longer do any work. You may be helping to make decisions about the direction in which that person's care will progress. If this scenario is not happening within your own family, you could be helping a friend who is new at care taking. You demonstrate a great deal of understanding and sensitivity to the needs of others and you could be a great deal of help to people that face difficult decisions. Perhaps you are in a counseling type of job. There are plenty of opportunities to guide others. Dreams, illusions, forgiveness and understanding arouse deep feelings. You enjoy your own way of relaxing this afternoon. Teach laughter, it is a great stress reliever.



**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**

New rules, perhaps a new job-new guidelines certainly are the things you work to learn and achieve. This may mean you have a new job or that you are working to learn new things that will help you in an existing job. Keep notes, or with permission, record the information for playback later to ease the learning curve. A new friend will come into your life this afternoon. You have a lot of eagerness for entertaining or sports. This evening you teach a young friend how to go to interviews or how to be aggressive in a professional manner. In the process of this teaching, you remember some important past techniques that would be good to use for yourself. Resolve to avoid fatty foods this coming weekend. Vary your exercise routine and good results will happen.



**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**

It could be easy to become short tempered because of some loss of sleep, soreness or perhaps, because of over exercise-careful. You are proud of the work you do and today is a busy day that unfolds as you move through it. You will need plenty of protein and not so much caffeine. Your company may depend on advertisement or word of mouth to be productive and today the business doesn't stop when the clock strikes quitting time. There may be overtime but you have people to see and personal business of your own this afternoon. You take time to visit friends that may be ill or are in need of some care taking, perhaps running an errand for them. You bring joy to many people and many people look forward to your visit. Enjoy your evening.



**Leo (July 23-August 22)**

This is a very good day for job-related thoughts. You shine in your particular job and one of the reasons you shine is that you are constantly thinking of ways to improve. You could represent or speak for your company or communicate about your skills this day; perhaps you have been asked to speak professionally. You could be most persuasive with others, and eloquent in speech and communication. You can demonstrate a kindness and warmth to the needs of others just now and you are in a good position to communicate, particularly in groups. The situation is a natural for self-expression and lends itself to your particular ideas. This is a happy day for relationships and matters of the heart. A young person looks to you for the answers.



**Virgo (August 23-September 22)**

You are well known for what you do and people look for your name when they have a particular need. Perhaps you are good at stage props or background art or arranging the appropriate food to match an occasion. Whatever the case, it is you that will be in command today. Your performance is nothing less than excellent. If you are only responsible to one person at this time, it is you that creates the marvelous positive attitude for another person to follow. This week of September is best for advertising and social interactions. If you get the opportunity to network, do so, it will gain you new business. You could teach or help others take a more independent approach to their life now. Celebrate your special day.



**Libra (September 23-October 22)**

You have a good direction for your life and you know how to give many people encouragement with their own life choices. You are helpful in the workplace and at home. Today you just naturally move toward the items, projects or people that need your attention. If you are in sales, you will find a higher than usual volume of sales from your department. Broadening your intellectual and spiritual horizons takes on a high priority and this afternoon you may decide to stop by a bookstore for new ideas regarding your job. You are intent on being successful and you use everything you can to make sure you become victorious. Travel and further education can help bring all of this into real time. A creative endeavor gets attention this evening.



**Scorpio (October 23-November 21)**

Someone may take offense to something you say today. You mean well and probably will not even realize that someone misunderstood your words. People from different lands have different ways of expression and once you pay attention and use another word, you will have no problem with communicating. Laughter and a new understanding help to bond the two of you together. There are wonderful opportunities to develop into good partners in the workplace. You have good practical common sense ideas for making progress in the workplace and you are good at creating an interest in better workmanship through your own goals. This afternoon and evening you may decide to do a little decorating while listening to some fine music.



**Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)**

You satisfy public demands today. A trading sort of transaction turns lucky around noon today; perhaps you will be enjoying a flea market or preparing for a convention. Display of merchandise or helping to check on the vendors for this convention may take up most of your day. You have everything in control, no matter what the job. You are most persuasive with others and charismatic in communication. Good things always seem to come to you when you least expect them. Friends, co-workers and plain old lucky circumstances offer encouragement and backing. You often get what you need, when you need it. A good conversation with those you love is possible this evening. People or things dear to your heart are emphasized tonight.



**Capricorn (December 22-January 19)**

New ways to communicate or an easy manner will make conversations and interactions go well. Computer or satellite communications may change the way you plan your day. There is an opportunity for new accomplishments, during which insights and breakthroughs in coordinating events are in order. There is a revolution within the established order, when new ideas and ways to do and use things become clear. You may find yourself more talkative and easygoing than usual. There is a dialogue with an older person this afternoon in which you both may profit. One nice aspect of the day is that there are no decisions that need finalizing. Music and good smells come from your house this evening. Perhaps a special meal or treat is in order.



**Aquarius (January 20- February 18)**

You may feel like rebuilding something today. This could be a business plan or a hobby project-it does not matter-there is just that strong feeling that something in your life needs a change! This could also mean some form of reckoning, but more than likely you will just change your major in college or cancel a loan application. Taking responsibility for errors of the past and the ways you contribute to your own undoing are very important issues for you now. Dodging them may be the easier thing to do, but that only puts off a day of reckoning. You may be able to enjoy and value your own life situation this evening. Unexpected company will bring you good news. It could be time to renew an old friendship. There is much laughter.



**Pisces (February 19-March 20)**

You may be working on an invention or looking for an idea for some improvement project today. You can get very involved in your ideas. Positive results happen. Whether this invention is for work or home, make sure you place your signature onto the plans. You could get paid a great deal for your invention and you want no question as to whom the check will be written. Set your sights high and take steps to realize your goals. Someone you care about, a child or lover perhaps, may need your guidance this afternoon. You encourage an enthusiastic attitude. Romance, recreation and creativity take on an inspirational and perhaps a wildly idealized quality. Such experiences can be truly inspiring. It is your turn to cook the evening meal.

**COUNTRY CODES**

Afghanistan	0093	Kuwait	00965
Albania	00355	Kyrgyzstan	00996
Algeria	00213	Laos	00856
Andorra	00376	Latvia	00371
Angola	00244	Lebanon	00961
Anguilla	001264	Liberia	00231
Antigua	001268	Libya	00218
Argentina	0054	Lithuania	00370
Armenia	00374	Luxembourg	00352
Australia	0061	Macau	00853
Austria	0043	Macedonia	00389
Bahamas	001242	Madagascar	00261
Bahrain	00973	Majorca	0034
Bangladesh	00880	Malawi	00265
Barbados	001246	Malaysia	0060
Belarus	00375	Maldives	00960
Belgium	0032	Mali	00223
Belize	00501	Malta	00356
Benin	00229	Marshall Islands	00692
Bermuda	001441	Martinique	00596
Bhutan	00975	Mauritania	00222
Bolivia	00591	Mauritius	00230
Bosnia	00387	Mayotte	00269
Botswana	00267	Mexico	0052
Brazil	0055	Micronesia	00691
Brunei	00673	Moldova	00373
Bulgaria	00359	Monaco	00377
Burkina	00226	Mongolia	00976
Burundi	00257	Montserrat	001664
Cambodia	00855	Morocco	00212
Cameroon	00237	Mozambique	00258
Canada	001	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Cape Verde	00238	Namibia	00264
Cayman Islands	001345	Nepal	00977
Central African Republic	00236	Netherlands (Holland)	0031
Chad	00235	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Chile	0056	New Caledonia	00687
China	0086	New Zealand	0064
Colombia	0057	Nicaragua	00505
Comoros	00269	Nigar	00227
Congo	00242	Nigeria	00234
Cook Islands	00682	Niue	00683
Costa Rica	00506	Norfolk Island	00672
Croatia	00385	Northern Ireland (UK)	0044
Cuba	0053	North Korea	00850
Cyprus	00357	Norway	0047
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Oman	00968
Czech Republic	00420	Pakistan	0092
Denmark	0045	Palau	00680
Diego Garcia	00246	Panama	00507
Djibouti	00253	Papua New Guinea	00675
Dominica	001767	Paraguay	00595
Dominican Republic	001809	Peru	0051
Ecuador	00593	Philippines	0063
Egypt	0020	Poland	0048
El Salvador	00503	Portugal	00351
England (UK)	0044	Puerto Rico	001787
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Qatar	00974
Eritrea	00291	Romania	0040
Estonia	00372	Russian Federation	007
Ethiopia	00251	Rwanda	00250
Falkland Islands	00500	Saint Helena	00290
Faroe Islands	00298	Saint Kitts	001869
Fiji	00679	Saint Lucia	001758
Finland	00358	Saint Pierre	00508
France	0033	Saint Vincent	001784
French Guiana	00594	Samoa US	00684
French Polynesia	00689	Samoa West	00685
Gabon	00241	San Marino	00378
Gambia	00220	Sao Tome	00239
Georgia	00995	Saudi Arabia	00966
Germany	0049	Scotland (UK)	0044
Ghana	00233	Senegal	00221
Gibraltar	00350	Seychelles	00284
Greece	0030	Sierra Leone	00232
Greenland	00299	Singapore	0065
Grenada	001473	Slovakia	00421
Guadeloupe	00590	Slovenia	00386
Guam	001671	Solomon Islands	00677
Guatemala	00502	Somalia	00252
Guinea	00224	South Africa	0027
Guyana	00592	South Korea	0082
Haiti	00509	Spain	0034
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Sri Lanka	0094
Honduras	00504	Sudan	00249
Hong Kong	00852	Suriname	00597
Hungary	0036	Swaziland	00268
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Sweden	0046
Iceland	00354	Switzerland	0041
India	0091	Syria	00963
Indian Ocean	00873	Taiwan	00886
Indonesia	0062	Tanzania	00255
Iran	0098	Thailand	0066
Iraq	00964	Toga	00228
Ireland	00353	Tonga	00676
Italy	0039	Tokelau	00690
Ivory Coast	00225	Trinidad	001868
Jamaica	001876	Tunisia	00216
Japan	0081	Turkey	0090
Jordan	00962	Tuvalu	00688
Kazakhstan	007	Uganda	00256
Kenya	00254	Ukraine	00380
Kiribati	00686	United Arab Emirates	00976



**ROME: Italian Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin speaks about the 'Fertility Day' campaign, whose ad is now a red ribbon as seen on the stage, in Rome yesterday. —AFP**

## FEW PATHS FOR CLIMATE GOAL

**OXFORD, United Kingdom:** The global target to prevent climate catastrophe, crafted at a landmark summit last year in Paris, will be very difficult if not impossible to hit, said some of world's top scientists meeting this week in Oxford. The first-ever climate pact to enjoin all nations vows to cap global warming at "well below" two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) compared to pre-Industrial Revolution levels—and under 1.5 C (2.7 F) if possible.

"Currently we only have a few scenarios that get us there, and they are outliers," said Valerie Masson-Delmotte, a climate scientist at Institut Pierre Simon Laplace in Paris, said of the more ambitious goal. All but a few of the hundreds of complex computer models plotting the rapid reduction of greenhouse gases that drive climate change, in other words, zoom right past it. — AFP

"The 1.5 C target took the scientific community by surprise," said Jim Hall, director of the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford, which is hosting the three-day conference ending Thursday. The question stretches back to the chaotic Copenhagen climate summit in 2009, which nearly derailed more than a decade of UN talks, set the thresh-

# UN MOBILIZES EFFORTS TO STOP SUPER-BUGS

MORE RESEARCH NEEDED TO STOP MOUNTING DEATH TOLL

**UNITED NATIONS:** The United Nations on Wednesday launched a global effort to fight so-called super-bugs that resist antibiotics, warning of a mounting death toll without more research. "Some scientists call it a slow-motion tsunami," Margaret Chan, director-general of the World Health Organization, told a first-of-a-kind UN meeting on the problem.

"The situation is bad and getting worse," she said. Government leaders at the meeting signed an agreement that called for more research and controls on antibiotics, improved public awareness and more consideration of alternative treatments. The statement also called on each country to come up with its own national action plan on super-bugs within the next year. "Antimicrobial resistance poses a fundamental, long-term threat to human health, sustainable food production and development," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said as he opened the meeting on the sidelines of the annual General Assembly. "We are losing our ability to protect both people and animals from life-threatening infections," he said. Super-bugs-or bacteria that cannot be treated by the current crop of antibiotics and other drugs-could kill up to 10 million people around the world by 2050, as many as cancer, according to a recent British

study. Already some 230,000 newborns die each year from infections that cannot be treated with antibiotics, according to UN estimates.

### Reversing fall in research

Ban pointed to the outbreak of a tough strain of typhoid in Africa as well as growing resistance to AIDS treatments and a form of tuberculosis found in 105 countries that has proven impervious to antibiotics. "On current trends, a common disease like gonorrhea may become untreatable. Doctors will be forced to say, 'Sorry, I can't do anything for you,'" Chan said, referring to the sexually transmitted malady. Superbugs "already haunt hospitals and intensive care units in every region of the world. Nearly all of us know someone who underwent a routine operation only to die from a hospital-acquired infection," she said. Chan voiced concern about the lack of medical research, saying that only two new classes of antibiotics have entered the market in the past half-century. For pharmaceutical companies, the returns from antibiotics have proven to be not worth the investment costs. "Incentives must be found to recreate the prolific era of antibiotic discovery that took place from 1940 to 1960," Chan said. She urged coordinated action that brings together the public and private

sectors, including governments, health professionals, laboratories and also consumers.

### Reducing use in animals

Super-bugs are also aggravated by the overuse or incorrect use of antibiotics in humans as well as such drugs' contamination of water supplies. For the public, Chan said that consumers should avoid meat from animals treated with antibiotics, which are commonly administered to livestock, including fish, to prevent disease but also to maximize growth.

"Antibiotics used for growth allow gains in productivity, so there is obviously an economic incentive," Monique Eloit, director general of the World Organization for Animal Health, told AFP. The European Union bans the use of antibiotics for growth but the practice is common in the United States and China, despite previous UN-backed calls to phase it out.

Eloit said there was resistance as breeders wanted more time to adapt. "You can't tell them to stop the next day. You need to show them that there is another way to do things that is feasible and economically viable," Eloit said. Eloit said the future path would be to administer antibiotics on a more selective basis and to look at better vaccination of farm animals. — AFP

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Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
 فهد علي المخيزيم  
 Consultant Pediatrician استشاري أطفال  
 M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAFP. PEM

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



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (22/09/2016 TO 28/09/2016)

<b>SHARQIA-1</b>		SULLY	2:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	7:00 PM
SULLY	12:45 PM	SULLY	4:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:45 PM
SULLY	2:45 PM	PINK - Hindi	6:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 AM
PETE'S DRAGON	4:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:45 PM		
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	7:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 AM	<b>AL-KOUT.2</b>	
ASHAN KHARGEN	8:45 PM			THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:45 PM
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	11:00 PM	<b>MARINA-1</b>		AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	3:30 PM
SULLY	1:00 AM	SULLY	12:30 PM	PETE'S DRAGON	5:15 PM
		SNOWDEN	2:30 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	7:30 PM
<b>SHARQIA-2</b>		BEN-HUR	5:00 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	10:00 PM
PETE'S DRAGON	11:30 AM	ASHAN KHARGEN	7:30 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	12:15 AM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:45 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	9:45 PM		
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	4:30 PM	SULLY	12:05 AM	<b>AL-KOUT.3</b>	
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	7:15 PM			BEN-HUR	12:00 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	10:00 PM	<b>MARINA-2</b>		BEN-HUR	2:15 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:45 AM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:45 PM	HAVENHURST	4:30 PM
		ASHAN KHARGEN	1:30 PM	LIGHTS OUT	6:15 PM
<b>SHARQIA-3</b>		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:30 PM	HAVENHURST	8:00 PM
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:15 PM	HAVENHURST	10:00 PM
HAVENHURST	3:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:00 PM	HAVENHURST	12:05 AM
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	5:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:45 PM		
HAVENHURST	7:45 PM			<b>AL-KOUT.4</b>	
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	9:45 PM	<b>MARINA-3</b>		SULLY	12:45 PM
HAVENHURST	12:30 AM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM	SULLY	2:45 PM
		SULLY	2:15 PM	HELLIONS	4:45 PM
<b>MUHALAB-1</b>		PETE'S DRAGON	4:15 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	6:45 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM	PETE'S DRAGON	6:30 PM	SULLY	8:45 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	2:00 PM	SULLY	8:45 PM	HELLIONS	10:45 PM
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	4:45 PM	HAVENHURST	10:45 PM	HELLIONS	12:45 AM
PETE'S DRAGON	6:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:45 AM		
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	9:00 PM			<b>BAIRAQ-1</b>	
HAVENHURST	10:45 PM	<b>AVENUES-1</b>		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 PM
HAVENHURST	12:45 AM	LIGHTS OUT	12:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:15 PM
		LIGHTS OUT	2:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:00 PM
<b>MUHALAB-2</b>		PINK - Hindi	4:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	8:45 PM
SULLY	12:45 PM	OOZHAM - Malayalam	7:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 PM
SULLY	3:00 PM	BOGET FAKARA (Kuwaiti Film)	10:00 PM		
PINK - Hindi	5:00 PM	BOGET FAKARA (Kuwaiti Film)	12:15 AM	<b>BAIRAQ-2</b>	
MAJNU - Telugu	5:00 PM			PETE'S DRAGON	1:00 PM
ASHAN KHARGEN	8:00 PM	<b>AVENUES-2</b>		SULLY	1:30 PM
ASHAN KHARGEN	10:15 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN -2D- 4DX	1:30 PM	PETE'S DRAGON	3:30 PM
SULLY	12:30 AM	PETE'S DRAGON -3D- 4DX	4:15 PM	PETE'S DRAGON	5:45 PM
		PETE'S DRAGON -3D- 4DX	6:30 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	8:00 PM
<b>MUHALAB-3</b>		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN -2D- 4DX	8:45 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	10:15 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN -2D- 4DX	11:30 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	12:30 AM
PETE'S DRAGON	1:30 PM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:45 PM	<b>AVENUES-3</b>		<b>BAIRAQ-3</b>	
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:30 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	1:15 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	12:30 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:15 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	4:00 PM	SULLY	2:30 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:05 AM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	6:45 PM	PINK - Hindi	4:45 PM
		THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	9:30 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	7:30 PM
<b>FANAR-1</b>		THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 AM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	9:15 PM
SULLY	11:45 AM			AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	11:15 PM
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	1:45 PM	<b>360°- 1</b>			
PETE'S DRAGON	4:30 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 PM	<b>PLAZA</b>	
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	6:45 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	3:00 PM	PINK - Hindi	3:30 PM
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	9:30 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	5:45 PM	OOZHAM - Malayalam	6:30 PM
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 AM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	8:30 PM	THODARI- Tamil	9:30 PM
		THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	11:15 PM	THU+FRI+MON	
<b>FANAR-2</b>		Premiere Show "Bilal: A New Breed of Hero"	9:00 PM	PINK - Hindi	9:30 PM
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	11:30 AM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	11:45 PM	NO THU+FRI+MON	
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	1:30 PM			<b>LAILA</b>	
ASHAN KHARGEN	3:15 PM	<b>360° 2</b>		AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	3:45 PM
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	5:30 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	12:15 PM	PETE'S DRAGON	5:45 PM
ASHAN KHARGEN	7:30 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	2:15 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	8:00 PM
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	9:45 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	4:15 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	10:45 PM
ASHAN KHARGEN	11:45 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	6:15 PM		
		AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	8:15 PM	<b>AJIAL.1</b>	
<b>FANAR-3</b>		AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	10:15 PM	IRU MUGAN - Tamil	3:30 PM
HAVENHURST	12:00 PM	SNOWDEN	12:15 AM	THU	
HAVENHURST	1:45 PM			THODARI- Tamil	3:30 PM
HELLIONS	3:45 PM	<b>360°- 3</b>		NO THU	
PETE'S DRAGON	5:45 PM	SULLY	11:45 AM	THODARI- Tamil	6:45 PM
HAVENHURST	8:00 PM	SULLY	2:00 PM	THODARI- Tamil	10:00 PM
HELLIONS	10:00 PM	SULLY	4:30 PM		
HAVENHURST	12:05 AM	OOZHAM - Malayalam	6:45 PM	<b>AJIAL.2</b>	
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 PM	SULLY	9:45 PM	PINK - Hindi	4:15 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:15 PM	SULLY	12:05 AM	PINK - Hindi	7:00 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:00 PM			PINK - Hindi	9:45 PM
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	8:45 PM	<b>AL-KOUT.1</b>		<b>AJIAL.3</b>	
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 PM	SULLY	11:30 AM	BAAR BAAR DEKHO- Hindi	3:30 PM
		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:30 PM	BAAR BAAR DEKHO- Hindi	6:30 PM
<b>FANAR-5</b>		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	4:15 PM		
SULLY	12:45 PM				

## BASEBALL UMPIRES NEEDED

### Requirements are:

1. Have Previously Umpired
2. Is knowledgeable in Little League Baseball & Softball Rules
3. All Umpires will Be Paid

If Intrested Please contact Coach Jeff at:  
[chief.umpire@q8bsc.com](mailto:chief.umpire@q8bsc.com)



### CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mrs Fatima Mary Lancy Fernandes daughter of Joseph Fernandes, holder of Indian Passport No: K4564810 & Civil ID No: 265011009768 has changed my name to Violet Mary D'souza hereinafter in all my dealings and documents, I will be known by name of Violet Mary D'souza. (C 5216) 22-9-2016

### SITUATION WANTED

A well-qualified (MBA, CPA), Indian Finance Professional is looking for a change in job. 12 years of experience in Investment Banking, Real Estate & FMCG in the middle level position in Kuwait. Excellent communicator and adaptable. Please call 65094498. (C 5213) 21-9-2016

### MATRIMONIAL

T. Marimuthu S/o K. Thiyagarajan, holder of Indian Passport No: J0364840 and Civil ID No: 277062006098, has changed my name Farhan. Hereinafter in all my dealings and documents I will be known by name of Farhan. (C 5214) 21-9-2016

Alliance invited for a 28 year old Marthoma boy with master degree in mechatronics from University of Victoria - Canada, and currently working in Canada. Proposal invited from parents of educational girls. Email: sobinthomas0007@gmail.com (C 5215) 22-9-2016

## PRAYER TIMINGS

<b>Fajr:</b>	<b>04:17</b>
<b>Shorook</b>	<b>05:37</b>
<b>Duhr:</b>	<b>11:41</b>
<b>Asr:</b>	<b>15:08</b>
<b>Maghrib:</b>	<b>17:44</b>
<b>Isha:</b>	<b>19:01</b>



## Hospitals

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

## Clinics

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

# Friday Times BUSINESS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016



Ooredoo to celebrate iPhone 7 launch

CHINA FOREIGN EXPENDITURE TOPS INWARD INVESTMENT

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## AILING MAERSK ALTERS COURSE WITH SPLIT

**COPENHAGEN:** Rocked by low freight and oil prices, Denmark's A P Moller-Maersk will split itself up and focus on transport and logistics while seeking a way out of energy in a keenly anticipated revamp aimed at reviving its fortunes. The 112-year-old conglomerate will focus on its core businesses, comprising Maersk Line, APM Terminals, Damco, Svitser and Maersk Container Industry, while seeking "solutions" for its smaller energy operations. Investors gave the news a cautious welcome, with Maersk shares trading slightly higher yesterday. But some said the \$30 billion company had not gone far enough. "It might be one of the most pain-free solutions relative to other scenarios, but they could have gone even further," Nykredit analyst Ricky Rasmussen said yesterday. The weak market has hit the big lines which have invested heavily in "mega-ships", largely to operate the main Asia to Europe trade route. Industry sources have questioned whether there is enough work for the biggest container vessels on the high seas at the moment, putting more pressure on profits.

"Separating our transport and logistics businesses and our oil and oil related businesses...will enable both to focus on their respective markets. Both face very different underlying fundamentals and competitive environments," Chairman Michael Pram Rasmussen said in a statement. Maersk said it would look for solutions for its oil and oil-related businesses, which are to be split from the main company either individually or in combination "in the form of joint-ventures, mergers or listing". The company gave no details on how far this process had already progressed or whether it was already talking to any possible partners, but said it would be done within 24 months.

Maersk Drilling boss Claus V Hemmingsen will lead Maersk's energy division through the change and serve as vice CEO of the group, beginning on Oct 1. "Maersk Oil...is a small player, so there are many players big enough to take (it) in. Drilling is relatively large, but its competitors are under extreme financial pressure, so it's less likely to find an sale opportunity there," Morten Imsgard, an analyst at Denmark's Sydbank, said.

### CONGLOMERATE DISCOUNT

Maersk will hope that by splitting up it can shed any conglomerate discount by allowing markets to value its businesses individually. The group, controlled by the Maersk family, was founded in 1904 by A P Moller and was turned into a conglomerate operating in 130 countries by his son, Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller, who had an active role in the company until he died in 2012 aged 98. Sydbank estimates the new transport and logistics division could be worth 174-229 billion Danish crowns (\$26-\$35 billion), while the energy division could be valued at 74-153 billion Danish crowns (\$11-\$23 billion). Driven by the container shipping downturn and a slump in oil prices, AP Moller-Maersk group's chief executive Nils Smedegaard Andersen left in June and Soren Skou, head of Maersk Line, was named group chief executive. — Reuters



LOS ANGELES: Sea lions taking a sun bath on the bulbous bow of a Maersk container ship as containers are seen in the background at the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro, California. —AFP

## FORBES REVEALS RICHEST INDIANS 2016.

**MUKESH AMBANI TOPS THE LIST WITH US\$ 22.7 billion.  
Kerala shines, 8 Malayalees in the list headed by Yusuffali MA.**

PS: US\$ 1 billion = Rs. 6700 crores (approx).



**M**umbai Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped Forbes's annual list of India's 100 richest tycoons with a net worth of \$22.7 billion. The combined net worth of India's 100 wealthiest is \$381 billion, a rise of 10 percent from \$345 billion in 2015.

Naazneen Karmali, India Editor of Forbes Asia, said: "In a post-Brexit world, India appears a steady ship with an economy growing at 7 percent-plus. The majority of India's 100 richest have notched up handsome gains as their companies have outperformed the stock market in the past year. As the domestic investment cycle starts kicking in, we can expect more gains and new names in the future."

The latest edition of Forbes Rich list also saw few Keralites who made into billionaire club. Among them is Yusuff Ali MA, Chairman of Abu Dhabi based Middle East retail chain Lulu Group who is placed 25th in the list with a net worth of \$4 Billion. Last year his net worth was US\$ 3.7 billion. He is the only Keralite who made among TOP 25 of Indian Billionaires. Yusuff Ali presides over \$6.3 billion (revenue) LuLu Group, with 129 stores in the Gulf region, India, Egypt, Indonesia and Malaysia, Turkey and Brazil. New projects include a \$300 million investment in Trivandrum in South India that will include a mall, hotel and convention center. The group's hospitality arm owns Dubai's first Steinberger hotel, a German luxury hotel brand and a 50%

stake in the Sberaton hotel in Muscat, which will reopen October this year after renovations and the legendary Old Scotland Yard building in London, slated to be open as a Luxury Hotel by early next year.

Yusuff Ali is followed by Ravi Pillai, also a Gulf based businessman who is placed 38th in the list with a fortune of \$3.1 Billion. George Muthoot is placed 59th (\$1.92 B), Sunny Varley, Chairman of GEMS Schools (\$1.9 B) 60th in the list, PNC Menon with \$1.64 B (78th) also found a place in the list. Others in the list are Kris Gopalakrishnan, (\$1.92 B), Azad Moopen (\$1.28 B) and Shamsheer Vayali (\$1.27 B), who is the youngest Malayalee in the list and son-in-law of Yusuffali MA.

Other prominent NRIs in the list include Micky Jagtiani of Landmar group and BR Shetty of NMC Group.

India's richest pharmaceutical magnate, Dilip Shanghvi, remains at No 2 with a net worth of \$16.9 billion. His wealth fell by \$1.1 billion along with a drop in the shares of his Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, the world's fifth-largest generics maker. Earlier this year, Sun Pharma acquired 14 drugs from Novartis in Japan for \$293 million, which will be distributed by Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma. Taking the third spot are the Hinduja brothers with a net worth of \$15.2 billion, up from \$14.8 billion last year. The four siblings - Srichand, Gopichand, Prakash, and Ashok - control multinational empire Hinduja Group, with businesses ranging from trucks and lubricants to banking and cable television. The group commissioned its much-delayed 1,040 megawatt thermal power unit in South India in July.

Tech magnate Azim Premji, who has led Wipro for five decades, slips one spot to No 4 on the list with a net worth of \$15 billion. Wipro, India's third largest outsourcer, reported a 6 percent fall in net earnings to \$304 million in a recent quarter amid sluggish sales. To boost growth, the company has been on a buying spree and its most recent acquisition was Health Plan Services, an insurance-technology firm based in Florida.



# OOREDOO TO CELEBRATE IPHONE 7 LAUNCH

## SPECIAL CELEBRATION AND A GIFT FOR EVERY IPHONE 7 SUBSCRIBER

**KUWAIT:** Ooredoo, Kuwait's fastest network in 2016, will hold a special midnight celebration tonight to launch the iPhone 7 devices, which go officially on sale tomorrow on the 24th of September.

Commenting on this, Corporate Communications Senior Director at Ooredoo Kuwait Mijbil Alayoub said: "We're happy to celebrate the launch of the new iPhone, which is the biggest event in the telecom world this year, with our customers for the third consecutive year. The program Friday night includes a lot of activities and competitions. We're also giving all iPhone 7 subscribers on the launch event a free valuable gift."

The new iPhone 7 devices boast a number of powerful features, making this Apple's best iPhone to date. The iPhone 7 has an entirely new 12MP camera system, a brighter and colorful display, a faster processor and better battery life. The iPhone 7 devices are water and splash resistant, and come with built-in immersive stereo speakers.

The iPhone 7 comes in two varieties: iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus. They come in three capacities: 32GB, 128GB, and 256GB. The iPhone 7 devices are available in five colors: rose gold, gold, silver, black, and jet black. The new devices ship with the iOS 10, Apple's latest operating system, which introduce major performance and interface enhancements. Additionally, the update comes with powerful upgrades to your most-used features—Messages, Maps, Photos, and more.

The devices will be available with Ooredoo's postpaid Shamel plans. Shamel subscribers can enjoy a number of exclusive



Mijbil Alayoub

privileges such as freezing their contract for up to 3 months a year when they travel, without worrying about paying bills for months that they don't use. Additionally, all Shamel subscribers can enjoy unlimited calls on the Ooredoo network, in addition to other perks such as data rollover, to ensure that they are making full use of their package. To find out more and stay up to date with Ooredoo's latest news, follow @ooredookuwait on Twitter and Instagram.

Ooredoo in Kuwait is a member of Ooredoo Group. Commercially launched in December 1999, the company provides mobile, broadband internet and corporate managed services tailored to the needs of customers and businesses. Ooredoo is guided by its vision of enriching people's lives and its belief that it can stimulate human growth by leveraging communications to help people achieve their full potential.

## GULF SHARES CHEER FED DECISION, EGYPT SLIPS

### MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

**DUBAI:** Stocks in the Gulf rallied yesterday, taking their cue from global shares after the Federal Reserve left US interest rates unchanged and indicated a slower pace of future hikes. Dubai's main index was the top gainer among its regional peers, jumping 2.0 percent in the most active trade of the week as nine-tenths of the traded shares rose.

Emaar Properties, the largest listed developer and Dubai Investments each gained 2.9 percent. In neighboring Abu Dhabi, the index advanced 1.0 percent with gainers outnumbering losers by 12 to five. Abu Dhabi National Energy was the second top gainer, soaring 8.0 percent as Brent futures bounced above \$47 a barrel as the dollar—the currency in which the commodity trades—was knocked down. But Dana Gas fell 1.7 percent after it said on Thursday its board had discussed a proposal to buy back shares in the company. The company also expressed its "dissatisfaction with the non-payment of the company's outstanding dues in Egypt" without elaborating.

Qatar's main index rose 1.6 percent with three-quarters of the shares advancing, trimming its loss for a volatile week to 1.2 percent. Some of the chief gainers were this week's new entrants to the FTSE's secondary emerging market index. Qatar Insurance jumped 3.1 percent and Doha Bank climbed 3.3 percent.

In Egypt, the main index fell 0.3 percent, taking its losses for the week to 0.8 percent. Global Telecom Holding dropped 1.4 percent. Cairo's three established mobile phone operators have declined to buy fourth-generation (4G) service licences, two Egyptian telecoms officials told Reuters.

The only operator which had acquired the licence last month was Telecom Egypt, which jumped 2.2 percent on Thursday. The country's fixed-line monopoly will now enter the mobile phone market directly for the first time, giving it a distinctive edge over other operators in the industry.

"The main term in the licence creating the deadlock, in our view, is the dollar portion of the licence, presumably which the operators would find difficult to fulfil, while the government would be keen to receive the dollar payments in one go," said a note by Cairo's Naeem Brokerage.

Telecom Egypt had on Aug. 31 paid 5.2 billion Egyptian pounds (\$585.59 million) for the licence, 50 percent of which was paid in dollars. The rest will be paid over four years. Analysts at Naeem Brokerage added that such an "impasse" between regulators and mobile operators could cause damage to the future prospects of their operations in the country, and open the door wider for other international players to acquire the licence. — Reuters





**BEIJING:** A window cleaner hangs from a rope as he descends after cleaning an office building in Beijing yesterday. — AFP

## CHINA FOREIGN EXPENDITURE TOPS INWARD INVESTMENT

### A FIRST FOR WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST ECONOMY

**BEIJING:** China invested more money abroad last year than foreign firms piled into the country, data showed yesterday, a first for the world's second largest economy as Beijing looks overseas as part of its drive to transform its economic growth model. Overseas direct investment soared more than 18 percent to an all-time high above \$145 billion last year, exceeding the \$135.6 billion of foreign direct investment.

This "historic breakthrough" was a result of the "enhancement of China's comprehensive national power", deepening cooperation, and Beijing's strategy of encouraging Chinese firms to "go abroad" in search of growth, the government said. Chinese firms "have to make use of international resources and markets to transform and upgrade", the commerce ministry's representative Zhang Xiangchen told reporters at a news conference.

"We feel companies currently are keen to go abroad and actively integrate into global innovation, manufacturing and market networks."

The data was revealed in the 2015 Statistical Bulletin of China's Outward Foreign Direct Investment.

China's economy grew at its slowest pace in a quarter of a century last year, and continues to decelerate as the country faces multiple development bottlenecks.

Among these are manufacturing overcapacity, insufficient domestic demand and increasing energy and resources consumption. To enhance their competitiveness, cash-flush Chinese firms have sought to acquire foreign brands, technologies and resources.

#### Showing off

Last year Chinese firms conducted

\$54.4 billion of mergers and acquisitions, including the takeover of Italian tyre maker Pirelli by state-owned ChemChina. And 2016 has seen an even greater flurry of activity. In the first eight months of this year, M&A surged to \$61.7 billion, the ministry said, as Chinese companies scored massive investments, from Hollywood studio Legendary to leading German robotics firm Kuka and Swiss seed giant Syngenta.

"We think Chinese companies' overseas takeovers can help them acquire high-end production elements such as design, research and development, marketing and service to upgrade their positions in the global value, industrial, logistics chains," said Zhang, adding that they can also contribute to the economies of host countries.

But problems remain for these firms as they pursue overseas expansion, he said. "Some companies went with overseas takeovers blindly. We found some firms did not make sufficient research into basics such as the purpose and necessity of overseas M&As. Some... rushed to expand while some were driven by irrational reasons to simply follow the craze or show off."

But while China goes on a buying spree, foreign partners in the US and EU have complained of a lack of reciprocal access to Chinese industries, with many sectors off-limits or restricted to outside investment. Among them are telecommunications, media, energy, and legal and financial services.

China's stock of investment in the European Union totalled \$64.5 billion in 2015 and \$40.1 billion in the US, data showed. In an appearance in New York this week China's premier Li Keqiang said "China's door, once open, is unlikely to be closed", the state-run China Daily reported. He added that there are "tremendous investment opportunities" between the US and China and assuring business leaders. — AFP

## EGYPT NEEDS DOLLAR INFLOWS TO LOOSEN ITS CURRENCY PEG

**CAIRO:** Egypt is rebuilding its foreign reserves with the help of loans and aid, easing a shortage of dollars and preparing the way for a loosening of its fixed exchange rate. But economists and bankers say that unless it finds a sustainable inflow of dollars the import-dependent country could soon find itself back at square one.

Egypt has struggled to earn dollars since a 2011 revolt drove away tourists and foreign investors. Its efforts to defend the pound against growing downward pressure drained reserves from \$36 billion before the uprising to \$16.6 billion in August—enough for just over three months of imports.

Investors and economists have long urged the central bank to devalue the pound to a realistic market rate and ease the dollar shortage, which has badly hurt business activity. An overvalued currency is hurting exports and stoking up the black market.

Central Bank Governor Tarek Amer has said he would consider floating the pound once reserves exceed \$25 billion. That level could be attained by the end of the year if Egypt receives the first \$2.5 billion instalment of an International Monetary Fund loan agreed in August, finalises its \$3-5 billion eurobond issue and gets \$5-6 billion in bilateral financing being negotiated with China and Gulf states.

Egypt has already received the first \$1 billion tranche of a World Bank loan and expects a second \$500 million tranche of an African Development Bank loan this year. But bankers and analysts say debt obligations of \$7-8 billion due this fiscal year and a backlog of unmet dollar requests estimated by bankers at \$10-15 billion could quickly devour those new funds and expose the pound to renewed pressure.

To transition to a flexible exchange rate, they said, Egypt needs a sustainable inflow of dollars that has so far eluded it. "This is the make or break for Egypt," said Hany Farahat, economist at Cairo-based CI Capital. "We need to have a cash flow cycle of foreign currency, not just temporary windfall gains from financial support."

Bankers point to the billions of dollars Egypt received from Gulf allies in 2013-14. The money was spent yet Egypt was still forced to seek IMF assistance as market imbalances grew.

The central bank, which has rationed dollars and prioritised essential food, medicine and raw materials, devalued the currency by 13 percent in March. It said at the time it would pursue a more flexible exchange rate regime but held the pound steady anyway as the devaluation failed to restore confidence. The pound weakened to unprecedented levels on the black market in the ensuing months.

#### LOOMING HIKES

Egypt reached a preliminary agreement with the IMF last month for a three-year \$12 billion loan program based on reforms aimed at cutting the deficit and directing monetary policy away from managing the exchange rate towards inflation-targeting.

The deal, which awaits final IMF approval, raised expectations of a hefty devaluation followed by a return to the managed floating regime in place before the revolt that ended Hosni Mubarak's 30-year rule and ushered in a period of political and economic turbulence. But Egypt's regular sources of dollars have yet to recover. Tourism receipts halved to \$3.77 billion in 2015/16 from the previous fiscal year, hit by last year's attack on a Russian plane carrying holiday-makers from a Red Sea resort. Tourism receipts peaked before 2011 at \$12.5 billion. Foreign investors have not returned as the dollar shortage has forced the central bank to introduce capital controls, making it all-but-impossible to repatriate profits. And though Egypt has embarked on a series of drastic trade measures, cutting the trade deficit by \$7 billion this year, the country still suffers imbalances in dollar flows.

A flotation could lure back billions of dollars in remittances from expatriates who turned to the black market as the spread between the official exchange rate of 8.88 pounds to the dollar and the parallel rate widened to over 30 percent. But that cash is not enough to cover dollar demand.

"There is rising, pent-up demand that will eat up \$10 billion," said Sarah Saada, economist at HC Securities. "The central bank should move the exchange rate but floating, if there is not enough liquidity coming in, will bring the central bank back to square zero." Bankers say the central bank will need a steep devaluation coupled with a series of aggressive interest rate increases to avoid dollarisation and lure back foreign investors. The central bank's monetary policy committee will meet on Sept. 22 to discuss interest rates. The bank has raised key policy rates by 250 basis points this year. Bankers say much more is needed. — Reuters

## TURKISH CB CUTS KEY RATE TO BOOST ECONOMY

**ANKARA:** Turkey's central bank cut a key interest rate for the seventh month in a row yesterday as it tries to shore up an economy that has been shaken this year by a series of bombings and an attempted coup. The bank said it had cut its overnight marginal funding rate to 8.25 percent from 8.5 percent. That is intended to help banks borrow more cheaply from day to day, which could help keep the financial system running smoothly at a time of heightened uncertainty.

The central bank said recent indicators for the first quarter pointed to a "deceleration" in economic activity and that current "financial conditions are tight." "With the supportive measures and incentives provided recently, domestic demand is expected to

recover starting from the final quarter," said the bank, which also kept its one-week rate at 7.5 percent.

Turkey's economy has suffered this year in the face of a string of extremist attacks and uncertainty following the failed coup on July 15 that saw more than 270 people killed. Tourism, a key component of the economy as well as a substantial foreign-currency earner, has taken a hit.

Though the central bank noted that developments in tourism revenues will have "a negative impact" in the short run, it said the recent fall in the country's currency, the lira, will help improve the nation's current account. Demand from the European Union continues to support exports, it added. — AP

# US JOBLESS CLAIMS DROP TO TWO-MONTH LOW

**WASHINGTON:** The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits unexpectedly fell last week to a two-month low, pointing to labor market strength that could pave the way for the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates by December.

The upbeat initial jobless claims data came a day after the US central bank left interest rates unchanged but strongly signaled it could raise borrowing costs by the end of the year, citing a recent pickup in economic growth and continued progress in the labor market. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits declined 8,000 to a seasonally adjusted 252,000 for the week ended Sept. 17, the Labor Department said yesterday, the lowest

level since mid-July. Claims for the prior week were unrevised. It was the 81st consecutive week that claims remained below the 300,000 threshold, which is associated with robust labor market conditions. That is the longest stretch since 1970, when the labor market was much smaller.

Economists had forecast first-time applications for jobless benefits rising to 262,000 in the latest week. The Fed on Wednesday offered a solid assessment of the labor market, with Fed Chair Janet Yellen saying policymakers continued to expect that labor market conditions "will strengthen somewhat further over time." The US central bank raised its benchmark overnight interest rate last

December for the first time in nearly a decade. It has held the rate steady so far this year amid concerns over persistently low inflation. Prices of US Treasuries trimmed gains after the data yesterday. US stock futures were trading higher, while the dollar was weaker against a basket of currencies. A Labor Department analyst said there were no special factors influencing last week's data and only claims for South Carolina had been estimated.

The four-week moving average of claims, considered a better measure of labor market trends as it irons out week-to-week volatility, fell 2,250 to 258,500 last week. Last week's claims data covered the survey period for

September's nonfarm payrolls. The four-week average of claims fell 6,750 between the August and September survey periods, suggesting a pickup in job growth this month. Payrolls increased by 151,000 jobs in August. While the pace of job growth has slowed from a monthly average of 186,000 in the first seven months of the year, it is well above the roughly 100,000 that Yellen says is needed to absorb new entrants in the job market.

Thursday's claims report also showed the number of people still receiving benefits after an initial week of aid fell 36,000 to 2.11 million in the week ended Sept. 10. The four-week average of the so-called continuing claims dropped 8,000 to 2.14 million. — Reuters

# JAPAN MOVE SHOWS LIMIT OF CENTRAL BANK POWERS

## SKEPTICS SAY LONG BATTLE AGAINST DEFLATION IS LOST

**TOKYO:** Japan's central bank has revealed yet another exotic weapon to generate growth, but skeptics say all it shows is that the armoury is empty and a long battle against deflation is being lost. With the European Central Bank apparently set to embark down a similar path and the Federal Reserve treading very lightly, some analysts are saying the Bank of Japan's move is an admission of defeat and a warning of the limits of central bank power.

After a hotly anticipated meeting on Wednesday, the BoJ said it would switch its emphasis from interest rates and concentrate its firepower on 10-year government bonds. Governor Haruhiko Kuroda said the bank would buy as many or as few of these benchmark instruments as necessary to ensure the yield—the interest rate paid to holders—remained steady at around zero.

He also pledged he would cut back on the number of longer dated bonds the bank holds. That should reduce the price of long-term securities, which in turn should increase their yield.

This so-called steepening of the yield curve is the latest effort to convince Japanese consumers that the price of goods and services will rise in the future.

The idea is that if people think prices will rise, they'll rush out to spend their money, causing actual price rises. But the problem, say analysts, is that after more than three years of bootlessly insisting that inflation is coming back (it's barely budged) Kuroda is low on credibility. "It's hard not to see the BoJ statement as a further sign that it is running out of ideas," said George Magnus, an adviser to UBS Group AG, Bloomberg reported.

### End of the curve

Japan has been grappling with stagnant or falling prices for much of the last quarter of a century, since an asset and stock bubble popped after decades of soar away growth.

The prospect of things being cheaper next month discourages consumers from spending their money right now, making companies reluctant to invest and pressuring a country's economic growth. The government—through its so-called "Abenomics" growth plan—and the central bank have been tinkering with their monetary and fiscal policy for years in a bid to encourage people to open their pocketbooks. But, says Barry Bosworth of the Washington-based

Brookings Institution, they're missing the point. "I do not think that the solution to Japan's economic stagnation lies with changes in monetary policy," he said. "The larger problem is in the weak level of corporate investment, which, when combined with high retained earnings, has a major depressive effect on the economy."

Companies are not going to start spending their cash piles—either by investing or boosting wages—until they think there are consumers willing to buy the goods and services they are selling.

"Ultimately, the BoJ does not operate in a vacuum," said a research note from Daiwa Capital Markets. That's where the structural reforms promised—but not really delivered—by Abenomics should come in. "Given the relatively limited support coming from fiscal policy; Japan's woeful demographics and other structural weaknesses; the weakness of global demand... we very much doubt that inflation" will return in any meaningful way. The bad news for other developed economies is that Japan is ahead of the curve. It may have been the first place to enter a period of prolonged deflation, but wobbly performances from Europe and the United States in recent years have sent their economies in the same direction.

Both the Federal Reserve in the US and the European Central Bank have implemented ultra low interest rates and quantitative easing. Neither has seen impressive results.

The Fed's latest salvo after its meeting on Wednesday was to do nothing. In an opinion piece on Bloomberg News, Lisa Abramowicz said this week's moves show the limits on central bank power in the absence of any political leadership. "Together the Fed and the BOJ have made clear that they have gone about as far as they are able or willing to go to fill in the gap left by inaction by lawmakers worldwide," she said. "In short, these central bankers are essentially throwing in the towel with respect to searching for ever more creative solutions or making waves.

"Even if these bankers don't explicitly back away from their efforts, they've reached their limits. It's the politicians' turn now." — AFP



**SINGAPORE:** People rest along a pond with lilies at Marina Bay Sands promenade in Singapore yesterday. — AFP

## BANKS TAKE UP 45.3 BILLION EUROS IN CHEAP ECB LOANS

**FRANKFURT:** European lenders took up almost twice the amount of cheap loans that analysts had predicted in a second round of European Central Bank refinancing, according to data released yesterday. In a move suggesting banks may be increasingly willing to lend to households and businesses, the ECB announced that it had agreed to lend 45.3 billion euros (\$51 billion) to 249 banks in the eurozone under the so-called TLTRO 2 program. Under the program, financial institutions are expected to quickly lend the funds to customers to provide a much needed boost to economic growth.

The amount was lower than the first round in June, which came just before Britain voted to leave the European Union and lenders were hesitant about the economic outlook.

However, it was significantly higher than analysts' forecasts. ING Diba bank had predicted a figure of 25 billion euros. Subtracting some of the loans, used by banks to immediately pay back previous debts to the central bank, the ECB loaned out a net amount of around 34 billion euros.

That was a slight increase over the net amount in the first round of TLTRO 2 lending in June. While June saw the ECB issue almost 400 billion euros in loans to 514 banks, the net impact on the financial system was smaller as banks used around 370 billion of that cash to pay back old debts—leaving a net figure of 31.42 billion flowing outwards.

As most banks aren't facing a lack of liquidity at the moment, increased demand for the TLTRO loans "may be a sign they are more willing to lend," Capital Economics analyst Jennifer McKeown told AFP. But given political uncertainties and ongoing high unemployment across much of the eurozone, "I don't think this is the start of a massive increase in lending," she said. "There's a lot of political uncertainty in Europe that's going to limit consumer confidence and keep a lid on demand for loans." Part of the ECB's toolbox of measures to stimulate the eurozone economy and push up growth and interest rates, TLTRO 2 loans are repayable over four years and offer fixed interest rates of zero percent. The amount banks can borrow under TLTRO is linked to the amount they lend to businesses and households, as the program is designed to get money circulating in the real economy. Interest rates on the ECB's loans to the banks become more attractive the more they in turn lend out to clients, and can dip as low as the central bank's deposit rate of -0.4 percent—meaning that the ECB would be paying them to take its cash. The ECB plans two more quarterly rounds of TLTRO 2 loans up to March 2017. — AFP



**TOKYO:** Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda speaks next to a chart showing the monetary base (the central bank's fund supply) during a news conference at the central bank headquarters in Tokyo. — AP





**TOKYO:** A man stands near an electronic stock board showing Japan's Nikkei 225 index at a securities firm in Tokyo. — AP

## SOOTHING FED LIFTS STOCKS, WALL ST EYES RECORD HIGHS

**LONDON:** Wall Street had record highs back in its sights yesterday as world shares and bonds rallied after the Federal Reserve signalled an increasingly cautious approach to future US rate increases. European markets followed Asia's lead, with Britain's FTSE 100 climbing 1.3 percent and Germany's DAX and France's CAC 40 both jumping almost 2 percent ahead of what was expected to be a third day of gains in New York.

Oil and commodities firms gained the most as oil and metal prices rose, while a weakened dollar made the climbing easy for the euro, pound and Swiss franc. The yen also hit a four-week high of 100.10 against the greenback and the overnight drop in US government bond yields saw German Bund yields move decisively back into negative territory.

"The looser for longer message from the Fed and the lowering of the median point of rate rise projections is seen as a plus for risk assets, as can be seen in global equities," said fund manager GAM's head of multi-asset portfolios, Larry Hatheway. The Fed did signal it could hike rates by year-end as the labour market improved further, but cut the number of rate increases expected in 2017 and 2018. It also reduced its longer-run interest rate forecast to 2.9 percent from 3 percent.

That left investors feeling that any tightening would be glacial at best. Market pricing for a December move rose only a fraction to 59.3 percent from 59.2 percent, according to CME Group's FedWatch tool. Westpac analyst Richard Franulovich noted that back in June the median 'dot plot' - the rate moves expected by the Fed's members - showed five hikes to end-2017. Now it is down to just three.

"We do not feel that the dollar has the wherewithal to make a more concerted run higher in the next few weeks," he added. "The FOMC is unlikely to deliver anything more than a very 'dovish' December hike." Before that also comes the uncertainty of US elections, added GAM's Hatheway.

Another central bank struggling with too-low inflation is the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, which held rates steady yesterday but renewed a pledge to cut again even as much of the domestic economy grows briskly. The RBNZ's blunt statement that further easing would be needed knocked the local dollar down 0.2 percent to \$0.7334, but the market has found it hard to sell a currency that still offers an overnight interest rate of 2 percent.

### OIL ON THE BOIL

The Australian dollar edged up to an almost two-week high of \$0.7641 after new Reserve Bank of Australia Governor Philip Lowe said interest rate cuts and a weaker currency were helping the economy, but that it was "not particularly useful" to keep cutting rates in the hope that this would eventually lift growth. Indonesia and Turkey took a different view as both cut their rates, the latter for the seventh month running. There have now been almost 200 cuts worldwide since the start of last year.

In commodity markets, gold traded down 0.3 percent at \$1,332.63 an ounce, having climbed 1.7 percent as the US dollar declined on Wednesday. Oil prices showed no sign of fading though, having added as much as 3 percent on Wednesday after a third surprise weekly drop in US crude stockpiles boosted the demand outlook in the world's largest oil consumer. Another supportive factor was an oil workers' strike in Norway, which threatened to cut North Sea crude output. US crude (WTI) futures advanced 1 percent to \$45.83 after soaring 2.9 percent on Wednesday. — Reuters

# FED KEEPS RATE UNCHANGED BUT HINTS OF COMING HIKE

## BUSINESS INVESTMENT REMAINS SOFT, INFLATION TOO LOW

**WASHINGTON:** The Federal Reserve is keeping its key interest rate unchanged but signaling that it will likely raise rates before year's end. The Fed said in a statement ending its latest policy meeting Wednesday that the US job market has continued to strengthen and economic activity has picked up. But it noted that business investment remains soft and inflation too low and that it wants to see further improvement in the job market.

The central bank characterized the near-term risks to its economic outlook as "roughly balanced." It was the first time it has used that wording since late last year, when it most recently raised rates. Most analysts have said they think the Fed will next raise rates in December. The Fed said its policy committee had concluded that "the case for an increase in the federal funds rate has strengthened but decided, for the time being, to wait for further evidence of continued progress toward its objectives." "The Fed appears to be firmly on track for a December hike," Paul Ashworth, chief US economist at Capital Economics, said after the statement was issued. Stock prices rose after the Fed issued its statement and extended their gains during a news conference by Chair Janet Yellen in which she laid out her case for holding off on a rate hike for now. Major stock averages closed up around 1 percent for the day.

In her news conference, Yellen offered a simple explanation for why the Fed didn't raise rates: The economy can still grow without hurting itself. She noted that historically low rates haven't caused the economy to overheat as some analysts feared they would. Steady job gains have pulled discouraged workers back into the job market

and yet inflation remains below the Fed's 2 percent target rate.

"The economy has a little more room to run than previously thought," Yellen said. Indeed, the Fed made clear in updated forecasts it issued Wednesday that it expects growth to remain tepid for at least three years. It expects the economy to expand just 1.8

Cleveland and Eric Rosengren of Boston. All wanted the Fed to raise its key rate at this meeting. "This seems to have been one of the most divisive FOMC meetings in recent memory," Ashworth said. The Fed's next meeting will occur just a week before the November elections, and many analysts think it wouldn't want to raise rates so near Election Day.



Janet Yellen

percent this year and by an almost equally sluggish 2 percent in both 2017 and 2018. The policymakers also forecast that inflation will nearly reach the Fed's target next year before achieving 2 percent in 2018 and 2019. Inflation has remained below that level for over three years. For the first time since Yellen became Fed chair in February 2015, there were three dissents to the Fed's statement. The three officials are all presidents of regional Fed banks - Esther George of Kansas City, Loretta Mester of

That's why the last meeting of the year in December is seen as the most likely time for the next rate hike - as long as the economy keeps improving in line with the Fed's expectations.

In its updated forecasts, the Fed lowered its expectation for the long-range level of its benchmark interest rate to 2.9 percent, from the 3 percent it had forecast in June and 3.5 percent before then. Until recently, many Fed watchers had thought a rate hike was likely this week. — AP

## WHY SOME FED VOTING MEMBERS HOLD MORE INFLUENCE THAN OTHERS

**WASHINGTON:** Janet Yellen's Federal Reserve has demonstrated one of the core tenets of central banking: On the Fed panel that sets interest rates, some votes are more equal than others. The panel - the Federal Open Market Committee - voted Wednesday to keep rates unchanged, something it's done for six straight meetings. What was unusual this time was that the result drew dissenting votes from three members - the most dissents in nearly two years.

The 7-3 vote reflected "no" votes from the presidents of three regional Fed banks - Esther George of Kansas City, Loretta Mester of Cleveland and Eric Rosengren of Boston. All wanted to raise rates immediately. And all were powerless to do so. Not since December 2015, when Ben Bernanke led the Fed, had so many policymakers dissented from a Fed vote. But critically, the "no" votes Wednesday included none of the Fed's influential board members in Washington.

The FOMC's voting members are made up of seven board members in Washington (there are two vacancies); the head of the New York regional Fed; and four of the 11 other regional bank presidents who serve on a rotating basis. The last time any board member has dissented from a Fed policy vote was more than a decade ago, in 2005.

That's where the unequal nature of Fed votes comes in. The Fed isn't like the Supreme Court, where 5-4 rulings are common. Fed leaders generally prefer votes that are unani-

mous or nearly so - to foster confidence among investors that it's pursuing rate policies that command broad support.

### Market confidence

But if Fed leaders can't get all voting members of the FOMC to back them, they can still preserve market confidence if they enjoy the support of all members of the board. Like the Fed chair, the board members are hand-picked by the president and confirmed by the Senate to a job in which they're supposed to represent the entire country. By contrast, the regional bank presidents are chosen by the boards of each regional bank. They tend to represent the views of business leaders in their districts, and they are often perceived as being sympathetic to banking interests and quicker to support increases in interest rates. Once during the mid-1980s, when Paul Volcker, then the Fed chair, was outvoted by the seven-member board, he went to Treasury Secretary James Baker and offered to resign. Baker resolved the conflict by persuading Fed board members to change their votes and back Volcker. Yellen, like most of her predecessors, has managed to maintain solid support among the board and the New York Fed president. Wednesday's vote showed that the chair, mindful that she and her allies represent the central bank's power base, isn't unduly bothered by a trio of dissents from regional bank presidents. — AP

# ROBBED! CESPEDES DENIED GAME-WINNING HR

**NEW YORK:** Center fielder Ender Inciarte robbed Yoenis Cespedes of a winning homer for the final out, and the New York Mets were handed another costly loss by last-place Atlanta when the Braves rallied for a 4-3 victory Wednesday night. With two runners on in the ninth, Cespedes launched a drive to deep right-center. Inciarte raced to the wall and timed his jump perfectly, catching the ball just above the orange line atop the fence. He held up his glove in excitement as Cespedes turned and walked slowly off the field. Some fans in the stunned crowd still had their hands on their heads as they filed up the aisles toward the exits. New York remained tied with St. Louis and San Francisco in the NL wild-card race after all three teams lost Wednesday. Bartolo Colon and Jeury Familia failed to protect a three-run lead for the Mets. An error by normally sure-handed first baseman James Loney helped Atlanta tie it with an unearned run in the eighth. Inciarte had an RBI groundout against Familia (3-4) in the top of the ninth, sending the Braves to their fifth straight victory. Ian Krol (2-0) struck out pinch-hitter Kevin Plawecki with the bases loaded to end the eighth, and Jim Johnson got three outs for his 17th save. Atlanta's Freddie Freeman extended his hitting streak to a career-best 25 games and has reached base safely in 41 straight. Asdrubal Cabrera and Rene Rivera homered for the Mets.

## DODGERS 9, GIANTS 3

Yasiel Puig's three-run homer highlighted a five-run first inning and the Dodgers routed the Giants, extending their NL West lead to six games with 10 remaining. The Dodgers pounded out 12 hits in taking two of three from the rival Giants, who remained tied in the NL wild-card race after both the Mets and Cardinals lost earlier. The Dodgers conclude the regular season with three games at San Francisco next week. Kenta Maeda (16-9) allowed two runs and three hits in five innings while improving to 4-0 against the Giants this season. The right-hander struck out six and walked one in making his 30th start of the season for just the second time in his career. Maeda is one win from tying Rick Sutcliffe's record by a rookie set in 1979. Matt Moore (11-12) gave up six runs and seven hits in one inning, walked one and struck out none in a messy outing for the left-hander who had pitched exceptionally well at Dodger Stadium.

## CUBS 9, REDS 2

John Lackey pitched seven solid innings for his first win in six weeks, Miguel Montero drove in three runs, and Chicago swept Cincinnati. Kris Bryant hit his 38th homer and Dexter Fowler also connected to help major league-leading Chicago move a season-high 42 games over .500. The Cubs (97-55) also matched their win total from a year ago and lowered their magic number for clinching home-field advantage throughout the NL playoffs to two over Washington. Lackey (10-8) allowed two runs and five hits in his first win since he beat the Angels on Aug. 9. The right-hander, who retired his last 14 batters, went 0-1 with a 2.55 ERA in his previous four starts. The last-place Reds lost for the seventh time in eight games. They managed just five runs and 19 hits in the three-game series against the NL Central champions. Robert Stephenson (2-2) was pulled with two out in the fourth inning.

## RED SOX 5, ORIOLES 1

Boston scored five unearned runs in the sixth inning after first baseman Chris Davis' throwing error and beat Baltimore to pad its AL East lead. Andrew Benintendi hit a three-run homer for the Red Sox, who will try to complete a four-game sweep today. Boston pulled five games ahead of Toronto and six in front of Baltimore. Clay Buchholz (8-10) allowed one run and three hits over seven innings for the Red Sox. Boston's seven-game winning streak, which began with a sweep of the Yankees, is its longest since an identical run early in the 2014 season. Baltimore is a game behind the Blue Jays for the top AL wild card. The Orioles have lost five of seven, all at home. Ubaldo Jimenez (7-12) was the loser.

## YANKEES 11, RAYS 5

Rookie Gary Sanchez hit two more homers and drove in five runs, Masahiro Tanaka won despite allowing four home runs in the third inning and New York beat Tampa Bay. The Yankees moved within 2 1/2 games of Baltimore for the second AL wild-card spot. New York also would have to jump over Seattle, Houston and Detroit to earn a postseason berth. Sanchez hit a three-run shot in a four-run second off Alex Cobb (1-1) and added his 19th homer in 43 games this season on a solo drive in the sixth against Justin Marks. Tanaka (14-4)

won his seventh straight decision. Bobby Wilson, Evan Longoria, Brad Miller and Corey Dickerson all homered in the third. Miller later hit another solo shot to give him 30 homers this season.

## MARINERS 2, BLUE JAYS 1

Robinson Cano drove in the winning run with a sacrifice fly in the 12th inning and the Seattle beat Toronto to avoid a series sweep. Knuckleballer RA Dickey (10-15), who pitched five scoreless innings in his last start Friday, came in on the 12th for his first relief appearance after 29 starts. Guillermo Heredia reached on a two-base throwing error by third baseman Josh Donaldson to open the 12th. Ben Gamel followed with an attempted sacrifice bunt, and first baseman Ryan Goins appeared to have Heredia at third, but the ball popped out of Donaldson's glove on the tag. Cano then followed with a run-scoring fly to left, quieting the decidedly pro-Blue Jays

with his third double of the game. Kluber (18-9) matched his career high in wins and is 10-1 in his last 14 starts, strengthening his case to win his second AL Cy Young Award in three years. Cody Allen allowed Salvador Perez's leadoff homer in the ninth, but recorded his 28th save in 31 opportunities. Ian Kennedy (11-10) was the loser.

## ANGELS 5, RANGERS 4

Mike Trout hit his 28th homer and Jered Weaver went six innings for his 150th victory in an Angels uniform, helping Los Angeles beat the AL West-leading Texas. The magic number for Texas (90-63) to win its second consecutive AL West title remained at two after the loss and second-place Houston's victory at Oakland. Trout's three-run drive off Derek Holland (7-9) in the fifth put the Angels up 5-1. Weaver (12-12) struck out six and allowed four runs. He joined Chuck Finley (165) as the only pitchers to win 150 games for the Angels. A California



**NEW YORK:** New York Mets' third baseman Jose Reyes, left, picks off Atlanta Braves Mallex Smith, who got caught off base in the sixth inning of a baseball game. — AP

crowd, bolstered for the third straight game by thousands of fans from western Canada. Nick Vincent (4-4) pitched two scoreless innings for the win. After being blanked on two hits for eight innings, the Blue Jays tied it in the ninth on Jose Bautista's 19th home run, a one-out solo shot to left off closer Edwin Diaz.

## NATIONALS 8, MARLINS 3

Max Scherzer pitched 6 2-3 innings to tie for the National League victory lead with 18, helping Washington beat Miami. Scherzer (18-7) allowed three runs and struck out eight to push his major league-leading total to 267. He's tied for with Chicago's Jon Lester for the most wins in the NL. Ryan Zimmerman hit a three-run homer and Trea Turner also homered for the Nationals. They ended a four-game losing streak and lowered their magic number to three to win the NL East over the New York Mets.

Tom Koehler (9-12) allowed four runs - three earned - in four innings for the Marlins. Christian Yelich hit a solo home run and Derek Dietrich hit a two-run homer to chase Scherzer in the seventh and cut it to 6-3.

## INDIANS 4, ROYALS 3

Corey Kluber allowed two runs and struck out nine in 6 1/3 innings, and the Cleveland beat Kansas City to eliminate the reigning World Series champions from the AL Central race. The Indians reduced their magic number for clinching the Central to five. Carlos Santana was 4 for 5 with an RBI single in the eighth. Jose Ramirez drove in the go-ahead run in the fifth

native who has spent all 11 of his MLB seasons with the Angels, Weaver is 150-93 in 321 career starts. Andrew Bailey worked the ninth for his fourth save.

## ROCKIES 11, CARDINALS 1

Nolan Arenado hit a grand slam, German Marquez pitched five solid innings for his first major league win and Colorado slowed St. Louis' playoff chase. Arenado made it 6-1 in the second with his NL-leading 39th homer. Marquez (1-0) made his first big league start after three appearances out of the bullpen. He allowed one run and struck out three. At 21 years, 212 days, Marquez was the second-youngest pitcher in Rockies' history to earn his first win. The youngest was Jamey Wright at 21 years, 206 days. Luke Weaver (1-4) allowed seven hits and six runs in two innings.

## ASTROS 6, ATHLETICS 5

Evan Gattis homered twice, catcher Jason Castro threw out a runner to end the game and Houston beat Oakland to complete a series sweep. Oakland scored on second baseman Jose Altuve's fielding error with two outs in the ninth inning to pull to 6-5. Castro then threw out pinch-runner Arismendy Alcantara trying to steal second. Collin McHugh (12-10) won his fifth straight decision, allowing two runs and six hits over 5 2-3 innings. Five relievers combined to record the final 10 outs, with former A's setup man Luke Gregerson retiring three batters for his 15th save. Gattis reached 30 homers. He hit a two-run drive in the sixth off Daniel Mengden (2-8) for a 4-1 lead and connected again in the eighth.

# MESSAGE OF ANTHEM PROTESTS GETTING LOST

**RENTON:** Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman said Wednesday the public isn't listening to the message NFL players are trying to send with their actions during the national anthem. While some fans are obsessing about whether players take a knee, raise a fist or lock arms during the national anthem before games, Sherman said they should be talking about the reasons why players are protesting.

"More videos have come out of guys getting killed, and I think people are still missing

the point," Sherman said. "The reason these guys are kneeling, the reason we're locking arms is to bring people together to make people aware that this is not right. It's not right for people to get killed in the street."

Sherman did not take questions during his media availability. Instead, he walked to the podium, said a few words about this week's opponent San Francisco and then gave a two-minute statement about what players have wanted to accomplish. Sherman's message came after a pair of police shootings this week,

one in Charlotte, North Carolina, another in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"I do a lot of community service. I go out there and try to help kids and try to encourage them to be better and to aspire to more," he said. "And when you tell a kid, 'When you're dealing with police, just put your hands up and comply with everything,' and there's still a chance of them getting shot and no repercussions for anyone, that's an unfortunate time to be living. That's an unfortunate place to be in." Sherman's statement came as the Seahawks

are preparing to face San Francisco on Sunday. Teammate Doug Baldwin told reporters in the Bay Area that members of the Seahawks have had extensive conversations with Colin Kaepernick, who started the conversation with his decision to first sit and then kneel during the national anthem. "It's not just the NFL landscape. It's across the country right now," Baldwin said. "Obviously, we wouldn't be having this conversation if it wasn't for him bringing it to light. He stood on the table and shouted and got everybody's attention. — AP

## WOLVES PREPARE FOR LIFE WITHOUT KEVIN GARNETT

**MINNEAPOLIS:** Kevin Garnett has watched two of his few contemporaries that were remaining in the NBA walk out the door. Less than a week before the Minnesota Timberwolves open training camp, they still have not heard explicitly if the franchise icon wants to follow Tim Duncan and Kobe Bryant into retirement. No matter what Garnett chooses to do, it is becoming increasingly clear that the franchise that drafted him way back in 1995, and the one that he hoped to take over himself one day, is preparing for life without him.

As the Timberwolves have waited for Garnett to make his plans known, they have started discussing several scenarios of moving forward without the 40-year-old alpha wolf, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press. Those scenarios include a buyout of the final year of Garnett's contract and/or his retirement after 21 seasons in the league. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no agreements have been reached.

This is not how it was supposed to go when Garnett returned to the Timberwolves in a trade with Brooklyn in 2015. Flip Saunders had helped mend the fences that were broken after Garnett's first exit from Minnesota in 2007, and the coach and the legend talked about Garnett's desires to one day get into ownership with the Wolves. Then Saunders tragically passed away after a brief battle with Hodgkin's lymphoma just before last season started, and the reeling organization had to shift gears. Owner Glen Taylor brought in new leadership in Tom Thibodeau and Scott Layden, and a new vision was born out of sheer necessity.

### Promising young roster

Saunders, who was both coach and president of the Wolves, signed Garnett to a two-year, \$16.5 million contract last summer. The coach's plan was to have Garnett's passion and work ethic serve as an example for one of the most promising young rosters in the league. KG could reach Karl-Anthony Towns, Andrew Wiggins, Zach LaVine and Gorgui Dieng on a different and more personal level that the coaches ever could.

The plan worked, for the most part. Garnett bonded with the youngsters and was buoyed by their enthusiasm. And the pups soaked up his knowledge and gravitated to his charismatic personality, accentuated by a hilariously foul mouth and a penetrating stare that made them feel both respected and valued. The scene played over and over last season, practice coming to an end and Garnett pulling one or two of the youngsters aside to offer counsel on defending the pick-and-roll, communicating on the court or using their feet to avoid being whistled for traveling.

Towns won rookie of the year and was seen wearing a throwback KG jersey in several public appearances this summer. Dieng benefited from a trick Garnett showed him that helped him cut down on the times he was called for traveling. But most of Garnett's best work with the team came in practices and on the team planes and buses, where he would hold court and impart wisdom. His balky knee held him to 38 games last season and only five after he made his emotional return to Minnesota in that trade deadline deal in 2015. When Saunders died, Garnett lost his biggest champion in the organization, and perhaps the salesman who could help him assemble a group to buy the Timberwolves from Taylor.

League rules prevented Garnett and Taylor from discussing an ownership stake until KG retired. And with Saunders gone, Taylor was forced to look elsewhere for buyers. He negotiated with a group led by Memphis Grizzlies minority owner Steve Kaplan, but those talks stalled. So Taylor added two minority owners this summer to strengthen his financial position. — AP



**FOXBOROUGH:** New England Patriots quarterback Jacoby Brissett, front, warms up on the field during an NFL football team practice. — A P

## BRISSETT WILL MAKE PATS HISTORY BEING THE 1ST BLACK QB TO START

**BOSTON:** From his den in Huntsville, Alabama, Onree Jackson will quietly root to see Jacoby Brissett under center when he watches New England host Houston on Thursday night. Almost 50 years have passed, but Jackson still remembers his excitement when he was drafted out of Alabama A&M in 1969 by the Boston Patriots - the franchise's first black quarterback. Back then, the team hailed his potential to be "the Willie Mays of pro football." But he never played in a regular-season NFL game.

Now, Brissett could establish a footnote for a franchise born in a city with a complicated racial past, its first African-American player to start at quarterback. While the Patriots have been racially progressive in other ways, the New York Giants are the only other NFL team to have never started an African-American quarterback. Brissett's opportunity comes because of two unusual factors. Tom Brady, the team's cornerstone, is suspended four games for his role in using underinflated footballs in the playoffs in 2015. And Brady's backup, Jimmy Garoppolo, has a shoulder injury and is listed as doubtful for Thursday.

While none have started a regular-season game, the Patriots have drafted eight African-American quarterbacks.

Michael Bishop played the most, appearing in eight games in 2000. The potential distinction shows how much things have changed in 50 years. "When I got there, there was a baseball player with the Red Sox and he said in the paper, 'You know they're not going to have an N-word quarterback here in Boston,'" Jackson, 69, recalled in an interview with The Associated Press. "It was funny to him, I think, because they had a picture of him laughing in the papers," Jackson said. "I had a shot, and I didn't make it under their rules."

### Racial history

Boston's professional teams - like the city's neighborhoods - had different reactions to the civil rights movement and the integration of professional sports. While the Celtics and Bruins broke barriers in pro basketball and hockey, the Red Sox were the last Major League Baseball team to field a black player. Pumpsie Green took the field at Fenway Park in 1959 - more than a decade after Jackie Robinson played for the Dodgers and even after Willie O'Ree took the ice for Boston in the all-white NHL. The Red Sox gave both Robinson and Mays tryouts in the 1940s before opting not to sign them. Meanwhile, the

Patriots neither led nor trailed the pack on such issues.

Jackson was drafted by Rommie Loudd, the AFL's first black assistant coach before he joined the Patriots in 1966. He moved to the team's front office and became its personnel director in 1969, one of the first black personnel directors in the NFL. Jackson said he thought everything was fine until he drew consistent ire from then-coach Clive Rush, who told Jackson: "Joe wouldn't do that." "He was talking about Namath," Jackson said. "Me being who I am, and where I was from and all, I just accepted that and went on."

Jackson was waived after a few months. Rush told the Frederick Daily Leader at the time that Jackson "was behind three other quarterbacks." "As I've grown older, I can see little signs that said, 'You aren't going to make it because you're a black quarterback.' That's the way I interpreted it, anyway," Jackson said.

Rush was fired after a losing season in 1969 and 1-6 start in 1970. New England has never had a black head coach. Romeo Crennel, now defensive coordinator in Houston, held that job in New England before he was head coach in Cleveland and Kansas City. — AP



**KANPUR:** New Zealand's Ish Sodhi (C) celebrates the wicket of India's Murali Vijay (L) with captain Kane Williamson during the first day of the first cricket test match between India and New Zealand at Green Park Stadium. — AFP

## SANTNER, BOULT PEGS NZ BACK IN INDIA'S 500TH TEST

**KANPUR:** Mitchell Santner and Trent Boult helped New Zealand strike back to check India's surge in the first Test as the hosts were left reeling at 291 for nine on the opening day in Kanpur yesterday. Left-arm spinner Santner and pace spearhead Boult took three wickets each to plot India's downfall after the hosts looked strongly placed on 154 for one in the country's 500th Test.

Ravindra Jadeja on 16 and Umesh Yadav on eight were at the crease at close of play. India, who elected to bat first, looked set to post a commanding lead thanks to half-centuries from Murali Vijay and Cheteshwar Pujara, only to then lose the initiative. Opener Lokesh Rahul gave India a solid start before a 112-run second-wicket stand between Vijay and Pujara.

Santner broke the big partnership after getting Pujara caught and bowled for 62 as India lost three wickets in the second session of play. Vijay, who top-scored with 65, continued to thwart the bowling attack as New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson kept the Indian batsmen guessing by juggling his pace and spin options. His move paid off when medium-pacer Neil Wagner claimed Indian skipper Virat Kohli's scalp, caught at long-leg for nine after pulling at a bouncer.

### Key role

New Zealand's leg-spinner Ish Sodhi also played a key role, claiming the wicket of Vijay, who had notched up his 13th Test fifty, just before the tea break. Mark Craig joined forces with fellow spinners to get Ajinkya Rahane, who scored 18, trudging back to the pavilion early in the final session of play. Rohit Sharma and Ravichandran Ashwin did put together a 52-run partnership for the sixth wicket but their departure once again saw India lose their way.

Santner, who was given the second new ball along with Boult in the 81st over, struck soon to get the wicket of

Rohit Sharma for 35. Sharma, who had survived a strong lbw appeal against Craig earlier in his innings, played a mistimed shot to mid-on. Ashwin scored a well-made 40 with the help of seven boundaries before falling to Boult. India, who took tea at 185 for four, lost five wickets in the final session of play after managing 106 runs in 31 overs. Earlier Rahul's 39-ball 32 entertained the raucous home crowd at Kanpur's Green Park. A host of former Indian Test captains including Sachin Tendulkar, Kapil Dev and Mahendra Singh Dhoni are among those in the crowd to celebrate the milestone match. — AFP

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day in the first Test between India and New Zealand yesterday in Kanpur, India.

#### India 1st innings

L. Rahul c Watling b Santner	32
M. Vijay c Watling b Sodhi	65
C. Pujara c& b Santner	62
V. Kohli c Sodhi b Wagner	9
A. Rahane c Latham b Craig	18
Ro. Sharma c Sodhi b Santner	35
R. Ashwin c Taylor b Boult	40
W. Saha b Boult	0
R. Jadeja not out	16
M. Shami b Boult	0

U. Yadav not out	8
Extras (b-5 lb-1)	6
Total (for 9 wickets, 90 overs)	291
Fall of wickets: 1-42 L. Rahul, 2-154 C. Pujara, 3-167 V. Kohli, 4-185 M. Vijay, 5-209 A. Rahane, 6-261 Ro.Sharma, 7-262 W. Saha, 8-273 R. Ashwin, 9-277 M. Shami	
To bat:	
Bowling: T. Boult 17-2-57-3, N. Wagner 14-3-42-1, M. Santner 20-2-77-3, M. Craig 24-6-59-1, I. Sodhi 15-3-50-1.	

## TROUBLED CHAMPS WINDIES FACING IN-FORM PAKISTAN

**DUBAI:** The West Indies will hope to forget their off-field turmoil and underline their status as World Twenty20 champions when they face buoyant Pakistan in a three-match series starting today. The supremely talented but troubled side have arrived in the United Arab Emirates after sacking coach Phil Simmons and without all-rounder Andre Russell, who is facing a doping hearing. The Windies are also missing flamboyant big-hitter Chris Gayle, who complains of injury problems and makes only sporadic appearances for his country.

Gayle also missed the West Indies' one-run Twenty20 win over India in Florida last month, while Russell will front a hearing into claims he missed three drugs tests in a 12-month period, an offence which could trigger a two-year ban. Carlos Brathwaite stunned England when he smashed Ben Stokes for four consecutive sixes to clinch the West Indies' second World T20 title in April. Brathwaite will now captain the side in UAE while towering former fast bowler Joel 'Big Bird' Garner replaces Simmons, who repeatedly clashed with the West Indies board.

Brathwaite hopes his team will show their huge talent in the humid conditions in the United Arab Emirates, where they also trained ahead of the World Twenty20 in India. "It wasn't as hot early in the year, but, apparently, we're smack dab in the middle of their summer, so it can get very, very hot," said Brathwaite. "It's for the players to prepare well, manage themselves well off the field, rehydration-wise, get enough rest, and each and every one of us is a professional, and evidently performing well when the games come."

### Bad boy

Brathwaite's uncapped players—including wicketkeeper-batsman Nicholas Pooran, all-rounder Rovman Powell and fast bowler Kesrick Williams—will also want to fire against a dangerous Pakistan side. The West Indies will rely heavily on their T20 specialist spinners Samuel Badree and Sunil Narine, who shared five wickets to spark a 22-run win in a warm-up game on Tuesday. Pakistan are also in good form, smashing hosts England by nine wickets in the only Twenty20 game of their tour in what was Sarfraz Ahmed's first match as skipper.

Ahmed, who replaced Shahid Afridi following Pakistan's first-round exit in the World Twenty20, hopes his team won't be overawed by the champions. — AFP

## BANGLADESH RECALL SHAFIUL FOR ODIS

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh yesterday named uncapped batsman Mosaddek Hossain and recalled bowler Shafiqul Islam in their squad for the start of their first ever bilateral one-day series against Afghanistan. The selectors also dropped paceman Al-Amin Hossain in a revamped 13-man squad for the first two games in three-match contest that begins on Sunday at Dhaka's Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

"We thought Shafiqul would be a better option as he bowled fantastically well in recent training sessions," chief selector Minhajul Abedin told a press conference in Dhaka. "Our management also preferred Shafiqul ahead of Al-Amin, who is lagging behind in terms of fitness and fielding." Paceman Rubel Hossain was also recalled to the side after an injury-plagued season which forced him to miss the Zimbabwe ODIs in November last year.

Left-arm spinner Taijul Islam also returned to the team, having last played an ODI against New Zealand in the World Cup last year. Paceman Taskin Ahmed will join the squad provided he gets clearance from the ICC over his bowling action, said chief selector Abedin.

He was banned from bowling in international cricket for an illegal action during the ICC World Twenty20 in India earlier this year.

He underwent a reassessment of his action in Australia on September 8 and is now awaiting the result. Mosaddek played a Twenty20 international against Zimbabwe last year but was yet to win a cap in Test or ODIs. The 20-year-old was called up after some fine performances in the Dhaka Premier League, Bangladesh's top 50-over domestic league, in which he averaged 77.75 with a strike rate of 104.89. All three matches are taking place at the Sher-e-Bangla stadium, with the second game on September 28 and the finale on October 1. — AFP



**NICE:** Nice's Italian forward Mario Balotelli (C) reacts after scoring a goal during the French L1 football match between Nice (OGCN) and Monaco (ASM) on September 21, 2016 at Allianz Riviera Stadium. — AFP

## BALOTELLI BRACE SENDS NICE TOP OF LIGUE 1

**PARIS:** Controversial star Mario Balotelli continued his fine start to life on the French Riviera by helping fire Nice to the top of Ligue 1 on Wednesday. The Italy international scored his second brace in as many league appearances for Nice in a 4-0 thumping of local rivals Monaco to leap-frog champions Paris Saint-Germain at the top of the table. The often wayward 26-year-old now has four goals in three games since he joined the Cote d'Azur outfit on a free transfer from Liverpool, where his career had stalled over the last couple of years.

It means in his two league appearances this season, Balotelli has already scored twice as many goals as he did in league matches over the previous two seasons combined—he scored once in 20 Serie A appearances on loan at AC Milan last season and one in 16 Premier League matches for Liverpool the previous campaign.

"Long may it continue," said Nice goalscorer Paul Baysse of Balotelli's start. "He's a great player who also works hard for the team. He tries hard and he has the right mentality. "Everyone knows he's a good player, that he's managing to buy into the team spirit is great for everyone." Balotelli had also scored a brace on his league debut for Nice in a 3-2 victory over another south coast rival in fallen giants Marseille.

The striker had already had a low shot saved by Monaco goalkeeper Danijel Subasic when Nice took the lead on 17 minutes as Baysse headed home a Jean Seri free-kick. The errant Italian then ran onto a pinpoint through ball from Nice's other marquee summer signing on loan from Dynamo Kiev, Morocco international Younes Belhanda, before firing across Subasic

into the far corner on the half hour.

### Crisp finish

It could have been two for Balotelli before half-time but Subasic stuck out a foot to divert away the former Inter Milan and Manchester City striker's left-foot effort from a tight angle. His second came in the 68th minute following a sweeping move down the right between Ricardo Pereira and Wylan Cyprien, before Balotelli provided a crisp finish from the edge of the box. He then went off 10 minutes later to a standing ovation.

That denied him a hat-trick chance after Tiemoue Bakayoko, who was sent off, conceded a penalty with a foul on Valentin Eysseric seven minutes from time. Subasic saved substitute Alassane Plea's spot-kick but Nice did not have to wait long for their fourth as Plea, who had replaced Balotelli, headed home a Cyprien cross four minutes from time. The defeat dropped Monaco to third, level on points with PSG and a point behind Nice. Bordeaux are fourth after romping to a 3-0 win at Metz with goals from Malcolm, Gaetan Laborde and Isaac Kiese Thelin.

Lyon climbed to seventh as Nabil Fekir and Corentin Tolisso scored a brace each in a 5-1 thrashing of Montpellier, who were leading 1-0 through Morgan Sanson's fourth minute strike before they had Morgan Poaty sent off on eight minutes. Late goals from Kamil Grosicki, from the penalty spot, and Adrien Hunou gave Rennes a come-from-behind 3-2 win over Marseille. With four minutes left, Marseille led 2-1 thanks to a Bafetimbi Gomis brace but were down to 10 men after Zinedine Machach had been dis-

missed. But the former European champions couldn't hold on and slumped to a third straight away defeat that leaves them a point above the relegation zone.

PSG cruised to a 3-0 win over Dijon on Tuesday as Unai Emery's team continued their recent improvement after a sticky start under the Spanish coach, who replaced Laurent Blanc in the summer. Uruguay international forward Edinson Cavani netted a penalty between an own goal and a header from Brazilian Lucas as Emery left high-profile summer signing Hatem Ben Arfa out of his squad for the third time in a row. — AFP

## PSG TACKLE TOULOUSE WITH LIGUE 1 SUMMIT AT STAKE

**PARIS:** Second-placed Paris Saint-Germain have a chance to take control of Ligue 1 as the reigning champions travel south to Toulouse today. A win in the only French league fixture before the weekend's action would give Unai Emery's side a provisional two-point advantage on leaders Nice and third-placed Monaco. Mario Balotelli's Nice travel to promoted Nancy on Sunday after Monaco, once again missing Radamel Falcao who suffered concussion in the 4-0 loss at Nice midweek, host Angers on Saturday. PSG have been gaining momentum, bouncing back after a loss to Monaco and draws against Saint-Etienne and Arsenal in the Champions League, by crushing Caen 6-0 and promoted Dijon 3-0. "I think that PSG have now really got their season going," said midfielder Adrien Rabiot after the win over Dijon.

The club's positive results have muted criticism over Emery's decision to leave striker Hatem Ben Arfa on the sidelines. The freshly recruited France international has not featured in the last three games as his egoism and lack of commitment in training has infuriated Emery. The former Sevilla coach said he has yet to decide if the out-of-favour player will join the trip southwest. "I'll make a decision after training this afternoon (Thursday). I treat all the players alike, I work in the same way with everyone."

The PSG coach will also be looking towards next week's Champions League game at Bulgarian minnows Ludogorets, as Layvin Kurzawa, Serge Aurier and Marco Verratti are all recovering from injuries. Toulouse, meanwhile, are also riding high after two wins which have seen Pascal Dupraz's side move up to fifth. The final match of the weekend will be the highly-anticipated clash between Marseille and Nantes. Franck Passi's Marseille are under pressure as they sit just one point above the relegation zone, with just one win out of their six matches. "Everyone is aware of what is happening, there's a war to win," said Passi. "We have to get up Thursday with the only thing in our head to beat the team we play this weekend. "At the end of the match (against Rennes) I was furious, I still am even if I'm not blaming anyone in particular," Passi added. Rennes, sitting seventh, after their 3-2 win over Marseille, travel to promoted Dijon while Bordeaux in fourth host Caen and Lyon, two points behind, visit tailenders Lorient.

### War of words

Meanwhile both PSG and Bastia officials will appear before a French disciplinary commission hearing on Thursday following the war of words after Brazilian striker Lucas appeared to be struck by an object in the opening match of the season in Corsica. Bastia have filed a complaint for false accusation following the wording of PSG's letter denouncing the incident to the French Professional League (LFP). — AFP

## TWO KEYS TO VALENCIA'S DEMISE

**MADRID:** La Liga giants Valencia are searching for their ninth permanent coach in the past four years following the sacking of former Liverpool assistant manager Pako Ayestaran. The six-time Spanish champions are enduring their worst start to a league season for 17 years as four straight defeats to start to the campaign leaves them rooted to the foot of the table. Take a look at what has gone wrong under the auspices of Singaporean owner Peter Lim.

### Lim project peters out

Lim's nine-figure takeover of the financially-stricken Los Che in 2014 was met with great enthusiasm off and initially on the field. The new owner promised to clear the club's debts and return Valencia to Europe's elite. Just a year ago the plan was still on track as Valencia returned to the Champions League for the first time in three years on the back of a fourth-placed finish in La Liga. Yet, the project began to go awry when Nuno Espirito Santo was sacked following a slow start last season. Former Manchester United cap-

tain Gary Neville's tenure ended just four months later after a mere three La Liga wins in 16 games, to be replaced by Ayestaran. But Lim shipped out Valencia's best players in the summer. Captain Paco Alcacer and Euro 2016 winner Andre Gomes headed north to Barcelona and Shkodran Mustafi moved to Arsenal as Valencia recouped over 100 million euros. Little of that was reinvested into a squad that finished 12th last season.

### Instability

The last time a Valencia coach remained in charge for at least two seasons was current Paris Saint Germain boss Unai Emery between 2008 and 2012. Emery finished third behind Pep Guardiola's Barcelona and a Real Madrid armed with Cristiano Ronaldo in his last three seasons, whilst selling Valencia's best players in David Villa, David Silva and Juan Mata. The managerial merry-go-round and constant upheaval of the playing squad has only served to see Valencia fall behind not just the traditional giants of Spanish football, but facing a battle just to remain in the top flight. — AFP



**BARCELONA:** Barcelona's Brazilian forward Neymar (L) vies with Atletico Madrid's defender Juanfran during the Spanish league football match FC Barcelona vs Club Atletico de Madrid at the Camp Nou stadium. — AFP

# MESSI OUT FOR 3 WEEKS AS ATLETICO HOLD BARCA

## REAL UNABLE TO GET PAST STUBBORN VILLAREAL

**BARCELONA:** Lionel Messi will miss the next three weeks after suffering the recurrence of a groin injury as Atletico Madrid came from behind to hold Barcelona 1-1 at the Camp Nou on Wednesday. Ivan Rakitic headed Barca into the lead just before half-time, but Angel Correa slotted home on the hour mark just seconds after Messi limped off to hand Atletico a deserved point.

Earlier, Real Madrid's record-equaling 16-game La Liga win streak came to an end as Villarreal drew 1-1 at the Santiago Bernabeu. Madrid continue to lead Barca by three points at the top of the table with Atletico a further point back in fourth. Sevilla, who beat Real Betis on Tuesday, remain in second place. "To lose Lionel Messi means football loses and we lose," said Barca boss Luis Enrique. "Now we have to look for other solutions. With Leo we are much stronger, but without him we are still a strong team."

Messi is set to miss Barca's next three games at Sporting Gijon and Celta Vigo in La Liga and Borussia Moenchengladbach in the Champions League, as well as Argentina's World Cup qualifiers against Peru and Paraguay. The five-time World Player of the Year missed Argentina's last qualifier in Venezuela earlier this month due to a similar injury.

Barca's stellar front three of Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar had struck 10 times in their last two games, but were

kept largely quiet by Atletico's typically rock-solid defense. Messi had the first effort on goal, but his fierce effort was comfortably handled by Jan Oblak in the Atletico goal. The hosts had to wait until four minutes before the break to seriously threaten again when they took the lead. Atletico momentarily switched off as a corner from the left was played short to Andres Iniesta and his cross was powered home by the late arriving Rakitic.

However, Barca's joy was short-lived, first by a double injury blow and then Correa's leveler. Sergio Busquets was first forced off due to illness before Messi went down to the consternation of the Camp Nou. The Argentine's replacement Arda Turan had barely taken up his position when Atletico leveled as Correa coolly slotted home after Javier Mascherano's slip offered him a clear path to goal. Barca came closest to finding a winner in the final half hour as a fierce drive from Neymar was repelled by Oblak, whilst Jordi Alba and Rakitic fired off target. However, in the end both settled for a point which keeps them within touch of Real.

### 'Real lacked intensity'

At the Bernabeu, the European champions were looking to surpass the Liga mark of 16 wins first set by Pep Guardiola's Barcelona in 2010/11, but were made to pay for a sluggish first-half display. "We lacked intensity in the

first-half," said Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane. "The second-half was great from everyone, but you can't always win the three points at the end. "We know we have to work hard and change things, above all how we start the game." Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale returned to the Madrid side that won 2-0 at Espanyol on Sunday.

Villarreal were the better side in the first-half and got their reward just before half-time when Sergio Ramos handled Manu Trigueros's shot and referee Jose Luis Gonzalez pointed to the spot. Captain Bruno Soriano stepped up and coolly chipped the ball down the middle of the goal past Casilla. Ramos made amends right at the start of the second-half when he rose highest to head home James Rodriguez's corner. Ronaldo was then inches away from turning home Dani Carvajal's low cross and Bale curled just wide as the pressure increased from Madrid.

However, their frustration spilled over when Ronaldo earned a yellow card for kicking out at Bruno. The off-color Bale was then replaced by Lucas Vazquez, whilst Karim Benzema made way for Alvaro Morata in the search for a winner. Morata's header from Vazquez's cross was brilliantly turned over by Asenjo and when Ronaldo fired straight at the Villarreal stopper in the final minute, Real's shot at history was gone. — AFP

## JUVE RECLAIM TOP SPOT

**MILAN:** Gonzalo Higuain returned to scoring ways as champions Juventus regained top spot from misfiring Napoli thanks to a 4-0 rout of outclassed Genoa in Turin on Wednesday. Higuain, signed from Napoli for an Italian record 90m euros, had failed to find the net in Juve's past two outings—a scoreless draw with Sevilla in the Champions League and a 2-1 defeat to Inter Milan on Sunday. But the Argentine striker quashed any emerging doubts about his talents with his fourth goal of the season just after the half hour after defender Daniele Rugani had given Juve a 14th minute lead.

Juventus were dominant throughout and their visitors from Sardinia were lucky not to escape with more punishment. Dani Alves, signed during the close season from Barcelona, hit Juve's third minutes before the interval and Mario Lemina saw his drive turned into the Cagliari net by Luca Ceppitelli in the closing minutes. Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri said criticism following their opening defeat of the campaign had been "excessive", but told Sky Sport: "It's good to get back on top of the league. The lads have responded well after Sunday's game, and to the excessive criticism. "It doesn't interest me whether we're stronger or weaker. All we want is to go right to the finish and win the championship."

After Napoli's scoreless draw at Genoa, where Pepe Reina had to produce several key saves for the visitors late on, Juventus lead Napoli by one point, with Roma moving up to third after a 4-0 rout of league newcomers Crotona which included Edin Dzeko's first brace of the season. Roma coach Luciano Spalletti was under the cosh after Sunday's 1-0 defeat to Fiorentina, but the Giallorossi handler's nerves were quickly allayed.

### Roma cruises, Icardi scores again

Stephen El Shaarawy fired Roma into a 25th minute lead when he pounced on a cutback on the left side of the area to fire a deflected shot past Alex Cordaz. Egyptian international Mohamed Salah doubled Roma's lead on 37 minutes when he chipped Cordaz from a similar position. And Dzeko put the result beyond all reasonable when he lobbed the Italian 'keeper after running on to Francesco Totti's chip three minutes after the restart.

Minutes later Dzeko had his fourth of the season, and first brace of the campaign, after slipping past his marker to side-foot Salah's unselfish cross past Cordaz. Crotona should have reduced arrears seconds later, but Roma 'keeper Wojciech Szczesny got down low to his left to save Raffaele Palladino's spot kick on the hour. "Tonight we were a lot more clinical in front of goal, and the win was even more impressive because it came with a solid performance," said Spalletti. — AFP

## KLOPP STILL PONDERES HIS KEEPER OPTIONS

**LONDON:** Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has still to decide whether recent signing Loris Karius or Simon Mignolet will be between the posts for their match at home to Hull City tomorrow. Karius, who joined for £4.7 million (\$6.1 million dollars, 5.4 million euros) played in pre-season but then broke his hand and missed the start of the new Premier League season. That allowed Mignolet to retain his place but Karius, after being on the bench for the past two league matches, he made his competitive debut in the midweek EFL Cup win over Derby County.

Karius had little to do in a 3-0 win but Klopp refused to be drawn on who his first-choice goalkeeper would be at the weekend. "It is not the place to announce line-ups but of course we have to think about it but in a positive way," Klopp told reporters yesterday. "I was never a goalkeeper—my father was so I am a little bit experienced with goalkeepers—but it is obviously a little bit different to an outfield player as no-one asks whether he can start this day and another player can start the next.

"I am not sure I will make a final decision for the next game but it doesn't mean we will go like this for the next five years. "It is a decision at a very high level because I am really happy with both of them but there is nothing to say about this here. "Like always when I decide for the next game then it is a decision for a player and not against another player—you will have to wait and see." Daniel Sturridge, who missed the win at Derby, is also waiting to see if he's involved. — AFP

## AL QADSIYA, AL KUWAIT COMPETE IN 9TH FOOTBALL SUPER CUP

By Nawara Fattahova

**KUWAIT:** Football fans are all invited to the 9th annual Football Super Cup match between the two top sports clubs; Al Qadsiya and Al Kuwait, which will take place today (Friday) at 8:00pm at the Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium located on 6th Ring Road.

The entrance is free of charge and free food and beverages will be available for the public. A draw for valuable prizes including 5 cars and 15 tickets will be held before the start of the match along with other entertaining activities for kids such as inflatable football games which begins at 4:00pm.

Furthermore, for the first time in global sports history, audiences can expect a spectacular para-motor air show and a remote-controlled air planes show within the stadium, along with a number of other surprises that promise a memorable day. Entry tick-



ets can be collected for free at the stadium on the day of the event starting from 2pm onwards.

The annual one-match association football competition organized by the Kuwait Football Association (KFA) has long served as the season opener and is played between the Kuwaiti Premier League Champions and the Kuwait

Amir Cup winners of the previous season. Qadsiya Club are four-time champions of the Super Cup, while Kuwait Club won this title only twice before.

This information was announced during the press conference held yesterday at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It was attended by the Qadsiya and Kuwait SC captain and coach along

with other sports officials.

Kuwait SC coach Lauren Bennett said that they are happy to have Firas Al-Khateeb playing with them. "We hope that the Qadsiya's coach gets well soon. Our team has been training hard for over two months for this match. We hope to win this match, and we are glad that our team is completing in this celebrated competition. I believe that both teams have an equal chance to win this match," he noted during the press conference.

As the Qadsiya SC coach is sick, Gerry Minko, the goalkeepers' coach replaced him during this conference. He stressed that both teams know each other's abilities and preparations. "We hope to overcome any obstacles including the absence of professional players, the injuries, and the financial crisis. I'm glad that we don't have any problem with goalkeepers, and the three of them are ready. And of course I hope we win the match," he pointed out.

## MOURINHO'S DILEMMA: WHAT TO DO WITH WAYNE ROONEY

**MANCHESTER:** Jose Mourinho is facing the biggest question of his short reign as Manchester United manager: What to do with Wayne Rooney? While most of United's top players were benched or rested entirely for the English League game against third-tier Northampton on Wednesday, Rooney played the full 90 minutes - less than three days before a big Premier League match against champion Leicester.

There could be two explanations for this selection: Mourinho either wanted his captain out on the field to lead the team in a potentially tricky away cup tie; or there's a chance Rooney could be left out at the weekend. In a terse television interview before the Northampton game, Mourinho was twice asked what he wanted from Rooney. "Goals," came the reply from the stern-faced Portuguese coach, both times. United won 3-1 but Rooney, who started the match as a central striker before dropping deeper in the second half, did not score. The Rooney dilemma - where to play him, if at all - is hanging over Mourinho and won't go away, because it's the most hotly debated issue in English football at present. Here are Mourinho's options going forward regarding Rooney:

### KEEP HIM AS NO 10

Rooney is United's - and England's - captain and needs four more goals to become the club's all-time record scorer, topping Bobby Charlton's 249 goals. Given time, he might improve his partnership with Ibrahimovic, while Pogba might learn how to better operate in a midfield two. Rooney hasn't been among the players publicly criticized in recent weeks by Mourinho, who has long been a fan of the player.

### CHANGE POSITION

Rooney finished the Northampton game on the right of a front three also containing Ibrahimovic and Rashford. He is hard-working, has played the wide role before, and United's other wingers - Anthony Martial, Jesse Lingard and Memphis Depay - are hardly in the best form. Maybe Rooney could stay there, as part of a 4-3-3 formation or with a teammate like Juan Mata or Henrikh Mkhitaryan in the No. 10 role. Then again, Mourinho said in his first news conference as United manager: "For me, he will be a nine, he will be a 10, he will be a nine-and-a-half." That suggests Rooney will be a central striker or a deep-lying striker.

### DROP HIM

The last manager to drop Rooney was Alex Ferguson, in the final season of his near-27-year reign. It almost led to Rooney leaving United. Mourinho could do the same in an attempt to get more out of Pogba, give Ibrahimovic more space to rove in attack, and inject some more pace into the forward line. — AP

# MAN UTD, MAN CITY SET UP LEAGUE CUP CLASH

**LONDON:** Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho and his Manchester City rival Pep Guardiola were dealt an English Football League Cup rendezvous after both teams came through their third-round ties on Wednesday. United won 3-1 at third-tier Northampton Town to ease some of the pressure building on Mourinho following three consecutive defeats, while holders City prevailed 2-1 at Swansea City. Tottenham Hotspur were rewarded with a trip to Liverpool after crushing Gillingham 5-0 and West Ham United will face Chelsea after scraping past fourth-tier Accrington Stanley.

"We deserved to win," Mourinho told Sky Sports after goals from Michael Carrick, Ander Herrera and substitute Marcus Rashford took his side into the fourth round. Mourinho, speaking before the draw had been made, added: "It was difficult, as I was expecting, but we were totally in control for the 35 minutes and then for the last 45 minutes. "It was a difficult match, but overall a positive performance."

Mourinho, who felt that Northampton's Jak McCourt should have been sent off for a rash challenge on Memphis Depay, did not attend his post-match press conference. United's victory was a welcome tonic for Mourinho and his team following consecutive losses to Manchester City, Feyenoord and Watford. He made nine changes to the side beaten 3-1 at Watford on Sunday, with Chris Smalling and captain Wayne Rooney the only players to keep their places.

Rooney started up front, for the first time since last season, and squandered an early opportunity by miscuing from Ashley Young's cross. United went ahead in the 17th minute after Northampton goalkeeper Adam Smith was penalized for picking up a back-pass. Rooney's shot from the ensuing free-kick hit the wall, but Carrick swept



**SWANSEA:** Swansea City's Gambian-Swedish striker Modou Barrow (L) vies with Manchester City's French defender Gael Clichy during the English League Cup third round football match between Swansea City and Manchester City at The Liberty Stadium. — AFP

the rebound into the top-left corner from the edge of the box. Rooney then saw a goal ruled out for offside, but Northampton gave United a scare when Kenji Gorre clipped the bar in the 38th minute and within four minutes the home side were level.

### Kompany concern

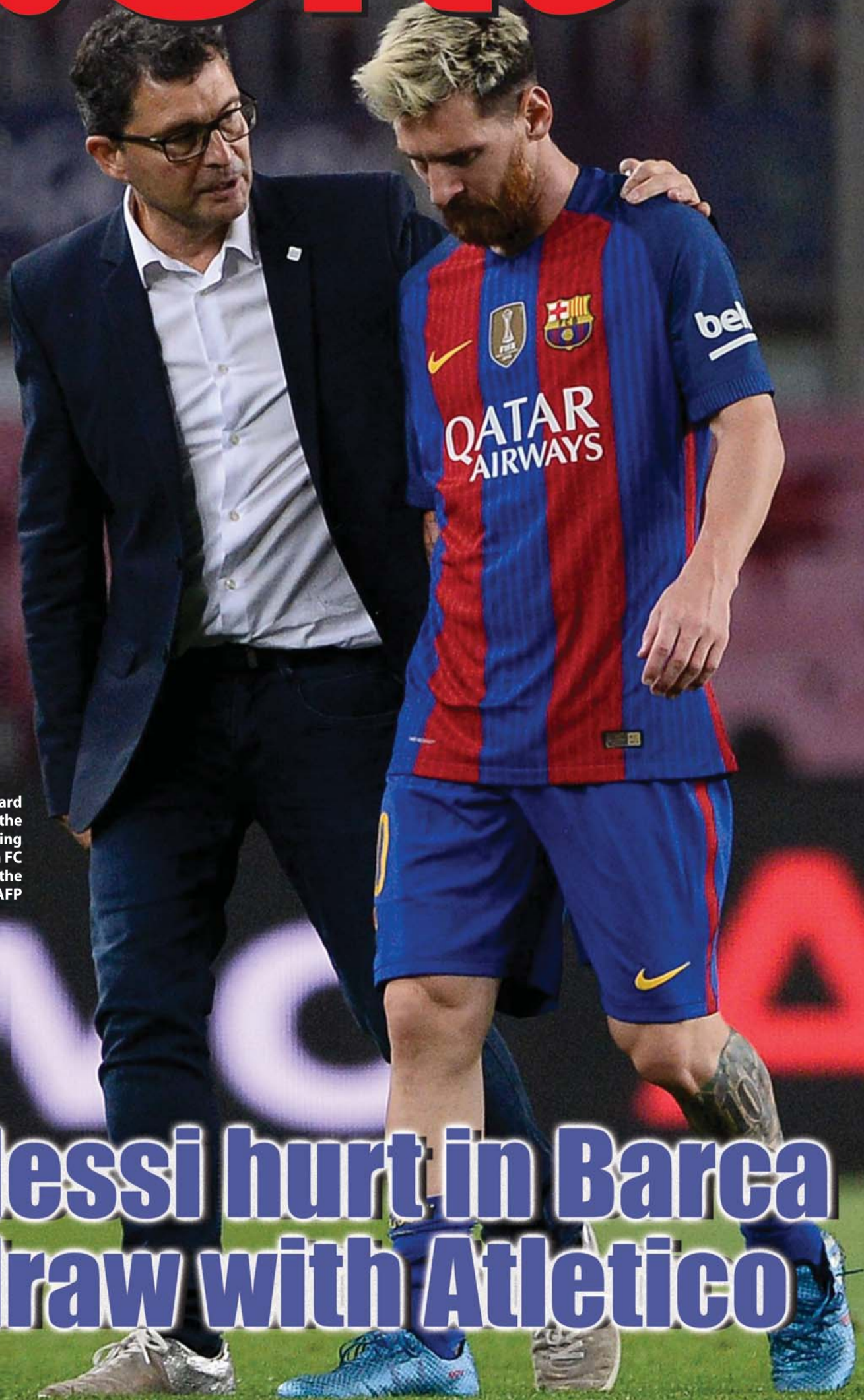
After Marcos Rojo, Timothy Fosu-Mensah and Morgan Schneiderlin all spurned chances to clear, Daley Blind tripped Sam Hoskins and Alex Revell stroked the resulting penalty past Sergio Romero. Mourinho waited only 10 minutes in the second half before turning to

the bench, with Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Rashford replacing Fosu-Mensah and Depay. Herrera gave Northampton a warning with a left-foot shot that struck the post and in the 68th minute he restored United's lead, slamming home right-footed from Rashford's lay-off.

Another Smith error allowed United to seal victory, the goalkeeper hesitating as a long ball bounced towards him, which allowed Rashford to steal in and lash the ball into the vacant goal. Premier League pace-setters Manchester City made it nine wins from nine games under Guardiola with victory at Swansea. — AFP

# Sports

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BARCELONA: Argentinian forward Lionel Messi (R) leaves the pitch with the team's doctor after being injured during the Spanish league football match FC Barcelona vs Atletico de Madrid at the Camp Nou stadium. — AFP

## Messi hurt in Barca draw with Atletico