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# Kuwait Times Friday Times



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Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief Abd Al-Rahman Al-Alyan wishes HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Cabinet members and all our valued readers a happy and blessed Hijri New Year. Kuwait Times will not be published on Saturday, October 1.



*Happy new Islamic year 1438*

## US APPROVES FIGHTER JETS SALES TO KUWAIT

See Page 9



Local Spotlight

PHOTO OF THE DAY

MOBILE FRAUD



By Muna Al-Fuzai

muna@kuwaittimes.net

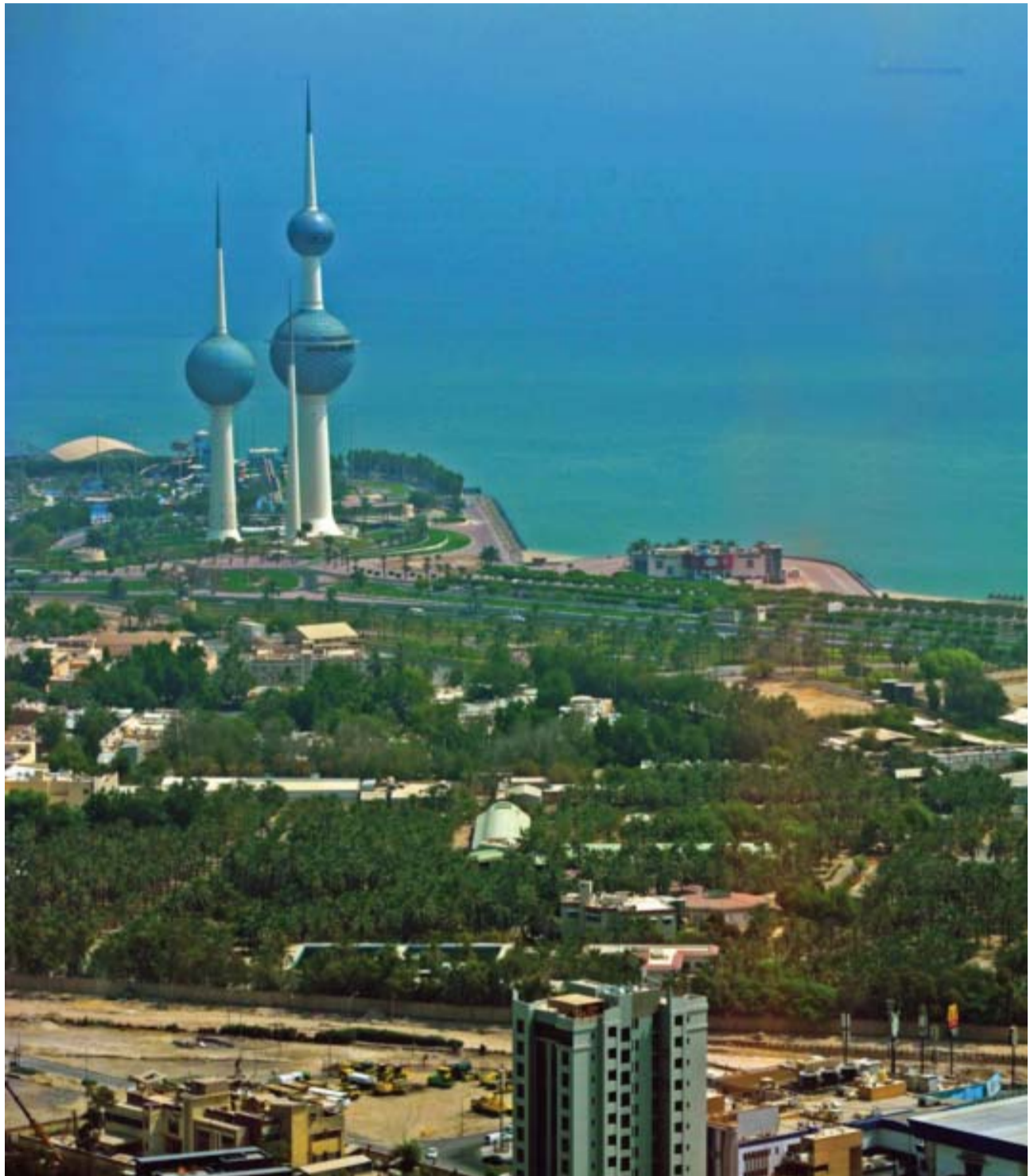
Imagine sitting at your humble desk, worrying about your daily needs, expenses and school fees. Suddenly you receive a message that you have won a million dinars. Naturally you will feel joy and would consider contacting the sender or replying to the message. Surely, you will have some doubts, but there will be hope and joy that your prayers have finally been answered.

These sentiments have led many people to lose their money, because they forget that no one will give them money for free and for no reason. Remember this well. It doesn't happen this way. Even bank draws require that you have to have an account with the bank and deposit some money. Then maybe you can be the lucky one. This article seeks to warn everyone from falling victim to the traps of thieves and scammers.

Security authorities are asking mobile users not to communicate with unknown people via Viber, WhatsApp or SMS who inform them of good news and steal their money. Professional hackers can steal data from cellphones within minutes. Authorities have received a barrage of reports about fraud, notably committed after having access to cellphones. It starts with telling the person that he/she has won a big prize, then the hackers manage to steal money from their bank accounts after accessing their PINs. This process is not easy, but a hacker knows what to do in minutes, if not seconds.

There are various kinds of telephone fraud. One involves getting the number of the target person from one of his relatives or friends, or randomly, and when the connection is made, the hackers tell him that his father or brother or one of his relatives had a traffic accident, and that he got his number from the victim's phone. They tell him that a certain amount is needed for the hospital, and the person may rush to send the required amount, only to discover later that he was subject to mobile fraud and was cheated.

For these reasons, security authorities warn people from falling for such scams, but some do not seem to pay heed. Studies have shown most victims of phone and email fraud are defaulters and unemployed. These scam calls and emails fuel their illusions and dreams, but these are in fact nightmares that lead to trouble. So, please be careful!



Kuwait Towers remains an iconic landmark for the country 41 years after being built. The Kuwait Towers restaurant is now open from 8am and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Visitors who enjoy a meal will also be able to access the viewing platform as part of the package. — Photo by Jaber Abdulkhaliq/Kuna

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KUWAIT: Inside the Amal Al-Kuwait Perfumes factory, a variety of processes take place where the essences of scents are distilled. Different products including perfumes, eau de cologne and even dish washing liquids and soaps can be produced. — Photos by Joseph Shagra

# Scent making in Kuwait

By Nawara Fattahova

In our region and especially Kuwait, people are known for their love of scent. Women and men will douse themselves from head to toe in perfume before leaving the house and the business of small local factories producing unique and locally-derived scents is booming.

Most of us have numerous bottles of perfumes, but we are not aware how these perfumes are made. Kuwait Times visited a local perfume factory to witness the actual production of scent in Kuwait.

Makki Al-Qallaf, CEO of Amal Al-Kuwait Perfumes, explained the manufacturing process from the beginning. "The first stage is the mixing of the raw materials - reserve osmosis water, ethanol and oil. This process is done in one machine. Mixing chemicals is a very sensitive operation, and there is an international standard for it. Our products compete with European products as we use high quality water, raw materials and packaging," he told Kuwait Times.



Makki Al-Qallaf, CEO of Amal Al-Kuwait Perfumes

"In order to ensure production of high-quality perfumes, we mix it in a robust concentration. All the raw materials that we use in our perfumes are sourced from Europe.

The oils can't be produced locally as Kuwait is a desert country and has limited flora. Some flowers, plants and herbs that are the base of the oils can't be grown in Kuwait due to its climate, such as lily, so we use imported oils," explained Qallaf.

In the second phase, they mix the preservatives with the earlier mixture. "The preservatives are responsible for making the perfume last for a longer period. Fake perfumes atomize the oil with large quantities of alcohol. This makes the scent disappear fast, while genuine chemicals



The smell so sweet



last longer. We produce two kinds of essences - eau de toilet and parfum. To get the stronger essence, which is parfum, we mix more concentrated oil with a lesser quantity of ethanol," he said.

"We have a factory for oud perfume in Thailand. There, we use the raw materials from the local production of wood to make bukhoor and dihen oud. In fact, oud perfumes are more in demand in Kuwait. These essences are never changed, even if we change others," said Qallaf.

#### Testing new scents

Qallaf himself proposes the idea for producing new fragrances and sometimes is inspired by international perfumes. New products are added every season. "We add about two to five new essences to our perfume collection every year. Usually, we prepare at least one new perfume for each of the two annual perfume exhibitions that are held at the (Mishref) fairgrounds," he noted. "We are the only local producer to manufacture body mist. This is due to the diffi-

culty of formulating the mix, which includes only 6 percent alcohol. Also, marshoosh (clothes and linen essence) has a very low percentage of alcohol. The one we make doesn't include any oil, so it doesn't stain fabrics," said Qallaf.

Consultant Dr Hashim Al-Hamad explained the process of purifying the water and using it in the manufacturing process. "The reverse osmosis water is purified water with zero total dissolved solids (TDS). This is the only machine of its kind in Kuwait to be used in a factory for perfumes. These kinds of machines are used to produce mineral water. As this is the first ozone-friendly machine in Kuwait, schools send students for field visits to our factory," he pointed out.

"Using this water makes the perfume smell fresh and will never cause headaches like fake perfumes, as fake perfumes contain poisons. A good perfume should only contain 40 percent alcohol, while fake or cheap perfumes usually use 80 percent alcohol. These bad perfumes also usually don't include preservatives, which decrease the toxins. They instead use nitrogen, which produces a good smell, but it

includes arsenates that cause headaches," Hamad said.

The factory also produces dishwashing detergent. "Water containing sodium and calcium causes allergies or skin irritation, so we remove these materials from the water. We also apply safety measures for workers at the factory, and they wear special masks to avoid inhaling the ethanol," he added.

Amal Al-Kuwait Perfumes is one of the oldest local perfume factories. From only producing a few kinds of oriental perfumes and incenses, the factory expanded to manufacture a wide range of perfumes, soaps, home fragrances, air fresheners and dishwashing liquid since the past 30 years. The factory is equipped according to the latest technology and international standards. The company is now applying for the ISO9002 certification. Most equipment is made from stainless steel, which is the best material that resists damage caused by chemicals. This year, Amal Al-Kuwait launched a new range of products under the 'Pura Vida' brand, which includes soap, shower gel and marshoosh.



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## Nostalgia Kuwait: Fond memories of Showbiz

By Faten Omar

Despite rapid changes taking place in Kuwait, people still have unforgettable memories of places that were a part of Kuwait in the past. One place that remains in the memories of those who grew up in the 1980s and early 1990s is ShowBiz, a kitschy symbol of that decadent era. ShowBiz Pizza Place was a pizza restaurant chain and family entertainment center founded in 1980 by Robert L Brock in the US. Its branch in Kuwait was an arcade center and amusement park, located in Ras Salmiya on the junction of Arabian Gulf and Balajat Streets.

ShowBiz was a permanently sited carnival place with dodgem cars and donkey, pony and camel rides, and was open daily until midnight. It was the first entertainment park with a large rollercoaster as its main attraction. It had 35 outdoor games and rides, and an additional 120 indoor games. Entrance was free, but tickets for the rides ranged in price

from 250 to 500 fils. There were three restaurants and a cafeteria for those seeking refreshments.

Owned by former information minister Mohammed Al-Sanousi, ShowBiz was heavily damaged in the Iraqi invasion in 1990. It later reopened, but has been shuttered since 2005 with promises of something exciting coming up in its place, but nothing ever materialized.

"ShowBiz was my childhood home. I used to go there twice a week," reminisced Anil Thomas. "It hasn't reopened, and I'm sure they will build some lame mall there." Thomas also told Kuwait Times that Shaab Park is not ShowBiz. "The difference between Showbiz and Shaab Park is that ShowBiz had a family atmosphere. ShowBiz had many sections for all ages," he said.

For Nada Omran, ShowBiz was an unforgettable place when she was a child, "I was only five years old, but I remember playing at ShowBiz like it was yesterday. I cannot forget how happy I was when I saw the singing bears' band.

My mother always held my birthday party there and I enjoyed dancing with the big yellow duck and winning toys in competitions," she said.

Hamad Abd Al-Shafi, a father of two, told Kuwait Times that his children are now grown up, but will definitely visit ShowBiz if they consider reopening it. "As a father, I enjoyed Eid back then at ShowBiz. There was camel ride with a long queue, but it was worth waiting for, and an Indian man with a basket full of flowers. I used to buy one for my wife," he said.

Another patron, Aisha Wardi, is filled with remorse and guilt when she remembers ShowBiz. "There was a mini-zoo inside ShowBiz with various animals. My best animal was the goat - but I have to confess that I fed it tissues and paper. Now I realize that I did something wrong. Maybe it got sick because of me!" she told Kuwait Times. Wardi was curious about the billiard hall because it was open only to men. "My dream was to go inside this hall to see what they were doing. But I will never know now," she rued.





# ACK CELEBRATES GRADUATION

NEARLY 300 STUDENTS ACCOMPLISH DEGREES

By Faten Omar

**KUWAIT:** The Australian College of Kuwait (ACK) celebrated the graduation of 278 students from various bachelor and diploma programs on Wednesday at Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel. In his opening remarks, Abdullah Abdulmohsen Al-Sharhan, ACK Chairman, said, "ACK's management systems are the first among those of private universities in Kuwait to be awarded ISO 9001:2008 certification, testifying to their rigor."

It has also signed a memorandum of understanding with Aalborg University in Denmark to provide training in project based learning and entrepreneurship. Aalborg University is recognized internationally as a leader in project based learning (PBL). Sharhan hoped that the ACK have achieved its goal and advised the graduate to look forward to a productive life. "They deserve more than just a piece of paper testifying to attendance at the college for a given period of time. Our aim is to have industry seek out our graduates for employment," he said.

"2016 is a very special year for ACK as we celebrate 10 years since our first graduation ceremony. At the time we had a total of 75 graduating as Diploma students in Engineering and Business. 10 years later,

tonight, we recognize 278 Diploma and Degree graduates. Since the opening of ACK in 2004, we are proud to mention that a total of over 6000 students have graduated in diploma and degree students," ACK President Prof Mohammad Terro said while presenting the graduates his warmest wishes for a future full of achievements and success. He added that the Australian College of Kuwait's vision is "To enable human potential within a culture of care." Moreover, Terro promised future students to start providing them support through academic guidance and advising programs to help them overcome difficulties they might face throughout their learning at ACK. Added "We also develop program-learning outcomes covering a wide range of specialized and soft skill attributes that would enhance employability and success. The latter is achieved through special partnerships with representatives from sectors relevant to our offerings."

He added, "This evening marks the end of one chapter in your life and the beginning of another. There will be more exciting chapters to come that include your career, family, personal achievements and contribution to your community. Let your life story be one that your children and their children will be proud to read."

The ceremony was attended by the



Honorable Warren Hauck - Australian Ambassador to Kuwait, Prof. Habib Taher Abul - Secretary General, Private Universities Council, representing Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education and Chairman of the Private Universities Council-Dr. Bader Hamad Al-Essa, and students, and their families along with several board members and numerous dignitaries and diplomats. The graduates were then awarded their bachelor's degree diplomas and took photos with

their families and friends. ACK was established in 2004 to provide internationally recognized and accredited vocational education and practical training to the business, engineering and aviation sectors. Since then, ACK has grown to become one of the leading educational institutions in Kuwait, strongly contributing to the employment sector and continuing to produce knowledgeable, skilled and professional candidates for Kuwait's growing economy through its diploma and degree programs.

## HUSSAINIYAS 'SAFE'

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** KFSD's prevention teams recently toured various local hussainiyas to check safety and security measures taken prior to the start of Muharram. The teams also trained hussainiya' staffs on firefighting and evacuation measures in case of fire. A hussainiya is a congregation hall where Shiites meet to commemorate the first 10 days of the month of Muharram. There are dozens of hussainiyas in Kuwait and the Interior will take extra precautions during the first 10 days of Muharram to ensure their safety and security. Last year, following the suicide bombing on the Imam Al Sadiq

mosque in Kuwait City, the Interior Ministry announced that it would not allow any gatherings outdoors near hussainiyas as part of tighter security measures.

### Absconding maids caught

Residency detectives recently arrested four absconding housemaids working in a Hawally cafe. They were all arrested and will be referred to the appropriate authorities to face legal action and eventual deportation.

### Forgers arrested

Farwaniya residency detectives arrested two Asians for forgery when it was discovered they both held fake residency

visas. The men paid a 'sponsor' KD 1,500 each for the illicit iqamas. Both suspects were referred to relevant authorities and the 'sponsor' has been summoned for questioning.

### Stolen medicines scam

An Asian working for a cleaning company was recently arrested for selling stolen MoH medicines, said security sources.

### Fire in home

A fire broke out yesterday in a house in Saad Al-Abdullah area said security sources noting that on rushing to the scene, firemen found out that the fire started when short circuit took place in an A/C in a kids room. No casualties were reported.

## FRAUD AT TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

**KUWAIT:** A citizen working for the traffic police was recently referred to prosecution on charges of forgery and embezzling public funds. The man was caught using a former employee's password to access the traffic department's computer system of ticketing. He would change the names on tickets from the real offenders to people who had died or been deported. The real offenders would pay him half the value of the ticket instead as a bribe. Corruption, fraud and bribery are on the rise at government institutions and especially those that deal directly with the public.

### Americans involved in accident

Three American contractors were reportedly involved in a car accident yesterday in the southern part of Kuwait. All three of the men work in Kuwait. It was not clear what was the cause of the accident.

### 10-year-old boy raped

An Asian and an Arab expat were

recently arrested for taking turns raping a 10-year-old Kuwaiti school boy, said security sources, noting that the suspects had put an anesthetic into a juice they gave to the boy and drove off to a remote spot where they raped him. The sources added that on returning home and noticing that he did not look well, the mother took the boy to the hospital to be examined. Doctors confirmed the incident of rape.

### Meth dealer's house raided

A 26-year-old citizen was recently arrested for possessing and trading in drugs. The man's home in Bayan was raided by police and several large packets of meth were found ready for distribution.

### Citizen beaten

A citizen was brutally beaten by two others who did not like him driving back and forth in their neighborhood where he was looking for a specific address, said security sources.



# KUWAITI AUTHOR LAUNCHES BOOK 'OUNCES OF ONENESS'

FIVE MINUTES WITH POET NEJOUND AL YAGOUT

By Nawara Fattahova

**KUWAIT:** Local author and poet Nejoud Al-Yagout launched her latest collection of poetry 'Ounces of Oneness' at Al-Shaheed Park on Wednesday. "This event is a modern poetry reading with modern technology for visual purposes. I usually collaborate with directors and they bring the poetry to life somehow. This event is also a book launch of the second edition of my first book 'This is an Imprint' and my third book 'Ounces of Oneness', which is my new book," Nejoud Al-Yagout told the Kuwait Times.

"Ounces of Oneness is about the spiritual journey, the mystical journey, uniting people from all races and religions and looking beyond our surface. People are not tolerant one of another so I want to break those barriers and tell everyone that we are one. And from here came the name of my book to find the oneness in everything and everyone," she explained.

**KT: What inspired you to write the books?**

Al-Yagout: Well I had no choice, when I was a teenager I just had to write and I never dreamed to be a poet, it



Nejoud Al-Yagout signs a copy of her book.

wasn't my goal. But when I was 13, I started writing without knowing. First I was writing fun songs and then fun poetry, and since then I haven't been able to stop writing.

**KT: What are you preparing next?**

Al-Yagout: Right now I'm focusing on videos more. And hopefully another book will come soon but I don't know when, I have no plans now. All my

videos are on my Youtube channel and my website. Al-Yagout also released earlier her second book 'Awake in the Game of Pretending'. Her books are available on Amazon, FriesenPress, iBooks, Barnes and Noble and most online retailers. Locally, you can find her books at Dar Nur, Q8 Bookstore (Dar Yarmouk), Jarir Bookstore and CAP Gallery. She is also on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and Goodreads.

## News

in brief

### Kuwait bans UAE street racing film

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait has banned an Emirati street racing film without explanation. 'Hajwala', a UAE-produced drama set in the underground world of Khaleeji street racing will not be allowed to be shown in Kuwait despite being shown elsewhere across the Gulf. The film was directed by Ali Bin Matar and Ebrahim Bin Mohammad and show in the UAE, mostly in Ral Al Khaimah and Abu Dhabi. It will be in Arabic with English subtitles.

### Interior participates in patrol convention

**KUWAIT:** Officers from the Ministry of Interior recently took part in the 5th Offshore Patrol Vessels Middle East (OPV Middle East) convention held in Bahrain in the period of September 26-28. Kuwait's delegation included MOI's assistant undersecretary for marine borders security affairs Maj General Zuhair Al-Nassrallah, Colonel Talal Mubarak and Major Faisal Khalifa.

### E-visa system explained

**KUWAIT:** Director of Residency Affairs Maj General Talal Marafi yesterday met with a number of EU diplomats of countries whose citizens will be eligible to use the recently launched e-visa system to explain the system to them. Marafi explained that Kuwait issues visas through immigration departments, Kuwaiti consulates abroad, hotels and commercial companies, direct access through various marine, land and air border exits and finally by using the e-visa system. Marafi added that subjects of 54 countries would benefit from the new system. He also noted that applicants would be contacted through email in case of rejection, which might be only done for security reasons, incomplete information or data or unclear photos on passports. In addition, Marafi explained that instead of checking with Kuwait embassies, those wishing to visit Kuwait could apply online at the Interior Ministry's website [www.moi.gov.kw](http://www.moi.gov.kw) or have it directly issued at exits in return for a KD 3 fee.

### Traffic light

Traffic police announced yesterday that the traffic light at the intersection linking the Fifth and Fourth Ring roads through Reggae (Road number 604) would be closed as of dawn today. The Traffic Department urged drivers to drive right and take a U-turn at Mohammed Ibn Al-Qassim street to return to the UN roundabout instead of going left from that light to the roundabout.

# US APPROVES BOEING JET SALES TO KUWAIT

ISRAEL WORRIED OVER US-GCC ARMS DEAL

**BERLIN:** The United States began notifying lawmakers that it has approved \$7 billion in long-stalled sales of Boeing Co fighter jets to Kuwait and Qatar, and more than \$1 billion in Lockheed Martin Corp jets to Bahrain, sources familiar with the decision said Wednesday. The sales had been pending for more than two years amid concerns raised by Israel, Washington's closest Middle East ally, that arms sold to Gulf Arab states could be used against it, and criticism of Qatar for alleged ties to armed Islamist groups.

US officials began notifying lawmakers informally about the sale of 36 Boeing F-15 fighter jets to Qatar valued at around \$4 billion, and 28 F/A- 18E/F Super Hornets, plus options for 12 more, to Kuwait for around \$3 billion, the sources said. They also told lawmakers about plans to sell 17 Lockheed F-16

fighter jets to Bahrain, plus upgrades of up to 20 additional aircraft.

The deals will be formally announced once the 40-day informal notification process has ended. Then lawmakers will have 30 days to block the sales, although such action is rare. Reuters reported earlier this month that the US government was poised to approve the long-delayed sales to Kuwait and Qatar. The State Department said it could not comment on any ongoing government-to-government arms sales. Delays in the process had caused frustration among US defense officials and industry executives, who warned that Washington's foot-dragging could cost them billions of dollars of business if buyers grew impatient and sought other suppliers.

The approval of the fighter jet sales comes as the White House tries to bolster relations

with Gulf Arab allies who want to upgrade their military capabilities. They fear the United States is drawing closer to Iran, their arch-rival, after Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers last year. Sources said officials at both the State Department and Pentagon had largely agreed to the deals some time ago, but had been awaiting final approval from the White House. Both Kuwait and Qatar are part of a 34-nation alliance announced by Saudi Arabia in December aimed at countering Islamic State and al Qaeda militants in Iraq, Syria, Libya, Egypt and Afghanistan. The sales will boost fighter production for both companies.

Boeing's F-15 line is set to close in 2019 after Boeing completes work on a large order for Saudi Arabia, unless a follow-on order is approved. As orders slow, Boeing is increasingly relying on technology upgrades and

services sales to maintain its revenue stream from fighter jets, Shelley Lavender, president of Boeing's military aircraft division, said in an interview.

The company is adding new technology to the F-15 and F/A-18 and other aircraft, and is refurbishing them on the same assembly lines use to build new aircraft, she said. When the current fighter jet lines end, that loss of revenue will be offset by upgrade efforts. "We're blurring the traditional lines of new aircraft builds and sustainment," Lavender said. Boeing's broad portfolio from commercial derivatives rotocraft, autonomous vehicles, fighters and weapons "will allow us to remain healthy for the decades to come," she said. Byron Callan with Capital Alpha Partner said he expected all three sales to be approved. —Reuters



Friday Times

# International

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

**Slain Jordanian writer buried amid tight security**



**UK's most senior police officer retiring February**



**Clinton vows to retaliate against foreign hackers**



**HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY:** First responders treat injured passengers after a New Jersey Transit train crashed into the platform at Hoboken Terminal during morning rush hour yesterday.—AFP

## TRAIN CRASHES INTO NEW JERSEY STATION

### 1 DEAD, 100-PLUS HURT

**HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY:** A commuter train plowed into the bustling Hoboken rail station during the morning rush hour yesterday, killing at least one person and injuring more than 100 others, some critically, in a tangle of broken concrete, twisted metal and dangling cables, authorities said.

Witnesses reported seeing one woman trapped under concrete and many people bleeding after the arriving New Jersey Transit train crashed through a barrier at the end of the track. The train came to a halt in a covered area between the station's indoor waiting area and the platform, collapsing a section of the metal shed roof.

Nancy Bido, a passenger on the train, told WNBC-TV in New York that the train didn't slow as it pulled into the station. "It just never stopped. It was going really fast, and the terminal was basically the brake for the train," she said. The cause of the crash wasn't im-

mediately known. The National Transportation Safety Board said it was sending investigators.

Hoboken, which is NJ Transit's fifth-busiest station with 15,000 boardings per weekday, is situated just across the Hudson River from New York City. It is the final stop for several train lines and a transfer point for many commuters on their way to New York City. Many passengers get off at Hoboken and take ferries or a PATH commuter train to New York.

Democratic Assemblyman Raj Mukherji, who represents Hoboken, said transit officials told him one person has died and two were critically injured. He didn't know whether the fatality and critical injuries were on the train or platform.

#### Officials comments

Jennifer Nelson, a spokeswoman for NJ Transit, said earlier, "We have multiple injuries, multiple critical injuries right now."

Rail service was suspended in and out of Hoboken, she said she doesn't know yet how fast the train was going when it crashed through the bumper. TV footage and photos from the scene showed the rail car was mangled. Rich Scardaville, who was aboard the train, told the Wall Street Journal that it approached the station normally but suddenly "lurched forward at the last minute." Then, he said, there was an "ungodly loud bang, like an explosion" before the lights went off and "everyone went flying."

Passenger Bhagyesh Shah said the train was crowded, particularly the first two cars, because they make for an easy exit into the Hoboken station. Passengers in the second car broke the emergency windows to get out. "I saw a woman pinned under concrete," Shah told WNBC-TV in New York. "A lot of people were bleeding; one guy was crying."

Brian Klein, whose train arrived at the sta-

tion after the crash, told the Wall Street Journal that transit police ushered everyone aboard his train into a waiting room, "then quickly started yelling, 'Just get out! We don't know if the building is going to hold.'"

The train had left Spring Valley, New York, at 7:23 a.m. and crashed at 8:45 a.m., said NJ Transit spokeswoman Nancy Snyder. "It simply did not stop," WFAN anchor John Minko, who witnessed the crash, told 1010 WINS. "It went right through the barriers and into the reception area." NJ Transit provides more than 200 million passenger trips annually on bus, rail and light rail lines. More than 100,000 people use NJ Transit trains to commute from New Jersey into New York City daily.

A crash at the same station on a different train line injured more than 30 people in 2011. The PATH commuter train crashed into bumpers at the end of the tracks on a Sunday morning.—AP

## SLAIN JORDANIAN WRITER BURIED AMID TIGHT SECURITY

**FUHAIS, JORDAN:** Thousands of people attended the funeral of Jordanian writer Nahed Hattar on Wednesday amid tight security, three days after he was shot dead on the steps of an Amman court.

Wrapped in the national flag, his body was buried in his hometown, Fuhais, 20 kilometers north of the capital. Hattar, a 56-year-old Christian, had been on trial for insulting Islam after he shared a cartoon on social media that mocked Islamists. He was shot three times by a bearded assailant who was arrested at the scene. Thousands of people—members of his family and sympathisers—attended the funeral, waving Jordanian flags and carrying signs saying “No to extremism, no to violence, no to killing”.

After prayers at a church in the town, his body was buried in the presence of several dignitaries including former prime minister Abdullah Nsour. Dozens of police officers also attended the ceremony. Hattar’s family have accused the authorities of failing to protect Hattar despite their appeals after he was threatened.

They also called for the resignation of both Prime Minister Hani al-Malki and Interior Minister Salama Hammad. A source close to the family said they had reached a deal with the authorities, who promised to arrest and place on trial everyone who had threatened the writer or called for his murder. Hattar had been arrested on August 13 after posting a cartoon on Facebook under the title “God of Daesh” (the Islamic State jihadist group). He was later released on bail. It showing a bearded man in bed smoking with two women lying on either side, and addressing God as a servant.

He explained on Facebook that the cartoon made fun of “terrorists and how they imagine God and heaven, and does not insult God in any way”. The leftist writer was known for his support of the regime of President Bashar al-Assad in Syria. His suspected killer was charged with premeditated murder, terrorism and possession of an illegal firearm. If found guilty, the suspect could face capital punishment.—AFP



**AMMAN:** Jordanian King Abdullah II (2nd-R) and Prime Minister Hani Mulki (R) offering their condolences to relatives of Jordanian writer Nahed Hattar yesterday.—AFP

## LEBANESE ARMY FACES JIHADIST THREAT ON SYRIAN BORDER

### FREQUENT FIGHTING

**ARSAL, LEBANON:** From a sandbagged army post near the border with Syria, Lebanese soldiers gaze through tripod-mounted binoculars into hills where jihadist militants are entrenched, a forgotten front in Syria’s civil war that has led to bombings inside Lebanon.

There is frequent fighting between the army and around 1,000-1,200 militants dug into the hills around Arsal in a large pocket of territory straddling the border, Lebanese General Youssef al-Dik said. Around 30 soldiers have been killed. The Sunni militants are members of Islamic State and the former Nusra Front, groups fighting Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad. They regard the mountains along the Lebanese border as a strategic base and also consider Lebanon to be under the thumb of Assad’s ally, Shi’ite Hezbollah. “The clashes are ongoing day and night. We target any gathering, activity or anything we sense day or night with all kinds of weapons,” he told Reuters during a visit last week.

For Lebanon’s army, seen as a rare neutral institution in a state riven by sectarian divisions, fighting that jihadist presence in a staunchly Sunni Muslim area also means treading delicately to avoid prompting a new domestic political crisis. A series of bomb attacks have struck Lebanon since the beginning of Syria’s civil war in 2011, some of them linked by the security forces to militant groups based in their neighbour who seek to widen the region’s sectarian violence. They are just one way the conflict threatens to destabilize already fragile Lebanon, where the political system is in near-permanent paralysis and where the sectarian fault lines of its own 15-year civil war, which ended in 1990, are still raw. On the road from Beirut to Arsal stand abandoned houses where weeds grow from old shell holes. Nearby is a former Syrian army post, evidence of

Syria’s 30-year military presence in Lebanon. That presence ended in 2005, but Damascus retained extensive influence in its smaller neighbour, partly through its close alliance with the Lebanese Shi’ite movement Hezbollah, so the outbreak of its civil war had an immediate impact in Lebanon.

In the Shi’ite towns of the fertile Bekaa valley, on the road to Arsal, posters for Hezbollah share the sides of buildings with portraits of the movement’s “martyrs” killed fighting for Assad in Syria. Whether to support Assad or oppose him is a question that splits Lebanese parties, partly along sectarian lines, and has accentuated the country’s political deadlock.

#### Danger

Many Lebanese Sunnis resent the dominance of Shi’ite Hezbollah, saying it has cut them off from power and perpetuated Syrian influence. Some of them accuse it of instigating the political crisis and compromising the neutrality of the army.

In recent years that anger has caused protests and even some attacks on army patrols in traditionally Sunni cities. Diplomats say such sensitivities mean the army has learnt to tread carefully in policing mostly Sunni Arsal.

Supporters of Hezbollah have said such concerns have tied the army’s hands and stopped it rooting out militants more actively. But the diplomats said a campaign to crush them would be difficult because they occupy well defended positions.

In the army post above Arsal a ceaseless wind swirled fine dust, stinging the eyes and catching at the back of the nose. The soldiers here face real danger. Militants in the hills opposite carry assault rifles but also medium-sized weapons like mortars and anti-tank missiles. They attack hilltop posts and target

patrols inside Arsal with car bombs, said General al-Dik. The army is widely regarded in Lebanon as occupying a position above the country’s fractured politics but its senior officers are powerful figures. Posters along the road to Arsal showed the current army chief, Jean Kahwaji, with the slogan “the right man in the right place”.

The army is backed by Western countries, including the United States, which this year gave it \$220 million in equipment, including heavy guns like those visible below the position above Arsal. Britain has given over 60 million pounds worth of equipment since 2012, including old border watchtowers once used in Northern Ireland.

#### Heavy fighting

In August 2014, when Islamic State was rapidly expanding across Iraq and Syria, insurgents loyal to it and the Nusra Front, then an official al Qaeda branch, crossed the Lebanese border and overran Arsal, regarding its refugee camps as a base for cross-border attacks.

After heavy fighting, the Lebanese army, and in some places Hezbollah, restored control over the town and strategic points around it, but militants remained in the hills nearby. Islamic State still holds nine Lebanese soldiers hostage. Across the frontier, advances by the Syrian army, backed by Hezbollah, last year cut off the militants from the east, leaving them surrounded in an area straddling the border. Both Islamic State and the Nusra Front, which in July cut its al Qaeda links and changed its name to Jabhat Fateh al-Sham, are still there, General al-Dik said. They live in caves, ramshackle houses and other makeshift dwellings, he added, standing in a sandbagged emplacement surrounded by a coil of barbed wire, and saying that in winter a meter or more of snow covers the hills.—Reuters

## IMAM: PULSE SHOOTER PRAYED AT MOSQUE 4 DAYS BEFORE ATTACK

**KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA:** An imam has released video footage of Orlando nightclub shooter Omar Mateen praying in a central Florida mosque four days before the attack that killed 49 people and injured 53 others on June 12.

Imam Helmi Elagha told reporters Wednesday that he was unaware that Mateen had visited the mosque until FBI investigators contacted him a couple of days after the June 12 shooting at Pulse nightclub.

The imam showed reporters a grainy, freeze-frame image of a man he identified as Mateen walking into the mosque about 10:30 p.m. on June 8. He said Mateen “kept his head down” and went to a corner, where he prayed for about 10 minutes. He says he doesn’t believe anyone exchanged words with him. “I’m just thinking, ‘How are you praying? ... You were contemplating killing people in a couple of days,’” Elagha, executive director of the American Muslim Leadership Council, said at a news conference.

Mateen stopped at the mosque, which is located in a tourist strip not far from Walt Disney World, during Ramadan, which is Islam’s holy month. His wife and child were with him, but they entered the building from a different entrance, Elagha said. It’s common for tourists to stop in at the mosque, Elagha said, adding that the FBI told him it was the only time Mateen visited.

At first, Elagha said, he didn’t release the video clips but changed his mind after the recent stabbings in Minnesota and bombings in New Jersey and New York, and because of the backlash against American Muslims. “We’re not associated with this terrorist,” he said of Mateen. “We’re not associated with this murderer.” The mosque is located in Kissimmee, about 25 miles from Orlando.—AP

## A YEAR OF BOMBING IN SYRIA STIRS LITTLE DEBATE IN RUSSIA PROTEST IN MOSCOW

**MOSCOW:** Veteran Russian opposition activist Sergei Davidis was among 300 people who showed up to a protest in Moscow against the start of the Kremlin's Syria bombing campaign. But that was pretty much the last demonstration. "As far as I know there haven't been any other events dedicated specifically to the Syria issue and the involvement of Russian forces in the conflict," Davidis told AFP.

This week marks one year since President Vladimir Putin launched air strikes in support of long-time ally Bashar al-Assad, thrusting the country into the heart of a complex war that has now claimed some 300,000 lives.

The intervention—the Kremlin's first beyond the borders of the ex-USSR since the start of the disastrous decade-long Afghanistan campaign in 1979 — shored up Assad's flagging regime forces and shook the West. But, while ongoing strikes by Russian jets stir furious condemnation abroad, back home in an environment tightly controlled by the Kremlin, Moscow's involvement generates only limited interest and even less debate. "A faraway war that according to the popular understanding doesn't cost too much and doesn't bring us too much harm—it has ended up on the periphery of the public consciousness," Davidis said.

After a dramatic few years, Russia is mired in an economic crisis and a standoff with the West over Ukraine, he pointed out, and even the country's marginalised opposition is not that interested in Syria. "Society here has more important concerns to discuss," he said.

### 'Information war'

As ever the main driver of public opinion has been the slavishly pro-Kremlin state media—and its version of what is happening in Syria. From the start of the conflict in 2011, Russia helped deflect criticism from Assad's regime over its brutal crushing of protests and killing of civilians. It sent arms but shied away from direct involvement.

When Putin launched the strikes—taking both Russians and the West by surprise—he insisted Moscow was joining forces with Damascus to support Syria's legitimate leader and battle a terrorist threat that could one day threaten his own country. "At first people's reaction a year ago was some kind of bewilderment and even fear," said Lev Gudkov, the head of the independent Levada Centre pollsters.

"But then as the state propaganda got going they began to be convinced." Now, as US Secretary of State John Kerry has accused his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov of being in a "parallel universe" on Syria, what Russians are being told is almost the mirror image of what Western media shows.

For the past week, media outlets around the world have carried horrific images of civilian casualties from the ferocious bombing of Aleppo and allegations of possible Russian war crimes. But on the nightly news on Russian state channels, while they still lead with the conflict, reporters embedded with Assad's forces around Aleppo focus on alleged "terrorist" attacks on civilians and Syrian de-mining efforts.

Little mention is made of any involvement by Moscow's warplanes and Western criticism is painted as part of a campaign that began with the crisis in Ukraine and is aimed at curbing Moscow's resurgence as a world power. "Any negative news about what Russia is doing is always framed in the context of this information war and as anti-Russian propaganda," sociologist Gudkov said.

### 'Different scale'

So far, observers say, Russians feel that the military campaign in Syria has not cost them too dearly. Moscow has managed to stamp its mark on the conflict with a few dozen planes and several thousand servicemen. While advisers and special forces are deployed, the Kremlin still insists Russian troops are not fighting on the frontline and officially only some 21 Russians have been killed in combat so far.

In a park on the eastern edge of Moscow, mothers pushed prams past a rare monument to some of the 15,000 Soviet soldiers who died in the Afghanistan campaign.

Sitting on a nearby bench, former aviation plant worker Irina lowered her newspaper as she thought about Moscow's latest conflict. "Syria—no, people don't really discuss it very much," she said, refusing to give her surname. "The television doesn't really show much about the operation itself nowadays—it's mainly about how we're delivering humanitarian aid." Despite Putin in March announcing a partial withdrawal of Russian forces in Syria—Moscow's jets have continued to bomb just as before. Now, as the country marks one year of its latest intervention, there is no sign of the operation ending any time soon. —AFP



**JERUSALEM:** Members of the Knesset guard carry the coffin of former Israeli President Shimon Peres at the Knesset, Israel's Parliament yesterday.—AP

## ISRAELIS PAY RESPECTS TO PERES, CLINTON ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

**JERUSALEM:** Former US President Bill Clinton joined thousands of Israeli mourners yesterday who paid their respects to the late Shimon Peres outside Israel's parliament in Jerusalem, as the country somberly remembered the Nobel-winning politician who helped lead Israel during a remarkable seven-decade career.

Clinton is among the dozens of current and former world leaders, including President Barack Obama and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, expected to gather in Jerusalem on Friday for Peres' funeral. The former Israeli president and prime minister died Wednesday, two weeks after suffering a stroke, at the age of 93. Jordan's King Abdullah II sent his condolences to Israel over the passing of Peres. A senior Jordanian minister, Jawad Anani, will represent Amman at the funeral. The King wrote in a telegram to Israeli President Reuven Rivlin yesterday that Peres' "contributions toward achieving peace and security in the region are more relevant than ever before."

The King said that "it is vital that the voices of reason prevail and the advocates of peace continue to lead the way." Israel and neighboring Jordan signed a peace deal in 1994. A senior Palestinian official said that Abbas had decided yesterday to attend the funeral, and will come to the event with a small delegation of top aides, including his chief negotiator Saeb Erekat and his security chief Majid Faraj. In contrast to an outpouring of grief from Western leaders, Arab leaders have remained largely silent over Peres' death. The reaction reflected general Arab animosity toward Israel, particularly at a time when the peace process Peres helped launch two decades ago has collapsed and anger is high at the hard-line policies of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

**Only Arab leader to express sorrow**  
Abbas was the only Arab leader to

express sorrow over Peres' death on Wednesday. In attending the funeral, Abbas wanted to "send a strong message to Israeli society that the Palestinians are for peace, and appreciate the efforts of peaceful men like Shimon Peres," the senior official said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to comment to the media.

Friday's funeral is expected to be the largest gathering of world leaders in Israel since the funeral of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was assassinated by a Jewish nationalist in 1995.

Rabin's killing, coming at the height of Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts, drew dozens of world leaders, including a large delegation of American officials led by then-President Clinton and his wife Hillary, then-President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, the late King Hussein of Jordan and other dignitaries from the Arab world.

Peres' funeral was also shaping up to be a high-profile affair. In addition to Obama and Bill Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, Britain's Prince Charles, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg and French President Francois Hollande were expected. More than 60 private planes, including the one that carried Clinton on Thursday, were expected to arrive ahead of the ceremony. There was no word on whether the two Arab countries at peace with Israel — Jordan and Egypt — were sending delegations.

Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said some 8,000 officers were deployed to maintain order over the mourning period. He said officers were also monitoring social media for potential attackers.

Peres' casket lay in state outside the Knesset, or parliament, on Thursday, as thousands of people lined up on a warm September day to pay their respects. The casket was covered in a blue and white

Israeli flag and watched over by a small honor guard. Mourners slowly walked by, snapping pictures and reciting prayers. Among them was Lea Dekel, a Jerusalem resident. "I came in honor of prime minister, president Shimon Peres and I came to honor the hope for peace and to protest against not doing anything for peace," she said. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Reuven Rivlin lay wreaths beside the casket in a brief ceremony early Thursday. Later in the day, Clinton, escorted by Rivlin and Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein, stopped by, staring solemnly at the casket without commenting.

Clinton landed in Israel Thursday morning on the private jet of Israeli American billionaire Haim Saban, according to a spokesman for the Israel Airports Authority. Saban is a major donor to the Democratic party and to Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

Clinton was president when Peres helped negotiate a historic interim peace agreement with the Palestinians in 1993. The following year, Peres shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Bill and Hillary Clinton have said they lost "a true and treasured friend" in Peres.

Dr. Rafi Walden, the son-in-law and personal physician of Shimon Peres, said the ex-president left behind detailed plans for Friday's funeral, including requests that his three children speak, along with Netanyahu, Rivlin, a foreign dignitary and an Israeli cultural figure.

Walden said Peres also requested Israeli singer David D'or sing at his funeral. Walden predicted the song would be the prayer "Avinu Malkeinu," or "Our Father Our King." Jews sing the prayer on the Day of Atonement, which falls this year in mid-October.—AP



**LONDON: Britain's Metropolitan Police Commissioner Bernard Hogan-Howe speaks to media at the Metropolitan Police Control Center yesterday.—AP**

## UK'S MOST SENIOR POLICE OFFICER RETIRING FEBRUARY

**LONDON:** Britain's most senior police officer has announced he'll retire in February, seven months before his contract expires. Bernard Hogan-Howe's resignation comes amid suggestions of tensions with London Mayor Sadiq Khan - though the newly elected leader denied he was behind the decision. It also comes before the release of a report on police handling of historic child sex abuse claims.

Hogan-Howe says he'll remain in his post to offer time to find a successor. The 58-year-old Metropolitan Police commissioner's achievements included a successful 2012 London Olympics and an 18-percent drop in London's crime rate.

But the latter part of his tenure has been dogged by controversy over Operation Midland, a two-year investigation into claims that VIPs were linked to pedophile rings. No one has been charged.—AP

## EUROPE COURT DISMISSES CLAIM OMAGH BOMBING TRIAL WAS 'UNFAIR'

### RULING FINAL

**STRASBOURG, FRANCE:** Europe's top rights court yesterday dismissed an attempt by two men held liable for the 1998 Omagh bombing, the worst atrocity of the Northern Ireland Troubles, to have the civil ruling against them overturned.

No one has ever been convicted over the car bomb that ripped through the County Tyrone town on August 15, 1998, killing 29 people, including a woman pregnant with twins. A civil case in 2009 held Michael McKeivitt, founder of an Irish Republican Army (IRA) splinter group that claimed responsibility for the attack, and Liam Campbell liable for the carnage, along with two others.

The four men were ordered to pay damages of £1.6 million (\$2.0 million, 1.8 million euros at today's exchange rates) to the victims' families. McKeivitt and Campbell complained their trial was unfair, saying that, given the gravity of the accusations, the Belfast court should have applied a criminal rather than civil standard of proof.

They also argued that admitting evidence from an FBI agent who had not been cross-examined in court was unjust. The European Court for Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg dismissed their complaints, saying a civil case did not have to meet criminal standards and that the defendants had been given

"adequate opportunity" to challenge the evidence from the FBI agent. "In light of this, the Court found that the national court's findings could not be said to have been arbitrary or unreasonable," seven ECHR judges concluded in a unanimous ruling.

The Omagh bombing rocked Northern Ireland, coming just four months after nationalist and unionist parties had inked a peace deal ending the worst of the violence that had plagued the British province for three decades. Two of the four men held liable for the attack-Seamus Daly and Colm Murphy-successfully had the ruling

overturned and were ordered to face a retrial. But their retrial ended with a similar finding of responsibility, with a Belfast High Court judge citing "overwhelming" evidence against them.

In 2014, Daly became the first man to be charged over the attack. He was held in a high-security prison for nearly two years before being freed in March after the case against him collapsed. Campbell and McKeivitt, who is serving a 20-year prison sentence in Ireland for directing terrorism, have failed in all their attempts to have the civil finding of their responsibility overturned. The ECHR's ruling is final.—AFP

## BERLIN STORE MANAGER ALLEGEDLY BEATS SHOPLIFTER TO DEATH

**BERLIN:** Berlin police say a 29-year-old supermarket manager is under arrest on charges he beat an alleged shoplifter so badly that he died of his injuries. Police said yesterday that they are looking into further similar occurrences at the same store.

Police say the victim, a 34-year-old Moldovan man, was seized by the market operator on Sept. 17 and accused of shoplifting. Instead of

turning him over to police, authorities say he beat the man.

Two days later, the victim went to a doctor in the capital's Lichtenberg district with serious facial injuries, and was taken immediately to the hospital. One day later, he died of head injuries.

Police say the store manager was arrested Tuesday on charges of bodily harm causing death.—AP

Kuwait Times

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ت. هـ / 11 / 2016 العرض ساري من 27 / 8 / 2016 إلى 30 / 9 / 2016



**HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK:** In this Sept. 26, 2016, photo, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton answers a question during the presidential debate with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump at Hofstra University.—AP

## CLINTON VOWS TO RETALIATE AGAINST FOREIGN HACKERS

**WASHINGTON:** Hillary Clinton is vowing anew to respond to foreign hacking the same as any other attack against the United States. When she openly blamed Russia for recent US cyber break-ins, Donald Trump wondered whether to blame overseas governments or overweight hackers working from home.

"She's saying Russia, Russia, Russia, but I don't - maybe it was. I mean, it could be Russia, but it could also be China," Trump said during this week's presidential debate. "It could also be lots of other people. It also could be somebody sitting on their bed that weighs 400 pounds, OK?"

These are the unanswered questions about how the US government should defend itself after an attack in the internet age: Whether to fire back, how to fire back, and at whom? The Obama administration is still writing its rulebook.

A lingering challenge involves identifying whose hands were on the keyboard: Foreign hacker spies, cybercriminals, disgruntled insiders or bored teenagers? Skilled hackers can cover their tracks, use software tools traceable to others and feign their location across borders or continents.

### Is Russia behind it?

On Wednesday, Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., said during a congressional hearing that it was "now the clear consensus of the intelligence community that the Russian government was behind the hack of the Democratic National Committee and not, as some suggested, somebody sitting on their bed that weighs 400 pounds."

The White House has not officially declared Russia responsible and it's unclear whether or when it might, since blaming Russia - with whom the US is locked in a bitter dispute over fighting in Syria - would probably require plans for a response.

Clinton has raised eyebrows among some cybersecurity experts with her hawkish language on the campaign trail about retaliating with political, economic or even military means. Her aggressive policy proposal is especially notable since the State Department, which she led during President Barack Obama's first term, traditionally has a vested interest in avoiding overt conflict since it might complicate diplomatic efforts.

"We're going to have to make it clear that we don't want to use the kinds of tools that we have. We don't want to engage in a different kind of warfare. But we will defend the citizens of this country," Clinton said during the presidential debate, when asked how she would respond to cyberattacks.

For the first time, cybersecurity led the national security portion of the presidential debate, demonstrating its political stakes and the fact that the next president will shape 21st century cyberwarfare policies, setting rules about how the US responds to foreign hackers.

Trump has not released an official position on cybersecurity. Clinton tackles the issue in one-and-a-half pages of her 288-page campaign book. At the debate Trump mentioned "the cyber" without detailing specifics.

"We should be better than anybody else, and perhaps we're not," Trump said. "The security aspect of cyber is very, very tough. And maybe it's hardly doable."—AP

# OBAMA SAW OVERRIDE COMING, BUT STILL IT STUNG

## OBAMA'S FIRST VETO OVERRIDE

**WASHINGTON:** The White House saw it coming, but still it stung.

When President Barack Obama was hit with the first veto override of his presidency on Wednesday, it landed as a clear reminder of his dwindling political influence, years of confounding relationships with Congress and shaky prospects for the few legislative priorities he has left. The fiercely competitive president has said he intends to keep working with Congress until the final buzzer sounds in January, but it's not clear how much juice he'll have left.

Only one of his 44 fellow Democrats in the Senate - Minority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada - stood by Obama to uphold his veto of a piece of Sept. 11 legislation. Every Republican voted to override. The Republican-led House followed suit - eagerly exceeding the two-thirds threshold necessary to push the legislation into law over the president's objections.

It was, perhaps, an unavoidable turn of events. No modern president has made it through two full terms without Congress overriding at least one of his vetoes. Obama's record measures up well compared to his two predecessors. George W. Bush suffered four and Bill Clinton two.

It might also be expected that if an override was coming it would happen now, at the tail end of a term, just weeks ahead of the election, when the political interests of the soon-to-be retiring president and the still-in-the-game lawmakers are at their widest.

Still, the White House was ruffled by the public rebuke.

### Embarrassing

When a reporter noted the 97-1 vote was the widest margin for an override vote since 1983, White House spokesman Josh Earnest retorted: "I would venture to say that this is the single most embarrassing thing that the United States Senate has done, possibly, since 1983."

Obama delivered a more measured, but still harsh, assessment. "It was basically a political vote," Obama told CNN, not sparing Democrats from his critique. "Sometimes you have to do what's hard. And, frankly, I wish Congress here had done what's hard. ... But I didn't expect it." Few would have expected this public display of party divisions and hot-headed hyperbole over this legislation. The long-stalled bill, which allows the families of Sept. 11 victims to sue the government of Saudi Arabia for the kingdom's alleged backing of the attackers, has long flown under the radar, kept alive by a committed group of families, despite firm opposition from the Saudi government and many in the national security establishment.

The families found bipartisan backers in Congress and a moment this fall. The Senate passed the bill in May and the House followed on Sept. 9, two days before the 15th anniversary of the 2001 attacks and a little more than a week before two new bombing plots in the New York and New Jersey area.

Lawmakers found themselves faced with the choice of siding with Saudi Arabia or the sympathetic and organized group of Sept. 11 families. They overwhelmingly sided with the families.

Doing so meant ignoring dire warnings from a president whose popularity has only inched up as he nears his term. It also meant rebuffing top national security officials, who argued that the legislation will set a dangerous precedent that could endanger military personnel and diplomats serving overseas.

Democrats said the override votes weren't personal. Some did revive an oft-repeated complaint about Obama's approach to dealing with Congress. Lawmakers and aides described the White House lobbying effort as insufficient. Although several Democrats and Republicans publicly acknowledged problems with the legislation, the White House appeared unwilling or unable to broker changes.

"This whole thing just kind of continued on with no real involvement as if somehow through osmosis this thing was going to die of its own weight," said Sen. Bob Corker, a Republican from Tennessee, who outlined his "tremendous reservations" with the legislation, but voted to override Obama's veto anyway. The White House dismissed criti-

cism from Corker as posturing. Officials said they saw the politics clearly early and had little hope for persuading lawmakers to take a tough vote in an election year.

Obama has much higher hopes for persuading them to take a tough vote after the election. His top priority of the lame-duck session is his Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade deal, a legacy-making agreement that has taken a beating amid campaign-year complaints about globalization. The deal needs support from both Democrats and Republicans to pass.

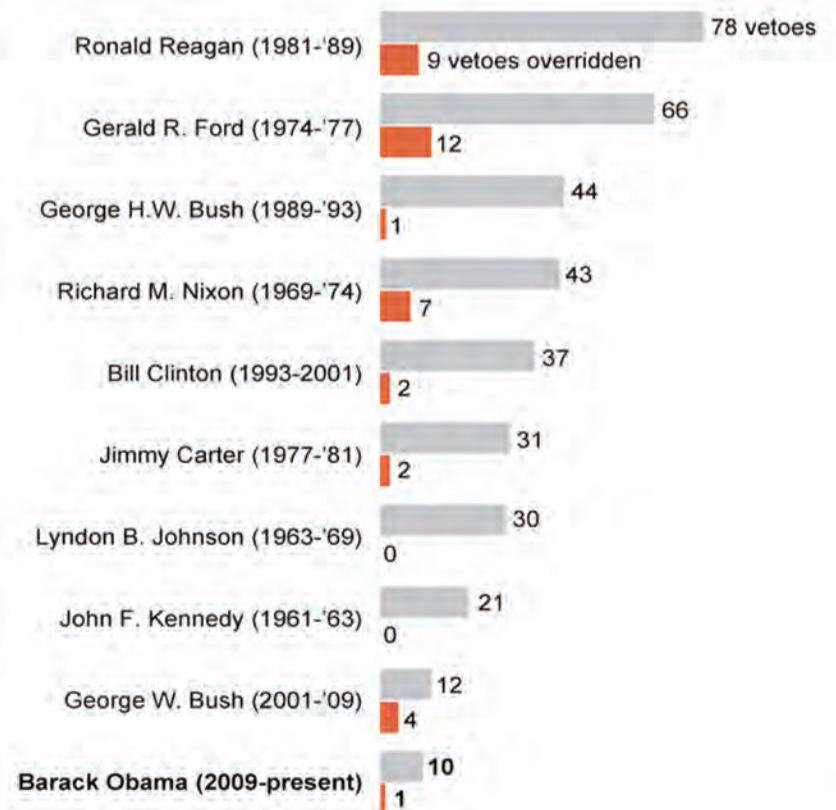
The White House has cast the trade deal as a national-security imperative and promised a full-court press. But officials said the override had little impact on that effort and was not a grim sign for its chances.

"Despite the rhetoric on the campaign trail, the American people support expanding trade and agree with the president that high-standards trade agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership are good for our country," said White House spokesman Eric Schultz, noting that last year the White House successfully pushed a related trade measure through. Members "have long records of supporting expanding trade," he said.—AP

## Overriding a veto

Congress has handed President Barack Obama the first veto override of his presidency, a maneuver requiring the vote of two-thirds of both chambers that rarely succeeds.

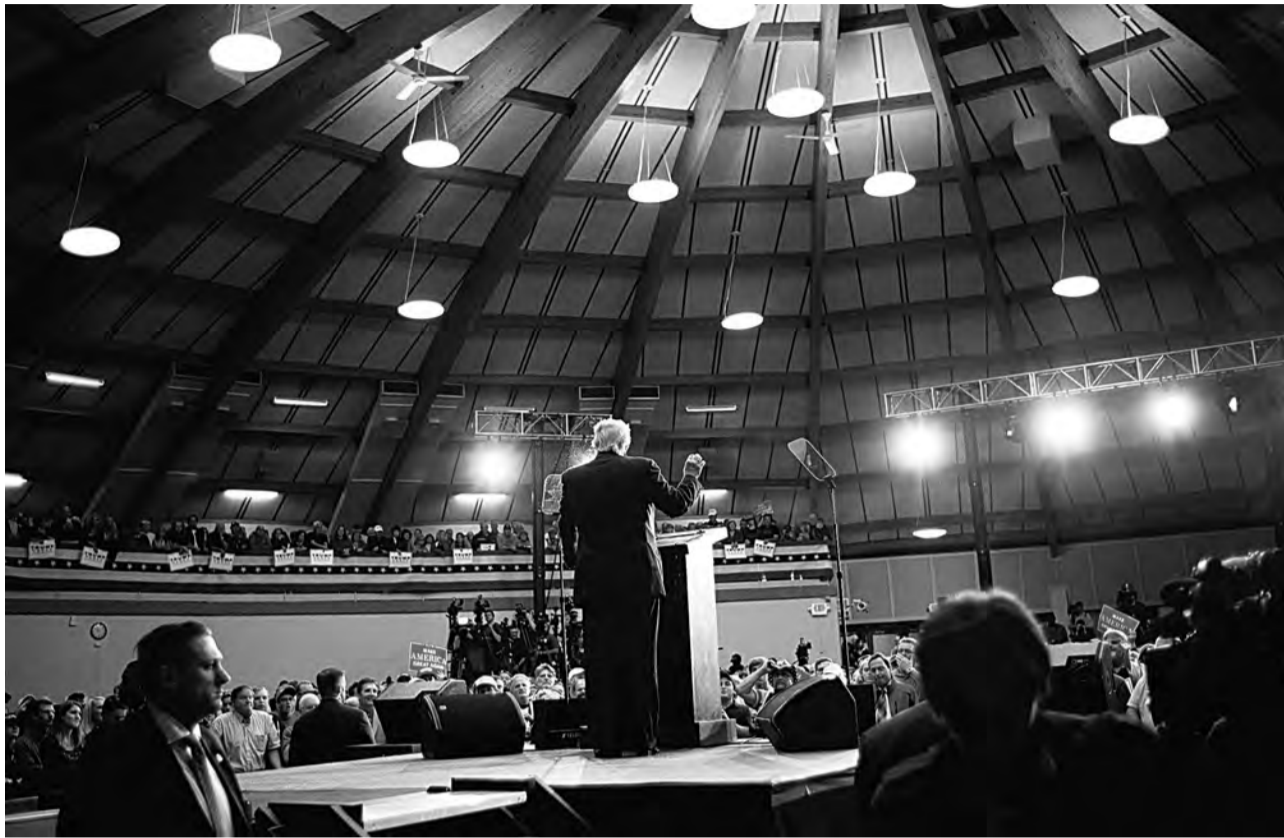
### Bills vetoed and overridden since 1961



SOURCE: U.S. House of Representatives

AP

Chart shows total presidential vetoes and overrides.—AP



WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN: US Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump speaks during a campaign rally at the County Expo Center on Wednesday. —AP

## MORE GUMPTION: FANS URGE TRUMP TO UP DEBATE GAME

**COUNCIL BLUFFS, United States:** It's 10 days to America's next presidential debate, but some of Donald Trump's most ardent admirers agree: he must do better-focus more on policy, and hit Hillary Clinton harder.

Most mainstream political analysts gave Democrat Clinton, the 68-year-old former first lady, senator and secretary of state the upper hand in this week's television clash watched by 84 million. The Republican billionaire insists otherwise. But even some of his die-hard fans agreed at a rally in Iowa Wednesday that he could do better on October 9 in St. Louis, Missouri. "I think he needs more gumption," said retired waitress Martha Killion, 74, in the town of Council Bluffs, separated by just a river from the neighboring Nebraska. "I can't believe he that he did not come back and attack her," she said, recalling the 90-minute slog in which Clinton landed a series of punches on her opponent that left Trump floundering toward the end.

The New York Times reported that campaign advisers, concerned that his focus and objectives had "dissolved" during the debate, plan to drill him on crucial answers, facts and counterattacks for next time. Iowa supporters agree, recommending he focus more on policy, press home his position as the candidate of change and skewer Clinton over her vulnerabilities.

### 'Hated to see that'

"I think he did OK. But I think there were a lot of other things he should have brought up," said retiree Larry Storer from Nebraska. He reeled them off: the Clintons' past, defense, illegal immigration, the refugee crisis and Benghazi, where Republicans say Clinton should have done more to prevent a deadly attack on the US consulate in 2012. "He kinda took the bait a couple of times, I hated to see that. But then I think he did handle himself well on some of the other issues," said Storer's wife, Carol, a retired phone company worker.

"I think if he just stays on focus and doesn't take the bait he's going to be OK," she added. But if Trump showed uncharacteristic restraint on Monday in New York he has since reverted to attack-dog mode, lashing Clinton as "crooked Hillary," corrupt, "incompetent" and failure.

Trump's entire campaign has been about dishing insults: not just against the country's would-be first female commander-in-chief, but about anyone who gets in his way: female journalists, Mexicans, illegal immigrants, Muslims and just about every political opponent.

But it is unclear how much television debate performance really matters—either at the ballot box on November 8 or among voters already convinced that Trump is their man.

The prospect of Clinton in the White House is enough to put to bed any lingering doubts about a Trump presidency or a less than stellar performance at the podium against a far more experienced politician.

### 'Pray hard'

Neck-and-neck in the national polls, the Republican is nonetheless ahead in Iowa on 42.8 percent to 37.8 percent for Clinton, according to RealClearPolitics poll average. Supporters at Wednesday's rally at the Mid-America Center in a side room not the much larger auditorium—said he was their only choice on November 8 given how much they despise Clinton.

"You could have 15 AK47s at my head, and I would not vote for that evil, treasonous should-be-in-prison Clinton," said 51-year-old chef Cynthia McKinney from Bellevue, Nebraska. "Some of his facial expressions," she trailed off. "I don't know how I want to put it, he needs to stop doing that, I think that angers people, and it makes him not look so presidential."

But although Trump is the most nationally unpopular US presidential candidate in modern US history, Clinton is a close second. She polls badly on trustworthiness. Her campaign has been buffeted by scandal over Benghazi, her use of a private email server as secretary of state; and few Americans believe she cares about people like them.

Killion, the retired waitress, had simple words of advice for the Manhattan tycoon come October 9. "Pray hard," she said. "I think she gets under his skin. I think that prayer would protect him and he would do a good job for our country." —AFP

# BRAZILIAN ELECTIONS TOXIC POLITICS KILLINGS OVERSHADOW

**RIO DE JANEIRO:** The gunning down in broad daylight of a Rio city council candidate ahead of nationwide municipal elections is stoking fears that Brazil's already toxic politics are headed into dangerous new territory. The main headline from Sunday's polls is expected to be the hammering of the leftist Workers' Party, which many here blame for Brazil's punishing recession and sprawling corruption scandals.

Already reeling from the impeachment of former president Dilma Rousseff and her replacement by center-right rival Michel Temer, the once dominant Workers' Party looks set to lose a slew of local seats, including the mayor of Brazil's biggest city Sao Paulo. But analysts say that a recent spate of killings points to a darker political shift in Rio, the second biggest city in Latin America's leading economy, as police-linked militias muscle in.

Candidate Marcos Vieira de Souza, nicknamed Falcon, was murdered Monday while campaigning for the rightwing Progressive Party in Madureira, northern Rio, by masked shooters. His execution-style slaying remains unsolved but Brazilian analysts and media quickly linked it to militia activity. De Souza, who headed one of Rio's biggest and richest carnival samba schools, was also a police officer and had been cleared of militia-related charges back in 2011.

Another candidate for municipal government—Jose Ricardo Guimaraes, who headed a private security firm—was shot dead the previous day at a rally in Itaboraí, also in metropolitan Rio. They were among 15 candidates or politicians murdered in and around Rio over the last 10 months, according to police.

"We're seeing a series of murders in northern Rio suburbs that are a new phenomenon and everything points to a link with political

conflicts," Michel Misse, an expert in security at Rio Federal University, said.

### Militia 'taxes'?

While Brazil's bloody drugs gangs are well known, the militias have a far more shadowy presence. Comprised of former or rogue police officers, the militias operate like death squads against criminals and run protection rackets.

While their main activity has been in battling gangs, the militias have also long tried to extend their influence into the political sphere. Those efforts now appear to be evolving into a new strategy. Leading newspaper O Globo reported on Wednesday that Rio militias were seizing Sunday's elections as a way to expand business while influencing the vote.

Gangs have informed candidates that they must pay an "election tax" in order to campaign, with fees running from 15,000 to 120,000 reais (\$4,600 to \$37,000).

According to Globo's investigation, militias even deal with candidates concerning the distribution of future posts should a candidate win an election.

The militias have abandoned putting up their own candidates for election, a direct approach that previously ended in scandal and prosecutions, Globo quoted the head homicide detective for the Baixada Fluminense region of Rio as saying. "They have learned," the senior investigator, Giniton Lages, said. Instead, the militias "get close to the government and support it." —AFP

## LIMITED INTERNET ACCESS INHIBITING PRESS FREEDOM IN CUBA: NGO

**NEW YORK:** Costly, limited access to the internet in Cuba is impeding the country's progress toward press freedom, the Committee to Protect Journalists said in a report published Wednesday.

Most citizens cannot access the internet and authorities continue to "exert control over the media," said the New York-based NGO, which ranked Cuba tenth on its 2015 list of the world's most censored countries. "The internet is, perhaps, the biggest hurdle for journalists to becoming relevant, because most of their content is consumed outside the island," the organization said. "They must pay high prices for online access and find original ways to disseminate their work to a home audience that is largely offline."

Cuba has cautiously loosened its grip on the press, the CPJ said, noting that President Raul Castro told the population in 2010 "not to fear discrepancies and differences of opinions." "Cuba's media is opening, with journalists and bloggers finding more space to be critical and delve into issues ignored by the state-run press," according to the CPJ.

"However, a legal limbo over independent reporting, restricted and expensive access to the internet, and the threat of arbitrary detentions is slowing progress." The island nation's restoration of full diplomatic ties with the United States has made it difficult for Cuba to justify censoring the press as a form of protectionism, the CPJ said. —AFP

## INDIA'S MOST FLOOD-PRONE STATE AIDED BY NEW SATELLITE MAPPING

**BHUBANESWAR, India:** Every year India's northeastern state of Bihar is deluged by floods that submerge roads, destroy homes and wash away crops, leaving the disaster management authority struggling to monitor and assess the damage, and to distribute aid effectively. But new satellite mapping of flood-prone areas should transform disaster response by equipping authorities with near real-time information about inundated villages, officials said.

Bihar, which borders the Himalayan nation of Nepal, is India's most flood-prone state. More than 70 percent of its total geographical area is at risk of annual floods, which put lives at risk and lead to heavy financial losses. A major chal-

lenge for the Bihar state disaster management authority (BSDMA) has been mapping and monitoring flood-hit areas, according to the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), which works to promote development across the Hindu Kush Himalayas.

Since floods started in the state last month, more than 200 people have died and more than 300,000 have been forced from their homes, disaster officials said. ICOMOD has helped generate innovative flood mapping for 33 districts in Bihar and an online flood information system that is allowing faster response to a crisis, quicker damage assessment, and better risk management than with

conventional methods, said officials from ICIMOD, based in Kathmandu.

"Traditionally, field teams are organized and dispatched to flooded areas to map floods. This can be time consuming and operationally difficult during a flooding event," Shahriar M. Wahid, a senior ICIMOD hydrologist, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation via email. While "satellite-sourced flood maps alone cannot provide early warning to (the) at-risk population", he said, satellite data, in combination with flood simulations, can do this. If flash floods triggered by torrential rain occur in Nepal, Bihar's residents can expect to see inundations about eight hours later, according to data from the BSDMA.

**Floods are circulated**

Wahid said the new flood maps will be most useful for the distribution of relief, assessment of damages and to determine crop insurance payouts, among other benefits. The project uses satellite technology that penetrates cloud cover unlike optics-based satellite imagery. This is useful in the Himalayan region where monsoons bring thick clouds. Flood maps can be generated within five to six hours after raw satellite data is received. The floods are circulated to government officials and relief agencies through a satellite communication network. —Reuters



**CURUP, Indonesia:** Indonesian police escort suspects including Zainal (second right orange jacket) charged with gang-rape and murder after their trial at a court in Curup, Bengkulu province yesterday. —AFP

## INDONESIAN SENTENCED TO DEATH IN FATAL GANG-RAPE CASE

**CURUP, Indonesia:** The leader of an Indonesian gang who murdered and gang-raped a schoolgirl was sentenced to death yesterday, in a high-profile case that led to the introduction of tougher punishments for child sex offenders. Zainal was handed the death penalty at a court on western Sumatra island while four other men were sentenced to 20 years each over the case. The murder and gang-rape of the 14-year-old, who was attacked by a group of men and boys in April as she made her way back from school, shocked the country and sparked a national debate about a failure to tackle endemic sexual violence.

President Joko Widodo responded to growing anger about the case in May by introducing tough new punishments for child sex offenders, including

a maximum penalty of death, chemical castration and forcing convicted paedophiles to wear electronic monitoring devices. Following the discovery of the teenager's body tied up and naked in the woods, police arrested 13 people over the attack while one alleged perpetrator is still at large. Zainal, a 23-year-old who like many Indonesians goes by one name, was sentenced to death for premeditated murder, which was a crime already punishable by death before the new laws were introduced.

"This sentence was handed down because the defendant was the one who persuaded other defendants (to commit the crime)," presiding judge Heny Farida told the court in the town of Curup. The mother of the victim shouted in protest after the verdicts

were handed down, demanding all the defendants be sentenced to death. Asrorun Niam Sholeh, chairman of government-backed rights group the National Commission for Child Protection, welcomed the decision to hand down the death penalty and said it highlighted that child sex attacks were "an extraordinary crime".

The others involved in the case, who were all minors, have already been jailed with most receiving 10-year sentences. The attack captured national attention when reports of the incident went viral on social media, prompting tens of thousands to sign online petitions and sparking protests in the capital Jakarta. It has drawn comparisons with the fatal gang-rape of a student on a bus in Delhi in 2012, which sparked mass protests and led to an overhaul of India's rape laws. —AFP

## SIGNING PEACE DEAL, AFGHAN WARLORD CALLS FOR AN 'END TO CURRENT CRISIS'

**KABUL:** Afghan president Ashraf Ghani formalized a controversial accord with one of Afghanistan's most notorious warlords yesterday, a deal the government hopes will lead to more peace agreements. Surrounded by hundreds of Afghan officials, many former warlords and rivals themselves, Ghani signed a pact that opens the door to the militant faction of Hezb-i-Islami, led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, playing an active role in politics. Despite the rhetoric of unity, Hekmatyar was not present and addressed a gathering in Kabul in a recorded video message, appearing by himself to sign the document in a small room.

"With this agreement, I hope to put an end to the current crisis in the country," Hekmatyar said in his message. "I call on all sides to support this peace deal and I call on the opposition parties of the government to join the peace process and pursue their goals through peaceful means." A controversial figure from the insurgency against the Soviets in the 1980s and the civil wars of the 1990s, Hekmatyar has been designated a "global terrorist" by the United States, which has been leading an international military mission in Afghanistan for the past 15 years.

"We hope that the day comes when foreign interference has ended, foreign troops have departed fully from Afghanistan, and peace has been achieved," Hekmatyar said. Hekmatyar, who served as prime minister in the 1990s, before the rise to power of the Taliban, has long been known as close to neighboring Pakistan.

His faction of Hezb-i-Islami has played a relatively small role in the current conflict, in which the Taliban have a leading role in battling the Western-backed government in Kabul. But government officials hope the accord will be a first step toward eventually making similar peace deals with the Taliban and other groups.

"This is a chance for the Taliban and other militant groups to show what their decision is: To be with people and join the respected caravan of peace, like Hezb-i-Islami, or confront the people and continue the bloodshed," Ghani said. Peace talks with the Taliban, the largest insurgent group, have yet to get off the ground, but both sides have said they are open to the idea.

Human rights groups as well as many Afghans expressed dismay that Hekmatyar is unlikely to face any punishment for his alleged role in past abuses, including firing rockets into civilian areas during a civil war in an attack that killed and injured thousands of residents. Hekmatyar's return "will compound the culture of impunity", said Human Rights Watch researcher Patricia Gossman, who called it an "affront" to victims of abuses when the initial deal was struck last week. —Reuters



**NEW DELHI:** In this handout photograph released yesterday, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (fourth left) chairs a Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) meeting in New Delhi over alleged Pakistani ceasefire violations at the Line of Control in the disputed Kashmir region jointly administered by India and Pakistan. —AFP

# PAKISTAN FURY AFTER INDIA LAUNCHES KASHMIR STRIKES

## RISK OF ESCALATION BETWEEN NUCLEAR-ARMED NEIGHBORS

**NEW DELHI:** Indian commandos carried out a series of lightning strikes yesterday along the de facto border with Pakistan in Kashmir, provoking furious charges of “naked aggression” from its nuclear-armed neighbor. Amid anger in India over a recent deadly assault on one of its army bases in Kashmir, officials said troops had conducted “surgical strikes” several kilometers inside the Pakistan-controlled side of the disputed territory to prevent attacks being planned on major Indian cities. The strikes aimed at “neutralizing the terrorists” had caused “multiple casualties”, according to the Indian officials.

Pakistan said two of its soldiers had been killed and nine more wounded in what it described as small arms fire but dismissed the claims of surgical strikes as an “illusion” designed to whip up “media hype”. Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh, the director-general of military operations, announced news of the strikes in New Delhi which sent shares on the Indian stock market sliding nearly two percent. “Some

terrorist teams had positioned themselves at launchpads along the Line of Control,” Singh told reporters, describing the intelligence information as “very specific and credible”.

“The Indian army conducted surgical strikes last night at these launchpads. Significant casualties have been caused to these terrorists and those who are trying to support them. “The operations aimed at neutralizing the terrorists have since ceased.” Singh said the decision to launch the strikes had been taken after the military determined the launchpads had been set up with “an aim to carry out infiltration and terrorist strikes in Jammu and Kashmir and various other metros in our country.” A senior government source said commandos flown in by helicopter carried out the strikes some way across the unofficial border known as the Line of Control (LoC).

“The ops started sometime after midnight and ended early morning. They were conducted two-three kilometers across the LoC,” the source told AFP on condition of

anonymity. “Seven launchpads were targeted. The defence minister himself monitored the ops and the Indian side did not suffer any casualties.”

### ‘Naked aggression’

The Pakistani military however played down the scale of the strikes. “There has been no surgical strike by India, instead there had been cross border fire initiated and conducted by India,” it said in a statement. “As per rules of engagement same was strongly and befittingly responded by Pakistani troops.” In a statement from his office, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif “strongly condemned the unprovoked and naked aggression of Indian forces”. Defense Minister Khawaja Asif said two Pakistani soldiers killed and nine wounded by what he characterized as “small weapon fire”. Tensions between the two arch rivals have been boiling since the Indian government accused Pakistan-based militants of launching an assault on an army base in Kashmir earlier this month that killed 18 soldiers. —AFP

## KASHMIR: A HISTORY OF DIVISION AND DISPUTE

**NEW DELHI:** A timeline of events in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, as tensions between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan escalate over the territory:

### 1947-1949: Partition

The partition of the South Asian subcontinent in August 1947 upon independence from British colonial rule leads to the foundation of the two nations of India, which has a Hindu majority, and Muslim-majority Pakistan. In December India and Pakistan go to war over the Muslim-majority state of Kashmir, whose Hindu ruler decides to join secular India rather than Muslim Pakistan. The war ends with the region divided between India and Pakistan along the Line of Control (LoC), which neither side agrees is the official border.

### 1965: Second India-Pakistan war

In September 1965 a full-scale India-Pakistan war over Kashmir ends inconclusively after a ceasefire brokered by the Soviet Union. Tensions rise again in December 1989 when a Muslim uprising breaks out against Indian rule in Indian Kashmir, inflaming tensions with Pakistan. New Delhi imposes direct rule. From the mid-1990s the rebels are joined by foreign jihadists, mainly Arabs, Afghans and Pakistanis.

In a sign of the high stakes, in 1998 both India and Pakistan carry out tests of nuclear weapons, which both states now possess. Then in April 1999 infiltrators from Pakistan raid Indian Kashmir’s Kargil sector, sparking a six-week conflict, leading to the deaths of 1,000 combatants on both

sides. The battle ends under US pressure.

### 2001-2002: Renewed tensions

A new series of attacks in 2001 and 2002 lead to a new mobilization of Indian and Pakistani troops at the de-facto border. In November 2003 Pakistan declares a unilateral ceasefire along the Line of Control, leading to an inconclusive peace process the following year.

### 2006-2008: “Terrorism”

In July 2006 bomb blasts on commuter trains kill 174 people in India’s financial capital of Mumbai. Police blame pro-Pakistan militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Then, in November 2008 a devastating attack by Islamic militants on Mumbai that leaves 166 people dead causes a new crisis in India-Pakistan relations.

### 2016: New upsurge in violence

New outbursts of violence in Indian Kashmir have on several occasions hindered the fragile peace process. On September 18, 2016, the deadly assault on an army base in Kashmir near to the border kills 18 soldiers, in what is the worst rebel attack in the region for 15 years. On September 27, India pulls out of a key regional summit planned for Pakistan in November, after accusing Pakistan-based militants of the Jaish-e-Mohammad group of launching the attack. Yesterday Indian commandos carry out a series of lightning strikes along the border with Pakistan in Kashmir, provoking furious charges of “naked aggression” from Pakistan. —AFP

## FIVE QUESTIONS ON INDIA’S FACE OFF WITH PAKISTAN IN KASHMIR

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan responded with fury yesterday after India said it had carried out “surgical strikes” along the Line of Control dividing the disputed territory of Kashmir, as tensions soar between the rival nuclear powers. Here are five things to know about the conflict.

### Why is Kashmir disputed?

Muslim-majority Kashmir has been divided between Pakistan and Hindi-majority India since the end of British colonial rule in 1947 — but both claim it in full and two of their three wars have been fought over it. Rebel groups are fighting for independence of the Indian-administered portion of the region or its merger with Pakistan. Besides the thorny question of religion, the conflict is exacerbated by Kashmir’s status as a regional water tower: the mountainous area feeds the Indus river essential for agriculture in both countries. An insurgency broke out in 1989 and tens of thousands of people have died since, most of them civilians.

### Why are tensions flaring now?

Ceasefire violations along the Line of Control are not uncommon. But the killing in July of a popular young rebel leader in a gun battle with Indian soldiers has led to the worst unrest since 2010 on the Indian side. Security experts and India’s government accuse Pakistan of sending militants across the line to further destabilize the territory. On September 18, 18 soldiers were killed in a raid on an Indian army base near the town of Uri. It was the worst such attack in more than a decade and tensions soared—but while India swiftly blamed a Pakistani militant group, Islamabad denied any role.

### Is Kashmir an isolated issue?

No. Pakistan’s Balochistan province has been hit by sectarian violence and a years-long separatist insurgency which the Pakistani military has repeatedly claimed is “terrorism” promoted by hostile states such as India. Pakistan, on the other hand, is widely believed to carry out asymmetric warfare by using militant proxies to launch assaults in India, such as the Mumbai attack in 2008.

In Afghanistan the rivalry spills out into the international arena. India is one of Afghanistan’s biggest international donors and has been a key supporter of the Afghan government. Pakistan, the historic backer of the Taliban, has long been accused of supporting insurgents in the country. Analysts point to the threat of a “proxy war” in Afghanistan between India and Pakistan.

### What does the rest of the world think?

Kashmir, caught between two nuclear powers, is often described as one of the world’s biggest flashpoints. But to many it remains a bilateral issue—unable to ignite global attention on the level of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict despite the parallels. “In Kashmir, people are fueled by local grievances—namely, the brutalities inflicted on them by Indian security forces,” says analyst Michael Kugelman at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington.

“They don’t have much interest in the more global objectives of international terror groups like Al-Qaeda and ISIS,” he says, citing failed efforts by Al-Qaeda’s South Asia affiliate to recruit Kashmiris. And, while Muslims suffering abuses at the hands of Hindu security forces could make for a compelling Islamist narrative, Kugelman also argues there is little evidence jihadists use the conflict as a recruiting tool elsewhere.

### What happens next?

Pakistan and India have been here before, and likely will again—but for now, despite hype in the media and online, both must act with restraint, analysts say. Pakistani defense analyst Shaukat Qadir, a retired army brigadier, said he doubts hostilities will go much further. “Actually India knows very well that if it did something, Pakistan would respond in some way, and gradually these incidents would turn into an escalation and nobody would be able to control it,” he says. —AFP



## CHINA ARMED FORCES WARN JAPAN AGAINST SOUTH CHINA SEA PATROLS

**BEIJING:** Japan is "playing with fire" with plans to step up activity in the contested South China Sea through joint training patrols with the United States, China's Defense Ministry said yesterday, warning it would not sit watching from the sidelines. China claims virtually the entire South China Sea and has repeatedly denounced what it views as interference there by the United States and its ally, Japan. Japan is strengthening its ties in the region, in par-

particular with the Philippines and Vietnam, which contest China's claims to parts of the sea, and it aims to help build the capacity of coastal states in the busy waterway, its defense minister said this month during a visit to Washington.

Chinese Defense Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun, asked about Japan's plans, said it had constantly been trying to stir things up in the South China Sea for its own purposes. "We must solemnly tell

Japan this is a miscalculation. If Japan wants to have joint patrols or drills in waters under Chinese jurisdiction this really is playing with fire," Yang told a monthly news briefing.

"China's military will not sit idly by," he added, without elaborating. Ties between Asia's two largest economies have long been overshadowed by arguments over their painful wartime history and a territorial spat in the East China Sea, among oth-

er issues. Ships carrying about \$5 trillion in trade pass through the South China Sea every year.

Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan also have claims in the sea, which is also believed to be rich in energy resources and fish stocks. In July, an arbitration court in the Hague said China's claims to the waterway were invalid, after a case was brought by the Philippines. China has refused to recognize the ruling. — Reuters

## 33 MISSING AFTER CHINA LANDSLIDES

**BEIJING:** At least 33 people are missing a day after landslides swept through two east China villages, state media reported yesterday, as rescuers combed through rubble for survivors. Heavy wind and rains brought by Typhoon Megi triggered the landslides around 5:30pm (0930 GMT) Wednesday, which struck the villages of Sucun and Baofeng in eastern Zhejiang province, the official Xinhua news agency reported. Thirteen people had been rescued by early yesterday and 33 remain missing, it said. Video footage on local media showed torrents of water and rock pouring down a mountain towards houses in the valley below while terrified onlookers scream. Twenty houses were destroyed and 17 flooded by roughly 400,000 cubic meters of debris, Xinhua cited a county official saying.

The government has relocated almost 1,500 residents and



**LISHUI, ZHEJIANG, China:** Chinese rescuers search for survivors at a landslide area in the village of Sucun in Suichang county, in China's Zhejiang province yesterday.

dispatched 1,200 rescuers to the scene with pumps and excavators, but roaring floodwaters have hampered their efforts, it said, adding that smaller landslides are "likely" to be triggered. "Our work now is to save people, survivors above all, and at the same time prevent further secondary disasters occurring," the Suichang County Armed Forces chief said on state broadcaster CCTV. Heavy rains poured on rescue workers in Sucun village yesterday, a day after Megi made landfall with winds of around 120 kilometers (75 miles) an hour.

The typhoon has dumped more than 30 centimeters (around 12 inches) of precipitation in several areas and killed at least one person in Fujian, who died after a flash flood tore through his home, according to local media reports. Images on the state broadcaster showed parked cars on the streets of the coastal city of Xiamen submerged up to their windshields in floodwater. The typhoon had smashed into Taiwan earlier in the week, wreaking a trail of destruction and killing seven as it raked across the island. — AFP



**LISHUI, ZHEJIANG, China:** This aerial photo taken yesterday shows a view of a landslide area in the village of Sucun in Suichang county. — AFP photos



**BEIJING:** Dutch artist Daan Roosegaarde, right, walks by his Smog Free Tower on display at D-751art district in Beijing, yesterday. — AP

## BEIJING'S LATEST ANSWER TO POLLUTION: THE SMOG FREE TOWER

'WE SHOULDN'T WAIT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO TELL US WHAT TO DO'

**BEIJING:** In a city where smog routinely blankets the streets, a Dutch artist has offered an eccentric solution: a 7-meter (23-foot) metal structure that takes in smog and expels cleaner air. Daan Roosegaarde's Smog Free Tower opened yesterday on a small, grassy lot in Beijing's famed 798 arts district. Comprised of 45 silver plates resembling partially open window blinds, the tower contains an air-purifying machine that runs continuously with a low hum. "That is not noise!" Roosegaarde told a visitor standing next to the tower. "That is the beautiful sound of clean air moving toward you!"

There's hardly a more scarce resource than clean air in Beijing on a high-pollution day, particularly in wintertime when the region's coal-fired electrical plants are running at full capacity. The levels of dust and harmful particles in Beijing's air are among the highest in the world. Government researchers have linked the pollution to higher rates of lung cancer and on particularly bad days, schools keep children inside during playtimes and many pedestrians don masks designed for hospitals or construction zones.

Roosegaarde, whose projects focus on connecting people with nature and energy, came up with the idea for the tower after a visit to Beijing three years

ago during which he saw the view outside his window blocked by the thick gray haze.

"I couldn't even see the next street," he said. "That image changed me." At his studio in the Netherlands, Roosegaarde and a team of designers began working on a project that would respond to Beijing's pollution and highlight the benefits of fighting it, in however limited a way. They raised more than \$120,000 online to help pay for the tower by selling metal rings with a clear cube that includes a bit of black carbon from smog.

The tower began running in Beijing one week ahead of its formal unveiling. The tower will also be shown in other Chinese cities, including the central city of Hebei and the southern commercial center of Shenzhen.

Roosegaarde wants to eventually build more towers, perhaps with funding from the Chinese government, which has publicly made reducing pollution a priority. He also said he hopes the tower will inspire creative thinking and innovation among people in China and other countries that are grappling with heavy pollution. He's planning to meet with inventors of projects like a bicycle that purifies air as it is pedaled.

"We shouldn't wait for the government to tell us what to do," he said. "I

want to start a movement, a community, which does not accept pollution anymore. We should use the energy of creative thinking to create cities where ultimately in 10-15 years, these beauties are not necessary anymore."

The tower was unveiled on a relatively good day by Beijing standards, with a bright sky and a cool early fall breeze. Standing next to dignitaries with red roses pinned to their lapels, Roosegaarde used a remote control to raise part of the tower's panels into the air to show the machine inside. Whether the air was actually cleaner was hard to say. An unscientific test using a handheld monitoring device throughout the day showed the air next to the tower was slightly cleaner than further away.

The tower did draw visitors walking through the district who stopped to stare at it and take pictures. Ma Zhongqing, an information technology worker, said she was reminded of a larger version of the air purifiers many Beijing residents keep running in their homes during winter. Ma and others were cautiously optimistic that it would make a difference, albeit a small one.

"It being exhibited here makes people feel that they need to pay attention to this kind of thing," Ma said. "But a lot of problems need to be solved while it's being put into use." — AP

# Lifestyle

Friday Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

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

A model presents a creation for Manish Arora during the 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show, yesterday in Paris.—AFP

**The son of Baghdad who fathered Iraqi Frankenstein**

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## How can we deal with acne scars?



Going through ups and downs with life in general can eventually take a toll on your skin, whether you are stressed out over work or with your personal life, stress, along with many other factors can affect your skin drastically. Stress is one of the leading reasons for mental illnesses, lack of sleep, short term memory and anger issues. Many people also go through severe changes with their skin, they start noticing random rashes, red spots as well as acne. Sometimes this cannot be only cured or treated medically, but you also need to figure out what is causing you this stress or tension.

This all falls into place with how, for example, my lifestyle is. With all the traveling, stress, weather changes and just in general fast lifestyle, sometimes I start breaking out, and of course it always happens right before a photo shoot or attending an event. It can sometimes be very annoying to deal with such random changes because I guess every girl's first reaction is to cover it up with makeup, and sometimes no amount of makeup will help you. So, how come we get these random outbreak and how can we deal with acne scars? The best answer is to always go natural! Here are a few home recipes that you can try out at home to help your skin get that perfect glow and get rid off those random outbreaks and signs of exhaustion!

### 1. Apple cider vinegar

Apple cider vinegar is a powerhouse when it comes to acting as an acne remedy. Why? It kills off the bacteria that may be causing all the trouble in the first place. It also becomes alkaline, and balances the pH of your skin, which in turn makes it harder for bacteria to thrive.

To top it off it's an astringent, like lemon juice, and will help dry up excess oil. Keeping that in mind, don't overdo and dry out your skin too much. This could cause the sebaceous glands overproduce to compensate, therefore triggering an outbreak.

### 2. Papaya

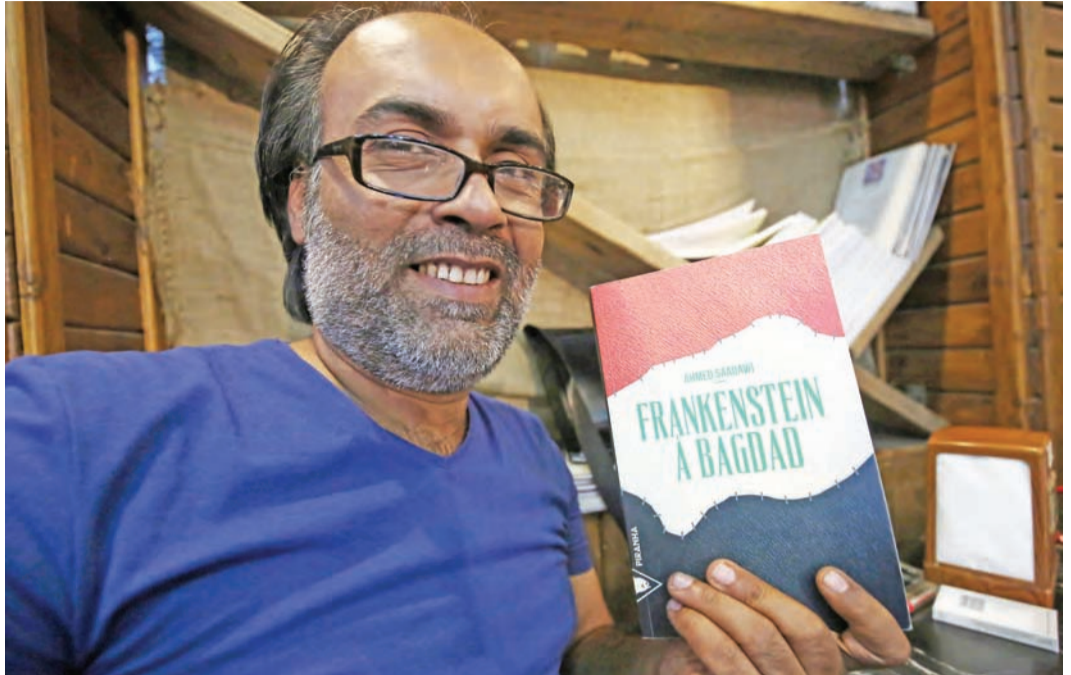
Papaya is an essential ingredient in a lot of beauty products, it also smells good and it's perfect for all those random pimples! Using raw papaya gets rid of all the acne and dead skin leaving it clean and smooth. All you need to do is mash up some papaya till you have enough to apply on your face. Leave it on for 15 to 20 minutes, and then rinse. Your skin tends to become a bit dry after this so you might want to apply a moisturizer right after.

### 3. Orange paste

Oranges have always been known to be rejuvenating and acne that is caused by bacteria and extra oil or dead skin cells clogging up pores may improve with the use of an orange peel face mask. What you need to do is grind the orange peels in a blender and add a few drops of water to make a paste. Apply for 20-30 minutes and rinse.

At the end of the day, you always have to find what's best for your skin type and of course double check on what you have allergies from, however, most of the home remedies are healthy and good for your skin, because you are never adding any hardcore chemicals nor damaging your skin. Always read online and educate yourself on what is appropriate for you and always, always find new ways to release stress, either by working out, meditation, whatever it is, never shut down or draw negative energy towards you because it will only harm you.

Iraqi writer, Ahmed Saadawi poses with his book titled in French "Frankenstein a Bagdad" (Frankenstein in Baghdad) in the capital Baghdad. — AFP photos



## The son of Baghdad who fathered Iraqi Frankenstein

'The shesma is not an imaginary fantasy creature, the shesma is us'

When Ahmed Saadawi finished writing "Frankenstein in Baghdad", a dark fantasy about the war that tore Iraq apart a decade ago, he thought his novel dealt with the past. But just like the monster Mary Shelley first dreamt up exactly 200 years ago, Saadawi's hero then took on a life of its own. A fresh wave of violence in Iraq and the region has given renewed relevance to the novel, which was published in 2013, as the Arab Spring gave way to chaos and before a third of Saadawi's native Iraq fell to ultra-violent jihadists.

Saadawi won the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in 2014 and became one of the new stars of the regional literary world. "Frankenstein in Baghdad" was released in Italian earlier this year, a French translation hit bookshops this month and the English is due early next year. In the novel, Hadi Al-Attag, a rag-and-bone man from the old Baghdad neighborhood of Bataween, sews together body parts scattered by bombings to form a full body. A displaced soul then enters the figure. Hadi calls it the "shesma"—Iraqi dialect that translates as "whatsitsname". The creature starts killing, first to avenge bombing victims but then more randomly to get fresh parts to replace its own decomposing flesh.

### 'The shesma is us'

"The shesma is not an imaginary fantasy creature, the shesma is us," Saadawi told AFP. "He thinks he is doing something good but he is participating in killing and destruction," he said. "All of us have done this in one way or another, by welcoming, endorsing or not objecting to crimes." The story begins in the spring of 2005 and ends a year later on the eve of the 2006 bomb attack on a Shiite shrine in the city of Samarra that ignited two years of sectarian-driven bloodletting.

Saadawi's book—which includes earthy and often hilarious descriptions of Bataween, a once beautiful Jewish neighborhood now best known for prostitution and crime—has been something of a phenomenon on the Iraq literary scene. The author, a genial character with salt-and-pepper stubble and a soaring forehead framing sparkling bespectacled eyes, is easily found at one of his favorite cafes and very accessible.

"Some friends have removed me from Facebook, some have made me a god, others sent me pictures of themselves burning my book," Saadawi said, waving a copy of "Frankenstein in Baghdad".

The 43-year-old doesn't seem to entirely dislike the attention. Saadawi, who is from a family with no artistic pedigree and grew up in the humble neighborhood of Sadr City, learned to read and write by accompanying his mother to literacy classes.

### Hollywood deal in offing

"That got me writing earlier than other kids... By the time I was seven, I was writing many stories about animals," he said. "I would read them to my friends and they would listen to me, it made me feel famous. So at that time I already had this idea that fiction was part of real life." Publishing giant Penguin is releasing "Frankenstein" in the United States soon and a deal for a Hollywood adaptation is in the works.

But being a novelist in Baghdad, even a successful one, does not pay the rent and Saadawi works as a journalist and documentary maker to make ends meet and finance the next novel. Shelley invented Frankenstein during a holiday spent trapped indoors in 1816, which became known as "the year without a summer" because the ash from the eruption in Indonesia of Mount Tambora plunged much of the world into a long volcanic winter.

Saadawi, however, bases his writing on a thorough knowledge of the street, its people and the Baghdadi slang they speak that shows at every turn of the page. "Not every novelist is (Ernest) Hemingway, with extremely diverse life experiences," he said of the American author he cites as a major influence. "The novelist should have the journalist's aptitude to look for stories first, venture into reality to capture details," he said.

### Inspired by grim reality

The idea for his book is rooted in what has been Iraq's grim reality for years. Saadawi recounted two specific incidents that shocked him and inspired him to write "Frankenstein in Baghdad". One was in the city of Baquba when Al-Qaeda in Iraq, the previous incarnation of what is now the Islamic State group, kidnapped a man, killed him and chopped his body into pieces. "They dropped each piece in a different part of Baquba... When the city woke up, each neighborhood saw a different body part.

"They made the whole city see the body simultaneously," he said. "What criminal genius!" The other moment that stuck with him was also at the height of the civil war that raged a decade ago when hospitals were overwhelmed by the sheer volume of bodies being brought in after bombings. The fridges were overflowing and bodies simply lined up in corridors. Saadawi told of how one exhausted forensic team "lost their humanity". "One day someone came asking about his brother... they told him that all the bodies had already been collected by their families, except for these pieces," he said. "There were mismatched, unclaimed... body parts and they told him to assemble a man from them and take it away." — AFP

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**The novelist should have the journalist's aptitude to look for stories first, venture into reality to capture details.**



Owen Wilson, a cast member in "Masterminds," poses at the premiere of the film at the TCL Chinese Theatre on Monday in Los Angeles. — AP

## 'Masterminds' brings botched 'Hillbilly Heist' to cinema

If the bandits in crime caper "Masterminds" seem too stupid to be real, don't blame the scriptwriters—this outlandish comedy-of-errors is almost entirely true. It is a classic tale of robbery gone wrong, but Jared Hess' latest movie is more likely to be compared to "The Keystone Cops" than "Reservoir Dogs" when it hits US theaters today. "Masterminds" stars Zach Galifianakis and Kristen Wiig in the story of the \$17.3 million so-called Loomis Fargo Robbery, uncharitably nicknamed the "Hillbilly Heist" due to the southern, rural backgrounds of the main players. "From the get-go, it seemed so crazy that they had stolen all this money but then they got caught because they were so ridiculous in how they were spending it," Hess told AFP.

"They made so many bad decisions it just seemed like it would make an outrageous comedy." The film follows the misadventures of anti-hero David Ghatt, played by Galifianakis, as he pulls off the third-largest robbery in US history on October 4, 1997. The trouble begins when Ghatt, a trusted armored-truck driver for Loomis Fargo, falls for security guard Kelly Campbell (Wiig). After she quits her job, Campbell, egged on by local petty thief Steve Chambers (Owen Wilson), persuades Ghatt to clean out the company's vault in Charlotte, North Carolina.

### Boring life

"He was so bored with his life and just wanted adventure," said Hess, whose previous movies include 2004's "Napolean Dynamite" and "Nacho Libre" in 2006. "He was into reading Tom Clancy novels, watching 'James Bond' movies. He signed up to work at Loomis Fargo thinking that was gonna be a fun life and it turned out to be very boring. "He and Kelly Campbell would always talk about what they would do with all this money and she eventually manipulated him and convinced him to do it." After stuffing a van with \$17.3 million of stolen cash, Ghatt delivers the haul to Chambers' gang and flees to Mexico, hoping Campbell will eventually follow him, while the FBI hunts for the culprits.

The case—which eventually led to Ghatt being jailed—featured on TV shows like "America's Most Wanted" as a textbook example of how not to go about a major heist. Hosts would gleefully point to each of the errors the would-be thieves made, most notably Ghatt leaving behind vital evidence after removing video tape from all but one security camera. "The original plan was to steal the money and then lay low for nine months, and then the FBI has to move on to other things—it becomes a cold case," says Hess. "But they couldn't stop themselves." Chambers and his wife Michelle (Mary Elizabeth Ellis) buy a mansion with their ill-gotten gains, and put up cash in small bills for a BMW Z3 sports car.

### 'He's a sweetheart'

Michelle raised further suspicion by taking wads of notes to the bank and asking openly how much cash she would be able to deposit before arousing suspicion. Eventually the couple dispatched overzealous hitman Mike McKinney (Jason Sudeikis) to Mexico to kill Ghatt—leading to another farcical turn of events. When Ghatt discovers the betrayal he returns to North Carolina on a mission to rescue his true love and expose Chambers as the heist's real mastermind. "He's such a sweetheart of a person, also a really smart guy with a deep sense of humor about all the mistakes he did along the way," Hess says of Ghatt, a consultant on the film. — AP

# Brad Pitt skips film premiere to focus on 'family situation'

A producer says "we all respect his privacy" as Brad Pitt skipped his first public appearance after last week's split with Angelina Jolie Pitt. He didn't attend the premiere of Terrence Malick's new documentary Wednesday night as scheduled. Pitt, who narrates "Voyage of Time: The IMAX Experience," said in a statement Wednesday that he's grateful to have been part of the project, but is "currently focused on my family situation and don't want to distract attention away from this extraordinary film."

Producer Sophokles Tasioulis said outside the California Science Center IMAX Theatre that he understood Pitt's absence. "Right now, he's in a very difficult situation personally. And we want people to come here for the movie, not for what is going on behind the scenes in Brad's personal life," Tasioulis said. "So I think it was a good decision by him. And we all respect his privacy." Pitt is also credited as producer on the film. Malick directed him in the Oscar-nominated 2011 family drama "Tree of Life" and producer Sarah Green said the



In this file photo, actor Brad Pitt attends the premiere of "The Big Short" in New York. — AP

two are "great friends." Tasioulis said producers had not been in direct contact with Pitt for more than two weeks.

"We last spoke to him when he was still in France. Because the 90-minute (version of "Voyage of Time") premiered in Venice, so it was like a one hour hop over from the south of France to Venice. (We asked) whether he would like to come or not,"

Tasioulis said. "And he wanted to focus on his family. So he didn't come there as well." Pitt has yet to file a response in the divorce case. Jolie Pitt cited irreconcilable differences in her Sept 20 filing to end their two-year marriage, and she is seeking sole custody of the couple's six children.

The FBI says it's continuing to evaluate whether to investigate Pitt's reported involvement in a fight aboard a private jet carrying his family on Sept 14. The incident led to allegations that Pitt was abusive to his 15-year-old son, and several media outlets have also reported the actor is under investigation by a child welfare agency. The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services will not say whether it is investigating the incident. Jolie Pitt's divorce filing lists the day after the flight as when the couple separated. Her lawyer said the actress decided to divorce "for the health of the family." Pitt's next film after "Voyage of Time" is Robert Zemeckis' World War II drama "Allied," set for release in November. — AP

## A legendary singer, into the music once again

When Van Morrison's fiercest critic likes his work it's easy to tell. There's an audible murmur of approval, and it comes from the man himself. It's the sound Morrison makes when he's into the music. He does it a few bars into "Let It Rhyme," the opener to "Keep Me Singing" - an early hint that this might be his best album since "The Healing Game" nearly two decades ago. With playful references to past lyrics, nods to heroes like Sam Cooke and Chet Baker, and heartfelt singing throughout, Morrison harkens back to the gentle,

wistful spirit that made him Hollywood's go-to guy for movie soundtracks.

He's in a better mood than on other recent albums, and it's easy to imagine songs like "Every Time I See a River," written with lyricist Don Black, or "In Tiburon," a name-dropping homage to the San Francisco Bay, playing as credits roll. Morrison, who just turned 71, has penned good songs in recent years, but no album has approached the bursts of sustained brilliance that established him as one of the world's great songwriters. And this one doesn't soar to the heights

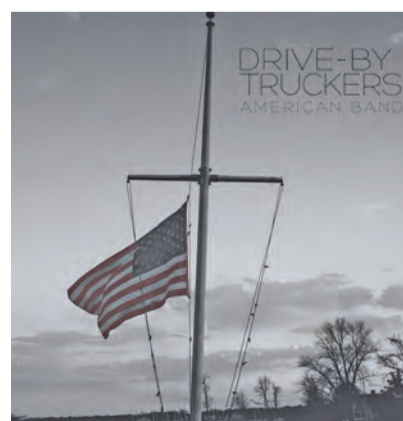


of "Moondance," "Astral Weeks" or "Into the Music." But an older, less audacious Morrison can still soothe the soul when he is into the music - and he won't be the only one murmuring his approval this time. — AP

## Review: Sober mood dominates new Drive-By Truckers album

The Drive-By Truckers are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year in a grave mood. The cover art of an American flag at half-staff is a tip-off. The liberal-leaning Southern rockers who have long struggled to both celebrate their roots and recognize its bitter past have delivered a sober new album with a withering view of today's South. The often-gloomy but vitally important "American Band" sees the Truckers weigh in strongly on such issues as police shootings, the National Rifle Association, depression, school massacres, lying CEOs and even progress.

"Are you now or have you ever been in cahoots with the notion that people can change?" co-singer and co-guitarist Mike Cooley asks in the nihilistic "Once They



Banned Imagine." His songwriting and singing partner, Patterson Hood, is similarly glum on another song: "Clouds are

forming in this state of mind." Previous Truckers albums have addressed economic struggles and race, but mostly using narrative devices.

This time, the gloves are off. The searing "What It Means" was influenced by the killing of Trayvon Martin - and Hood is in a scolding mood: "If you say it wasn't racial when they shot him in his tracks, well I guess it means that you ain't black," he sings. There's precious little honky-tonk fun here.

The band, known for its finely etched portraits celebrating Southern rascals and eccentrics, seems to have simply run out of patience. "Despite our best intentions, it pains me to report/ we keep swinging for the fences, coming up a little short," Hood sings on "Ever South." — AP



Women sell loincloths imported from Asia in a market in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.



A man checks a loincloth in a production line at the Uniwax factory in Abidjan. — AFP photos

# African wax prints tackle rivals for place in the sun

In a bustling market in Abidjan, women browse through a bewildering array of intricately patterned wax-print fabrics, each of which has a unique and sometimes quirky name. "Eye of my rival" is one which has an eye-like motif, while another is known as "capable husband". Another bale of this brightly coloured fabric is labeled "jealousy".

Each print has a name and comes in different colors, so you could have a "capable husband" in red, green or a white and the same for "Eye of my rival". Others have longer, more conversational names: "If you leave, so will I" or "If you divorce, I won't eat sand". Known as a "pagne", this strip of printed cotton cloth can be worn in a number of different ways, tailored into a garment or used to make any type of fashion accessory or household item.

The name often reflects a key element in the pattern and those attached to the most popular styles often spread quickly as rumors and jokes around Adjame market in Ivory Coast's economic capital. "We don't know where they come from," chuckles Didi Sangare, a market trader who has

been selling fabric for 15 years. "From saleswomen, from the clients, people give them names... and sometimes they stick," she says. "They come and they go. When there's a successful soap opera or some political event, the pagne that appears at the same time might get its name."

### 'We can do everything!'

One African pagne printed with cars is named "Renato's car" after a heartthrob in a Latin American soap, while other bales of fabric have been named after heroines of popular television series. Others reflect political events, with one named "Guei's Broom" for the general who briefly headed a military junta after leading a coup in December 1999. Similar to Indonesia's celebrated batiks, these textiles are printed with motifs which reflect African themes. "Pagne is beautiful, pagne is good," says Korotoum Ouattara, a 28-year-old trader. "Shirts, trousers, dresses-clothes, but also bags, shoes, curtains, sheets, tablecloths," she says. "We can do everything!" Despite her enthusiasm, the fabric is not fire-proof with regulations advising against its use for anything other than clothes. And the rule is even wryly reflected in the name of one of the cheaper bolts of fabric: "Watch Out for Fire."

### Dutch origins

Once a luxury item imported from The Netherlands, this wax-printed fabric today varies hugely in quality and the finesse of its designs. Progress in African manufacturing and printing methods has sparked a production boom, spawning a broader range of themes, pushing down prices for customers-and making some pagnes readily affordable.

Since the turn of the century, there has been strong competition from Asia. At Adjame market, as elsewhere in Africa, cloth imported from China and Thailand is on sale. For the poorest customers, foreign products which cost between 2,000 and 6,000 CFA francs (\$3.40-\$10/3-9 euros) for six meters (yards) of fabric are more attainable than cloth from major local brands, which often sell for more than \$25. "Our main competitors are counterfeiting and fraud," says Jean-Louis Menudier, who heads Uniwax, the Ivorian subsidiary of Dutch group Vlisco and a top west African manufacturer of print fabrics.



A man folds loincloths in a production line at the Uniwax factory.



An employee cuts loincloths in a production line at the Uniwax factory.



Picture shows patterns of loincloths presented at the Uniwax factory.

"The products of our rivals are made in Asia, mostly in China. "They almost exclusively reach the African continent through fraud-contraband and tax evasion-and much of the material is forgery using our designs."

### 'A strategy of creativity'

Menudier estimates that more than 90 percent of fabrics on the market are counterfeit or entered the country fraudulently. "This posed an enormous threat to our activity between 2004 and 2006. We adopted a strategy of creativity, marketing, distribution and production that

enables us to fight these phenomena effectively," he says. "We create faster than imitators can copy," he adds, inspired perhaps by a print called "I run faster than my rival".

The strategy has paid off. Uniwax is thriving with 750 employees and a net profit of \$7 million in 2015 — a profit margin of 11 percent-on revenues of \$62 million. At the start of September, the company announced plans to raise \$17 million on the stock market to finance an investment scheme that should enable it to increase production by 70 percent over five years. — AFP



Picture shows a schoolboy holding a paper showing signs of alphabets for deaf during study in the class at an elementary school at Bengkala village in Singaraja regency on Bali island.



Deaf people performing a traditional dance. — AFP photos



Deaf people preparing to perform a traditional dance at Bengkala vilage in Singaraja regency on Bali island.



Deaf people preparing to perform a traditional dance.



A teacher teaching a deaf schoolboy during study in the class at an elementary school.

## In Bali's deaf village, silence is golden

**B**alinese women dressed in gold bodices dance to rhythmic drumming while waving fans as men in purple outfits sit cross legged around them, jiggling their arms and chanting. It appears to be just another show on the Indonesian resort island, known for its ancient culture and rituals, but there is a key difference—the dancers are all deaf and cannot hear the beat. They perform the moves, learnt over months of hard training, from memory. The village of Bengkala has been home to an unusually large number of deaf people for generations, and nowadays about 40 out of its approximately 3000 residents have severe hearing loss.

But unlike in other parts of Indonesia where they could face mistreatment, local people have taken the deaf residents to their hearts. In many ways, life in the small hamlet has come to revolve around them. As well as the dance project, a unique sign language called Kata Kolok has been developed in the isolated village which has been mastered by those with hearing impairment, as well as many of those who can hear, prompting interest from scientists around the world.

In addition, deaf villagers are trained in skills such as making handicrafts that can be sold in the heaving tourist resorts of the island, and they work side by side with other villagers in the rice fields. "Human rights are the same everywhere. So I thought, why should the deaf be ostracized?" said Ketut Kanta, who heads a community group for the village's deaf residents.

### Unique approach

The approach is relatively unique in Indonesia, where the disabled often suffer harsh discrimination. Bengkala, in northern Bali, has existed for about eight centuries. Residents often scrape a living tending to the surrounding rice fields and education levels are generally low. In the past villagers thought the high incidence of deafness was due to a curse but those superstitions-and the prejudices they created-have largely been abandoned after experts concluded it was due to a recessive gene common among the local population.

It was not until the 1960s that the village began to make efforts to better integrate its deaf residents and nowadays everyone is treated equally, according to village head I Made Arpana. "We don't differentiate between deaf villagers and non-deaf villagers," he said, adding that the community did not want the hard of hearing residents to feel "inferior". A key factor in creating this peaceful co-existence has been Kata Kolok, which literally translates as "talk of the deaf", and is used to varying degrees by around 80 percent of the villagers. It is different to international and Indonesian sign language. It has grown organically over the decades and has its own unique signs created by villagers to reflect how they see the world.



Deaf people performing a traditional dance.

### Bright future

Attempts to ensure harmony in the village start at a young age, with a Bengkala elementary school teaching all children side by side. The 77 students are all given lessons in the local sign language, and are introduced to elements of Indonesian and international signing. Made Budiasih, whose seven-year-old son goes to the school, said she was worried for his future when they discovered he was deaf at birth, but said the inclusive educational center had made all the difference.

"I was despairing, but then I found out about this school," she said. Still, it is not always easy teaching deaf students as they often become frustrated and act out, according to teacher I Made Wisnu, who has been working at the school for a decade. There are no junior high schools equipped to teach deaf students, so most have to drop out of the system once they've graduated from elementary classes. Despite the challenges, village chief Arpana is determined to safeguard the unique culture of the hamlet's deaf community, saying he would be a "sinner" if he did not.

The clearest expression of the village's warm embrace of its hard of hearing population is the unique project "dance of the deaf", which has started to draw a trickle of foreign visitors to the out-of-the-way village, giving residents hope for a brighter future. Tambourine player I Wayan Getar, speaking in sign language through an interpreter, told AFP: "Tourists from China and Europe are coming to watch us, and they really enjoy it." — AFP



# Quesadillas for dinner on Halloween

By Katie Workman

If you have kids, then you know that thinking about dinner on Halloween is not easy. Getting the kids out the door with a little something in their stomachs besides candy is one of the few things you can do to wrangle a bit of order into this free-for-all holiday. My kids are too old to really rein in their candy consumption, so I just make something simple, think of some faraway yoga pose and look forward to rooting around in their bags when they get back.

Quesadillas fit the bill nicely for Halloween: Kids can pick up the cheesy wedges by hand and eat while they look around for the missing pieces of their costumes. After they are on their way, the quesadillas pair nicely with a glass of wine for the grownups left manning the door at home (and the friends who are willing to hang out with them).

This recipe's particular combination of cheese, chicken and vegetables makes my family happy, but quesadillas are a wonderful springboard for combining all kinds of ingredients, so feel free to use what you like and what's in your fridge. If you have left-over, simply cooked chicken, use it here. If not, this is what rotisserie chickens were meant for. The olives are optional, but my kids love them.

These make fat quesadillas, which are so much more soul-satisfying than flat, under-filled ones. I'd much rather have two wedges of slightly overstuffed quesadillas than four wedges of skinny ones. If you prefer differently, use more tortillas and fill them with less stuff. You can keep the quesadillas warm on a baking sheet in a 250-degree oven for 20 to 30 minutes. Cut them into wedges just before serving. In addition to sour cream and salsa, guacamole or diced avocado makes fine toppings.

## SPINACH, MUSHROOM, AND CHICKEN QUESADILLAS

Start to finish:

Servings: 4

1 cup shredded sharp cheddar  
1 cup shredded Monterey Jack  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided  
8 ounces sliced mushrooms, any kind, or a mix  
1/2 teaspoon minced garlic  
1 cup roughly chopped spinach  
Coarse salt and freshly ground pepper  
8 8-inch flour tortillas  
1 cup shredded cooked chicken  
Sour cream and salsa to serve

### Preparations

Combine the two cheeses in a small bowl. Heat 2 teaspoons of the butter in a skillet with a cover over medium heat. When the butter has melted, add the mushrooms and saute for about 8 minutes. The mushrooms will soften and probably release some liquid as they cook. Continue cooking until all of the liquid has been released, and evaporated, and the mushrooms

start to brown a bit. Add the minced garlic and stir for 30 seconds. Add the spinach, season with salt and pepper, and saute for two minutes until the spinach has wilted. Turn the vegetables onto a plate and set aside.

Wipe out the skillet, then return it to medium heat and add a half teaspoon of butter. Place a tortilla in the pan and cook for 30 seconds, then flip the tortilla. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of the cheese mixture over half of the quesadilla, and distribute about 1/8 (a couple of tablespoons) of both the sauteed vegetable mixture and the shredded chicken over the cheese, as well as some of the chopped olives, if desired. Top that with another 2 tablespoons of the shredded cheese. Flip the bare half of the tortilla over the filling, cover the pan, and saute for about 2 minutes, until the bottom is golden and the cheese has started to melt, then use a spatula to flip the half-moon quesadilla, and continue to cook, uncovered, until all of the cheese is melted and the underside is browned, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the quesadilla to a cutting board and let it sit for a minute before you slice into two or three wedges. Repeat until all of the quesadillas are cooked. Serve with salsa and sour cream.

# Ditch the dairy to make the most flavorful, creamy soup

By Sara Moulton

**T**his time of year, with the weather getting colder, I love to serve soup for supper. It's an easy sell at my house, where The Husband is a soup-aholic. But with a soup this good, I firmly believe you can sell it to anyone. The trick is to amp up the flavor, vary the texture and make it substantial.

Here I started by roasting - not boiling - the cauliflower. Roasting eliminates excess water, brings the natural sugars to the fore and concentrates the flavors (adding some nuttiness in the process). Next, I make sure not to obscure the cauliflower's flavor with too many other ingredients. Yes, there is onion and garlic, but they play only supporting roles. Likewise, the stock, diluted with water, is designed not to overwhelm. The greens - because they're not pureed and not added until the very end - pack a satisfying little punch of their own without compromising the cauliflower taste.

You may notice there's no dairy in this recipe. While it's true that dairy adds luxury to a soup's texture, it also tends to blot out flavor, particularly delicate vegetable flavors. That's why I almost always leave it out.

Similarly, there's no flour or cornstarch here. This soup owes its rich thickness to the

pureeing of some of the cauliflower, onion and garlic in the company of a lone Yukon Gold potato (for silkiness). I'd always rather thicken a soup by pureeing some of its ingredients than by adding flour or another starch. Starchy thickeners are distracting.

The right tool for pureeing a soup is a blender. Neither a food processor nor an immersion blender will make it quite as smooth. Just take care not to pack the blender with too much hot soup at a time. Fill it no more than a third full for each batch, otherwise you may end up wearing it (and that can burn!).

At the end of the recipe, to provide some crunchy contrast to the creamy base, I added roasted cauliflower florets. Finally, there are those garlicky cheese rye toasts - Yum! - that contribute yet more crunch as well as big flavor, whether you tear them up and toss the pieces into the soup or happily munch them on the side. The finished product is a tasty, hearty, healthy and affordable soup for supper. And if you use vegetable broth, it's vegetarian, too. Either way, it's fully capable of standing on its own, or with just a small salad.

## ROASTED CAULIFLOWER AND GREENS SOUP WITH CHEESY RYE TOASTS

### Ingredients

Start to finish: 1 hour (35 minutes active)

Servings: 4

1 head cauliflower (about 2 1/2 pounds)  
3 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided  
Salt  
1 cup sliced yellow onion  
2 teaspoons minced garlic  
1 medium Yukon Gold potato (about 3 to 4 ounces), thinly sliced  
3 cups low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth  
2 cups water  
5 ounces baby greens (such as kale, spinach, arugula, mustard or a mix)  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
Ground black pepper  
4 slices rye bread  
1 ounce grated Parmesan cheese

### Preparation

Heat the oven to 450 F. Cut off and discard the tough bottom of the cauliflower stem. Separate 3 cups of small cauliflower florets (each about 1/2 inch in diameter) and set aside. Cut the rest of the cauliflower into 1-inch pieces, then mound them on a rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil and sprinkle with about 1/2 teaspoon of salt. Toss well to coat, then

spread in an even layer. Roast on the oven's middle shelf, stirring once or twice, until it is golden brown at the edges, 20 to 25 minutes.

In a large saucepan over medium, heat 1 tablespoon of the remaining oil. Add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add the potato, the roasted cauliflower, the broth and water. Simmer the mixture until the potato is tender, about 15 minutes.

While the soup is simmering, on the rimmed sheet pan, toss the reserved florets with 2 teaspoons of oil and about 1/4 teaspoon of salt. Roast until they are golden brown and tender, about 20 minutes.

Transfer the hot soup in small batches to a blender and blend until smooth. Return the soup to the saucepan, stir in the greens and simmer until they are wilted and tender, about 5 minutes. Add the roasted florets and cook for 1 minute. Add the lemon juice, then season with salt and pepper. Adjust the consistency, as desired, with an additional splash or two of water.

Brush the rye bread with the remaining tablespoon of oil and toast on the oven's middle shelf until golden, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle the cheese evenly over the toasts and return to the oven and bake for another 2 minutes. Ladle the soup into serving bowls and serve each portion with a toast.







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Friday Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

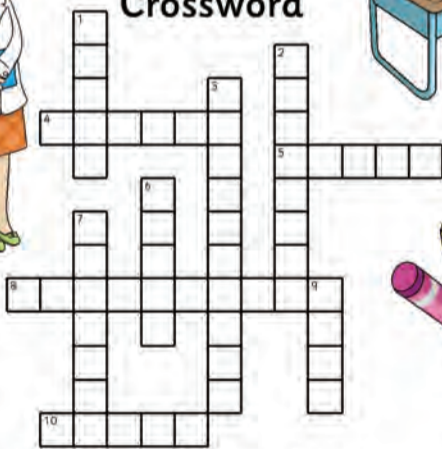
Kids



# How Many Halloween Cats



## Back to School Crossword



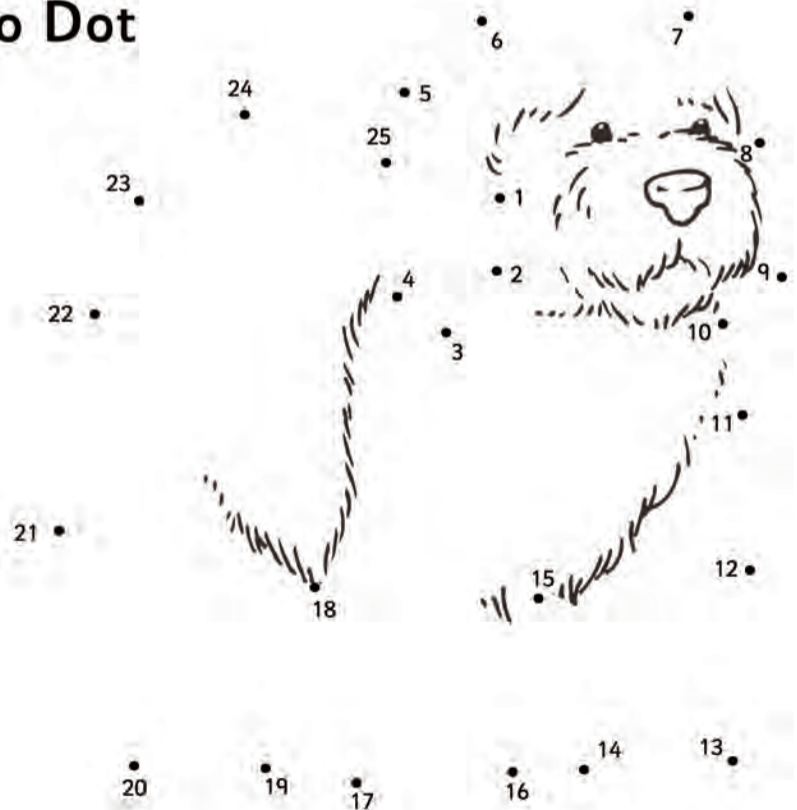
### Across

4. Do you need to sharpen yours?
5. Write or draw on this.
8. You write on this with chalk.
10. Please \_\_\_\_\_ your name on your work.

### Down

1. Draw straight lines with this.
2. It has a keyboard and a screen.
3. Where you go to play at break (recess)
6. Read these at home or school.
7. They help you learn new things.
9. The teacher sits here.

## Dot to Dot





## Cities Alphabet Challenge

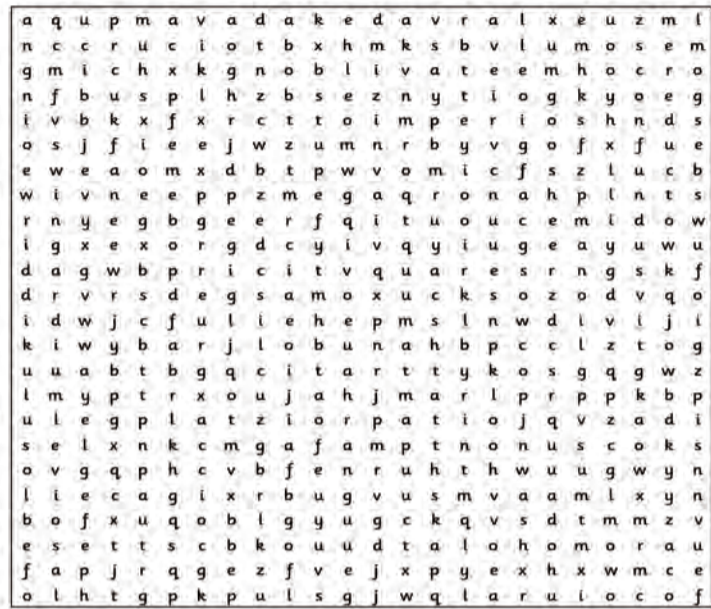
Can you come up with city (or town) whose name begins with A, then one for B, and so on, right through to the letter Z?



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

## Harry Potter Spells

Can you find all the wizard spells in the word search puzzle below?

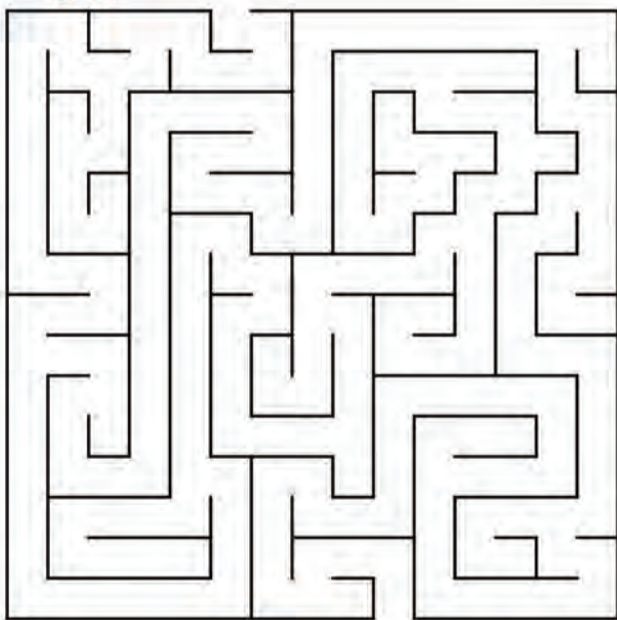


- |               |            |                    |
|---------------|------------|--------------------|
| accio         | crucio     | expecto patronum   |
| imperio       | obliviate  | sonorous           |
| alohomora     | confundus  | expelliarmus       |
| incendio      | reducto    | stupefy            |
| avada kedavra | engorgio   | impedimenta        |
| lumos         | riddikulus | wingardium leviosa |

## Back to School Maze



Help the boy find his way through the maze to the school bus.



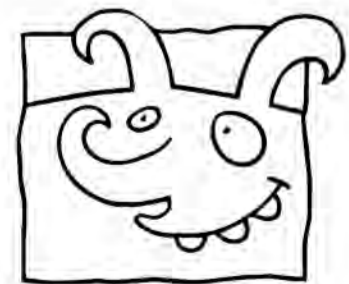
## Sudoku 9x9 Puzzle - Sheet 6

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the numbers 1 through 9. Don't guess - use logic!

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

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

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





File photo shows Kim Kardashian poses for photographers as she arrives for the premiere of Verdi's "La Traviata" at the Rome Opera House, in Rome. — AP

## Man accosts **Kim Kardashian** at **Paris Fashion Week**

**S**erial celebrity accoster Vitalii Sediuk has struck again, this time at Paris Fashion Week, targeting Kim Kardashian's derriere as she was entering the L'Avenue restaurant. Kardashian's makeup artist caught the Wednesday incident on video and posted it to his Instagram account. It shows the reality television star negotiating her way through a crowd of paparazzi past her black car, as Sediuk, a former Ukrainian television reporter, swoops in and seems to attempt to kiss Kardashian's posterior.

The security detail is seen reacting immediately and pulling him to the floor. Paris police said that they had no immediate indication a formal complaint had been filed. Sediuk also accosted model Gigi Hadid at Milan Fashion Week saying it was a form of protest against the use of celebrity models. —AP

# Rihanna, new top designers debut at **Paris Fashion Week**



**N**ew designer debuts from powerhouses Lanvin and Saint Laurent - and popstar Rihanna's first Paris catwalk show for Fenty Puma - marked the start of Spring-Summer 2017 shows in the City of Light. Here are the highlights of ready-to-wear collections.

### RIHANNA CHANNELS DIVERSITY

The most striking thing about Rihanna's catwalk collection for Fenty Puma was the models. There has been increasing criticism in recent years that fashion shows in the major capitals have a dearth of models from different ethnic backgrounds. So the popstar's latest outing for the sports brand garnered praise for its use of male and female models from diverse backgrounds.

The catwalk collection itself - Rihanna's first in Paris - got a more lukewarm reception. Pearl necklaces, lace headdresses, sheer shawls, fabric fans and glimmering corsets took inspiration from 18th century France. But against the backdrop of the venue, the grand 18th century Hotel Salomon de Rothschild, they came across as somewhat saccharine. Loose pastel-colored silhouettes that floated seemed at times overly embellished, and there was a cluttered feel to some of the layering and gathered detailing that moved in convergent directions. Still, there were some nice styles - such a coat or a silken jumpsuit that unraveled at the shoulder that captured the feeling of hurried undress.





Models present creations for Dries Van Noten during the 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show in Paris. — AP/AFP photos



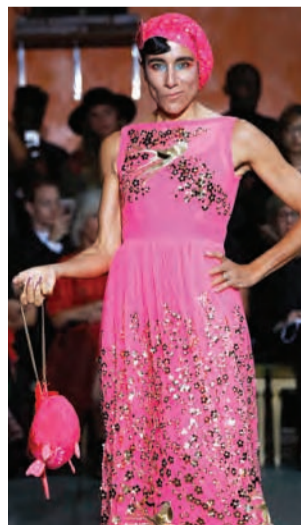
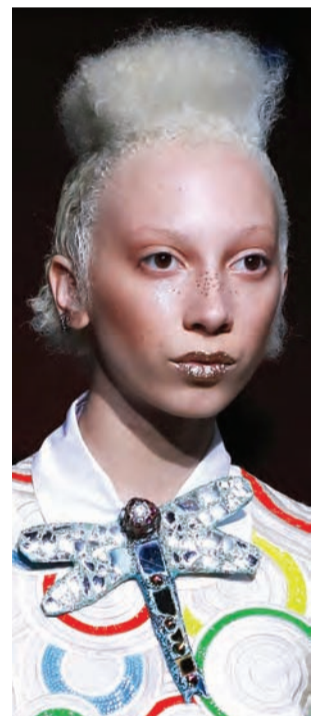
"I am really excited about this collection as it's very fun and light," Rihanna said. "Showing in Paris was the perfect backdrop, as I pulled a lot of inspiration from France, Marie Antoinette and the Palace of Versailles specifically," she added.

**Dries van noten goes oriental, victorian**

Master of contradictions Dries Van Noten went to the Orient for inspiration for his vivid Spring-Summer collection. A silken Japanese kimono coat with large lapels in midnight blue, worn by an Asian model, appeared alongside a modernized version of the raised Japanese "Geta" sandal. Vivid floral prints - with standout acid yellow - also peppered the color-rich show and reminded the audience of the Belgian designer's unrelenting passion for blooms, which he tenderly cultivates in his garden at home.

But to pin the ever-creative 58-year-old down would be an impossible exercise as Wednesday's diverse show proved. He mixed up his Oriental musings - of course - with flashes of the vestimentary styles of Victorian England. Voluminous 19th century leg of mutton sleeves were fused with matronly high neck details in Victorian lace, as well as beading and needlework from that period. Successfully combining the two diverse references is a feat that few designers could pull off. But here, it worked. — AP





Models present creations for Manish Arora during the 2017 Spring/Summer ready-to-wear collection fashion show, yesterday in Paris.



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

Your key word today is responsibility-trustworthiness. You are a genius at bringing out others and getting them to do things for themselves or for you-a born strategist. You like to discuss and communicate, usually at a psychological and very personal level. Careful-some may find you a bit too intense. Your love of the spiritual and the eternal is clear to all who meet you. You could find yourself involved in long conversations while visiting with friends this afternoon. You love to solve the problems of the world, at least in words and images-when you tell it, all are enchanted. You may enjoy a favorite hobby this evening. Tonight is a good time to work on improving your finances. All that is needed is a budget, a little time and some dedication.



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

Your intuition is strong and can guide you accurately in making decisions. You will find most of your day will focus on answering questions or finding someone who can answer questions. As the natural manager or leader of people, you know the magic is in knowing how to eliminate the slowdowns so as to create a pleasant workplace as well as a department or business than can continuously grow and improve. There is a possibility of new types of equipment that would call for some knowledgeable guide or teacher. You may be considering the family this evening as you ask for suggestions on what everyone would like to do this coming weekend. Camping creative arts boating help with homework shopping you're the greatest!



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

A round table or group discussion today can become heated or there is a possibility that much is accomplished. As you may be included in this discussion, suggest a "speaker stick" like some groups do so that each person has a turn at speaking. This way there are no interruptions and each person could be limited to no more than five minutes. Many find that some forethought will have to go into the conversation so that all can be said in five minutes. If they don't finish, they could get a turn again later. At the end, if no decision is made, a vote could be had so that the chairman, group or leader can announce the results. Movies, books and all other forms of escape could prove enjoyable this evening. Creative projects can also be a channel into a relaxed time.



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

Professional as well as life's problems are manageable at this time. The key words here are "as well as." it is your attitude and response to difficult situations that make a positive difference. The research and the steps you take to complete a project are revered. This afternoon a co-worker friend has good news to share with you. A business project that you have been working on is now putty in your hands. You can make the rules and end the game with this project. It is unusual to have two projects end close together and this will be a good reason for some sort of celebration. You will have saved your co-workers from much worry. Large animals bring you a different amusement this evening. You may decide to make a contribution for them.



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

There is a certain amount of transition taking place now. You may find yourself uninterested in sidetracks-what is not essential. You can really tune into how you want to solve certain problems and you gain the interest of higher-ups who can create a better financial package for you. This could be an essential time-depending upon what your age is currently-you may reach new highs of determination and accomplishment. There will be great discipline and concentration. You work hard but you will not always have to work so hard. Tonight is for friends and enjoying the social involvement they bring. There is a need for change but the time is not tonight. For now, balance in your personal life and work is most important.



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

Sometimes you just have to make bold moves in order to get your meaning across to someone. This does not mean you will be rude; it does mean that you are willing to follow through with whatever your intentions are. Working in a job you like and living in a family you enjoy is kind of like creating a work of art. You must stand back occasionally and make sure the whole picture is in balance and is pleasing to the spirit. You could find yourself pursuing more spiritual directions or finding someone who can teach you how you might achieve your inner dreams and ideals. Your path is toward cooperation and union with others, even at the expense of the practical and selfish. It is good to occasionally congratulate yourself and your support team.



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

You always seem to say the right thing at the right time and today you will be influencing the people that are around you, even though it is your special day. Your words and ideas can transport and enchant listeners, carrying them beyond the world as they know it and into the world as they wish it could be. Your imagination and sense of what connects all of life are felt in the way you communicate. You love a good story and a sense of the mystical pervades every one you tell. Today is full of opportunities to communicate your ideas and others like to hear what you have to say. Everything is in the mind and that includes the limitations as well as the ways in which to excel. You can do anything and that attitude is what you teach.



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

You have very simple needs regarding home and surroundings. Some might find you careful. It may be difficult for you to send down roots, build a home base and feel secure. You like to travel and as long as the necessities are in one place, you are a happy camper. You can work, travel and have a place to crash from time to time. If you work or if you play, whatever you do just now magically returns to you in abundance... Invest. This thursday is a good time for you to find some good investments. Relationships are satisfying and you spend quite a lot of time in the study of relationship success. When you settle, you want to be successful. Harmony and beauty are deeply satisfying-the lack of them can be unsettling.



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

This is as good a time as any to take stock and see where you may need to make appointments, seek advice or any other number of helpful things that are in the annual routine. How long has it been since you and the people in your immediate family have had your annual check-up, eye exams, dental cleanings, etc sometimes these things are left until the end of the year but as you can see, you are already communicating about winter vacations or gifts to purchase and there are plenty of financial needs without the checkups. Now is a good time so make appointments. Your professional life is moving along smoothly, fortunately at a better pace than earlier this year and you are grateful. Tonight is a good time to bring home the dinner, perhaps some baked chicken.



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

Faith, optimism and a yearning to explore all kinds of new horizons are some of the focal points in your life at this time. Travel, education and other ways to stretch your horizons open new doors of opportunity. Religious, philosophical and cultural matters are likely to have special appeal; transmitting ideas on a broader scale brings growth. Your emotions and feelings could reach heights that are close to ecstatic. It is easy for you to find the proper motivation to fulfill your ideals or make your dreams into reality. Your support system becomes more secure-family and home. You are able to dispense with some of the surplus and develop what is most basic and true in your environment. You encourage better support. A new job opportunity is available.



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

Accept your financial situation for what it is just now-it will get better. A part-time job would be good if everybody on the home front can support your activities for the next six months. Debts or other drains on your resources will soon diminish. The extra work will also bring about some relief in this next year when it is usually so hard to pay back the holiday debts. Your thoughts today may center on future wishes and goals but tomorrow they will focus on a child's wishes and goals and you will want to be able to help that person meet those goals. Make a goal list and have your mate make a goal list. In a week or so, get the lists out and talk them over with each other; there is always room for growth. For this afternoon, offer your services to a senior.



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

Creative thinking is the best way to approach a business problem this day. There are answers to problems and the answers may not always be found by the usual process. You can set the pace and others will follow. Any obstacle that you find, you can turn into a path of achievement. To eliminate stress and accomplish what is truly needed-eliminate projects that are going nowhere. There is talk among your friends about returning to continuing education classes at a local junior college and, after consideration, you may decide to do the same. If you check with your boss, you may find that the business for which you work will help you financially to either complete your education or to learn more about business techniques that would help in your profession.

**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



09:00 Pramface  
09:35 Pramface  
10:10 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  
18:30 Casualty  
19:20 Holby City  
20:15 Doctors  
20:45 Eastenders  
21:20 The Musketeers  
22:15 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



09:00 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  
21:35 Tosh.0  
22:00 Tosh.0  
22:30 Nathan For You  
22:55 Nathan For You  
23:25 Workaholics  
23:50 Ridiculousness  
01:27 Urban Tarzan  
01:50 Urban Tarzan  
02:13 Lip Sync Battle  
02:37 Catch A Contractor  
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



09:00 Destroyed In Seconds  
09:50 Ultimate Survival  
10:40 How It's Made  
11:30 Storm Chasers  
12:20 Mythbusters  
13:00 Doki  
13:25 Kids vs Film  
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 K9 Cops  
18:00 My Cat From Hell  
18:50 Ultimate Survival  
19:40 How It's Made  
20:30 Storm Chasers  
21:20 Mythbusters  
22:10 Doki  
22:35 Kids vs Film  
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  
03:10 World's Funniest  
04:00 The Big Brain Theory  
04:50 Destroyed In Seconds



09:15 The Hive  
09:20 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  
23:25 How To Build A Better Boy  
00:55 The 7D  
01:05 Liv And Maddie  
01:30 Jessie  
01:55 Violetta  
02:45 Backstage  
03:10 H2O: Just Add Water  
03:35 H2O: Just Add Water  
04:00 Binny And The Ghost  
04:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
05:10 Hank Zipzer  
05:35 Binny And The Ghost



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  
19:30 Jake And The Neverland Pirates  
19:45 Aladdin  
20:15 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
20:45 Doc McStuffins  
21:15 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
21:20 The Adventures Of The Disney Fairies  
21:50 Miles From Tomorrow  
22:15 Sofia The First  
22:45 Jake And The Neverland Pirates  
23:00 The Lion Guard  
23:30 Goldie & Bear  
23:55 Unbungalievable  
00:00 Goldie & Bear  
00:30 Goldie & Bear  
01:00 PJ Masks  
01:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
02:00 Sofia The First  
02:30 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
03:00 PJ Masks  
03:25 Doc McStuffins  
03:55 Aladdin  
04:20 Gummi Bears  
04:45 Minnie's Bow-Toons  
04:50 Zou  
05:05 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:20 Calimero  
05:35 Zou



12:00 Booster  
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 Counterfeit Cat  
15:05 Counterfeit Cat  
15:10 Gravity Falls  
15:35 Lab Rats  
16:00 Rocket Monkeys  
16:25 Ultimate Spider-Man  
16:50 Booster  
17:20 Booster  
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 Counterfeit Cat  
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

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



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  
19:35 Delinquent Gourmet  
20:00 Eat Street  
20:30 Baking Good, Baking Bad  
20:55 Baking Good, Baking Bad  
21:25 Eat: The Story Of Food  
22:20 Cesar Millan: Viva Las Vegas!  
23:15 Valentine Warner Eats Scandinavia  
23:40 Delinquent Gourmet  
00:10 East Bites West  
00:35 East Bites West



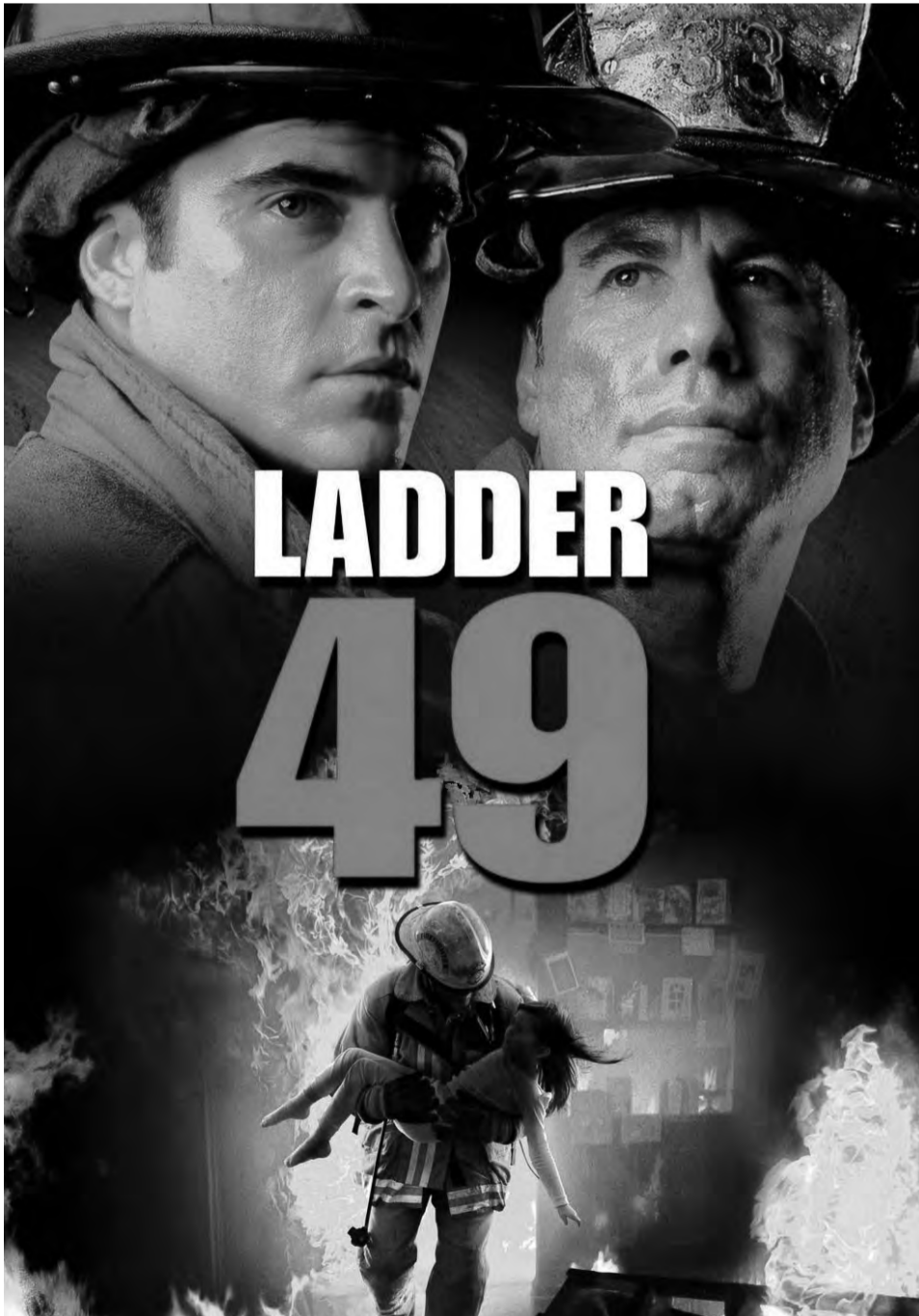
09:20 Innovation Nation  
09:50 Nazi World War Weird  
10:45 Innovation Nation  
11:10 Innovation Nation  
11:40 Robo-Humans  
12:35 Locked Up Abroad  
13:30 No Man Left Behind  
14:25 Family Guns  
15:20 Innovation Nation  
15:45 Innovation Nation  
16:15 4 Babies A Second  
17:10 Myigrations  
18:05 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 Myigrations  
00:00 Man Hunt



09:45 Snakes In The City  
10:40 War Elephants  
11:35 Hippo vs Croc  
12:30 World's Deadliest Animals  
13:25 Snakes In The City  
14:20 War Elephants  
15:15 Animal Storm Squad  
16:10 Amur: Asia's Amazon  
17:05 Secret Life Of Predators  
18:00 Megafish  
18:55 Secrets Of The King Cobra  
19:50 World's Deadliest Animals  
20:45 Snakes In The City  
21:40 Mystery Of The Lynx  
22:35 Animal Storm Squad  
23:30 Amur: Asia's Amazon  
00:25 Desert Lions Of Namib



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



LADDER 49 ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION



09:40 Hollywood Cycle  
10:35 Hollywood Cycle  
11:30 Celebrity Style Story  
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  
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 Catching Kelce  
00:35 Fashion Bloggers  
01:00 E! News  
02:00 WAGs  
03:00 Rob & Chyna  
04:00 Rob & Chyna  
05:00 E! News  
05:15 WAGs



09:25 Secret Photos Of The Duke And Duchess Of Windsor  
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 Secret Photos Of The Duke And Duchess Of Windsor  
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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

- 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
- 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 Lost In The West I
- 21:00 Lost In The West II
- 21:48 Lost In The West III
- 22:36 The Loud House
- 23:00 Sanjay And Craig
- 23:24 Harvey Beaks
- 23:48 Breadwinners
- 00:12 Henry Danger
- 00:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
- 01:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
- 01:24 Game Shakers
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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

- Bubble Guppies
- 04:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 04:40 Zack & Quack

OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

- 10:00 Ladder 49
- 12:00 Divergent
- 14:30 The Dogs Of War
- 16:30 Close Range
- 18:00 The Package
- 20:00 Divergent
- 22:30 The Dogs Of War
- 00:30 Brick Mansions
- 02:00 Snowpiercer
- 04:00 Rivers Nine

OSN MOVIES HD FAMILY

- 09:00 My Girl 2
- 11:00 The Santa Clause
- 13:00 White Fang
- 15:00 The Chronicles Of Namia: Voyage Of The Dawn...
- 17:00 Penguins Of Madagascar
- 19:00 House Arrest
- 21:00 Frankenweenie
- 23:00 Big Fat Liar
- 01:00 The Book Of Life
- 03:00 Tooth Fairy
- 05:00 Frankenweenie

OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

- 11:00 Drumlina: A New Beat
- 13:00 Goosebumps
- 15:00 Fantastic Four
- 17:00 Everest
- 19:00 Hotel Transylvania 2
- 20:30 Avengers: Age Of Ultron
- 23:00 Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2
- 01:00 San Andreas
- 03:00 Daddy's Home
- 05:00 Trainwreck

OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

- 10:00 The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy
- 12:00 The Single Moms Club
- 14:00 Coneheads
- 16:00 The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy
- 18:00 Bringing Down The House
- 20:00 The Hundred-Foot Journey
- 22:15 Coneheads
- 00:00 Honeymooners
- 02:00 We'll Never Have Paris
- 04:00 Horrible Bosses 2

OSN MOVIES HD FESTIVAL

- 09:30 Birdman
- 11:30 War Horse
- 14:00 The Horse Whisperer
- 17:00 Belle
- 18:45 The Signal
- 20:30 Romeo & Juliet
- 22:30 The Horse Whisperer
- 01:30 Every Day
- 03:15 Short Term 12
- 05:00 Hustle And Flow

OSN MOVIES HD KIDS

- 09:00 Egon And Donci
- 10:30 The Adventures Of Don Quixote
- 12:00 Columbus In The Last Journey
- 13:45 Bolts And Blip
- 15:45 Hey Arnold! The Movie
- 17:15 Jack And The Cuckoo Clock Heart
- 19:00 Egon And Donci
- 20:30 Jungle Book: Mowgli's Adventure
- 22:00 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory
- 00:00 Hey Arnold! The Movie
- 02:00 The Heart Of The Oak
- 04:00 Jungle Book: Mowgli's Adventure
- 05:30 Charlie And The Chocolate Factory

OSN MOVIES HD DRAMA

- 09:00 Nightcrawler
- 11:00 Reach Me
- 13:00 The Girl
- 15:00 Welcome To The Punch
- 17:00 A Teacher's Obsession
- 19:00 The Love Guide
- 21:00 Big Eyes
- 23:00 Welcome To The Punch
- 01:00 Scenic Route
- 03:00 Draft Day
- 05:00 Cold In July

OSN MOVIES PREMIERE

- 10:00 About Alex
- 12:00 The Dorm
- 14:00 Jupiter Ascending
- 16:15 The Good Lie
- 18:15 Superfast
- 20:00 Sleeping Beauty
- 21:45 Jupiter Ascending

- 00:00 Insurgent
- 02:15 7 Minutes
- 04:00 Final Girl

DISCOVERY SCIENCE

- 09:00 Alaska Mega Machines
- 09:48 Mythbusters
- 10:36 Battle Factory
- 11:00 Battle Factory
- 11:24 Strip The Cosmos
- 12:12 How Do They Do It?
- 12:36 Food Factory
- 13:00 How Do They Do It?
- 13:26 Mythbusters
- 14:14 Strip The Cosmos
- 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 Strip The Cosmos
- 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 Strip The Cosmos
- 22:14 Mythbusters
- 23:02 Alaska Mega Machines
- 23:50 Mythbusters
- 00:40 Strip The Cosmos
- 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 Strip The Cosmos
- 05:40 Mythbusters

TLC HD

- 09:15 Cake Boss
- 09:35 Oprah Prime
- 10:20 Little People, Big World
- 10:45 Little People, Big World
- 11:10 Toddlers & Tiaras
- 12:00 Little People, Big World
- 14:30 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 15:20 Say Yes To The Dress: The Big Day
- 16:10 Bakery Boss
- 17:00 My 600lb Life
- 17:50 Love, Lust Or Run
- 18:15 Love, Lust Or Run
- 18:40 Love, Lust Or Run
- 19:05 Love, Lust Or Run
- 19:30 Love, Lust Or Run

- 16:30 Suburgatory
- 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 Suburgatory
- 20:00 Last Man Standing
- 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 Saturday Night Live
- 05:00 The League
- 05:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers

OSN FIRST HD

- 10:00 Good Morning America
- 13:00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow
- 14:00 Rosewood
- 15:00 The Amazing Race
- 17:00 DC's Legends Of Tomorrow
- 18:00 Rosewood
- 19:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 20:00 Live Good Morning America
- 23:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 00:00 Rosewood
- 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

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 Frenemies
- 17:00 The First 48
- 18:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 19:00 Beyond Scared Straight
- 20:00 Homicide Hunter
- 21:00 Frenemies
- 22:00 The First 48
- 23:00 Nightmare In Suburbia
- 00:00 Crimes That Shook Britain
- 01:00 Beyond Scared Straight
- 02:00 Frenemies
- 03:00 Homicide Hunter
- 04:00 Murder On The Social Network
- 05:00 I Killed My BFF

Steve Martin

Queen Latifah

Everything he needed to know about life, she learned in prison.

# Bringing down the House

BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE ON OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY



Word Search Puzzles

Christmas Gift Ideas

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 13 letters spell an additional Christmas gift idea.

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

- BAKING
- BELT
- BOOK
- BRACELET
- CANDLES
- CANDY
- CHOCOLATES
- CLOTHES
- COFFEE MAKER
- COFFEE MUG
- COLOGNE
- COOKIES
- DOLL
- EARRINGS
- ELECTRONICS
- FLOWERS
- GAME
- GIFT BASKET
- GIFT CARD
- HERBAL TEAS
- JEWELRY
- MONEY
- MOVIE
- MUSIC
- NECKLACE
- NECKTIE
- PANTS
- PENDANT
- PERFUME
- PLANT
- SCARF
- SHIRT
- SLIPPERS
- SNEAKERS
- SOCKS
- STUFFED ANIMAL
- SWEATER
- TELEVISION
- TOOL SET
- TOY
- TREE ORNAMENT
- WATCH
- WINE

Yesterday's Solution

Soccer

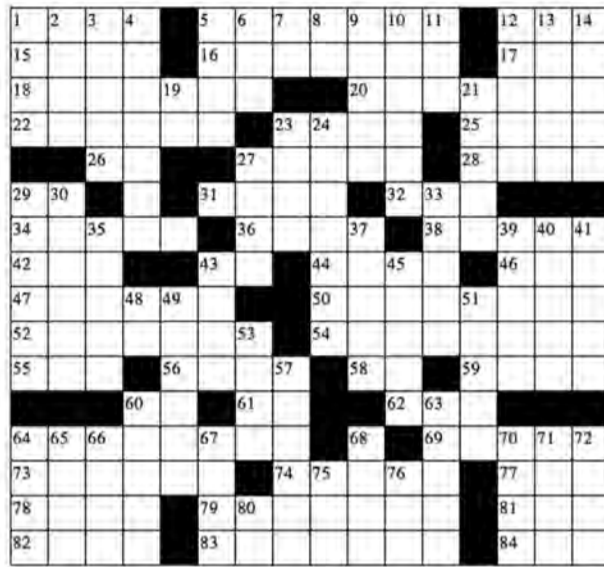
This is the solution to the puzzle located here.

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

- ASSIST
- BALL
- CAPTAIN
- CHEERING
- CLEATS
- CLUB
- COACH
- COIN TOSS
- CORNER KICK
- DEFENSE
- FANS
- FIELD
- FFFA
- FORMATION
- FORWARD
- FOUL
- GAME
- GOALIE
- GOALS
- GRASS
- HALVES
- HAT TRICK
- HEADING
- JERSEY
- SHOOT-OUT
- JUGGLING
- KICK-OFF
- MATCH
- OFFENSE
- OFFSIDE
- PENALTY KICK
- POSITION
- PRACTICE
- RED CARD
- REFEREE
- SCORE
- SHIN GUARD
- SHOOT-OUT
- SHORTS
- SHOT
- SLIDE TACKLE
- SOCKS
- SPORT
- STOPPAGE TIME
- STRIKERS
- SUBSTITUTE
- SWEEPER
- THROW-IN
- TOUCHLINE
- WALL
- WORLD CUP
- YELLOW CARD

The hidden message is: IN MANY COUNTRIES SOCCER IS CALLED FOOTBALL

CROSSWORD 1386



ACROSS

1. The capital and chief port of Qatar.
5. Superclass of eel-shaped chordates lacking jaws and pelvic fins.
12. A watery solution of sugars, salts, and minerals that circulates through the vascular system of a plant.
15. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls.
16. In a softened tone.
17. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
18. A Chadic language spoken in northern Nigeria and closely related to Hausa.
20. Filled with a great quantity.
22. A ditch dug as a fortification having a parapet of the excavated earth.
25. The basic unit of money in South Africa.
26. A state in New England.
28. The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy.
29. A state in northwestern North America.
31. Electronic warfare undertaken to insure effective friendly use of the electromagnetic spectrum in spite of the enemy's use of electronic warfare.
32. A licensed medical practitioner.
34. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
36. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
38. Molten rock in the earth's crust.
42. A master's degree in fine arts.
44. Primitive chlorophyll-containing mainly aquatic eukaryotic organisms lacking true stems and roots and leaves.
46. Support resembling the rib of an animal.
47. Terrestrial game birds of the Old World and Australia.
50. In a refined manner.
52. The person who Jesus raised from the dead after four days in the tomb.
54. The area in which something exists or lives.
55. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
56. A republic in the Middle East in western Asia.
58. A Mid-Atlantic state.
59. A distinct part that can be specified separately in a group of things that could be enumerated on a list.
61. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
62. Government agency created in 1974 to license and regulate nuclear power plants.
64. The highest waterfall in Canada.
69. Yellow-fever mosquitos.
73. A person who has received a degree from a school (high school or college or university).
74. With a forward motion.
77. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
78. A village in eastern Ireland (northwest of Dublin).
79. A genus of Psittacidae.
81. A flexible container with a single opening.
82. A theocratic republic in the Middle East in western Asia.
83. A tricyclic antidepressant (trade names Imavate and Tofranil) used to treat clinical depression.
84. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods.

DOWN

1. The state of owing money.
2. Any property detected by the olfactory system.
3. 100 halers equal 1 koruna.
4. Genus of widely distributed agarics that have white spores and are poisonous with few exceptions.
5. United States writer (born in Poland) who wrote in Yiddish (1880-1957).
6. A user interface based on graphics (icons and pictures and menus) instead of text.
7. A soft gray ductile metallic element used in alloys.
8. A public promotion of some product or service.
9. Any of numerous perennial bulbous herbs having linear or broadly lanceolate leaves and usually a single showy flower.
10. Having a heading or course in a certain direction.
11. A condition (mostly in boys) characterized by behavioral and learning disorders.
12. The capital and largest city of Yemen.
13. A yellow pungent volatile oil (trade name Agene) formerly used for bleaching and aging flour.
14. A genus of Ploceidae.
19. A state in southeastern United States.
21. Any plant of the genus Erica.
23. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.
24. A person who is frequently in the company of another.
27. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
30. An oral cephalosporin (trade names Keflex and Keflin and Keftab) commonly prescribe for mild to moderately severe infections of the skin or ears or throat or lungs or urinary tract.
33. Of or relating to Oman or its people.
35. 1,000 baiza equal 1 riyal-omani.
37. Either of two large African antelopes of the genus Taurotragus having short spirally twisted horns in both sexes.
39. A storyteller in West Africa.
40. English writer of stories for children (1882-1956).
41. A bottomless gulf or pit.
43. An ancient Assyrian city on the River Tigris and traditional capital of Assyria.
45. Specified in advance.
48. An official prosecutor for a judicial district.
49. Capital of Armenia.
51. A very short time (as the time it takes to blink once).
53. A island in the Netherlands Antilles that is the top of an extinct volcano.
57. New Zealand timber tree resembling the cypress.
60. Swedish oceanographer who recognized the role of the Coriolis effect on ocean currents (1874-1954).
63. East Indian cereal grass whose seed yield a somewhat bitter flour, a staple in the Orient.
65. (botany) Of or relating to the axil.
66. A river in western Asia.
67. Small deciduous Asiatic tree bearing large red or orange edible astringent fruit.
68. A tiny or scarcely detectable amount.
70. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
71. A feeling of strong eagerness (usually in favor of a person or cause).
72. An narrative telling the adventures of a hero or a family.
75. A room equipped with toilet facilities.
76. Negation of a word or group of words.
80. Before noon.

Daily SuDoku

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

Yesterday's Solution

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

Yesterday's Solution

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



HOEDSPRUIT, SOUTH AFRICA: Protected Rhinos roam and feed in an enclosed precinct at the Kahya Ndlovu Lodge in Hoedspruit, in the Limpopo province of South Africa. — AFP



HOEDSPRUIT: Female members of the anti-poaching team 'Black Mamba' prepare for the night patrols in the Limpopo province of South Africa. —AFP

## TOUGH TIMES FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S ALL-FEMALE ANTI-POACHING UNIT

**BALULE:** South Africa's all-female "Black Mambas" anti-poaching team had never lost a rhino since they were formed in 2013, but the killing of two animals earlier this month shattered their proud record. The two rhinos, one of which was pregnant, were shot dead and their horns hacked off by poachers on a full moon night, underlining the crisis that threatens the species. The Black Mambas are made up of 36 unarmed female rangers, aged from 19 to 33, based at the Balule Game Reserve in Limpopo province on the edge of Kruger National Park. They have been feted worldwide as a mould-breaking experiment that has successfully helped to tackle poaching through foot patrols, intelligence gathering and community awareness work.

But the insatiable appetite for rhino horn in Vietnam and China has fuelled record killing in Africa, and the Black Mambas are struggling under growing pressure. "It was so horrible. It feels like our fault," Collet Ngobeni, 32, who has been with the team since they

were founded said. "We need to be more prepared. Three rhinos (including the unborn calf) means a lot. "There are greedy people about who don't think of the future." The recent deaths in Balule were in a remote area where rhinos rarely roam and had never been targeted by poachers before, so it was not covered by a regular patrol.

### Lack of resources

The Black Mambas—named after a venomous snake—won the UN "Champions of the Earth" award last year, which Ngobeni travelled to New York to collect in a blaze of publicity. And they have been singled out for praise at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) conference currently underway in Johannesburg.

But Ngobeni is frustrated by a lack of resources that she believes is holding the team back. "All the attention has not been translated into help," she said. "If we step back, the poachers come again. Our vehicles

are often broken down and we don't have enough equipment. "To go forward, we need more training, more money and more people." Members of the Black Mambas are paid by the government, earning a take-home monthly pay of between 3,000 and 3,500 rand (\$220 to \$255) - a low salary even by South African standards. After 21 days of back-to-back shifts, they get 10 days off to visit their families and children.

When at work, they live next to their patrol base at Olifants West in a small cluster of huts that are each shared by three or four people. The compound has no running water as the borehole has run dry, and there is no television or internet. "Other women do want to join us, but we need more funding," said Felicia Mogakane, 28, a mother of two sons, aged five and one-and-a-half. "If you really want to protect the animals you must have the people to do the hard work, to check the fence every day. "If we are not out on patrol, poachers notice that. There are difficult cir-

cumstances, but I do still love it."

### Poaching boom

Rhino horn is trafficked to east Asia where it is deemed to be a miracle cure for everything from cancer to lack of virility—and demand is soaring. In 2008, less than 100 were poached, but numbers have rocketed alarmingly since as illegal trafficking networks channel rhino horn from Africa to overseas markets. Last year, a record 1,342 rhinos were poached in Africa, according to a count before the CITES meeting, with nearly 1,200 of them killed in South Africa alone.

"The Black Mambas have brought crucial attention to the rhino crisis," said Pitso Mojapelo, project manager at the Department of Environmental Affairs. "We pay their salaries, and hope other donors will be able to come in to support their work further. "They have really proven themselves and we would like to duplicate the idea elsewhere."—AFP

CLINIC  
PAGE



Kuwait Times  
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
د. فهد علي المخيزيم

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

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



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (29/09/2016 TO 05/10/2016)

<b>SHARQIA-1</b> MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:30 PM 7:45 PM 10:15 PM 12:45 AM	DEEPWATER HORIZON THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:30 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>SHARQIA-2</b> LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:00 PM 6:15 PM 8:30 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM	<b>AVENUES-2</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D- 4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D- 4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D- 4DX MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN -3D- 4DX DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D- 4DX DEEPWATER HORIZON-2D- 4DX	12:30 PM 2:45 PM 5:15 PM 8:00 PM 10:45 PM 1:00 AM
<b>SHARQIA-3</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS FRI STORKS STORKS STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	1:00 PM 1:30 PM  3:30 PM 5:30 PM 7:30 PM 9:30 PM 11:45 PM	<b>AVENUES-3</b> LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM
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<b>MUHALAB-2</b> MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:30 PM 3:00 PM 5:30 PM 8:00 PM 10:30 PM 1:00 AM	<b>360°- 2</b> SULLY SULLY SULLY SULLY MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN SULLY	12:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:30 PM 12:15 AM
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<b>FANAR-1</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN STORKS STORKS THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM 2:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:00 PM 11:45 PM	<b>AL-KOUT.1</b> LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	11:45 AM 2:00 PM 4:15 PM 6:30 PM 8:45 PM 11:00 PM
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<b>MARINA-1</b> LAF WA DAWARAN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN DEEPWATER HORIZON	11:30 AM 1:45 PM 4:15 PM 6:45 PM 9:15 PM 11:45 PM	<b>AL-KOUT.4</b> THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN STORKS STORKS STORKS STORKS LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	1:00 PM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 5:45 PM 7:45 PM 9:45 PM 12:15 AM
<b>MARINA-2</b> LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:45 PM 3:00 PM 5:15 PM 7:30 PM 9:45 PM 12:05 AM	<b>BAIRAQ-1</b> LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN LAF WA DAWARAN	12:15 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 7:00 PM 9:15 PM 11:30 PM
<b>MARINA-3</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS STORKS STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	12:00 PM 2:15 PM 4:15 PM 6:15 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:45 AM	<b>BAIRAQ-2</b> DEEPWATER HORIZON STORKS STORKS STORKS DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON DEEPWATER HORIZON	11:45 AM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:30 AM
<b>AVENUES-1</b> THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:00 PM	<b>BAIRAQ-3</b> MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN	1:00 PM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 8:30 PM 11:00 PM
		<b>PLAZA</b> LAF WA DAWARAN STORKS	3:15 PM 5:30 PM

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I, Mohammed Masood S/o Abdul Rehman Masood, holder of Indian Passport No: G0522643 & Civil ID No: 291050502263 has changed my name to Mohammad Mashood DK here after in all

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### PRAYER TIMINGS



<b>Fajr:</b>	<b>03:42</b>
<b>Shorook</b>	<b>05:10</b>
<b>Duhr:</b>	<b>11:54</b>
<b>Asr:</b>	<b>15:30</b>
<b>Maghrib:</b>	<b>18:37</b>
<b>Isha:</b>	<b>20:02</b>

### PRAYER TIMINGS

<b>Fajr:</b>	<b>04:21</b>
<b>Shorook</b>	<b>05:40</b>
<b>Duhr:</b>	<b>11:38</b>
<b>Asr:</b>	<b>15:02</b>
<b>Maghrib:</b>	<b>17:36</b>
<b>Isha:</b>	<b>19:52</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 30, 2016



California suspends ties with Wells Fargo

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ENERGY SHARES LEAD ASIAN STOCKS HIGHER ON OPEC OUTPUT DEAL

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SACRAMENTO: In this May 18, 2016 file photo, California Gov. Jerry Brown gestures during a community event. — AP

## GOVERNOR TO APPROVE STATE-RUN RETIREMENT FOR PRIVATE WORKERS NEARLY 7 MILLION PEOPLE TO BE AFFECTED

**SACRAMENTO:** Governor Jerry Brown is scheduled to sign legislation to automatically enroll nearly 7 million people in a retirement savings account, an attempt to address growing fears that many workers will be financially unprepared to retire.

The legislation creates a state-run retirement program for workers who don't have an employer-sponsored plan, many of them working in lower-wage positions. It requires employers to automatically enroll their workers and deduct money from each paycheck, though workers can opt out or set their own savings rate. The account could also be carried from job to job.

Supporters of the concept hope that requiring workers to affirmatively opt out will make them less likely to do so, allowing them to set aside a retirement nest egg over time so they don't have to rely solely on Social Security in their post-work years. A third of all American workers - and two-thirds of part-time workers - don't have access to a retirement plan through their employer, the Pew Charitable Trusts reported in September, relying on US Census Bureau data.

The financial services industry aggressively lobbied Brown for a veto, warning that the proposal is built on shaky financial assumptions and may create overwhelming political pressure for taxpayers to bail it out if it hits hard times.

California lawmakers voted in 2012 to study the idea of creating a publicly run retirement plan for private-sector workers.

After lawyers and financial analysts said the program was likely viable, the Legislature this year decided to implement the plan.

### Closely monitored

The move has been closely watched due to the \$1 million California spent researching and refining its proposal and the state's sheer size, with 12 percent of the US population. Oregon and Illinois are working on implementing similar programs, and studies have been ordered in several other states.

The US Department of Labor gave the green light in August to retirement plans run by states and large cities or counties, putting to rest questions about their legality and removing a major hurdle.

California's plan, SB1234 by Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon, D-Los Angeles, requires employers that don't offer retirement accounts to automatically enroll their employees in the state-run plan. Unless workers opt out, a percentage of their earnings would be deducted from each paycheck and held in lower-risk investments. The plans would stick with workers as they move from job to job, allowing them to accumulate larger balances in a single account.

Like a standard individual retirement account or 401(k), the investments would be subject to the ups and downs of financial markets, including the potential for losses.

Secure Choice, as the program is known, would be overseen by a board with authority to make decisions about

investment options, the default savings rate and benefit payouts in retirement. Financial consultants recommended a default savings rate of 5 percent, which would rise by 1 percent a year until it reaches 10 percent of pay.

The cost to the state is unclear, as it depends how many employees participate, but could reach up to \$134 million over the first several years, according to the legislative analysis. The program is expected to eventually fund itself with fees on workers' deposits.

But Paul Schott Stevens, president and CEO of the Investment Company Institute, which represents mutual funds and other investment products that comprise a large share of traditional retirement savings accounts, said in a letter to Brown that the program underestimates the risks and is based on unrealistically rosy assumptions about the rate of savings.

With so many financial pressures facing lower-income workers, many are likely to opt out or withdraw their balances early, he wrote, and the cost to administer millions of small accounts would be higher than proponents assume. Moreover, he said, the state's obligations under securities law are uncertain, and the political pressure for taxpayers to back-fill investment losses would be intense. "It simply would be imprudent to move forward with the program without much further study and far greater assurance that its costs are fully understood and accounted for," Stevens wrote. — AP



WASHINGTON: Federal Reserve Board Chair Janet Yellen testifies on Capitol Hill on Wednesday. —AP

## YELLEN SAYS ECONOMY LIKELY READY FOR RATE HIKE LATER IN 2016 NO 'FIXED TIMETABLE'

**WASHINGTON:** Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen said Wednesday that the central bank has no "fixed timetable" for raising interest rates but she believes the economy is ready for a rate hike by the end of the year.

She said during an appearance before the House Financial Services Committee that when the Fed met last week, a majority of her colleagues believed it would be appropriate to raise rates before the end of this year. The Fed boosted its key policy rate in December 2015 to a range of 0.25 percent to 0.5 percent. But since then, officials have left the rate unchanged. Yellen told the lawmakers that she believed it would make sense to boost the rate again "if things continue on the current path and no significant new risks arise."

The Fed last week voted 7-3 to keep its key interest rate where it has been all year. But it did send a strong signal that it is prepared to raise rates before the end of the year, with many expecting a move in December. Yellen said that while inflation is not a threat at the moment, it is possible that the economy could begin to overheat with prices rising too quickly, forcing the Fed to accelerate the pace of rate hikes and raising the threat of a recession.

"If we allow the economy to overheat, we could be faced with having to raise interest rates more rapidly than we would want which could conceivably jeopardize that good state of affairs that we have come close to achieving," Yellen told lawmakers.

### Too political

Some Republicans on the panel echoed a charge that Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump made during Monday's debate that the Fed had become too political and was delaying rate hikes in an effort to help Democrats win the election. "We are in a big, fat ugly bubble," Trump said during the debate. "We have a Fed that's doing political things. This Janet Yellen of the Fed."

Rep. Scott Garrett, R-N.J., pressed Yellen to say whether she believed Fed board member Lael Brainard should recuse herself from voting on interest rate decisions given that she has donated to Hillary Clinton's campaign.

Yellen said that federal law allows Fed governors to make political donations. Garrett also said he viewed Yellen's meetings with Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew and other Treasury Department officials as evidence she was too close to the Obama administration.

All Fed leaders, whether Democrats or Republicans, have followed the practice of holding weekly sessions with the Treasury secretary to review US and global economic developments. "I certainly have never been pressured in any way by the administration," Yellen told the committee. "The (Obama) administration, my experience has been, greatly respects the Fed's independence to make decisions in accordance with the Fed's mandate."

Yellen, who was testifying Wednesday on the Fed's role in regulating the nation's banking system, received a number of questions from lawmakers about the situation at Wells Fargo and whether federal banking

regulators fell down on the job by not detecting practices at the nation's second largest bank that allegedly had Wells Fargo employees opening millions of accounts without customers' permission.

Yellen said it was important for top management at all banks to make sure that the compensation policies they establish do not create incentives for executives to pursue improper policies that harm customers or put the banks' safety at risk. In her testimony, Yellen said that the health of the financial system has strengthened considerably since the 2008 economic crisis, in part because of tougher regulations passed by Congress in 2010. She said the Fed wants to make sure that the new requirements keep the country's largest banks from failing and destabilizing the entire financial system, while avoiding undue burdens on smaller institutions.

As part of that effort, the Fed has put forward a proposal to ease requirements for annual stress tests for all but the largest institutions.

Under the change the Fed is mulling, all banks with more than \$50 billion in assets would still have to undergo annual stress tests to see if they would have a sufficient capital buffer to withstand loan losses in a severe economic downturn. But a concurrent, more detailed review would be dropped for all banks but those with more than \$250 billion in assets.

While members of the committee praised this step, many Republican lawmakers complained that the Fed was still not doing enough to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens. —AP

## 'BLOOD DIAMOND' SUSPECT DIES IN BELGIAN PRISON

**BRUSSELS:** A US-Belgian businessman accused of enslavement and diamond trafficking during Sierra Leone's civil war has died in a Brussels prison, officials said yesterday.

Michel Desaedeleer, 65, "died on Tuesday to Wednesday night, most likely of natural causes," a spokesman for the Belgian prosecutor's office told AFP. Desaedeleer was arrested in August 2015 at Malaga airport in southern Spain, attempting to reach the United States where he resided.

He was soon transferred to Belgium where he had been scheduled to appear before a judge next week to request release on bail pending trial. Belgium sought his arrest following a complaint filed in Brussels in 2011 by five former diamond mine slaves.

They detailed alleged crimes in Sierra Leone's eastern district of Kono between 1999 and 2001. "Blood diamonds" helped finance civil wars across Africa in the 1990s and often funded military dictatorships in the continent.

Desaedeleer's name was mentioned in a United Nations report on the trade in 2000. It said he signed an agreement in 1999 with brutal Sierra Leone rebels allowing him to exploit diamond mines and ship the gems abroad via Liberia.

The gems were sold mainly in Antwerp, Belgium's second-biggest city and the heart of the global diamond trade for several centuries. "Sadly, the victims of slavery in the diamond mines in Sierra Leone's Kono district ... will never fully achieve justice," said Civitas Maxima, a Geneva-based organisation that gives legal advice to victims of war crimes and has helped build a case against Desaedeleer.

"Nevertheless, the arrest of Michel Desaedeleer, his imprisonment and the fact that his trial was scheduled to commence in a few months represent a victory for the victims who courageously filed a complaint against him," it added. Around 120,000 people died in Sierra Leone's 1991-2002 civil war. —AFP

## BIG-SPENDING GERMANS LIFT GROWTH FORECAST

**FRANKFURT:** Germany's leading economic think tanks raised their growth forecast for 2016 yesterday, with big-spending consumers and government expenditure on migrants giving a boost to Europe's largest economy.

The five institutes—the DIW in Berlin, IWH in Halle, Ifo in Munich, IfW in Kiel and RWI in Essen—predicted that the economy would grow by 1.9 percent this year, up from their April estimate of 1.6 percent. "The German economy is experiencing a moderate upswing," they wrote in their autumn report, adding that domestic demand remains the key driver of the country's growth.

"The job market is still in good shape and continues to support private spending, while public spending has been boosted by refugee-related expenditure," said Ferdinand Fichtner of the DIW. German businesses on the other hand were making a "below-average contribution" to the recovery, the experts wrote.

The economists also warned of clouds on the horizon, as sluggish global demand weighs on exports—historically a major contributor to German prosperity—while the Brexit fallout could yet make itself felt.

Although data so far suggests German business decisions have not been substantially affected by Britain's June vote to leave the European Union, this could change if the Brexit negotiations become acrimonious, the authors said.

A worsening of trade ties between the EU and Britain could weaken British demand for imports, they cautioned, which in turn could hurt German exports and investment. Looking ahead to 2017, the think tanks expect growth to slow to 1.4 percent, down from an earlier estimate of 1.5 percent.

For 2018, they forecast that gross domestic product would expand by 1.6 percent. The government expects GDP to expand by 1.7 percent this year. The Federal Labor Office yesterday said unemployment was unchanged in September at 6.1 percent, holding at its lowest level since re-unification. —AFP

## DRUG MAKER NOVO NORDISK TO LAY OFF 1,000 EMPLOYEES

**COPENHAGEN:** Danish drug maker Novo Nordisk says it plans to lay off some 1,000 employees globally to reduce operating costs because of "a challenging competitive environment, especially in its large US market." One of the world's leading makers of diabetes medicines says half the job cuts are expected to be in Denmark. Copenhagen-based Novo Nordisk said Thursday the layoffs will affect its research and development departments, headquarters staff functions and global commercial organization. Group CEO Lars Rebién Soerensen said the layoffs are needed "for us to have a sustainable balance between income and costs," adding the company has "to prioritize investments." Novo Nordisk currently employs some 42,300 people in 75 countries and markets its products in more than 180 countries. —AP

## MAJOR NATIONAL SEAFOOD COMPANY SUED FOR RACIAL HARASSMENT

**SEATTLE:** One of the largest producers of shellfish in the country is being sued over claims it permitted ongoing racial harassment and retaliatory discipline against a black maintenance mechanic.

The US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said in a news release that it filed the lawsuit against Taylor Shellfish Wednesday in US District Court. The suit alleges Jeremy Daniels faced demeaning comments and stereotypes about his race from the first week of employment at the Taylor Shellfish Company's Samish Bay Farm in Washington. The lawsuit also claims the man was regularly called the n-word and other derogatory words. The lawsuit says his supervisor also retaliated against Daniels by assigning him less desirable jobs, screaming profanities at him and writing him up for insubordination. A company spokesman didn't immediately return a request for comment. —AP

## ITALY'S NOVAMONT INVESTS 100M EUROS IN BIOCHEMICAL PLANT

**MILAN:** The Italian biochemical company Novamont has opened the first plant in the world to make a chemical compound used in the production of plastics with renewable sources. Novamont CEO Catia Bastioli said Thursday the company has invested 100 million Euros (\$112 million) to convert an abandoned plant near Rovigo in Italy's Po River delta to start industrial production of the chemical compound, bio-butanediol. Bastioli said that Novamont's production will be used primarily for biodegradable plastics for fruit and vegetable bags, food service products and shopping bags. The bio-butanediol chemical compound is made from sugars derived from corn biomass. Until now, industrial production of butanediol has only been from fossil fuel sources. The plant will produce 30,000 tons a year, with the current global market running around 2 million tons. —AP



PASADENA, CALIFORNIA: A woman walks past a Wells Fargo branch on Wednesday. —AFP

# CALIFORNIA SUSPENDS TIES WITH WELLS FARGO

## ANOTHER BLOW

**LOS ANGELES:** The state of California has suspended significant business ties with Wells Fargo, dealing another blow to the bank struggling to contain the fallout from a bogus accounts scandal.

In a letter addressed to Wells Fargo Chairman John Stumpf and the board of directors, state Treasurer John Chiang said Wednesday he could no longer "entrust the public's money to an organization which has shown such little regard for the legions of Californians who have placed their financial well-being in its care."

Wells Fargo, the second largest US bank by market value, has apologized and said it fired 5,300 people tied to the illegal conduct, which saw employees boost sales figures by opening unauthorized deposit and credit accounts and then covertly fund them with customers' money. It has also paid \$185 million in fines.

### Abuse of customers

Chiang decried the bank's "venal abuse of its customers" and said he was suspending state business with Wells Fargo in "its most highly profitable business relationships." Effective immediately, the California's treasurer's office was suspending investments in all Wells Fargo securities, stopping use of Wells Fargo as a broker-dealer for investments and barring the bank from serving as managing underwriter on negotiated sales of California state bonds.

The California treasurer's office oversees \$2 trillion in annual banking transactions, manages a \$75 billion investment pool, and is the nation's largest issuer of municipal debt. The measures would remain in place for one year but could be extended if Wells Fargo is found to have continued to run afoul of regulations, Chiang said.

Wells Fargo said in a statement to US media that it "has diligently and profes-

sionally worked with the state for the past 17 years to support the government and people of California. Our highly experienced and proven government banking, securities and treasury management teams stand ready to continue delivering outstanding service to the state."

Chiang also said in his letter that he would use his position as a board member on the nation's two largest pension funds to push for reforms at Wells Fargo, including separating the chief executive and chairman positions, both currently held by Stumpf. The move by California comes one day after the bank's board of directors announced that Stumpf would forgo \$41 million in compensation as an independent investigation continues.

Stumpf was grilled on Capitol Hill last week by members of the powerful Senate Banking Committee, some of whom have called for his resignation. He is scheduled to testify Thursday before the House Financial Services Committee. —AFP

## DENMARK RECEIVES PANAMA PAPERS DATA TO FIGHT TAX DODGING

**COPENHAGEN:** Denmark has received data leaked from a Panamanian law firm that helped customers open offshore companies to avoid paying taxes, authorities said yesterday, adding they paid nearly six million kroner (\$902,500) for it.

Jim Soerensen, an official with the Danish Customs and Tax Administration, said they were able "to run through the material on Sept. 6 before we paid." Soerensen said they now will "go deeper" to see whether people in the documents should be investigated for tax dodging.

"I can't speak on behalf of other countries,

but I can say that we in Denmark are open about what authorities here do," he told The Associated Press. "Contact with the anonymous source was made through another country." He declined to name the source or the country, but said contacts were made via encrypted text messages.

The taxation authorities had received information containing legal documents, agreements, and correspondence, he added. "If we find any information that regards another country, we will pass on that information as international agreements say," Soerensen said.

Earlier this month, the Danish authorities

said they had received an anonymous offer to acquire data from the so-called "Panama Papers" that could involve up to 600 people. At the time they didn't disclose the price.

Soerensen said 4.7 million kroner (\$706,960) were paid directly to the source and 1.2 million kroner (\$180,500) in taxes on the transaction, which he said was made "recently." A majority in Denmark's Parliament had supported buying some of the documents, although it was not clear how many lawmakers backed the plan as there had been no public vote in the assembly.

The Panama Papers, which consist of

records on 11.5 million offshore holdings, were originally leaked to a German newspaper, which shared the data with a global network of investigative journalists, leading to a series of media reports in April. In May, the journalists made the names of 200,000 offshore entities available in a searchable database.

The repercussions of the leak have been far-ranging. The uproar led to the resignation of the prime minister of Iceland, and brought scrutiny to, among others, the leaders of Argentina and Ukraine, Chinese politicians, Russian President Vladimir Putin and his friends. —AP

## COMMERZBANK SAYS TO CUT 9,600 JOBS BY 2020

**FRANKFURT:** Germany's second largest lender Commerzbank said yesterday it plans to cut 9,600 jobs, or one-fifth of its workforce, by 2020 and withhold dividends to pay for a 1.1-billion-euro restructuring.

The Frankfurt-based firm added that the \$1.23-billion plan, still to be agreed at a supervisory board meeting on Friday, would see it report a loss in the third quarter as it writes down the value of goodwill and other intangible assets. But it forecasts a "slightly positive" bottom line for the whole of 2016.

Like other German banks, Commerzbank is fighting headwinds from low interest rates in the eurozone, tough regulation, intense competition, and the arrival of new digital actors on the market. Board members aim to achieve "sustainable profitability" by focusing on private and business banking customers while shrinking investment banking activities, it said in a statement. "Profit volatility and risks from regulatory changes will be reduced and capital freed up for the core business" with the retreat from investment banking, the statement continued.

To cover the costs of the restructuring, the bank said it would "cease dividend payments for the time being".

Commerzbank reported a profit of 1.06 billion euros in 2015, and paid its first dividend since the 2008 financial crisis at 20 cents per share. Shares in the bank lost 0.77 percent to trade at 5.95 euros by 0945 GMT in Frankfurt, while the DAX 30 index of leading firms gained 0.69 percent. Commerzbank's employee roster would shrink by roughly 9,600 — around a fifth of its current level of 51,300 — if the plan is put into action.

Managers predict that the restructuring will create savings of 6.5 billion Euros per year and allow them to create 2,300 new jobs in "growth areas" at the bank. The German state remains a shareholder in Commerzbank to the tune of 15 percent after coming to the lender's rescue in 2008.

Chief executive Martin Zielke in August batted away rumors that he was considering a tie-up with Deutsche Bank, Germany's biggest lender and Commerzbank's historic Frankfurt rival. Deutsche is itself going through a painful restructuring that will see it slash almost 9,000 jobs worldwide and 200 branches in home market Germany.

The once-proud institution is laboring under a burden of around 8,000 legal cases worldwide including a \$14-billion demand from the US Department of Justice over its activities leading up to the subprime mortgage crisis.

On Wednesday the German government strongly denied rumours that it was preparing a rescue plan for Deutsche in the event it faces a US fine that its legal provisions of \$5.5 billion are too small to cover.—AFP

## SPOTIFY LAUNCHES JAPAN STREAMING WITH KARAOKE TWIST

**TOKYO:** Online music giant Spotify said yesterday it is launching a streaming service in Japan with a karaoke twist, the world's second-biggest music market but one still dominated by compact discs. Sweden-based Spotify said it will offer a free service with advertising and an ad-free 980 yen (\$9.70)-per-month version with around 40 million song titles. "The Japanese market is very different" from other markets, and "we want to make sure Spotify here is long-lasting," the company's CEO Daniel Ek said at a launch event in Tokyo.

Spotify—which earlier this month said it had surpassed 40 million paying subscribers—said the new service would also be available on Sony's PlayStation consoles. In a nod to Japan's love for karaoke, it will feature lyrics to go along with its soundtracks. Last year, Google launched its music streaming service in Japan, featuring more than 35 million tunes available at a cost of 980 yen a month, while Apple and Line have also stepped into the country. Japan's music market is estimated to be worth about \$3 billion—second in the world after the \$7 billion US market. But packaged media such as CDs account for about 80 percent of Japanese music sales, contrasting sharply with the US where digital downloads are soaring. Many Japanese production companies have focused on established retail channels for CDs, while issues over licensing have also hampered growth in the streaming business. Sony and Japanese games giant DeNA have terminated their music streaming services in recent years.—AFP



**SILIGURI, WEST BENGAL, INDIA:** An Indian fuel station attendant serves a customer at a petrol pump at Sevak Bazar yesterday.—AFP

# OIL PRICE RALLY FADES ON DOUBTS OVER OPEC DEAL

## CARTEL'S ABILITY IN DOUBT

**LONDON:** An oil price rally fuelled by OPEC's deal to cut crude output fizzled out yesterday with analysts doubting the cartel's ability to seriously tackle a supply glut. Following a meeting that included Russia, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries shocked markets Wednesday by saying it planned to trim total production by some 750,000 barrels per day.

This followed talks in Algiers as world oil producers seek ways to prop up prices that have plunged from \$100 in 2014 to near 13-year lows below \$30 at the start of 2016, mainly owing to excess supplies. Exact details of the deal remain to be agreed and analysts said markets will now wait to see whether non-OPEC producers such as Russia, the United States and Canada will make cuts of their own.

"There is also the wider consideration of whether non-OPEC members, in particular Russia, will cooperate," CMC Markets analyst Alex Furber told AFP. Wednesday's deal came after OPEC kingpin Saudi Arabia allowed bitter rival Iran to be exempted from the cutbacks, as the Islamic republic recovers from years of sanctions on its oil exports.

The cartel's announcement of a first official reduction in eight years at first sent crude prices surging six percent Wednesday, while energy firms across the globe have seen their share prices soar. But around 0915 GMT Thursday, US benchmark oil contract, West Texas Intermediate for delivery in November, was down 34 cents at \$46.71 a barrel.

Brent North Sea crude for November shed 45 cents to \$48.24 a barrel compared with Wednesday's close. In London stocks trading meanwhile, shares in Royal Dutch Shell advanced 5.5 percent and BP won 4.4 percent.

### Saudi blinks first

"OPEC's commitment to cut output by between one-half and three-quarters of a million barrels a day has done more for oil-sensitive stocks and currencies, as well as overnight risk sentiment, than for oil prices themselves," Societe Generale said in a note to clients. "Time will tell whether oil prices will trend higher (after a knee-jerk rally), and the market will first wait to see how the cuts are divvied up between members, which will be decided at the November OPEC meeting."

At the end of six hours of negotiations and weeks of horse trading, OPEC said it would cut production to 32.5-33 million barrels per day from around 33.5 million in August. "It is Saudi Arabia who has clearly blinked first, allowing Iran, its main rival, to ramp up production," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst at Oanda trading group. "We shouldn't underestimate the major shift by Saudi Arabia," he told AFP. "These two don't see eye to eye on anything so this is a huge concession by Saudi Arabia to 'lubricate' the process." Saudi Arabia and Iran, the Middle East's foremost Shiite and Sunni Muslim powers, are at odds over an array of issues including the wars in Syria and Yemen.

### 'Tipping point'

Analysts said economic pressure from falling oil revenues pushed OPEC members to reach a deal, while others warned the organization has a poor track record of fulfilling such commitments, and traders are unsure whether Saudi-Iran cooperation would hold.

Details, including which countries make which cuts, will be worked out when 14-member OPEC—which produces about 40 percent of the world's crude—holds its next twice-yearly meeting in Vienna on November 30.

The cartel's richer members, particularly the Gulf states, have preferred to battle it out with non-OPEC producers such as the United States for global market share by keeping production high. "Saudi Arabia have perhaps reassessed their dumping oil strategy to put US shale out of business as the pressure on their budgets has clearly reached a tipping point as well," Halley added.

The plunge in oil revenues has left Saudi Arabia with a record deficit last year, prompting the country to cut the salaries of cabinet ministers and freeze the wages of lower-ranking civil servants. "Many OPEC members are suffering economically from low prices. Their economies are stagnating or going backwards and they face budgetary issues," said Greg McKenna, chief market strategist at forex broker AxiTrader.

"So it appears the fiscal imperative seems to have trumped OPEC's internal politics," he told AFP.—AFP

## HOTEL WORKERS SEEK NEW SAFETY MEASURES AFTER FREEZER DEATH

**ATLANTA:** Federal regulators and hotel employees are calling for new safety measures after a worker was found dead inside a walk-in freezer at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in downtown Atlanta.

Investigators believe Carolyn Mangham spent about 13 hours at temperatures below minus 10 Fahrenheit. Her frozen body was found after her husband called the hotel to report her missing. Devices should be placed inside the large freezers so that anyone trapped or injured inside could send an alarm directly to hotel security or emergency services, union leaders say.

Hotel employees also want to carry "panic buttons" to alert others to emergencies. "At the end of the day everyone deserves to go home to their families," said Wanda Brown, who worked with Mangham at the hotel and is president of the Atlanta chapter of the UNITE HERE union.

"We've given our demands to the hotel and we are waiting for a response, but we will not stop asking for these things to be done," Brown said. The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration is proposing about \$12,500 in penalties for a serious safety violation in the death of Mangham, 61, who also went by Carolyn Robinson.

OSHA's recommendations apply only to the Westin Peachtree Plaza hotel, and not to the larger Westin company or its parent firm, Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, which was acquired last week by Marriott International for \$13 billion, creating the world's largest hotel company.

### Checks during shifts

In a Sept. 23 letter, OSHA recommended that the Atlanta hotel voluntarily develop a system of "notification and ongoing communication" for workers entering the walk-in freezers. The agency also recommends the hotel develop a system to periodically check on employees during their shifts.

"The OSHA report is part of an ongoing process and we are planning to contest their findings and recommendations," Carrie Bloom, a Starwood spokeswoman, said in a statement Wednesday night.

Mangham was found on March 22 after her husband became concerned when she didn't return home from work. He called a hotel manager, who then began checking surveillance video. The video captured her entering the freezer the night before and never leaving, the Fulton County Medical Examiner said in its autopsy report.

In the two days after she was found dead, more than 30 tests of the exit device on the inside of the door were conducted, and the door opened properly each time, hotel spokeswoman Sally McDonald said in a statement March 24.

However, a follow-up inspection in April "proved the button to malfunction," the autopsy report states. On that day, an OSHA inspector and a hotel employee allowed the door to close as part of the test, and they became trapped. They had to pound on the door to let people outside know they couldn't get out.

The autopsy report lists her manner of death as undetermined with the notation: "Found in freezer; malfunctioning exit release button."

Employees also want the hotel to remove cooler No. 11, which has been padlocked and unused since her death. "We'd like it to be removed from the hotel," Brown said. "We'd rather not have a reminder of Ms. Carolyn." —AP



**ATLANTA:** The Westin hotel, center, is reflected along with other downtown buildings in the windows of an office tower on Wednesday.—AP



**NEW YORK:** In this Monday, Sept. 26, 2016, file photo, trader Leon Montana works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.—AP

## ENERGY SHARES LEAD ASIAN STOCKS HIGHER ON OPEC OUTPUT DEAL

### REDUCING A GLOBAL GLUT

**HONG KONG:** Energy companies led a rally in Asian stock markets yesterday as investors welcomed news that OPEC nations planned to cut oil production for the first time in eight years in an effort to reduce a global glut.

Keeping score: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index jumped 1.7 percent to 16,739.06 and South Korea's Kospi advanced 0.9 percent to 2,070.65. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.3 percent to 23,693.37 and the Shanghai Composite Index gained 0.4 percent to 3,000.45. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 climbed 1.1 percent to 5,470.00. Indexes in India, Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and New Zealand also rose. Crude cut: Shares of Asia-listed energy companies surged, after OPEC members struck a preliminary deal to curb output at a meeting in Algeria. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, whose member economies have been hit by depressed oil prices because of excess global production, overcame long-running disagreements and agreed to limit production to between 32.5 million and 33 million barrels per day. Japan Petroleum Exploration Co. surged 9.7 percent, Chinese oil producer CNOOC jumped 6 percent and Australia's Woodside Petroleum leaped 7.9 percent.

Market insight: Analysts were skeptical about whether the OPEC cut would provide a long-term boost because it did nothing to address weak demand. "For oil to see a sustainable rally from here, demand side indicators need to be represented better," said Nicholas Teo, trading strategist at KGI Fraser Securities in Singapore. "So far though, nothing of that sort has appeared in the horizon."

Energy: Benchmark US crude oil

futures leaped after the OPEC announcement, although momentum stalled as traders grew skeptical of the deal's lack of details. Crude oil rose 8 cents to \$47.13 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract surged \$2.38, or 5.3 percent, to settle at \$47.05 a barrel on Wednesday. Brent crude, the international standard, edged up 3 cents to \$49.27 a barrel in London.

Wall street: Major US benchmarks finished higher on gains from energy companies. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 0.6 percent to close at 18,339.24. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 0.5 percent to 2,171.37. The Nasdaq composite edged up 0.2 percent to 5,318.55. Currencies: The dollar rose to 101.61 yen from 100.93 yen in late trading Wednesday. The euro inched up to \$1.1229 from \$1.1223.—AP

## ARE YOU OWED MONEY FROM A FORGOTTEN BANK ACCOUNT?

**NEW YORK:** Finding money you didn't know you had is like discovering lost treasure. For many people, there's treasure to be found in old, forgotten bank accounts. Las Vegas resident Michael Catania was surprised when he plugged his name into MissingMoney.com, a website for unclaimed-property searches, and learned that Massachusetts was holding money for him from a forgotten bank certificate of deposit.

The adjunct music professor had lived in four states over the past decade, including Massachusetts, where he had opened the \$1,500 CD that had long since matured. "I'm embarrassed that I forgot about an account with that much money," he says, "but I was moving around a lot and the bank didn't know how to reach me."

According to the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators, a group of state officers, nearly \$42 billion is sitting in state coffers, having come from financial institutions and other businesses with dormant accounts. In addition to old bank

accounts, the property often is from unclaimed insurance policies, uncashed paychecks and abandoned safe-deposit boxes. Does some of that \$42 billion belong to you? Here are some tips to find out:

Check with the unclaimed-property divisions of states where you've lived or worked. MissingMoney.com includes links to the unclaimed-property divisions of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and some Canadian provinces. MissingMoney.com has its own nationwide search function, but as its database is sometimes incomplete, you may get more thorough results by also searching the individual states' sites. When searching, type in your current name and any others you've used in the past, such as a maiden name. The information is public, so you can search on behalf of friends and relatives as well. You can also search the names of deceased property holders, if you think you're an heir to an owner of unclaimed property. Online searches are free and take just a few minutes.—AP



# YANKEES STAVE OFF PLAYOFF ELIMINATION

**NEW YORK:** Mark Teixeira hit a grand slam with two outs in the ninth inning, helping the New York Yankees stave off playoff elimination at the last possible moment with a 5-3 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday night. Boston clinched the AL East title nearly 30 minutes before Teixeira connected, thanks to Toronto's 3-2 loss against Baltimore. But a five-run comeback by New York in the ninth prevented its long-time rival from celebrating on the Yankee Stadium field.

The Orioles' victory put the Yankees on the brink of wild-card elimination following a surprising charge late this season. New York had only one infield hit and trailed 3-0 heading into the ninth, faced with the prospect of facing Red Sox closer Craig Kimbrel. Kimbrel, however, gave up a leadoff single to Brett Gardner and three straight walks, the last forcing in a run. Red Sox manager John Farrell lifted Kimbrel (2-5) for Joe Kelly, who struck out Starlin Castro and retired Didi Gregorius on a foul popup. With the Yankees down to their last out, Teixeira, planning to retire after this season, launched a 99 mph fastball on an 0-1 count to right-center. James Pazos (1-0) was the winner.

## ORIOLES 3, BLUE JAYS 2

Hyun Soo Kim hit a pinch-hit, two-run homer in the ninth inning off Roberto Osuna, and Baltimore beat Toronto to move within one game of the AL wild-card-leading Blue Jays. With Toronto ahead 2-1, Jonathan Schoop singled with one out, pinch-runner Michael Bourn stole second and Kim homered on a 3-2 pitch into the visiting bullpen in right. Osuna (3-3) has five blown save chances, including two in his last three appearances. Baltimore's Mark Trumbo hit his major league-leading 46th home run, a solo drive off Jason Grilli in the eighth. Brian Duensing (1-0) got one out, and Zach Britton finished for his 47th save.

## TIGERS 6, INDIANS 3, 5 INNINGS

Miguel Cabrera hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the fifth inning, moments before the game was halted for good, and Detroit came away with a rain-shortened victory over Cleveland to keep pace with Baltimore in the AL wild-card race. Detroit trails the Orioles by one game for the AL's second wild card, and the Tigers certainly caught a break in this one. The rain was a factor throughout the evening - there was also a delay during the third inning - and it was certainly coming down when Detroit began its rally in the fifth. With two on and one out, Cabrera hit a line drive over the wall in right off Joseph Colon (1-3) for his 36th homer. Blaine Hardy (1-0) won in relief of Michael Fulmer.

## ROCKIES 2, GIANTS 0

Jeff Samardzija gave San Francisco a chance to grab momentum after a big offensive outburst a night earlier, but the playoff-hopeful Giants wasted it with a costly dud. Rockies right-hander Tyler Chatwood (12-9) struck out nine in eight innings and outdueling Samardzija (12-11), shutting down San Francisco a day after the Giants pounded 19 hits in a 12-3 win. San Francisco dropped to 1 1/2 games behind the Mets for the top wild card and remained a game up on St. Louis for the second spot after the Cardinals lost to Cincinnati. Adam Ottavino got his sixth save.

## PIRATES 8, CUBS 4

John Jaso hit for the cycle and drove in five runs in Pittsburgh's victory over Chicago. Jaso tripled off reliever Pedro Strop in the seventh inning for the first cycle in the history of PNC Park and the first for the Pirates since 2004. Jaso's final hit was a fly ball to center field. He hesitated rounding second base, but went on and the throw from Albert Almora Jr. was up the baseline. Jaso accomplished the feat in just four at-bats. The last Pirate to hit for the cycle was Daryle Ward on May 26, 2004, in St. Louis. The last Pirates' home cycle was by Jason Kendall on May 19, 2000, against the Cardinals at Three Rivers Stadium. Against Chicago starter Jake Arrieta (18-8), Jaso singled in the second inning, hit a three-run home run in the fourth and doubled in the fifth. Arrieta went five innings and allowed 10 hits and seven runs, both season highs. Pirates starter Jameson Taillon (5-4) allowed one hit and struck out four in six

innings. Chicago's Anthony Rizzo hit a solo homer, his 32nd of the season.

## RANGERS 8, BREWERS 5

Carlos Gomez hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning and AL-leading Texas beat Milwaukee for its major league-best 49th come-from-behind victory. Texas (94-65) moved closer to home-field advantage with a 1 1/2-game lead over Boston for the best record in the American League. Jonathan Lucroy, the catcher traded from Milwaukee to Texas on Aug. 1, reached to start the eighth on a two-base error when the ball ricocheted off the glove of center fielder Hernan Perez. Delino DeShields came on as a pinch-runner, and after Mitch Moreland walked, he scored the tying run when Elvis Andrus greeted reliever Tyler Thornburg with a single to center. Gomez then hit a 418-foot homer to left, his 13th this season. It was the eighth in 31 games for the Brewers' former two-time All-Star since joining the Rangers last month after being released by Houston. He had a three-run homer on Tuesday night,

Baltimore beat Toronto. Morales' ground-rule double to right scored Jarrod Dyson, who had doubled and stole third. Gordon's single scored Whit Merrifield and pinch-runner Billy Burns. Taylor Rogers (3-1), the fourth of five Twins pitchers, took the loss after allowing three runs, three hits and two walks while retiring only one of the six batters he faced. Joakim Soria (5-8) worked a scoreless eighth to pick up the victory. Wade Davis got his 27th save.

## METS 5, MARLINS 2

The Marlins walked half a block alongside a hearse carrying their ace away from Marlins Park at the start of a funeral motorcade, then peeled away with watery eyes to go back inside and play.

Drained by four days of grieving Jose Fernandez's death in a boating accident, Miami didn't have much left for the New York Mets. Jay Bruce hit his 32nd home run, James Loney also homered and New York helped their NL wild-card chances by beating Miami. The Marlins' loss in their home finale eliminated them from

James Paxton (6-7) allowed three runs and six hits in five innings, striking out eight. Fister gave up five runs and five hits over 1 1/3 innings in the shortest start of his big league career. George Springer and Evan Gattis homered for Houston.

## PADRES 6, DODGERS 5

Rookie Hunter Renfroe hit the first home run in Petco Park history to land on the roof of the brick warehouse in the left-field corner and drove in four runs to lead San Diego. With one out in the third, Renfroe drove a two-run homer off Jose De Leon onto the top of the Western Metal Supply Co. building, a remnant from the skid row neighborhood that made way for Petco Park, which opened in 2004. It went an estimated 435 feet. The Dodgers lost despite hitting three home runs off rookie Luis Perdomo (9-10). Ross Stripling (5-9) allowed a run in three innings.

## REDS 2, CARDINALS 1

Adam Duvall's two-run single was all Cincinnati needed to beat St. Louis. The Reds' third win in their last four games dealt a blow to the Cardinals' playoff hopes. St. Louis lost ground in the race for the two NL wild cards. Reds starter Anthony DeSclafani (9-5) allowed one runner in each of the first four innings, but only once during that span did the Cardinals have anyone in scoring position. He stranded five runners, including two in the sixth, his last inning. He allowed six hits and one run. It was the fifth quality start out of six in DeSclafani's career against the Cardinals. He improved to 4-1 with a 2.13 ERA against St. Louis. Duvall drove in his 101st and 102nd RBIs with his third-inning single. He has seven RBI in the series. Raisel Iglesias earned his fifth save in six opportunities with two innings of relief.

## DIAMONDBACKS 3, NATIONALS 0, 5 INNINGS

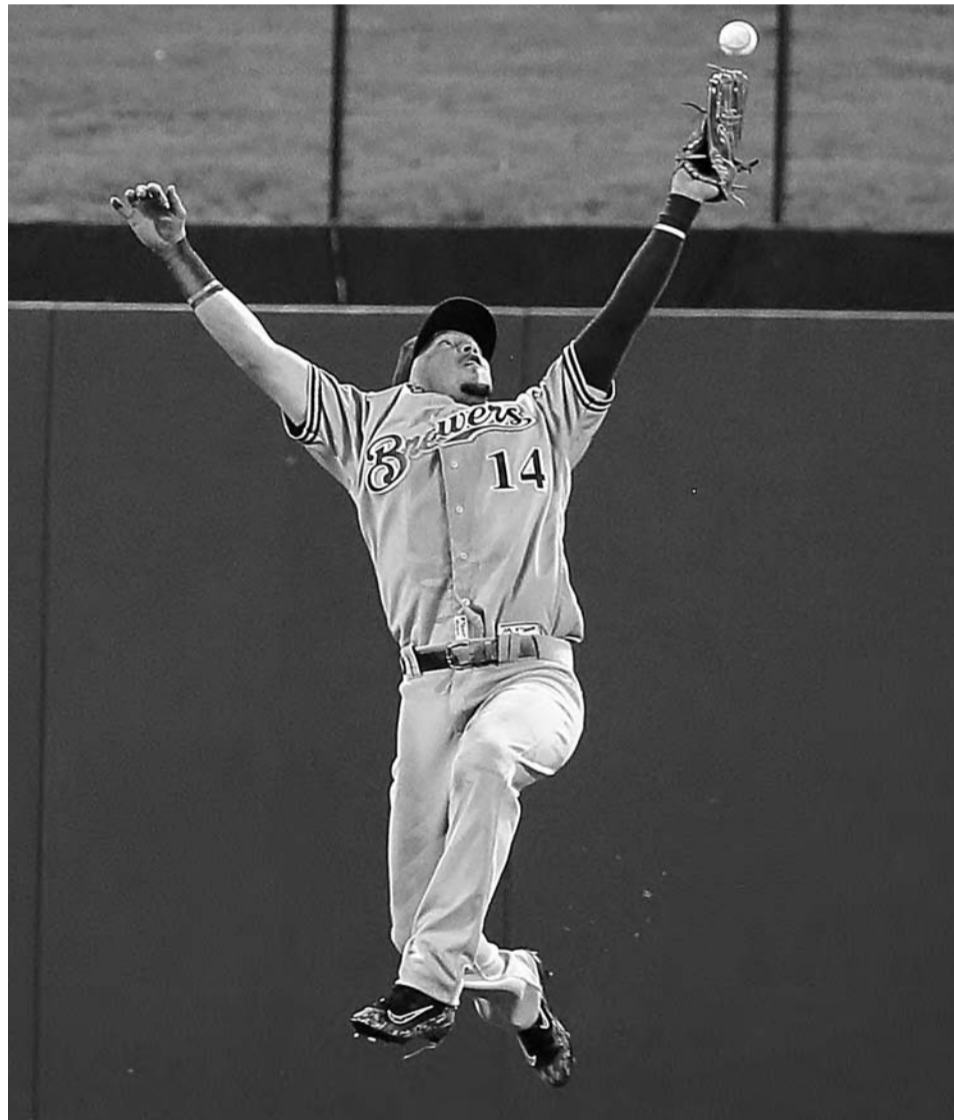
Shelby Miller threw five shutout innings, Jean Segura had three hits to reach 200 for the season and Arizona beat Washington Nationals a rain-shortened game. The start of the game was delayed 33 minutes by rain and was called with one out in the top of the sixth inning after waiting out a second delay of 70 minutes. The NL East-champion Nationals have lost two of three to the last-place Diamondbacks and seven of their last 11 games overall. Miller (3-12) capped an otherwise forgetful season with one of his best outings of the year, allowing five hits with one walk and striking out five to earn his first win since June 20. Gio Gonzalez (11-11), Washington's projected No. 3 starter in the NL Division Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, struggled in his final tune up before the postseason.

## WHITE SOX 1, RAYS 0

Todd Frazier hit his 40th home run, Miguel Gonzalez waited out a rain delay to throw 8 1/3 dominant innings and Chicago beat Tampa Bay. Frazier set a career high and became the seventh White Sox player to reach the homer milestone when he connected off knuckleballer Eddie Gamboa (0-2) with two out in the seventh. Frazier is hitting .391 (18 for 46) during a 12-game hitting streak. Gonzalez (5-7) returned after a 1 hour, 16-minute delay in the third inning and retired 18 of 19 before being lifted after Logan Forsythe's one-out single to left in the ninth. David Robertson got the final two outs for his 37th save in 44 tries. The game also was delayed 21 minutes before the start. It was 57 degrees at first pitch and rain came and went amid blustery conditions as a tiny crowd watched Chicago win its fifth straight. The game itself lasted only 2 hours, 10 minutes.

## BRAVES 12, PHILLIES 2

Matt Kemp hit a two-run homer, Daniel Castro had three RBIs and Dansby Swanson also drove in two runs, leading Atlanta past Philadelphia. Mike Foltynewicz (9-5) pitched two-hit ball over five innings in his first start since Sept. 12, when he left a game against Miami with a left calf contusion. The Braves won for the ninth time in their last 10 games. They have 21 victories in 34 games since Aug. 21, bouncing back from a dismal start. Adam Morgan (2-11) lasted five innings, giving up 10 hits and nine runs. —AP



**TEXAS:** Milwaukee Brewers center fielder Hernan Perez is unable to secure a ball that bounces off the top of his glove, allowing Texas Rangers' Jonathan Lucroy to reach second during the eighth inning of a baseball game on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016. —AP

that one traveling 444 feet. Rougned Odor hit a two-run homer in the first for the Rangers, his 32nd. Jeremy Jeffress (1-0) worked the final two innings, winning for AL West champion Texas five days after being reinstated by Major League Baseball from the restricted list following a drunken driving arrest last month and then a three-week stint in an inpatient rehab clinic. Corey Knebel (1-4) was the loser.

## ROYALS 5, TWINS 2

Kendrys Morales and Alex Gordon keyed an eighth-inning rally and Kansas City beat Minnesota, but the Royals were still knocked out of playoff contention. The defending World Series champs were eliminated when

playoff contention. Despite high hopes this year, they still haven't been to the postseason since 2003. Set Lugo (5-2) went 5 1/3 innings and allowed two runs. Jose Urena (4-9) allowed five runs in five innings.

## MARINERS 12, ASTROS 4

Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and Seattle beat Houston to keep pressure on the other AL wild-card contenders. Cano's career-best 36th home run, a drive off Doug Fister (12-13), landed in the first row of the Crawford Boxes in left field. Cano has nine homers and 25 RBIs in 19 games against Houston this season. Kyle Seager added another three-run drive in the eighth, his 30th home run this season.

## CRICKET

## PAKISTAN AND WEST INDIES LAUNCH WORLD CUP FIGHT

**SHARJAH:** Former champions Pakistan and the West Indies start a narrow two-way fight for an automatic place in the 2019 Cricket World Cup in a three-match one-day series starting in Sharjah today. Pakistan, the 1992 champions, need to win the series 3-0 to rise one place from ninth while their opponents-champions in the first two World Cups in 1975 and 1979 - need to avoid a clean sweep to maintain their current eighth spot. Hosts England and the seven highest-ranked sides in the one-day rankings on September 30 next year will qualify directly for the World Cup.

The bottom four teams in the standings will be joined by six Associate sides in a 10-team qualifying round in 2018

from where two teams will qualify. Both Pakistan and the West Indies will also play in three one-day matches in the Caribbean next March. Pakistan also have a tough five-match series in Australia early next year but West Indies will be hard pressed to play England and India before the cut-off date. Both Pakistan and the West Indies have varied problems in the 50-over game. Pakistan, ranked number one in Test cricket, have slumped in one-day and are coming on the back of a 4-1 bashing in England, a defeat which almost cost Azhar Ali the captaincy, but he finally survived.

## 'Important step'

Ali hopes his players take the confi-

dence of their win in the final one-day against England at Cardiff and a 3-0 whitewash of the West Indies in the preceding Twenty20 series which ended on Tuesday. "Yes, it will be great if we take that form into the series and that will not only help us in improving our rankings but also take the important step towards the 2019 World Cup," said Ali. Pakistan will once again look to exploit their opponents weakness against the spin, which saw them restrict the West Indies to low totals of 115, 144 and 103 in the Twenty20 series. They have leg-spinner Yasir Shah and two left-arm spinners-Imad Wasim and Mohammad Nawaz plus allrounder Shoaib Malik to launch the assault. West Indies had shown recent

form, having beaten South Africa twice and world number one Australia once in a tri-series on home grounds in June before losing the final to Steve Smith's team. Shockingly, they sacked their successful coach Phil Simmons a week before the start of this tour, which evidently affected their performance in the T20 series. Still, captain Jason Holder put on a brave face. "In the ODI series we want to improve, we had a very good last Tri series with Australia and South Africa so it is important we keep improving," said Holder. West Indies will again be without dashing opener Chris Gayle, who is unavailable for the tour, and Andre Russell, missing due to an anti-doping hearing. — AFP

## ENGLAND'S ANDERSON AND WOOD RULED OUT OF BANGLADESH TOUR

**LONDON:** England bowlers James Anderson and Mark Wood have been ruled out of next month's tour of Bangladesh due to injury, the England and Wales Cricket Board confirmed yesterday.

Anderson, England's all-time leading Test wicket-taker, has not played since the fourth Test loss to Pakistan in August because of a shoulder injury. Durham seamer Wood, 26, has been having treatment for an ankle injury. England play three one-day internationals and two Tests on the tour, for which they left yesterday.

Nottinghamshire's Jake Ball, named in the ODI squad for Bangladesh but not the Test party, may get the nod to stay on for the second half of the tour. Middlesex's Steven Finn has been added to the ODI squad and England's selectors will consider a further replacement for the Test squad at a later date. The first Test begins in Chittagong on October 20, with England having two two-day warm-up games ahead of the match.

The opening Test of the India tour is due to begin in Rajkot on November 9. An ECB statement confirming that Anderson and Wood would miss the Bangladesh tour said yesterday: "Anderson has been withdrawn from the Test squad due to an ongoing injury to his right shoulder. He requires more time to ensure optimal healing of a stress fracture he sustained during the summer. "Durham seamer Wood has had a recurrence of left ankle symptoms. Both players will be reviewed by the ECB's medical team on a regular basis and further updates will be provided on their progress in due course.

"Middlesex's Steven Finn is added to the ODI squad. Nottinghamshire's Jake Ball is added to the Test squad and selectors will consider a further replacement for the Test squad at a later date."

Anderson's injury saw him miss the first Test against Pakistan at Lord's in July. He went on to play in the rest of the four-Test series, which ended in a 2-2 draw, but has not featured since. The 34-year-old, England's leading Test wicket-taker with 463 wickets in 119 matches, will now try to prove his fitness in time for the five-Test series against India, which starts in November.

Lancashire star Anderson, rested for England's last tour of Bangladesh six years ago, indicated earlier this month he might not play in all seven of the upcoming Tests against Bangladesh and India. "It's a tough one because as a player if you're fit you want to play," he said.

"But there may well come a time when it will get managed. At 34 I probably have to manage myself, be managed, quite well. You want, if possible, to play every Test but India is going to be five back to back and that's a huge ask for any bowler."

England's tour of Bangladesh was called into question after an attack on a cafe in Dhaka in July which saw 20 hostages killed, including 18 foreigners.

However, the ECB gave the tour the go-ahead after an inspection visit to Bangladesh led by team security chief Reg Dickason. — AFP



**KOLKATA:** India's captain Virat Kohli dives to take a catch as others look on during a training session in Kolkata on the eve of the second cricket Test match between India and New Zealand. — AFP

## KOHLI SHRUGS OFF RANKINGS PRESSURE FOR N ZEALAND TEST

**KOLKATA:** Skipper Virat Kohli shrugged off pressure yesterday for India to regain the top spot in the world rankings, saying he's not interested in numbers, ahead of the second Test against New Zealand. After securing a comprehensive 197-run victory against New Zealand in the first Test, India could regain the number one position if they win the second Test starting in Kolkata today and clinch the three-match series.

But Kohli said he was not motivated by records, despite India being just one point behind archrivals Pakistan in the International Cricket Council Test rankings. "Number one doesn't matter for us because it is temporary," the skipper told reporters. "If you get attached to these things then you get upset you are not able to do it. It's better to observe from far on things that are not directly in our control."

India toppled Australia at the top of the rankings after their recent series win against the West Indies, only to be leapfrogged by Pakistan. India are now hopeful of returning to number one before Pakistan play three Tests against the Windies in October and November. Kohli was noncommittal about whether Gautam Gambhir would play in Kolkata after he was spotted in the nets late on Thursday, following the veteran opener's inclusion in the

squad after a two-year absence.

Spin twins Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja bowled India to victory on Monday in Kanpur, but Kolkata's iconic Eden Gardens is not expected to offer as much spin. "The surface is pretty nice, it has a little bit of grass covering. It should be a good wicket to bat on," said Kohli, who had a disappointing time at the crease in Kanpur. Kohli also said India would probably introduce the Decision Review System (DRS) after India's cricket board appeared to soften its opposition to the umpiring system if some changes were introduced.

"We will certainly look to probably introduce it in future," Kohli said. "Those things I can't say yes or no sitting here. We have discussed. We have had meetings about it. There are some areas (that) can be debated, especially ball tracking and hawk eye. New Zealand opener Tom Latham welcomed the apparent change of stance from India, saying the system reduced human errors. "We've had it in the past back home and it is a good system that tends to work. It gets rid of that decision that probably isn't out or is out, that major decision that is called incorrectly. "We enjoy it back home if (India started using it) that'd be great," Latham said. — AFP

## 'HEY TIGER, HOW ABOUT A SANDWICH?'

**CHASKA:** Tiger Woods has endured two tough runner-up finishes in majors at Hazeltine, but he could be reduced even further, to sandwich delivery man, at the Ryder Cup here this week. Woods, the 14-time major winner who is set to return next month after more than a year off due to a back injury, is serving as an assistant to US captain Davis Love at this week's 41st edition of the US-Europe team golf showdown. "We're dividing responsibilities," Love said of himself and his assistants. "I'm in charge and I've given (the assistants) their charge. Tiger was giving me a hard time a couple weeks ago. He said, 'You're giving me way too much to do.'"

Former world number one Woods could find himself with some unusual duties given Love's desire to make sure his players have anything and everything they need to help them win. "We're all having fun and just supporting the team," Love said. "If that means we run back and get a sweater, I'll go get a sweater. "My son and I just delivered turkey sandwiches to the group ahead. I said, 'Very important here. If we don't get the turkey sandwiches to these guys, they're not going to be happy.' All six of us are doing whatever we can to help out."

Just the notion of having Woods, one of the greatest players ever at his peak, bringing him a sandwich was a wild notion for the newest major champion, US player Jimmy Walker, who won the PGA Championship in July. "I hope guys are asking him to run and go get stuff for them, even if they don't want it. I think that's just great," Walker said. Long-hitting teammate J.B. Holmes said he thought Woods was prepared to come through in whatever way needed. "Well, he's a team player, and if that's what needed to be done at the time, I'm sure he'd make sure it gets done," Holmes said. "It's great to have him out here, with all the experience that he's had. An icon. It's amazing to have him in the team room. It's just the right atmosphere. It has been a lot of fun."

Woods birdied the last four holes but lost by one stroke at the 2002 PGA Championship at Hazeltine to unheralded compatriot Rich Beem. Seven years later, the same event was back at Hazeltine and Woods was going for a wire-to-wire victory and a 15th major title. But for the first time as a 54-hole leader, Woods lost a major, shooting a 75 and falling by three shots to South Korean Yang Yong-Eun, the first Asian man to win a major crown. This week, Woods strolled the 18th with Walker in a more casual manner.

### 'We were just golf nerds'

"We've hung out, we talked walking up the 18th the other day," Walker said. "We just talked golf. He was into the equipment and what's going on and what I was hitting and the shots I was hitting. We were just golf nerds. We just kept talking about golf the whole time. "I think he's enjoying it, I really do. He looks like he's having a great time. He has been having a great time at night. I think he's happy to be here and happy to be a part of it." US teammate Matt Kuchar, the Rio Olympic bronze medalist, is happy to have Woods around as well. "I've become good friends with Tiger, played a number of practice rounds and enjoyed the time where I get to pick his brain," Kuchar said. "I've tried to see what sort of help, advice, knowledge, he could pass on, and he's always been very helpful. Always been very giving. Here is a guy who is willing to help out if I have any sort of questions on anything." —AFP



**MINNESOTA:** Danny Willett of Europe plays a shot during practice prior to the 2016 Ryder Cup at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minnesota. —AFP

## WILLETT APOLOGIZES FOR BROTHER'S ANTI-US RANT

**CHASKA:** European Ryder Cup player Danny Willett and captain Darren Clarke apologized on Wednesday over a crude rant from the Masters champion's brother about the nature of U.S. crowds he expects this week at Hazeltine. In an article published on nationalclubgolfer.com, a magazine website, Pete Willett wrote in part: "They need to silence the pudgy, basement-dwelling, irritants, stuffed on cookie dough and pissy beer ..."

"They need to smash the obnoxious dads, with their shiny teeth, Lego man hair, medicated ex-wives, and resentful children," Willett and Clarke emphatically distanced themselves and the team from the diatribe, which was laced with political jabs and swipes using caricatures of Americans. "I'd just like to apologize obviously to everyone involved for what's been said," Willett said. "It's obviously not the thoughts of myself and of the team and of captain Darren."

Clarke said as soon as he was made aware of the article he sought out Willett, who was practicing on the golf course. "He's bitterly disappointed in his brother's article. It is not what Danny thinks. It is not what I think. It is not what Team Europe stands for," Clarke said. Willett said he telephoned his brother after being made aware of what was written. "I said to Pete I was obviously disappointed in what was said and what was written about the American fans that obviously took me under their wing fantastically back in April," he told Golf Channel, alluding to his triumph at Augusta National.

"As soon as I got done on the golf course, I went to see Davis (US Captain Love), and me and Davis had a chat for a few minutes about it all, and he took it very well and I think he's drawn a line under it for himself and for the team. "So hopefully everybody else can

do the same and hopefully we can get on and have a great tournament." The tone of the posting harkened back to a time in Ryder Cup competition at Kiawah Island (1991) and Brookline (1999) where some US fans' actions rose beyond partisanship to rowdy and offensive behaviour.

Following those matches, a concerted effort was made by captains on both sides to stress model sportsmanship and appeal to crowds to respect all participants. Willett said the comments were a big distraction on Wednesday. "It was obviously going crazy, obviously through social media and stuff. Yeah, it is tough to then concentrate, because you don't want people to think badly of yourself," he said. Clarke said the fans at Hazeltine have been very welcoming. "The fans could not have been nicer and better to us this week, and hopefully that continues," Clarke said.—Reuters

## JUTANUGARN BIRDIES HER WAY TO AN EARLY LEAD IN BEIJING

**BEIJING:** Thailand's Ariya Jutanugarn birdied her way through the first round of the Reignwood LPGA Classic in Beijing yesterday, carding 10 of them for a one-shot lead ahead of Canadian Brooke Henderson. Jutanugarn, who is 20 and the highest-ranked player in the field at number two, closed the day with four consecutive birdies to finish at eight-under 65 on the par-73 course.

"Today I really want to have fun and enjoy the course, and just make sure I focus on what's under my control," said Jutanugarn of her opening

round in comments published on the LPGA website. "Not worry about the outcome, the result." She said she had achieved her goal for this year of winning a tournament. "So after I won my first tournament on tour I really want to win a major, and I did," she added. Henderson had a bogey-free first round finishing at seven-under 66 and plans to compete in all six Asian tournaments this autumn.

"I'm looking forward to being in Asia for the first time. I've visited a few other times, but this

will really be the true taste of a bunch different countries and language and culture," she said, referring to forthcoming tournaments in Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and Malaysia. US players Jennifer Song and Lizette Salas were grouped with Chinese trio Pan Yanhong, Yang Taoli and Feng Shanshan for a share of third place on 68. Defending champion Mirim Lee, from South Korea, languished a stroke further down the leaderboard along with a handful of others after ending the first round on four-under 69. —AFP

## BANANA-THROWING MARS PSV CLASH IN RUSSIA

**MOSCOW:** Russian football authorities yesterday downplayed a banana-throwing incident at the Champions League match between Rostov and PSV Eindhoven, despite it coming as the club served a punishment for racist abuse. The problem of widespread racism in Russian football is under the microscope as the country gears up to host the 2018 World Cup and the authorities are often accused of turning

a blind eye to the issue.

Television footage from the 2-2 draw in the World Cup host city showed a banana thrown onto the pitch mid-way through the first half, R-Sport news agency reported. The game was already being played in a partially closed stadium after European governing body UEFA sanctioned Rostov for fan racism at a home game against Dutch side Ajax in August. "I think the incident in Rostov

is unique and that this will not repeat itself in the future," Alexei Sorokin, the head of Russia's World Cup organizing committee, told TASS news agency. "We follow this issue along with the Russian Football Union (RFU) but it is obviously impossible to screen every person in the stands."

It remains unclear if any disciplinary measures will be taken. FIFA came under fire this week for disbanding its

racism task force after claiming the body's mission had been accomplished. FIFA secretary general Fatma Samoura said Monday that Russian authorities had been "very receptive to diversity and battling discrimination" in talks she had with them. Racist incidents-including insults and monkey chants-are commonplace at football matches in Russia and a string of other European countries. —AFP

## HIGUAIN'S MOVE MAY BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

**MILAN:** Napoli's free-scoring, unbeaten start to the season has suggested that the departure of prolific forward Gonzalo Higuain, viewed as a crushing blow at the time, could have been a blessing in disguise. Maurizio Sarri's team have blasted 20 goals in their first eight games this season and turned on the style again on Wednesday as they thumped Portuguese champions Benfica, also previously unbeaten, 4-2 in the Champions League. Higuain scored a Serie A record of 36 goals as he led Napoli to second place last season but the club reluctantly let him go when Juventus triggered a 90 million euro (\$100.96 million) buyout clause in his contract.

Napoli fans were furious at the time and even on Wednesday night, toilet rolls were being sold outside the San Paolo stadium with Higuain's photograph on the packaging. But on the field, Napoli's football has been flowing and, rather than depending on one player, the goals have been shared between Arkadiusz Milik (seven), Jose Callejon (five), Dries Mertens (four), Marek Hamsik (three) and Manolo Gabbiadini (one). "We have changed a few things in the final 25 metres of the pitch, partly to respect the characteristics of our central forwards who are different to Higuain," said Sarri. "The wide players have also changed their role." It may be for the better.

For all his goals and ruthless finishing, Higuain, an out-and-out striker who can safely be described as an old-fashioned number nine, gives the impression of being a difficult team mate. There was often a sense that Napoli's players always felt obliged to pass to him, an idea reinforced by his angry reactions when they failed to do so. He also has a reputation for cracking under pressure, most notably when he missed a penalty against Lazio two seasons ago which could have taken Napoli into the Champions League. Over at Juventus, Higuain has scored five goals this season but while he has continued to flourish, Paulo Dybala, excellent last season, has struggled to get into gear, finally getting off the mark against Dinamo Zagreb on Tuesday. —Reuters

## ASIA BRINGS IN EXTRA REFEREES FOR THE GOALMOUTH INCIDENTS

**NEW DELHI:** Asia's football body said yesterday it would use extra referees to help stamp out goalmouth controversies in its top competitions, falling into line with Europe. The additional assistant referees will patrol each goal area, helping out with the goal line, penalty and offside decisions that can be critical to a game's outcome. They will be used from the quarter-finals of next year's AFC Champions League and AFC Cup, and also at the national-level Asian Cup in the United Arab Emirates in 2019. An Asian Football Confederation statement said the assistants would "give referees additional support when a decision has to be taken around the penalty area, to help make decisions on the goal line and assist in making offside decisions".

It follows a steady flow of incidents, including Japan's disallowed goal in this month's 2-1 World Cup qualifying loss to UAE, when the ball clearly crossed the line. Competitions organized by European body UEFA already have extra referees watching the goal, and World Cups and European Championships also employ goal line technology. —AFP



**GLASGOW:** Manchester City's German midfielder Ilkay Gundogan (center) attempts a shot on goal during the UEFA Champions League Group C football match between Celtic and Manchester City at Celtic Park stadium in Glasgow, Scotland on September 28, 2016. —AFP

## CITY RISK-VS-REWARD STYLE PAYING OFF FOR GUARDIOLA

**MANCHESTER:** Manchester City's risk-versus-reward approach under Pep Guardiola was summed up in one passage of play during a Champions League match against Celtic. With two opponents closing in, City goalkeeper Claudio Bravo coolly slid a pass between them to midfielder Fernandinho on the edge of the area. Pressured by two more hounding Celtic players, Fernandinho produced a Cruyff turn to create space for himself and burst upfield. Just like that, Celtic was opened up and City was launching another attack. Guardiola acknowledges his possession-based style is fraught with danger but it's been getting results, with City making its best-ever start to a season in winning 10 straight games and scoring 30 goals in the process. It sparked talk of City winning the Premier League at a canter.

However, a 3-3 draw at Celtic on Wednesday that ended City's winning run exposed potential fallibilities in Guardiola's side. Bravely standing toe-to-toe with City, Celtic pressed high, hassled relentlessly and looked to outmuscle City's ball-playing defenders. It worked, with City enduring an uncomfortable night at atmospheric Parkhead, especially at the back. Sitting deep against City and attempting to soak up pressure has got teams nowhere so far. Celtic has shown fellow sides the blueprint to trouble Guardiola's side: Take them on. As it happens, Tottenham - one of the best proponents of a high-energy, high-intensity pressing game - is City's next opponent in the standout match of the Premier League this weekend. It's first vs. second in the standings, a meeting between two unbeaten teams. Tottenham will know Bravo isn't great under the high ball and takes risks with the ball at his feet. They'll know the likely center-back pairing of John Stones and Nicolas Otamendi can be brittle. And they'll know the absence of injured playmaker Kevin De Bruyne takes some creativity out of City's side.

Tottenham beat City home and away last season but it will be a huge task to stop the new-look City juggernaut. Guardiola has got City operating at previously unseen levels. The team's biggest problem under his predecessor as manager, Manuel Pellegrini, was its work rate. But under Guardiola, City is second behind Liverpool in the "dis-

ance covered" category, according to sports data company Opta. Dropping Yaya Toure has helped City in this regard.

Guardiola is getting the best out of winger Raheem Sterling, who was a disappointment last season after signing for \$76 million, by giving him self-belief and playing to his strengths by getting him one-on-one with defenders as much as possible. He has five goals already. Likewise, Aleksandar Kolarov is looking like a different player under Guardiola, who has even turned the Serbia left back into a ball-playing center back - with mixed results. Playmaker David Silva looks liberated now that he is playing more centrally. Then there's Sergio Aguero, a scorer of 11 goals in seven games this season. Guardiola is still asking for more from the striker, saying he has to work harder when City isn't in possession to help the team. That sums up Guardiola's demanding approach. As does his removal from the first team of goalkeeper Joe Hart and Toure, who were mainstays for the past six years. They didn't fit his philosophy - Hart for his poor footwork and Toure for his lack of intensity in midfield - so they've been banished. "I want to have control," Guardiola said after City beat Manchester United 2-1 this month. He was talking about his ball-possession but he could so easily have been referring to his grip on the squad. Here are some other things to look out for this weekend before the Premier League has a two-week break for international matches:

### Walcott's revival

Theo Walcott's future at Arsenal looked bleak after a disappointing last season when he was mostly used off the bench and lost his place in the England squad. Now it appears he's back to his best. Walcott has started all of Arsenal's league games, and has scored four goals in his last three games ahead of Sunday's match at Burnley. The pacy winger credits his improved form to a chat he had with manager Arsene Wenger during the offseason. "I want it more than anyone else," Walcott said. Arsenal is unbeaten in eight games since losing to Liverpool on the opening weekend. —AP



Indian footballer Sunil Chhetri

## FIVE KEY PLAYERS TO WATCH IN INDIA'S ISL

**NEW DELHI:** The third edition of the Indian Super League begins this weekend. AFP Sport takes a look at five key players in the 11-week tournament:

### Lucio (Goa)

The much-travelled Brazilian has a CV to die for after playing for European giants Juventus, Inter Milan and Bayern Munich as well as winning the 2002 World Cup in Japan. Now aged 38, he remains an imposing presence at centre-back and will captain Goa under another Brazilian legend, Zico. Goa reached the final last year but their defeat to Chennaiyin came at a heavy price as they were fined after a post-match brawl. Despite that setback, Lucio says he is up for the challenge in this year's contest, saying he wants to go one better with FC Goa this year signing for a second season with the coastal outfit.

### John Arne Riise (Chennaiyin)

Now 36, the former Liverpool and Roma player is back for a second stint in the ISL after playing last year with the Delhi Dynamos. A left-back famed for his spectacular long-range shooting, the red-headed Riise is best known for his seven-year spell with Liverpool in which he made nearly 250 appearances. His finest hour came when the team from Merseyside won the 2005 Champions League against AC Milan after being 3-0 down at half-time. Born in the city

of Molde on the shores of Norway's Romsdalsfjord, he won a record 110 caps for his country in a career that also saw him play club football in France and Cyprus.

### Sunil Chhetri (Mumbai City)

India's most capped player and all-time top-scorer, the 32-year-old Chhetri netted seven in last year's ISL. His partnership with the veteran former Manchester United forward Diego Forlan will be key to their hopes of becoming champions. Mumbai City failed to make the semi-finals in either of the two earlier editions but their new-look forward line looks the most potent on paper. Chhetri is also likely to relish playing with the affable Forlan after spending last season alongside the famously brooding figure of Frenchman Nicolas Anelka. Mumbai will play their home matches this year in the new Mumbai Sports Arena in the northern suburb of Andheri, where Chhetri spurred India to a 4-1 victory over Puerto Rico earlier in September.

### Florent Malouda (Delhi Dynamos)

A beaten World Cup finalist in 2006, Malouda used to partner the great Zinedine Zidane in France's midfield. So he will doubtless be looking forward to Delhi's showdowns against Chennaiyin and their Italian coach Marco Materazzi, whom Zidane infamously headbutted in the 2006 final. Along with his 80 international caps, Malouda was an English Premier League and Champions

League winner with Chelsea in a six-year spell that ended acrimoniously when he was forced to train with the youth team by the Blues' coach at the time, Roberto Di Matteo. After enjoying an earlier ISL stint with the Delhi Dynamos, Malouda most recently appeared with Wadi Degla earlier this year in Egypt's top-flight.

### Iain Hume (Atletico de Kolkata)

The Scottish-born Canadian international has made a remarkable comeback since his skull was fractured during a match while playing for Barnsley in England's second tier in 2008. Doctors feared for his life and he was left with an 18-inch horseshoe scar. He battled back to play again in the same season but seemed destined to never quite fulfill his early promise. But since signing for Kerala Blasters in the first edition of the ISL, the powerful centre-forward has been arguably the tournament's outstanding player. He won the Most Valuable Player award in 2014 and was the ISL's second highest scorer last year with 11 after making the switch from Kerala to Kolkata. Kolkata's chances of winning a second title after their triumph in the inaugural edition will depend in large part on the 32-year-old's link-up with former Spurs striker Helder Postiga. The Portuguese scored twice in his debut for Atletico last season before getting injured and missing the rest of the competition. —AFP

## CHINESE INVESTORS MUST 'RESPECT' LOCAL CULTURE

**MANCHESTER:** The flow of Chinese billionaires seeking to invest in European clubs, especially the Premier League, must be sensitive to local feeling should they succeed in buying a team, a senior Chinese media executive warned. Molly Li Mo, director of international and external relations at sports service platform Alisports, admitted in talks she had with European football powerbrokers at the SoccerEx Global Football Convention she had detected mixed feelings.

The businessmen from China, whose President Xi Jinping has made hosting the World Cup and also ultimately winning it as major priorities, have flexed their financial muscle in England. They have in the past year bought clubs such as Premier League side West Brom and Championship duo Aston Villa and Wolves—whilst Chinese Super League clubs have become a major force in the transfer market.

"In my inter-actions here I felt there was both excitement and concerns," she said. "Each investor has its own motivation. My only pledge is when we (the Chinese) do invest we have to be very careful to respect local sentiment." There is a lot of culture and feeling surrounding these clubs. The buyer must be conscious they are not only serving Chinese football interests but also local ones." Tim Bridge, senior consultant at Deloitte Sports Business Group, concurred with that sentiment.

"We (Deloitte) believe that this place in time English Premier League clubs represent a very feasible return on investment," he said. "But of course any owner taking over a club would need to balance the demands and needs associated with a club." Paul Duffen, former chairman of Hull City and who was in place when the club first played in China in 2009, said foreign investment was welcome so long as it was for the right reasons. "They have to understand the reasons for buying the club. If it is a vanity tool it doesn't always work," he said.

"Also try to eliminate as many of the middle men as possible who are trying to get involved in the deal. Otherwise it becomes dysfunctional. "The buyer must understand local culture and respect it. "If they try and change it they will be knocking their head against a brick wall." Bridge said the Chinese could also learn a lot from English football in developing their own game back home. A large delegation was in Manchester this week on a fact finding mission, visiting not only the Convention but also local clubs.

"For learning about grassroots development they can learn a lot about how to do it or not to do it in England," he said. "They are willing to learn about the best practices on and off the pitch." Spain too is getting in on helping the Chinese develop the sport back in China, working alongside the Chinese Ministry of Education and supplying coaches to schools. "For the Football Development project we have sent 40 coaches to schools in China and we have renewed the contract and will send 53 for next season," said former Malaga and Real Madrid player Fernando Sanz, who is now general director for La Liga international projects. —AFP

## ISL DOING IT INDIA'S WAY AS CHINA SPLURGES

**MUMBAI:** The third Indian Super League season kicks off tomorrow with organizers intent on turning it into a global brand and shrugging off comparisons with big-spending China. Former Atletico Madrid star Diego Forlan, Brazilian World Cup-winner Lucio and Champions League winner John Arne Riise are some of the stars of yesteryear turning out in the eight-team, 11-week-

long football tournament.

While India is yet to attract top players at the height of their powers, unlike the deep-pocketed Chinese Super League, Indian officials say it is unfair to compare the vastly different Asian giants. "In China and India the situation cannot be the same because in China the might of the government is fully behind," Praful Patel, president of the

All India Football Federation said. Chinese Super League clubs have spent just over 400 million euros (\$447 million) on players this year, luring players like 26-year-old Liverpool target Alex Teixeira and Italy forward Graziano Pelle, 31.

But Patel said India was in a different position to China, where a push to raise football standards comes from none

other than President Xi Jinping. "I compliment (China) but given all the considerations, Indian football is going in the right direction," Patel said. Brazilian legend Zico returns as FC Goa's manager for a third consecutive season, while Italian World Cup winner Gianluca Zambrotta will coach Delhi Dynamos and Englishman Steve Coppell is managing Kerala Blasters. —AFP

## 'CONFIDENT' HALEP BOOKS WTA FINALS

**WUHAN:** World number five Simona Halep downed Madison Keys in the quarter finals of the Wuhan Open yesterday to book her place in the elite season-end WTA Final for the third consecutive year. Big serving Keys took an early lead in the first set, breaking the Romanian's serve twice, but was unable to maintain the momentum as Halep equaled and then took the set 6-4. Halep—who turned 25 this week—dropped just two games to take the second set and confirm her place in the eight-player season finale in Singapore.

Only world number one Angelique Kerber and Serena Williams have so far qualified for the highly lucrative tournament, and the field remains wide open for the remaining five spots. "It's amazing to be qualified again for Singapore three years in a row. It's a good thing. It gives me confidence," Halep told reporters after the quarter final match. In a similar way to Kerber, Halep plays off the strength of big hitters like Williams and Keys, who is often cast as the American veteran's successor. "She can hit very strong. She can miss some easy balls," the Romanian said of her quarter final opponent. "I don't (have) big shots, but I have speed on the court... I like to take the ball fast. So when I do that, I think I can play at the highest level," she added.

With Williams having taken only one Grand Slam title this year and slipped from her long-held number one spot in the rankings, Halep said earlier this week that she feels she now has a shot at the top. "Every Grand Slam was another winner, Kerber two times this year. I feel now is more open. I feel that I have bigger chance," said the Romanian, who ended last season as world number two but is yet to win a Slam. Halep will meet either two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova or Briton Johanna Konta in the semi-finals yesterday. —AFP



**WUHAN, China:** Simona Halep of Romania hits a return during her third round match against Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan at the WTA Wuhan Open tennis tournament in Wuhan, in China's central Hubei province. —AFP

## STAN-DESTROYER ZVEREV READY FOR HOPMAN CUP

**PERTH:** Rising German star Alexander Zverev, fresh from conquering US Open champion Stan Wawrinka, will play for Germany in the mixed-teams Hopman Cup in Perth in January, organizers said yesterday. The 19-year-old, ranked 24 and dubbed by Wawrinka as the "future of tennis", upset the Swiss world number three to win his first ATP title at St Petersburg last weekend. Zverev, who became the youngest player to win a professional title since Marin Cilic in

2008, will partner Andrea Petkovic in the German team for the January 1-7 event. "It's a great event. Having Hopman Cup as the first event of the year for many players is something very good," Zverev said.

"It is perfect preparation for the Australian Open. You play in similar conditions, you have a great stadium court which is very nice and playing for your country in the first event of the year is something very special." Roger

Federer, who is skipping the latter part of this year with injury, has already been confirmed for the tournament, partnering fellow Swiss Belinda Bencic. The other confirmed teams are the Czech Republic (Adam Pavlasek and Petra Kvitova) and the United States (Jack Sock and Coco Vandeweghe). Organizers said teams from Australia, Great Britain, Spain and France will also be represented and should be finalized early next month. —AFP

## PENGUINS BLANK BLACKHAWKS 2-0

**CHICAGO:** Chris Kunitz scored two third-period goals in the defending Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins' 2-0 exhibition victory over the Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday night. Kunitz scored on a power play 2:31 into the third, and added his second 6:48 later. Tristan Jarry made 30 saves for Pittsburgh for the shutout. Chicago's Scott Darling stopped 33 shots.

### Red Wings beat Bruins

At Boston, Luke Glendening and Steve Ott each had a goal and an assist to help the Detroit Red Wings beat the Boston Bruins 5-1. Drew Miller, Anthony Manta and Kyle Crisculo also scored for Detroit, and Jared Coreau made 35 saves. Austin Czarina scored for Boston. Malcolm Subban started for the Bruins and allowed four goals on 34 shots in two periods. Dan Vladar stopped seven of eight shots in the third.

### Konecny leads Flyers past Devils

In Allentown, Pennsylvania, Travis Konecny had a goal and an assist in the second period in the Philadelphia Flyers' 2-0 victory over the New Jersey Devils. Konecny deflected Andrew MacDonald's point shot past Keith Kinkaid 4:30 into the second period to open the scoring. Four minutes and 34 seconds later, Philadelphia's 2015 first-round pick set up Michael Raffl's goal. Anthony Stolarz and Alex Lyon split time in goal for the Flyers. Stolarz made 11 saves, and Lyon stopped seven shots. Kinkaid played the entire game in net for New Jersey, finishing with 22 saves.

### Avalanche rally past stars

In Denver, Francois Beauchemin, Ben Smith and Patrick Wiercioch scored third-period goals in the Colorado Avalanche's 4-2 comeback victory over the Dallas Stars. Joe Whitney had a first-period goal for the

Avalanche. Radek Faksa scored twice in the second for Dallas. Colorado's Kent Simpson stopped all seven shots he faced in the third period to get the win. Calvin Pickard started for the Avalanche and allowed both goals on 24 shots. Stars goalie Philippe Desrosiers allowed two third-period goals on four shots and took the loss. Starter Antti Niemi made 14 saves on 15 shots in the first two periods.

### Canucks top Oilers

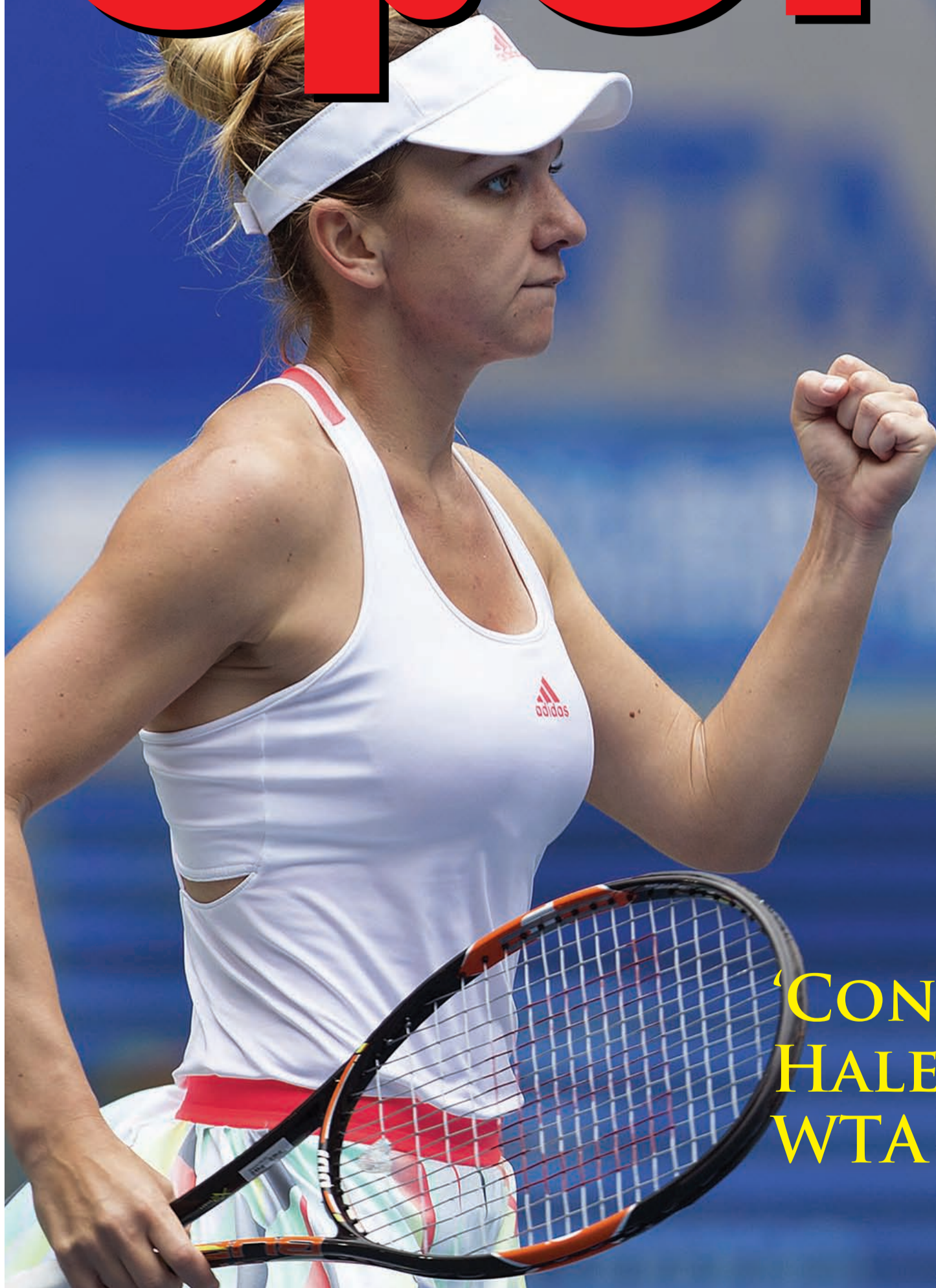
In Vancouver, British Columbia, Anton Rodin broke a tie on a power play with 4:07 left and Vancouver Canucks beat the Edmonton Oilers 5-3. Joseph LaBate, Troy Stecher, Brendan Gaunce, and Erik Gudbranson also scored for Vancouver. Drake Caggiula scored twice and Griffin Reinhart had a goal for Edmonton. With Benoit Pouliot off for tripping, Rodin one-timed a pass from Stecher for the go-ahead goal. —AP

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**HUBEI:** Simona Halep of Romania reacts after she scored a point against Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan during the WTA Wuhan Open in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province. — AP

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