

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2017

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Kuwait City beaches 'free of oil' after spill



UAE nuclear program edges towards 2018 launch



Comedy legend Jerry Lewis dies at 91

THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF



Brilliant Neymar dazzles again in PSG romp



HARBI URGED TO CANCEL NEW HEALTH CHARGES FOR EXPATS

LAWYER SUBMITS APPEAL • MPS SLAM SABEEH FOR HIRING EXPATS

33° Min Max 46° **High Tide** 00:35 & 11:40 **Low Tide**

06:03 & 19:01

POLICE SHOOT DEAD **BARCELONA ATTACKER**

SUBIRATS, Spain: Spanish police yesterday shot dead Younes Abouyaaqoub, the suspected driver of a van that mowed down pedestrians in Barcelona, after a massive

Abouyaaqoub

manhunt for the Moroccan national who was wearing what appeared to be a suicide belt when he was killed. "We confirm that the person shot down in the incident in Subirats (near Barcelona) is Younes Abouyaaqoub, the perpetrator of the terrorist attack Barcelona," police in Catalonia tweeted.

Four days after his van rampage on the tourist-packed Las Ramblas boulevard, police

took down the 22-year-old in the village about 60 km west of Barcelona. Police said their operation on a winding road between two vineyards was ongoing as they were trying to determine if there were other suspects involved in the devastating twin attacks that claimed 15 lives last week. They had removed the apparent suicide belt from Abouyaaqoub's body but had yet to confirm if it was real or fake. — AFP (See Page 6)



The sun's corona is visible as the moon covers the sun during a total solar eclipse at Big Summit Prairie ranch in Oregon's Ochoco National Forest near the city of Mitchell yesterday. — AFP

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE ENTHRALLS US

SHERIDAN, Oregon: Americans gazed in wonder It promised to be the most observed and phothrough telescopes, cameras and disposable protective glasses yesterday as the moon blotted out the midday sun in the first full-blown solar eclipse to sweep the US from coast to coast in nearly a century.

tographed eclipse in history, with millions staking out prime viewing spots and settling into lawn chairs to watch, especially along the path of totality - the line **Continued on Page 11**

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Lawyer Hashem Ahmad Al-Rifae submitted a grievance and an appeal to Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi to cancel the new health fees to be imposed on expats. He said in his letter that the decision will have negative repercussions and will harm citizens too, in addition to harming Kuwait's reputation. "Kuwait is a humanitarian country of peace, and Kuwait gives aid to victims of natural catastrophes and wars regardless of their religion, origin or language," he said.

Rifae said the decision contradicts Kuwait's constitution as well as laws and rules that regulate services. He added law 1/1999 doesn't permit the health ministry to impose new fees on those included in the health assurance scheme or increase any fees.

Earlier this month, Harbi issued two ministerial decrees to increase health fees paid by expatriates and visitors for using services at public hospitals and polyclinics. The new fee structure will go into effect on Oct 1. Kuwait has also implemented other anti-expat measures in recent months, including significantly hiking the fees for parents' residency visas and raising electricity and water charges for apartment buildings that are mostly inhabited by expats, among others.

The moves come amid a campaign by some MPs against expatriates and their numbers. Foreigners make up around 70 percent of Kuwait's population of 4.2 million. Yesterday, MPs continued their assault on Social Affairs Minister Hind Al-Sabeeh over papers and documents

Continued on Page 11









KUWAIT: A Kuwaiti woman walks past a sign reading in Arabic: "for your safety swimming and fishing are temporarily banned" at a beach in Kuwait City yesterday. An oil spill was discovered recently off the Kuwaiti coast, and pollution was also detected at some beaches in the country. —Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT CITY BEACHES 'FREE OF OIL'



By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: Investigations by Kuwait Times reveal that social media rumors of a recent oil spill reaching the shores of Kuwait City are baseless. Kuwait Times visited six different beaches in and around Kuwait: Messilah, Shuwaikh, Anjafa and several spots in Salmiya and found no evidence of crude oil. Signs posted at several of the beaches, including one at Anjafa beach, warned visitors against swimming in the water, as a temporary precaution.

On August 12, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation announced that it was working to clean up an oil spill - estimated at around 34,000 gallons according to a US-based NGO - that took place near Ras Al Zour off the southern coast of Kuwait. "Nearby beaches will be cleaned once power and water plants are secured and the oil spill is put under full control," a KPC statement from the

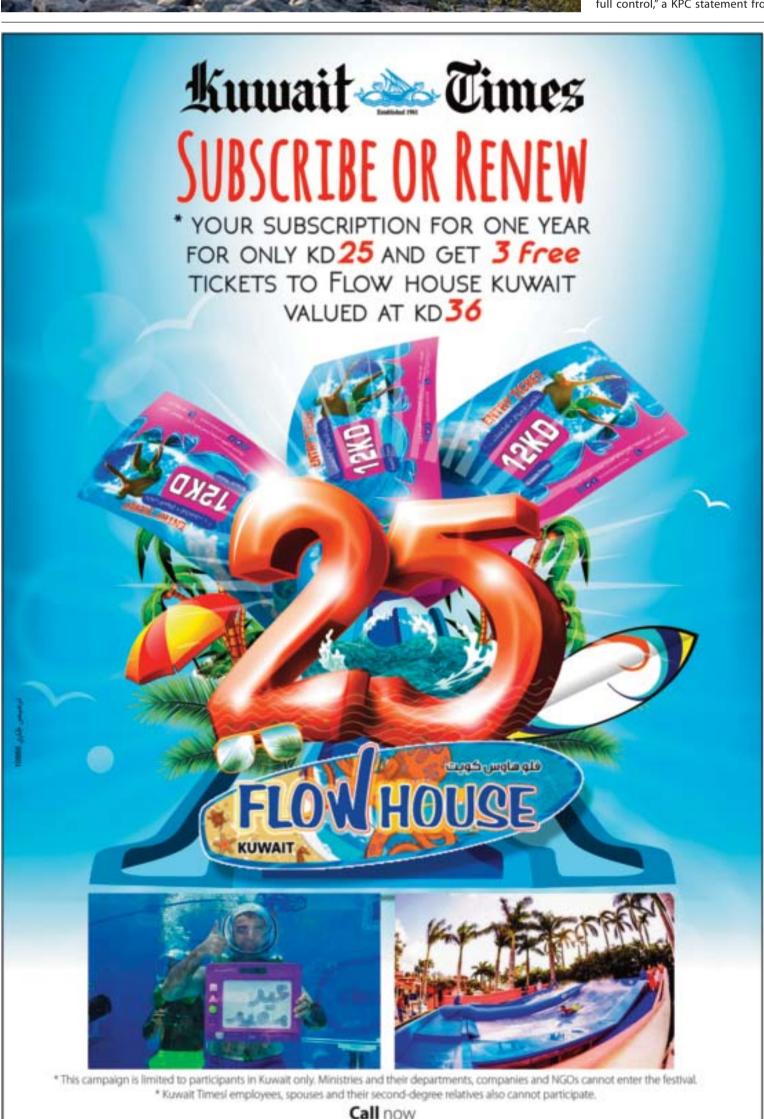
day announced. Ras Al-Zour is where Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) is building the Middle East's largest oil refinery with a capacity of 615,000 per day and \$11.5 billion worth of contracts.

The extent of the spill or its source was not revealed. But an analysis of satellite imagery by a US-based non-profit organization suggests at least 34,000 gallons of oil have leaked out during a spill off the coast of Kuwait. West Virginia-based SkyTruth says satellite photos from the day of the spill off southern Kuwait show it spread over a distance covering 131 square kilometers (50.5 square miles). In the United States and throughout the oil industry world-wide, an oil barrel is defined as 42 US gallons, which is about 159 liters or 35 imperial gallons.

In a blog post last week, SkyTruth also noted a pipe-laying ship was transiting through the area at the time of

the spill. Authorities have yet to definitively identify the source of the leak, though they initially suspected it came from a tanker. According to Khaled Al-Hajri, Environmental activist and the Head of the Green Line Environmental Group the situation is mysterious.

"Almost two weeks past of the first oil spill in Ras Al Zour and the official authorities didn't unveil the source of this spill. This is really strange. Unofficial news claimed that the company in charge of investigating the reason of the oil spill knows the source but is keeping it secret. This area is monitored by satellite 24 hours a day, so I believe they can easily find the cause," he told the Kuwait Times. A second oil slick was reported off the coast of Abu Fatira two days after the Zour spill, estimated at one nautical mile long according to an Environmental Public Authority statement. No source was revealed for the second spill either.



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AAVS and 360 MALL representatives

TAMDEEN GROUP IS GOLDEN SPONSOR FOR UK AAVS 2017

KUWAIT: Tamdeen Group is the Golden Sponsor for the UK Architectural Association Visiting School Program (AAVS) 2017 in Kuwait, which brings together architecture students, academics and practicing professionals to explore the latest in architecture and design ideas and methodologies from around the world. Founded in 1890, the Architectural Association (AA) is the UK's oldest and only remaining private school of architecture with world renowned graduates such as Zaha Hadid, Richard Rogers, Rem Koolhaas, Steven Holl and many more.

Headquartered in London, where students attend full-time courses, the AA also runs a global initiative 'AA Visiting School', which delivers short courses open to academics and professionals alike in more than 50 countries around the world every year, including Kuwait. AAVS Kuwait 2017 commenced on 7th August 2017 and ran until 19th August 2017 at Masaha13, a nonprofit art and cultural space in Shuwaikh Industrial Area.

Over 12 days, a series of workshops were held, which focused on the theme of 'Emergent Constructions'. These workshops revolved around investigative information-based design and digital fabrication techniques and incorporated them in a project to construct a 1:1 scale architectural pavilion. The display will be present at 360 MALL till September 2nd in The Main Atrium.

The installation incorporated local Kuwaiti cultural specificities through the interplay between the information gathered before the construction and the new implied facilities for movement, views, seating and social interaction embedded within the designed structure. The project brought together around 20 Kuwaiti participants from Kuwait University, College of Architecture and from architecture and design firms in Kuwait, in addition to one professional participant from Australia.

"As part of our community engagement and social responsibility, Tamdeen Group has always been committed to the encouragement and nurturing of local Kuwaiti talents, and helping them push the boundaries of their creative and intellectual output and ideas," said Muath Al Roumi, GM-Group Corporate Marketing. "Today, we are proud to be the Golden Sponsor for the AAVS program, which offers a unique opportunity for Kuwait's architecture and design community to engage with their peers from across the world."

"The AAVS is honored to receive the support of Tamdeen Group for their contribution to advancing the education of architecture in Kuwait by helping to bring the latest innovative methodologies for digital design and fabrication with respect to social, cultural and environmental contexts of Kuwait," said Sulaiman Al Othman.





AMIR RECEIVES KCCI CHAIRMAN, BOARD MEMBER

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday received Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Chairman Ali Mohammad Thunayan Al-Ghanim, and KCCI board member Osama Mohammad Al-Nisf at Al-Sief Palace. — KUNA

WORLD LEADERS COMMITTED TO 8TH GOAL OF SDG

KUWAIT PLACES PRIORITY ON INVESTMENT IN HUMAN RESOURCES

PALESTINIAN TEACHERS RETURN TO KUWAIT AFTER A 25-YEAR ABSENCE

KUWAIT: Palestinian teachers are returning to Kuwait, ending an absence that spanned over a quarter of a century, to join their counterparts from Kuwait and other nationalities to contribute to the development of education. The government of Kuwait agreed to re-hire Palestinian teachers, many of whom left the country during Iraq's 1990-91 invasion and occupation of Kuwait, thus paving the way for the Ministry of Education to contact the Palestinian embassy to recruit the teachers.

Rami Tahbob, in remarks to Palestinian newspapers, said Kuwait was planning to hire teachers for the 2017-18 school year. The Education Ministry signed, last April, contracts with 105 Palestinian males and females - Math and Science teachers. Dr Haitham Al-Athari, Ministry's Undersecretary, underlined keenness to improve education at the administrative and teaching levels.

Speaking to KUNA, Al-Athari said the ministry sought to hire Palestinian teachers whose expertise would contribute to educational improvement. He said the student was the core of the educational process because this student teachers; Ahmad Shehabuddin, would be part of development of Kuwait. Al-Athari said the ministry was keen on recruiting excellent teachers regardless of their nationalities, however the Kuwaiti teacher remained the main teachers, coincided with the opening of contributor to elevating the teaching process to higher levels.

MP Dr Mohammad Al-Huwailah, Chairman of the Education Committee at the National Assembly, said he was confident the Palestinian teachers would boost educational level in

Kuwait. "We in the educational parliamentary committee are keen on recruiting excellent teachers from abroad, in addition to emphasizing on the special role of the Kuwaiti teachers," he said in previous press remarks. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, in a statement earlier this month, rallied behind the teachers who are on their way to Kuwait, a nation that had heavily depended on Palestinian educators years ago.

"Kuwait fondly recollects Palestinian Palestinian Ambassador to Kuwait contributions to pedagogy and the passion with which Palestinian instructors have imparted their knowledge to the people of Kuwait," Abbas told the contingent of teachers. He noted that the success of the educators will "open the door for the triumphant return of Palestinian instructors to the Gulf region. "We trust you to carry on the legacy of the Palestinian teacher," Abbas said. Palestinian teachers accounted for 49 percent of overall teachers in Kuwait between 1965 and 1975.

> However, teachers from Palestine were in Kuwait way before the 1960s. The first expedition consisted of four Khamees Najm, Mohammad Al-Maghrubi and Jaber Hassan Hadeed, who came to Kuwait in 1936. The other Palestinian expedition, consisting of five new schools for boys in 1939-40. Palestinian female teachers first came to Kuwait in the year 1937-38. Sisters Waseefa and Refqa Ouda were the first. Then they were joined by Maryam Abdulmalek Al-Saleh; Kuwait's first teacher. —KUNA

BEIRUT: At the UN meeting in September 2015, world leaders announced commitment to the Eighth Goal of the 17th Sustainable Development Goals of "promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all." The number of unemployed people in the world is relatively high, with 202 million registered in 2012, including 75 million young men and women, the UN Information Center in Beirut said.

It pointed out that the lack of decent work opportunities, inadequate investment and low consumption lead to "the erosion of the basic social contract on which democratic societies are based, the need for the participation of all in progress." It noted that the slow and uneven progress of economic development around the world prompted governments and bodies working in this center to rethink their policies to achieve high levels of productivity through the use of new tools in this area

The goal is to maintain individual economic growth according to national conditions, as well as to achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, upgrading technology and innovation, the UN Center said. It referred to the steps to be taken in that regard, such as the promotion of development-oriented policies that supported productive activities, provided decent work opportunities, stimulated entrepreneurship, promoted creativity and innovation and encouraged the formalization of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

Nearly half of the world's population lives on the equivalent of just USD two a day, the statement said, referring to international reports stating the need for 470 million jobs globally for newcomers to the labor market between the years 2016-2030. It said about 900 million workers - one out of every three workers live below the poverty line, considering that good job creation was a major challenge for all economies.

ILO Global Charter

The United Nations stressed the importance of working to reduce the proportion of young people not enrolled in schools and universities to launch properly "towards achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men by 2030." It is important that governments work together to activate and implement the ILO's Global Charter for Employment by 2020, which includes how to address the economic crisis by ensuring decent work and adopting principles to promote recovery and development and to build other social protection systems.

Kuwait launched last year the "Kuwait Day for Occupational Health and Safety in the Workplace" within the framework of the national cooperation between the General Secretariat for Planning and Development and the United Nations Development Program. which aims to support the General Authority for Labor Force by providing expertise in the field of labor market research, besides the importance of implementing occupational health and safety standards and adherence to international conventions and labor standards.

The Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development in Kuwait Khaled Mahdi said in a previous statement that "the total workforce in Kuwait in 2014 amounted to 2.42 million people, or 60 percent of the total population," pointing out that the increase in the number of entrants to the labor market reflects the young nature of Kuwaiti society. Kuwait places priority on investment in human resources and its preservation. It is keen to provide a healthy environment and protect workers from the hazards of industries and occupational diseases that accompany work. —KUNA

News

in brief

Crown Prince Cup

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Football Association interim committee held a draw Sunday for His Highness the Crown Prince Football Cup competition for the 2017-18 season, which included with 15 local clubs. The Crown Prince Cup will take place after the end of football league season, dubbed VIVA league, and the teams were divided into two groups, while matches will be held through a knockout system, the committee said in a statement. The first group includes Kuwait, Shabab, Burqan, Yarmuk, Fahaheel, Sulaibikhat and Arabi clubs. The second group included Qadsia, Sahil, Naser, Jahra, Tadamun, Kazma, Khaitan and Salmiya clubs. Later, the committee held a draw for the country's football league championship (VIVA) to the 2017-18 season, which will take place within the twopoints system. The committee noted that the season will start on September 14th and will take place with two divisions, the premier league and the second divisions. The premier league will include eight teams, and they are Kuwait, Arabi, Qadsia, Jahra, Tadamun, Kazma and Salmiya. While, the second division will include Shabab, Burgan, Fahaheel, Yarmuk, Sulaibkhat Khaitan and Sahil.



Kuwait grabs golds

BEIRUT: Kuwait's Kyokushin team won two gold medals at the international Fight Night championship that came to a close in Sidon city, south Lebanon, on Sunday evening. Dhari Al-Anzi secured the first gold after knocking down his German rival in the middleweight (under 85 kg) event just 40 seconds through the game, said Hassan Al-Kandari, head of the Kuwaiti squad to the tourney. Salem Al-Harbi claimed the title of the lightweight (70 kg) competition after beating his Palestinian rival in the second round, Al-Kandari said. Al-Kandari dedicated the great achievement to the Kuwaiti leaders and people, highlighting the importance of participation in regional and international sports events. He called on the Kuwaiti youth to know more about Kyokushin, a stand-up, full contact style of karate, and other martial arts that gain growing popularity worldwide. The championship, organized by Sidon academy of martial arts in collaboration with the Lebanese Kyokushin federation and Sidon municipality, gathered 34 competitors from nine countries.

WMD-free Mideast

MOSCOW: Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his visiting Egyptian counterpart Sameh Shoukry yesterday agreed to work together in order to create a weapons of mass destruction (WMD)-free Middle East. Speaking at a joint news conference with Shoukry, Lavrov said Moscow and Cairo would continue working together to make Middle East free of WMDs as per relevant international resolutions. He added that both sides had also vowed to pursue cooperation in fighting terrorism and drying out terror finance sources. Lavrov noted that they had discussed a possible resumption of flights between both countries in the near future. The Russian foreign minister went on to say that his country was making consultations with several parties, including Saudi Arabia, for forming a Syrian opposition delegation during scheduled talks with the Syrian government. He pointed to preparations and arrangements for holding an international meeting on Syria in Astana next September.

Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: An Egyptian nightjar is pictured in Al-Jahra nature reserve. The Egyptian nightjar is a medium-small nightjar which is found in south west Asia and north Africa. —KUNA









KUWAIT: (Top) His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior (Mol) Mahmoud Al-Doseri, along with some of the ministry's senior officials yesterday at Seif Palace. The meeting was attended by the head of His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan Sheikh Mubarak Al-Faisal Al-Sabah. (Below left) His Highness the Crown Prince also received Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Minister of Information Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. The Minister was accompanied by the Director General of Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) Khaled Al-Mekrad and senior KFSD officials. Also yesterday, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah holds talks with Ahmad Khaled Al-Kulaib at Seif Palace yesterday. — KUNA photos



His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah presides over cabinet weekly meeting. — KUNA photos

CABINET DEPLORES KILLING OF KUWAITIS IN OUAGADOUGOU

regretted the killing of Grand Mosque Imam Sheikh Waleed Al-Ali and Sheikh Fahad Al-Husseini in a recent attack on a restaurant in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The Cabinet emphatically condemned this criminal act that targeted innocents in breach of all heavenly religions and human values, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Minister of Information Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah said in a statement following a weekly Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet offered sincere and heartfelt condolences to the two Kuwaiti martyrs' families, the minister said.

Meanwhile, Kuwait has submitted a formal request to Burkina Faso to join ongoing investigations over a 'terrorist' attack on a restaurant in the Western African nation that killed two prominent Kuwaiti citizens and religious scholars. Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah met the Burkinabe Ambassador to Kuwait Abu Bakr Koty yesterday, where he handed him a memorandum stating that Kuwait wishes to join the probe into the attack that left scores of people dead, including Kuwaitis Waleed Al-Ali and Fahad Al-Husseini. A number of foreign ministry officials were present during the meeting.

Also, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah informed the Cabinet about the recent arrests of fugitives involved in a 'terrorist cell' known as Al-Abdali, to which the Cabinet expressed gratitude to security forces for their efforts to protect the nation's security. The Cabinet was also acquainted with a proposal by an economic affairs committee to boost work efficiency in the country's ports, specifically, plans to move some navigation lines from Al-Shuaiba to Al-Shuwaikh port.

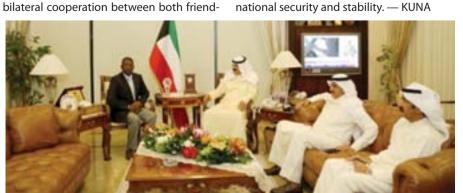
On a related note, the proposal also entails a measure calling for a more smooth and prompt customs clearance process in the ports, which requires staff

members to be available round-the-clock to handle clearance procedures for a number of government bodies. Minister of Commerce and Industry and Acting Minister of State for Youth Affairs Khaled Al-Roudhan briefed the Cabinet on concrete steps the Ministry of Commerce has taken to grant commercial permits to fledgling companies in a timely manner, where 2,500 permits have been issued since April.

The Cabinet discussed a number of recent global happenings, including a van attack in the Spanish city of Barcelona and knife assaults in Russia and Finland, all of which left scores of people either dead or injured. The Cabinet denounced these criminal acts, as it underscored its vehement condemnation of terrorism in all its forms.

In another development, Kuwait ministers have welcomed the visit by Vice

Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Zhang Gaoli's to Kuwait. They stressed the significance of this visit to the promotion and development of ly countries in all fields, saying that it is a good chance for both sides to exchange views on several issues of mutual interest and efforts to maintain regional and international security and stability. — KUNA



Kuwait's Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah meets the Burkinabe Ambassador to Kuwait Abu Bakr Koty.

SUMMER FESTIVAL

By A Saleh, Meshal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Chairman of the Abdullah Al-Mubarak cooperative society Affas Al-Hajiri announced the launch of its summer festival starting today until Aug 26 at supermarkets, with up to 70 percent discounts in cooperation with major suppliers. He said the number of products included is over 200 that were selected carefully. He said that the summer festival comes within a series of events to fight high prices in order to reduce burdens on customers.

Treatment rules

MP Faraj Al-Arbeed urged Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi to amend treatment rules in order to send all cases abroad as approved earlier. He said the new rules do not include cases that do not have treatment options in Kuwait like complicated sterility cases, physiotherapy for cases related to the nervous system, etc. Arbeed said physiotherapy has badly deteriorated in Kuwait, besides the long waiting period that may take months. He added that some cases need rehab with physiotherapy, especially for children, some accidents, strokes and heart attacks.

KISR signs contract

The Secretariat General of Higher Planning Council, UN Development Program and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research signed a contract that includes KISR preparing Kuwait's national vision for energy to activate the national cooperation treaty between the secretariat general and UNDP. The signing of the contract will enable participating parties to prepare the first report for Kuwait, which is the first of its kind in the Gulf region. Results of this project will contribute to activating the goals of the development of plan of Kuwait, besides UN sustainable development goals in the field of energy. HCPD Secretary General Dr Khalid Mahdi welcomed KISR Director General Dr Sameera Ahmad Al-Sayeed Omar and her delegation.

CORPSE FOUND

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Capital detectives solved the mystery of a corpse found near Sabah hospital yesterday. The suspect has been arrested. A security source said Shuwaikh detectives arrested a Kuwaiti, who claimed that he had a dispute with the victim (his father's friend). He said he stabbed him several times and then attempted to save his life - but he died on the way to the hospital. The suspect's father was arrested when he came to the hospital to ask about his friend's condition. He then told police the whereabouts of his son.

EXCHANGE RATE STABLE

KUWAIT: The exchange rate of the US Dollar was stable against the Dinar at KD 0.301, while the Euro was up to KD 0.356, said the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) yesterday. The rate of the Sterling Pound was also up to KD 0.392, the same case with the Swiss Franc, which went up to KD 0.312. The Japanese Yen stood still at KD 0.002. Meanwhile, Kuwait's current account surplus fell for the first time in three quarters at the start of 2017. The surplus narrowed from KD 0.6 billion (\$1.9 billion) in 4Q16 to KD 0.3 billion (\$0.99 billion) in 1Q17, on the back of a deterioration in the goods balance, a decline in investment income and a rebound in net service outflows, an economic report shows.

FROM THE ARABIC PRESS



Report

INTERIOR ORDERS INVESTIGATION

KUWAIT: Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Khalid Al-Jarrah ordered an investigation into a contract signed by the special security directorate with a local company to develop and maintain several armored vehicles for an inflated amount of money without reaching the sought after results. The special security directorate signed a contract with the local company to install turrets on armored vehicles, in additional to other mechanical improvements. But a security source said defects appeared in the vehicles after the improvements that made them obsolete, due to a lack of balance on the road. This prompted the minister to open an investigation to find out the justification of carrying out the work.

KD 11,000 stolen

A Syrian was attacked by three thieves who stalked him in Kuwait City and robbed KD 11,000 he was going to exchange. They then escaped, leaving him bleeding. Detectives are working on the case.

Bedoon shot

A bedoon accused six persons of shooting at him and injuring his foot and smashing the window of his car in Jaber Al-Ahmad. He said this was a continuation of a fight that took place two days earlier in Kabd. Police are working on their arrest.

Drunk woman

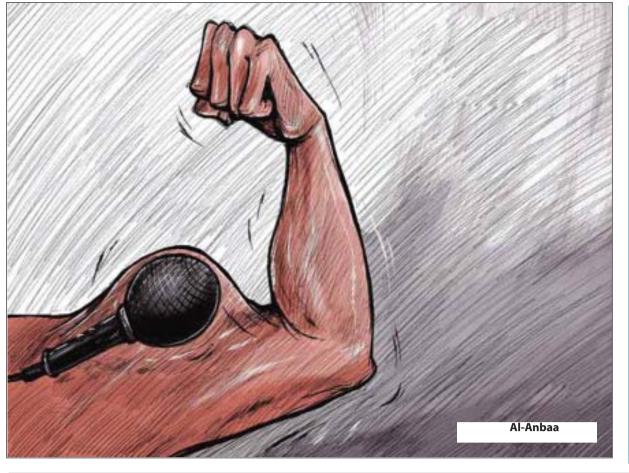
A woman in an abnormal condition collided with a police patrol car in a Hawally governorate area. The woman surprised the two patrolmen with her behavior, so they approached her to find out what was wrong. As soon as she spoke to them, they realized she was drunk. She then attempted to argue with them. The woman was taken to the police station for drunkenness and colliding with a police patrol.

Man jumps from 6th floor

A wanted Egyptian jumped from the sixth floor of a Nugra building in an attempt to escape from detectives and sustained severe fractures. He was taken to Mubarak Hospital. A source said detectives learned about the suspect's whereabouts, so they headed to the building armed with a warrant, but as soon as they entered his flat, the suspect jumped from the window.

13-year-old girl flees

A 13-year-old girl fled her family house in an SUV, but after it suffered a flat tire, she became frightened and was admitted to Amiri Hospital. Her family who lives in Jahra called police for help and gave them information about the girl and the vehicle. An hour after circulating the information, Amiri Hospital officials called and told them the girl was there. Police said the girl got terrified after the tire punctured and did not know what to do.





KUWAIT: Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Al-Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah met with Director General of Ahmadi Education Zone Walid Al-Oumi yesterday. Ahmadi Governor lauded the efforts being exerted by the education sector in the governorate as they prepare for the new academic year.



TERRORISM, ATTACKS

By Mohammad Al-Washaihi

do not find any joy in watching boxing matches or the scene of swollen faces, smashed noses and paramedics surrounding the fallen boxer, and I do not know how millions of people find joy in such scenes bragging about their favorite champion, while that champion suffers from a broken nose and concussion and is asked to retire or worse - forced to use a wheelchair. Tell me, how does one enjoy such scenarios?

I cannot read subjects that portray human being's "savagery", such as torture in prisons, extracting confessions by force, and similar things, for more than two minutes, excluding novels. I do not understand how men feel while pulling the nails of prisoners, or electrocuting them or inserting things into their bodies and torturing them or the joy in running over innocent people who walk in markets or sit in cafes.

We need someone who can explain the psychology of these savages; we need to know where such joy lies in running over the innocent people. Is it a sort of revenge? May Allah bestow his mercy on victims of terrorist attacks and the Arab people who are governed by terrorist 'wise' governments.

—Translated by Kuwait Times



KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) has received the second winner of the first draw that was held early this month for the 'Journey of a Life Time' campaign. Ghalib Numan Tawfiq Abdellatif won a fully paid sea cruise to Europe including a business class airline ticket and stay in a five star hotel before joining the cruise. The winner can take a second person with him. The journey will begin from Barcelona. Head of department Hanadi Al-Musallam received the lucky winner who expressed his pleasure for winning the prize.







Warehouse gutted by fire; three firefighters injured

Service Directorate (KFSD) battled to subdue a fire that broke out at a fodder warehouse in Al-Rai area on Sunday evening. Three firefighters were slightly injured; two of them received first aid at the scene and

KUWAIT: Five firefighting squads from Kuwait Fire the third was rushed to a nearby hospital, according to a KFSD statement. Just five minutes after receiving a notification, five squads from the fire departments of the Industrial Shuwaikh, Al-Ardiya, Al-Isnad, South Salmiya and the Capital City arrived at the scene.

The fire destroyed the 700 sqm warehouse but the firefighters managed to prevent it from spreading to nearby stores, the statement said, noting that investigations are underway to determine the causes of the accident. — KUNA







BAYT.COM ENHANCES ITS CV SEARCH TOOL

DUBAI: In line with its objective to connect thousands of employers in the Middle East and North Africa with the most qualified and competent job seekers, Bayt.com has enhanced its CV Search tool by adding more innovative search features. The Bayt.com CV Search tool allows businesses and organizations of all sizes, industries, and locations, to access and search the region's largest talent database, consisting of more than 26.7 million iob seekers.

But more than that, CV Search saves companies cost, time, and effort in the hiring process. Bayt.com recently unveiled several new features designed to make recruitment even easier: Advanced Search Filters allow employers to use a combination of keywords and Boolean search operators ('and', 'or', and 'not') to retrieve highly relevant CVs that precisely match the qualifications they're looking for. CV Freshness sorts results based on the most-recently updated CVs to ensure that employers can



find candidates with up-to-date and relevant experience for their available position.

Related Keywords helps employers access a wider variety of CVs by finding job titles and positions related to specific words and terms they're searching for. "At Bayt.com, we strive to provide all the necessary tools and services for enterprises across the MENA region to fill their vacancies with the most relevant candidates and in the most cost-effective manner," said Suhail Masri, Vice President of

Employer Solutions, Bayt.com. "To ensure that CV Search is as useful and effective as it can be and that employers are able to find the talent they require, we make it a point to engage with all employers to gain their feedback. We continuously release new features and enhance our offerings based on the employers' specific needs and the challenges that the job market faces in our region. By adding these advanced features to the Bayt.com CV Search tool, we have made it much easier to connect more than 40,000 employers with the right type of talent."

Having access to an advanced CV Search tool and a large job seeker database is an indispensable resource for employers, recruiters, and HR professionals who want to hire the best candidates. With CV Search, hundreds of thousands of employers are finding it easier to filter, sort through, save, compare, and contact the best candidates with minimum time and cost.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2017



Last bongs for Big Ben as four-year repairs begin

10 SAILORS MISSING AFTER US DESTROYER COLLISION OFF SINGAPORE

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BARCELONA: Interior Minister for the Catalan government Joaquim Forn (C) speaks past Josep Lluis Trapero, chief of the Catalan regional police "Mossos D'Esquadra" (R) and Justice Minister of the Catalan Government Carles Mundo during a

POLICE KILL BARCELONA ATTACK SUSPECT

Massive manhunt for the Moroccan national

BARCELONA: Spanish police yesterday shot dead a man who could be Younes Abouyaagoub, the suspected driver of a van that mowed down pedestrians in Barcelona, amid a massive manhunt for the Moroccan national described as dangerous and likely armed. "They have shot dead a suspect who could be the perpetrator of the attack," a source close to the probe told AFP on condition of anonymity. Regional police confirmed a man wearing what appeared to be a suicide belt had been killed in Subirats, a village about 60 kilometers away from Barcelona, without identifying the individual. Bomb disposal units have been dispatched to the site.

12-man cell

Earlier yesterday, police had launched an appeal for information about the 22-year-old fugitive, believed to be the last remaining member of a 12-man cell suspected of plotting last week's deadly attacks. The other suspects have been killed by police or detained

after the vehicle rampages in Barcelona and the seaside resort of Cambrils. The Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility for the assaults, believed to be its first in Spain.

Authorities yesterday raised the death toll to 15, confirming that Pau Perez, a 34-year-old man found stabbed to death in a Ford Focus outside Barcelona on Friday, was killed by Abouyaaqoub. The police had fired at the car as it forced its way through a checkpoint shortly after the Barcelona carnage, and later found Perez in the vehicle. Investigators believe the victim was the owner of the car, which was hijacked by Abouyaaqoub to make

Describing Abouyaaqoub as around 1.8 meters tall, police tweeted four photographs of the man with short black hair, including three pictures in which he was wearing a black and white striped T-shirt.

He is "dangerous and could be armed," police in Catalonia said. Spanish authorities were also officially notifying European police of the identity of the suspect to enable the launch of a Europe-wide manhunt.

Iman's influence

Investigators seeking to unravel the terror cell have homed in on the small border town of Ripoll at the foot of the Pyrenees mountains. Several suspects including Abouyaaqoub grew up or lived in the town. Moroccan imam Abdelbaki Es Satty, aged in his 40s, has also come under scrutiny as he is believed to have radicalised youths in Ripoll.

Police raided more homes in Ripoll on Monday, Catalonia's regional interior minister Joaquim Forn said. Police said the imam had spent time in prison and had once been in contact with a suspect wanted on terrorism charges but was never himself charged with terror-related incidents. In Belgium, the mayor of the Vilvorde region told AFP that Satty spent time in the Brussels suburb of Machelen-a district next to the city's airportbetween January and March 2016.

On the other side of Brussels, the Molenbeek suburb has gained notoriety as a hotbed of international jihadists after the Brussels bombings in March 2016 and the Paris attacks in November 2015. In the Moroccan town of M'rirt, relatives of Abouyaaqoub have accused the imam of radicalizing the young man as well as his brother Houssein. "Over the last two years, Younes and Houssein began to radicalize under the influence of this imam," their grandfather told AFP. A neighbor close to the Abouyaaqoub family, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the imam "had recruited Moroccans of Ripoll and planned the attacks". But Ali Assid, president of the Annour Islamic community that runs the Ripoll mosque where Satty was preaching, said the imam "never sent a radical message, all he preached was really Islam. If he is behind all that, there he must be showing us one face in the

mosque and showing another face outside." Assid said Satty had parted ways with the mosque in late June after Ramadan, as he wanted a vacation of three months-a request that the group did not agree to. The imam has been missing since Tuesday. On Saturday, police raided his apartment. They have raised the possibility that he died in an explosion on Wednesday evening at a house believed to be the suspects' bomb factory, where police uncovered a massive cache of 120 gas canisters.

The suspected jihadists had been preparing bombs for "one or more attacks in Barcelona", regional police chief Josep Lluis Trapero told reporters, revealing that traces of triacetone triperoxide (TATP) — a homemade explosive that is an IS hallmark-had also been found. The accidental explosion in the house in Alcanar, south of Barcelona, may have forced the suspects to modify their plans. Instead, they used a vehicle to smash into crowds on Barcelona's Las Ramblas boulevard as it was thronged with tourists, killing 13 people and injuring about 100. Several hours later, a similar attack in the seaside town of Cambrils left one woman dead. Police shot dead the five attackers, some of whom were wearing fake explosive belts and carrying knives. — AFP

VAN HITS PEOPLE AT MARSEILLE BUS STOPS

MARSEILLE: One person was killed and another seriously injured in the southern French city of Marseille yesterday after a van ploughed into people at two bus stops, police sources said, adding that the suspected driver had been arrested. Marseille's prosecutor Xavier Tarabeux said that investigators had "no element pointing to a terrorist attack" and that the driver was suffering from psychiatric problems.

"He was found with a letter from a psychiatric clinic and we are leaning towards treating it as a mental health case," Tarabeux told AFP. The incident comes with Europe on high terror alert following last week's car ramming attacks in northeastern Spain. The vehicle in Marseille first drove at speed towards a bus stop in the city's northern 13th district at around 9:00 am (0700 GMT), hitting a woman who was rushed to hospital with serious pelvis injuries.

The driver of the stolen van then continued to

the eastern 11th district, where he slammed into another bus stop, causing one fatality. Several European cities, including London, Berlin and Stockholm, have been targeted in a wave of attacks by Islamist radicals using vehicles to run down people. Many have been claimed by the Islamic State group. Terrorism experts have warned that the intense media coverage of the violence could spur copycat attacks by people with mental health problems and a propensity for violence. Julien Ravier, mayor of the 11th district, told the BFMTV news channel that the victim in the Marseille incident was a woman in her 40s who was waiting alone for a bus.

Several attacks thwarted

Police sources said the driver, who is in his mid-30s, was a petty criminal with a history of stealing cars. The vehicle was traced to the city's Old Port district, where the driver was arrested. Dozens of police sealed off the area while search-

ing the vehicle for possible explosives. The bloodiest vehicle attack in Europe took place in July 2016 in the French city of Nice, when a radicalized Tunisian drove a truck through crowds celebrating Bastille Day, killing 86 people. France has avoided a major incident in the past vear but has suffered a slew of small-scale strikes. mainly targeting the security forces. On August 9, a 36-year-old Algerian ran down soldiers on anti-

terrorism patrol west of Paris, injuring six. Three days earlier, a knife-wielding 18year-old on leave from a psychiatric hospital was arrested at the Eiffel Tower after bursting past security shouting "Allahu Akbar" ("God is Greatest"). Police initially treated that case as a criminal affair but it was later upgraded to an anti-terror investigation after he said during questioning that he had wanted to kill a soldier. — AFP



MARSEILLE: A white sheet is erected as a body of a victim is evacuated to a waiting ambulance while French forensic police officer search the site following a car crash yesterday, in the southern Mediterranean city. — AFP

GERMAN NATIONALISTS REVIVING MIGRATION AS ELECTION TOPIC

BERLIN: Germany's anti-immigrant AfD party pushed yesterday to make the massive influx of migrants into the country an election issue as it battles with flagging support, despite waning concern among Germans over the matter. More than 1 million migrants entered Germany in 2015-2016. Alternative for Germany leaders Alexander Gauland and Alice Weidel told reporters in Berlin they think the wave of newcomers has led to increased crime, an overwhelmed educational system and an "Islamization of society."

grated in the long run," Weidel said, calling for tougher asylum laws. She also advocated shutting down the Mediterranean Sea route from Libya to Europe that many migrants use and accused the Germany navy of participating in human trafficking by assisting migrant boats in distress.

The AfD's support has dropped ahead of the Sept. 24 election to 7 percent in the most recent polls, half of what the party had at the height of the immigration crisis. Support for Chancellor

"The big number of migrants cannot be inte- Angela Merkel's conservative bloc dropped during the influx and its aftermath, but has rebounded to about 39 percent. Merkel's campaign speeches have focused more on the country's growing economy and record low unemployment. Like Merkel's Christian Democrats, most other parties have not made migration a major issue of their election campaigns. Germany, like several other European countries, has suffered a number of extremist attacks, some of which were committed by asylumseekers who came to the country in the 2015 wave.

In an interview published Monday by Bild newspaper, Merkel was asked to comment on migrants in Germany who have committed crimes or violent attacks, "Unfortunately, there are a few refugees, who have done such things," Merkel answered, adding: "There are also many, many others who need protection." The chancellor said the government is doing all it can to prevent "such attacks, such murders, to prevent Islamist terror." She also said Germany has learned from past attacks and "we've become quite a bit better." — AP

UKRAINE WAR TRAPS CARE HOME, CLINIC RESIDENTS ON FRONT LINE

NOVOMYKHAYLIVKA: Tamara Makarovna spends her afternoons sitting in a dilapidated armchair upstairs in her care home, watching an old TV set and talking to her neighbors. Her way of life may seem peaceful at first glance, but the 81 year-old is a resident of a state-run care home in wartorn eastern Ukraine, just a few kilometers from the front line with the pro-Russian rebel insurgency.

She is one of thousands of elderly and ailing people, who have found themselves stuck in state institutions as the deadly conflict rages close by. The silver-haired woman, wearing a colourful dressing gown and who only wished to be identified by her first and patronymic names, moved to her care home in the tiny village of Novomykhaylivka from a nearby town in 2011 after leg surgery left her unable to live alone.

This used to be a quiet place-until the conflict hit eastern Ukraine in April 2014 and has since claimed some 10,000 lives. The care home itself suffered a direct hit from a shell, Tamara says, recalling how frightened she had been. "On December 7, 2014, I heard a noise and the glass in the windows began to rain down," she said. Afterwards, the roof and walls were not fully repaired for more than a year. Reliant on a walking stick to help her get around, she and other residents are forced to take refuge in the basement of the care home in an emergency.

'Doubly hostage'

Monitors from Ukraine's National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) watchdog carry out inspections of such state-run facilities and recently visited Novomykhaylivka accompanied by a couple of journalists, including from AFP. "The war has dramatically affected" such facilities, NPM monitor Tetyana Pechonchyk told AFP, with about 50 care homes located within the conflict zone on both sides of the front line. "These people were doubly taken hostage: not only are they unable to leave their institutions on their own, they are also trapped in the conflict."

Residents in rebel-controlled areas face a lack of food and medicine, while for those in areas under Kiev control, the main probem is their proximity to the front line and the risk of death, Pechonchyk said. Despite the threat from shelling, Tamara has opted to stay here. She has never been married and has no close family, and the care home appears to be the only place where she can count on being looked after. "I have nowhere else to go. Every day I ask the Lord to make them stop (fighting and shelling). I'll agree to anything-if only they'll stop shooting."

The care home currently accommodates 31 people, who pay some 75 percent of their 1,300 hryvnias (\$50 dollars, 44 euros) monthly pension to stay in the two-storey, grey-brick building. "Our cooks prepare us soups, cereals. And on Thursdays, we sing songs and dance," Tamara said. Her pension, she said, was "enough for small expenses". "More than half the people have close relatives, but they are not wanted at home," said Ivan Svystelnyk, the director of the care home, which has the Soviet-style name House of Veterans.

'I want to go back'

Authorities have relocated several of the worst-hit care homes but most are forced to continue where they are, despite the fighting, due to demand for places or an unwillingness by residents and staff to move too far from their home towns. In another troubled war zone location, NPM monitors accompanied by reporters visited a tuberculosis sanatorium where some patients also found themselves unable to leave after completing treatment, because of the conflict.

The facility is located in the Kiev-controlled village of Gostre just 10 kilometers from the front line. Treatment of tuberculosis patients in isolated residential facilities is still common in ex-Soviet countries. Here, most patients stay for two to three months. Out of some 100 patients currently staying, about 10 have got stuck here long-term, usually because of expired ID documents needed to cross the conflict zone, the chief doctor Valentyna Kozhevnyk tells AFP.

"We don't force anyone to stay here-we just don't have anywhere to send them," she lamented. One of these, Valeriy Koltunovsky, 47, comes from the town of Makiivka in the rebels' self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, where his wife and two children live. But his ID documents have expired and he suffers from severe bronchitis that hit him along with the tuberculosis, meaning that he needs to be accompanied by a doctor on the grueling journey back through numerous checkpoints. "I want to go back to my home town, but this is hardly going to be possible soon," the lean moustachioed man said sadly, sitting in a small dining room in one of the facility's buildings. —AFP



Smoke billows as Iraqi government forces supported by fighters from the Abbas Brigade, which fights under the umbrella of the Shiite popular mobilization units, advance towards the city of Tal Afar, the main remaining stronghold of the Islamic State group, after the government announced the beginning of an operation to retake it from the jihadists, on August 20, 2017. — AFP

IRAQI FORCES CLOSE IN ON IS HELD TOWN WEST OF MOSUL

HALABIYAH: Iraqi forces made significant progress as they closed in on the Islamic State-held town of Tal Afar, west of Mosul, the US-led coalition and an Iraqi military spokesman said yesterday. US Army Col. Ryan Dillon, a coalition spokesman, told The Associated Press that Iraqi forces have retaken some 250 square kilometers from the extremist group since the operation began early Sunday, though they have not yet pushed into the town itself.

"As we get into the urban areas - as we saw in Mosul and Raqqa - that's where we'll see the pace slow down, that's where (IS) have placed their defenses," he said. Dozens of civilians fled the area. Sadia Sajet, from Tal Afar, said she walked for over a day to cross the front line and reach Iraqi forces. "We stayed overnight by the river. There were a lot of dead bodies there. The smell was horrible," she said. "We slept there and then started walking again at four in the morning. And we walked until we arrived here."

Sajet said two other women fleeing with her died of exhaustion while attempting to make the journey. The spokesman for the Joint Military Command, Brig. Gen.

Yahya Rasool, said troops recaptured six villages located a few kilometers from the urban areas of Tal Afar. He said militants deployed suicide car bombers, road side bombs and mortars to slow down the advancing troops.

Citing intelligence, Rasool estimated the number of IS militants inside the town at around 2,000 fighters. US-backed Iraqi forces drove IS from Mosul last month after a grueling, nine-month campaign to retake the country's second largest city. US-allied forces are currently battling IS in the Syrian city of Raqqa, the extremists' de facto capital.

Dillon said most of the territory retaken in the operation has been in the Kisik junction area to the east of the town. Tal Afar, about 150 kilometers east of the Syrian border, is in one of the last pockets of ISheld territory in Iraq. Some 49,000 people have fled the Tal Afar district since April, according to the United Nations, sparking concern the displaced will exacerbate the humanitarian crisis that erupted during the Mosul operation. Nearly a million people remain displaced by the campaign to retake Mosul. — AP



AUSTIN: Confederate statutes removed from the University of Texas are secured to a trailer, early yesterday morning. — AP

University of Texas in Austin REMOVES CONFEDERATE STATUES

'Symbols of modern white supremacy and neo-Nazism'

AUSTIN: The University of Texas quickly removed statues of Robert E Lee and other prominent Confederate figures overnight from the main area of the Austin campus, a spokesman said yesterday morning, just hours after the school's president ordered they be taken down. University President Greg Fenves announced late Sunday night that the statues would be removed, saying such monuments have become "symbols of modern white supremacy and neo-Nazism." Crews started working amid a heavy police presence.

The school blocked off the area, and some arguments occurred among those gathered. But all of the statues were successfully taken down, university spokesman JB Bird said. Fenves said statues of Lee, Confederate Gen Albert Sidney Johnston and Confederate Postmaster General John H Reagan would be moved to the Briscoe Center for American History on campus. The university in 2015 moved a statue of former Confederate President Jefferson Davis from its perch near the campus clock tower, the same area as the other statues, to the history museum.

'It burns me'

Less than 30 people, both supporters and opponents of Fenves' order, congregated after midnight behind barricades near the statues. Among them was Mark Peterson, who identified himself as a University of Houston student. He was seething at the removal of the statues. "I hate the erasure of history and my people's history ... people of European descent who built this country," the 22-year-old said. "It burns me to my core."

Mike Lowe, an activist for the removal of Confederate statues in San Antonio, was driving to Dallas when he heard the statues were coming down, turned around and drove to campus. Lowe, who is African-American, engaged in a brief but tense argument with a white male protester until police stepped in to separate them.

"They have no other reasons than 'you are erasing our history.' Their reasoning is flawed. These monuments represent white supremacy, and black lives haven't mattered in this county the same as a white man's matters," the 37-yearold Lowe said. The debate over public memorials for Confederate figures roared into national conversation last week after a woman was killed and 19 were injured when a car drove into a crowd of people in a clash between white supremacists and counter-protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia

"Last week, the horrific displays of hatred at the University of Virginia and in Charlottesville shocked and saddened the nation. These events make it clear, now more than ever, that Confederate monuments have become symbols of modern white supremacy and neo-Nazism," Fenves said in a statement.

Moving the Davis statue in 2015 was a much more deliberate effort. The Davis statue had long been a target of vandalism. Fenves convened a special task force to discuss its future after a shooting rampage by a white supremacist at a Charleston, South Carolina, church and ultimately decided it should come down.

Historical significance Confederate groups tried to block the removal of the Davis statue and the Sons of Confederate Veterans sued to stop it, but a state district judge sided with the school. The decision to take down the others came much quicker. Fenves said he spoke last week with student leaders, students, faculty members, staff members and alumni about what to do after the

"The University of Texas at Austin is a public educational and research institution, first and foremost. The historical and cultural significance of the Confederate statues on our campus - and the connections that individuals have with them are severely compromised by what they symbolize," Fenves said. "Erected during the period of Jim Crow laws and segregation, the statues represent the subjugation of African Americans. That remains true today for white supremacists who use them to symbolize hatred and bigotry,"

Crews early vesterday first removed a statue of former Texas Gov. James Stephen Hogg, which was commissioned at the same time as the others, a spokesman said. Hogg will get another place on campus. Asked why the school decided to remove the statues during the overnight hours, university spokesman Gary Susswein said recent events played a factor. "We've seen what happened elsewhere," Susswein said. "The timing was designed to ensure public safety and provide minimal disruption to campus." This story has been updated to correct the spelling of the history museum to the Briscoe Center for American History, not the Brisco Center for American History. — AP

ERDOGAN: TOP GENERAL MUST ACCEPT DEMOTION

ISTANBUL: President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday warned a top Turkish general who played a key role in defeating last year's failed coup and led a cross-border operation in Syria that he must accept a surprise demotion without rancor. In a rare show of tension between the military and Erdogan, Turkish media reported that Lieutenant General Zekai Aksakalli had wanted to resign from the armed forces after he was moved from special forces chief to a less signifi-

"There can be no such concept of disappointment in the military. Whatever task is assigned, a soldier goes and fulfils their duty there," Erdogan said after Aksakalli was assigned as commander of the army's 2nd Corps, based on the Gallipoli peninsula in northwestern Turkey. Up to 10 generals including the former special forces chief were ready to resign, Hurriyet daily reported yesterday. No reason has been given for the demotion.

Hurriyet speculated there may have been "discomfort" within the military over the general's public profile in running the Syria operation and the desire to replace him with a younger figure. Aksakalli led the Turkish military's cross-border "Euphrates Shield" operation launched in August last year aimed at clearing the border zone in northern Syria of both Kurdish militia fighters and the Islamic State extremist group.

'Right now, Zekai Aksakalli has completed his

duty in the special forces," Erdogan said, adding that the proposal came during a meeting of the nation's top armed forces body on August 2. "He will continue his work there (at the 2nd Corps)," Erdogan told reporters in Istanbul before flying to Jordan. It is hugely unusual for the Turkish president to comment on military appointments

Aksakalli was promoted to lieutenant general in a meeting of the first Supreme Military Council after the July 15 2016 attempted putsch, where his actions made him a figure of national prominence. He was praised for ordering Sergeant Omer Halisdemir to kill one of the suspected ringleaders, Brigadier General Semih



AMMAN: Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, centre, walks during a welcome ceremony at the airport. — AP

Danish sub inventor dumped Swede Journalist's body in sea

self submarine has said that a Swedish journalist missing since August 11 died in an accident on board the vessel, and that he dumped her body in the sea, Danish police said yesterday. The inventor, Peter Madsen, had initially claimed that he last saw Kim Wall when he dropped her off on the tip of an island in Copenhagen late on August 10. But Madsen, who has been accused of negligent manslaughter, "told police and the court that there was an accident on board the sub that led to the death of Kim Wall, and that he subsequently buried her at sea in an undefined location of the Koge Bay" south of Copenhagen, police said in a statement.

Madsen's appearance before a judge on August 12 was held behind closed doors and the investigation has been classified, so it is not known exactly when he made his statement. Danish and Swedish authorities have been searching for Wall, a 30-year-old reporter who had been writing a feature story about Madsen, after she failed to return

STOCKHOLM: The Danish inventor of a do-it-your- from an interview with him aboard the 60-foot Nautilus on August 10. Danish police said the search for her body by helicopters, ships and divers during the weekend would continue yesterday. Swedish daily Aftonbladet quoted a letter from Wall's family on Friday "pleading for help from the public" about her whereabouts. "We wish for nothing more than to have Kim back alive, but we realize that the chances are extremely slim," her family was quoted as saying.

'Invincible' and 'ambitious'

Wall was a freelance journalist who had reported for The Guardian and The New York Times. A graduate of the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism, she was based in New York and China. Her friends have described her as "invincible", "ambitious" and "always seeing something good in everyone", according to Swedish media reports.

Madsen and Wall were seen onboard the vessel by several people in waters off Copenhagen the

evening of August 10. Photos of the two emerged online standing next to each other in the sub's tower. Wearing an orange fleece and with her long auburn hair tied in a topknot, she appeared to be smiling. When Wall failed to return home, the sub was also reported missing. Rescue crews located it around midday on August 11 in Koge Bay, about 50 kilometers south of the Danish capital.

Just after it was found, Madsen was rescued, alone, and the submarine suddenly sank. Police have since said they believe Madsen "deliberately" sank the sub. It was brought to the surface and searched, and found to be empty. Danish broadcaster TV2 showed images of Madsen as he was being interrogated by police after his rescue.

When a journalist asked him what contact information he had for the missing journalist, he responded: "Only that her name is Kim." "I don't check the background when a journalist calls and asks 'Can I interview you," Madsen said indifferently as he entered a police car. — AFP



This family handout photo released on August 12, 2017 shows Swedish journalist Kim Wall who was allegedly on board a submarine south of Copenhagen before it sank on August 11,



LONDON: People record the last bell bong at Elizabeth Tower. — AP

LAST BONGS FOR BIG BEN AS FOUR-YEAR REPAIRS BEGIN

The 12 bongs from the famous bell rang out for midday

Britain of a cherished symbol at a time of national uncertainty. The 12 bongs from the famous bell rang out for midday in front of a hushed crowd of over a thousand people assembled in Parliament Square to mark the longest silence in its 157-year history.

"I can see it from where I live. I do live my life by it. I'm 72 and I'm worried it might be the last time I actually hear them!" said Denise Wiand, one of the spectators, who lives on the other side of the River Thames from parliament. Thomas Moser, a 54-year-old German tourist, said: "The crowd were really listening. We are here, we want to hear every single sound. It's almost a historical moment."

Westminster's Elizabeth Tower, which looms over the Houses of Parliament and is one of Britain's most popular tourist attractions, is due for conservation work. The famous clock's bell has been stopped over health and safety concerns, silencing an emblem of continuity as Britain grapples with Brexit negotiations. The decision will protect builders working on the site, amid fears that prolonged exposure to the 118-decibel bongs from the 13.7-tonne Big Ben bell, which chimes out the hour, could damage hearing. But the debate has swiftly moved into the political sphere.

The shutdown will coincide with Britain's impending departure from the European Union,

TV newscasts and the midnight countdown to New Year's Day. The sound is also familiar to many people beyond Britain, as it is broadcast on the BBC World Service.

Pro-Brexit members of parliament have criticized the decision to shut down the chimes. Prime Minister Theresa May is among those who have raised concern. "Of course we want to ensure people's safety at work, but it can't be right for Big Ben to be silent for four years," she told reporters. She said she hoped a House of Commons commission would "look into this urgently so that we can ensure that we can continue to hear Big Ben through those four years"

The Commons has said that it "will consider the length of time that the bells will fall silent". "Of course, any discussion will focus on undertaking the work efficiently, protecting the health and safety of those involved, and seeking to ensure resumption of normal service as soon as it is practicable," it says. Under the plan, a lamp at the top of the neo-Gothic bell tower that is turned on when parliament is sitting is also set to be turned off for the first time in more than 70 years, but it is not yet known when it will go dark, or for how long it will be off.

Brexit bongs?

Andrea Leadsom, the Leader of the House of Commons, held emergency talks on Friday with

LONDON: London landmark Big Ben fell silent a period set to be politically turbulent and eco-Speaker John Bercow, who chairs the Commons for four years starting yesterday, as a political outcry mounted over renovations that will rob part of British life, used at the start of radio and sion has agreed to meet next month to review whether the bongs can be heard on certain exceptional days. Under current plans, the bell would still ring on occasions such as Remembrance Sunday in November, which commemorates Britain's war dead, and New Year's Eve.

Three MPs from May's Conservative Party are calling for the clock to be back in action on the eve of March 29, 2019, when Britain is due to leave the European Union. "It would be very fitting if Big Ben was to chime us out of the FU. We need to go out with a boom as we regain a sovereign parliament once again," said MP Andrew Bridgen. The 96-metre tower is the most photographed building in Britain.

The renovation is estimated to cost £29 million (\$37 million, 32 million euros). But politicians have claimed that when they agreed to the work, they did not know the chimes would be silenced for four years. A YouGov poll published Saturday found that 44 percent of Britons believe Big Ben should be silenced during the renovations, except for special occasions, while 41 percent said it should operate as normal. Some MPs have suggested the bell could ring outside of the conservation team's working hours. But the House of Commons said that starting and stopping the clock takes about half a day, and that this would be neither practical nor "a good use of public money". — AFP

NIGERIA'S PRESIDENT SLAMS **DIVISIONS AFTER ABSENCE**

ABUJA: Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari took to state TV yesterday in his first speech since returning from a long medical absence in Britain, in a bid to dampen mounting separatist tensions in the country. The 74-year-old, who received treatment for an undisclosed condition in London, appeared thinner than usual as he read slowly from a prepared statement in which he also vowed to redouble the fight against Boko Haram jihadists.

He did not address his more than threemonth absence or the illness that caused him to seek treatment abroad. "I was distressed to notice that some of the comments (in my absence), especially in the social media, have crossed national red lines by daring to question our collective existence as a nation. This is a step too far," he said. "The national consensus is that it is better to live together than to live apart," said Buhari, who returned to Nigeria on Saturday after more than 100 days away from the west African nation of 190 million people.

Nigeria is facing a number of breakaway movements, including the Indigenous People of Biafra led by fierce Buhari critic Nnamdi Kanu in the country's southeast, which is dominated by the Igbo ethnic group. The group has become increasingly vocal in its bid to win independence in recent weeks, with Kanu appearing in images meeting a private army of young men. Arewa, a radical Muslim youth group in the country's north, has issued an October 1 deadline for all Igbo people to leave the region. Boko Haram jihadists, meanwhile, have been fighting a bloody insurgency in the country's northeast since 2009. Buhari vowed renewed energy for the fight against "terrorists and criminals", singling out Boko Haram, kidnappers and those responsible for ethnic violence.

'Back on home soil'

Don Ekereke, a security analyst, accused Buhari of lacking a concrete plan. "After more than 100 days we were expecting

more details on how he's intending to lead the country. Im not alone to say that it isn't inspiring," he told AFP. "There is no doubt that the security situation has deteriorated since the beginning of the year: Boko Haram is worsening, kidnappings are increasing," he added. "We really hope that all the security agencies... will not be overzealous (after the speech) just to impress their master."

But Bismarck Rewane of the Lagos-based Financial Derivatives Company said Buhari's return was good news for the security situation and the economy. "His return will strengthen security, and if that is resolved investors will start coming back. There's been no investment lately because of political insecurity," he said. The president left for London on May 7, and his prolonged absence fuelled tensions back home, where calls grew for him to either return or resign.

Buhari, who said he was "pleased to be back on home soil", also called for renewed efforts to transform the country's sclerotic economy, which is in the grip of its worst recession for more than two decades. Buhari, a retired general who headed a military regime in the 1980s, has been dogged by speculation about his health since June last year, when he first went to London for

He then spent nearly two months in London in January and February, saying upon his return in early March that he had "never been so ill". Since August 7, there had been a series of protests in Abuja demanding that Buhari return or guit if he was unable to go on. The rallies turned violent last Tuesday when mainly ethnic Hausa traders pelted protesters with stones, prompting them to abandon their daily vigils. Robert Besseling, an analyst at the consulting firm EXX Africa, said that Buhari's return had fired the starting pistol on the 2019 election campaign. "In the immediate future, President Buhari's return will put to rest rumors that he will not run for re-election in 2019," he said in a note issued ahead of yesterday's speech. — AFP



ABUJA: A handout image made available by the Nigerian State House and taken on August 21, 2017, shows Nigerian President Mohammadu Buhari sitting beside his Chief of Staff Abba Kyari as he writes to the National Assembly, notifying the legislature of his return to office, after returning from a medical vacation to Abuja. — AFP

S AFRICAN ACTIVISTS CHALLENGE GRACE MUGABE'S IMMUNITY

rights organization said yesterday it would challenge the government's decision to grant diplomatic immunity to Zimbabwe first lady Grace Mugabe, who was facing assault charges. The wife of President Robert Mugabe allegedly attacked a 20-year old model with an electrical extension cord at a hotel in Johannesburg where the couple's two sons were staying.

The attack left Gabriella Engels with cuts on her forehead and on her head that required stitching and she filed an assault charge against Mugabe. South Africa's foreign affairs ministry said on Sunday that it had granted Mugabe immunity after "careful consideration of all the relevant factors". AfriForum, which helps victims of crime, is preparing an court injunction to set aside the foreign ministry decision.

"We are going to ask the court to say that the decision to grant immunity is unlawful because our legislation says that diplomatic immunity cannot apply in serious crimes, and violence is part of that," AfriForum's chief Kallie Kriel told AFP. Mugabe, who had been sought by police, flew out of South Africa in the early hours of Sunday, hours before the

JOHANNESBURG: A South African civil foreign ministry announced that it had granted her immunity.

The decision to grant Mugabe immunity "was not an easy one to make," it said. AfriForum has vowed to help Engels seek justice and denounced what it said was a regional "culture of impunity". Seeking diplomatic immunity was an "afterthought," said Kriel. "She had been here for medical assistance with regards to her foot and therefore diplomatic immunity does not apply."

"We believe that the diplomatic immunity should not have been granted". The group plans to launch a private criminal prosecution, which is allowed under South African law. They intend for it to be led by Gerrie Nel, the former state prosecutor who led the case against Paralympian Oscar Pistorius and has a reputation of winning high-profile

Even if the effort fails, Kriel hopes it may stop Grace Mugabe visiting South Africa. "She loves shopping in Sandton in Johannesburg, so in the worst case scenario if we get to a situation where she cannot come to the country any more, I think that will be a positive step." But the first prize is to make sure she is being prosecuted," said Kriel. — AFP

18-YEAR-OLD TURKU SUSPECT MAY HAVE BEEN RADICALISED

Mechkah, who the country's intelligence agency

HELSINKI: Court documents yesterday identified said may have been radicalized. The stabbing is the suspect in last week's stabbing spree in a being probed as the country's first-ever terror Finnish city as 18-year-old Abderrahman attack. Police have previously described the suspect as an asylum seeker from Morocco.



TURKU: From the centre left, the Chief of Turku Police Tapio Huttunen, Finland's Prime Minister Juha Sipilae and Finnish parliament member Annika Saarikko stand next to the makeshift memorial at the Turku Market Square. — AFP

He targeted women in the attack at a market square in the southwestern port of Turku on Friday. Two people were killed dead and eight were injured. The motive for the attack is unclear. But the Finnish intelligence agency SUPO said Turku police had received a tip early this year that Mechkah "appeared... to have been radicalized and showed interest in extremist ideologies." The tip, which had been forwarded to the SUPO, "contained no information about any threat of an attack." Mechkah, whom police shot in the thigh while arresting him minutes after the rampage, is to appear before the Turku court on Tuesday via video link from hospital, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) said.

Police will ask the court to remand him in custody on suspicion of two murders and eight attempted murders "with terrorist intent". Investigators said Sunday that they had interrogated the suspect for the first time, but disclosed no information about the outcome. Police will also request the detention of four other Moroccan citizens who were arrested in an overnight raid on a Turku apartment building and refugee housing centre just hours after the attack. "They are suspected of participation in the murders and attempted murders committed with a terrorist intent. They deny any involvement in the offences," the NBI said. — AFP

INDIA HOME MINISTER: CHINA STAND-OFF WILL END 'SOON'

yesterday he believed a border stand-off with China would end soon, after new footage emerged showing border guards from both countries fighting on a disputed patch of land in the Himalayas. Indian and Chinese soldiers have for more than two months been facing off on a disputed tract of land known as Doklam that India says is Bhutanese territory and China claims for itself.

Some analysts have said the dispute amounts to the worst crisis in relations

NEW DELHI: India's home minister said between the two nuclear-armed neighbors in decades. Yesterday, Home Minister Rajnath Singh said India wanted peaceful relations with its neighbors as he addressed a unit of border guards in the capital Delhi. "A deadlock is going on between India and China in Doklam. But I think a solution will come out soon. China will also take a positive step from its side," Singh said as he addressed the paramilitary Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

"We want to maintain good relations with our neighbors. We don't want conflict, we want peace." The ITBP guards India's 3,488-kilometre border with China along the northern Himalayan mountain range. His comments came days after video emerged of soldiers from both sides appearing to kick and punch each other as rocks rained down on them in a disputed part of the Himalayan region of Ladakh last week. Army sources confirmed to AFP on Monday that the video of the fighting on August 15 — India's Independence Daywas authentic. India's government had

previously confirmed the scuffle and said no weapons were used. It happened on the shores of Pangong Lake, which lies over 4,000 meters high on the Tibetan plateau and is a popular tourist attraction. India and China share a long history of mistrust and went to war in 1962 over the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. The latest stand-off began in mid-June after Chinese troops started building a road on a remote plateau that is claimed by both China and Bhutan.

India has an army base nearby and

moved soldiers into the flashpoint zone to halt the work, prompting Beijing to accuse it of trespassing on Chinese soil. China has said India must withdraw its troops before any proper negotiation takes place. India said both sides should withdraw their forces together. India has historically been closely allied to Bhutan, but in recent years China has sought to increase its engagement with the tiny mountainous kingdom. That has fed into a broader competition for regional influence between the two Asian powers. —AFP



In this photograph taken on September 14, 2010, US army officers with the 101st Airborne Division pay their respects by the boots, gun, helmet and dog-tags of US army First Lieutenant Todd W Weaver displayed during a memorial ceremony in his honor at Combat Outpost Terra Nova on the outskirts the Arghandab Valley's

TRUMP TO OUTLINE AFGHAN STRATEGY IN TV ADDRESS

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump will use a nationally televised address to outline for a war-weary nation the strategy he believes will best position the US to eventually declare victory in Afghanistan after 16 years of combat and lives lost. The speech Monday night will also give Trump a chance for a reset after one of the most

difficult weeks of his short presidency. Trump tweeted Saturday that he had reached a decision on the way forward in Afghanistan, a day after he reviewed war options with his national security team at a meeting at Camp David, Maryland. The president offered no clues about whether he would send thousands more US troops into Afghanistan or exercise his authority as commander in chief to order that they be withdrawn from America's longest war. But signs pointed in the direction of Trump

continuing the US commitment there. The top US commander in Afghanistan on Sunday hailed the launch of the Afghan Army's new special operations corps and declared that "we are with you and we will stay with you." Trump scheduled a 9 pm EDT Monday address to the nation and US troops stationed at the Army's Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. Next door to the base is Arlington National Cemetery, the final resting place for many of the US troops who died fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It will be Trump's first formal address to the nation outside of his late February speech to a joint session of Congress. And it follows one of the most trying weeks for the president, who generated a firestorm of criticism after he appeared to equate neo-Nazis and white supremacists with the counter-protesters who opposed them during a deadly clash, with racial overtones, two weekends ago in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Trump blamed "very fine people, on both sides" for the confrontation in which a woman was killed and more than a dozen people were injured. The comments triggered rebukes from elected and former elected leaders in both political parties, and corporate leaders signaled a lack of confidence in Trump by resigning from a pair of White House advisory boards, among other expressions of dissent over his comments.

Special operations

In Afghanistan, Gen John Nicholson's comments suggested the Pentagon may have won its argument that US military must remain engaged in order to ensure that terrorists aren't again able to threaten the US from havens inside of Afghanistan. Nicholson, who spoke before the announcement about Trump's speech, said the commandos and a plan to double the size of the Afghan special operations forces are critical to winning the war.

"I assure you we are with you in this fight. We are with you and we will stay with you," Nicholson said during a ceremony at Camp Morehead, a training base for Afghan commandoes southeast of Kabul. The Pentagon was awaiting a final announcement by Trump on a proposal to send in nearly 4,000 more US troops. The added forces would increase training and advising of the Afghan forces and bolster counterterrorism operations against the Taliban and an Islamic State group affiliate trying to gain a foothold in the country.

The administration had been at odds for months over how to craft a new Afghan war strategy amid frustrations that the conflict had stalemated some 16 years after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Afghan government controls just half of the country and is beset by endemic corruption and infighting. The Islamic State group has been hit hard but continues to attempt major attacks, insurgents still find safe harbor in Pakistan, and Russia, Iran and others are increasingly trying to shape the outcome. At this point, every thing the US military has proposed points to keeping the Afghan government in place and struggling to turn a dismal quagmire around.

Future role

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who visited Afghanistan over the weekend, declared himself satisfied with how the administration had formulated its new strategy. But he refused to discuss details before Trump's announcement. Afghan military commanders have been clear that they want and expect continued US military help. Among elected leaders in the US, opinions were mixed about America's future role in Afghanistan.

Ohio Gov John Kasich, who last year challenged Trump for the Republican presidential nomination, favors withdrawing the approximately 8,400 U.S. troops currently in Afghanistan - not sending in more. "I think we should begin to leave and then I think we should reserve the opportunity and the right, with proper basing of our forces in the region, to be able to strike, if we think that there is an effort being made to create another launching pad," Kasich said Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union. "But just to stay there after 16 years, I want our people to be able to come home."

Sen Tim Kaine, a Virginia Democrat and member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said he was more interested at this point in hearing Trump's overall plan before any talk about troop levels. "The troop strength question is sort of the cart before the horse. The real question is what is our strategy?" Kaine said on CBS' "Face the Nation." "And then when you lay out the strategy, then the troop strength question can kind of answer itself." —AP

TEACHER MADE US DRINK SEWER water, Bangladeshi pupils say

DHAKA: Bangladeshi authorities have ordered an investigation after a primary school teacher was accused of forcing more than two dozen students to drink sewer water as a punishment, officials said yestserday. Parents lodged a complaint against Shahnaz Parvin, a teacher from Jajira south of Dhaka, after several students fell ill. Jajira's government administrator, Rahela Rahmatullah, said an investigation was underway into allegations 28 children had been force-fed

"We will take necessary legal steps if she is found to have breached rules," she told AFP. The 25-year-old teacher denied forcing the children to drink the water, saying she was only trying to scare them after they failed to prepare for class.

Administrators at Gangaprasad Primary School described the teacher's actions as "reprehensible" and said they would await the outcome of the investigation. "Even scaring little children like that was absolutely inappropriate," said Jajira education official Hafizur Rahman.

Students described being sick after Parvin passed around a jug of filthy water for them to drink. "My teacher asked me to fetch a jug of water from the sewer. And then she fed it to the rest of the class," one unidentified student told a daily newspaper. The news has caused outrage in Bangladesh, where corporal punishment in schools was officially banned in 2010. But beatings and other punishments are regularly meted out and rights groups often raise instances of abuse. — AFP

S ASIA FLOODS CLAIM MORE THAN 750 LIVES

HUNDREDS OF ANIMALS LIKE RHINOS, TIGERS ALSO AFFECTED

NEW DELHI: More than 750 people have died in floods across South Asia, officials said yesterday, with monsoon rains also causing the deaths of hundreds of animals, including rhinos and a tiger. The human toll is steadily rising across India, Nepal and Bangladesh following the latest in a series of deluges since August 10, as the annual monsoon hits the north and east of the region. Nearly 50 bodies were found overnight in Bihar, in India's east, taking the number of dead there to 253, a state disaster official told AFP.

In Nepal, 143 people have died and 30 remain missing after flooding that has destroyed close to 80,000 homes. The heavy rain has also taken a toll on India's wildlife, with rescue teams pulling stranded animals from raging waters in Kaziranga National Park. The sanctuary in northeastern Assam state, home to the world's largest population of rare one-horned rhinos and other endangered species, has been especially hard hit.

"Our teams have recovered 225 dead animals since August 12. Of those, 15 were rhinos," Kaziranga director Satyendra Singh told AFP. "A Bengal tiger also died in a fight with a herd of elephants. He was left injured and later could not walk or swim. It is possible that due to floods, there was a space crunch and it led to a territorial conflict." Nearly 200 deer, four elephant calves, four wild boars, two water buffaloes and one porcupine were among the other animals found dead in Kaziranga, which is still 20 percent under water, said Singh. "The toll could rise further," he added.

The mighty Brahmaputra River, which runs through Assam, often breaks its banks during the monsoon leaving marooned animals scrambling to higher, dryer ground. Conservationists



BALURGHAT: This file photo taken on August 17, 2017 shows Indian residents wading through flood waters. —AFP

worry that poachers, hunting for lucrative rhino horn, will try and capitalise on the exodus of wildlife from the protection of the jungle.

Singh said his teams had already taken precautions, erecting barricades and increasing patrols. The park, a tourist magnet home to about 2,500 rhinos, was given a huge publicity boost last year when Britain's Prince William and his wife Kate visited during their tour of India. But like other parts of the region, it is prone to

flooding during the monsoon. Across Assam and West Bengal, 122 people have died while 69 people have perished in Uttar Pradesh state. In the Himalaya region in India's northwest, landslides caused by heavy rain have claimed 54 lives, the vast majority in one huge avalanche of mud that swept two buses off a mountainside. Across the border in Bangladesh, 115 people have died and 5.7 million been affected by raging downpours. —AFP



In this Jan 22, 2017, photo provided by US Navy, the USS John S McCain conducts a patrol in the South China Sea while supporting security efforts in the region. —AP

10 SAILORS MISSING, INJURED AFTER US DESTROYER **COLLISION OFF SINGAPORE**

SINGAPORE: Ten US sailors were missing and five injured after their destroyer collided with a tanker near Singapore yesterday, tearing a large hole in its hull in the second accident involving an American warship in two months. The badly damaged USS John S. McCain limped into port in the city-state in the afternoon under escort after the dramatic pre-dawn accident, which sent water flooding into the vessel.

A major search involving ships and aircraft from three countries was launched for the missing sailors after the collision with the Alnic MC in the Singapore Strait, near the Strait of Malacca. Analysts said the accident, so soon after June's collision off Japan involving a US warship, raised questions about whether the US Navy was overstretched in Asia as it seeks to combat Chinese assertiveness in the South China Sea and North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

The US Navy said there was "significant damage to the hull" of the warship in the latest collision, which led to flooding of crew sleeping areas, machinery and communications rooms. "Damage control efforts by the crew halted further flooding," they said in a statement after the John S McCain arrived at Changi Naval Base in the city-state. A helicopter took four of the injured to a Singapore hospital with injuries that were not life-threatening while the fifth did not need further medical attention, the navy said.

The 505-foot (154-metre) vessel could still sail under its own power after the collision at 5:24 am (2124 GMT Sunday) with the Liberian-flagged tanker, which was slightly bigger at 600 feet. Two other vessels escorted it into port, AFP journalists saw. The warship had been heading for a routine stop in Singapore after carrying out a "freedom of navigation operation" in the disputed South China Sea earlier in August around a reef in the Spratly Islands, sparking a furious response from Beijing.

The vessel is named after US Senator John McCain's father and grandfather, who were both admirals in the US navy. McCain said in a tweet that he and his wife "are keeping America's sailors aboard the USS John S McCain in our prayers tonight-appreciate the work of search & rescue crews".

'Thoughts and prayers'

President Donald Trump initially said that's too bad" in response to reporters' shouted questions about the collision, as he arrived back at the White House after a holiday. He followed up with a Tweet: "Thoughts & prayers are w/ our @USNavy sailors aboard the #USSJohnSMcCain where search & rescue efforts are underway."

Ridzwan Rahmat, a naval expert at Janes by IHS Markit, said initial indications suggested the US warship may not have been obeying rules designed to separate maritime traffic passing through the Singapore Strait. With the accident coming soon after the freedom of navigation operation, it raised questions "whether there is crew fatigue setting in, whether or not the tempo of operations by the US Navy in this region is getting too fast," he told AFP.

"Are they doing too much within this region with North Korea, and Japan and then now in the South China Sea?" Singapore, Malaysia and US ships and aircraft were all involved in the hunt for the missing sailors. The tanker involved in the collision, which was used for transporting oil and chemicals and weighed over 30,000 gross tons, sustained some damage but no crew were injured, and Singapore said there was no oil pollution. In June seven American sailors died when the destroyer USS Fitzgerald collided with a Philippine-flagged cargo ship in a busy channel not far from Yokosuka, a gateway to container ports in Tokyo and nearby Yokohama. — AFP

SONS OF US DEFECTOR TO N Korea confirm death

SEOUL: The only US soldier known still to be living in North Korea after defecting more than five decades ago died last year pledging loyalty to the "great leader Kim Jong-Un", his sons said. James Joseph Dresnok was among just a handful of American servicemen to desert following the 1950-53 Korean War, crossing the heavily fortified Demilitarised Zone in 1962. He went on to appear in North Korean propaganda films and was believed to be the last US military defector in the country, the others all having died or been allowed to leave.

In a video interview posted on the state-run Uriminzokkiri website, Ted and James Dresnok, his two adult sons, confirmed that their father suffered a fatal stroke in November last year. "Our father was in the arms of the republic and received only the love and care of the party until his passing at age 74," said Ted Dresnok, the elder of the two. Brown-haired and hazel-eyed, he wore a Korean People's Army uniform in the video like his brother, adorned with a badge depicting the North's founder Kim II-Sung and his son and successor Kim Jong-II.

Both men were born in North Korea and spoke Korean with a thick Northern accent. "Our father asked us to render devoted service to our great leader Kim Jong-Un," said Ted Dresnok, who also goes by the Korean name Hong Soon-Chol. Their comments were similar to those of ordinary North Koreans, who normally only ever express officially approved sentiments when speaking for a foreign audience.

It was the brothers' second appearance on the program, after they praised the country in a May 2016 interview. Their mother is said to have been Doina Bumbea, a Romanian whose family say she was kidnapped by Pyongyang. In a searing 2014 report on human rights in North Korea, a UN commission of inquiry said: "Women abducted from Europe, the Middle East and Asia were subjected to forced marriages with men from other countries to prevent liaisons on their part with ethnic Korean women that could result in interracial children."

Another American soldier defector, Charles Jenkins, married Japanese abductee Hitomi Soga within weeks of meeting her in the North. Soga was allowed to leave in 2002, and Jenkins and their two daughters followed suit two years later. He was court-martialed for desertion and given a 30-day custodial sentence. They now live on a small Japanese island where he makes a living selling rice crackers. Four other post-1953 US army deserters are all believed to have died in the North.

'A billion damn dollars'

Reports of Dresnok's death emerged earlier this year but the brothers' video is the first official confirmation. Tensions have been mounting in the region since Pyongyang tested two intercontinental ballistic missiles last month that appeared to bring much of the US within range. That sparked a volley of threats between Pyongyang and Washington, with President Donald Trump warning the North of "fire and fury" while Pyongyang threatened to fire a salvo of missiles towards the US territory of Guam.

Ted Dresnok said the "US imperialists" were raising "war hysteria madness" while knowing little about the North's military and its people. If war breaks out, he said, "We will not miss the opportunity and wipe the land of the US from the earth forever." In the video, posted Friday, his brother James, whose Korean name is Hong Chol, added: "We have our dear supreme commander Kim Jong-Un. If he is by our side, our victory is certain."

The late James Dresnok, known as Joe, was 21, newly divorced and reportedly facing a court-martial when he made his way through the minefields that litter the DMZ to reach North Korea. He was the subject of a 2006 British documentary, "Crossing the Line", which was nominated for a Grand Jury prize at the Sundance film festival. —AFP

Kuwait - Times

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ACCOUNTS : 24835619
COMMERCIAL : 24835618

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

Focus

MYSTERY QATARI PUSHED INTO GULF CRISIS SPOTLIGHT

wo months into a bitter Gulf crisis, Saudi Arabia's use of a previously unknown Qatari royal family member has opened a new - and bizarre - front in the conflict. On August 17, it was announced that Saudi's King Salman had ordered the reopening of the Qatar border to allow pilgrims from the emirate to join the annual hajj pilgrimage to Makkah. The decision, at first glance an apparent thawing in a crisis ongoing since June 5, was apparently taken after Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman met an obscure member of Qatar's ruling dynasty, Sheikh Abdullah bin Ali bin Abdullah bin Jassim Al-Thani.

Notably, it was the first public high-level encounter between the nations since the crisis erupted. Saudi Arabian authorities highlighted the role of the mysterious Qatari in reopening the border. Then it was reported that King Salman had received Sheikh Abdullah at his residence in Tangier, Morocco. And straight afterwards, a Twitter account was set-up in the sheikh's name, gaining more than 250,000 followers in just two days and nine tweets. "What I did was only for the good of Qatar," he wrote in one tweet.

Not part of inner circle

But far from playing a conciliatory role, the emergence of Sheikh Abdullah may have aggravated matters. Doha was quick to point out that he was in Saudi Arabia on a "personal" mission, not for the government, and angry social media users in Qatar claimed the Twitter account was "fake". It also prompted speculation that the sheikh, the brother of a former emir, was being used to undermine or even replace the current Qatari leadership.

Unlikely, say analysts. "Sheikh Abdullah... is not part of the very inner circle of the ruling elite in Qatar today," said Andreas Krieg, a strategic risk analyst and assistant professor at King's College London university and who knows the workings of the state apparatus in Qatar. "He lives abroad but is not exiled."

The sheikh belongs to a branch of the Al-Thani royal family which may have seen its power eroded in recent years, but is still very well-connected. He is a cousin of the Father Emir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, who seized power in 1995, overseeing a transformation of his country into an economic powerhouse until stepping down in 2013 to give power to his son and current leader, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. Sheikh Abdullah is also the son of a former emir deposed by the grandfather of Sheikh Tamim.

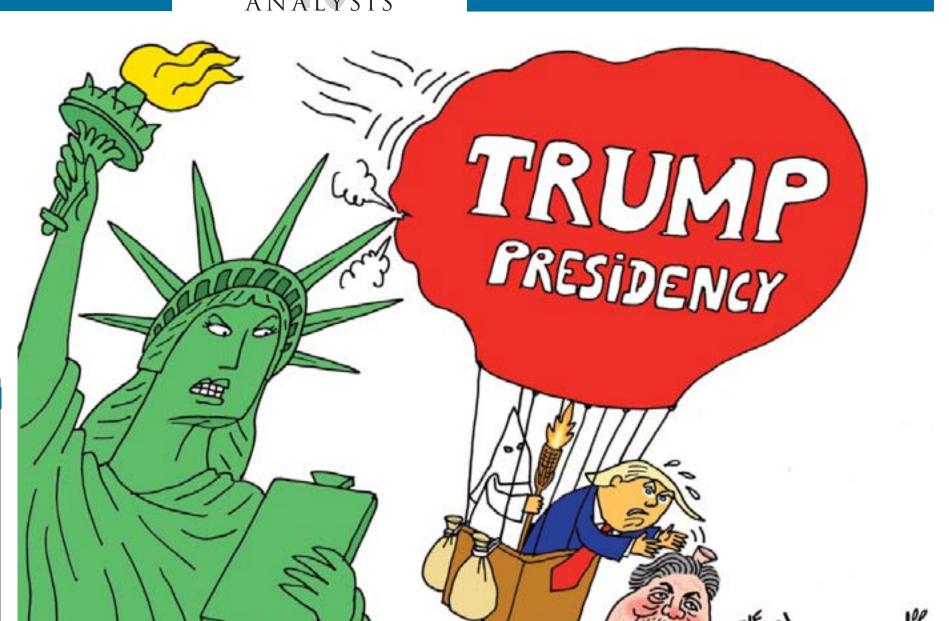
The meetings in Saudi Arabia and Morocco were meant to put pressure on Qatar's so far unyielding leadership, since the crisis began on June 5, added Krieg. "It is unusual that someone like him gets an official audience with the king and the crown prince," said Krieg. "But the Saudis exploited the situation and presented this meeting with a lot of fanfare in their media. It was certainly done to put pressure on the royal family."

Regime change ruled out

Another Western analyst, Mathieu Guidere, a professor of Arab geopolitics in Paris, agrees. But both rule out any chance of regime change in Qatar. "If they were really working for regime change, the Saudis would not have made this mediation public," said Guidere. And Krieg says any such attempt would prove futile. "It would be foolish to think that regime change is possible. Saudi Arabia knows that," he said. "The lineage of the current emir has made Qatar the richest country in the world with one of the biggest wealth funds and arguably the most resilient economy in the region. The loyalty of Qataris to Tamim is therefore unconditional."

Certainly the crisis, which has seen Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt cut ties with Doha over accusations that it backs extremism - charges Qatar denies - has bolstered the current emir's popularity at home. His image now appears everywhere, and emphasizing this on Sunday, Qatar unveiled an exhibition of 30 murals depicting "Tamim the Glorious" in a central Doha park. In another development Sunday, Saudi Arabia said Qatar had refused to allow its aircraft to land in Doha to transport Qatari Muslims to Makkah for the hajj. — AFP

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SPOTLIGHT ON OUT OF THIS WORLD PROPERTY CLAIMS

an anyone claim the red planet or natural resources on asteroids? Business leaders and legal experts say the question has become more than philosophical as a growing number of firms, often backed by capital and technology from Silicon Valley, have set their sights on the resources of outer space asteroids and Mars. In order to avoid conflicts between competing companies and countries over outer space resources, more work needs to be done on Earth to determine who owns commodities taken from celestial bodies, analysts said.

"There is a huge debate on whether companies can simply travel to space and extract its resources," said Barry Kellman, a law professor who studies space governance at DePaul University in Chicago. "There is no way to answer the question until someone does it," Kellman told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Asteroid Water for Sale

US-based Planetary Resources, a firm backed by Google founder Larry Page and Virgin Group's Richard Branson, expects to be mining asteroids for water in the next 10 to 15 years. The company will launch its first robotic probe mission to scout asteroids for resource deposits in 2020, said Planetary Resources' Chief Executive Chris Lewicki. "If you obtain a resource and bring it with you, it becomes your property," Lewicki said, citing recently passed space laws in the US and Luxembourg that offer a legal framework to ensure that private operators can be confident about their rights over resources they extract in space. "You can sell, keep or deliver (space resources) peacefully," Lewicki told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The firm plans to extract oxygen and hydrogen - the components of water - from asteroids to sell. Lewicki is not planning on bringing those water resources back to Earth; he wants market them in space, creating a "gas station" for other exploration missions. Hydrogen and oxygen, kept at a docking station orbiting around Earth, will be used to fuel other space ships.

Moving those fuels from Earth into outer space is expensive, he said, and having energy accessible to ships

will make voyaging easier. One modest sized asteroid, about as big as a football field, "has enough oxygen and hydrogen to fuel every launch in the history of space (travel)," Lewicki said. "We are seeing a boom - that might be a bad choice of words - in access to space."

Martian Appropriation

Other analysts are not sure if companies can just fly up and start harvesting cosmic water, legally speaking. The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 is the main international standard for what companies and countries are allowed to do when they aren't on earth, said Jacob Haqq-Misra, director of the Blue Marble Space Institute of Science, a Seattle-based research group. The treaty says that space is the "provenance of all mankind". Countries cannot claim "national appropriation" or sovereignty over the Moon or other celestial bodies "by occupation or by other means", the treaty says.

This clause could prove tricky for private firms who want to mine on asteroids or Mars, said Haqq-Misra, including Planetary Resources and SpaceX, the private rocketship company run by tech billionaire Elon Musk. "If SpaceX, a US corporation, was to claim asteroid profits as its own, there is some ambiguity as to whether that constitutes national appropriation," Haqq-Misra told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. SpaceX declined to

New Laws

While the 1967 treaty is considered the global standard for sharing space, individual countries have recently passed laws allowing for property rights in the great beyond. Luxembourg this month brought into force laws allowing private firms to own resources extracted from outer space in a move hailed by the nascent space mining industry. Planetary Resources, for example, maintains an office in the small European country better known for its finance industry than space exploration.

The US in 2015 introduced similar legislation for private space resource ownership but it only applies to firms

majority owned by Americans. NASA, the US government's space agency, maintains a "neutral position with regard to mining of minerals on Mars", a spokesman said. "If companies request assistance or want partnerships related to mining on Mars, we help to the best of our ability," NASA spokesman Guy Webster told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in an email without providing specifics on space resource ownership.

Along with national legislation and the 1967 treaty, there are other earthly regulations which could provide guidance for managing extraterrestrial resources, legal experts said. Under the United Nations' Law of the Sea Convention countries have exclusive rights to exploit natural resources within around 322 km of their coast line, but ships and planes from other nations can freely pass through the waters.

This could serve as a template for space resource rights, where companies have exclusive economic rights in a given area around their landing point, but not ownership over an entire asteroid or planet, lawyers said. "It's advantageous to work out a system where people can acquire property rights enforceable through a legal process," Andrew Brehm, an attorney with Scopelitis, Garvin, Light Hanson & Feary in Milwaukee.

"That being said, outer space is viewed in society as something similar to the ocean, where there is a collective interest," Brehm told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. "A first come, first serve system does not necessarily work well when only certain countries or private entities can (currently) reach outer space."

Even if countries can agree on a universal property rights regime for space, there are still plenty of earthly grievances for countries and companies to address, said Kellman, the law professor. Specifically, analysts and legal experts do not know whether companies would have to pay taxes or royalties to anyone on earth for extracting space resources. It is an issue space exploration firms have yet to deal with. "For the moment, the company exists on earth, where all of the laws and regulations apply," Planetary Resources' Lewicki said. —Reuters

BBC PIDGIN TAKES TO THE AIRWAVES IN NIGERIA

magine a language without an alphabet, held together without grammar or spelling, which changes every day but is nonetheless spoken and understood by more than 75 million Nigerians. So how would a global megabroadcaster like the BBC go about reaching this vast, young and un-tapped audience? On Monday the British media giant will launch an online portal that will be entirely in Pidgin and feature text news, features and podcasts.

"It's a challenging, exciting experiment," said Bilkisu Labaran, the corporation's editor-in-chief in Lagos, the commercial capital of the west African powerhouse. Labaran and her 15-strong team, which includes web designers, journalists and social media experts, are seeking to transform Nigeria's use of Pidgin, under the banner "make dem hear". "We want to be pioneers in what written Pidgin can be," she told AFP. "There is no harmonization but that's the opportunity to have the conversation. We expect debate with our readers on what Pidgin should be. It's like entering an unknown world."

The project marks a shift for Labaran for whom speaking Pidgin at home while still a child would have earned her a stern parental rebuke. Previously, Pidgin was considered a language for the impoverished lower classes. Pidgin takes inspiration from Portuguese, the first European language to reach Nigeria's shores, English, the enduring colonial-era language, as well as Jamaican patois imported by former slaves returning to the continent. The language has shifted and evolved uninterrupted since its inception.

'The man don delete'

Today it is spoken across Nigeria, where it traverses ethnicities and co-exists alongside some 500 other local languages, as well as in Cameroon, Sierra Leone and Ghana. In all of these countries, Pidgin is becoming the lingua franca of cool. An oral language, Pidgin has traditionally thrived on the country's crowded radio waves, popularized by the music of the king of Afrobeat, Fela Kuti, and Davido, an American-Nigerian artist currently enjoying huge success.

When Wazobia FM, the first local Pidgin station, launched ten years ago, it was greeted with howls of derision by language puritans who predicted that the project would fail spectacularly. How could a broadcaster discuss serious issues in street slang, the pedants asked. The star host of the station's breakfast show Mayowa Lambe said she "was struggling a bit at the beginning" to lose her

English accent after years using the language. "But the truth is, not everyone is educated in the country, and we have so many ethnic groups and so many languages. Everyone with a minimal level of education understands us, and can be informed," she said.

"I love to listen to the news in Pidgin English - mainly because it makes it less tragic," added Nigerian blogger Uduak Ubak. "A good example is when the word 'died' is replaced with 'delete'. When used in a sentence, we have something like 'the man don delete', meaning 'the man has died." And to commit a massacre is to "do-badness-to-people". The English word "kill is" reserved for a different context setting altogether. In one of Lagos' renowned mega clubs, a reveller might be heard to say "she dey kill me wither mini-skirt o", meaning they love the garment.

'A language that belongs to nobody'

Wazobia FM, and many other stations like it, has meant a new level of recognition for Pidgin and its many speakers. And for once it is the well-heeled, well-educated community scrambling to catch up. "It's a language that belongs to nobody at the same time as belonging to everybody," said Bernard Caron, a linguist specializing in Nigeria at France's CNRS research institute. "It's also something that will unite the country, a way of reappropriating English while asserting its own identity." Labaran says she feels like she is delving into the history of the language since her studio began using the medium. "It's going to be a defining point for the language," she said. And for Nigeria's relationship with its colonial past? "I didn't put it that way. But..." she smiled. — AFP



A British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) programmer Busayo Iruemiode checks a website in Pidgin in Lagos on Aug 18, 2017. — AFP



A crowd gathers in front of the Hollywood sign at the Griffith Observatory to watch the solar eclipse in Los Angeles yesterday. (Inset) The "diamond ring effect" is seen during a total solar eclipse as seen from the Lowell Observatory Solar Eclipse Experience yesterday in Madras, Oregon. — AP/AFP

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE ENTHRALLS US

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of shadow created when the sun is completely obscured. The shadow - a corridor just 96 to 113 km wide came ashore in Oregon and then began racing diagonally across the continent to South Carolina, with darkness lasting only about two to three minutes in any one spot. "The show has just begun, people! What a gorgeous day! Isn't this great, people?" Jim Todd, a director at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, told a crowd of thousands at an amphitheater in Salem, Oregon, as the moon seemed to take an ever-bigger bite out of the sun and temperature soon dropped noticeably.

With 200 million people within a day's drive from the path of totality, towns and parks braced for monumental crowds. Clear skies beckoned along most of the route, to the relief of those who feared cloud cover would spoil this once-in-a-lifetime moment. "It's like nothing else you will ever see or ever do," said veteran eclipse-watcher Mike O'Leary of San Diego, who set up his camera along with among hundreds of other amateur astronomers gathered in Casper, Wyoming. "It can be religious. It makes you feel insignificant, like you're just a speck in the whole scheme of things."

Astronomers were giddy with excitement. A solar eclipse is considered one of the grandest of cosmic spectacles. NASA solar physicist Alex Young said the last time earthlings had a connection like this to the heavens was during man's first flight to the moon, on Apollo 8 in 1968. The first, famous Earthrise photo came from that mission and, like this eclipse, showed us "we are part of something bigger".

With half hour to go before totality, NASA's acting administrator, Robert Lightfoot, enjoyed the moon's "first bites out of the sun" from a plane flying over the Oregon coast and declared it "just an incredible view". "I'm about to fight this man for a window seat," Lightfoot said, referring to a fellow NASA scientist.

The Earth, moon and sun line up perfectly every one to three years, briefly turning day into night for a sliver of the planet. But these sights normally are in no man's land, like the vast Pacific or Earth's poles. This is the first eclipse of the social media era to pass through such a heavily populated area. The moon hasn't thrown this much shade at the US since 1918, during the country's last coast-to-coast total eclipse. In fact, the US mainland hasn't seen a total solar

eclipse since 1979 - and even then, only five states in the Northwest experienced total darkness. "It's really, really, really, really awesome," said 9-year-old Cami Smith as she watched the fully eclipsed sun from a gravel lane near her grandfather's home at Beverly Beach, Oregon. Scientists said the total eclipse would cast a shadow that would race 4,200 km through 14 states, entering near Lincoln City, Oregon, at 1:16 pm EDT, moving diagonally across the heartland over Casper, Wyoming, Carbondale, Illinois, and Nashville, Tennessee, and then exiting near Charleston, South Carolina, at 2:47 pm EDT. Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois was in line to see the longest stretch of darkness: 2 minutes and 44 seconds.

All of North America was on track to get at least a partial eclipse, along with Central America and the top of South America. In Washington, DC, hundreds of people waited in long lines outside the National Air and Space Museum, which was distributing more than 20,000 pairs of free viewing glasses. Residents of the nation's capital saw 81 percent of the sun obscured at the eclipse's peak around 2:24 pm. Daniel Berger, 33, a software developer from New York, said he had been waiting with his wife and their two children for almost an hour. "This is a far larger crowd than I anticipated," he said. "It's the first non-political attraction for DC in many years, so that's nice."

Joe Roth, an amateur photographer, traveled south from the Chicago area to Alto Pass, Illinois, to catch his first total solar eclipse - on his 62nd birthday, no less. He said the stars aligned for him - "a Kodak moment for me to cherish and experience." Kim Kniseley drove overnight from Roanoke, Virginia, arriving in Madisonville, Tennessee, before dawn to get a parking spot at Kefauver Park, where by sunrise dozens of folks had claimed benches and set up tents. He said he could have stayed home in Roanoke and seen a partial eclipse of 90 percent, but that would have been like "going to a rock concert and you're standing in the parking lot."

Hoping to learn more about the sun's composition and activity, NASA and other scientists watched and analyzed from telescopes on the ground and in orbit, the International Space Station, airplanes and scores of highaltitude balloons beaming back live video. Citizen scientists also planned to monitor animal and plant behavior as daylight turned into twilight and the temperature dropped. Thousands of people streamed into the Nashville Zoo just to watch the animals' reaction. — Agencies

UAE NUKE PROGRAM EDGES TOWARD LAUNCH IN 2018

ABU DHABI: At first glance, the long hallway seems abandoned. But behind glass walls, in soundproof offices, engineers and physicists are putting the final touches to the Arab world's first nuclear program. At the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) in Abu Dhabi, dozens of employees are reviewing the 15,000page application for the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant, scheduled to launch next year. Located just across the Gulf from Iran, which is home to a controversial nuclear program of its own, the Barakah plant will make the UAE the first Gulf state to have a peaceful nuclear energy program. By 2020, the UAE Peaceful Nuclear Energy Program will be in full gear, with four nuclear reactors providing nearly 25 percent of the UAE's electricity needs, according to the state-run Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC). The first reactor was initially set to start generating power in 2017, but ENEC recently announced its inauguration would be delayed until 2018 for technical reasons.

"We received the application for reactor one in March 2015 and since then we have been studying it," said Christer Viktorsson, director general at the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation which oversees regulation and licensing for the UAE's nuclear program. Viktorsson says the federal authority has sent ENEC more than 1,000 questions seeking documented answers since 2015 - and the licensing process is not yet over. "It's a massive application," he told AFP. "There are a few areas where we still have questions. We have to verify... that they have security plans, like emergency plans, and if an accident happens they can deal with it."

Concerns in volatile Gulf

In the FANR offices, 300 km west of the Barakah plant, Emirati and foreign employees are buried in licensing paperwork in a bid to meet next year's deadline. ENEC in April reported construction of the plant's four units had been 80 percent completed, with reactor one at 95 percent completion. Operations teams and contingency plans are also in place, according to ENEC, and Viktorsson says he has "no doubt" that the company will meet the 2018 launch date.

Much of the construction of the \$25-billion Barakah plant has been outsourced to the Korea Electric Power Corporation, the largest electric utility in South Korea, which won the project over French multinational group AREVA. "We don't think the nuclear power plant will cause any problems in the region," said a South Korean diplomat in the UAE, requesting anonymity. "The Barakah nuclear power plant will play an important role for the UAE's economic development and will be a role model for the other Arab countries, proving that nuclear power can be used for peaceful purposes."

While the peaceful use of nuclear energy is far from new, the UAE nuclear program has raised some concerns in the Gulf, a region that has long been gripped by war and political crises. But officials in the UAE, which sits on seven percent of the world's oil reserves, say their program will not add fuel to fire in the region, where the latest diplomatic crisis has seen gas-rich Qatar isolated from the UAE and Saudi Arabia over allegations that the emirate is too close to Iran and harbors Islamist extremists. —AFP

HARBI URGED TO CANCEL NEW HEALTH CHARGES...

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leaked on social media that showed she allegedly appointed expats with salaries over KD 2,000. The MPs considered these appointments - based on the rewards system - as something against Kuwaitization and moves to rectify the demographic imbalance. The lawmakers warned Sabeeh she could be grilled. MP Saleh Ashour said the gov-

ernment makes citizens "hate" expats through random appointments, inflated salaries and unnecessary incentives such as free education and healthcare for some. MP Abdulkareem Al-Kandari said Kuwaiti graduates in the accounting and law professions find it "strange" that expats are continued to be appointed in these specialties. He said documents leaked on social media show expat advisors were given major pay increases of over KD 3,000.





· Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarak str.) · Farwaniya (Behind police Station) · Fahaheel (Opp. General Parking) · Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.) · Airport (Departure Half



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· Kuwait 1 (the New str.) · Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower) · Hawalli 1 (Tunis str.) · Hawalli 2 (Bin Khaldon str.) · Shuwaikh (4th Ring road) · Al-Rai (4th Ring road)



WOOD JOINS BURNLEY FROM LEEDS IN CLUB RECORD FEE

LONDON: Burnley have signed New Zealand striker Chris Wood from Leeds in a club-record fee reported to be £15 million (16.4 million euros), the Premier League side announced yesterday. The 25-year-old moves to England's top flight after finishing last season as the Championship's top

scorer with 27 goals. In all he scored 44 goals in 88 appearances for Leeds. The Clarets did not disclose the sum paid to Leeds but confirmed it was more than their previous record, around £13million for Robbie Brady from Norwich this year. Wood, who joins on a four year deal, is Burnley manager Sean Dyche's first signing of the transfer window. He returns to the Premier League after brief spells with West Bromwich Albion and Leicester City. "My ambition has been to play in the Premier League for years," Wood told the club's Clarets Player HD. "I've had tastes of being in there but I've never had the chance to give it a proper bash. —AFP

SQUASH PLAYERS, COACH **HURT IN BUS CRASH**

KUALA LUMPUR: Seven squash players and a coach were injured in a bus crash at the Southeast Asian Games in Malaysia yesterday, forcing organisers to suspend matches on the first day of competition. Police said two buses were in collision near Kuala Lumpur, injuring seven players from Myanmar and a coach from the Philippines. A Thai contingent was also travelling on the buses. "All matches this morning have been suspended," Low Beng Choo, secretary of the Games' sports and technical committee, said in a statement. She added that the accident was being investigated by police. Police said the Philippines coach suffered light leg injuries, while the seven players from Myanmar were also left with "small wounds" on their legs. The accident happened when one of the buses braked suddenly to avoid a car that cut into its lane, and was hit from behind by the second bus, the statement added.—AFP

LEHMANN BACKS AGAR FOR TEST RETURN

DHAKA: Australia coach Darren Lehmann yesterday backed Ashton Agar to make his Test return during the tour of Bangladesh, four years after the all-rounder made his last appearance. Agar impressed Australian selectors with his form in the domestic Sheffield Shield competition this season, earning him a recall ahead of left-arm spinner Steve O'Keefe. "Ashton batted really well and he is a gun fielder. We are really pleased for him," Lehmann told reporters in Dhaka. "We are hoping for Ashton to reproduce that sort of form," Lehmann said of Agar. Australia are expected to field at least two spinners in the first Test in Dhaka starting this Sunday, with Agar now set to join regular spinner Nathan Lyon in the attack. Lehmann said Australia were prepared for anything at the Sher-e Bangla National Stadium, where Bangladesh defeated England inside three days last October. —AFP

SWEDEN'S STENSON CAPTURES WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP

LOS ANGELES: Sweden's Henrik Stenson claimed his first title since winning the 2016 British Open, outdueling Ollie Schniederjans down the stretch Sunday to win the USPGA Tour's Wyndham Championship.

The 41-year-old from Gothenburg closed with a six-under 64 for a 22-under 258 total to set a tournament scoring record at the Sedgefield Country Club in Greensboro, North Carolina.

He won by one stroke over American Schniederjans, who roared to the finish with birdies on his final two holes en route to 64. But Stenson matched Schniederjans hole-for-holeboth producing birdies at three of their last four holes.

Stenson drained a 40-foot putt on the par-four 17th to help seal his 17th international title including his sixth on the USPGA Tour. "He pressured me right to the end," Stenson said of Schniederjans. "It was a tight race. Luckily I was able to put my foot down and make a couple of birdies coming home."

The win makes him the winningest Swedish player of all-time on the US Tour, surpassing Jesper Parnevik and Carl Pettersson who both have five. "Feels good to inch ahead and get that 6th win," Stenson said. Stenson, who is ranked ninth in the world, is hoping to return to the form that saw him win his first major championship at the 2016 Open Championship at Royal Troon.

"I don't know how many times I'm going to be able to get close to playing as well as I did at Troon," he said Sunday. "That was a performance of a lifetime and the scoring that we did showed that." Schniederjans's 21-under total of 259 gave him sole possession of second place, one stroke ahead of former US Open champion Webb Simpson, who shot a 67 for 262.

American Kevin Na was knocking on the door for much of his final round but a bogey on 18 left him with a 68 and dropped him into a tie for fourth with South Africa's Rory Sabbatini (64) and American Ryan Armour (64).

With six holes to play, Stenson, Armour, Schniederjans and Na all shared the lead. Stenson, who tied for 11th in his Open title defence at Royal Birkdale, registered birdies on Nos. 13, 15, 16 and 17.

Schniederjans had birdies on Nos. 17 and 18 and nearly produced an eagle on the final hole, but the ball rolled past the cup on his shot from the fairway.

PLAYOFF BOOST

Stenson's 22-under score topped the previous tournament record of 21-under 259 belonging to Kim Si-Woo and Pettersson. He also earned 500 points to vault into 23rd place in the season-ending FedEx Cup playoff standings.

This was the last tournament of the regular season before the playoffs, so several golfers needed good finishes to move into the top 125 in points to qualify for the playoff events. The list of late playoff qualifiers included Sabbatini (began the week at 148), Geoff Ogilvy (was 125), J.J. Henry (was 134) and Harold Varner (was 138). Vaughn Taylor slipped from 119 to 124, but stayed in the hunt. — AFP



WEST DES MOINES: Team USA pose with the Solheim Cup trophy after the final day singles matches of The Solheim Cup at Des Moines Golf and Country Club on Sunday in West Des Moines, Iowa. —AFP

USA BEAT EUROPE FOR SECOND STRAIGHT SOLHEIM CUP CROWN

LOS ANGELES: The United States won the But the American came alive on the back nine Gerina Piller assured of at least halving theirs, the Solheim Cup on Sunday, thwarting Europe's comeback bid to triumph 16 1/2 to 11 1/2 in the women's match-play showdown. The Americans took a commanding five-point lead into the day's 12 singles matches at Des Moines Golf and Country Club in Iowa.

The scoreboard showed the 14 1/2 points needed for an outright victory when Lizette Salas sank a par putt at the 18th for a 1-up win over Jodi Ewart Shadoff of England. "My hands are still shaking just thinking about it," said Salas, who was draped in a US flag on the green in a low-key celebration.

Indeed the moment was little more than a formality, with the Americans already assured of the win thanks to the number of matches on course in which they were leading.

They had been hurtling toward victory ever since Lexi Thompson's remarkable rally to halve the opening singles match with Sweden's Anna Nordqvist. With captain Annika Sorenstam's Europe needing the biggest final-day comeback in Solheim Cup history to snatch the prize, Nordqvist set an early tone, winning the first four holes as Thompson struggled.

with a gutsy display that included holing out for an eagle at the 11th and an eagle at 15 to square the match. Thompson, who was six-under on the back nine, won the 16th with a birdie to take a 1up lead that she took to 18 after both players bogeyed the par-three 17th.

The world number two was on the green in two at the last when Nordqvist fired her approach to within two feet. Thompson conceded the birdie putt, and when she couldn't get her own long attempt to drop the match ended halved. "It was probably fitting that they both got half a point, they both played amazing," US captain Juli Inkster said. The United States continued to edge closer to their goal as veteran Cristie Kerr closed out a 2 & 1 victory over England's Mel Reid and Paula Creamer defeated Georgia Hall 1 up.

Germany's Caroline Masson helped stem the tide with a 4 & 2 win over Michelle Wie. And Scottish veteran Catriona Matthew, pressed into playing duty only when Suzann Pettersen pulled out late with an injury, rallied from 3 down through 11 holes to beat Stacy Lewis 1 up.

But when 18-year-old Angel Yin halved her match with France's Karine Icher, with Salas and Americans were home and dry. "We just got outplayed, there's no doubt about it," said Sorenstam, adding she was proud of her players' determination in the face of adversity. "They were out there fighting for every single point," she said after her players grabbed six of the 12 points on offer on the final day.

FOURBALL DOMINANCE DECISIVE

The United States had taken control of the tournament with dominant performances in the fourball matches on Friday and Saturday-winning seven of eight points on offer in that format. Their whitewash in the Friday fourballs erased Europe's narrow lead from the opening foursomes session and the visitors wouldn't get in front again. Inkster joined Judy Rankin as the only women to captain back-to-back winning US Solheim Cup teams. "I'm just proud of my team," she said after the 10th American victory in 15 editions since the matches began in 1990. "I really haven't been nervous all week, but I was a little nervous today.

"It's just an honor to captain this team, and I'm really honored to captain these girls." — AFP



GREENSBORO: Henrik Stenson poses with the trophy after winning the Wyndham Championship during the final round at Sedgefield Country Club on Sunday in Greensboro, North Carolina. — AFP

FOURTH STRAIGHT VICTORY FOR LEXUS IN SUPER GT 500 SERIES

TOKYO: Lexus stormed to its fourth consecutive victory in the 2017 AUTOBACS SUPER GT 500 series as the reigning champions Heikki Kovalainen and Kohei Hirate, in their No. 1 DEN-SO KOBELCO SARD LC500, came from seventh position on the starting grid to take their maiden win of the season at the Sportsland SUGO circuit in Miyagi Prefecture, Japan. The No. 6 WAKO'S 4CR LC500, driven by Kazuya Oshima and Andrea Caldarelli, finished third in the race to consolidate Lexus' runaway lead in the manufacturer's standings.

Following intermittent drizzles during the qualifying sessions, the race day dawned with rain and occasional cloudiness as predicted. Four of the cars in the field - including the No. 19 WedsSport ADVAN LC500 and No. 38 ZENT CERUMO LC500 - chose to start the race on slick tires, but the rain only grew heavier during the Formation Lap. Shortly thereafter, the No. 19 WedsSport ADVAN LC500, running in the fourth position, ran off the track at the first turn. The continued rainfall meant the cars on slick tires could no longer wait for their routine pit stops to change tires and had to hurry back to the pit prematurely, and take a time loss.

After just two laps, one of the competitor cars was forced to drop out of the race after its engine cover flew off on the pit straight. This incident was soon followed by the first of the safety cars, which shook up the grid. Then, at the end of the 46th lap, the No. 6 WAKO'S 4CR LC500 and No. 37 KeePer TOM'S LC500 headed in for their pit stops, followed by the No. 1 DENSO SARD KOBELCO LC500 on the next lap. At around the same time, two GT300 cars collided and ran off the track, bringing out the safety car once again. This meant the No. 1 DENSO SARD KOBEL-

CO LC500, having already finished its pit stop, was now on the same lap as the top four cars. As the race restarted at the end of the 52nd lap, the four cars in the lead all made their way into the pits: and taking advantage of the situation, the No. 1 DENSO SARD KOBELCO LC500 raced ahead into the lead.

With ten laps to go in the race, rain began to fall again on the track. The gap between the No. 1 DENSO SARD KOBELCO LC 500 in the first position and the competitor car in second position began to grow smaller as the race entered its final stages, and before long, the two machines were running nose-to-tail. The heavy rain, however, caused the two machines to both run off the track as they were reaching a corner, and then, just as the No. 1 DENSO SARD KOBELCO LC500 was getting back on the track, it was hit by the second-placed car.

Both drivers barely managed to keep their machines from spinning out as they clung to the track, and, of the two cars, it was the No. 1 DEN-SO SARD KOBELCO LC500 that was able to recover more quickly, enabling Hirate to pull ahead into the lead and race on to the checkered flag and victory. "The tough weather conditions added an extra challenge to the race, and I applaud the drivers for holding firm till the end to give Lexus a fourth consecutive victory," said Takayuki Yoshitsugu, Chief Representative, Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, Toyota Motor Corporation. "This triumph adds to our proven record in motorsports and we remain dedicated to continuously building on the experience gained on the racetrack to not only engineer amazing vehicles, but also capture our customers' hearts and minds by igniting their emotions. The fans have been fantastic all

season, and we owe a big thank-you to all our fans around the world for their constant support

of our racing initiatives." "At the start, it was neither completely dry nor completely wet, which made for tough conditions. I chose to start with a harder wet tire, and that turned out to be the best choice," said Heikki Kovalainen. "This season, our car had been delivering high performance from the beginning; and today, the tire choice and the timing of the safety car interventions turned out best for us. I was only hoping for a podium finish, so getting the win is a great result."

Kohei Hirate said, "After the start, we didn't know what the weather would do. So, I wasn't sure what tires to choose, and when I think about it, SUGO tends to have more than its share of difficult races like this. Today, we chose to start with harder wet tires, and that turned out to be a great choice. And because of the timing of the safety car breaks, we managed to finish our pit stop at the best possible time. I'm glad that I was able to win here at SUGO because this is a place that I consider my second home."

Besides, since races tend to get boring if a single car dominates the season, weight handicaps are applied to successful cars, meaning the WAKO'S LC 500 - with two-second places so far this year - carried 60kg at SUGO, while previous series leaders Ryo Hirakawa and Nick Cassidy (KeePer TOM'S LC 500) carried 72kg.

The next round sees the Super GT series return to Fuji, the spiritual home of the high-performance Lexus F Line, on August 5-6, 2017. The last time they raced at Fuji in May, Lexus filled the GT 500 podium, sweeping the top three spots as the #38 ZENT CERUMO LC 500 raced to a pole-to-flag victory.





LAMPAERT WINS SECOND STAGE, TAKES VUELTA LEAD

GRUISSAN: Belgian Yves Lampaert won the second stage of the Vuelta a Espana and took the overall lead of the race with a late attack on the 203.4km ride from Nimes to Gruissan on Sunday. Lampaert won from teammate Matteo Trentin in a time of 4hr 36min 13sec as Quick-Step Floors caught the peloton napping with two kilometres to go with Britain's Adam Blythe in third.

Splits in the peloton meant the overall contenders were distanced as Vincenzo Nibali clawed back some of the 22 seconds he lost to Tour de France champion Chris Froome on the opening stage team time trial.

The 10-second time bonus on offer to stage winners moved Lampaert to the top of the general classification standings, a second ahead of Trentin with Italian Daniel Oss third. With nine summit finishes to come, the flat route in southern France was supposed to offer a rare chance for sprinters to shine, but strong crosswinds made the peloton susceptible to attacks.

Quick-Step took advantage with a three-pronged attack three kilometres from the line, opening up the gap Lampaert needed for his first Grand Tour stage win. "I knew I could ride one kilometre very fast and it worked out," said Lampaert after taking the leader's red

Nibali finished in the lead group with Froome eight seconds back alongside 2015 Vuelta winner Fabio Aru and Adam Yates. However, Alberto Contador lost a further five seconds on Froome in his final race before retirement to fall 31 seconds back on the four-time Tour de France winner.

Froome is aiming to become just the third rider to ever win the Tour and Vuelta in the same year. The Briton is ninth in the overall standings, 21 seconds behind Lampaert. "I think we were probably a little bit short coming into the final few kilometre, but I'm still happy with that result as I think we did a great ride," said Froome.

"There were a few seconds lost to Nibali and Esteban Chaves, but some gained also on Contador and some of the other GC guys so I think we can be happy with that with the mountains

tomorrow." Stage three sees the first category-one climbs as the race exits France on a 158.5km ride from Prades-Andorra la Vella today.

The first stage in Spain isn't till Tuesday with heightened security measures to be put in place following a pair of terror attacks in Barcelona and the nearby seaside resort of Cambrils that left 14 dead and over a hundred injured. The finish line for the fourth stage of the Vuelta is just 20 kilometres along the Mediterranean coast from Cambrils in Tarragona.— AFP



SAN DIEGO: Washington Nationals' Wilmer Difo, left, slides into third on a sacrifice fly to center by Daniel Murphy, as San Diego Padres third baseman Cory Spangenberg waits for the throw during the seventh inning of a baseball game in San Diego, Sunday. —AP

BASEBALL

Verlander, Tigers top Maeda, Dodgers 6-1

DETROIT: Justin Verlander and Kenta Maeda each took a no-hitter into the sixth inning, but only the Detroit star was able to keep his outstanding performance going as the Tigers beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-1 on Sunday. Verlander (9-8) allowed a home run to sixth. But shortly after his no-hit bid ended, the Tigers scored four times in the bottom of the inning against Maeda. The right-hander retired the first 15 Detroit batters before allowing five hits in the sixth. The homer by Granderson was one of only two hits off Verlander. He walked one and struck out nine in eight innings. Maeda (11-5) was pulled after the sixth and lost for the first time in seven starts. Dixon Machado's two-run double put Detroit up 2-1. Justin Upton had a two-run homer and Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run double for the Tigers, who snapped a six-game skid. They halted a six-game winning streak by the Dodgers (87-35), who have the best record in the majors.

NATIONALS 4, PADRES 1

Gio Gonzalez allowed five singles and struck out eight as he almost got through the seventh inning to pitch Washington past San Diego. The NL East-leading Nationals won three of four against the Padres. Gonzalez (12-5) settled in after giving up an unearned run in the first. Sean Doolittle struck out the side in the ninth for his 11th save. Daniel Murphy drove in two runs for the Nationals. Padres rookie Dinelson Lamet (7-5) labored through 4 2/3 innings, allowing three runs and three hits while walking a season-high six and striking out eight.

PIRATES 6, CARDINALS 3

Josh Bell homered and drove in four runs to lead Pittsburgh over the St. Louis Cardinals in the Little League Classic. The teams played at renovated Bowman Field, a minor league ballpark located 5 miles from where the Little League World Series is taking place. Sitting in the front rows were admiring Little Leaguers who got to mingle with the big league stars

earlier in the day, part of a Major League Baseball initiative to celebrate youth baseball. After the final out of MLB's first regular-season game in Williamsport, the Pirates shook hands on the field as usual following a victory. Then in a nod to Little League baseball - both teams lined up at home plate and shook hands with each other, throwing in some hugs and highfives to finish off a feel-good day. Bell hit a two-run homer off Mike Leake (7-12) in the first inning and a two-run single in the third. Adam Frazier homered for the second straight game for the Pirates, who were the "home" team and won their second in a row to split the four-game series. Ivan Nova (11-10) gave up three runs on eight hits in 5 2/3 innings. Felipe Rivero got three outs for his 14th save in 15 chances.

MARLINS 6, METS 4

Giancarlo Stanton hit his major leagueleading 45th home run and Adam Conley struck out a career-high 11, leading Miami over New York. Stanton connected for a threerun shot off Jacob deGrom (13-7) as the Marlins scored four times in the seventh inning for a 6-1 lead. Conley (6-5) allowed one run and three hits in seven innings. Brad Ziegler pitched the ninth for his sixth save. Yoenis Cespedes homered and hit an RBI double for the Mets, who have lost six of nine. They fell to 6-15 on Sundays this season, including 2-9 at Citi Field.

RAYS 3, MARINERS 0

Blake Snell allowed only two hits in seven innings for his second consecutive win following a long drought, and Tampa Bay blanked Seattle. Kevin Kiermaier hit a leadoff homer and Adeiny Hechavarria had a two-run shot for the Rays, who snapped a four-game skid and won for the first time in six tries against the Mariners this season. Snell (2-6) ended a streak of 16 winless starts with a victory Tuesday at Toronto. This time, the left-hander retired 12 straight during one stretch. He gave up just a leadoff single to Nelson Cruz in the second inning and another single to Robinson Cano in

the eighth. Snell struck out eight and walked two, winning consecutive starts for the first time in his career. Alex Colome earned his 36th save. Yovani Gallardo (5-9) gave up three runs and five hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Jackie Bradley Jr. tripled in two runs and singled home another, and Rick Porcello pitched six innings of a combined three-hitter to help AL East-leading Boston extend its margin over New York to five games. The Red Sox won for the 14th time in 17 games, taking two of three from New York for the second weekend in a row. The archrivals meet again in the first week of September for a four-game series at Yankee Stadium. Porcello (8-14) allowed all three New York hits and won his fourth straight start. Three relievers provided a perfect inning apiece. Sonny Gray (7-8) gave up two runs in five innings and failed to strike out a batter for the first time in his career. He lost for the fourth time in five starts and fell to 1-6 in nine road starts this season.

ANGELS 5, ORIOLES 4

Pinch-hitter Cameron Maybin singled home the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning, Kole Calhoun and Andrelton Simmons homered and the surging Los Angeles Angels beat Baltimore. The Angels took advantage of nine walks to win the deciding matchup of a threegame series in which they hit 11 home runs. Los Angeles has won nine of 11 to move four games over .500 (64-60) for the first time since April 11. Maybin missed the first two games of the series with a sore knee and was in a 5-for-27 funk since coming off the disabled list Aug. 7. Cam Bedrosian (3-2) worked a hitless inning and Bud Norris got three outs for his 19th save. Brad Brach (3-4) took the loss. Chris Davis homered for the Orioles, who have lost

BRAVES 8, REDS 1

Tyler Flowers' grand slam broke open a close game in Atlanta's six-run fifth inning, Sean Newcomb earned his first home win and the Braves beat Cincinnati. Newcomb (2-7) allowed five hits in five scoreless innings for his first victory since June 27 at San Diego. The rookie left-hander improved to 1-6 in eight starts at SunTrust Park. The Braves led 2-0 before the big fifth against Reds reliever Drew Storen. Brandon Phillips and Freddie Freeman each had three hits for Atlanta. The Reds were denied their first series sweep in Atlanta since 2009. Storen gave up six runs while getting only two outs. Luis Castillo (2-6) gave up two runs in four innings. It was the shortest of the rookie's 12 starts with the Reds.

ROYALS 7, INDIANS 4

Cheslor Cuthbert homered and drove in three runs, Alcides Escobar also had three RBIs and Kansas City defeated Cleveland to avoid a three-game sweep. Cam Gallagher also drove in a run for the Royals, who finally got their bats going after scoring just once in the first two games of the series. Kansas City piled up 12 hits and six runs off starter Danny Salazar (5-6), and finished with 15 hits for the day. Jason Hammel (6-9) allowed three runs in six innings to win for the second time since June 19. Francisco Lindor homered for the Indians, who finished 8-3 on their four-city road trip.

TWINS 12, DIAMONDBACKS 5

Eddie Rosario hit a grand slam in a nine-run first inning and Minnesota routed Arizona to complete a three-game sweep. Bartolo Colon third win in five decisions since being signed by the Twins. The 44-year-old righty became the 18th pitcher in major league history to defeat all 30 teams. Arizona lefty T.J. McFarland, making his first start since July 2014, was chased after getting only one out and allowing run-scoring hits to Byron Buxton, Jorge Polanco, Max Kepler and Chris Gimenez. McFarland (4-5) was charged with seven earned runs, raising his ERA in August to 14.34. The score was 5-0 when McFarland gave way to Braden Shipley, just called up from Triple-A Reno. Brian Dozier worked his second walk of the inning to load the bases for Rosario, who homered on an 0-2 pitch to make it 9-0. It was the third time in team history the Twins scored nine runs in the opening inning. Gimenez and Dozier added solo homers in the fifth. Minnesota won its fourth consecutive game overall and eighth straight against National League opponents. Arizona lost for the fifth time in six games. Before J.D. Martinez homered in the fourth, the Diamondbacks had allowed 25 unanswered runs in the series.

ATHLETICS 3, ASTROS 2

Marcus Semien wound up with a Little League home run when Houston kept throwing the ball away, Jharel Cotton pitched well into the seventh inning and Oakland edged the Astros. A day after the AL West-leading Astros turned six double plays, their defense quickly fell apart. Boog Powell led off the game with a single and Semien followed with a grounder in the hole that shortstop Alex Bregman threw into right field trying for a forceout at second base. Semien, who was credited with an infield hit, never stopped running. The relay from right went to first baseman Marwin Gonzalez, and his throw to third skipped into left field, allowing Semien to score easily on the two errors. The A's got their other run in the sixth on a passed ball by Juan Centeno. Cotton (6-10) yielded two runs in 6 2/3 innings for his first win since June 23. He came off the disabled list July 30 and had given up 21 runs and 28 hits in four games since his return. Blake Treinen tossed two scoreless innings for his seventh save. Brad Peacock (10-2) pitched into the sixth and took the loss.

CUBS 6, BLUE JAYS 5, 10 INNINGS

Alex Avila capped Chicago's three-run 10th inning with a two-run single, and the Cubs rallied past Toronto for a three-game sweep. With two outs and the bases loaded. Avila lined a base hit into right field against Roberto Osuna (3-4). Ben Zobrist scored easily and Javier Baez slid in safely just ahead of the throw from Jose Bautista. The improbable rally by the Cubs also included two batters reaching on swing-andmiss strikeouts, and Kyle Schwarber scoring on a wild pitch. The Blue Jays grabbed the lead with two runs in the top of the inning on Kevin Pillar's RBI single off Koji Uehara, and Norichika Aoki's bases-loaded loaded walk against Justin Wilson (4-4). Pillar also robbed Kris Bryant of extra bases with a spectacular leaping catch

against the ivy-covered wall in center in the seventh. Albert Almora Jr. hit a three-run double for NL Central-leading Chicago, which has won four of five. Miguel Montero hit his second homer since the catcher was traded by the Cubs to Toronto.

WHITE SOX 3, RANGERS 2

Miguel Gonzalez escaped early trouble and pitched six scoreless innings, leading Chicago over Texas. The Rangers dropped 21/2 games behind the Twins and Angels for the second AL wild card. They finished a 7-3 homestand, splitting the four-game series against the White Sox. Gonzalez (7-10) pitched out of oneout, bases-loaded jams in both the second and third. After allowing singles to the first two batters in the fourth, he retired the last nine batters he faced. Juan Minaya earned his second save, both in the last three games, despite giving up Rougned Odor's two-run homer with two outs in the ninth. Chicago scored all three of its runs in the fourth inning against A.J. Griffin (6-4). Tyler Saladino had a two-run double.

BREWERS 8, ROCKIES 4

Jesus Aguilar homered twice, Chase Anderson won in his return from the disabled list and Milwaukee beat Colorado for its sixth victory in seven games. Keon Broxton drove in two runs and Jonathan Villar added three hits as the Brewers remained two games behind first-place Chicago in the NL Central. They climbed within 21/2 games of Arizona for the second NL wild card - and are just 31/2 back of Colorado, which holds the league's top wild card. Anderson (7-2) allowed one run and two hits in five effective innings. He threw 73 pitches in his first start since straining his left oblique on June 28. Corey Knebel got his 26th save. Aguilar homered in the second off starter Kyle Freeland (11-8) and connected again in the seventh, a two-run shot off Tyler Chatwood. One night earlier, Aguilar launched a pinch-hit homer against All-Star closer Greg Holland to put Milwaukee ahead with two outs in the ninth. Mark Reynolds hit his 26th homer and drove in three runs for the Rockies.

PHILLIES 5, GIANTS 2

Rookie slugger Rhys Hoskins homered again and Pedro Florimon contributed with his bat and arm, sending Philadelphia over San Francisco. Hoskins connected for a solo drive in the ninth inning, giving him five home runs in his first 11 major league games. Florimon hit a two-run single off Hunter Strickland (2-3) to cap a three-run eighth that made it 4-2. Florimon also had an RBI double off starter Madison Bumgarner in the second, then made a sparkling defensive play in left field to throw out Buster Posey at the plate in the bottom of the inning. Adam Morgan (2-1) retired three batters to win, a day after throwing just one pitch and getting the victory. Hector Neris pitched 1 1/3 innings for his 15th save. He struck out Pablo Sandoval with the bases loaded to end the eighth after hitting Posey in the back with a pitch, then fanned Denard Span with two on in the ninth to end it. Bumgarner allowed one run and four hits in six innings. He stayed in despite taking a sharp line drive off his left shin in the second. — AP

MLB Results/Standings

Washington 4, San Diego 1: Philadelphia 5, San Francisco 2: Milwaukee 8, Colorado 4: Chicago White Sox 3, Texas 2; Chicago Cubs 6, Toronto 5 (10 innings); Kansas City 7, Cleveland 4; Minnesota 12, Arizona 5; Oakland 3, Houston 2; Atlanta 8, Cincinnati 1; LA Angels 5, Baltimore 4; Boston 5, NY Yankees 1; Detroit 6, LA Dodgers 1; Miami 6, NY Mets 4: Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 0.

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		an Leagı n Divisio					al Leagu n Divisio		
	W	L	PCT	GB	Washington	74	48	.607	-
Boston	71	52	.577	-	Miami	60	62	.492	14
NY Yankees	66	57	.537	5	Atlanta	55	67	.451	19
Tampa Bay	61	65	.484	11.5	NY Mets	54	68	.443	20
Baltimore	60	64	.484	11.5	Philadelphia	45	77	.369	29
Toronto	59	65	.476	12.5		Centra	l Divisio	n	
	Centra	l Divisio	n		Chicago Cubs	66	57	.537	_
Cleveland	68	54	.557	-	Milwaukee	65	60	.520	2
Minnesota	63	59	.516	5					
Kansas City	62	61	.504	6.5	St. Louis	63	61	.508	3.5
Detroit	54	69	.439	14.5	Pittsburgh	60	64	.484	6.5
Chicago White So		74	.388	20.5	Cincinnati	53	72	.424	14
		n Divisio				Wester	n Divisio	on	
Houston	76	48	.613	-	LA Dodgers	87	35	.713	-
LA Angels	64	60	.516	12	Colorado	68	56	.548	20
Seattle	63	62	.504	13.5	Arizona	67	57	.540	21
Texas	61	62	.496	14.5	San Diego	55	69	.444	33
Oakland	54	70	.435	22	San Francisco	50	76	.397	39

MAPIMPI HAT-TRICK HELPS CHEETAHS BACK TO TOP

JOHANNESBURG: Winger Makazole Mapimpi scored the first hat-trick of the 2017 South African Currie Cup season as title-holders Free State Cheetahs regained top place this weekend.

His third try five minutes after the full-time hooter sounded gave the Bloemfontein outfit a dramatic 41-40 triumph over 22-time champions Blue Bulls in Pretoria.

Cheetahs were awarded a penalty after Bulls scrum-half Piet van Zyl was yellow-carded for a deliberate knock-on at Loftus Versfeld stadium.

The visitors kicked for touch to trigger a thrilling climax to the match as several attempts to cross the line were repulsed before Mapimpi dived over in the corner.

It was his fifth try of the season and enhanced a fast growing reputation that led to him playing for South Africa A against the touring French Barbarians two months ago.

The former Southern Kings back is lightning quick, has the physique to brush off opponents, and looks set to become a Springbok.

Bulls winger Jamba Ulengo, who made his Test debut last season, scored twice for the home team, who led 21-17

A bonus-point victory for the Cheetahs lifted them to 21 points, one more than the Durban-based Sharks, who had a sixth-round bye.

Western Province, whose 33 Currie Cup titles is a record, lie third, five ponts behind Cheetahs after a remarkable 39-3 home victory in Cape Town over Golden Lions.

The scoreline suggests that the hosts

dominated, but it was the Lions who won the possession and territory battles only to be thwarted by brilliant defending. Lions had sole rights to the ball for most of the first half yet trailed 22-3 by half-time at Newlands stadium as Province took full advantage of their few chances. The yellow-carding of winger Anthony Volmink for a high tackle on Springbok utility back Dillyn Leyds did not help the Johannesburg outfit.

World Rugby Sevens flier Seabelo Senatla and Jano Vermaak scored tries while the Lions were a man short to give Province a 31-point advantage.

After shock victories over Province and Cheetahs, Griquas surprisingly lost 27-21 at home to the Pumas, who rose from the bottom of the table with the Lions slipping to last. Pumas laid their victory foundations in northern Cape city Kimberley by scoring three first half tries to lead 24-10 at the break.

The only consolation for Griquas was a successful George Whitehead penalty with the last kick of the game, which secured a bonus point and fourth place, just ahead of the Bulls. — AFP

S LANKA COACH SLAMS SELECTION POLICY

AUSTRALIA CANCELS

WARM-UP MATCH

DAMBULLA: Sri Lanka's cricket coach Nick Pothas has blamed outside interference for a string of poor performances, saying frequent changes to the selection line-up had made his job "very difficult".

Pothas hit out after Sri Lanka, who suffered a 3-0 Test whitewash at home last week, went down to India by nine wickets in the first of five one-day internationals in Dambulla on Sunday.

"You do get angry - to say 'too many cooks' is probably accurate," the former wicketkeeper-batsman told reporters in Dambulla. "You get frustrated. Am I angry with the players? Absolutely not. The players work as hard as anyone can ask of them. "They've been superb. Support staff have been out of this world. Brilliant. They work endless hours with planning and helping the boys. You can't fault anyone within that changing room."

Sri Lanka's woeful run has continued since their first-round exit in the eight-team Champions Trophy in June followed by an

embarrassing 3-2 ODI loss to minnows Zimbabwe at home.

The Sanath Jayasuriya-led selection committee has fielded 40 players in ODIs since taking over in May last year. Pothas, who took up coaching duties after Graham Ford quit mid-contract end of June, said there had been too many changes.

"When you get consistency within a team of players, you will see improvements in performance," said the 43-year-old. "When we're getting new players every game, it gets very difficult from a confidence point of view. From the player's point of view it's very difficult. It's difficult for us - the coaching staff - to create a strategy." There have been reports of a power struggle emerging after 1996 World Cup hero Asanka Gurusinha was appointed manager.

The result of the current series apart, Sri Lanka need to win at least two of the five games to gain a direct entry into the 2019 World Cup in England. — AFP



KUALA LUMPUR: Wiphada Chitphuan of Thailand kicks a ball against Malaysia during their women's group preliminary round robin sepak takraw match of the 29th Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — AFP

warm-up match of their two-Test tour of Bangladesh due to poor conditions at the

SEA GAMES

Bangladesh due to poor conditions at the ground, officials said yesterday. The two-day match at Fatullah, slated to start today, had been in doubt since heavy rain partially flooded part of the field. It was the only warm-up fixture of the tour. Australia's first to Bangladesh in

It was the only warm-up fixture of the tour, Australia's first to Bangladesh in more than a decade. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) offered alternative venues but the Australians were reluctant to change at the last minute due to security concerns.

DHAKA: Australia has cancelled the only

"The BCB has been fantastic trying to get us the game. The amount of rain hasn't helped," coach Darren Lehman told reporters in Dhaka. "We looked at various facilities around Dhaka. We feel for the people of Bangladesh with the amount of rain they have had. There are a lot of people in this country struggling because of the rain. So the thoughts are with them." Bangladesh's disaster agency says 115 people have died since heavy monsoon downpours hit the region last week, flooding one-third of the country.

Australia have not toured Bangladesh since 2006, and the Test starting next Sunday at Dhaka's Sher-e Bangla National Stadium has been long in the making. They were due to play two Tests in Bangladesh in October 2015 but the tour was cancelled over security fears after attacks by Islamist extremists in the Muslim-majority nation.

Cricket Australia agreed to reschedule the series this year only after Bangladesh promised stepped-up security. The Australians will play two Tests before departing Bangladesh on September 9. — AFP

SCHOOLING BANISHES 'ROUGH SUMMER' WITH EASY WIN

KUALA LUMPUR: Singapore's Olympic champion swimmer Joseph Schooling put a "rough summer" behind him as he stormed to 50m butterfly gold in tournament-record time at the Southeast Asian Games yesterday.

Schooling flopped at the July world championships, just a year after his shock Olympic 100m butterfly victory, and he also had to apologise after upsetting Malaysian fans before the SEA Games. But Schooling, after a warm reception from the Kuala Lumpur crowd, outclassed the field with a time of 23.06sec, beating his SEA Games record set in 2015 but outside his Asian mark. "Everyone's gotten faster really, so being able to come back and to win after a rough summer definitely means a lot to me," said the 22-year-old, who won by nearly a second ahead of Indonesia's Fauzi Sidiq.

"I was a little nervous going in, you never know how it's going to be. I felt pretty solid, I was happy with the way I felt. Usually I feel better throughout the meet so hopefully I can keep the ball rolling," he added.

Schooling, who could only take 100m butterfly bronze at the Budapest worlds, found himself in the firing line when he cheekily said he wanted to "teach (Malaysians) a thing or two", a remark for which he later apologised.

He said he wasn't sure how he would be received by the crowd, but there was no booing as he was introduced on the first night of the swimming competition, where he is going for six titles. "We're here to have a good meet and to put on a good show and I think the crowd wants to see that... they really pack the stands and come out and support all of us, so that's amazing," he said. "So I'm very pleased with the reception and I think it will get better as the days go on, I'm excited for that."

'LITTLE MERMAID'

In other races, Vietnam's "Little Mermaid" Nguyen Thi Anh Vien, who grabbed eight gold medals at the 2015 SEA Games, won the women's 100m backstroke in a Games-record time of 1:01.89. Quah Jing Wen easily won the women's 200m butterfly in 2:12.03, and then recovered to anchor Singapore to victory in the 4x100m freestyle relay.

Home favourite Welson Wee won the men's 400m freestyle in a Games-record 3:50.26, and Indonesia's Siman Sudartawa also set a new tournament mark of 25.20 in winning the men's 50m backstroke.

Wee's victory helped Malaysia extend their lead on the medals table as they reached 23 golds near the end of day two, 10 ahead of Singapore. Mohd Harrif Saleh shrugged off a waist injury to win cycling's men's criterium, and Malaysia also triumphed in men's double trap shooting, men's doubles bowling and men's team recurve archery.

The Philippines swept gold and silver in both the men's and women's triathlon, as Nikko Bryan won the men's ahead of John Chicano and Marion Kim Mangrobang and Maria Claire Adorna topped the women's race. Today will be the busiest day of competition so far, with 45 gold medals on offer including eight on the first day of track and field. — AFP

PAKISTAN TO HOST WORLD XI, SRI LANKA AND WEST INDIES

LAHORE: Pakistan yesterday announced the return of international cricket to its soil, with three separate sides scheduled to visit after years of isolation over security concerns. A World XI tour kicks off in September followed by a short visit by Sri Lanka for a Twenty20 match in October, then a Twenty20 series against the West Indies a month later. "We are getting positive signals and the doors of international cricket are opening on Pakistan," Najam Sethi, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman, told a press conference in Lahore.

The tours are seen as a big step towards Pakistan once again hosting major international outfits after militants targeted the Sri Lankan team bus in Lahore in 2009, killing eight people and wounding at least seven players. Since the attacks Pakistan has only hosted a limited-over series against Zimbabwe in 2015 while Bangladesh, the West Indies, Sri Lanka and Ireland turned down offers over security fears.

Pakistan has also been forced to play their cricket in the UAE for the past eight years including two editions of the Pakistan Super League Twenty20 (PSL). But security has dramatically improved across Pakistan in the last two years, signalling hopes for the slow revival of international sport in the country. In March, Pakistan successfully hosted the PSL final in Lahore with English players Dawid Malan and Chris Jordan, West Indies' Darren Sammy and Marlon Samuels and South Africa's Morne van Wyk and Zimbabwe's Sean Ervine competing.

The match's success pushed the PCB to expedite efforts to convince more teams to play in Pakistan. "We will play a full series with Sri Lanka in the UAE after which Sri Lanka will come to Lahore for a Twenty20, so things are shaping up," said the PCB boss. Sethi said he will announce the names of World XI players in the coming days, with the team being managed by former England coach Andy Flower. —AFP



KARACHI: This file photo taken on October 20, 2012 shows Pakistan All Stars players celebrating after taking the wicket of International World XI's Jermaine Lawson during a Twenty 20 match at the National Stadium in Karachi. Pakistan announced the return of international cricket to its soil. — AFP

CURTLY AMBROSE SLAMS 'PATHETIC' WEST INDIES

LONDON: Curtly Ambrose labelled the current West Indies side "embarrassing" and "pathetic" after their humiliating innings defeat by England in the first Test. England went 1-0 up in the ongoing three-match series courtesy of a mammoth innings and 209-run win as the first day/night Test in Britain ended inside three days at Edgbaston on Saturday.

DHAKA: Bangladeshi cricketer Mominul

Haque catches a ball during a training

session at the Sher-e-Bangla National

Cricket Stadium in Dhaka yesterday.

Australia has cancelled the only warm-

up match of their two-Test tour of

Bangladesh due to poor conditions at

the ground. —AFP

Amid a welter of depressing statistics for the West Indies, perhaps the worst was that they lost 19 wickets in under a day on Saturday after being made to follow-on. "In the end it was totally embarrassing," West Indies fast-bowling great Ambrose told yesterday's Daily Mail.

"I never saw any aggression from the West Indies players throughout the three days," added Ambrose, who took 405 wickets at an outstanding low average of 20.99 in his 98-Test career. "There was no belief that they could compete, let alone beat England. They seemed to be waiting for England to make mistakes and at this level that is not going to work.

"Trust me, it was painful to watch." West Indies have now won just three out of 87 away Tests in the past 20 years excluding matches against Bangladesh and Zimbabwe. Ambrose said he had tried to stop the slide as a member of the backroom staff but in the end felt it was a "waste of time".

"I was with the team for two years as

bowling coach and we tried to educate them about our heritage," he recalled. "I talked about the pride and passion in representing the region and our people.

"I could talk to them all day but once they stepped over that rope they were on their own and if they were not prepared to listen, it was simply a waste of time. It does hurt. "And it has reached a point where it is very embarrassing."

Ambrose was now left hoping the West Indies could compete in the remaining two Tests of the England series at Headingley and Lord's as "what we have seen so far has been pathetic".

Meanwhile England great Geoffrey Boycott said the West Indies were the worst Test side he'd seen during his five decades of involvement in cricket, labelling their plight a "tragedy" for the sport.

"This West Indies lot are the worst Test match team I have seen in more than 50 years of watching, playing and commentating on cricket," wrote Boycott in his Daily Telegraph column. "They can't bat and can't bowl." The former England opener, whose career coincided with that of such West Indies stars as Garfield Sobers, Michael Holding and Vivian Richards, added: "I take no pleasure out of saying this as I played against some of the greatest players the world has ever seen wearing the maroon cap of the West Indies. —AFP



FIVE THINGS WE LEARNED FROM ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

LONDON: Five things we learned from the English Premier League this week-

Spurs need a Wembley win

Tottenham's impressive display in their 2-1 home defeat by Chelsea gave the lie to suggestions they are unable to perform at Wembley, their home for the season while White Hart Lane is rebuilt, but the sooner they get a win there, the better. Spurs have lost eight and won just one of the last 10 games they have played at the national stadium, a record that has created talk of a 'Wembley curse'. Their loss to Chelsea, who prevailed through Marcos Alonso's 88thminute winner, brought an end to a run of 14 successive home league wins. They were unfortunate not to have claimed at least a point, having drawn level through Michy Batshuayi's own goal in the 82nd minute.

Ibrahimovic loss a blessing in disguise for Man Utd

Zlatan Ibrahimovic could scarcely have enjoyed a better maiden season at Manchester United, scoring 28 goals in 46 games and inspiring his side to League Cup glory before injury curtailed his campaign. But while Ibrahimovic thrived, United's other forwards struggled, with nobody else in the squad mustering more than 11 goals. New striker Romelu Lukaku is a far more mobile player than Ibrahimovic and his movement has opened up space for United's other attacking players to exploit. Lukaku took his tally to four goals in three games in United's 4-0 win at Swansea City, while Paul Pogba and Anthony Martial have each scored two goals in two games and Henrikh Mkhitaryan has already supplied four

Liverpool have options at full-back

Full-back was something of a problem area for Liverpool last season. Manager Jurgen Klopp was heavily dependent on Nathaniel Clyne at rightback and became so disillusioned with Alberto Moreno's performances on the other flank that midfielder James Milner ended up slotting in at left-back for the entire season. This season, things appear to be different. Eighteen-yearold Trent Alexander-Arnold has earned rave reviews in the absence of the injured Clyne and in the 1-0 win over Crystal Palace, enterprising left-back Andy Robertson was named man of the match in his first appearance since signing from Hull City. With 20-year-old Joe Gomez slotting in assuredly for Alexander-Arnold on the other flank, Liverpool kept only their fourth home clean sheet of 2017.

Wenger woes return

A new season has brought familiar problems for Arsene Wenger as Saturday's 1-0 defeat at Stoke highlighted his team's Achilles heel once again. Having battled back for a dramatic 4-3 win over Leicester in their season opener, Arsenal had shown a rare glimpse of the kind of fighting spirit often missing from their play. But just eight days later they reverted to type with a tame surrender at the hands of old nemesis Stoke. Most alarming for Wenger was the limp manner in which his back three allowed Jese Rodriguez to gallop through unchecked for the 47th minute winner. And for all Wenger's complaints about Alexandre Lacazette having an equaliser ruled out for offside, even the Frenchman had to admit Arsenal had been sluggish and unconvincing.

Brighton rocked

Back in the top flight for the first time in 34 years, Brighton are learning that fairytales can quickly turn sour. Chris Hughton's side captured the imagination with their long awaited return to the top flight, but so far the Seagulls have struggled to show they can make their stay last longer than a season. Beaten 2-0 by Manchester City in their season opener, Brighton fared no better at Leicester as goals from Shinjo Okazaki and Harry Maguire sealed the points for the hosts. Worringly for Hughton, who has broken Brighton's transfer record three times since last season in a bid to improve his squad, Albion managed just two shots on target. — AFP

ANTALYASPOR SIGN MAN CITY'S NASRI

ISTANBUL: Former French international midfielder Samir Nasri yesterday signed a two year deal to join Turkish top flight side Antalyaspor from Manchester City, the club said. Nasri, who spent last season on loan at Sevilla, appeared unlikely to figure in Pep Guardiola's plans this season with Manchester City keen to offload him and rejuvenate their own-line up

"After talks with Samir Nasri and the club, a two year deal has been signed," Antalyaspor said in a brief statement headlined "Welcome Samir Nasri" without disclosing financial details. Manchester City confirmed the departure of the player, writing on Twitter that his six year stay at the club had come to an end, adding: "thank you for some brilliant memories, Samir Nasri!"

Nasri had arrived in the Turkish Mediterranean resort city on Sunday where he was mobbed by fans before leaving the airport and had to be escorted out by Turkish security forces. Club sources said that an official ceremony to introduce the player was expected today. Nasri, 30, will earn an annual salary of four million euros (\$4.7 million) plus bonuses at the club, Turkish news reports have said. Nasri joined Manchester City in 2011 after three seasons at Arsenal, emerging as one of their key players and winning the

Premier League title in the 2011/2012 and 2013/2014 seasons.

But he then fell out of favour after injury, with Guardiola showing little interest in the player. He has since also bowed out of international football. Guardiola had been expected to offload Nasri this summer although he did take the volatile Frenchman on a pre-season trip to the United States. Antalyaspor are one of Turkey's most ambitious sides, despite only winning promotion to the Super Lig in 2015, and want to break the league domination of the Istanbul giants.

They were disappointed to finish the 2015-16 season in ninth place but improved to fifth place last term, just missing out on a spot in the Europa League. Antalyaspor's key player over the past couple seasons has been former Cameroon international striker Samuel Eto'o, who remains at the club despite persistent rumours he is unsettled.

This summer the team also signed France international and former Roma and AC Milan playmaker Jeremy Menez from Bordeaux. Antalyaspor got off to a slow start to the season, losing 2-0 away to champions Besiktas and then drawing 2-2 to Akhisarspor on Sunday with both Nasri and Menez watching from the stands.— AFP



MILAN: Inter Milan's Mauro Icardi, center, challenges for the ball with Fiorentina's Vitor Hugo during the Serie A soccer match between Inter Milan and Fiorentina at the San Siro stadium in Milan, Italy, Sunday. — AP

SOCCER

CHAMP MUGURUZA ROUTS HALEP FOR CINCY TITLE

CINCINNATI: Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza humbled secondranked Simona Halep 6-1, 6-0 in Sunday's final of the WTA Cincinnati Open, denying the Romanian the world number one spot in the process.

Sixth-seeded Spaniard Muguruza needed only 56 minutes to capture her second title of the year and her first in a US event, taking the \$522,450 top prize in the last major US Open tuneup.

"The American swing was never going my way," Muguruza said. "Finally, this year, I improved that."

It marked the third loss of the year for Halep when she was playing for the top ranking, also falling in the French Open final against Jelena Ostapenko and the Wimbledon quarterfinal against Johanna Konta, each time after taking the first set.

"Maybe I feel the pressure and I don't realize it," Halep said. "Maybe I just played bad." Halep's coach, Darren Cahill, told ESPN the French Open loss still haunts



MASON: Garbine Muguruza, of Spain, holds the Rookwood Cup after defeating Simona Halep, of Romania, in the women's singles final at the Western & Southern Open, Sunday, in Mason, Ohio. — AP

residue from Paris. It takes some time to get over that." Halep apologized to spectators after the embarrassing defeat, thanking them for support "even if I played so bad and Muguruza played so well." "It was a big shame to lose 6-1, 6-0 in the final," Halep said. "I got dominated. I can't control anymore the points. That's why I got down in my confidence."

Muguruza admitted after the lopsided win: "I feel a little bit bad. But I want to be in her position. I wanted to win. What can I do?" Czech Karolina Pliskova, a semifinal loser to Muguruza, will remain world number one by a five-point margin over Halep.

"It's still there. I still have a chance," Halep said. "Maybe one day I will be there." Serena Williams had been number one before her pregnancy break began earlier this year. Muguruza, who jumps to third in Monday's rankings, becomes a favorite to capture a third career Grand Slam crown in Flushing Meadows after taking Wimbledon and last year's French Open.

"I'm happy people see me as a favorite but it not always happens that you win a tournament and then go ahead and win a Grand Slam," Muguruza said. "I'm happy to have the confidence. Beats not having it." Muguruza, 25, broke Halep, 23, for a 2-0 lead and Halep double faulted away another break in the sixth game before Muguruza held to claim the first set in 23 minutes, aided by 15 Halep unforced errors. "She was hitting pretty strong and started dominating me from the first point," Halep said. "After a few games I started to go down in confidence. I think she was just too good today."

In a 12-minute fourth game in set two, Halep netted a forehand and sent a backhand wide to squander her only break chances. Muguruza broke again in the fifth game and held serve to seize the crown.

"I was looking to be aggressive from the first moment," Muguruza said. "I felt very comfortable. My level was very high. Especially in the second set I felt I could raise it a little bit more and close the match." Halep must now set aside the humiliation to focus on the US Open. "I know I have to forget it. I have a much bigger tournament coming up,"

Halep said. "I don't want to go down too much. I don't want to analyze too much. It was a bad moment on court but it's just today. "I'll go to New York and I'll build the confidence up. These moments are bringing you a lesson and I'll just learn from it."—AFP

INTER, MILAN MATCH JUVE WITH WINNING STARTS

MILAN: Inter captain Mauro Icardi hit a brace and Ivorian Franck Kessie opened his AC Milan account as the northern giants matched Juventus's winning start to the Serie A season with respective 3-0 victories on Sunday.

Left in the shade by Juventus for the past six seasons, both Inter and Milan are hoping to turn the tables and challenge for the scudetto on their way to claiming one of four Champions League places. And neither of the San Siro giants disappointed on their way to going joint top of the table with Juventus, Napoli, Chievo, Sampdoria and Roma also sitting on three points following opening day victories. Icardi bore the brunt of the blame for much of Inter's disastrous campaign last season, which left them in seventh and out of Europe.

But at a packed San Siro and under the watchful eyes of new Inter coach Luciano Spalletti, the Argentina international made amends with a confident first-half brace that included a sixth-minute penalty after he was caught by Fiorentina defender Davide Astori on the edge of the area.

Icardi doubled Inter's lead when he glanced a header past 'keeper Marco Sportiello on the quarter hour as the hosts took command.

"They gave it everything for each other and really went out to win this game," said Spalletti, who was awed by the sight of 50,000 fans having spent two seasons at a sparsely-attended Stadio Olimpico with Roma.

"Even when we arrived on the team bus it was packed. This is a strong signal (from the fans), and one the players have to assimilate."

What was already a daunting task for Fiorentina coach Stefano Pioli, unceremoniously sacked by Inter with three games to play last season, looked now impossible. Fiorentina emerged revived for what proved to be a tighter second half, notably coming close with Khouma Babacar on the hour then Jordan Veretout, who hit the post in the 78th minute.

But Inter put the match beyond reach when Ivan Perisic dived to meet Joao Mario's cross to head past Sportiello. AC Milan also enjoyed a 3-0 win over Crotone who maintained top flight survival by a hair's breadth last season.

Federico Ceccherini saw red for bringing down Milan youngster Patrick Cutrone and Kessie, who signed from Atalanta in the summer, stepped up to hit his maiden Rossoneri goal from the penalty spot on six minutes.

Teenager striker Cutrone, who has been linked with a loan move to Crotone, doubled the visitors' lead on 18 minutes with a glancing header from Suso's incisive cross that beat Alex Cordaz at his near post.

Cutrone repaid the favour by setting up Suso for a third on 23 minutes. Juventus, the six-time consecutive champions, had led the way on Saturday firing three unanswered goals past Cagliari in Turin. Napoli, who won 3-1 at Verona also on Saturday, sit fourth. Sampdoria striker

Fabio Quagliarella hit a goal in either half in a 2-1 win over league newcomers Benevento.

Fellow promoted side SPAL, back in Serie A after 49 years, held on to earn a point at Lazio, while at Udinese former Milan midfielder Valter Birsa hit a 54th minute winner as Chievo stunned the northerners 2-1.

unned the northerners 2-1. Former Manchester City defender Aleksandar Kolarov capped his Roma debut with a clever first-half free-kick to secure a 1-0 win for last season's runners-up at Atalanta.

Roma, who finished only four points behind Juventus last term, gave Eusebio Di Francesco his maiden win as coach, the former Sassuolo handler having tasted title success with the Giallorossi as a player in 2001. — AFP

TENNIS

DIMITROV DOWNS KYRGIOS FOR BIGGEST CAREER CROWN

seventh and biggest career title Sunday, defeating Australia's Nick Kyrgios 6-3, 7-5 to win the ATP Cincinnati Masters and boost his confidence for the US Open.

The 11th-ranked Bulgarian never dropped a set in taking the top prize of \$954,225 and his first Masters title, a perfect stepping stone into the year's last Grand Slam event that begins a week from Monday.

"In the big picture, it means a lot to me," Dimitrov said. "I'm pretty confident after that win. This is what I've been practicing for. It's my biggest win so far. "I'm going to enjoy it for a day or two but then it's back to the routine and prepare for the US Open."

In the highest-level ATP final ever contested between two players born in the 1990s, Dimitrov collected his tour-best 24th hard-court match victory of the year and third title of 2017 after Brisbane and Sofia.

"To have this trophy in my hand, it's just amazing. Going to the Open, it's a lot of positivity," said Dimitrov, on his hottest run since starting the season 16-1. Kyrgios, who ousted Monday's new world number one Rafael Nadal in the quarter-finals, has not won an ATP title since taking his third last year in Tokyo.

After battling a hip injury and lack of motivation three weeks ago in Washington, Kyrgios was thrilled at the run to his biggest final yet. "From where I was to here, it's just amazing," Kyrgios said. "I just feel the way I should. I just didn't want to be out there. I lost today but I feel great with where I'm at now

feel great with where I'm at now.

"I'm pretty excited for the US Open, enjoying getting out there and getting some wins again." Rising from that disheartened low point to a Masters final was a shocker, Kyrgios said. "That's a very Nick Kyrgios thing to do," he said. "Crazy. I really don't know how I did it. It's a miracle." Not since Guillermo Canas beat Andy Roddick in 2002 at Toronto had two first-time ATP Masters finalists met for a Masters crown. "I was so nervous," Dimitrov said. "I tried to contain myself. It was one of those matches

CINCINNATI: Grigor Dimitrov captured his seventh and biggest career title Sunday, what's going to come out against you."

"I could have done a few things better. But nerves were there. At the end of the day I was just going for it." Kyrgios, ranked 23rd, squandered a break chance in the fifth game, sending a forehand wide, and Dimitrov broke in the sixth when the Aussie netted a forehand to seize a 4-2 lead, then held twice to take the first set. "The first set was very important for sure," Dimitrov said. "I had to find a way to get a few balls back. It came down to a few points and I held my nerve. "He can generate a lot of power from any position at any time. That's what kept me on my toes the whole time."

Kyrgios used an ace and a service winner to save two break points before holding in the seventh game of the second set. But Kyrgios double faulted twice in three points to hand Dimitrov a break point and then swatted a forehand beyond the baseline to surrender a break and a 6-5 edge.

Dimitrov, 26, then held for the title, clinching the trophy when Kyrgios, 22, netted a forehand after 85 minutes. - AFP



MASON: Nick Kyrgios (left) of Australia and Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria poses for photographers at the trophy ceremony during the men's final on day 9 of the Western & Southern Open at the Lindner Family Tennis Center on Sunday.—AFP

USA beat Europe for second straight
Solheim Cup crown



Dimitrov downs
Kyrgios for major
career crown



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SCHOOLING BANISHES 'ROUGH SUMMER' WITH EASY WIN

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PARIS: Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar (R) runs for the ball during the French L1 football match Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) vs Toulouse FC (TFC) at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris on Sunday. — AFP

BRILLIANT NEYMAR DAZZLES AGAIN IN PSG ROMP

PARIS: Neymar starred from beginning to end on his home debut for Paris Saint-Germain, scoring twice in a 6-2 thumping of Toulouse in Ligue 1 on Sunday. The Brazilian superstar had a hand in everything else his new side did at the Parc des Princes as they recovered from the shock of falling behind early on to a Max Gradel goal. Neymar got the equaliser and the 222 million-euro (\$261 million) man later completed the rout in stunning style after further goals from Adrien Rabiot, an Edinson Cavani penalty, Javier Pastore and Layvin Kurzawa.

Marco Verratti was sent off for PSG midway through the second half and Toulouse at one point came back to 3-2, but they were ultimately blown away by the world's most expensive player. It was PSG's third win in as many league

games this season and they join reigning champions Monaco and Saint-Etienne in having the maximum nine points to their name.

Saint-Etienne visit the French capital next Friday and will be dreading the prospect after this latest exhibition from PSG's new superstar. "Neymar has come here to give something extra to the team and in his two matches so far he has shown his importance, that he has the talent to play in this side," said PSG coach Unai Emery. Neymar had a part in all of his side's goals in last week's 3-0 win at Guingamp, scoring one in his first game in French football since his stunning world-record transfer, and he was again at the centre of everything here.

Gradel, making his first appearance for Toulouse after joining on loan from

Bournemouth, volleyed the away side in front in the 18th minute but Neymar had already seen a shot strike the top of the bar before that.

The Brazilian then saw a header tipped onto the post by Alban Lafont before he equalised just after the half-hour mark, setting up Rabiot for a shot that was pushed out by the away goalkeeper before following in to convert the loose ball. The same duo combined as PSG went in front, Rabiot playing a one-two with Neymar before beating Lafont with a low strike into the bottom corner from 25 yards.

'INSPIRATION'

The second half was quieter before coming to life after Verratti was harshly shown a second yellow card for catching Christopher Jullien in

the Toulouse area in the 69th minute.

Soon after, the referee gave a harsh decision the other way, awarding a penalty for a foul on Neymar when Toulouse striker Andy Delort appeared to play the ball.

Cavani made no mistake from the spot, the goal his 11th in his last 11 Ligue 1 games, but Toulouse quickly pulled another one back when the giant Jullien headed in from a corner with 12 minutes left to make it 3-2.

Yet there was to be no grandstand finish from the visitors, as instead substitute Pastore-the man who has lost his place to accommodate Neymar-curled in a superb fourth.

Neymar's corner was then headed in by Kurzawa. But Neymar had to have the last word and somehow engineered himself space in the it 6-2 and bring the Parc des Princes crowd to its feet. "That kind of inspiration, as a modest player I couldn't have done that," said opposition boss Pascal Dupraz. "If I forget the fact I am the Toulouse coach, it is good for football to see that kind of class."

area in stoppage time before finishing to make

Elsewhere on Sunday, Marcelo Bielsa suffered a second straight loss as Lille coach as his side crashed to a disappointing 2-0 home defeat against Caen, while Marseille were frustrated by Angers in a 1-1 draw at the Stade Velodrome.

Radamel Falcao struck his fifth goal in three games on Friday to guide Monaco to a 1-0 win at Metz, while Saint-Etienne brushed aside newcomers Amiens 3-0 on Saturday. — AFP

REAL MADRID EASE PAST DEPORTIVO IN LA LIGA

MADRID: Real Madrid's winning streak shows no signs of abating as the European champions began their defence of La Liga with a comfortable 3-0 win at Deportivo la Coruna. Gareth Bale, Casemiro and Toni Kroos were on target for the visitors, but Madrid's night at La Riazor ended on a sour note when captain Sergio Ramos was shown the 23rd red card of his Real career.

"Clearly I am not happy with what happened with Sergio," said Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane. "I don't like seeing my players get sent-off, but we can't change it now." Ramos could have been dismissed earlier in the second-half when he only received a yellow card for a slap on Deportivo defender Fabian Schar.

However, he tied a record for 18 red cards in La Liga with a second booking for an elbow on Borja Valle in the dying embers of the match. "In general we can be happy with our performance," added Zidane.

"It isn't an easy place to come and they had chances to score." Deportivo were left to rue two big opportunities missed by Florin Andone in the first 10 minutes, whilst the Romanian international also saw a late penalty saved by Keylor Navas.

Zidane made four changes from the side that completed a 5-1 aggregate hammering of Barcelona in the Spanish Super Cup on Wednesday. Victory in midweek sealed a fourth trophy for Zidane's men in as many months after lifting La Liga, the Champions League and UEFA Super Cup.

However, far from their invincible form of late.

However, far from their invincible form of late, Real were lucky to escape unpunished from a slow start. Navas flew to his left to turn Andone's first effort from a narrow angle to safety, but should have been beaten when the forward fired straight at the Costa Rican when clean through moments later.

There was no way back for Deportivo once Madrid took the lead on 20 minutes as Bale pounced on Karim Benzema's scuffed shot to fire into an unguarded net for his first goal of the season. A wonderfully worked team goal followed six minutes later as Real moved the ball all over the

pitch before Marcelo's low cross was turned home by Casemiro. Bale turned provider for Real's third just after the hour mark as Kroos's deflected effort

from the edge of the box found the top corner.

Andone missed another chance for a consolation when his poorly hit spot-kick was easily turned behind by Navas two minutes from time before Ramos saw red.

Madrid move to the top of the table thanks to their better goal difference ahead of Barcelona, who beat Real Betis 2-0 in emotional circumstances at the Camp Nou earlier on Sunday.

In Barca's first home match since a pair of terrorist attacks killed 14 people and wounded around 120 in Barcelona's bustling Las Ramblas boulevard and the nearby seaside resort of Cambrils, Barcelona players wore black armbands and shirts with 'Barcelona' replacing individual names on the back. The hosts rose to the challenge of raising the city's spirits as an Alin Tosca own goal and Sergi Roberto's strike ensured a comfortable victory. —AFP



LA CORUNA: Real Madrid's Costa Rican goalkeeper Keylor Navas stops a penalty shot by Deportivo La Coruna's Romanian forward Florin Andone (R) during the Spanish league footbal match RC Deportivo de la Coruna vs Real Madrid CF at the Municipal de Riazor stadium in La Coruna on Sunday. — AFP

POLICEMAN, POET, FARMER AND NOW SOUTHAMPTON OWNER

SHANGHAI: The self-made Chinese millionaire who bought an 80 percent stake in Southampton was once a farmer, spent his formative years in the armed police and fancies himself as a poet. Gao Jisheng became just the latest Chinese tycoon to plough money into English football when he stumped up a reported £200 million (\$256 million) for "a partnership" at the Premier League club last week.

He adds to a growing cast of colourful overseas owners pumping money into English clubs. Gao keeps a low profile and his move on Southampton did not make major news in China. He does however maintain his own website, in which he describes a varied career including work as a farmer, journalist and factory manager, though he provides

Gao entered real estate in the 1990s and the country's huge property boom propelled him into the ranks of the wealthy Chinese elite. His website includes several examples of his poetry and essays, the latest being "Grandma's Spinning Wheel", a recollection of his grandmother written on a flight from Shanghai to London in April.

But he would also appear to have a more steely side. From 1970 to 1977 — encompassing the tumult of the Cultural Revolution-Gao was in the Shanghai People's Armed Police as a squad leader and technician, according to a company profile that lists his birth year as 1952.

The acquisition of Southampton has been months-or perhaps years, his writings suggest-in the making. Gao's Lander Sports Development, which among other things builds stadiums in China, said in January it had agreed a deal with Southampton, but in April announced it

was off. The eventual agreement was described as a personal investment also involving Gao's daughter Nelly.

'DRUNK ON POOLE'

The Financial Times cited an unnamed senior football executive as saying other Premier League clubs had expressed concerns about Gao and what the newspaper called "his past involvement in corruption investigations in China".

Gao is not known to have been convicted of any crimes. He did not reply to repeated requests for comment. In the Southampton statement announcing his arrival, Gao said in brief remarks that he was "honoured and humbled to become a partner of Southampton Football Club".

A clue as to one possible reason why he plumped for the unfashionable club on England's south coast comes in his florid writing. As far back as 2011 Gao appears to have been enchanted by the region.

"Southampton is not a big-size city but it is world renowned," he writes in a diary entry dated October of that year and posted on his website, describing how the doomed Titanic departed from the coastal city on its fateful voyage in 1912.

He also enthuses about Poole, with its picturesque natural harbour just an hour's drive from Southampton. The Dorset coastal town also boasts the millionaire's playground and pristine beaches of the Sandbanks Peninsula, one of the most expensive areas to buy property in the world.

"Poole is like a dark brown Chinese Pu'er tea, between red mountains and blue ocean. I can't help taking a sip," Gao gushes. "Its thick and bitter taste turned out to be sweet and fresh, I was drunk."—AFP

Kuwait - Times 55. BUSINESS

GLOBAL MARKETS JITTERY AS TRUMP FEARS PERSIST

Kuwait's CA surplus narrows in Q1 2017

Regional currency pegs across GCC remain resilient

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All-new MEGANE by Renault Al-Babtain arrives in Kuwait

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SHANGHAI: A model poses next to a car from Chinese manufacturer Great Wall Motors at the Shanghai Auto Show in Shanghai. China's Great Wall Motor intends to make an offer to buy Italian-American car maker Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, a company spokeswoman said yesterday. —AFP

CHINA'S GREAT WALL EYES FIAT CHRYSLER DEAL

Great Wall wants to Rev up SUV, truck profile in US

SHANGHAI/BEIJING: China's Great Wall Motor Co Ltd is interested in bidding for Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA), a company official said yesterday, confirming reports it is pursuing all or part of the owner of the Jeep and Ram truck brands.

There has been speculation over Chinese interest in FCA since Automotive News reported last week that an unidentified "well-known Chinese automaker" made an offer earlier this month, triggering a jump in FCA's Milan-listed shares. "With respect to this case, we currently have an intention to acquire. We are interested in (FCA)," an official at Great Wall Motor's press relations department told Reuters by phone. He declined to give his name and gave no fur-

FCA Chief Executive Sergio Marchionne is seeking a partner or buyer for the world's seventh-largest automaker to help it manage rising costs, comply with emissions regulations and develop technology for electric and selfdriving cars. In a statement, Fiat Chrysler said it

had not been approached by Great Wall Motor, and was busy with implementing its current five-year business plan. A move for FCA by Great Wall Motor, China's largest sport utility vehicle (SUV) and pick-up manufacturer,

would be audacious, however. At a time when Beijing's attitude to outbound deals has cooled, if Great Wall bought FCA, which has a market value of almost \$20 billion, it would be by far China's largest overseas automotive industry deal - and possibly one of its largest ever overseas purchases - dwarfing Geely's 2010 billion acquisition of Volvo cars. FCA is also larger than Great Wall, which has a market value of closer to \$16 billion.

Earlier yesterday, two people familiar with the matter said Great Wall Motor had asked for a meeting with FCA, with the aim of making an offer for all or part of the group. Also yesterday, citing an email from Great Wall Motor President Wang Fengying, Automotive News reported Great Wall had contacted FCA to express interest specifically in the Jeep brand. The industry publication cited a Great Wall spokesman confirming interest, but saying the Chinese automaker had not made a formal offer or met with FCA's board.

"Our strategic goal is to become the world's largest SUV maker," Automotive News quoted the spokesman as saying. "Acquiring Jeep, a global SUV brand, would enable us to achieve our goal sooner and better (than on our own)."

FCA shares rose 3.9 percent to 11.12 euros in Milan, outperforming a flat market. Great Wall Motor shares closed up almost 3 percent in Shanghai. "Jeep is the most logical choice since (Great Wall) wants to be the largest SUV maker in the world," said Yale Zhang, head of Shanghai-based consultancy Automotive Foresight. Ram could be an option, but "the Jeep brand is recognized globally. I think Great Wall Motor is eyeing a global strategy, not just the United States,"

Key brands in focus

Marchionne told analysts last month that a new five-year strategy - to be unveiled next year - could include asset sales. While he acknowledged that Jeep, Ram, Maserati and Alfa Romeo could exist on their own, he appeared to pour cold water on the idea that any of them would be sold - at least not without leaving behind a less profitable "stump" that may struggle on its own. Jeep SUVs and Ram trucks, the two most coveted of Fiat Chrysler's brands, have become a major profit engine and a driver for Fiat's North American operations.

Jeep, which traces its roots to the iconic World War Two military vehicle, targets sales of 2 million vehicles in 2018, up from 1.4 million in 2016. Marchionne has said deliveries from the SUV brand could eventually rise to as many as 7 million a year as demand for sporty vehicles is set to keep rising. In a recent note, Morgan Stanley estimated Jeep's enterprise value at 23 billion euros (\$27 billion) - nearly 150 percent of the whole of FCA's market value. A move for FCA or one of its main brands would be challenging to finance, and would have to overcome serious regulatory hurdles - but it would boost Great Wall's position in the US market and globally. It would also allow it to get around the politically charged issue of manufacturing in the United States to sell there, something that would otherwise take decades to build up.

Great Wall's founder and chairman Wei Jianjun saw opportunity when China began to fall in love with SUVs, and invested heavily in its Haval brand, cutting back on sedans. Within a few years, it was a top seller, with its H6 model topping sales charts going back to 2014. The people familiar with the matter told Reuters that Great Wall had been making plans for the United States for some time, mainly by upgrading some key products and improving branding. It earlier this year officially launched a new "Wei" brand, named after the chairman, of potentially US-market ready vehicles. —Reuters

TOTAL TO BUY MAERSK OIL FOR \$7.45BN

PARIS: French oil giant Total said yesterday that it would buy Maersk Oil, a unit of Danish shipping giant A.P. Moller-Maersk, for \$7.45 billion (6.35 billion euros).

The company said the deal would make Total the second-largest operator in the North Sea, with substantial operations in Britain, Norway and Denmark. It will pay for the company with \$4.95 billion in Total shares, while taking on \$2.5 billion of Maersk Oil's debt.

The boards of both companies have approved the deal. Total said the acquisition would bolster its positions in the Gulf of Mexico, Algeria, Kenya and Kazakhstan. "This transaction delivers an exceptional opportunity for Total to acquire, via an equity transaction, a company with high-quality assets which are an excellent fit with many of Total's core regions," chief executive Patrick Pouvanne said in a statement.

He said that once completed in the first quarter of 2018, the deal would generate some \$400 million in cost savings and other synergies each year, which would immediately help to increase the combined

group's cash flow and earnings per share. "We are also very pleased that we will have a new anchor point in Denmark which will host our North Sea business unit and supervise our operations in Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands," Pouyanne said.

Investors won't be 'enthused'

Total embarked on a cost-saving drive three years ago in response to falling oil prices, but had recently signaled it was once again ready to pursue acquisitions. Since 2014, oil prices have dropped dramatically and remained stubbornly low, a trend that has weighed heavily on the industry.

"We imagine the investors won't be overly enthused with the idea of buying more oil barrels when they are overly concerned with falling oil demand," said analysts at AllianceBernstein. "Investors should however think of these as high-marain low-cost barrels" that will recoup costs even if the price of oil falls to \$30 per barrel from its current level around \$50.

It also noted the price in terms of output was nearly a third less than Shell sold its North Sea portfolio to



This file photograph taken on May 27, 2016, shows a general view of the Total refinery of Donges, western France. French oil giant Total said yesterday, that it would buy Maersk Oil, a unit of the Danish shipping giant A.P. Moller-Maersk, for \$7.45 billion. —AFP

Chrysaor earlier this year. Shares in Total initially fell, but by afternoon were up 0.3 percent at 42.76 euros per share while Paris's CAC 40 index was down 0.3 percent. Shares in Maersk jumped by 3.3 percent. Ane Maersk Mc-Kinney Uggla, who heads the A.P. Moller Holding company, said

"this is a very difficult, but right decision". "Maersk Oil has for almost half a century been at the forefront of the Danish oil development, been vital to A.P. Moller-Maersk and to this very day plays a decisive role in the Danish and international oil and gas industry," she said. — AFP

LEBANESE PRESIDENT SIGNS PUBLIC SECTOR PAY RISE

BEIRUT: Lebanese President Michel Aoun signed off on public sector wage increases and related tax hikes yesterday, a move that has triggered business concern but could help politicians shore up support ahead of parliamentary elec-

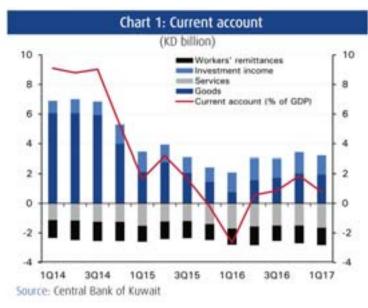
tions next year. Aoun held off ratifying the two laws since parliament approved them last month amid objections from the business community about the economic impact of more taxes on Lebanon's fragile economy. Finance Minister Ali Hassan Khalil, a proponent of the laws, told Reuters the move would "reflect positively on social stability". He said it would cost an estimated 1.38 trillion Lebanese pounds (\$920 million), while the tax increases would bring in revenue of 1.65 trillion pounds (\$1.1 billion).

But Nassib Ghobril, chief economist at Lebanon's Byblos Bank, said it was difficult to gauge how much it would cost because "we don't know how many employees there are in the public sector". "It's difficult to put a real, credible figure on the cost of the public sector

salary scale," he said. The public sector pay scale law has been under discussion for years. Ghobril said the public sector needed "fundamental and in-depth reforms" before salary increases. Without that, the new legislation amounted to a major "redistribution of income ... to a bloated, inefficient and largely unproductive sector".

The tax law raises value-added tax (VAT) by one percentage point to 11 percent and hikes corporation tax to 17 percent from 15 percent. While increased public sector pay will prove popular among state workers, the proposed tax increases triggered several protests earlier this year. Some public sector workers had also demonstrated in recent days calling on Aoun to sign the laws.

Many economists say Lebanon should focus more on fighting tax evasion rather than raising new taxes to finance public sector pay increases. Ghobril said that after years of deliberation, politicians probably passed the laws now "because we're coming close to parliamentary elections". —Reuters





KUWAIT'S CA SURPLUS NARROWS IN Q1 2017

NBK ECONOMIC REPORT

KUWAIT: Kuwait's current account surplus fell for the first time in three quarters at the start of 2017. The surplus narrowed from KD 0.6 billion in 4016 to KD 0.3 billion in 1017, on the back of a deterioration in the goods balance, a decline in investment income and a rebound in net service outflows. Despite the fall, the current account balance, at an annualized 0.8 percent of GDP, was still up significantly compared to the same period last year when it recorded its largest deficit in years of 2.7 percent of GDP.

We expect the current account to see a further rebound in 2017 as oil prices firm up. After recording its first deficit in over two decades in 2016, the current account is forecast to witness a rebound and log in a surplus of around 3-4 percent of GDP in 2017. This improvement is largely due to the expectations that oil prices will continue to recover and prop up export

The goods surplus retreated for the first time in a year in 1Q17. The surplus fell from KD 2.0 billion in 4Q16 to KD 1.9 billion in 1Q17, mainly due to a strong rebound in import growth. Although both oil exports and non-oil exports witnessed healthy gains in 1Q17, growing by 60 percent y/y and 17 percent y/y, respectively, a strong jump in imports put some downward pressure on the goods balance. Imports grew 14 percent y/y to KD 2.2 billion, thanks to higher demand for capital and industrial goods. Strong demand in these segments is indicative of the healthy progress being made on government development projects.

A decline in investment income, a jump in net service outflows and relatively solid growth in worker remittances, also weighed on the current account balance. Investment income fell to its lowest level in just over a year in 1Q17, while net services outflows climbed to a multi-quarter

Table 1: Summary of Kuwait's balance of payments (KD million) Change 2016 3016 1017 4016 191 626 269 357 Current account -71 155.5 Goods (net) 1947 1556 1726 2018 Exports 3576 3645 4143 4178 53.3 Oil exports 3191 3263 3724 3741 17 59.2 Non-oil exports 382 419 437 18 16.5 385 Imports 2020 1919 2125 2231 -106 13.7 -139-3.1 Services (net) -1567-1510 -1510-1649-153 -4.9 Investment income 1490 1303 1413 1260 19 7.4 Workers' remittances -1263-1026-1188-1169Other investment -120-13 41.5 -25 -204-107 105 253 579 221 -358 Current + capital account 133 -561 63 -1087 -1150 Financial account -63.6Direct investment (net) 584 -437 -687 636 Portfolio investment (net) -996 154.6 2551 -17711816 1555 Other investment (net) 1824 87.0 2219 3051 2095 166 -56.1Reserve assets 269 865 -746 -580-237Net errors & omissions -642866 1508 Overall balance -269 -865 746 580 -166

Source: Central Bank of Kuwait

tively solid pace of 7.4 percent y/y. Kuwait's net financial outflows swelled as portfolio investment outflows held strong, though they were partly offset by inflows from other overseas investments. The financial account logged in an almost two-year high deficit of KD 1.1 billion, mainly on strong growth in portfolio outflows, which rose to KD 2.6 billion.

These outflows reflect Kuwait's policy to nannel investments to the Future Generations Worker remittances continued to rise at a rela- Fund (FGF). At the same time, other overseas imports, foreign reserves remain substantial.

investments have been liquidated to help finance the fiscal deficit.

The broad balance of payments balance recorded a surplus, albeit a smaller one, for the second straight quarter in 1Q17. The surplus on the balance of payments fell from KD 0.7 billion in 4Q16 to KD 0.6 billion in 1Q17. As a result, foreign reserves increased only slightly from KD 9.3 billion to KD 9.5 billion during the same period. However at an estimated 11.5 months of

FREEPORT INDONESIA COPPER MINE ACCESS TO RESUME AFTER CLASHES

TIMIKA, Indonesia: Limited access to the giant Grasberg copper mine in eastern Indonesia is expected to resume, its operator said, after hundreds of former workers blockaded the site and clashed with police. Trouble erupted at the mine, which is operated by the Indonesian unit of Freeport McMoRan Inc, during a demonstration over employment terms on Saturday afternoon.

Three former workers were injured after police fired tear gas and warning shots to disperse the blockade, according to a union official representing the ex-workers. Freeport said at least four contractors were also injured.

Buildings, vehicles and motorbikes belonging to the company and its employees were also torched in the incident in the province of Papua, Freeport said, and access to the world's second-largest copper mine was restricted due to safety concerns. Freeport Indonesia spokesman Riza Pratama praised local authorities on Sunday for "restoring security control" but also continued to advise workers to avoid travelling to the area.

The Main Supply Route also has been cleared, and bus and cargo convoys will resume on a limited basis Monday," Pratama said in an emailed statement. Following export restrictions related to a permit dispute, Freeport Indonesia, which employs more than 32,000 staff and contractors, laid off about 3,000 workers earlier this year. This prompted a strike and high levels of absenteeism.

Freeport has denied that there is a "formal strike", and deemed that approximately 3,000 full-time and 1,000 contract employees who were absent had "voluntarily resigned", but could reapply for positions as contractors. Arizona-based Freeport, the world's biggest publicly-traded copper miner, has repeatedly said it has acted on labor issues in accordance with Indonesian law and its labor contract.

Tensions around Grasberg could hamper Indonesia's efforts to calm Papua, where a lowlevel insurgency has simmered for decades. The mine is a major source of revenue for the local economy, but its social and environmen-

tal effects also remain sources of friction. "If indeed we won't be employed again, they must be clear about our rights (and) what we will receive," one former worker told Reuters on condition of anonymity. Tri Puspital, a union official representing the estimated 5,000 former workers involved in the near four-month dispute told Reuters his team had not yet made plans to demonstrate again. "We're still waiting."

IndustriALL Global Union, a federation of labor unions, has criticized Freeport's handling of the matter, saying it treated "fired" workers "inhumanely and with contempt", and urged the company to reinstate staff and contractors. — Reuters

CURRENCY

Chinese Yuan

AFTER LEGAL ROW, MCDONALD'S SHUTTING 169 OUTLETS IN INDIA

NEW DELHI: The fast food chain's Indian subsidiary said it was terminating its agreement with Connaught Plaza Restaurant Ltd (CPRL), alleging breach of contract and payment defaults.

The move means all McDonald's outlets in north and east India including the capital New Delhi will close, although the company said it would look for a new partner. McDonald's outlets will remain open in south and west India, where it uses a different franchise operator.

"We have been compelled to take this step because CPRL has materially breached the terms of the respective franchise agreements relating to the affected restaurants," the company said in a statement. McDonald's shut over 40 of its restaurants in Delhi in June after they failed to renew their eating house licenses, a police registration to operate a place of public entertainment.

The fast food restaurant market in India is worth some \$1.5 billion and growing at around 15 percent a year, according to

Delhi-based consulting firm Technopak. With a population of 1.25 billion, more and more of whom have the money to eat out, India is an attractive market for foreign fast-food firms. But foreign operators must have a local partner to operate and the process can be highly bureaucratic, with restaurants needing an average of 50 licences to operate. Major multinationals such as Coca-Cola and McDonalds were effectively locked out of India until as late as the mid-1990s before the government began to open up the economy.

Executives at CPRL could not immediately be reached for comment. Company chief Vikram Bakshi told the Press Trust of India news agency that CPRL was considering what legal recourse was available.

"This is a completely contemptuous, malafide and yet another oppressive act indulged in by the McDonald's," Bakshi was quoted as saying. Bakshi has been locked in a legal battle with McDonald's global management since he was ousted as the managing director of the joint venture in 2013.

Last month an Indian tribunal restored Bakshi as the managing director and ordered the American food chain to pay him one million rupees (\$15,590).—AFP



This file photo taken on June 29, 2017 shows an Indian man carrying fries and a drink outside a McDonald's outlet in New Delhi. — AFP

GEORGIA'S TBC BANK PROFIT JUMPS ON STRONG LENDING

TBILISI: TBC Bank Group Plc, Georgia's largest retail bank, reported a 37.2 percent jump in second-quarter underlying net profit yesterday, as economic growth and a stable currency boosted lending. Net interest margin was 6.8 percent in the quarter, down 1.1 percentage points from a year earlier, said TBC, which became Georgia's largest bank by loans and deposits after buying JSC Bank Republic from France's Societe Generale and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Underlying net profit rose to 86.3 million laris (\$36.2 million) in the quarter ended June, from 62.9 million laris a year earlier. "Accelerated economic development and a stable currency rate in 2Q 2017 continue to underpin sound growth in the banking sector,"TBC Bank said.

Last week Rival BGEO Group Plc, which is planning to split its banking and investment businesses, reported a jump in second-quarter pretax profit, driven by its banking and healthcare arms. Georgia's economy expanded 4.5 percent in the first half of this year, up from 2.9 percent in the same period in 2016, after a rise in exports and remittances from abroad. The government forecasts the growth at 4 percent in 2017.

The economy has a good chance of exceeding the official 4 percent growth projection this year, Economy minister Giorgi Gakharia said in June, thanks to private sector developments and the government spending on infrastructure projects. TBC said second-quarter cost-to-income ratio stood at 44.9 percent, compared to 45.1 percent a year earlier. Gross loans and advances to customers stood at 7.39 billion laris at June end, a rise of 56.8 percent from a year earlier. —Reuters

US SEEKS WTO DISPUTE PANEL ON CHINA'S GRAIN IMPORT QUOTAS

GENEVA: The United States has requested a World Trade Organization panel be set up to investigate Chinese tariff-rate quotas (TRQ) for agricultural products, the WTO said vesterday, setting up a showdown between the two largest economies. The row, which includes tariffs for wheat, rice, and corn, was initiated under the Obama administration which sought consultations on Dec. 15, but now the Trump administration has moved ahead with a formal request.

The item appears on the formal agenda of the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) meeting set for Aug. 31, issued yesterday. China can block this first formal request, but upon a second request at a later DSB, the panel will be set up unless

SELL

0.047277

all WTO members agree to block it. In December, the US Trade Representative (USTR) said that China's administration of the program breached its WTO commitments and hurt US farm exports. The USTR said global prices for the three commodities were lower than China's domestic prices, yet the country did not maximize its use of TRQs, which offer lower duties on a certain volume of imported grains every year. The USTR said that limited market access for shipments from the United States, the world's largest grain exporter, and other countries. Since then, Australia, the European Union, Canada and Thailand have joined the dispute as third parties. —Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO. **ASIAN COUNTRIES** Japanese Yen 2.759 Indian Rupees Pakistani Rupees 2.870 Srilankan Rupees 1.971 Nepali Rupees Singapore Dollar 223.020 Hongkong Dollar 38.695 Bangladesh Taka Philippine Peso 5.988 Thai Baht **GCC COUNTRIES** Saudi Riyal 80.787 Qatari Riyal Omani Rival 786.772 804.440 Bahraini Dinar **UAE** Dirham **ARAB COUNTRIES** Egyptian Pound - Cash Egyptian Pound - Transfer 16.972 Yemen Riyal/for 1000 1.216 Tunisian Óinaı 127.210 Jordanian Dinar 427.490 Lebanese Lira/for 1000 2.018 Morocco Dirham 32.414 **EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES** US Dollar Transfer 302.750 356.940 Sterling Pound 395.540

239.710

85.890

Canadian dollar

Turkish lira

316.020 **Swiss Franc US Dollar Buying** 301.550 GOLD 20 Gram 249.070 127.450 10 Gram

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

45.765

Rate for Transfr	Selling Rat
US Dollar	302.350
Canadian Dollar	241.007
Sterling Pound	390.710
Euro	357.167
Swiss Frank	293.338
Bahrain Dinar	802.247
UAE Dirhams	82.716
Qatari Riyals	83.861
Saudi Riyals	81.477
Jordanian Dinar	427.428
Egyptian Pound	17.045
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.973
Indian Rupees	4.718
Pakistani Rupees	2.869
Bangladesh Taka	3.742
Philippines Pesso	5.877
Cyprus pound	17.991
Japanese Yen	3.765
Syrian Pound	1.585
Nepalese Rupees	2.948
Malaysian Ringgit	71.344

Chinese Yuan Renminbi

Thai Bhat 10.094 Turkish Lira 86.281 Turkish Lira 86.247

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY WLL BUY

COMMENTED		3
	Europe	
British Pound	0.382870	0.392870
Czech Korune	0.005608	0.017608
Danish Krone	0.043714	0.048714
Euro	0.349880	0.358880
Norwegian Krone	0.124819	0.124819
Romanian Leu	0.081622	0.081622
Russian ruble	005109	0.005109
Slovakia	0.009020	0.019020
Swedish Krona	0.033207	0.038207
Swiss Franc	0.306694	0.317694
	Australasia	
Australian Dollar	0.231335	0.243335
New Zealand Dollar	0.215004	0.224504
	America	
Canadian Dollar	0.234825	0.243825
US Dollars	0.298600	0.303020
US Dollars Mint	0.299100	0.303020
	Asia	
Bangladesh Taka	0.003260	0.003844

0.043777

0.036604 0.039354 Hong Kong Dollar Indian Rupee 0.004160 0.004848 Indonesian Rupiał 0.000018 0.000024 Japanese Yen 0.002684 0.002864 Korean Won 0.000255 0.000270 Malaysian Ringgit 0.066809 0.072809 0.003020 Nepalese Rupee 0.003190 Pakistan Rupee 0.002684 0.002974 0.006102 Philippine Peso 0.005802 Singapore Dollar 0.216586 0.226586 0.001597 Sri Lankan Rupee 0.002177 0.009850 0.010030 Thai Baht 0.008773 0.009323 Arab Bahraini Dinar 0.796242 0.804742 0.014959 0.020867

Egyptian Pound Iranian Riyal 0.000084 0.000085 Iragi Dinar 0.000189 0.000249 Jordanian Dina 0.422330 0.431330 Kuwaiti Dinar 1.000000 1.000000 Lebanese Pound 0.000150 0.000250 Moroccan Dirhams 0.020826 0.044826 Omani Riyal 0.779814 0.785494 0.078854 0.083794 Qatar Riyal Saudi Rival 0.079633 0.080933 Syrian Pound 0.001283 0.001503 0.122158 0.130158 Turkish Lira 0.081232 0.091532 **LIAF** Dirhams 0.080989 0.082689 Yemeni Riya 0.000984 0.001064

REGIONAL CURRENCY PEGS ACROSS GCC REMAIN RESILIENT

Saudi Holds \$500bn in fiscal reserves out of MENA's \$875bn: Report

DUBAI: Indosuez Wealth Management, the global wealth management business line of Credit Agricole Group, present in the UAE in Dubai and in Abu Dhabi through the representative offices of CA Indosuez (Switzerland) SA, published its Macro Comment report highlighting how the current account balances for the MENA coun- Dr Paul Wetterwald ties, especially the Gulf are



still suffering from the 2014-2015 oil price collapse. Saudi Arabia's current account went from a surplus to a deficit of 8.3 percent in 2015. More recently the country avoided to run a twin deficit in Q1 2017 as the Saudi Ministry of Finance disclosed a budget deficit of 4 percent of GDP annualized, and the rebound in the oil price helped to get the current account back in surplus. Exports gained and imports declined due to weak domestic demand, resulting in a USD 6 billion surplus mainly due to oil-related exports receipts. Despite this, the capital account displayed large outflows reflecting possibly reallocation of sovereign wealth. Reserves continued to decline over the January-May 2017 period and stand now at \$499 billion, i.e. a decrease of \$247 billion since its August 2014-high. Bahrain's surplus shrunk lapsed to 7.5 percent in 2015 (vs 45.5 percent in 2012). The former suffered the same fate as Oman as its debt was cut last year to below investment-grade by all three of the major credit ratings agencies. Jordan appears as an exception as its deficit diminished to 8.9 percent in 2015 from 15.2 percent in 2012.

Similarly, Egypt's current account deficit recorded its lowest deficit since 2014 in Q1 2017 due to higher exports, lower non-oil imports, and improving revenues coming from tourism and workers' remittances. This is partly due to the devaluation of the Egyptian pound last November, and translated into foreign exchanges reserves amounting to \$31 billion in June, i.e. twice their level of July 2016. Oman turned to a current account deficit of 15.5 percent in 2015 from a surplus of 10.2 percent in 2012. This eroded the country's external reserves to the point that Oman's debt rating was to "junk".

Dr. Paul Wetterwald, Chief Economist, Indosuez Wealth Management business line, said: "Saudi Arabia is able to rely on its reserves that remain considerable and amount to more than two years' worth of imports. This should allow the authorities to withstand any pressure on the peg, but should not pause any diversification efforts and various reforms that the country has been active with under the new crown prince, HH Mohammed bin Salman. This is because the country's currency is hoistorically pegged to the dollar and cannot afford to persistently run current account deficits.

to 3.4 percent of its GDP in 2014 and Kuwait's col- Saudi does not have the benefit of "international seigniorage" enjoyed by the US;, whose current account deficit is 2.5 percent of its GDP."

> Dr. Wetterwald continued: "Additionally, considerable uncertainties continue to characterize the current US administration's real impact on the global economy. The key issues for MENA economies are the strengthening of the US dollar, the possible rarefaction of the currency outside the United States following the repatriation of war chests by US businesses and the rise in interest rates. These developments would negatively impact the debt refinancing of some countries lacking natural access to the dollar through regular export flows."

Cooperation is the key

The considerable amount of US dollar reserves held by MENA countries provides them with a reason to work together and mutually support each other. Indosuez expects this to contribute towards a rethinking around the exchange rate arrangements of MENA countries, which are far from a floating rate regime. However, Indosuez notes that the time does not seem to be ripe for these countries to consider a currency union.

MENA reserves total to \$875 billion, of which slightly less than 500 billion are held by Saudi Arabia. Despite this seeming a huge size, it is dwarfed by the holdings of various central banks in mature economies. As of June 30, 2017 the US Federal Reserve balance sheet reached \$4,467 billion, of which \$2,465 billion was in US Treasuries and \$1,770 billion in Mortgage Backed Securities. At the same date, the European Central Bank balance sheet's size was EUR 4,210 billion (\$4,800 billion) and the Swiss National Bank balance sheet stood at CHF 779.7 billion (approximately \$780 billion) at the end of May. As for the Bank of England, its balance sheet amounted to GBP 423 billion (\$531 billion) as of March 31, 2017. A very large proportion of these figures are made of marketable securities, which means that the disposal of a part of these securities by these central banks would potentially impact the financial markets more than a potential sale by MENA monetary authorities.

Dr. Wetterwald added: "A country's current account balance gives us a hint about the resilience of its currency in times of crisis. The stronger is the balance, the less need there is to draw into reserves to defend the currency. The MENA countries current account balances have globally deteriorated in tandem with the oil price's decline. Given their size, the sale of MENA reserves to maintain the peg should not by itself provoke a crash; despite likely having a negative impact on financial markets. For this to happen we would need to see other investors selling at the same time, either due to monetary policies of their own (for example mature economies' central banks) or because of momentum-driven portfolio managements' strategies from large private

News

Bankrupt Air Berlin targets Sept sale

FRANKFURT: Insolvent German airline Air Berlin hopes to complete its sale by September, the group's chief executive said, as government officials fended off accusations of favouring Lufthansa in the bankruptcy process. "We want to settle the sale in September at the latest, otherwise customers' trust in the airline will vanish," chief executive Thomas Winkelmann told newspaper Bild am Sonntag. Lufthansa-which already leases 38 of Air Berlin's 140 planes-could buy up to 70 aircraft with as many as 3,000 crew for its low-cost subsidiary Eurowings, Bild reported. "I would welcome Lufthansa taking over larger parts of Air Berlin," Economy Minister Brigitte Zypries told business daily Handelsblatt yesterday, while adding that it was up to the airlines to negotiate a deal between themselves.

China Unicom shares soar on \$11.7bn stake sale plan

BEIJING: Shares in China's second-largest telecoms carrier Unicom soared yesterday after it reiterated previously retracted plans for an almost \$12 billion stake sale involving high-profile investors including Tencent, Baidu, and Alibaba. China United Network Communications Ltd (CUNC), the Shanghai-listed arm of China Unicom, will sell shares worth 77.9 billion yuan (\$11.7 billion) to 10 investors, according to a statement to the Shanghai exchange. China United Network Communications shares, which were suspended since April as the ownership plan was being hashed out, jumped by the 10 percent daily limit in Shanghai after the announcement. China Unicom shares in Hong Kong surged more than eight percent. Royal Dutch Shell has raised an alarm over the continuing siege at a Nigerian facility by protesters, saying they could be putting their safety at risk.

Shell raises security alarm at Nigerian plant

LAGOS: Royal Dutch Shell has raised an alarm over the continuing siege at a Nigerian facility by protesters, saying they could be putting their safety at risk. Hundreds of protesters from the Kula and Belema communities in Nigeria's restless southern Rivers state have occupied the plant since August 11 to press their demands for jobs and better living conditions. "The illegal occupation of Belema Flow Station and Gas Plant in Rivers State has safety implications both for the people at the facilities and nearby communities," the company's Nigerian subsidiary, Shell Petroleum Development Company, said in a statement on Sunday.

SEMPRA ENERGY BIDS \$9.45BN FOR ONCOR, TOPS BUFFETT OFFER

SAN DIEGO: Sempra Energy is buying Texas power transmitter Oncor for \$9.45 billion in cash, wresting it away from Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway. Sempra said yesterday that it will also pick up \$9.35 billion of the company's debt. To gain possession of



Warren Buffett

the reorganized Energy Future Holdings Corp. Energy Future entered bankruptcy in 2014, saddled with more than \$40 billion in debt due to cratering energy prices. Berkshire Hathaway said last month that it would buy Oncor for \$9 billion, and last week it stuck to that bid. Hedge fund Management, which owns a significant portion of

Oncor, Sempra will acquire

Oncor's debt, opposed Berkshire's takeover bid, saying it wasn't enough. But Berkshire Hathaway stood firm on its offer, saying last week that it would not be increasing the bid.

Sempra expects to close the sale in the first half of next year. The deal still needs the approval of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, US Bankruptcy Court of Delaware, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the US Department of Justice. Once the transaction is complete, Oncor CEO Bob Shapard will become executive chairman of Oncor's board. Allen Nye, currently Oncor's general counsel, will succeed Shapard as Oncor CEO. Both will serve on Oncor's board. This is the fourth time that that an acquisition attempt has been made for Oncor. There was Berkshire Hathaway's offer last month. Previously, in April Texas regulators rejected a proposed \$18 billion sale of Oncor to NextEra Energy Inc. That price tag included debt. Regulators failed to accept that the NextEra transaction was in the public interest - a requirement for the deal. A buyout attempt last year backed by the Ray Hunt family of Dallas also faltered.—AP

US BUSINESS ECONOMISTS FRET OVER TRUMP POLICY AGENDA

SURVEY REFLECTS SHOWING CONCERNS AMONG BUSINESSES

WASHINGTON: US business economists worry about the prospects for President Donald Trump's policy agenda, and the potential damage to the economy from his trade and immigration policies, according to a survey released yesterday.

The survey findings add to Trump's accelerating alienation with the business community. CEOs fled his advisory councils last week to distance themselves from his bothsides-are-to- blame response to a white supremacist rally in Virginia in which one woman among a group of counterprotesters was killed. Although the survey was completed more than a week prior to the those events, they reflect growing concerns among businesses that had been cheered since the election about the possibility of seeing tax reform and infrastructure spending that could boost

"I do think that is some of the concern, that everything that has transpired recently, especially over last week, may impair the administration's ability to get its legislative agenda passed," said Frank Nothaft, a policy analyst with the National Association for Business Economics. Stressing that he was not speaking for the NABE panelists in the semi-annual policy survey, Nothaft told AFP that the administration has a number of very important legislative proposals that could stimulate growth and boost spending.

However, "with everything that's transpired it puts that gislative agenda at jeopardy. WIII anytning get passed While the survey showed most economists judge fiscal policy to be "about right" currently, they "quite pessimistic about prospects for 'meaningful, revenue-neutral tax reform' in the near term," the survey showed.

'Unfavorable scores'

Conducted July 18 to August 2 with 184 members, the survey showed only a 10 percent probability of such legislation this year and a 15 percent (median) probability of passage in 2018. Over half the respondents said tax reform could add less than one percentage point to real GDP growth over the next 10 years, while a third put the impact on growth at between one and two percentage points.

Business economists also worry about the "unfavorable consequences" of Trump's trade an immigration policies. In those areas "survey participants give the administration unfavorable scores," said NABE Policy Survey Chair Richard DeKaser, who also is executive vice president and corporate economist at Wells Fargo.

Nothaft, chief economist at CoreLogic, explained that anything that clouds the environment for businesses to make investment decisions, whether for exports or



ABERDEEN: Logs are piled at a lumber yard in Aberdeen, Washington. The timber economy started to slip in the 1960s, slowly at first. Then the federal government in 1990 limited the level of logging in an attempt to save an endangered owl, the ships stopped coming and the river that used to drive the economy now sits still. —AP

imports, can cause firms to delay spending and impact the economy. When policies are "in flux and the environment can change dramatically, companies may hold back," he said, noting that "investment is an important part of GDP and economic growth." Meanwhile, restrictions on immigration hurt companies that are having trouble finding workers, notably in homebuilding and high-tech.

Yellen out

On monetary policy, Nothaft said the survey shows economists now have a "much stronger belief" compared to six months ago that the Federal Reserve will raise the benchmark interest rate one more time this year. While 61 percent said monetary policy was "about right," 53 percent are expecting a third rate hike, NABE said, although there is less agreement about next year. In contrast, market economists have become increasingly doubtful about the prospects for another move, which was expected in December, given persistently low inflation even amid historically low unemployment rates. Even central bankers are divided about how fast to move rates.

However, 67 percent expect Trump to replace Fed Chair Janet Yellen when her four-year term ends February 3. About half expect White House economic adviser Gary Cohn to replace her, although the survey was completed before this week's rumors-denied by the White House-that Cohn was planning to resign.

Meanwhile, most economists see only a 10 percent chance Congress will fail to take action to raise or suspend the limit on government borrowing, before the US defaults on its debts. The government is expected to hit the debt ceiling in mid-October. —AFP



BEIJING: This picture taken on Sunday shows a group of Chinese workers painting a wall at an exhibition center in Beijing. —AFP

ROSNEFT FINALIZES STRATEGIC DEAL WITH ESSAR IN INDIA

giant Rosneft announced yesterday it had closed a deal with India's Essar Oil that is the single largest foreign investment in India and is strategically important for Russia

Announced in October 2016 as oil prices plunged, the deal values at \$12.9 billion the Indian group that owns one of the world's most modern refineries-Vadinarand controls over 3,500 petrol stations.

Rosneft is acquiring a 49 percent stake, while another 49 percent is being acquired by a consortium including global commodities giant Trafigura. Essar in a statement called it "Russia's single largest foreign investment made anywhere in the world" and also "the sin-

MOSCOW: Russia's state-controlled oil gle largest foreign investment in India." One of the brothers who founded the company, Shashi Ruia was quoted as saying "Today is a historic day for Indo-

Russian economic ties." He said the deal "reflects the shared vision of two of the world's most dynamic leaders." India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is one of the emerging countries with whom Russian President Vladimir Putin has built up dialogue in recent years. "Together with our partners we intend to support the company (Essor) to significantly improve its financial performance and, in the medium term, adopt an asset development strategy," Rosneft head Igor Sechin, a close ally of Putin, was quoted as saying in a statement. —AFP

ECONOMISTS SEE SLIGHT IMPACT FROM FED BOND TRIMMING

WASHINGTON: The nation's business agree with Fed officials who think economists believe that the Federal Reserve's long-awaited move to start reducing its massive bond holdings will push long-term bond rates higher but most think the impact will be fairly modest. The latest survey, out yesterday, of the National Association for Business Economics found that 41 percent of economists surveyed expected rates on the 10-year Treasury note will rise by just one-half percentage point or less. About onefourth saw an increase of threefourths of a percentage point to a full percentage point in the 10-year note while only 11 percent saw rates going up more than 1 percentage point over the extended period that the Fed is reducing its holdings.

The policy survey summarized the responses of 184 of the association's members surveyed from July 18 to Aug. 2. The Federal Reserve is expected to announce at its September meeting a starting date for the reduction in its \$4.5 trillion balance sheet, which has grown five-fold since right before the 2008 financial crisis. The increase came as the central bank bought Treasury bonds and mortgagebacked securities in an effort to give the economy a boost by lowering long-term interest rates to pull the country out of a deep recession.

The Fed has said the bond reductions will take place gradually over a number of years and the survey found that private economists generally there will be little market impact. "The overall view of the panel is that the likely interest-rate impact of the Federal Reserve's balance sheet normalization is fairly benign," said National Association for Business Economics President Mackintosh.

The survey found that 53 percent of economists responding still think the Fed will raise rates for a third time later this year. There has been growing uncertainty about a third rate hike given that inflation is currently falling farther from the Fed's 2 percent target. The Fed raised rates by a quarter-point in March and June with the benchmark rate now at a still-low level of 1 percent to 1.25 percent.

In terms of predicting who the next Fed chair will be, 17 percent said they expected that President Donald Trump will tap Chair Janet Yellen for another four-year term when her current term ends in February. Nearly half said they believed Trump would pick former Goldman Sachs executive Gary Cohn, who is currently head of the president's National Economic Council.

On the prospects that Congress will pass "meaningful" tax reform this year, the economists assigned a low probability of only 10 percent and only a 15 percent chance next year. If such reform is passed, 53 percent of the economists said the changes would add less than 1 percentage point to economic growth over the next 10 years. — AP



GLOBAL MARKETS JITTERY AS TRUMP FEARS PERSIST

FRANKFURT AM MAIN: Global stock markets failed to recoup pre-weekend losses yesterday, with slips in Japan and Europe and stasis in the United States as traders eyed geopolitical uncertainty and hoped for hints from central bank chiefs Friday. US trading opened flat at 1330 GMT after slumps in Europe and Japan, suffering from lingering concern over President Donald Trump's volatile administration and unclear prospects for achieving economic reform.

Worries over Trump's stalled economic agenda and upcoming high-stakes Washington fights had hurt global stocks on Friday, with valuations pressured further by the terror attacks in Spain as investors sought haven investments such as the yen and gold. "Global sentiment remains jittery on exacerbated US political uncertainty and geopolitical concerns, while the Fed's key Jackson Hole symposium looms on the week's horizon," commented Schwab analysts. The cautious mood on markets comes as investors look to a central bankers' gathering in Jackson Hole, Wyoming on Friday for hints about a future with less monetary stimulus on both sides of the Atlantic.

"Traders are keen to get more insight into the plans of the two central banks" direct from Federal Reserve chief Janet Yellen and European Central Bank president Mario Draghi, Oanda analyst Craig Erlam pointed out. The Fed is expected to announce next month that it will wind down its near-\$4.5-trillion balance sheet. And ECB policymakers appear set

to unveil in autumn a long-awaited "tapering", or gradual reduction of its tens of billions in monthly bondpurchases.

US stocks dip

US stock indexes edged lower in early trading yesterday, following back- to-back losses for the Standard & Poor's 500 index over the last two eeks. The S&P 500 lost 2 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,423, as of 10 am Eastern time. The Dow Jones industrial average dipped 42 points, or 0.2 percent, to 21,632. The Nasdaq composite fell 6 points, or 0.1 percent, to 6,210. The beginning of this week may be slow for markets, with few high-profile events on the schedule. Earnings reporting season is almost over, and roughly 95 percent of companies in the S&P 500

have already said how much they earned during the spring quarter. Few major economic reports are on deck. A calm week may be welcome, following a second straight, shaky week where the S&P 500 had its biggest one-day loss in three months. Worries about politics, both domestic and international, contributed to the nervousness. The S&P 500 has had two days in the last two weeks where it's dropped by more than 1 percent. It's had only four for the year so far, which is well below typical levels.

Euro bounces back

The euro rebounded from the day's lows yesterday but held well below a 2-1/2 year high hit earlier this month as markets bet the single currency's double-digit gains this year may be too much for a central bank that is still wary of removing stimulus. With very little in the way of top-tier economic data, market watchers are focused on the annual central banking conference in Jackson Hole this week where the world's top central bankers may signal their next policy actions.

Though bets of a policy change have been reduced in recent days amid the general political turmoil in the US, expectations of a Fed rate hike may rise if Chair Janet Yellen emphasizes that the risks to inflation objectives and financial stability require careful monitoring in her speech on Friday. "If Yellen makes this point in her Jackson Hole speech, that reinforces the likelihood that the FOMC will raise rates again at their meeting in December," said Jordan Rochester, an FX strategist at Nomura in London. Yesterday, the euro bounced off the intraday lows to trade broadly flat at \$1.1763 against the greenback. It rose to a 2-1/2 year high above \$1.19 earlier this month. Despite recent losses, it is still up more than 11 percent so far this year, making it the best performing currency in the G10 currency space. In line with

the general nervousness in the markets before a key event, implied currency volatility of the euro for one-month shot higher to 8. "Absent some Mario Draghi fireworks this week, buying on dips for euro/dollar may be a better strategy rather than chasing the euro higher at these levels," said Viraj Patel, an FX strategist at ING Bank in London.

European Central Bank President Mario Draghi will not deliver a new policy message at a Fed conference in Jackson Hole this week, two sources familiar with the situation have said, tempering expectations for the ECB to start charting the course out of stimulus.

But traders are not taking any chances. About \$45 billion of euro-dollar currency options on the exchange rate will expire in the three days leading up to the Wyoming meeting. With markets hemmed in tight ranges and the lack of any top tier data this week, the dollar index drifted higher to 93.56 yesterday with latest positioning data showing speculators reducing their bearish bets against the greenback. Investors cut short dollar bets, particularly against the Japanese yen with positioning seen stretched before Janet Yellen's speech on Friday at the Jackson Hole conference. "With the market now short-USD and with market participants knowing that the preponderance of positions is short-USD, the pace of downward movement almost invariably had to slow," BMO strategists wrote in a weekly note.

One wild card for markets may lie in Asia, where US and South Korean forces yesterday started their annual joint military exercises. Tensions are higher than usual with North Korea, and Pyongyang in the past has responded to the drills with weapons tests and a string of belligerent rhetoric. In Asia, South Korea's Kospi index dipped 0.1 percent, Japan's Nikkei 225 index fell 0.4 percent and the Hang Seng in Hong Kong rose 0.4 percent. —Agencies

Daily Kuw	ait Stock Exch	ange Repo	t	Glo	لوال bal
dex	Change	Closing	Last Closing		
ice index	A 12.78	6,913.36	6,900.58	Volume	122,600,649

425.22

KSX 15			8.08	973.38		965.30		
Security	High	Low	Volume	Trades Value (KD)	Trades	Lest	0	hange
IPG.	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	390	_	0.0
NAPESCO	850	845	13,498	11,411	7	845	Ŧ	-5.0
ENERGYH GPI	35.5	35.5	2,409,575	92,797	77	35.5	+	0.4
ABAR	87	80	10,900	875	7	85	Ť	-1.0
Oil & Gas			2,434,123	105,088	94	1034.81	A	3.30
KFOUC	305	290	271.020	81,593	35	290	*	-8.0
BPCC	573	570	267,289	152,439	10	573		4.0
ALKOUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	600	-	0.0
ALGURAIN Basic Materials	330	335	170,124 708,433	57,144 291,177	57	1251.95	*	-1.0 -6.50
Date Contractors			199,449	481,127	- 91	1401.00	246	9.00
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	420	-	0.0
CABLE	508	490	254,416	127,242	30	505	۳	-3.0
SHIP PCEM	215 990	213 970	13,540	19,064	10	215 970	+	-10.0
PAPER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	280	÷	0.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	. 0	0	0	94	-	0.0
ACICO	265	261	81,600	21,311	. 5	261	*	-6.0
HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	208	-	0.0
NICEM EQUIPMENT	190 48.9	175	1,013,060	215 46,961	48	190	-	-2.9
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	0.0
GYPSUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	95	-	0.0
SALBOOKH	63	61	91,000	5,567	4	62		1.0
AGLTY EDU	343	340	2,049,291	1,765,952	191	343	+	-6.0
CLEANING	48.9	46.7	181,580	8.583	7	48.9	÷	-0.4
KGL	58	56	31,930	1,787	6	58	*	-0.1
KCPC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	141	-	0.0
HUMANSOFT	4,350	4,300	140,920	605,972	24	4,350		50.0
NAFAIS GFC	73	60	20	0	2	220 60	-	-14.8
SHOOTING	27.4	26.6	1,753,168	46,932	44	26.7	*	-0.5
OGC	560	546	32,700	17,892	9	558	٠	-7.0
MTCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	54	-	0.0
UPAC	0.0	0.0	0 000	0	0	715	-	0.0
ALAFCO MUBARRAD	72	374 71	1,524,000	242,307 108,297	55 35	380 71	-	0.0
LOGISTICS	53	52	1,547,021	80,972	49	52	¥	-0.7
BCEM	82	80	444,550	36,389	9	80		1.0
GCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	78	-	0.0
QIC FCEM	78	77	40,000	3,100	2	77	*	4.0
RKWC	83	81	55,945 89,000	7,218	5	79 81	4	1.1
SPEC	99	93	127.800	12,101	18	99	Â	3.8
Industrials			10,265,601	3,196,330	580	1918.81	A	9.10
04000	44	0.0	4		-	44		
PAPCO CATTL	284	260	199,604	56,555	18	90 284	-	16.0
DANAH	73	73	60,000	4,350	2	73	•	0.4
F000	1,850	1,850	41	76	1	1,850	A	30.0
Consumer Goods	1/		259,645	60,981	21	1018.95	A	18.10
MHC	500	384	10.485	4.045	3	402	*	-71
ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,100	-	0
YIACO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	175	-	0
Health Care			10,485	4,045	1	1514.85	Y	-169.10
KCIN	1,390	1,200	211	290	4	1,270	4	70
кнот	1,000		411	197912	-	1,47		
SULTAN	0.0	1000	0		. 0	250	-	0
DOLINE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	250 67	Ξ	-
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CABLETY EYAS FAHR DULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT IAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALRAI Jiyad	00 00 00 00 127 79 535 128 00 126 52 762	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50	0 0 0 0 36.241 71.568 15.000 41.911 0 42.175 171,010	0 0 0 4,601 5,582 8,025 5,309 0 5,265 8,843	0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1
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CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALRAI JIJVAD MEZZAN CONSUMER SERVICE ZAIN OOREDOO	0.0 0.0 0.0 127 79 535 128 0.0 126 52 762 151 1,190	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740	0 0 0 36.241 71.568 15.000 41.911 0 42.175 171.010 1,907.585 2,275,701 5,158.659 6,771	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 0 005 5 309 0 5 295 8 843 1,444,608 2,617,548 7,892	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80
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CABLIETY EYAS FAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREND ALRAI Jiyad Meczan Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio	0.0 0.0 0.0 127 79 535 128 0.0 126 52 782 18 511 1,190 39.8 809	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740	0 0 0 36.241 71,568 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,897,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 6,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135	0 0 0 4.801 5.582 6.025 5.309 0 5.265 8.843 1,446.691 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,892 17,233 59,545 2,702,218	0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 238 367 9 11 47 434	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,165 39.6 803 614.59		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80
CABLETY EYAS FAHR DULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT IAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALRAI Plyad Mezzan Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN /TVA Felecommunicatio	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 127 79 535 128 0.0 126 52 782 18 511 1,190 99.8 809	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740	0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 8,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135	0 0 0 4,501 5,582 6,005 5,309 0 5,265 8,843 1,446,608 2,617,548 7,860 17,233 59,545 2,702,218	0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,965 39.6 803 654.59		0 0 0 0 1 0 -19 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80
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CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTURIERID ALUREIND ALUREIND ALUREIND Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GOR COK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BURG	00 00 00 00 127 79 535 128 00 126 52 762 15 511 1,190 39.8 800 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371	0 0 0 36.241 71.568 15.000 41.911 0 42.175 171.010 1,897.585 2,275,701 5,158.659 6,771 437.579 74.126 5,677,135 2.259.660 120.000 0 01.911 773,702 379,414	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 0 005 5 309 0 5 295 8 843 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,890 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,738,250 29,235 30,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 148 9 4 0 15	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,565 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 375 314 417 244 372		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -0.80 -2 5 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALUREKID ALURE JUNA GONSUMER SERVICE ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GOR COK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BURG KFIN	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575	0 0 0 36.241 71.568 15.000 41.911 0 42.175 171.010 1,897.585 2,275,701 5,158.659 6,771 437.579 74,126 5,677,135 2.259.660 120.000 0 01.911 773,702 379,414 5,010.337	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 0 005 5 309 0 5 295 8 843 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,892 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,738,250 29,235 30,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,907,499	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 148 9 4 0 15 44 17 306	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,965 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 375 314 417 244 372 582		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -0.80 -2 5 0 0 0 1 0 -0.10
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTURIERID ALUREIND ALUREIND ALUREIND Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GOR COK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BURG	00 00 00 00 127 79 535 128 00 126 52 762 15 511 1,190 39.8 800 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371	0 0 0 36.241 71.568 15.000 41.911 0 42.175 171.010 1,897.585 2,275,701 5,158.659 6,771 437.579 74.126 5,677,135 2.259.660 120.000 0 01.911 773,702 379,414	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 0 005 5 309 0 5 295 8 843 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,890 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,738,250 29,235 30,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 148 9 4 0 15	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,565 39.6 603 654.59 736 244 375 314 417 244 372		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -0.80 -2 5 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLIETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALERI JUNE MELZIN Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NEK OEK AEK AEK ALMUTAHED KIS BUURYAN AUB	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575 427	0 0 0 36.241 71,568 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,907,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 6,771 437,579 74,120 5,677,135 2,299,660 120,000 100,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 0 005 5 309 0 5 295 8 843 1,484,608 2,517,548 7,892 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,738,250 29,235 30,393 187,874 141,296 2,907,499 55,018	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 148 9 4 0 15 44 17 305 50	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,965 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 375 314 417 244 372 582 430		0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -0.80 -2 5 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTURIERID ALRAI JIJVAI MEZZAN CONSUMER SERVICE ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GBK CBK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BUIRG KFIN BOUBYAN AUB ITHMR WARBABANK	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575	0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 8,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,399,660 120,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409 8,638,917 7,308,274 3,911,470	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 8 005 5 309 0 5 595 8 843 1,448,001 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,892 17,233 59,545 2,792,218 1,736,250 29,225 39,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,907,499 55,018 1,899,638 306,034 1,009,631	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 146 9 4 0 15 15 15 16 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,165 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 377 244 377 244 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2 266		0 0 0 0 1 0 -1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80 -2 5 0 0 -2.10 -1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALERI JUNA MEZZAN Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GBK CBK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BUHG KFIN BOUBYAN AUB ITHMR	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575 427 219 40.9	0 0 0 36.241 71,568 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,907,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 6,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,359,660 120,000 105,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409 8,636,917 7,308,274	0 0 0 4 501 5 592 8 005 5 309 0 5 265 8 843 1,484,608 2,617,548 7,892 17,233 59,545 2,792,218 1,738,250 29,235 39,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,907,499 55,018 1,899,838 306,034	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 148 9 4 0 15 44 17 305 50 139 250	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,565 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 375 314 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2		0 0 0 0 0 1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -0.80 -2 5 0 0 -0.10 -0.00 -0
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTURIERID ALRAI Jiyad Mezzan Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GBK CBK ALMUTAHED KIB BURG KFIN BOUBYAN AUB ITHMR WARBABANK Banks	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 60 124 50 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60	0 0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 8,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,399,660 120,000 105,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409 8,636,917 7,308,274 3,911,470 28,825,294	0 0 0 4 501 5 582 8 005 5 309 0 5 585 8 843 1,448,608 17,233 59,545 2,792,218 1,738,250 29,235 39,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,007,499 55,019 1,899,638 306,034 1,039,631 8,380,193	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 146 9 4 0 15 147 15 15 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,165 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 376 314 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2 266 967.25		0 0 0 0 1 0 -1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80 -2 5 0 0 -4.10 -1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTURIERID ALRAI Jiyad Mezzan Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NBK GBK CDK ABK ALMUTAHED KIB BURG KFIN BOUBYAN AUB ITHMR WARBABANK Banks	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 99.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575 427 219 40.9 264	0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 8,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,398,660 120,000 105,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,003,337 128,409 8,636,917 7,308,274 3,911,470 28,825,284	0 0 0 4,501 5,582 6,005 5,309 0 5,265 8,843 1,448,608 7,860 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,736,250 29,235 39,125 0 38,303 187,874 141,296 2,907,499 55,018 1,899,038 306,034 1,039,031 8,380,193	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 146 9 4 0 15 147 15 15 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,965 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 376 376 314 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2 206 967.25		0 0 0 0 1 0 -19 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80 -2 5 0 0 -10 0 0 10 0 0 0 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLIETY EYAS IFAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALIRAI Jiyad Mezzan Consumer Service ZAIN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NSK CSK CSK ABK ALMUTAHED KIS BURG KFIN BOUGYAN AUB ITHMR WARBABANK Banks	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 124 50 60 124 50 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60	0 0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 8,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,399,660 120,000 105,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409 8,636,917 7,308,274 3,911,470 28,825,294	0 0 0 4 501 5 582 8 005 5 309 0 5 585 8 843 1,448,608 17,233 59,545 2,792,218 1,738,250 29,235 39,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,007,499 55,019 1,899,638 306,034 1,039,631 8,380,193	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 146 9 4 0 15 147 15 15 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,165 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 376 314 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2 266 967.25		0 0 0 0 1 0 -1 0 -39 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80 -2 5 0 0 -4.10 -1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CABLIETY EYAS FAHR OULAFUEL MUNTAZAHAT JAZEERA SOOR FUTUREKID ALRAI JIYAN OOREDOO AAN VIVA Telecommunicatio NSK OSK CBK ALMUTAHED KIS BUHG KITIN BOUBYAN AUS THMR WARBABANK Banks KINS GINS	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 125 78 535 124 0.0 124 50 740 501 1,165 39.0 801 730 243 370 0.0 415 242 371 575 427 219 40.9 264	0 0 0 36.241 71,968 15,000 41,911 0 42,175 171,010 1,997,585 2,275,701 5,158,659 6,771 437,579 74,126 5,677,135 2,359,660 120,000 105,000 0 91,911 773,702 379,414 5,010,337 128,409 8,636,917 7,308,274 3,911,470 28,825,284	0 0 0 4,501 5,582 6,005 5,309 0 5,265 8,843 1,446,608 7,890 17,233 59,545 2,702,218 1,736,250 29,235 39,125 0 38,393 187,874 141,296 2,907,499 55,018 1,899,038 300,034 1,009,631 8,380,193	0 0 0 0 13 5 1 12 0 8 8 177 228 367 9 11 47 434 146 9 4 0 15 5 147 306 5 148 9 4 17 13 148 9 148 148 148 148 148 148 148 148 148 148	67 34.9 870 275 127 79 535 128 123 125 52 751 1062.02 507 1,965 39.6 803 654.59 736 244 377 374 417 244 372 582 430 220 42.2 206 967.25		0 0 0 0 1 0 -19 3 0 -1 0 -34 -4.80 -2 5 0 0 0 1 0 0 -1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

51

355

57,293

0.0

WETHAQ

			Value (KWD Number of 1			2	21,597,165 3,728			
	8	201.7		Trades			- 8			
curity	High	Low	Volume	Value (KO)	Trades	Last	c	range		
OKOUK :	50	49.0	691367 2,723,077	34,229 177,150	25 53	49.4 66	¥	1.6		
RC	88	85	113	10	2	88	-	0.0		
RE RE	124	120	2,929,351 5,300	1,945	68	122	=	0.0		
W	410	365	44,510	16,743	5	410	-	0.0		
REEC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	153	-	0.0		
ASSALEH	44.8	44.8	400	18	1	44.8	-	0.0		
RABREC	37.0 40.9	36.0 40.1	2,002,577 572,995	73,784	65 29	40.6	A	0.9		
ABANEE	791	790	80,500	63,668	12	791	A	6.0		
UAZZAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	88	-	0.0		
VESTORS C	32.8	31.3	2,545,591 419,954	61,641 13,422	12	32.1	A .	0.4		
TUARIA	93	91	3,810,060	350.362	95	91	Y	-1.4		
NAM	42.0	42.0	3	0	1	42.0	-	0.0		
AYANRE DAR	0.0	81	29,000	2,349	0	72	*	0.0		
AIRADA	41.5	40.0	339.950	13,840	12	40.0	7	-1.0		
AZAYA	114	113	2,069,156	234,299	50	114	-	0.0		
EWR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	70	-	0.0		
JARA VAMEER	37.0	34.0	2,701,980	95,315	96	36.3	-	2.0		
RKAN	83	83	90,250	7,493	3	83	7	-2.9		
RGAN	0.0	0.0	0 001 182	0	0	180	-	0.0		
BYAAR UNSHAAT	27.8 60	26.7 58	8,981,183	244,949	158	60	A	0.8		
RSTDUBAI	50	49.5	2,316,450	115,668	77	50	-	0.0		
BT.	49.0	48.5	1,136,219	55,370	34	49.0		0.8		
EAM ENA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	381	-	0.0		
ENA MUDON	37.9	36.7	88,851	3,300	6	37.9	Ā	0.0		
ARAKEZ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	44.9	-	0.0		
EMAL.	71	66	204,500	13,624	12	66	*	-0.5		
N J nal Estate	85	83	58,250 34,282,205	1,992,766	895	968.39	4	3.10		
		-742								
NV NOIL	112	109	319,102 80,020	35,292 14,679	7	184	A.	2.0		
A	38.9	35.7	2,374,800	88,339	73	37.8	-	1.8		
NV	116	114	3,275,070	376,289	80	115	-	0.0		
PROJ	371	365	562,846	207,631	34	370		5.0		
DAST ECH	46.5 50	45.8	2,458,472	99,411	68	45.9	¥	1.6		
RZAN	37.3	35.5	927,902	33,231	36	36.0		0.5		
ARKAZ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	109	-	0.0		
MEFIC JAMAN	49.5	49.4	86,400	4,209	2	28.5 49.5	-	0.0		
OLA	47.4	46.7	330,256	15,502	10	47.2	A	0.2		
MAL	15.7	15.4	820,600	12,788	22	15.5	*	-0.2		
H	34.6	34.0	977,499	33,360	37	34.0	-	0.0		
KYAN KYANINV	47.4 50	46.1	1,188,144	143,092 58,609	47	49.0	¥	0.5		
90UL	59	50	800	47	1.	59	-	0.0		
nc .	46.5	42.0	38,085	1,081	9	45.0		3.5		
H H	69	67	671,250	45,791	17	69	-	1.0		
NCAP	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	45.8	-	0.0		
ADAR	19.2	19.0	389,743	7,416	31	19.0	-	0.0		
DEERA	32.1 53	30.0 52	235,175	7,323	11	31.0	*	-0.9		
CTTITAB	37.0	36.0	96,288 236,010	4,983 8,497	0	36.8	-	0.6		
MADINA	45.5	45.1	31,400	1,416	4	45.4	A	0.3		
OOR	65	60	984,121	58,684	74	60	٧	-23		
KCH	310	305	5,500	1,680	0	310 158	-	0.0		
SHC	36.2	35.7	3,597,314	129,504	74	36.1	Ā	0.3		
SIYA	47.4	45.6	60,004	2,750	8	47,4	*	-0.5		
NAHC MWAL	37.1 44.5	37.0 40.0	72,000 412,850	2,666 16,536	27	37.0 43.0	*	-0.1		
IMTIAZ	169	167	8,607,787	1,441,216	91	169	À	1.0		
ANAZEL	43.5	42.5	988.600	42,603	44	43.4	A	0.4		
ND IHC	148	147	1,006,350	148,019	36	147	-	0.0		
IHC ENERGY	47.4 38.6	46.5 36.5	30,100	1,400	18	47.4 38.6	A	1.6		
CHC	94	88	392,480	35,229	22	90	*	-1.1		
PPC.	53	52	454,987	23,849	16	52	*	4.1		
OHSSILAT CHOLDING	176	176	14,100	371	- 6	176	-	-1.6		
FH	101	157	67,006	10,639	9	159		1.0		
OVEST	125	123	375,308	46,487	23	125	4	1.0		
nancial Service			37,771,929	3,321,960	1,144	609.52		0.60		
vestment Instru	ments		0	0	0	1081.97	-	0.00		
SC .	165	165	3,077	508	1	165		4.0		
906	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	126	_	0.0		
AYATCOMM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	0.0		
schnology			3,077	508	10	632.21		3.90		
ANAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0		
TAQ .	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	105	-	0.0		
PFECT	63	30.3	20,612	1,403	1	63	-	0.0		
ASAKEN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	75	=	0.0		
ALQAN .	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	-	0.0		
EID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	-	0.0		
IDAN HURAYA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,220	-	0.0		
RAN	41.8	35.0	115,050	4,424	18	41.8	A	4.4		
erallel Market	1506	0.000	157,925	6,451	21	1122.51	4	-9.90		

	N	"Fín	ancia	l Mar Repo	kets rt	ait	وطني NBI	
			bal St				-	
	94430		450		2,3		Delty	Yearly
Index	Previou	us Close	Last	Price	Che	nde.	Performance	Performano
Dow Jones		50.73		74.51	-76.22	•	-0.35	9.67
NASDAQ SBP 500		0.01		5.55	-5.39		-0.09	15.48
Financial Times		3.98		5.80	1.82		0.02	2.30
DAX		65.19		15.67	-29.52	-	-0.24	5.70
CAC 40	5,11	4.15	5,09	9.72	-14,43		-0.28	4.88
Swiss	8,87	4.35	8,91	9.35	45.00		0.51	8.51
Nikkel 225	19,4	70.41	19,3	93.13	-77.28	•	-0.40	1.46
Topis		7.36		5.19	-2.17	•	-0.14	5.04
Hang Seng		1.99	-	6.99	107.11	+	0.40	23.43
Straits Times	3,23	50000	THE REAL PROPERTY.	No. of Concession,	-5.00	_	-0.15	12.71
	in.	ME	NA Sto	ock In	dices			
Index	Previou	us Close	Last	Price	Ou	inge	Delty Performance	Yearly Performanc
Kowait	4.90	0.58	6.91	3.36	12.78		0.19	16,70
Saudi Arabia		9.24		0.56	31.32	-	0.43	-0.02
Dutail		5.19		5.13	-20.26	-	-0.56	2.39
Abu Dhabi	4,41	2.63	4,49	4.90	2.27		0.05	-1.18
Bahrain	1,31	2.34	1,30	9.79	-2.55	•	-0.19	7.53
Qutar		13.93		5.18	-68.75	•	-0.75	-12.48
Oman		3.19	-	3.80	30.61		0.62	-15.04
Jordan Jordan		15.62		4.99	-0.63	-	-0.00	-5,29
Egypt		26.29		13.25	86.96	-	0.67	5.52
Maracca				46.67	27.91	-	0.23	5,17
Tunisia	6,23	13,19	6,23	2.10	-1.09		-0.02	13.56
	Glob	al Cu	rrenci	es Exc	hange	Rate		
	Kuwaiti	-			Sterling	Swhis	at any or	Australian
Currency	Dinar	Saudi Riyal	-	Euro	Pound	Franc	Yes	Dollar
Kowalt Dinar		12.3082	3.2960	2.8006	2.5560	3.1856	359.46	4.1532
Saudi Riyal US Dollar	0.08125	1 7141	0.2678	0.2275	0.2077	0.2588	29.20	0.3374
Euro .	0.30340	1.7343	1,1769	0.8497	0.7755	1,1374	109.06	1.2601
Sterling Pound	0.39123	4,8154	1,2895	1.0958	4.7124	1,2467	140.64	1.6255
Swiss Franc	0.31392	3.8637	1.0347	0.8792	0.8021	110	112.86	1.3038
Japanese Yen	0.00278	0.0342	0.0092	0.0078	0.0071	0.0089	3	0.0116
Australian Dollar	0.24078	2.9635	0.7936	0.6742	0.6152	0.7670	86.55	
	MEN	NA Cui	rrencie	es Exc	hange	Rate		
Currency	US Bollar	Kuweiti Dollar	Saudi Riyal	Bahraini Dinar	Qatari Riyal	Omani Riyal	Emirates Dirham	Egyptian Pound
US Dollar		0.30340	3.7343	0.3743	3.6265	0.3834	3.4572	17.6144
Kowalti Dinar	3.2960		12.3082	1.2337	11.9529	1,2638	12.0541	58.0567
Saudi Riyal	0.2678	0.00125	0.4217	0.1002	0.9711	0.1027	0.9794	4.7169
Bahruini Dinar Qatari Riyal	0.2757	0.81058	1.0297	0.1032	9,6888	0.1057	9.7708	47,0596
Omaré Riyal	2.6080	0.79128	9.7392	0.9762	9,4580	30.7937	9.5381	45.9390
Emirates Dirham	0.2734	0.08296	1.0211	0.1023	0.9916	0.1048		4.8164
Egyptian Pound	0.0568	0.01722	0.2120	0.0212	0.2059	0.0218	0.2076	
		Glo	bal Int	erest	Rates			
Currency	1/Week	1-Month		with	Account to	onth	10	ear.
Kovaiti Dinar	1.19	1.56		75	_	00	-	31
US Dollar	1.19	1.23	_	31		45	_	72
Euro	-0.40	-0.40		37		30	_	.20
Sterling Pound	0.23	0.25	0.			65	_	59
Switzs Franc Australian Dollar	1.56	1,63	_	61	_	63	_	.50 68
Japanese Yest	-0.02	-0.03		03		.01	-	11
aii .	No.		obal B	and V	elds		N.	
Country		OII.	Doar D			Year	20	Year
United States		31		75		10	_	77
Europe		n	_	29		39	_	14
United Kingdom	0.	20	0.	47	1.	06	1.	72
			Comm	noditie	es			
Special Control	55/22	(2)11	50	215	500	350	Delty	Yearly
Index	Previo	is Close	Last	Price	Chu	anger .	Performance	Performent
Kowait Oil	49	.33	49	.36	0.03		0.06	-7,87
Breed .	51	.12	52	.60	1.48		2.90	-6.92
	_		4.00	2.0		-	0.24	400.00
West Texas	48	.64	48.	.34	-0.10	•	-0.21	-10.51

1284.10

16.93

1287.94

17.03

3.84

0.10

0.30

0.57

10.30

5.87

VIVA LAUNCHES THE NEW HUAWEI P10 FOR KD 12.5 PLAN

'MORE' STUNNING PORTRAITS



KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, launched the new Huawei P10 device starting KD 12.5 plan that gives the customers KD 7 credit, unlimited VIVA to VIVA voice calls, 5 GB Internet and 300 local SMS.

VIVA is the only operator in Kuwait to offer the new Huawei P10 which sets a new benchmark in style and craftsmanship. Customers can now enjoy the many exciting new features, including the new Leica Dual Camera 2.0 Pro edition that produces stunning artistic portrait shots with 20x12 MP. In addition to 3D facial detection for stunning portraits, ultra-memory for higher speed, double download speed and accurate GPS with 4X4 MIMO LTE and Wi-Fi antenna.

As well as redefining portrait photography, the device boasts remarkable technology and design features by introducing the powerful Kirin 960 processor, an all-new EMUI 5.1, as well as a fingerprint sensor on the front. With 3,200 mAh battery power for the new Huawei P10, smartphone supports Huawei SuperCharge technology.

The low voltage, low temperature fast charging solution comes with a super safe 5-gate protection mechanism, which offers real-time voltage, current and temperature monitoring to make charging not only fast but safe.

VIVA is the fastest-growing telecom operator in Kuwait. Launched in December 2008, VIVA makes things Possible for its customers by transforming communication, information and entertainment experiences. The company has rapidly established an unrivalled position in the market through its customer centric approach. VIVA's quest is to be the mobile brand of choice in Kuwait by being transparent, engaging, energetic and fulfilling. VIVA continues to take a considerable share of the market by offering an innovative range of best value products, services and content propositions; a state of the art, nationwide network and world-class service. VIVA offers internet speeds of more than 100 Mbps, due to the implementation of the most advanced fourth generation (4G LTE) network in Kuwait resulting in superior coverage, performance and reliability.



GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-DANAH DAILY DRAWS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank held its Al-Danah daily draws on 20 August 2017 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 13 August - 17 August 2017. The Al-Danah daily draws include draws every working day for two prizes of KD 1,000 per winner.

The winners are:

(Sunday 13/8): Mohammad Hasan Abdulrahman Ishaq, Amr Ibrahim Mohammad Hasan

(Monday 14/8): Nawriah Matrood Amamah, Zainab Mohammed Mandani Mohammed

(Tuesday 15/8): Jarah Sagheer Thamer Al-Fhadli, Najem Abed Roomi Al-Khaldi (Wednesday 16/8): Ali Khalid Saradar

Hamadah, Faisal Faleh Ayed Al-Subaiei (Thursday 17/8): Ismaeil Mohammad Johar Abdullah, Nayef Abdulaziz

Mohammed Darweesh Gulf Bank's Al-Danah 2017 draw lineup includes daily draws (2 winners per working day and each receive KD1,000). Al-Danah's 3rd Quarterly Draw for the prize of KD500,000 will be held on 28 September. The final Al-Danah draw for KD 1 million will be held on 11 January, 2018 whereby the Al-Danah millionaire

will be announced. Gulf Bank encourages you to increase your chances by depositing more into your Ai-Danan account, immediately from any local bank, using the new ePay (Self-Pay) service, which is available on Gulf Bank's online and mobile banking.

Five reasons why the Al-Danah account is the best:

· Kuwait's single biggest yearly cash prize of KD 1 million and the largest international bank prize according to **Guinness World Records**

· Kuwait's biggest quarterly cash prizes, up to KD500,000

• Two winners of KD1,000 every work-

The most chances to win

 Only bank that transfers your chances to win from the previous year to the current year only Al-Danah makes millionaires.

Al-Danah also offers a number of unique services including: the Al-Danah Deposit Only ATM card which helps account holders deposit their money at their convenience; as well as the Al-Danah calculator to help customers calculate their chances of becoming an Al-Danah winner.

Gulf Bank's Al-Danah account is open to Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti residents of Kuwait, Customers require a minimum of KD200 to open an account and the same amount must be maintained as for customers to be eligible for the upcoming Al-Danah draws. If the customer's account balance falls below KD200 at any given time, a KD2 charge will be made on a monthly basis to the account until the minimum balance is met. Customers who open an account and/ or deposit more will enter the daily draw within two days.



ALL-NEW MEGANE BY RENAULT AL-BABTAIN ARRIVES IN KUWAIT

C Sedan sets the benchmark in compact saloon segment

KUWAIT: Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al-Babtain Co, the authorized agent of Renault in the State of Kuwait is proud to announce the arrival of its all new MEGANE, a C Sedan, thereby expanding the Renault range. Designed to accommodate customers who enjoy success with a distinct social appeal, the new C-segment model brings with it record breaking roominess and a boot volume reaching 503dm3.

Strengthening the brand's position in a market where compact saloons remain the preferred choice among many, the New Renault MEGANE is equipped with generous space for its occupants i.e. dimensions of 4.63m long and 1.81m wide, and a record wheelbase in its class of 2.71m. Owing to its dynamic styling and advanced features, the new MEGANE represents the next level in the compact saloon category.

Renault MEGANE comes with a 1.6-litre engine, 115hp designed to enhance driving enjoyment and reduce fuel consumption

The new MEGANE shares many styling features with its larger sibling Renault TALISMAN, including its lighting signature which is visible night and day like the front C-shaped lighting signature features LED 3D-effect light guides & the rear LED lights that form a unique horizontal 3D-effect signature featuring Edge Light technology. Travelling comfort is further enhanced by the careful attention that has been paid to the interior finish, to the quality of the soft-tothe-touch materials, which are within easy reach of the driver and passengers. The new MEGANE presents a wide range of unique features ranging from a configurable 7-inch TFT colour screen instrument display and the R-LINK 2 multimedia tablet available in two formats (7inch landscape format, or 8.7-inch portrait format), as well as MULTI-SENSE. With the assistance of MULTI-SENSE technology, the driver is able to adjust the engine sound with a choice between three different settings: Neutral, Comfort and Sport.

Ensuring complete customer satisfaction is met, another feature that sets the high-end model apart is Easy Trunk Access (ETA), a handsfree boot opening system that works by detecting movement underneath the rear bumper. Additionally, the new MEGANE is equipped with Blind Spot Warning (BSW) to ensure safe over-



taking maneuvers.

The new MEGANE also benefits from the very latest driving aid (ADAS) technologies that also equip Renault's high-end models (Talisman, new KOLEOS) like Easy Park Assist which caters for three different types of parking: parallel, perpendicular and angle; Rear View Camera & Front, rear and side parking sensors, cruise con-

trol & speed limiter. The new MEGANE is also furnished with the latest-generation electronic stability control (ESC), traction control, braking assist, electronic brake force distribution, hill start assist, and tire pressure monitoring system as standard equipment.

The new MEGANE starts from KD 4,350 only and comes with a 10 year warranty in addition to free registration and third party insurance. To experience a whole new level of the dynamic compact saloon in Kuwait, customers are urged to visit its showroom in Al-Rai.



'KFH TAKAFUL' OPENS CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER AT ALI **AL-GHANEM & SONS GARAGE**

KUWAIT: KFH Takaful Insurance Co "KFH Takaful" announced the inauguration of a service center for its customers at Ali Al-Ghanem & Sons Garage - Shuwaikh. The center incarnates the company's interest in providing distinguished services to its unique customers through continuous collaboration with automotive agents to provide a faster and easier services to related customers.

The center shall serve company's customers in case of accidents. The center shall receive customers and complete all procedures without them having to refer to the company. This process shall save customers time and effort. Service will be provided as per the highest safety and efficiency stan-

This new center is one of the centers which KFH-Takaful has placed under the disposal of its customers as per cooperation agreements concluded with highly reputable automotive agents in the market in order to facilitate procedures and save customers time and effort for customers and repair cars in a professional manner as per the highest standards under the warranty of the agent.. Accordingly the customer is able to complete all his car repair procedures at the center located at the concerned garage.

The center participates in providing high class service as per the highest safety and security standards, thus enhancing the concept of customer service at the company.







BURGAN BANK RECEIVES STP AWARD 2016 FROM CITIBANK

KUWAIT: Burgan Bank, Kuwait's most dynamic bank, is pleased to announce that it has recently been granted Citibank Straight through Processing Excellence Award in recognition of its secure and commendable paying processing services. The prestigious award by one of the most prominent international banks further demonstrates Burgan Bank's commitment to technological advances, operational excellence and unparalleled customer service.

Straight through Processing (STP) allows for the entire trade process and payment transactions to be conducted electronically without the need for re-keying or human intervention, thus ensuring quality and accuracy in delivering commercial payments.

Venkat Menon, Group Chief Operations & Technology Officer said: "We are pleased by this distinction as it further recognizes our advanced technological infrastructure, matching business and regulatory needs and delivering an enhanced banking experience. We remain committed to investing in the latest technologies and in our people to ensure fast, accurate and reliable transfers and other banking operations."

Citibank Straight through Processing Excellence Award 2016 is the first for Burgan Bank. Previously, it has also been awarded, for several consecutive years, the Commerzbank Award and the JP Morgan Chase Award, in recognition of its outstanding straight-through results by properly formatting their SWIFT payments.

Held annually, the Citibank Award aims to ensure the highest standard of banking solutions are practiced across

ria in assessing financial institutions' eligibility for the award.

Established in 1977, Burgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank



sidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch networks.

The Bank has continuously improved its performance over the years through an expanded revenue structure, diversified funding sources, and a strong capital base. The adoption of state-of-the-art services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Burgan Bank's brand has been created on a foundation of real values - of trust, commitment, excellence and progression, to remind us of the high standards to which we aspire. 'People come first' is the foundation on which its products and services are

developed. The bank was re-certified with the prestigious ISO 9001:2008, making it the first bank in the GCC, and the only bank in Kuwait to receive such accreditation for the third consecutive year. The Bank also has to its credit the distinction of being the only Bank in Kuwait to have won the JP Morgan Chase Quality Recognition Award for twelve consecutive years.

Burgan Bank, a subsidiary of KIPCO (Kuwait Projects Company), is a strongly positioned regional Bank in the

KAR GROUP AND SIEMENS TO OPERATE KHORMALA PLANT IN IRAQ

pany's commitment to supporting Iraq's power sector, Siemens has expanded the company's existing service agreement with KAR Group in Iraq to provide comprehensive operations and maintenance (O&M) for two newly added units "SSC5-2000E" at Khormala power plant in Kurdistan region. The approximately 930-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired power plant meets almost 30 percent of the power demand targeted by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), supplying more than three million Iraqi people with reliable electricity.

The extension of the service agreement is set to improve operational flexibility, availability, and performance of gas turbines for the next 15 years. The agreement between Siemens and KAR Group aligns with Iraqi energy production goals. According to the Mena Power Report 2017, the current power demand in Iraq stands at 21GW and is

KURDISTAN: Demonstrating the com- Kurdistan Regional Government plans to increase capacity by building new power plants and increasing the efficiency of existing facilities.

> "With more than 20 years of experience in O&M of power plants, we currently manage approximately 2,800 MW across the Middle East and North Africa region and over 16,000 MW globally. Our global resources and fleet expertise enable us to provide complete plant services and management," said Gianluigi Di Giovanni, Senior **Executive Vice President of Siemens** Power Generation Services in the Middle East.

"The plant is truly a landmark project, supporting the development goals of the Kurdistan region. That's why we are proud to expand our collaboration with KAR Group to deliver reliable and stable electricity supply to people's homes." The Khormala multi-year agreement with Siemens covers the operation and maintenance of six growing faster than supply. The SGT5-2000E gas turbines, six SGen5-

100A generators along with the associated auxiliary and ancillary systems. It also includes the implementation of Siemens Power Diagnostics, which is part of the company's "Digital Services for Energy" portfolio, to improve asset visibility, reliability and availability.

Siemens data-driven services enable valuable data from different assets to be analyzed. From there, data is transformed into actionable insights-such as diagnostics, troubleshooting and condition forecasting-that can help improve plant reliability and reduce downtime. In addition, the data processed by Power Diagnostics(r) can help balance maintenance costs, improve inspection intervals and provide invaluable insights into operational risks.

With over 40 years of presence in the country, Siemens' advanced technologies are perfect fit to support Iraq's development plans. Today, Siemens' technologies are responsible for generating more than 30 percent of the elec-



tricity distributed across the country. Siemens has managed the operation and maintenance of Khormala since 2013 under a multi-year services agree-

ment. Currently, the company has more than 40 personnel on-site managing the power plant on behalf of KAR Group.

APPLE UNDER PRESSURE TO DAZZLE AS MARKET SLOWS

SAN FRANCISCO: As Apple and Samsung gear up to launch new flagship smartphones, the market leaders are seeking a wow factor that can help them fend off challenges from rising Chinese-based manufacturers. Apple is under particular pressure to dazzle as the culture-changing California iPhone maker looks for a way to maintain its image as an innovation leader in a global market showing signs of slowing. "Clearly, Apple wants to do something dif-

innovation, say analysts.

Some reports say the new iPhone will include a high-quality, edge-to-edge screen with a notch in the top for an extra camera supporting 3D facial recognition. Some speculate that the back of the new handset will be glass and will offer wireless charging. "We are expecting a major design refresh on Apple," GlobalData analyst Avi Greengart said. "That has been a sore point, especially in China. People are looking to show

the second quarter of 2017, as lenge the iPhone "to be a little market leaders Samsung and Apple consolidated their positions, an IDC survey showed. The South Korean giant maintained the top spot with a 23.3 percent market share, while Apple held onto second place with 12 percent, according to IDC. Huawei was the third-largest vendor, with an 11.3 percent market share. The Chinese electronics giant closed the gap with Apple, adding two percentage points to market share

louder this year that it has been." Meanwhile, the Google-made

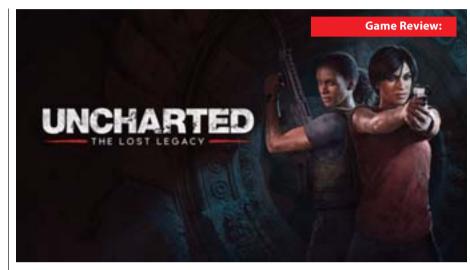
Pixel smartphones that debuted last year will likely get a second generation in the months ahead. New Pixels are expected to have richer screens and an additional front speaker, and to follow the trend of adding a second camera on the back for depth-sensing. Gartner analyst Brian Blau suggested that, aside from Apple trying to wow with an anniversary iPhone, flagship handsets launched this year would have incremental improvements, not radical transformations.

"There will be a small number of new players, and that always brings excitement," Blau said. New entries include the "Essential" smartphone from a startup founded by Andy Rubin, credited with being the father of Android software. Essential, whose backers include internet colossus Amazon and China's Tencent Holdings, began selling its \$699 handset this month, touting the handset's ceramic and titanium construction and the ability to add accessories on a magnetic

Augmenting reality

Some analysts say the upcoming handsets may showcase the ability to handle augmented reality (AR) as a way to revive interest. Google has pushed augmented reality with a "Tango" phone, and enabled Pixel handsets to be used for virtual reality with "Daydream" gear. And Apple has made an AR kit available to developers that could lead to iPhone apps.

"The standard AR demos we have seen for years as a future thing-seeing how new furniture looks in your living room or virtual coupons hanging in mid-air in supermarket aisles-we will see this fall," Greengart predicted. Smartphone makers are also expected to do more with voice recognition and commands, making handsets more attractive in places where literacy rates are low but mobile internet access is avail-



UNCHARTED: THE LOST LEGACY LOST AND FOUND

eam chemistry abounds in Uncharted: The Lost Legacy, which is not surprising for a side story to a series famous for its Al-partner-driven gameplay. A decade's worth of adventures and a conclusive epilogue might place franchise mainstay Nathan Drake on permanent retirement, so now is as fitting a moment as any to wander and fight through a new Uncharted from a fresh perspective. With a roster of characters as large as Uncharted's, developer Naughty Dog had a wealth of promising pairings to choose from.

After playing through The Lost Legacy, it's hard to imagine a better Drake-less pairing than the treasure hunter Chloe Frazer and ex-mercenary Nadine Ross. Not only do they prove themselves as capable adventurers, but also entertaining ones with the kind of chemistry that doesn't rely on Nathan Drake-inspired wisecracks. The duo's vastly different backgrounds and motivations create a dynamic ripe for a classic apprehensive alliance and the tensions that come with it. Seeking an artifact called the Tusk of Ganesh in the Western Ghats of India, the pair find themselves racing against Asav, a perpetually angry warlord who places highly in the Uncharted villain ruthlessness power rankings.

It's also a quest rich in exposition and substance, with lot of credit given to the well-written banter between Chloe and Nadine. Not only is it engaging to hear them bring down their emotional barriers of mistrust, but the small talk helps fill in the blanks since the events of Uncharted 4. Move over, the dialogue eventually reveals the meaning of the game's subtitle, which shines a light on Chloe's personal drive to find the tusk. Just the fact that her history differs from Nathan Drake's opens the door for new insights on recurring Uncharted themes, namely the dangers of ambition and the relationships that can suffer as a result. These are messages that adventure genre fans can appreciate even without a connection to the series' past.

The dense vegetation of India and its peppering of ruins reflect Naughty Dog's amusingly consistent attachment to jungles in Uncharted. In The Lost Legacy, the studio doubles down on tropical forests with striking results. The lush surroundings and detailed remains of ancient civilizations are fitting trivia-laden conversation starters for Chloe and Nadine. And despite that The Lost Legacy is shorter than even the first Uncharted-six hours compared to eight-these insightful archeological chats about Hindu mythology don't feel forced

Such refined moments are indicative of The Lost Legacy's impressive conciseness, packing a ton of Uncharted history in its moment-to-moment experiences. For those new to Uncharted, that translates to a lot of death-defying stunts any given minute. Moreover, the stealth tutorial is fittingly brief, chase sequences are consistently riveting, and climbing sections never feel drawn out. All the while there's an ebb and flow to both the pacing of the narrative and how gameplay sections are spread out. In other words, for every instance of high intensity, there's a well-placed opportunity to take a breather.

The jungles also provide the ideal setting for Naughty Dog to expand and refine its open, free-roaming designs previously seen in the much praised Madagascar map of A Thief's End. This new open map-which is the setting of two of The Lost Legacy's chaptersdemands a lot of driving, but going over your own beaten paths doesn't feels like a chore. This is thanks to the wealth of timeworn man-made remains worth exploring and-more often than not-climbing. While you're challenged with navigating up these structures, thoughtful level design ensures the way down is an easy and quick descent.

For a game that originated as a more modest expansion to Uncharted 4 with the projected size and scale of The Last of Us: Left Behind, this section alone illustrates why Chloe and Nadine's adventure warranted a larger production. Both expansive and confined areas prove memorable for the host of combat encounters that invite player ingenuity and improvisation. Many of The Lost Legacy's shootouts offer a wealth of emergent and new gunplay opportunities after every death and retry. It's not a mere race of exchanging gunfire; there are plenty of chances to outflank Asav's army by making use of columns and elevated platforms rather than fighting enemies head-on.

It's a showcase of easily executable simple pleasures, like striking enemies from above and knocking out a soldier from around a corner. That's not to say there are no other ways to outwit these squads. Clearing a fully-staffed patrol with a dozen discreetly-thrown grenades with zero detection isn't only possible but also a satisfying rush. Playing as a ninja and triggering no alert states is even harder, but many of the combat areas are large and well-designed enough that such gratifying outcomes are possible. Just don't expect many-if anyopportunities to play the pacifist; the more linear levels require full sweeps and takedowns of whole crews.

There's never been a more even mix of puzzles, combat, and exploration in the Uncharted series than in The Lost Legacy. While the series has had its share of dry switch-activation chores disguised as puzzles, this game keeps such sections to a minimum. This new batch of quandaries will stump you long enough to make the feeling of solving them rewarding. And sinces these obstacles are visually themed on the Hindu gods that are the focus of the duo's quest, no prior Uncharted experience is necessary

to solve these puzzles. Unfortunately, adequate time was not available to evaluate the game's multiplayer and wave-based Survival modes. As these are the exact game types of Uncharted 4's online component-that use the same servers no less-you can expect a level of chaotic gunplay and melee combat not found in The Lost Legacy's story mode. A contrast to the less aggressive enemies in the campaign, fighting against real-life players is a veritable free-for-all where you're using everything

from rope swinging to RPGs to survive. The common supernatural powers found in sought-after artifacts, the motivation of earning gold to summon Al support soldiers, and a time-sucking progression system adds depth to what would've been an otherwise forgettable adversarial online mode. The Lost Legacy doesn't signify a new era for Uncharted so much as it presents an opportunity to show the series from new perspectives, for which Chloe and the Al-controlled Nadine are perfectly capable. With a new playable treasure hunter comes new settings and character motivations, wrapped in a comfortingly familiar Uncharted package.

The thrill of playing through set pieces that call back scenes from the earlier games is all the more enhanced when seen through the gameplay mechanics introduced in A Thief's End. The initial hours of The Lost Legacy give an "Uncharted Greatest Hits" vibe, but it grows into a more nuanced, clever experience, ranking among the best in the series while also making its own mark as a standalone Uncharted that isn't anchored to Nathan Drake's harrowing exploits.-www.gamespot.com

ferent for the 10th anniversary" of the iPhone, NPD Group analyst Stephen Baker said.

Baker said this is a challenge for Apple because "it is still going to be a flat piece of glass and the other things we talk about around a phone." Apple is widely expected to unveil the latest iteration of the iPhone in September, while smartphone market leader Samsung is holding an August 23 unveiling likely to launch its Galaxy Note 8 handset. The two market leaders are seeing rivals, mainly from China, chip away at market share, creating pressure to showcase

off a status symbol, so it needs to look different than Huawei or Xiaomi, and I think it will."

Apple has lost ground in the Chinese market, with revenues down 10 percent in the past quarter from a year earlier in its "Greater China" segment. Some reports say Apple could release as many as three new handsets, including an "iPhone Pro" aimed at capturing the high end of the

Shifting market

Global smartphone sales saw a modest decline of 0.8 percent in from a year earlier, according to the survey.

China-based Oppo and Xiaomi rounded out the top five. Samsung is in stride with a recently released Galaxy 8 flagship phone, seemingly recovered from an embarrassing recall of a Note 7 model due to batteries catching fire. "Samsung had the Note 7 debacle, but it appears their troubles are behind them," Greengart said. "Samsung is doing some amazing things with its display and design." NPD's Baker said he expected "the drum beat of Hero Android phones" that could chal-

MANGROVE-PLANTING DRONES ON A MISSION TO RESTORE MYANMAR DELTA

BANGKOK: Fast-dwindling mangroves in Myanmar's lowlying Ayeyarwady Delta, ravaged by decades of deforestation and conversion of land for agriculture and aquaculture, could find an unlikely savior - drones. Mangroves protect coastlines in the face of storms and rising sea levels, absorb carbon from the atmosphere, and boost fish stocks, experts say.

Yet Myanmar has lost more than 1 million hectares of mangroves since 1980, said Arne Fjortoft, founder and secretary-general of Worldview International Foundation (WIF), which has worked with two local universities to restore mangroves in the Southeast Asian nation since 2012. In the delta region, known as the country's rice bowl, only 16 percent of original mangrove cover remains, Fjortoft, former chairman of Norway's Liberal Party, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation by e-mail

There is an "urgent need" to restore mangroves to stem saltwater invasion of farmland and shoreline erosion due to sea level rise, as well as to protect lives and property from storms and floods in coastal areas, he added. An annual climate risk index by Germanwatch, a green research group, ranked Myanmar - which suffered decades of military rule second among the 10 countries worst-affected by extreme weather from 1996 to 2015.

WIF has so far planted some 3 million mangrove trees, but the task is laborious and time-consuming. Drones, on the other hand, could plant trees 10 times faster and cut costs by half, according to UK-based start-up BioCarbon Engineering (BCE), whose CEO is an ex-NASA engineer who worked on the search for life on Mars. Once the process is fully automated, a single pilot operating six drones can plant up to 100,000 trees per day, BCE says. —Reuters

TECH COMPANY LEADERS WARN AGAINST 'PANDORA'S BOX' OF ROBOTIC WEAPONS

SYDNEY: Elon Musk is leading demands for a global ban on killer robots, warning technological advances could revolutionize warfare and create new "weapons of terror" that target innocent people. The CEO of Tesla and SpaceX ioined more than 100 robotics and artificial intelligence entrepreneurs in signing a letter to the United Nations calling for action to prevent the development of autonomous weapons.

"Lethal autonomous weapons threaten to become the third revolution in warfare," warned the statement signed by 116 tech luminaries, also including Mustafa Suleyman, cofounder of Google's DeepMind. "Once developed, they will permit armed conflict to be fought at a scale greater than ever, and at timescales faster than humans can comprehend," the letter read. The innovators also highlighted the danger that the technology could fall into the wrong hands.

"These can be weapons of terror, weapons that despots and terrorists use against innocent populations, and weapons hacked to behave in undesirable ways," the letter read. "We do not have long to act. Once this Pandora's box is opened, it will be hard to close." Both Musk and British astrophysicist Stephen Hawking have regularly warned of the dangers of artificial intelligence. The renewed plea on autonomous weapons was released as the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Melbourne got underway yesterday, with a record 2,000 of the world's top AI and robotics experts taking part, organizers said.

One expert said autonomous weapons

could make war more likely. "Today the potential loss of human life is a deterrent for conflict initiation and escalation, but when the main casualties are robots, the disincentives change dramatically and the likelihood of conflict increases," Professor Mary-Anne Williams of the University of Technology Sydney. She warned a killer robot ban may be disregarded by some nations but would stop "countries such as Australia from developing defensive killer robots, thereby being vulnerable to other countries and groups that ignore

Another expert said decision made today would help shape the "futures we want". "Nearly every technology can be used for good and bad, and artificial intelligence is no different," said Professor Toby Walsh of the University of New South Wales. Organizers said the conference, which concludes on Friday, has attracted a record number of participants from China, reflecting a push by Beijing to become a leading player in the field.

A key focus of the event will be looking at the challenges of developing fully autonomous AI systems, programme chair Carles Sierra of the Spanish National Research Council said. A UN group on autonomous weapons had been due to meet yesterday but the gathering was postponed until November, according to the group's website. In 2015, thousands of researchers and personalities launched an appeal to ban autonomous weapons.—AFP



PHILIPPINES DEPLOYS TROOPS TO A SECOND PROVINCE TO FIGHT BIRD FLU

MANILA: The Philippines has deployed more troops to cull thousands of chickens one day after the farm ministry confirmed the spread of bird flu into a second province north of the capital, Manila. More than 100 soldiers were sent on Saturday to the towns of Jaen and San Isidro in Nueva Ecija province after two cases of avian flu were detected in quails, army spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Isagani Nato said in a statement.

The new bird flu cases were about 50 km from the initial outbreak in a swampy area of Pampanga that is a sanctuary for migratory birds from China. Authorities have not determined the cause of the bird flu outbreak, nor the exact strain, on which tests are being done in Australia. There has been no case of

human transmission in either outbreak, and early tests have ruled out highly pathogenic H5N1 strain.

Nato said the deployment in Nueva Ecija followed a request from the Bureau of Animal Industry in the Department of Agriculture for assistance "after confirming a new incident of bird flu outbreak". He said troops were now undergoing training on how to do their jobs. The 300 soldiers sent to Pampanga on Thursday culled nearly 30,000 chicken from a farm within a one kilometer radius of the first bird flu outbreak. The farm ministry said about 600,000 chickens on about 36 farms in Pampanga will be culled. It did not say how many will be culled in the second province.—Reuters

S CAROLINA AQUARIUM TO MONITOR ANIMAL BEHAVIOR DURING ECLIPSE

CHARLESTON: Animals in the path of the first total solar eclipse to travel across the United States in 99 years have a big surprise awaiting them today afternoon, biologists say. Zoos, aquariums and other wildlife parks see the celestial phenomenon as a special research opportunity to observe how birds and mammals react when the moon's shadow blots out most of the sun's light in the middle of the day, experts say.

The South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston, the last spot over which the total eclipse will pass during its coast-tocoast journey, will carefully monitor the behavior of creatures during the minute and 36 seconds when the area goes dark. Biologists have set up video cameras in the Salt Marsh Aviary and Mountain Forest exhibits to gather data. In general, researchers are not particularly concerned that the sudden mid-afternoon darkness will upset animals too much even though the eclipse's approach will come as a complete surprise to them.

"A little bit of excitement in the days of the animals is a good thing," said aviculturist Monty Wallace. "You don't want the same thing happening to you every day." Past solar eclipses have left animals appearing confused, with the disappearing sunlight throwing off their circadian rhythms, research shows. Birds at Zimbabwe's Mana Pools National Park fell silent while others flew in the direction of their roosts during an eclipse in 2001, while hippos "paused and looked nervous," according to a study published in the journal Astronomy and

The Charleston aquarium's aviary exhibit is home to two pelicans, six different types of ducks, two white ibises, two types of seagulls and two herons. One of them, a yellow-crowned night heron, is nocturnal, while the other, a little blue heron, is active during the day. "I'm interested to see the different behaviors that they would have naturally occurring but at a wrong time of the day, being in the middle of the day when the eclipse happens," Wallace said.

The nocturnal heron may forage for food instead of hiding in a tree, its normal daytime behavior, the biologist said, while the little blue heron may take refuge in the trees out of fear of nocturnal predators. Kendle Enter, who works as the animal behaviorist senior biologist at the aquarium, is not expecting any changes in the behavior of two river otters in the Mountain Forest exhibit. At midday today, when the moon's shadow will begin to cross the sun in Charleston, the otters are usually sleeping, she said.

Totality is expected at 2:46 pm, after the otters awaken from their naps. "They're either going to sleep through it or they're going to wake up, expecting their food," Enter said. On its website, NASA recommends solar eclipse watchers find out for themselves how animals behave during the eclipse by simply observing pets or local wildlife. An app called iNaturalist is available to record observations and submit them online to compile a database about animal behavior during the eclipse.—Reuters

LOVE BECKONS FOR RECOVERING CHIMPANZEE IN BRAZIL REFUGE

DEPRESSED CHIMP TRANSFERRED TO SANCTUARY

SOROCABA, Brazil: Marcelino is calling to her, but Cecilia cannot be with him. Not yet. He may be handsome, but she has suffered a lot and isn't ready for a relationship. This is not a soap opera. It is just the way things go in a Brazilian refuge for abused and depressed chimpanzees. Cecilia, 20, sits on a rooftop and gazes wistfully around-perhaps remembering her childhood spent in a cramped zoo, or her two friends who died there.

Luckily she is now in the best place to have her depression treated: the Sorocaba Great Primates Sanctuary. She is alone in her enclosure, but with toys and plenty of space, it beats being in a zoo. And her care takers say she is slowly getting better.

Legal chimp precedent

Cecilia came to Sorocaba four months ago from Mendoza in Argentina, after making legal history in a case brought by animal rights' groups. The judge ruled that Cecilia was being held in unsuitable conditions at the Mendoza zoo and should be transferred to this sanctuary near Sao Paulo. In her ruling, the judge defined Cecilia as "a nonhuman subject of law." Though she is a chimp, the law applied to her as it would to a person. Experts say she was the first ape ever to be transferred to a sanctuary under such a legal ruling.

Lonely apes' club

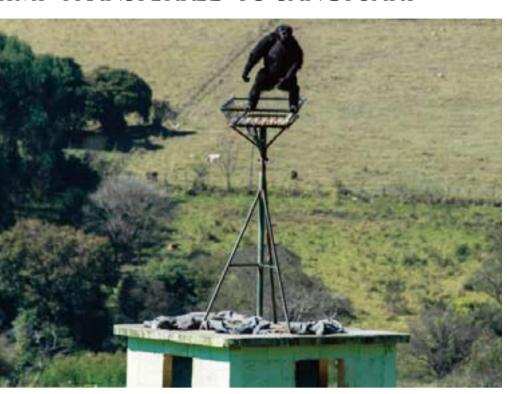
Cecilia had spent her whole life in the zoo, deprived of the benefits of roaming free in the wild. Above all, she was lonely: heartbroken by the deaths of Charly and Xuxa, her two lifetime chimp companions. "When she arrived here she had no physical problems but she was very depressed," says Camila Gentille, a veterinary at the sanctuary. "She used to spend all her time lying down and did not interact with anyone." Now Cecilia is starting to eat better and even looks over and replies when Marcelino calls to her from his nearby enclosure, as she sits on her perch.

Talking cure

In Sorocaba, Cecilia shares a 500,000square-meter refuge of trees, grass and enclosures with about 50 other chimps, as well as hundreds of other animals such as lions and bears. A staff of 30 tend to them. Some of the apes receive medication to stop them mutilating themselves. But they also benefit from emotional support. "It is very important to talk to them so they don't feel lonely," says Merivan Miranda, one of the care takers. "So that they know there is someone there who understands them."

Unique chimp sanctuary

One of the chimps, Dolores, 18, sits shrieking on her perch: the mental effect of years of mistreatment in a zoo. Another, Jango, gives a broad but toothless smile when the director of the sanctuary, Pedro Ynterian, approaches. The zookeepers who used to own Jango castrated him and pulled his teeth out. He came to the sanctuary in 2003. "These animals were abused and mistreated in circuses and zoos, and taken by traffickers who made money out of them," Ynterian says. "They need a place where they will be treated decently, without visits by the public, that is not a zoo. This is the only such place in Latin America."



SAO PAULO: A chimpanzee is seen at the Great Apes Project (GAP), a sanctuary for apes in Sorocaba, some 100km west of Sao Paulo, Brazil.



SAO PAULO: A chimpanzee named Cecilia is seen at the Great Apes Project (GAP), a sanctuary for apes in Sorocaba, some 100km west of Sao Paulo, Brazil. —AFP photos

Animal trade

Ynterian, 77 has spoken widely in the Cuba in a foiled attack against its late Communist leader Fidel Castro. Now this Cuban microbiologist fights for the animals. He joined up with the Great Ape Project, an international association which targets mistreatment in circuses and zoos. "I've had some serious problems," he says. "People even tried to kill me a few years ago, because there's a lot of money involved in the market in animals." The Brazilian Traveling Circus Union sued Ynterian, accusing him of being part of an animal-trafficking racket. The Sao Paulo state prosecution service said it investigated Ynterian and closed the case against him in 2012 without charges.

Simian matchmaking

Staff at the refuge had initially tried to media about how he took part in his native pair Cecilia off with a chimp named Billy, but he turned out to be too impulsive for her. They hope she will have better luck with Marcelino. He shares an enclosure with his family, but is not getting on with his father. It is time he found himself a nice girl-chimp and moved out. Cecilia, meanwhile, "is discovering a different world," Ynterian says.

> "She can walk freely over the earth and the grass. She is free in this territory and she can see that there are other chimpanzee families nearby." He is certain that with time Cecilia will overcome her depression. "That is what she is seeking to do, so that she can partner with someone and stop living alone," Ynterian says. "And she will manage to do



Kuwait 📤 Times 248 33 199







KUWAITI FAMILIES CAN STAY AT DUBAI'S MOST ICONIC HOTELS THIS EID AL-ADHA

ith the blistering summer months still not over, Jumeirah Hotels & Resorts is offering some fantastic packages for Kuwaiti travelers to stay cool and refreshed at some of Dubai's most iconic hotels for Eid Al-Adha in early September, Valid from August 31 until September 8, 2017, travelers from Kuwait have the option to stay beachside at Jumeirah Al-Naseem, Jumeirah Al-Qasr, Burj Al-Arab, Jumeirah, or head to the city at Jumeirah Emirates Towers or Jumeirah Creekside for a stay that includes complimentary breakfast, your choice of lunch or dinner; and what's more, stay at any of the hotels and you'll also be able to cool off at Wild Wadi Waterpark for free.

Offers include Jumeirah Al-Naseem at Madinat Jumeirah, which became very popular amongst Kuwaiti families. It is Jumeirah's newest hotel in Dubai, Jumeirah Al-Naseem with special rate that includes breakfast, lunch or dinner at over 60 restaurants across Madinat Jumeirah Resort including Rockfish located on the beach, with views of the most instagrammed hotel - Burj Al-Arab.

Packages also include Jumeirah Al-Qasr which is built in the shape of a Sheikh's palace. This hotel is the perfect escape to feel and be treated like royalty. The opulent Arabic decor and the fantastic hospitality will ensure you have the time of your life. After your day at the pool or pampering at Talise Spa, learn to cook with one of









Abdelaziz Al-Mushari, Yarmouk Mayor

YARMOUK HEALTH CITY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN DAY

armouk Health City celebrated the International Humanitarian Action Day in cooperation with the "humanitarian action center for legal support." Kuwait had extended aid to the needy and affected people all over the globe and the United Nations Secretary General called it a humanitarian center and gave HH the Amir the title "Leader of Humanitarian Work." All humanitarian action bodies be it individuals, societies, private or public sectors agreed to give aid to those who need it regardless of religion, country or color.



Director general of humanitarian center

Greetings



AWAMI VOLUNTEER LEAGUE KUWAIT OBSERVES NATIONAL MOURNING DAY

n August 15, 1975, The National Mourning Day, Father of the Bengali nation and the founding premier of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahaman along with most of his family members was brutally murdered on this darkest episode in 1975. Commemorating the National Mourning Day-Awami Volunteer League Kuwait has met on a discussion meeting and prayer mahfil at Kuwait City on August 19, 2017.

Belal uddin General Secretary of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait presented the program and Mohammed Masud Karim the president of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait presided the program. Ashrak Ali Ferdous join Convener of Bangladesh Awami league Kuwait Adhoc Committee was the chief guest in the event.

Among the special guests were Rafiqul Islam Bhulu president of Awami foundation Kuwait, Jahangir Kader member secretary of Bangladesh Awami League Kuwait Adhoc Committee, Sultan Faruk, Giash Uddin and Adbul Aziz advisor of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait, Emam Uddin Badal president of Awami Jubo league Kuwait, Mohd. Hanif Miah president of Jatio Sromik League Kuwait, Awami League leader Sayed Mizanur Rahman, Shamsul Islam, Anisur Rahman Milon, Abul Hossain Shipon, Kamal Uddin, Babul Akter Noor president of Bornomala Cultural group.

The program commenced with the recita-

tion of verses from the holy Quran, recited by Mowlana Moin Uddin. The one minute silence was observed in honor of the martyrs of August 15, 1975. Awami Volunteer League Kuwait President Mohammed Masud Karim, Chief guest Ashrak Ali Ferdous, all of special guests and Ashraful Azam organizing secretary, Sahadat Hossain Joint Secretary, Abdul Mannan, Abu Taher, Mohammed Yousuf vicepresident of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait delivered speeches highlighting the glorious achievements of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Shaikh Mujibur Rahaman. Special prayer was offered seeking divine grace for the departed soul of Bangabandhu Shaikh Mujibur Rahaman and all the martyrs of August 15, 1975.



TV PROGRAMS

00:45 Treehouse Masters 01:40 Preposterous Pets 02:35 Gator Boys 03:25 Catching Monsters 04:15 Monster Croc Invasion 05:02 Mutant Planet

05:49 Untamed & Uncut Swamp Brothers 06:36 07:00 Swamp Brothers

07:25 Gator Boys 08:15 Treehouse Masters 09:10 Preposterous Pets 10:05 Mutant Planet 11:00 Gator Boys 11:55 Catching Monsters

13:45 Preposterous Pets 14:40 Mutant Planet 15:35 Untamed & Uncut 16:30 Treehouse Masters 17:25 Project Grizzly18:20 Wild Animal Repo 19:15 Preposterous Pets 20:10 Gator Boys

12:50 Monster Croc Invasion

21:05 Project Grizzly 22:00 | Survived An Animal Attack 22:55 Mutant Planet 23:50 Untamed & Uncut

crime &investigation

00:00 Crimes That Shook Australia 01:00 It Takes A Killer 01:30 It Takes A Killer 02:00 Homicide Hunter 03:00 Britain's Darkest Taboos 04:00 Crimes That Shook Australia 05:00 It Takes A Killer 08:00 The First 48 09:00 Homicide Hunter

10:00 Britain's Biggest Heists 11:00 Britain's Biggest Heists Britain's Biggest Heists 13:00 Britain's Biggest Heists 14:00 The First 48

15:00 Cold Case Files 16:00 Crimes That Shook Britain 17:00 Crime Stories 18:00 It Takes A Killer 18:30 It Takes A Killer 19:00 The First 48

20:00 Homicide Hunter 21:00 Cold Case Files 22:00 When Life Means Life 23:00 Evil Up Close

00:30 Playhouse Masters 01:20 Life On A Wire 02:10 Dirty Jobs 03:00 Finding Bigfoot 03:50 Guinness World Records Smashed UK 04:40 How It's Made 05:05 How It's Made

Playhouse Masters 06:20 Mythbusters 07:00 Kenny The Shark 07:25 Kids vs Film 07:50 My Cat From Hell 08:40 How It's Made

How It's Made 09:30 Redesign My Brain 10:20 Mythbusters 11:10 My Cat From Hell 12:00 Finding Bigfoot 12:50 How It's Made

How It's Made 13:40 Playhouse Masters 14:30 Kenny The Shark 14:55 Kids vs Film 15:20 Guinness World Records Smashed UK

16:10 Redesign My Brain 17:00 Driving Me Crazy 17:50 Now That's Funny 18:40 Mythbusters 19:30 How It's Made

19:55 How It's Made 20:20 Australia Smashes Guinness World Records 20:45 Australia Smashes Guinness World Records

21:10 Driving Me Crazy 22:00 World's Funniest 22:50 Finding Bigfoot 23:40 Australia Smashes Guinness

World Records

00:30 Vanity Fair Confidential 01:20 Scene Of The Crime With 02:10 Jonben?t: An American

Murder Mystery
03:00 Murder Comes To Town 03:48 The Perfect Murder 07:00 Blood Relatives The Locator 10:45 The Locator

11:10 Blood Relatives The Perfect Murder 15:20 The Locator 15:45 The Locator Disappeared

20:20 True Crime With Aphrodite 21:10 Women In Prison 22:00 Jonben?t: An American

17:00 Who On Earth Did I Marry?

Murder Mystery 22:50 Your Worst Nightmare 23:40 Evil Lives Here



00:00 Hank Zipzer 00:25 Alex & Co. 00:45 The Hive 00:50 Evermoor Chronicles 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:40 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

02:05 Binny And The Ghost 02:30 Binny And The Ghost 02:55 Hank Zipzer 03:15 The Hive 03:20 Hank Zipzer 03:45 Alex & Co.

04:10 Alex & Co. 04:35 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 05:00 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 05:25 Binny And The Ghost

05:45 The Hive 05:50 The 7D 06:00 Jessie Jessie 06:50 Tsum Tsum Shorts

06:55 The Zhuzhus Elena Of Avalor 07:45 Bunk'd 08:10 Stuck In The Middle

Bizaardvark Good Luck Charlie

09:00 Austin & Ally 09:25 Austin & Allv 10:15 Good Luck Charlie 10:40 Alex & Co. Lolirock

12:00 Lab Rats Elite Force 12:30 Lab Rats Elite Force K.C. Undercover 13:20 K.C. Undercover 13:45 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything 14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug

And Cat Noir 11:55 Disney Mickey Mouse 12:00 Welcome To The Ronks

12:15 Hank Zipzer 12:40 Dog With A Blog 13:05 Star Darlings 13:10 Good Luck Charlie 13:35 Austin & Ally 14:00 Jessie 14:25 Lolirock 14:50 The Zhuzhus

15:15 Whisker Haven Tales With The Palace Pets 15:20 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir 15:45 Elena Of Avalor 16:10 Liv And Maddie 16:35 Descendants Wicked World

16:40 Girl Meets World 17:05 Stuck In The Middle 17:30 Bunk'd 17:55 Bizaardvark 18:20 Disney Mickey Mouse 18:25 Alex & Co. 18:50 Best Friends Whenever 19:15 Sunny Bunnies

DIENEP &

00:00 Henry Hugglemonster

01:20 Henry Hugglemonster

02:55 Henry Hugglemonster

04:30 Henry Hugglemonster

05:30 Henry Hugglemonster

06:45 Henry Hugglemonster

08:15 Mickey And The Roadster

09:05 Jake And The Never Land

10:35 Mickey And The Roadster

11:25 My Friends Tigger & Pooh

13:10 Jake And The Never Land

14:00 My Friends Tigger & Pooh14:30 The Lion Guard

14:55 Harry And Bip 15:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

15:30 Mickey And The Roadster

Doc McStuffins

17:40 Jake And The Never Land

18:35 Mickey And The Roadste

19:35 Sheriff Callie's Wild West

20:35 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 21:00 Goldie & Bear

22:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

23:20 Henry Hugglemonster

Discoverv

00:20 Wheeler Dealers

For A Secret Fortune

01:50 Deadliest Catch

02:35 Devil's Canyon

03:20 Fast N' Loud

04:50 Gold Rush

05:35 How Do They Do It?

08:15 Running Wild With Bear

06:00 Deadliest Catch

06:45 Wheeler Dealers

09:00 Storage Hunters

For A Secret Fortune

10:55 Deadliest Catch

12:47 Storage Hunters

14:40 Deadliest Catch

16:10 Wheeler Dealers

17:50 Storage Hunters

Grylls

17:00 How Do They Do It?

Storage Hunters

18:50 Running Wild With Bear

19:40 How Do They Do It?

21:00 Kings Of The Wild 21:50 Treasure Quest: Snake

22:40 Legend Of Croc Gold

06:00 Milo Murphy's Law

Mech-X4

07:15 Right Now Kapow

08:05 Marvel's Ant-Man

08:10 K.C. Undercover

08:35 Milo Murphy's Law

06:25 Supa Strikas

07:40 Gravity Falls

09:25 Supa Strikas

09:50 Supa Strikas

11:10 Mighty Med

11:35 Mighty Med

10:45 Kickin' It

15:25 Fast N' Loud

13:10 Gold Rush

09:25 How Do They Do It?

11:40 Devil's Canyon 12:25 How Do They Do It?

13:55 Running Wild With Bear

10:10 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt

07:30 Fast N' Loud

04:05

CHANNEL

01:05 Cooper's Treasure: The Hunt

Running Wild With Bear

The Lion Guard

09:45 Miles From Tomorrow

00:15 Calimero

00:55 Zou

01:50 Zou

00:30 Art Attack

01:05 Loopdidoo

01:35 Calimero

02:05 Art Attack

02:30 The Hive

02:40 Loopdidoo

03:10 Art Attack

03:35 Loopdidoo

03:50 Calimero

04:05 Art Attack

05:00 Art Attack

05:45 Loopdidoo

06:30 Loopdidoo

07:00 Sofia The First

07:25 Goldie & Bear

07:50 The Lion Guard

08:40 Doc McStuffins

10:10 Little Mermaid

09:30 PJ Masks

11:00 PJ Masks

13:35 PJ Masks

16:00 Sofia The First

16:25 Goldie & Bear

17:15 The Lion Guard

18:05 PJ Masks

19:05 Sofia The First

21:25 Doc McStuffins

21:50 Harry And Bip

22:00 Little Mermaid

22:55 P.I Masks

11:50 Goldie & Bear

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19:20 Liv And Maddie 19:45 Mako Mermaids 20:10 Jessie 20:35 Cracke

> 00:00 Life Of Kylie 01:00 Revenge Body With Khloe Kardashian

02:50 Celebrity Style Story 03:20 Celebrity Style Story 03:50 So Cosmo 04:40 So Cosmo 05:30 Celebrity Style Story 06:00 Just Jillian 07:00 Just Jillian 08:00 E! News: Daily Pop 08:55 Life Of Kylie Second Wives Club 11:45 Celebrity Style Story 12:15 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry 13:10 Hollywood Medium With

14:15 Future-Worm!

14:40 Kirby Buckets

15:30 Walk The Prank

17:15 Mech-X4

18:35 Disney11

19:00 Disney11

20:20 Mech-X4

17:40 Gravity Falls

15:55 Right Now Kapow

15:05 Lab Rats: Bionic Island

K.C. Undercover

16:50 Kirby Buckets Warped

18:05 Disney Mickey Mouse

Marvel's Ant-Man

18:10 Milo Murphy's Law

19:25 K.C. Undercover

21:10 Walk The Prank

21:35 Marvel's Ant-Man

19:55 Milo Murphy's Law

20:45 Kirby Buckets Warped

21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse

21:45 Lab Rats Elite Force

22:10 Lab Rats Elite Force

Phineas And Ferb

23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am

Tyler Henry 14:05 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry 15:00 E! News: Daily Pop 15:55 Revenge Body With Khloe Kardashian

16:45 Revenge Body With Khloe 17:35 Revenge Body With Khloe Kardashian 18:30 Celebrity Style Story

19:00 E! News 20:00 Botched 21:00 Botched 22:00 Famously Single 23:00 WAGs Miami

23:55 WAGs Miami



00:00 Restaurant Stakeout 01:00 Mystery Diners 01:30 Mystery Diners Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 03:00 Man Fire Food 03:30 Man Fire Food Chopped 05:00 Guy's Grocery Games 06:00 Barefoot Contessa Barefoot Contessa 07:00 The Kitchen

08:00 The Pioneer Woman The Pioneer Woman 09:00 Siba's Table 09:30 Siba's Table Cooking For Real 10:30 Cooking For Real The Kitchen 11:00 The Pioneer Woman

12:30 The Pioneer Woman 13:00 Siba's Table Siba's Table 14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins. 15:00 Chopped 16:00 The Kitchen

17:00 Cooking For Real 17:30 Cooking For Real 18:00 Chopped 19:00 Iron Chef America

Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 21:00 Man Fire Food 21:30 Man Fire Food 22:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives 22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

23:00 Chopped

CHOICE

00:00 Don't Tell The Bride 01:00 Emmerdale 01:30 Coronation Street 02:00 Coronation Street 02:30 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 03:25 Broadchurch 04:20 Victoria

05:15 Couples Come Dine With Me 06:05 Don't Tell The Bride 07:05 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 08:00 Broadchurch 09:00 Victoria 10:00 Couples Come Dine With Me 10:50 Don't Tell The Bride

Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 12:45 Emmerdale 13:15 Coronation Street 13:45 Coronation Street14:10 Don't Tell The Bride 15:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh

16:00 Martin Clunes: Islands Of Australia 16:55 Doc Martin 17:50 Couples Come Dine With Me 18:45 Emmerdale 19:15 Coronation Street

19:45 Coronation Street 20:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 21:00 Martin Clunes: Islands Of Australia 21:55 Doc Martin

22:50 Emmerdale

00:00 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar 01:00 Command Decisions 01:30 Command Decisions 02:00 Missing In Alaska 02:50 Ancient Aliens 03:40 Cities Of The Underworld 04:30 Your Bleeped Up Brain

05:20 Pirate Treasure Of The

Knights Templar 06:10 The Universe 07:00 Command Decisions 07:30 Command Decisions 08:00 Missing In Alaska 09:00 Ancient Aliens 10:00 Cities Of The Underworld The Universe 12:00 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar 13:00 Command Decisions 13:30 Command Decisions

14:00 Missing In Alaska

15:00 Ancient Aliens

16:00 Cities Of The Underworld 17:00 The Universe 18:00 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar 19:00 Clash Of Warriors



00:20 Ultimate Soldier Challenge 01:10 JFK Declassified: Hunting 02:00 Officers And Gentlemen 02:50 Storage Wars 03:15 American Pickers 04:05 Pawn Stars 04:30 Pawn Stars 05:00 Mountain Men

06:00 Big Easy Motors 06:25 Big Easy Motors 06:50 Duck Dynasty 07:15 Duck Dynasty 07:40 Leepu And Pitbull 08:30 Pawn Stars 08:55 Pawn Stars 09:20 Storage Wars: Best Of 09:45 Storage Wars: Best Of

10:10 American Pickers 11:00 Time Team 11:50 Duck Dynasty 12:15 Duck Dynasty 12:40 Leepu And Pitbull 13:30 Ax Men 14:20 Mountain Men 15:10 Big Easy Motors 15:35 Big Easy Motors 16:00 Storage Wars: Best Of

16:25 Storage Wars: Best Of 16:50 Pawn Stars 17:15 Pawn Stars 17:40 Ultimate Soldier Challenge 18:30 Officers And Gentlemen 19:20 Mountain Men 20:10 American Pickers 21:00 Mountain Men

21:50 Alone: Lost And Found 22:40 Swamp People 23:30 American Pickers

people III

00:15 Delinquent Gourmet 00:45 Chasing The Sun 01:10 Poh & Co. 01:40 Bad Trip 02:35 Wineroads 03:00 Wineroads 03:30 Fish Of The Day 03:55 Lee Chan's World Food Tour 04:25 David Rocco's Dolce India

04:50 Places We Go 05:45 Fat Street 06:40 Poh & Co. 07:10 Bad Trip 08:05 Wineroads 08:30 Wineroads 09:00 Fish Of The Day

09:25 Lee Chan's World Food Tour 09:55 David Rocco's Dolce India 10:20 Places We Go 10:50 Places We Go 11:15 Eat Street 12:10 Poh & Co.

12:40 Bad Trip 13:35 Wineroads 14:00 Wineroads 14:30 Fish Of The Day 14:55 Lee Chan's World Food Tour 15:25 David Rocco's Dolce India 15:50 Places We Go 16:20 Places We Go

16:45 Eat Street 17:15 Eat Street 17:40 Poh & Co. 18:10 Andy And Ben Eat Australia 18:35 Andy And Ben Eat Australia 19:05 David Rocco's Dolce India 19:30 Places We Go

20:00 Places We Go 20:30 Eat Street 21:00 Eat Street 21:30 Poh & Co. 22:00 Andy And Ben Eat Australia 22:25 Andy And Ben Eat Australia



22:55 Bad Trip

00:10 Airport Security: Colombia 01:00 Highway Thru Hell 02:00 Big Fix Alaska 03:00 Inside The American Mob 04:00 Airport Security: Colombia 05:00 4 Babies A Second

06:00 Brain Games 07:00 Explorer 08:00 Surgery Ship 09:00 4 Babies A Second 10:00 Alaska Fish Wars 11:00 Wicked Tuna 12:00 Air Crash Investigation 13:00 Surgery Ship 14:00 Brain Games

14:30 Brain Games 15:00 Explorer 16:00 Alaska Fish Wars 17:00 Wicked Tuna 18:00 Air Crash Investigation 19:00 Explorer 20:00 Alaska Fish Wars 20:50 Wicked Tuna 21:40 Air Crash Investigation

22:30 Explorer

23:20 Brain Games 23:45 Brain Games NAT GEO

00:20 Monster Croc Hunt 01:10 Snakes In The City 02:00 Dark Side Of Crocs 02:50 Monster Fish 03:45 World's Deadliest 04:40 Ultimate Animal Countdown 05:35 Dark Side Of Crocs 06:30 Monster Fish 07:25 World's Deadliest 09:15 Insect Wars 10:10 Ultimate Predator

08:20 Ultimate Animal Countdown 11:05 My Life Is A Zoo 12:00 New Wave Warriors 12:55 Man-Eater Of The Congo 13:50 Monster Fish 14:45 World's Deadliest 15:40 Ultimate Animal Countdown 16:35 Planet Carnivore: Perfect

Killers 17:30 Ultimate Predator 18:25 My Life Is A Zoo 19:20 World's Deadliest 20:10 Ultimate Animal Countdown 21:00 Planet Carnivore: Perfect 21:50 Ultimate Predator

nickelodeon HD

22:40 My Life Is A Zoo

00:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 00:36 Rabbids Invasion 01:00 Rabbids Invasion 01:24 Saniay And Craig 01:48 Sanjay And Craig 02:12 Winx Club 02:36 Winx Club

03:00 Harvey Beaks 03:24 Harvey Beaks 03:48 The Loud House 04:12 The Loud House 04:36 Breadwinners 05:00 Breadwinners 05:24 Get Blake SpongeBob SquarePants 05:48 SpongeBob SquarePants Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 07:00 The Loud House 07:24 Rabbids Invasion 07:48 Get Blake

12:45 Seinfeld 13:10 The Middle

13:35 The Middle

14:25 Suburgatory

15:15 Son Of Zorn

15:40 Son Of Zorn

17:00 Seinfeld

17:30 Seinfeld

Jimmy Fallon

S.H.I.E.L.D.

02:20 Blindspot

03:20 The Flash

04:10 Quantico

07:00 The View

10:10 Quantico

11:00 Blindspot

12:30 The View

13:15 The Chew

16:00 Quantico

18:00 Blindspot

SHIFLD

Senior Year

White Wolf

White Wolf

04:05 Secretariat

23:00 Blindspot

19:00 Rosewood

20:00 Royal Pains

21:00 Better Call Saul

22:00 Marvel's Agents Of

23:50 American Horror Story:

00:40 Atlantis: Milo's Return

02:10 High School Musical 3:

08:05 Atlantis: Milo's Return

13:25 Hercules (1997)

15:00 The Shaggy Dog

20:00 Marvel Super Hero

Adventures: Frost Fight

21:20 The Shagay Dog

01:15 The Dead Room

02:35 Escape 04:15 Age Of Tomorrow

09:35 Larceny

11:10 Escape

18:10 Larceny

22:00 Drop Zone

23:45 The Dead Lands

01:15 The Last Shot

04:35 Murder Of A Cat

06:20 Fierce Creatures

09:45 Murder Of A Cat

11:30 Fierce Creatures

16:45 Once Upon A Crime

18:30 Father Of The Bride

20:25 They Came Together

MOVIES

The Manchurian Candidate

FESTIVAL

11:40 The Manchurian Candidate

OM MOVIES LIE

KIDS

00:25 A Town Called Panic

03:05 Pet Pals In Windland

04:35 We're Back! A Dinosaur's

09:00 The Tigger Movie 10:20 Ploddy Police Car On The

13:00 Izzie's Way Home14:20 Doctor Proctor's Fart Powder

17:10 Tom And Jerry: Back To Oz

18:40 Ghosthunters On Icy Trails

20:20 Doctor Proctor's Fart Powder

21:50 Big Baby 23:20 Ploddy Police Car On The

11:40 A Town Called Panic

15:50 The Tigger Movie

01:45 Izzie's Way Home

15:40 The Inevitable Defeat Of

13:10 Outside Bet

15:00 Don Verdean

00:50 The Survivalist

06:30 A Birder's Guide To

02:35 Oliver's Deal

Everything 08:05 Oliver's Deal

13:50 My Old Lady

09:50 Boychoir

Mister & Pete

06:00 Albert

Case

07:30 Big Baby

17:30 Boychoir

19:20 My Sister

21:15 The Dark Half

23:20 The Birdcage

02:55 Trust Me

08:00 Trust Me

23:55 Stung

Nation

12:40 Rivers Nine

16:30 Savage Dog

05:45 Bermuda Tentacles

07:20 Rise Of The Legend

14:15 Rise Of The Legend

19:45 Mission: Impossible - Rogue

MI WOALE?

COMEDY

06:15 White Fang 2: Myth Of The

09:35 White Fang 11:30 White Fang 2: Myth Of The

16:40 Finding Nemo 18:25 The Lizzie McGuire Movie

OM MOVIES LIE

ACTION

OM MOVIES HE

11:45 Chicago P.D.

21:00 Seinfeld

18:00 The Middle

19:00 Great News

22:00 Modern Family

22:30 Modern Family

00:40 Chicago Justice

01:30 Marvel's Agents Of

05:00 Good Morning America

14:00 Live Good Morning America

The Chew

08:30 Chicago Justice 09:20 The Flash

16:05 The Ellen DeGeneres Show

20:00 The Tonight Show Starring

OVIN FIRST THE

14:50 Mom

14:00 George Lopez

08:12 Harvey Beaks 08:36 Sanjay And Craig 09:00 Rank The Prank 09:24 Henry Danger 09:48 100 Things To Do Before High School 10:12 Game Shakers 10:36 Regal Academy 11:00 Winx Club 11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

12:12 The Loud House 12:36 Breadwinners 13:00 School Of Rock 13:24 Hunter Street 13:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 14:12 Henry Danger 14:36 The Thundermans 15:00 100 Things To Do Before High School 15:24 Rabbids Invasion

15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants 16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 16:36 The Loud House 17:00 Regal Academy 17:24 Winx Club 17:48 Hunter Street 18:12 Henry Danger18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn School Of Rock 19:24 Game Shakers

19:48 The Thundermans 20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants 20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles21:00 The Loud House 21:24 Sanjay And Craig

21:48 Rabbids Invasion 22:12 Breadwinners 22:36 Harvey Beaks 23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants

nickjr: 00:04 Max & Ruby 00:27 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom 00:38 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom 00:48 The Day Henry Me 00:53 The Day Henry Met

00:58 Blaze And The Monste Machines 01:21 Blaze And The Monster Machines 01:43 Zack & Quack 02:04 Team Umizoomi

02:27 Olive The Ostrich 02:32 Olive The Ostrich Paw Patrol 03:00 Little Charmers 03:12 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom Dora The Explorer 03:46 Max & Ruby 04:08 Nella The Princess Knight

04:31 Shimmer And Shine 04:54 Dora And Friends: Into The City! 05:16 Zack & Quack 05:27 The Day Henry Met 05:32 The Day Henry Met 05:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines

06:00 Rusty Rivets 06:12 Paw Patrol 06:37 Dora The Explorer 07:00 Zack & Quack 07:22 Bubble Guppies 07:45 Blaze And The Monster Machines 08:07 Paw Patrol

08:31 Shimmer And Shine 08:54 Nella The Princess Knight 09:21 Paw Patrol 09:44 Rusty Rivets 09:56 Bubble Guppies 10:19 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies 10:42 Zack & Quack 10:53

Team Umizoomi 11:17 Shimmer And Shine 11:39 Shimmer And Shine 12:02 Max & Ruby 12:25 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom 12:36 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom The Day Henry Met 12:51 The Day Henry Met 12:57 Blaze And The Monster

Machines
13:19 Blaze And The Monster Machines 13:42 Zack & Quack 14:03 Team Umizoomi 14:26 Olive The Ostrich 14:31 Olive The Ostrich 14:36 Paw Patrol 14:59 Little Charmers 15:22 Dora The Explorer 15:45 Max & Ruby

Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom 16:08 Nella The Princess Knight 16:31 Shimmer And Shine Dora And Friends: Into The 16:54 City! 17:16 Zack & Quack

17:28 The Day Henry Met The Day Henry Met 17:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines 18:00 Rusty Rivets 18:13 Paw Patrol Dora The Explorer 18:37

19:00 Zack & Quack 19:22 Bubble Guppies 19:45 Blaze And The Monster Machines 20:07 Paw Patrol 20:31 Shimmer And Shine 20:54 Nella The Princess Knight 21:16 The Day Henry Met 21:22 Paw Patrol

21:45 Rusty Rivets 21:57 Bubble Guppies22:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies 22:43 Zack & Quack 22:54 Team Umizoomi 23:17 Shimmer And Shine 23:40 Shimmer And Shine

OVA FIRST LIE COMEDY

00:20 The Middle 00:45 The Middle 01:10 Modern Family 01:35 Modern Family 02:00 The Big C 02:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon 03:15 Late Night With Seth Meyers 04:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 04:50 George Lopez 05:15 Suburgatory 05:40 Son Of Zorn 06:05 Son Of Zorn 06:30 Mom 06:55 Breaking In 07:20 Late Night With Seth Meyers 08:10 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 09:00 The Tonight Show Starring

Jimmy Fallon

10:40 Mom

09:50 George Lopez 10:15 Suburgatory

11:05 Breaking In

The Ellen DeGeneres Show

ON MOVIES LIE 00:10 Pushing Tin

02:20 Beaches 04:30 Finding Forrester 06:45 People Like Us The War 10:45 Changeling 13:05 The Bucket List 14:45 Seventh Son 16:30 From Rocky To Creed The Legacy Continues 17:30 Enemy Of The State 19:45 Rocky IV 21:20 Lucy 22:50 V/H/S 2

DISCOVERY

0:30 How Do They Do It?

00:55 Food Factory 01:20 NASA's Unexplained Files 02:10 Science Of The Movies

03:00 Kings Of Construction 03:48 Mythbusters 04:36 How Do They Do It? 05:00 Food Factory

05:24 NASA's Unexplained Files 06:12 Science Of The Movies 07:00 How Do They Do It? 07:26 Kings Of Construction 08:14 Mythbusters 09:02 Science Of The Movies 09:50 How Do They Do It?

10:14 Food Factory 10:38 NASA's Unexplained Files 11:26 Kings Of Construction 12:14 Mythbusters 13:02 How Do They Do It? 13:26 Food Factory 13:50 Science Of The Movies

14:38 Kings Of Construction 15:26 NASA's Unexplained Files 16:14 Mythbusters 17:02 Science Of The Movies 17:50 Kings Of Construction 18:40 Mythbusters 19:30 Secrets Of The Underground

20:20 How Do They Do It? 20:45 Food Factory 21:10 Science Of The Movies 22:00 Secrets Of The Underground 22:50 Kings Of Construction

00:20 7 Little Johnstons 00:42 Say Yes To The Dress

01:05 Buddy's Family Vacation Buddy's Family Vacation 01:50 Return To Amish 02:35 Say Yes To The Dress Canada

02:57 Say Yes To The Dress: Canada 03:20 Our Little Family 04:05 Toddlers & Tiaras 04:50 Ultimate Shopper 05:35 Say Yes To The Dress

06:00 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners: Country House... 06:45 Say Yes To The Dress: 07:07 Say Yes To The Dress:

Canada 07:30 Say Yes To The Dress UK 07:52 Say Yes To The Dress UK 08:15 Our Little Family 09:00 Cake Boss

09:25 Toddlers & Tiaras 10:10 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners: Country House...
10:55 Married By Mum And Dad
11:40 Say Yes To The Dress: Canada

12:02 Say Yes To The Dress: Canada 12:25 Outdaughtered: Busby Quints 13:10 7 Little Johnstons

13:32 Say Yes To The Dress 13:55 Toddlers & Tiaras 14:40 Our Little Family 15:25 Married By Mum And Dad 16:10 Love, Lust Or Run 16:35 Cake Boss

17:50 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners: Country House...

trave

17:00 The Undateables

00:00 Bizarre Foods: Delicious Destinations 01:00 Mysteries At The Castle 02:00 Bikinis & Boardwalks 02:30 Bikinis & 03:00 Island Secrets

03:30 Island Secrets 04:00 Robson Green Grand Slam 05:00 Bizarre Foods: Delicious **Destinations**

05:30 Bizarre Foods: Delicious Destinations 06:00 Mysteries At The Castle

07:00 House Hunters International 07:30 House Hunters International 08:00 House Hunters International **Boat Buyers** 09:00 Lake Life 09:30 Lake Life

10:00 Hotel Impossible 11:00 Mysteries At The Castle 12:00 House Hunters International House Hunters International

13:00 Lake Life 13:30 Boat Buvers 14:00 Island Secrets 14:30 Life's A Beach 15:00 Xtreme Waterparks

CENTRAL SADAMOS

00:05 Live At The Apollo 00:55 Show Me The Funny 01:45 Broad City 02:10 Broad City 02:35 Important Things With

Demitri Martin 03:00 The Daily Show With Trevor 03:25 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

04:15 Lip Sync Battle 04:40 Ridiculousness 05:05 Disaster Date 05:30 Catch A Contractor 05:55 Catch A Contractor 06:20 Sweat Inc.

07:15 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol 08:05 Disaster Date 08:30 Impractical Jokers 08:55 Ridiculousness Key And Peele

09:45 Lip Sync Battle

10:10 Ridiculousness

13:55 Life Or Debt

10:35 Disaster Date 11:00 Framework 11:50 Disaster Date 12:15 Catch A Contractor 12:40 Catch A Contractor 13:05 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

14:45 Lip Sync Battle15:10 Key And Peele 15:35 Ridiculousness 16:00 Impractical Jokers Disaster Date 16:55 Disaster Date 17:20 Ridiculousness 17:43 Comedy Central Presents

Comedy 3alwagef 18:13 Impractical Jokers 18:35 The Jim Gaffigan Show 18:59 Key And Peele 19:22 Key And Peele 19:46 Disaster Date 20:09 I Live With Models

20:33 Lip Sync Battle21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor 21:30 Inside Amy Schumer 22:00 Inside Amy Schumer 22:25 Broad City 22:50 Broad City 23:15 Idiotsitte 23:40 The Daily Show With Trevor

BBC FIRST

00:25 Death In Paradise 01:20 Orphan Black 02:10 Ripper Street 03:00 Scott & Bailey Scott & Bailey 04:35 Casualty

05:30 EastEnders 06:00 Father Brown 06:50 Casualty 07:45 Death In Paradise 08:40 Doctor Who 09:35 Father Brown 10:25 The Coroner 11:15 Death In Paradise 12:05 Doctor Who

13:00 Father Brown 13:50 Casualty 14:40 Death In Paradise 15:35 Doctor Who 16:30 Father Brown 17:25 The Coroner

18:10 Holby City 19:05 Death In Paradise 20:00 Line Of Duty 21:00 In The Dark 21:50 Scott & Bailey 22:40 Scott & Bailey

23:35 Holby City

OM SERIES HD

00:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D. 01:00 Blindspot 01:50 American Horror Story: Roanoke 02:40 Chicago Justice 03:30 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D. 04:20 Blindspot 05:20 The Flash 06:10 Quantico 07:00 Good Morning America 09:00 The View 09:45 The Chew 10:30 Chicago Justice 11:20 The Flash

12:10 Quantico

13:00 Blindspot

13:45 Chicago P.D.

OM SPORTS 1 HD

00:00 WWE Bottom Line 01:00 This Week In WWE 01:30 FIBA 3 X 3 Basketball World 02:00 FIBA 3 X 3 Basketball World Tour Highlights 02:30 WWE Wal3ooha 03:00 Live WWE Raw 06:30 FIBA 3 X 3 Basketball World Tour Highlights

07:00 Summer X Games Highlights 09:00 WWE 205 Live 10:00 Monster Jam 11:00 Summer X Games Highlights 13:00 WWE 205 Live 14:00 Monster Jam

15:00 WWE Raw 17:30 FIBA 3 X 3 Basketball World Tour Highlights 18:00 Summer X Games Highlights 19:00 Summer X Games Highlights 20:00 WWE Raw

22:30 FIBA 3 X 3 Basketball World Tour Highlights
23:00 Summer X Games Highlights

OM SPORTS 2 LID

00:30 UFC Top 10 01:00 Idemitsu Asia Talent Cup 03:00 FIA World Touring Car Championship Highlights 03:30 FIA World Touring Car Championship Highlights 04:00 UFC Unleashed 05:00 MotoGP Rookies Cup 07:00 Idemitsu Asia Talent Cup

09:00 V8 Supercar Series **Highlights** 10:00 V8 Supercar Series Highlights
11:00 FIM Speedway Grand Prix Highlights
12:00 MotoGP Highlights
13:00 TCR International Series

Highlights 13:30 Indy Car Highlights

OM SPORTS 3 00:00 PGA European Tour Highlights 01:00 The PGA Tour Champions Highlights 02:00 PGA Web.Com Tour Highlights

03:00 Asian Tour Highlights 04:00 European Challenge Tour Highlights 05:00 PGA European Tour Highlights
06:00 PGA Tour Highlights 07:00 Golfing World

08:00 PGA European Tour Highlights 08:30 Europro Tour 10:30 PGA Tour Highlights 11:30 PGA European Tour Highlights 12:30 Golfing World 13:30 European Challenge Tour

Highlights 14:25 PGA European Tour **Highlights** 14:55 PGA Tour Highlights 15:50 Chronicles Of A Champion 16:20 Live Women's Rugby World

Cup 18:20 PGA European Tour **Highlights** 18:50 Live Women's Rugby World Cup 21:00 Challenge Series Golf Highlights 21:30 PGA European Tour

OM SPORTS 4 HD

00:00 Super Rugby Highlights 00:30 Top 14 Season Preview 01:00 The Rugby Championship Highlights 01:30 The Rugby Championship Highlights
02:00 World Cup Of Gymnastics 03:45 World Cup Of Gymnastics 05:30 The Darts Show 06:00 World Rugby Special 07:00 World Cup Of Pool 09:25 The Darts Show 09:55 World Match Racing Tour Highlights 10:50 The Rugby Championship Highlights

11:20 The Rugby Championship Highlights
11:50 Super Rugby Highlights 12:20 Top 14 Season Preview

12:50 Gillette World Sport 13:20 World Rugby 13:50 Live Women's Rugby World

Cup 15:50 Live Women's Rugby World



CROSSWORD 1692

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ACROSS

- 1. Athletic facility equipped for sports or physical training.
- 4. Strip something of drapery.
- 11. In bed.
- 15. An affirmative.
- 16. Small voraciously carnivorous freshwater fishes of South America that attack and destroy living animals.
- 17. An independent agency of the United States government responsible for aviation and
- 18. (in golf) The standard number of strokes set for each hole on a golf course, or for the
- 19. An ancient musical horn made from the horn
- of a ram. 21. A fight involving shooting small arms with the
- intent to kill or frighten.
- 23. A Loloish language. 25. The branch of engineering science that studies the uses of electricity and the equipment
- for power generation and distribution and the control of machines and communication. 26. An event that occurs when something passes
- from one state or phase to another 27. The largest island of Denmark and the site of Copenhagen.
- 29. A metallic element of the rare earth group. 31. 1/1000 gram.
- 32. A period of time equal to 1/24th of a day. 33. Lower in esteem.
- 34. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
- 36. Take in solid food.
- 39. An informal term for a father. 42. A master's degree in education.
- 43. An intensely radioactive metallic element that occurs in minute amounts in uranium ores. 46. South African term for `boss'.
- 48. An Indian side dish of yogurt and chopped
- cucumbers and spices. 52. A radioactive element of the actinide series.
- 53. Order by virtue of superior authority.
- 54. An associate degree in nursing.
- 55. A note appended to a letter after the signa-
- 56. Make a shrill creaking, squeaking, or noise, as of a door, mouse, or bird.
- 59. A district in southwestern Manhattan noted for its shops and restaurants and galleries
- and artist's lofts. 60. A woman of refinement.
- 62. The compass point that is one point east (clockwise) of due north.
- 63. English economist noted for his studies of international trade and finance (born in
- 65. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth 67. A domain in which something is dominant.
- 70. A rounded thickly curled hairdo.
- 73. Daughter of Nehru who served as Prime Minister of India from 1966 to 1977 (1917-
- 75. A social division of (usually preliterate) people. 77. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
- 78. Imperial dynasty that ruled China (most of the time) from 206 BC to 221 and expanded its boundaries and developed its bureaucracy.
- 79. Lacking tucks or not being tucked. 81. An independent agency of the United States government responsible for collect
 - ing and coordinating intelligence and counterintelligence activities abroad in the national interest.

- 82. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of
- 83. A protagonist who lacks the characteristics that would make him a hero (or her a hero-
- 84. A doctor's degree in education.

DOWN

- 1. A genus of Accipitridae.
- 2. Not only so, but.
- 3. Of or relating to or characteristic of Morocco or its people.
- 4. A selfish actor who upstages the other actors.
- 5. A constitutional monarchy occupying the Japanese Archipelago.
- 6. A temporary shortage of rainfall. 7. One of several parallel sloping beams that sup-
- port a roof.
- 8. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish gods. 9. Of or relating to or functioning as a phrase.
- 10. (Akkadian) God of wisdom. 11. Reports of the work of a society or learned
- body etc. 12. A flexible container with a single opening.
- 13. A city in western Germany.
- 14. Marked by features of the immediate and usually discounted past.
- 20. Having the leading position or higher score in a contest.
- 22. A unit of electrical resistance equal to the resistance between two points on a conductor when a potential difference of one volt between them produces a current of one
- 24. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- 28. Yellow-fever mosquitos.
- 30. The whiteness that results from removing the color from something.
- 35. An agency of the United Nations affiliated with the World Bank.
- 37. A river in north central Switzerland that runs
- northeast into the Rhine.
- 38. A hidden drawback.
- 40. (Babylonian) A demigod or first man. 41. The form of theological rationalism that
- believes in God on the basis of reason with-
- out reference to revelation. 44. The dynasty that ruled much of Manchuria
- and northeastern China from 947 to 1125.
- 45. A nation in northern North America. 47. Acid gritty-textured fruit.
- 49. Typical geese.
- 50. Immeasurably small.
- 51. God of love and erotic desire.
- 57. (Sumerian) Consort of Dumuzi (Tammuz).
- 58. A member of a South American Indian people in Peru who were formerly the ruling class of the Inca empire.
- 61. Mar or spoil the appearance of.
- 64. A hot glowing or smouldering fragment of wood or coal left from a fire.
- 66. Any of numerous local fertility and nature deities worshipped by ancient Semitic peo-
- 68. Small ornamental ladies' bag for small articles. 69. (of persons) Highest in rank or authority or
- office. 71. A sudden short attack.
- 72. Toward the mouth or oral region.
- 74. A hotel providing overnight lodging for travel-
- 76. The capital and largest city of Japan. 80. (astronomy) A measure of time defined by Earth's orbital motion.

Yesterday's Solution

G	S	R		Α	M	P	U	L	L	A		1	A	D	E
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STAR TRACK

Aries (March 21-April 19)

In taking care of business, it is important to stay focused. There is a sense of emotional coolness or detachment at the personal level. It is ideas that count for you now, more than narrowly personal concerns-and you may have little tolerance for people who do not function at this level. You do not waste words today as communications tend to be short and to the point. Take time to be specific and ask for feedback so that you can be sure you were clear in your instructions to others. Take care of every last detail by proofing, or if possible, exchanging your work with someone else and proofing the other's work. Develop and use your critical faculties. You are determined to complete your tasks. This evening is an excellent time to relax by music.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Inventions, in particular in communications, perhaps by updating computers and electronics, may be a path of temptation to move into some type of new profession. There are clear perspectives into your present reality, making situations easier to understand. You are tolerant and accepting of differences and have good insights into problems. Independent, you like to promote and compromise and otherwise show your desire and abilities to understand others. You may be unconventional in matters of philosophy and religion-always finding new ways to get past the fluff. You must understand, however, that your insights into truth and the eternal make you a loner at times. You seek to understand situations by finding new ways to better conditions.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

This is a time of good fortune when things open up in a very natural way for you. Opportunities are plenty and you may find yourself wanting and able to do almost anything. This is one of those days that everything blends together and results are the best they can be. Now . . . Here are some real opportunities to complete and work out difficulties and projects that require both long-term effort and a high degree of discipline. This is also a day that is good for most job-related events. You could represent or speak for your company at this time. Any personal matters you want to accomplish or business matters that need tending will also certainly end in positive ways. Tonight would be a good time to pal around with some of your friends-maybe sports.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You are in control of your day, especially when interacting with superiors. You may find that you enjoy your job or the responsibility it requires. It is ideas that count for you now, more than narrowly personal concerns. You are at your most practical when it comes to dealing and working with others. You know just what to do and can act without haste. Your ideal dream is a private one and heaven is as close as work and family. The romantic in you struggles against the frontier spirit that often moves you to action. You will continue to develop a knack for organizing things and people as a sense of ambition and practicality deepens. Work, achievement and ambition mean a lot to you now-show



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Your dreams and ideals are very important to you. You may be more focused on your goals now than ever before. You busy yourself putting those plans of yours to work. You will notice that you have become more focused in your work lately. This afternoon, when you show up early for a family get-together, they may be surprised as well as pleased that you broke free from your projects in order to be with them. You are intuitively learning your limits as well as implementing a balance in your life. There is time this evening for making a few special plans that will help you complete one or two of your goals. You may find yourself putting your whole heart into making your dreams and ideals a reality. Much can be accomplished without stress.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Saying or writing with style comes natural to you these days. New words to increase your vocabulary expertise can be a fun activity between you and a friend or co-worker. Your ability to discriminate real breakthroughs and spot new trends makes you able to work in areas that are at the very fringe of technology as well as psychology. You love all that is new and different and electronics, computers, communication-in fact, everything electrical is where your attention stays focused most of this day. There is a desire for variety this evening, particularly where it applies to romantic experience and artistic tastes. A sociable, congenial, slightly frivolous orientation sets in now. You will enjoy the interaction of friends tonight.

WORD SEARCH

Pet Dog

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 26 letters spell a secret message.

								A							
N	D	R	E	Т	A	W	0	Н	0	U	s	E	G	C	
н	0	F	E	E	D	C	0	L	L	A	R	s	н	L	
A	R	1	s	L	1	Α	Ν	M	1	R	Т	E	1	E	
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s	L	0	0	K	0	М	Y	Y	A	C	Α	U	U	E	
s	L	W	0	В	s	0	0	A	Н	М	F	R	P	N	
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BOWLS CANINE CHASE CHEW TOY COLLAR COMPANION

FAITHFUL

FRIEND LEASH GROOM LICK GROWL LOYAL GUARD OWNER HAIR PANT HARNESS PAWS HOUSE PLAY

SLEEP TRAIN TREATS TRIM NAILS WAG TAIL WALK WATER

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Your career could assume a much more determined and solid form. This is a real time to buckle down and firm up your career goals. Your own ambition and drive are strong. You are able to use good reasonable thinking and make good choices. You can get a faster push forward by taking the right kind of action; you are positive and attentive. By working at a steady pace you will make a lot of progress. This afternoon you may find yourself advising or guiding another. Your spontaneity and unpredictability make you interesting to a group gathering this evening. You are independent and the way you come across to others creates an opportunity to teach and guide. You find some time to enjoy some simple exercise before retiring tonight.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You may find that a particular project is just not your cup of tea this morning. You take your turn and may have the opportunity to suggest a rotation routine so that you are not always called on to do things you do not want to do every day. A good sport attitude may be all-important just now. Outwardly you are intense and passionate and this quality is so essential to your character that all else revolves around it. This is what makes you popular when your work or personal partners want to move forward and get things accomplished. This afternoon you and your neighbors may decide that this next weekend would be perfect for a cookout. A meeting will be productive and allow everyone to pick what to bring, whose house and the theme or fun activities to enjoy.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

You are in tune with the practical issues in the workplace today. A firm sense of direction will help get you to your destination. This is a great time to be working in groups. You may be sought after as a guide or leader. You could be most persuasive with others and charismatic in speech and communication. You could come up with new solutions or inventions, and it is good that you are willing to listen to the ideas of others. It is ideas that count for you now, more than narrowly personal concerns. Family needs are important and there is no question about attending a family event this evening. Praise and support encourages a loved one to achieve the best. You are the cheerleader and the inspiration for your family and friends.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Be satisfied with the ordinary and usual for now. Novel ideas or insights could be more damaging than useful. There is hectic emotional energy prevailing, but it is only temporary. After the workday is over, you could be tempted to relieve stress by purchasing some items. There is a greater appreciation for things of value and the idea of value itself is in order. This could be a period of great material gain; it is certainly a time when material things have a great deal of importance for you. If you are on a budget, give yourself twenty-four hours before making your final purchase decision. You may be helpful to a friend or close relative this evening. You are able to find the real truth about a questionable situation.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Anyone who tries to get you to play with words is in for a big surprise. Your mind cuts right through all the window dressing and gets right down to the quick. Before anyone knows it, you have the heart of the matter out front for everyone to see. You would make a great investigator, either in scientific research or undercover work. It makes no difference. Your ability to get to the point is all but phenomenal. You can talk and put into words areas of the psychological that others would not touch. You have an urge to put out to sea and to somehow get past what separates and into that which unites or ties things together. Your drive to make dreams real keeps you working for your vision and goals. Consider volunteer work this week..

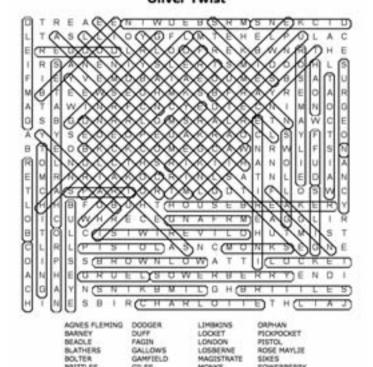


Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Your successful optimism is obvious and therefore, catching. You see positive results from your hard work today. Family, home, relatives and real estate play a big part in your life now. Perhaps you have been planning a move and someone calls with information on just the right home for you. You work to show off your skills and you enjoy the praise you receive. This time marks a change of direction for you, away from the material and glitter, toward inner needs and security. Your intuition is strong and can guide you accurately in making forecasts or decisions; allow this to work for you. You will find yourself more concerned with maintaining and strengthening your position, rather than pushing outward. These next few months are for friends.

Yesterday's Solution

Oliver Twist



The hidden sentence is TREATS OF THE PLACE WHERE OLIVER TWIST WAS BORN AND OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES ATTENDING HIS BIRTH

MRS. MANN

DLD SALLY

NANCY

NOAH

TRAPS UNDERTAKER

WAISTCOAT

WORKHOUSE

GRIMWIG GRUEL HANDKERDHEEF HARRY MAYLIE

HOUSEBREAKER

INHERITANCE

LEEFORD

DUMBLE CHARLEY BATES

CHARLOTTE

COACH

COURT

Daily SuDoku



Yetsterday's Solution

3 6 3 2 5 8 6 9 2 3 6 9 8 9 5 6 8 3 8 2 6 4 5 9 5 6 9 8 5 9 6 8 4 8 3 6 5 9 4

CLASSIFIEDS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2017



STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Kuwait Times



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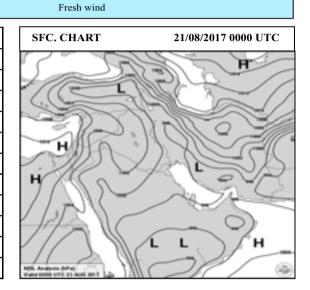


Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

BY DAY: Hot with light to moderate freshening at times north westerly wind to northerly wind, with speed of 12 - 45 km/h causing rising dust over western areas and some high clouds will appear.

BY NIGHT: Relatively hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas with light to moderate south easterly wind to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 28 km/h.

WEATHER WARNING		
STATION	MAX. EXP.	MIN. REC.
KUWAIT CITY	46 °C	34 °C
KUWAIT AIRPORT	46 °C	34 °C
ABDALY	46 °C	29 °C
BUBYAN	45 °C	29 °C
JAHRA	46 °C	33 °C
FAILAKA ISLAND	43 °C	31 °C
SALMIYAH	41 °C	34 °C
AHMADI	40 °C	35 °C
NUWAISIB	42 °C	32 °C
WAFRA	46 °C	32 °C
SALMY	45 °C	31 °C



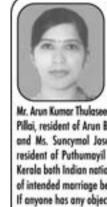
4 DAYS FORECAST											
		NVE ATTIVED		ratures							
DAY	DATE	WEATHER	MAX.	MIN.	Wind Direction	Wind Speed					
Tuesday	08/22	Hot and some scattered clouds will appear	45 °C	32 °C	NW-VRB	08 - 32 km/h					
Wednesday	08/23	Hot and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas and some high clouds will appear	45 °C	30 °C	VRB-SE	08 - 32 km/h					
Thursday	08/24	Hot and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas	46 °C	29 °C	VRB-NW	06 - 26 km/h					
Friday	08/25	Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas	46 °C	30 °C	NW-VRB	08 - 26 km/h					

PRAYER TIMES						
Fajr	03:55					
Sunrise	05:20					
Zuhr	11:51					
Asr	15:26					
Sunset	18:23					
Isha	19:43					

RECORDED YESTERDAY AT KUWAIT AIRPORT									
MAX. Temp.	49 °C								
MIN. Temp.	35 °C								
MAX. RH	28 %								
MIN. RH	06 %								
MAX. Wind	N 57 km/h								
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm								







NOTICE August 8, 2017

Mr. Arun Kumar Thulaseedharanpillai Geethakumari son of Mr. Thul Pillai, resident of Arun Bhavan, Mathra P.O, Punalur, Kollam, Kerala 69133 and Ms. Suncymol Joseph daughter of Mr. Joseph Puthumayil Thomas, resident of Puthumoyil House, Kadaplamattam P.O, Kottayam - 686 571, Kerala both Indian nationals presently residing in Kuwait, have given notice of intended marriage between them under the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969. If anyone has any objection to the proposed marriage, he/she may file the same with the undersigned according to the procedure laid down under the Act/Rule within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice. Communications in this regard can be made by Email (attachecons@indembkwt.org, welfaresection@indembkwt.org) / letters / telephonic calls (00965 - 22550171, 00965 - 22533125)

(Sanjeev-Saklani) Attache (Consular) and Marriage Officer. Embessy of India, Kuwait.

Ph.00965-22550171 - 00965-22533125 Fex: 00965 - 22573910 Email: attachecons@indembkwt.org

FOR SALE

Toyota Corolla 2015 Model XLI, 2.0 CC, white pearl color, excellent condition, well maintained, with full option, alloy wheel rim, LED log lamps, bluetooth, rear sensor, remote key, price KD 3250. Please interested person call only.

Contact: 67031555. (C 5340) 22-8-2017 SITUATION WANTED

Indian, male, MBA (finance), pursuing CFA (USA) having 12 years experience in Kuwait, presently working as finance manager, is looking for similar post for immediate placement. Please call 90073251 / 55584351. (C 5339)



Automated enquiry about the Civil ID card is

1889988



Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

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		nts on Tuesday 22/8/2017		FEG	933	Sohag	12:55			ghts on Tuesday 22/8/201		QTR	1075	Doha	12:10
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	RBG	554	Alexandria	12:10
JAI	574	Mumbai	00:05	AXB	393	Kozhikode	13:10	AIC	976	Goa/Chennai	00:05	MSC	404	Asyut	12:15
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	SYR	341	Damascus	13:30	RBG	556	Alexandria	00:05	PAL	669	Manila	13:10
SVA	502	Jeddah	00:20	QTR	8511	Doha	13:45	BBC	144	Dhaka	00:10	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10
SVA	514	Riyadh	00:25	KAC	692	Muscat	13:55	JZR	1540	Cairo	00:20	JZR	124	Bahrain	13:30
KAC	786	Jeddah	00:30	KAC	672	Dubai	13:55	MSR	2615	Cairo	00:30	THY	767	Istanbul	13:45
JZR	267	Beirut	00:35	QTR	1078	Doha	14:10	MSC	406	Sohag	00:30	FEG	938	Sohag	13:55
RJA	642	Amman	00:45	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:15	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
KAC	102	London	00:55	KAC	364	Colombo	14:15	JZR	502	Luxor	01:15	AXB	394	Kozhikode	14:10
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	FDB	059	Dubai	14:20	SVA	503	Jeddah	01:20	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:15	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:45	JAI	573	Mumbai	01:25	SYR	342	Damascus	14:30
JZR	539	Cairo	01:13	KAC	304	Mumbai	14:55	SVA	515	Riyadh	01:25	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:00
UAE								THY	773	Istanbul	01:40	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
	853	Dubai	01:40	KAC	788	Jeddah	14:55	KAC	677	Dubai	01:45	FDB	060	Dubai	15:05
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KNE	529	Jeddah	14:55	KAC	363	Colombo	01:55	QTR	8512	Doha	15:15
KKK	6506	Istanbul	01:55	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:05	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
AXB	395	Kozhikode	02:00	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:35	KAC	775	Riyadh	15:30
KLM	446	Bahrain	02:05	KAC	562	Amman	15:10	THY	765	Istanbul	02:50	KAC	563	Amman	15:40
JZR	553	Alexandria	02:10	KAC	502	Beirut	15:25	KKK	6505		02:55	SVA		Jeddah	
QTR	1086	Doha	02:10	KAC	412	Bangkok	15:30			Istanbul			501		15:45
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35	AXB	396	Kozhikode	02:55	KNE	530	Jeddah	15:55
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	03:05	KAC	619	Doha	16:00
KAC	418	Manila	02:50	RJA	640	Amman	16:00	UAE	854	Dubai	03:30	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
THY	752	Istanbul	03:05	FDK	801	Damascus	16:00	KLM	446	Amsterdam	03:30	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	MSR	575	Sharm el-Sheikh	16:10	RJA	645	Amman	03:55	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
MSR	606	Luxor	03:05	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15	THY	753	Istanbul	04:00	KAC	513	Tehran	16:30
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:10	FDB	051	Dubai	16:15	MSR	607	Luxor	04:05	MSR	576	Sharm el-Sheikh	16:50
								OMA	644	Muscat	04:05	FDK	802	Damascus	16:55
RJA	644	Amman	03:10	JZR	535	Cairo	16:20	QTR	1087	Doha	04:10	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	JZR	257	Beirut	16:20	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	FDB	052	Dubai	17:05
FDB	069	Dubai	03:15	JZR	125	Bahrain	16:25	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15	KAC	791	Madinah	17:10
KAC	382	Delhi	03:15	KAC	118	New York	16:25	KAC	417	Manila	04:20	JZR	266	Beirut	17:15
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:25	NIA	361	Alexandria	16:50	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:25	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
QTR	1076	Doha	03:45	KAC	542	Cairo	17:05	JZR	560	Sohag	04:45	JZR	240	Amman	17:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:50	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	LMU	5511	Cairo	05:00	KAC	361	Colombo	17:35
LMU	5510	Cairo	04:00	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	QTR	1091	Doha	05:05	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
QTR	1090	Doha	04:05	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:35	QTR	1077	Doha	05:35	KAC	357	Kochi	17:40
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	04:15	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45	KAC	303	Mumbai	05:50	NIA	362	Alexandria	17:50
UAE	873	Dubai	04:15	QTR	1080	Doha	18:10	FEG	934	Sohag	05:55	KAC	381	Delhi	17:50
KAC	358	Kochi	04:50	JZR	483	Istanbul	18:30	THY	1465	Istanbul	06:00	KAC	331	Trivandrum	17:55
FEG	937	Sohag	05:00	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	UAE	874	Dubai	06:15	KAC	283	Dhaka	18:00
KAC	784	Jeddah	05:00					RJA	643	Amman	06:25	JZR	512	Sharm el-Sheikh	18:00
THY	1414	TZX	05:05	KAC	776	Riyadh	19:05	THY	771	Istanbul	06:25	KAC	343	Chennai	18:00
THY	6376	Istanbul	05:05	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:23	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
				GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05					GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10	JZR	238	Amman	07:00	JZR	184	Dubai	18:25
KAC	414	Bangkok	05:20	NIA	0161	Cairo	19:15	FDB	070	Dubai Dubai	07:05	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
THY	770	Istanbul	05:25	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:20	THY	6376	Dubai/Istanbul	07:05	KAC	785	Jeddah	18:45
JZR	529	Asyut	05:35	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:30	JZR	164	Dubai	07:15	QTR	1081	Doha	19:15
KAC	332	Trivandrum	05:40	KAC	674	Dubai	19:40	KAC	167	Paris	07:15	JZR	552	Alexandria	19:20
BAW	157	London	06:05	KAC	178	Vienna	19:45	WAN	805	Sarajevo	07:50	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	19:20
KAC	678	Dubai	06:25	FDB	057	Dubai	19:50	KAC	501	Beirut	07:50	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:35	KAC	620	Doha	20:05	KAC	171	Frankfurt	07:50	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
KAC	206	Islamabad	06:40	OMA	647	Muscat	20:05	KAC	613	Bahrain	07:55	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
KAC	302	Mumbai	06:55	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	BAW	156	London	08:20			Chariah	20:00
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10					KAC	177	Vienna	08:25	ABY	124	Sharjah	20:00
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:15	FDB	054	Dubai	08:30	NIA	0162	Cairo	20:15
KAC	354	Bangalore	07:50	QTR	1088	Doha	20:40	KAC	741	Dammam	08:30	FDB	058 876	Dubai	20:30
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	KAC	166	Rome	20:55	KAC	691	Muscat	08:30	UAE	876 634	Dubai	20:35
KAC	384	Delhi	08:00	ICV	675	Luxembourg	20:55	JZR	256	Beirut	09:00	DLH	634	Doha	21:00
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	KAC	514	Tehran	20:55	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi		KAC	564	Amman	21:00	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:15	OMA	648	Muscat	21:05
			08:55	KAC	172	Frankfurt	21:05	KAC	117	New York	09:15	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	KAC	168	Paris	21:05	KAC	165	Rome	09:20	KAC	301	Mumbai	21:40
QTR	1070	Doha Dubai	09:25	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:10	JZR	534	Cairo	09:30	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	KLM	445	Amsterdam	21:15	KAC	561	Amman	09:30	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
IRA	675	Lar	09:40	ALK	229	Colombo	21:15	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:40	KAC	205	Islamabad	21:55
SVA	512	Riyadh	10:00	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	JZR	482	Istanbul	09:40	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:00
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30	KAC	101	London	09:45	KAC	155	Istanbul	22:15
SAW	703	Damascus	10:45	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:50	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	KAC	792	Madinah	21:50	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:00	KLM	445	Bahrain	22:25
QTR	1074	Doha	11:00					KAC	502 541	Cairo	10:00	THY	1403	AYT	22:25
PAL	668	Manila	11:00	QTR	1082	Doha Abu Dhabi	22:05					UAE	860	Dubai	22:35
JZR	561	Sohag	11:10	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	KAC	153	Istanbul	10:30	KAC	383	Delhi	22:35
MSC	403	Asyut	11:15	AIC	987	Chennai/Hyderabad	22:25	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35	GFA	220	Bahrain	22:50
KAC	614	Bahrain	11:15	PIA	239	Sialkot	22:35	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35	ICV	675	Hong Kong	22:55
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30	JZR	241	Amman	22:55	IRA	674	Lar	10:40	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:00
KAC	742	Dammam	11:45	JZR	185	Dubai	23:00	SVA	513	Riyadh	11:00	JZR	528	Asyut	23:05
JZR	742 165			JAI	574	Mumbai	23:00	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
		Dubai	11:50	MSC	405	Sohag	23:30	SAW	704	Damascus	11:45	PIA	240	Sialkot	23:35
JZR	239	Amman	12:25	MSR	2614	Cairo	23:30	MEA	405	Beirut	11:55	KAC	411	Bangkok	23:35
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:00	KAC	1801	Cairo	23:55
THY	766	Istanbul	12:50		0, 1	24241	25.55					-			

GOSSIP



DJ Khaled wants Adele collaboration

Khaled wants to collaborate with Adele. The 'I'm the One' hitmaker has teamed up with a number of high-profile artists, including Beyonce, Justin Bieber, Rihanna and Chance the Rapper, but he has the 'Hello' hitmaker at the top of his wish list along with rappers Dr Dre and Eminem. He told Billboard magazine: "I want to work with Dr. Dre. I want to work with Eminem. I want to work with

Adele." In the meantime, Mark Wahlberg revealed last month that he has been working on a project with the 'Wild Thoughts' hitmaker. The 46-year-old actor was a member of New Kids On The Block before they hit the big time and quit in 1988, but he could be set to return to the studio as he and the hip-hop star have been talking about working together. The 'Transformers: The Last Knight' star said: "I've spoken

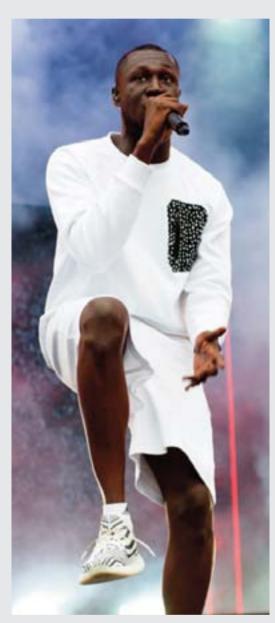
to [DJ Khaled] a couple times. We're working on some other things." Mark was part of Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch, a hip-hop outfit signed to Atlantic Records from 1989 to 1993, who had a hit with 'Good Vibrations', which made it to number one on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1991. Khaled, 41, released his starstudded 10th studio album 'Grateful' in June.

Louis Tomlinson's mind-blowing album

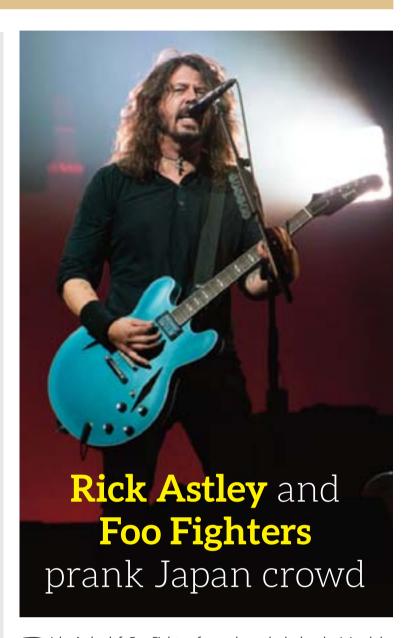
teve Aoki says Louis Tomlinson's debut solo album will "blow people's minds". The EDM superstar teamed up with the One Direction hunk on his debut solo single 'Just Hold On' and has been so impressed with his record that he plans on getting back into the studio with the 25-year-old singer when he has a space in his schedule. Asked if the pair are going to work together again, the 'Lit' hitmaker said: "We've been talking about doing future music as well and we always try and figure out time between schedules. Plus he's crushing it with Back to You. I love that track." On what to expect from the record from what he has listened to, Steve told The Sun Online: "I think he's going to blow people away with his new album. His album's incredible. "I've heard some songs and everyone is just mind blowing to me. "All I can tell you is they make me feel something incredibly human." The pair won the Choice Music Collaboration prize at the Teen Choice Awards last weekend for the hit song and the 'Back to You' hitmaker paid tribute to his pal in an emotional Instagram video after the ceremony. Louis said: "Me and Steve won the best collaboration award and that's unbelievable. I just want to thank everyone for their continued support. And obviously a massive thanks to Steve, what a legend you are. Thank you very much."



STORMZY DEBUTS 'SOFTER' VOCALS ON JP COOPER SONG



Stormzy sings for the first time on his song with JP Cooper. The grime superstar and the 'September Song' hitmaker have teamed up on the track 'Momma's Prayer' and JP has revealed the 'Big For Your Boots' rapper has a soft soulful tone to his vocals. He told the Daily Star newspaper: "It shows Stormzy's softer side. "He has a lovely tone for his voice - he has a really honest delivery, in a similar way a lot of rappers do a little bit of singing in the chorus, he does on this track." JP whose real name is John Paul Cooper - previously revealed the single exclusively to BANG Showbiz. He said: "The funny thing is there were a few plans to collaborate on a song. And a lot of people said we've collaborated on a song but it never actually happened. "So we have written a track together and I guess people will know about it very soon and that is all I am going to say." Stormzy is in big demand for collaborations as Clean Bandit cellist **Grace Chatto recently** revealed the 'Symphony' hitmakers are hoping to get the 24-year-old star on one of their tracks. Over the years the electronic music group - which includes also includes Jack and Luke Patterson - have collaborated with a number of artists such as Jess Glynne, Zara Larsson and Sean Paul, but the 31-year-old beauty says Stormzy is high up on their wish list. She said: "Yeah it would be great to do something with Stormzy. "We've kind of spoken about it a bit and he seemed up for it at the time. So I'm hoping we can find a time to get together in the studio. Yeah, he is amazing."



icky Astley left Foo Fighters fans gobsmacked when he joined the band on stage for a rendition of 'Never Gonna Give You Up'. The 80s pop legend had never met the US rock band until moments before he joined them on stage at Summer Sonic Festival in Japan on Sunday (20.08.17), but they hit it off straight away. Dave Grohl and his bandmates started playing his former band Nirvana's grunge hit 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' and then halfway through the frontman introduced Rick to the crowd. The 'Everlong' hitmaker said: "Ladies and gentlemen, would you please welcome our new best friend, Rick Astley. "This is crazy. I just met him two minutes ago." They then turned the 1991 classic into the 51year-old singer's track. It was no coincidence that the band would team up with Rick for the duet. A prank involving the music video for the 1987 song, a phase known as Rickrolling, saw a click bait clip which would change using a hidden hyperlink. People thought they were clicking on something entirely different and then they were "rickrolled". In 2015, Foo Fighters famously put the song on loudspeaker whilst driving past a demonstration at Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, known for its hate speech, especially against LGBT people and other religions. So the live performance at Summer Sonic turned out to be a real life version of being "rickrolled".

Maddie Ziegler inspired by Kate Hudson

addie Ziegler has hailed Kate Hudson her "biggest inspiration". The 14-year-old actress-and-dancer stars with the 'Almost Famous' actress in an upcoming mystery project from singer Sia and the teenage star has teased the venture is something completely unexpected. She told 'Entertainment Tonight': "You'll have to see! It's really fun and like I said, it's something completely different and something people won't expect. "She's amazing I mean she knows how to do everything, she's the most incredible actor and she's probably my biggest inspiration in life - her and Sia, two girl empowerment, they're

amazing." Meanwhile, the 'Dance Moms' star can next be heard voicing mean ballet dancer 'Camille' in 'Leap!' and she admitted her character is a true portrayal of the "snobby" ballerinas she's encountered in real life. She said: "I feel like there are so many snobby ballerinas in real life and I've had to deal with a lot of mean dancers but I guess my character's just an example of what not to be in the dance scene." And Maddie - who appears in the film alongside Elle Fanning and Carly Rae Jepsen - urged any of her young fans encountering similar mean people to just "block" their comments out. She advised: "Just block 'em out. I just act

like they don't matter at all and you know what? Their opinion means one thing but maybe it's just [to] them and not to anyone else you know? I can't let one person get in my way." Little is known about Sia's project with Maddie and Kate, but the older actress has shaved her head for the role. Kate also shared a photo of herself on set with Leslie Odom Jr., prompting speculation the 'Hamilton' star is also involved in some way.



Naomi Watts mentored by David Lynch



aomi Watts is "mentored" by David Lunch. The 48-year-old actress shot to fame in the filmmaker's cult classic 'Mulholland Drive', and has now reunited with him on the revival series of 'Twin Peaks', and she remains "incredibly proud" of the work they did on her 2001 breakout film. Speaking to the Metro newspaper, Watts said: "I'm very proud of that film. It changed my life in so many ways, not just because of my career. "David Lynch is one of my mentors. He's a great, great friend. And I'm really proud to be in a film that's still being discussed and acknowledged, and it doesn't surprise me. "People do talk about this film to this day, endlessly, wherever I go." Naomi finds it "very impressive" to see how some young stars handle their fame, but she is thankful she only achieved success at a later age because it stopped her making the wrong choices as she

wasn't tempted by the trappings of celebrity. Asked if she felt any temptations from the "seductive" side of fame, she said: "No, because I came to fame late. "There are many young people out there that handle it very well, that becomes famous at a young age. "I've worked with some of them lately and it's very impressive. But success came to me later in life. "Maybe I would have made wrong choices and ended up in movies I didn't necessarily love." And when it comes to choosing her work, the 'Gypsy' star need to "connect" with the project in some way in order to give it her all. She added: "I feel if I don't love the material, if I'm not connected to it in a certain way. then I'm not going to give my best."

WONDER WOMAN PASSES \$800M MARK



already made more than \$800 million at the worldwide box office. The Patty Jenkins-directed superhero movie, which stars actress Gal Gadot in the lead role, has achieved incredible success since it was released in May, helping to make it one of the highest-grossing movies of 2017. The film has not yet opened in the potentially lucrative Japanese market, but it has just become the first femaledirected live-action movie to earn more than \$400 million and \$800 million at the US and worldwide box offices respectively. A 'Wonder Woman' sequel has already been given the green light, but it remains to be seen whether Jenkins will return to the franchise. The filmmaker has been locked in negotiations with Warner Bros. for weeks and she could become the highestpaid female director around. But Jenkins previously admitted it

■onder Woman' has was not a "foregone conclusion" she would direct 'Wonder Woman 2'. She said: "I had an epiphany about 'Wonder Woman 2'. I was like, you don't have to do this. It doesn't have to be a foregone conclusion that you do 'Wonder Woman 2'. "But then as I was falling asleep I had an epiphany. I was like, 'Wait a minute. You have the greatest character of all time that you love dearly, with a cast that you love sitting at the palm of your hand at this day and age - you can do whatever you want with them - are you crazy?' "It's a continuation of the same character, but there's a great, entirely different story to be told. "With this character in our ... in the world, that's fun, because now she exists, just funny, and also says something profound about the world we're in right now."

—Ban Showbiz

MUSIC & MOVIES



In a April 24, 1971 file photo, France's first lady Madame Claude Pompidou, holding a rose, is shown with American entertainer Jerry Lewis, dressed as a clown, at a gala in Paris. — AP/AFP photos



In a Oct 16, 1977 file photo, comedian Jerry Lewis cuts up during a haircut for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.



This file photo taken on May 15, 1988 shows US comedian Jerry Lewis (left) and US singer Sammy Davis Jr (right) posing before the New York Friars Club Tribute to Barbara Sinatra, wife of singer Frank Sinatra.

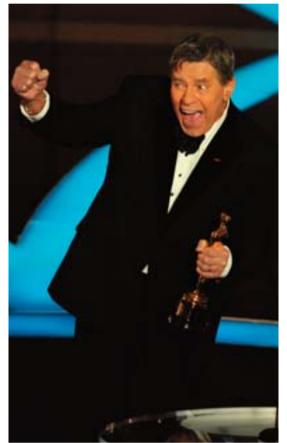
Comedy legend Jerry Lewis dies at 91

Teteran Hollywood comedian Jerry Lewis, who died Sunday aged 91, perfected a goofy brand of slapstick that endeared him to millions over the course of a career spanning six decades. One of the most popular American entertainers of the 1950s and '60s, Lewis made his name as the clown behind such quirky comedies like "The Nutty Professor" but also won acclaim as a writer, actor and philanthropist. The comedy legend, who at the peak of his popularity was among the world biggest movie draws, died at his home in Las Vegas early Sunday morning.

"I can sadly confirm that today the world lost one of the most significant human beings," his publicist Nancy Kane said in a statement. "Jerry died peacefully at home of natural causes surrounded by family and friends." Fans were leaving flowers at the comedian's two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Hollywood's iconic TCL Chinese Theater was to dim its lights Sunday evening in honor of Lewis, who in 2014 sank his hands and feet into the cement squares in the theater's forecourt.

Honored with accolades at home and abroad, including a Nobel Peace Prize nomination and France's Legion of Honor, Lewis became known as much for his tireless efforts to promote awareness of Muscular Dystrophy as for his wacky comedy. Over the course of 45 years, he raised some 2.45 billion dollars for combatting the disease with an annual television event. Born Joseph Levitch in Newark, New Jersey to two New York City entertainers, Lewis first took center stage at the tender age of five, when he performed "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" He began playing at resorts outside New York City that catered to Jewish patrons, known by touring entertainers as the Borscht Circuit.

By age 15, he had assembled his own routine of lipsynching and made the rounds of New York talent agents, though to little avail. At the age of 20, however, everything changed as Lewis embarked on arguably one of the most successful entertainment partnerships of all time with smooth crooner Dean Martin. The two fed off each other in now-classic comedy gags, including pratfalls, slapstick and lots of seltzer water, signing a long-term contract with Paramount Pictures. "That fool was no dummy," tweeted the comic star Jim Carrey, who cited Lewis as an inspiration. "Jerry Lewis was an undeniable genius



This file photo taken on February 22, 2009 shows comedian Jerry Lewis celebrating after being awarded the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award in Hollywood.

an unfathomable blessing, comedy's absolute! I am because he was!"

'Be a hit'

Some of the most notable films in Lewis' extensive repertoire include "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" (1959), "The Geisha Boy" (1958) and "Funnybones" (1984). His box office grosses, span-

ning nearly 50 years, total 800 million dollars an impressive figure since movie tickets cost no more than 50 cents during the height of his popularity. After 17 films together, the Lewis-Martin partnership split in 1956, but Lewis continued his career in comedy and Hollywood. He won acclaim for his dramatic role alongside Robert De Niro Martin Scorsese's 1983 film "The King of Comedy."

"Be a hit. Score," was his simple advice to young comedians, in an interview he once gave to Larry King, the celebrity interviewer and a longtime friend. "Get the audience laughing and happy. That's the secret." At other times he was more humble.

"Funny is fragile. It's elusive," he told the Los Angeles Times in a 2010 interview. "It's elusive to everyone because you're never going to get a handle on what's funny." Fellow comedian Carol Burnett-who worked with Lewis several times-marveled at his physical gifts. "His voice could go up several octaves when he was supposed to be scared or insecure," she told CNN. "Our audience was just dying with laughter, because he did such wonderful things with his body." Lewis' long career was not without controversy, however. News reports over the years have criticized him as volatile and ill-tempered and he was accused more than once of berating fans attending his shows.

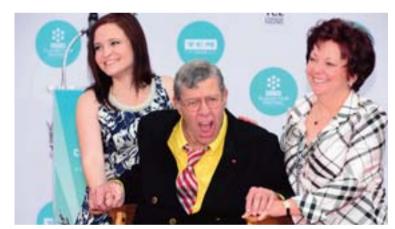
In 2007, during the 18th hour of his telethon, the then-81-year-old actor used a homophobic slur in introducing one person off stage-later apologizing for "a bad choice of words." Eventually, he was dumped as host of the yearly telethon by the Muscular Dystrophy Association, ending a nearly half-century run amid a growing sense that he had overstayed his welcome. In recent decades, Lewis had been plagued by health problems, and was declared clinically dead in 1982 after a heart attack. Ten years later he was diagnosed with prostate cancer and in 1997 found out he had diabetes. A diag nosis of spinal meningitis in 2000 further caused his health to deteriorate. But he was determined not to let ill health keep him from working as long as possible, including on a Broadway musical adaptation of 'The Nutty Professor" as recently as 2011. "I have to finish what I've started," he told the Los Angeles Times in 2010. "I want to do it before I leave." — AFP



Flowers in memory of comedian Jerry Lewis lie on his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame near the Dolby Theatre, in Los Angeles on Sunday.



In a March 29, 1951 file photo, actor-comedian Dean Martin, left, and his wife, Jeanne, are shown with actor-comedian Jerry Lewis, far right, and his wife, singer Patti, as they arrive at the Academy Awards presentations at the RKO Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles.



This file photo taken on April 12, 2014 shows US comedian Jerry Lewis (center) posing with his wife SanDee Pitnick (right) and daughter Danielle (left) at his Hand and Footprint ceremony at the TCL Theater in Hollywood, California.



The cancellation line policies for the Broadway show 'Hamilton,' at the Richard Rogers Theatre.



A theater goer purchases a ticket to the Broadway show 'Hamilton' at the Richard Rogers Theatre. in New York's Theater District.

Broadway ticket-buying now easier for fans, not re-sellers

or longtime Bruce Springsteen fan Debbie Elster, there's never been any doubt the competition to get tickets for his upcoming Broadway shows is going to be fierce. But she's feeling a little more hopeful, thanks to a new online verification system for ticket-buying that aims to keep more tickets in the hands of fans rather than resellers who seemingly snap them up and put them on the market, often for several times the face value. Known as Verified Fan, the program from Ticketmaster requires people to register for a specific sale in advance, with information including their names, phone numbers and emails.

The registrations are reviewed, including past ticket purchase history and even social media accounts, with an eye toward determining whether they're more likely to be event attendees. Those accepted get unique codes that they can use when they go to buy tickets on the sale date. The premise is that by vetting registrants, it's more likely that actual fans would be the ones getting the first crack at hot tickets, instead of brokers and re-sellers.

"That makes me feel better," said Elster, 66, a videographer who lives in Margate, Florida. "That makes me feel like I have a chance maybe, more of a chance than usual." Verified Fan has been used for concert sales for artists such as Ed Sheeran and Harry Styles, and is now showing up for Broadway sales. "Springsteen on Broadway," running from Oct. 3 to Nov. 26, is using the system, as is another show expected to be a hot prospect, "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child," opening next spring.

The producers of the immensely popular "Hamilton" announced Tuesday that a new block of tickets for the show would go on sale through Verified Fan. That show has been the subject of a huge re-sale market, with tickets going for hundreds of dollars if not more than the

face values.

Premium seats for "Hamilton" run as high as \$849, with prices on the secondary ticket markets more than double that amount. While "Hamilton" has put aside a few digital lottery seats for \$10, the average ticket last week went for \$282.65. Those kinds of prices make Ayodele Williams, 44, of Philadelphia, outraged. She and her sister were in New York last week to see a performance of "Hamilton," and they had tickets they consider themselves lucky to have snagged at face value last fall.

"It's become so expensive and rigged," Williams said. "If you have some kind of system or algorithm that allows you to buy all these tickets, you're going to get them and then all you're doing is re-selling. You're not doing it for the love of the show really. You're doing it for the love of the money"

David Marcus, executive vice president for Ticketmaster, said that was the point of the registration system: to give fans a better experience. "It's intended to make the initial distribution fairer," he said, to fight against a system where brokers are the first ones out of the gate for tickets. Re-sale has a role, he said, but it shouldn't be the oversize one it's playing. He said so far the program has been working. Of the more than a million tickets distributed through Verified Fan since it began beta testing late last year, less than 5 percent have gone onto the secondary re-sale market. — AP

People wait in the ticket cancellation line for a chance to see the Broadway show 'Hamilton' at the Richard Rogers



FEATURES



In this July 29, 1933 file photo, a teacher and students stand next to an astronomical instrument at the Ancient Observatory in Peking, now Beijing. — AP photos



In this Tuesday night, Sept 16, 1997 file photo, worshippers pay their respects to Shepherd Heinz Greiner watches the beginning of a total solar eclipse near Rahu (the God of Darkness) during a ceremony at the Srisathong Temple in Nakhon Pathom Province, 50 kilometers (31 miles) west of Bangkok, on the occasion of a lunar eclipse.



Augsburg, southern Germany.

THE LORE AND LURE OF ECLIPSES: BLOOD, SEX AND SOME SNACKING

t's not just the skies that get dark when there's a total solar eclipse. So do we. Modern science explains that the sun disappears because the moon is passing in front of it. But before that, people had to come up with reasons for what was happening in the sky. Some of them weren't exactly bedtime stories. The lore of early eclipses often told us more about the people spinning the yarns than it did about the sun or the moon, said Anthony Aveni, author of "In the Shadow of the Moon: The Science, Magic, and Mystery of Solar Eclipses."

"It's not myth. It's not science. It's culture," said Aveni, a professor of physics and sociology at Colgate University. They are often morality tales to warn against everything from incest to lying, Aveni said. They could be quite bloody and scary- and thus make a good lesson. After all, what's more unnerving than the sun disappearing in the middle of the day? A sampling of eclipse lore and history.

Violence

Perhaps the bloodiest eclipse story comes from India and "it's not for the faint of heart," said former planetarium director Mark Littmann of the University of Tennessee. A demon named Rahu tried to steal the nectar of immortality from the gods, but the sun and the moon recognized him. Rahu started drinking the nectar when Vishnu threw a discus and it "sliced right through Rahu's neck," Littmann said. The nectar was still in Rahu's mouth but the rest of the body disappeared. So the immortal head would chase the sun and moon around the sky and "whenever it catches up with the sun and moon it takes a bite." But because Rahu has no body, when he swallows the sun or moon, they soon reap-

Sex

German myth has the cold and lazy male moon, ignoring the fiery passionate female sun during the day most of the time, except for a few bits of passion during an eclipse. Then they'd squabble again and the sun would resume shining again, Littmann said. In western Africa, it's the occasional and furtive rendezvous but this time between the male sun and female moon, with the couple modestly turning out the lights during an eclipse.

Munching

Because the sun disappears like a cookie being nibbled, eating myths abound. The Norse had a wolf that took a bite out of the sun. Elsewhere it's been a dog, dragon, bird and snake from the underworld. Often the beast would spit out the sun because it was too hot. End of eclipse.

Littmann described what might be the first case of California road rage. The Pomo Indians talked of a bear that was walking when it bumped into the sun. They fought about who was in the way, so the bear, in a fit of rage, bit the sun and kept eating until the moon came and saved the day.

Lying

Andean people used to speak of the moon whispering lies in the sun's ear - the crescent in the eclipse. So they would bang drums and make dogs howl to alert the sun that "the moon is a liar and he's lying to the sun" about the people of Earth, Aveni said.

Battles

An eclipse stopped the battle between the Lydians and the Medes more than 2,500 years ago, according to writings by the first Greek historian Herodotus. "Soldiers on both sides were so terrified they stopped fighting" and they made peace, with the daughter of the Lydian king marrying the sun of the Median king, Littmann said.

Tenskwatawa, a Shawnee prophet of the early 19th century, was trying to unite tribes in Indiana and Ohio. William Henry Harrison, then governor of the Indiana territory and later president, tried to belittle the efforts. He asked the prophet if he could perform miracles and challenged him to 'cause the sun to stand still, the moon to alter its course, the rivers to cease to flow or the dead to rise from the graves." Tenkswatawa knew of the upcoming June 16, 1806 eclipse and proclaimed he would blot out the sun and came out in full regalia. The sun went away temporarily, "which was very embarrassing for Harrison," Littmann said.

Calculations

The Babylonians, the Maya and the Chinese all hundreds and even thousands of years ago noticed a mathematical pattern in when eclipses showed up and started calculating them in advance. They noticed they return to a place after 18 years and 11 days, Littmann said. "If you could predict something it's no longer scary," he said. — AP



Flowers: The universal way to make a girl happy

By Real Fouz

■lowers are one of my favorite ■ things that can instantly brighten up my day. I love receiving as well as giving flowers; the whole concept of arranging flowers is a big passion of mine. One of the main reasons I love flowers so much is because they remind me of why we received them every time we look at them. They also don't last very long and don't really have a practical use, which is the beauty of receiving flowers. It conveys a message from someone at that given time, so it's something that you cherish even more than other kinds of gifts.

Peonies are my personal favorite kind of flowers. Since peonies bloom from May to June, they always remind me of summer and instantly brighten my mood. Their petals and beautiful fragrance give them such a girly, feminine feel which is why I think I love them so much. We all have a favorite flower that we're drawn to, however, I never knew that your favorite flower can tell you so much about your personality. I've been doing my researching about it and I found a lot of interesting information that I would like to share with my readers.

"Radiate happiness and love simply by a flower"

Let's start with my favorite, peonies. Peonies symbolize a happy life, good health, a happy marriage and prosperity. I found that if peonies are your favorite flower it means that you're a positive person who is thoughtful and empathetic towards others. You also have a bold,

bright, and elegant style, but not overbearing. If roses are your favorite flower it means that you think with your heart. You're classy, timeless, and know how to make a statement.

Tulips mean that you're confident and thoughtful and your personality changes a lot depending on your mood, however you're always sleek and coordinated. Sunflowers say that your style is bright and warm and that you thrive around people and love being the center of attention. Daises are loved by those who are optimistic and can find the good in any bad situation-they always know what to say to make people smile.

Lilacs say that you live for all things nostalgic-going through old photos from your past, antiques shops, watching old shows-and you're all about infusing your style with vintage pieces. Lilies mean you're a happy, impassioned hard worker and you're not afraid to be proud of your accomplishments. Your style is always perfectly tailored, and you know how to stand out in a crowd.

If Orchids are your favorite then you're both sophisticated and mysterious-you're never the loudest or most glamorous person in the room, but people are still drawn to you. Your style is all about the details, and they're always onpoint. So next time when you plan on buying or gifting flowers, look beyond the pretty colors and amazing fragrance and make your choice depending on the meaning, I think it will make a much more thoughtful gift.

Turkey bones may help trace fate of ancient cliff dwellers

esearchers say they have found a new clue into the mysterious exodus of ancient cliffdwelling people from the Mesa Verde area of Colorado more than 700 years ago: DNA from the bones of domesticated turkeys. The DNA shows the Mesa Verde people raised turkeys that had telltale similarities to turkeys kept by ancient people in the Rio Grande Valley of northern New Mexico - and that those birds became more common in New Mexico about the same time the Mesa Verde people were leaving their cliff dwellings, according to a paper published last month in the journal PLoS One.

That supports the hypothesis that when the cliff dwellers left the Mesa Verde region in the late 1200s, many migrated to northern New Mexico's Rio Grande Valley, about 170 miles (270 kilometers) to the southeast, and that the Pueblo Indians who live there today are their descendants, the archaeologists wrote. The cliff dwellers would have taken some turkeys with them, accounting for the increase in numbers in New Mexico, the authors said.

Researchers have long debated what became of the people sometimes called Ancestral Puebloans, who lived in the elaborate Mesa Verde cliff dwellings and other communities across the Four Corners region, where the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah meet. Archaeologists believe the Ancestral Puebloans were a flourishing population of about 30,000 in 1200, but by 1280 they were gone, driven off by a devastating drought, social turbulence and warfare.

Because they left no written record, their paths are not known with certainty. Many archaeologists and present-day Pueblo Indians believe the Ancestral Puebloans moved to villages across New Mexico and Arizona, and that their descendants live there today. Scott Ortman, a University of Colorado archaeologist and a co-author of the PLoS One paper, said the turkey DNA supports the explanation that many migrated to an area along the Rio Grande north of present-day Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"The patterns that we found are consistent with several other studies and several other lines of evidence," he said in an interview. Jim Allison, an archaeologist at Brigham Young University who was not involved in the paper, agreed the findings mesh with other evidence of a southeastward migration. But a weakness of the study is the number of DNA samples used, he said. Researchers examined DNA from nearly 270 sets of turkey remains - some from before 1280 and some from after that date. But only 11 sets of remains came from the Rio Grande before 1280. "It would have been really nice to have 10 times as many," Allison said, but they were not available.

Evidence for a migration

Ortman acknowledged that the turkey DNA alone is not conclusive evidence of migration to the Rio Grande Valley. The New Mexico turkeys could have come from someplace other than the Mesa Verde region, or turkey-herding communities could already have sprung up in New Mexico before the Ancestral Puebloans left their Mesa Verde communities, he said. Some archaeologists argue the evidence for a migration to the Rio Grande Valley is thin. Even supporters, such as Allison, acknowledge

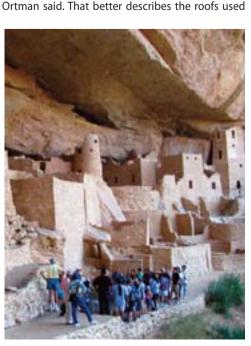


In this file photo visitors tour Cliff Palace, an ancient cliff dwelling in Mesa Verde National Park, Colo. —AP photos

that some evidence does not fit, including differences in pottery and architectural styles.

Tim Hovezak, an archaeologist at Mesa Verde National Park, said he is not convinced the Ancestral Puebloans moved to the Rio Grande, but he tries to keep an open mind. "I think it's still a mystery, and it's a very compelling one," he said. Ortman said other evidence besides the turkey DNA points to the migration. The Tewa language spoken by some northern New Mexico Pueblo Indians today includes vocabulary "that seems to harken back to the material culture of the Mesa Verde area," he said.

The Tewa term for the roof of a church translates roughly to "a basket made out of timbers,"



on kivas - ceremonial rooms - in ancient Mesa Verde communities than it does the churches in New Mexico, he said.

Another line of evidence is similarities in the facial structures of the remains of ancient people from the Mesa Verde region and New Mexico, Ortman said. Examining human DNA from Ancestral Puebloan remains would provide a more definitive answer, Ortman said. But some contemporary Pueblo Indians object to doing that, and Ortman and others said they respect their wishes.

Theresa Pasqual, a member of the Acoma Pueblo in northwestern New Mexico and the pueblo's former preservation director, said she knows of no pueblos that would consent to DNA testing on ancestral remains because of spiritual and cultural concerns. Pasqual, who is studying archaeology at the University of New Mexico, said she was heartened by the turkey DNA study because it supports the oral traditions of Acoma and other present-day pueblos that point to ancestral ties to the Mesa Verde region. Some Acoma families still raise domestic turkeys and hunt wild ones, but it would be difficult to trace that tradition to the Ancestral Puebloans, Pasqual said. The Ancestral Puebloan sites are a key factor in what she called Acoma's "migration narrative." "These places have been a part of our narrative and a part of our history and a part of our present-day life for as long as we can remember," Pasqual said. — AP

Visitors tour Cliff Palace, an ancient cliff dwelling in Mesa Verde National Park, Colo.

FEATURE



■ t's my heritage, it's important because we have to preserve the culture of our

Ceramics, carpentry, calligraphy and gem cutting: centuries of Afghan craftmanship honed on the ancient Silk Road are being preserved

and train the new generation," he said. Slowly

more and more Afghan artisans joined the

collective, preserving priceless skills that

many feared would disappear altogether due

to decades of war-a problem that many

Syrian craftsmen, who are fleeing their coun-

try in droves, now face. First started by British

diplomat Rory Stewart, the Turquoise

Mountain Foundation, which is supported by

Britain's Prince Charles, the British Council,

and USAID, says it has now worked with some

5,000 artisans. Their efforts have breathed

new life into Murad Khani's ancient silver

bazaar, with hundreds travelling every day to

the restored cedar paneled courtyard to learn

and teach woodwork, calligraphy, ceramics,

jewelry and miniature painting.

country'.

Afghan students carve wood during a class at the Turquoise Mountain Foundation in Mourad Khani in the old city section of Kabul.



An Afghan student practices on a miniature during a calligraphy class at the Turquoise Mountain Foundation in Mourad Khani in the old city section of Kabul. — AFP photos



An Afghan student works on jewelry during a class at the Turquoise **Mountain Foundation.**



An Afghan student works on jewelry during a class at the Turquoise



Afghan students learn and practice calligraphy during a class.

in Kabul, a rare success story for an aid project in the war-torn country that organizers are now hoping to replicate with refugees from Syria. In the sixteen years since the fall of the Taliban, the Turquoise Mountain foundation has found some of Afghanistan's best artisans and helped them preserve and pass on their skills, as well helping them showcase their work in international markets. A painstakingly restored caravanserai-a roadside inn-in Kabul's oldest district is once again a hub for exquisite woodwork carvers, potters making traditionally-glazed ceramics, Islamic calligraphers, and goldsmiths. "When we started, there were very few artisans living in Kabul. Most of them were out of the country," said Abdul Wahid Khalili, the nonprofit's director. "We had to start with the few old artisans we had, it was a very difficult start," he said. Kabul, a key stop on the silk road, was once renowned for its craftwork, but when Turquoise Mountain began work in 2006 in Kabul's oldest district Mourad Khani, they had to excavate the caravanserai from tons of rubbish. **Next generation** "For more than 50 years the rubbish had Staff at Turquoise Mountain began by piled up in the yard," he said, adding that they combing Kabul's streets and knocking on also immediately began training students. 'The idea was to restore the (caravanserai)

Past masters: Saving

Afghanistan's artisans from extinction

doors in the villages trying to find artisans and students to enroll. The foundation now employs 30 Afghan masters, who are given retraining and support from the organization, and then help teach new apprentices in their craft. Wakil Abdul Aqi Ahmani, 64, is one of the institute's founding fathers. "It's my heritage, it's important because we have to preserve the culture of our country," he says, as he leans over his student's cedar wood panels and explains the art of Jali carving.

Turquoise Mountain's selection process is now more rigorous: more than 500 candidates apply each year, Khalili said, with just 50 taken on, both girls and boys. "They show what they learned with their family, in the shops, at the bazaar, with the elders," said Abasin Bahand, who is in charge of the entry exams. "They are all trained, but they are not professional - anyone can apply." The three years of their training are free, the students are fed and housed if they come from the provinces. They are also given a small monthly stipend to cover transport costs. They leave with a double certifications-Afghan and British. "Eighty percent of our graduates have moved to their own business or are working for other business in the craft they chose," said Nathan Stroupe, the director of the Turquoise Mountain foundation in Afghanistan.

Lost forever

Some of their carpentry students have decorated palaces in London and the Emirates, and jewelers have received commissions for New York Fashion Week. "We have a business incubation process to support our students for three years," Stroupe said. "Some of the craftsmen had worked for the King," he said, referring to Mohammed Zaher Shah, who was deposed in 1973. But the process is still a race against time. "For Jali and Nuristani carving, we had teachers who were the last in Afghanistan, they passed away. If we were not able to preserve these arts, they would have been lost," said Khalili.

"Already there are specific areas we lostthere are no copper makers left, no bronze makers." "Now we are documenting all those areas, we want to spread (knowledge) all over the country, the idea is to transfer it to community... if not it will be lost again," he said. After its successes in Afghanistan, the foundation is looking at wartorn Syria, which is also seeing ancient traditions threatened by an exodus of artisans. "We have already met Syrian artisans in Jordan," said Scott Riddle, a project director who will start work in September. "Some people in Amman have already managed to set up small ateliers. We're researching in the refugee camp in Azrag, in the desert in the country's northeast." After Jordan, Turquoise Mountain is looking to work with refugee artisans from Libya. — AFP

Afghan students work on carving wood during a class.



Afghan students work on a Jali wood carving during a Jali Screen Workshop.



Afghan students learn and practice on miniatures during a calligraphy class.



Afghan students work on jewelry during a class.



An Afghan student practices on a miniature during a calligraphy class.



An Afghan student uses her mobile phone as she stands in the courtyard of the **Turquoise Mountain Foundation.**



A man uses his mobile phone in front of a wall decorated with graffiti at Santa Fe Community in San Salvador. A group of young people, with the support of San Salvador's mayoralty, carried out the making of artistic graffiti on walls

Stone Mountain poses another test for Confederate symbols



he huge raised-relief images show a

Confederate trinity sitting astride their

horses, high above the ground. Hats

held across their chests, President Jefferson

Davis and Gens. Robert E Lee and Thomas

"Stonewall" Jackson ride across the face of

Stone Mountain into faded glory. Part theme

park and part shrine to Dixie's Lost Cause, this

granite outcrop east of Atlanta - sculpted like

a Mt Rushmore of the Confederacy - is once

again an ideological battlefield as a new fight

rages over rebel symbolism across the South.

nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, a

Democratic candidate for Georgia governor

said the carving should be removed. But

removal would probably mean destroying a

work of public art that took decades to com-

In the aftermath of the Aug 12 white-

This file photo shows the carving depicting **Confederate Civil** war figures Stonewall Jackson, Robert E Lee and Jefferson Davis, in Stone Mountain, Ga. — AP photos

hiking trails and other park amenities. They see the carving as a curiosity. "I think it would be more productive to use it as a talking point for education than to just get rid of it," Finn said, quickly adding, "I wouldn't mind if they took down some of the flags." John Purpera, who's white, stopped Thursday at Stone Mountain with his wife and son while driving from their home in Port St Lucie, Florida, to St Louis to see Monday's solar eclipse. Originally from Louisiana, he opposes the removal of Confederate statues.

Bravery and heroism

"The people that want it removed should be shot," he said. "It's part of history, and you shouldn't just delete parts of history you don't like." Even if Abrams wins the nomination and beats the odds next year to become governor of this red state, it's unlikely she would be able to get the carving removed. State law says it "shall never be altered, removed, concealed or obscured in any fashion and shall be preserved and protected for all time as a tribute to the bravery and heroism of the citizens of this state who suffered and died in their cause."

That language was part of a compromise in a 2001 law that changed the state flag from one that included the Confederate battle flag. It would be extremely difficult to muster enough support in the Georgia General Assembly to change the law, University of Georgia political science professor Charles Bullock said. "That's going to be a lot harder than pulling down a statue," he quipped. Those who want Confederate symbols removed often say they belong in a museum where there's explanation and context, not prominently displayed on public lands. The Stone Mountain Memorial Association, which manages Stone Mountain Park, argues the

Lining the massive lawn stretching out from the mountain's base - where families gather with picnics to watch a laser show projected onto the mountain - is a series of individual brick terraces, one for each Confederate state. A plague notes the dates of the state's secession and of its readmission to the Union. The white-columned Memorial Hall at the top of the lawn houses full-scale reproductions of parts of the carving so visitors can get a better sense of its size - 90 feet (27 meters) by 190 feet (58 meters). Another section explores local history, with exhibits on the Civil War that do not delve deeply into the war's causes

worshippers at a Charleston, South Carolina, church by a white supremacist gunman led to calls to remove Confederate memorials, the Stone Mountain association considered adding a memorial to civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. But the plan was dropped after it ran into resistance from both those who identify with King and those who honor the Confederacy. Stone Mountain's history is deeply entwined with the Ku Klux Klan. drawn up in 1915 at the request of the United park serves precisely that purpose. Daughters of the Confederacy. That same

thereafter, Stone Mountain was the site of an annual KKK cross burning. Because of funding problems and other issues, the carving was not completed until 1972. Georgia Historical Society historian Stan Deaton said it's significant that the monument was begun as the KKK was reborn and completed following the civil rights movement and desegregation. He said many or touch on later controversies. Southern politicians still chafed at changes imposed by what they considered an intrusive federal government. "As a segregated society is coming to an end, we're going to forever enshrine these three Confederate heroes on the front of this mountain as a kind

> The Sacred Knights of the Ku Klux Klan applied last May for a permit to hold a "lighting ceremony" on top of the mountain on Oct 21 to commemorate the 1915 burning. In a letter last week denying the permit, the Stone Mountain Memorial Association cited a disruptive 2016 clash between a white nationalist group and opponents at the park. The association "condemns the beliefs and actions of the Ku Klux Klan" and believes denying the permit "is in the best interest of all parties and is the appropriate course of action," it said in a statement. — AP

of perpetual middle finger, if you will, to the

federal government," Deaton said.

Score for Beatles hit 'Eleanor Rigby' goes for auction

Confederate flag supporters climb

Stone Mountain

to protest of

believe is an

attack on their

Southern her-

itage during a

rally at Stone

Mountain, Ga.

in Stone

In 2015, when the massacre of nine black

The first sketches for the carving were

year, the Klan experienced a rebirth with a

Mountain. That year also saw the release of

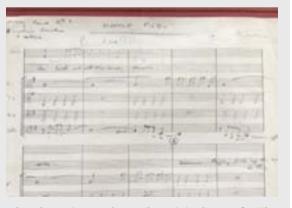
the film "The Birth of a Nation," which glorified

the Reconstruction-era KKK. For decades

Thanksgiving night cross burning atop Stone

Mountain Park

what they



A handout picture shows the original score for The Beatles' song Eleanor Rigby that will be auctioned on September 11 at the auction house as part of their The Beatles Collection sale. — AP

he original handwritten score for the Beatles song "Eleanor Rigby" is to be sold at auction, alongside the deeds of the grave of the woman said to have been immortalized by the Fab Four. "Each item is fantastic, unique and of significant historical importance in itself, so to have both come up at the same time is an incredible coincidence," said Paul Fairweather from Omega Auctions, which is selling the items.

"I expect there to be fierce bidding from across the globe," he said. The score, expected to fetch £20,000 (\$26,000, 22,000 euros), is written in pencil by the Beatles's late producer George Martin and signed by both Martin and Paul McCartney. It also includes notes specifying that it was to be recorded at London's Abbey Road Studio number two and that four violins, two violas and two cellos were to be used.

"Eleanor Rigby" was released in 1966 as the B-side to "Yellow Submarine", and depicts its heroine as "wearing the face that she keeps in a jar by the door". McCartney previously said the name Eleanor was inspired by actress Eleanor Bron, who starred in the Beatles film "Help!" in 1965, and that Rigby came from the name of a wine merchant. It emerged in the 1980s that the name is inscribed on a headstone in St Peter's churchyard in Woolton, Liverpool, where McCartney met John Lennon at a party in 1957. The two Beatles also revealed that they used to take short cuts through the church grounds. According to the grave, Eleanor Rigby died in 1939 at the age of 44.

But McCartney has stayed true to his story, saying in 2008 that "Eleanor Rigby is a totally fictitious character that I made up". "If someone wants to spend money buying a document to prove a fictitious character exists, that's fine with me," McCartney said at the time. The deeds of the grave will be sold in a lot that includes a miniature Bible, dated 1899, with the name Elenor Rigby handwritten inside, and are expected to sell for £5,000. The Beatles Memorabilia Auction will be held in Warrington, near Liverpool, on September 11. — AP



John Purpera poses in front of the carvings of Confederate leaders in Stone Mountain State Park in Stone Mountain, Ga.

plete and is the centerpiece of one of Georgia's biggest tourist destinations. The images carved into the mountain, "like Confederate monuments across this state, stand as constant reminders of racism, intolerance and division," Stacey Abrams wrote in an email to supporters following the violence in Charlottesville. Abrams is vying to become

the nation's first black female governor. Gazing up at the carving Thursday with out-of-town guests, Leila Finn and Sandra Neuse, white women from nearby Avondale Estates, said they visit Stone Mountain for the



