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# Kuwait Times Friday Times



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## Kuwait's King of HipHop releases new video

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Local Spotlight

# MEDICS BEATEN



By Muna Al-Fuzai

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Attacks on medical staff continue in Kuwait, which is unfortunate and shameful. The latest fight was over a bathroom. It ended tragically with a nurse being sent for surgery and the doctor going to the police station to complain against the attackers. Reports about doctors getting insulted and beaten at their workplaces are becoming viciously repetitive. It is regrettable that some try to justify such attacks because of the grief of a patient's family, overcrowding and long waiting periods. These claims can never be a justification to attack doctors and nurses.

According to a security source, the doctor and nurse clashed with the public relations employees because the latter insisted on using the nurses' toilet.

The doctor and nurse at Al-Sabah Hospital were beaten by three brothers because of a dispute over using the toilet. According to a security source, the doctor and nurse clashed with the public relations employees because the latter insisted on using the nurses' toilet. A fight ensued with a verbal exchange, which was aggravated by beatings. The nurse was seriously injured and transferred to the operation theater, while the rest of the people went to Shuwaikh police station for legal action. This could mean waiting for a court decision, and maybe the attackers would have to pay a few dinars in fines.

The Kuwait Nursing Society denounced the attack and demanded that the ministries of health and interior punish the aggressors, urging Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi to "protect medical personnel from repeated attacks". I wonder if these PR employees will be allowed to continue their work until the court verdict. They should be immediately fired, because if they are public relations employees, this means they directly interact with hospital visitors and patients. If they have no respect for the medical staff, I would assume show no courtesy to the general public.

Moral and societal corruption and the spread of wasta and ignorance have turned beatings into a normal occurrence. When a man beats his wife, it is considered a disciplinary act because she made a mistake. Although the police may act as a deterrent, the society makes it acceptable. If this is not ignorance and backwardness, I don't know what it is.

This case may end with reconciliation and peace among all parties, but I hope the doctor and the injured nurse will not accept a settlement and demand their legal rights. The MoH must set new rules to protect its staff and shouldn't accept letting them fall prey to anyone.

PHOTO OF THE DAY



A pyramid of dried figs at a local market in Kuwait. — Photo by Lamia Al-Farsi

IN MY VIEW

# PHONES DOWN, HEADS UP!

By Abdulaziz Al Ashban

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There is a disease, or should I say an epidemic, plaguing Kuwait. Our roads are overrun with drivers - many from this generation - glued to their phones, even while their hands on the wheel direct tons of dangerous steel. This is a primary cause of nasty car accidents in this country. The frightening part of this problem is that it is still something that is happening today! We must do something to stop this.

I have witnessed firsthand too many car accidents and their aftermaths, with vehicles of both the culprit and the victim completely destroyed. Recently, a car accident took place near my house. The two drivers seemed to be very young, most probably in their early twenties. I don't know what caused the accident but definitely many accidents here are related to mobile use while driving.

I have also noticed that a lot of people fidget with their phones while driving, even if they aren't talking to someone. According to an Interior Ministry report, 95 percent of car accidents in Kuwait occur due to lack of attention while using electronic devices. Around 155 deaths took place due to this reason in 2015. Additionally, in the past five years, 2,437 Kuwait residents have died as a result of this malaise.

My message to all drivers out there in this country is to open your eyes and see the world, pay attention while you are driving and let go of your habit of using your smartphones while driving. There is nothing so urgent that you have to risk your lives or someone else's to chat on the mobile or check Instagram while barreling down the highway at 100k/h.

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# TAXIS IN KUWAIT...

Historic photo shows old cars in Kuwait, often used by private drivers to provide taxi services.

**KUWAIT:** Taxis have been a part of the Kuwait landscape since the late 1930s with personal vehicles, owned by well off Kuwaitis, being the precursor of the present organized profession that delivers people to their desired destinations.

Back in the day, the relation between clients and drivers was not governed by the rules and regulations of today. It was more of a mutual agreement between both parties regarding the amount of fare paid and the possibility of getting to a certain destination, which was not always guaranteed due to the lack of paved roads.

Cultural and historical author Yousef Al-Shehab said that the main use of private vehicles as taxis in the past was to get people to then distant areas such as Al-Jahra, Hawally and Ahmadi.

There were few private cars in the past which used to be parked in Al-Safat public square, said Al-Shehab, adding



The precursor of the taxi service... Private vehicles parked in Al-Safat public square. — Photos from KUNA archives

# A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

that this particular arrangement constituted the old taxi service.

Regarding the type of vehicles used in driving people around, Al-Shehab said that cars ranged from small ones to large vehicles used by the British military like lorries and trucks, which were then converted for civilian use.

Moreover, the taxi service was not only bounded by destinations within the country, sometimes it went beyond, taking Kuwaitis on trips to Iraq, Saudi Arabia and other places, he added.

With the urban and infrastructure development kicking in, the taxi service has evolved and took many shapes and forms, a normal progression for a profession that has been in the country long before its independence, said the historian. — KUNA



Taxi service  
in Kuwait.



A taxi driver in  
1960s in Kuwait.



# Kuwait's King of Hip Hop releases new video



By Athoob Al-Shuaibi

**K**uwaiti hip-hop/rap artiste King Daffy will release a new music video of his song "Shino Elkalam Hatha" starring Kuwaiti actress Shijoon Al-Shuwaini (Shooji) on Monday, July 17. The song is from his latest collaborative album "6arat" (Sarat) with Bahraini hip-hop musicians Flipperachi and DJ Outlaw, which was released last year.

The song was inspired by a catchy whistling intro tune of a popular song by Kuwait's Miami band called "Gharamik Shay

February concert," he added. King Daffy's hip-hop songs are known for their smooth synchronization between English and Arabic with a dynamic musical backdrop. "After I wrote the song, I went to Khaled Al-Randi and asked him to listen to the song. He loved it and gave me the green light to use it," he said.

Notably, the video of his popular song "Samboosa" from the same album has been a huge success on YouTube, with more than four million views. Daffy believes that a successful song doesn't guarantee the same success for its video. Therefore, the idea of the video should be studied carefully. It should not solely rely on dance - there should be a story and plot.

"For the '9arat' album, the appearance of some celebrities is a trend in the music videos we've made. I don't understand why it's rare to see joint musical work between artistes from various fields, as we often see them together for national songs and religious or awareness campaigns. We collaborated in our previous music videos with celebs from Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. I came up with the concept of the video for the song 'Shino Elkalam Hatha', which is about a guy who falls in love with a girl who's already in love with another man. The video is directed by Jassim Al-Harban and co-produced by me and DJ Outlaw. Thanks to the Vision Visuals production house for making it happen," explained Daffy.

King Daffy is currently working on a new album, and he's planning to release a single from it soon. He and his team are also planning to launch their first official world tour at the start of 2018. His album "9arat" is available from online music stores such as Spotify, iTunes, Bandcamp and CDBaby.

## 'Exclusive hints about Daffy's latest hit'

Ajeeb". "Our song has nothing to do with the original song. But I've always wanted to do something to show my appreciation for this band that's known for bringing good old songs to life in an innovative and modern way," Daffy told Kuwait Times.

"My generation grew up listening to their music, and now it's time to return the favor by doing the same thing to one of their timeless hits. In addition, I've got to say that Miami band member Khaled Al-Randi was the reason why I took up a music career.

He was the first person who encouraged me to sing, back in 2003, when I performed a song with the Guitara band at the Hala

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In Brief

MAN DIES IN COURT

**KUWAIT:** A 47 year-old Egyptian doctor died while in a Jahra court and his body was recovered by the coroner. The doctor reached the upper floors of the court then collapsed. Police and paramedics rushed to the court and took the doctor to hospital but he was pronounced dead.

Suffocation case

A youth suffered from suffocation when a neighbor threw ambers out of his apartment window. The youth's family took him to Adan hospital, and told the hospital investigator that they went to wake him up and found ambers next to him, and that their neighbor upstairs threw it on their ground floor flat and remained burning for a long time. A complaint was lodged and the neighbor is being summoned.

Father's car stolen

Police arrested a youth who stole his father's car. Ahmadi police noticed a car being driven erratically, so it was stopped. The driver was 14 year old and did not have driving license. The car title indicated the car belonged to his father. When asked why he was driving the car, the boy said he stole the key to take a ride with his friend. The boy was sent to concerned authorities and the car was impounded as the father will be questioned.

Swindler confessed

A bedoon confessed to swindling three Indians and received KD 2,500 to transfer their residencies. The Indians lodged three complaints in Farwaniya and Ahmadi police stations in which they said the bedoon received KD 830 to get them work permits. The victims called the bedoon to ask about what happened but his phone was switched off, so they reported the matter to the police. Detectives took over the case and arrested the man in a Sulaibiya cafe. He will be sent to the public prosecution.

Traffic car wrongly parked

Directorate General of Supervision and Inspection at the Interior Ministry is investigating why a traffic patrol vehicle was parked in the lot of a policeman's house in Jahra, which is a violation of Interior Ministry rules. A security source said the policeman will be summoned and questioned about why the car was left in this way.



HEAT, HUMIDITY TO PREVAIL ALL DAY, NIGHT DURING WEEKEND

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Meteorological Department expected a hot humid climate to prevail all day and night during weekend due to the India's seasonal low tide, Abdulaziz Al-Qarawi, superintendent of

weather forecast, said yesterday. Maximum temperature will be between 46 and 48 Celsius by day tomorrow, and minimum between 30 and 32 by night with light to moderate wind over sea areas. Meanwhile,

he expected a very hot weather tomorrow, with maximum temperature between 47 and 49 Celsius with light to moderate northwesterly wind, and minimum temperature between 29 and 31 Celsius. — KUNA

JACC WINS INT'L AWARDS

**KUWAIT:** The Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center (JACC) has been chosen as the winner of the Arabia and Africa Best Project and Best Interior Design by the International Property Award. Handing the awards will take place on September 7 in Dubai, UAE. This win secured JACC qualification to compete in the world buildings' category for next December.

Inaugurated by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on October 31, 2016, the JACC was designed as a venue to organize and hold cultural events aimed at spreading arts appreciation amongst the local masses and help attract visitors from abroad. According to the JACC website, the architectural marvel was designed to resemble jewels, reflecting rays of sunlight. The exterior of the JACC's headquarters - constructed on an area of 52,000 square meters - was built from titanium and reinforced concrete. Some 10,000 workers were involved in the construction.

The JACC consists of four buildings, with one housing the main stage that accommodates some 2,000 attendees. The drama theater and rehearsals' spaces could house some 900 people. The second, third, and fourth buildings consist of a 1,800-capacity musical facility, a 1,072-capacity cinema and multi-purpose space, and a 354-seats conference hall. It is surrounded by water fountains and other facilities attractive to visitors of the area. — KUNA



Brief

WASTA AND DEPORTATION ORDER VIDEO

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Two days ago, a Syrian expat living in Kuwait posted a video on social media alleging that he used wasta to cancel a deportation order against him. He claimed that he was facing deportation for driving a motorbike without a license. Yesterday, the Interior Ministry issue a statement commenting on the video and refuting the claims. The Interior Ministry states: "The clip had many lies and false claims including:

**First:** The violation took place on 16/8/2016 for riding a motorcycle without a license.

**Second:** The expat granted a settlement on 28/11/2016, as it is in the authority of the traffic department director to grant a settlement in such violation.

**Third:** The said violation was recorded in 2016 not 2017.

**Fourth:** The video shows the seal of traffic department director but lacks his signature.

**Fifth:** Administrative deportation due to driving a vehicle without a driver's license does not apply to riding motorcycles.

**Sixth:** The said expat has a driver's license since 8/6/2016, which is before the violation and the license is still valid."

Tunnels open

Interior Ministry PR department said the Jamal Abdelnasser tunnel (across from Al-Salam palace and Industrial Shuwaikh), and Jahra road tunnel after the Kuwait sports club will be open and operational from Sunday 16 July 2017 at 9 pm.

Fire in Shuaiba area

A fire broke out in a laborers residence in industrial Shuaiba area, prompting Mina Abdullah and Fahaheel fire centers to respond. The residence covers 5,000 meters squared. The area was evacuated and fire was put out before spreading to a nearby buildings. No injuries were reported.

Jahra municipality achievements

The Jahra municipality branch made several achievements during its "your health is our trust" campaign resulting in the destruction of 600kg of expired foodstuffs, and wrote 63 citations and removed 37 encroachments on state property. It said 87 violating signs, received 30 complaints and 16 abandoned vehicles were removed.

Arrests records

Farwaniya security arrested 19 wanted persons, for absconding, a person for theft, two debtors besides 32 persons who did not have IDs. Hawally security arrested two Arabs, one on a felony and the other on drugs charges. Jahra security arrested a man and a woman (both citizens) in possession of drugs, another person for a debt, and one person for possession of an envelope suspected of containing drugs. Capital security arrested four persons including a wanted citizen for debt, an Arab expat who is wanted and ordered deported. General security arrested a man in possession of a large quantity of drugs and psychoactive pills, also two persons, one Arab and a bedoon in possession of 169 illicit pills.



## MANPOWER DENIES 18 YEAR LIMIT ON WORKING IN KUWAIT

By Meshal Al-Salama

**KUWAIT:** Acting Director General of Kuwait's Manpower Public Authority Ahmad Al-Mousa said the authority is continuing the renewal of work permits as per decision 839/2015 regarding labor organization in the private and oil sectors, and that there is no change in this regard.

He said that what was mentioned in a newspaper that there is an intention to stop issuing work permits for those who spent 18 years in the country, is totally untrue, and that the manpower authority did not discuss this issue at all, adding that all its decisions regarding the market place are published in the official gazette.

He said in case of having such decision there will be a certain mechanism, and proceeded with studies, which is something that has not been done towards the published claims.

Earlier in the week a local newspaper reported that the Manpower Authority was considering a proposal to stop renewing work visas for those who have been in Kuwait more than 18 years.

The government is studying a variety of proposals intended to reduce the numbers of expatriate workers in Kuwait. Earlier proposals have suggested limiting expats working to five, 10 or at most 15 year terms. Another popular proposal a few years ago in other Gulf Cooperation Council countries suggesting limiting expatriates to two six year working terms. Foreign workers would be allowed to work six years in one Gulf country and then six years in another before being blacklisted. None of the term limit proposals have been adopted.

## ARRESTED ILLEGAL WORKERS TO BE DEPORTED

**KUWAIT:** A total of 88 foreigners recently arrested in labor crackdowns in Ahmadi will be deported for violating residency and labor laws. Many of those arrested are either violating labor laws by working for people other than their sponsors or did not have valid residencies. Several of the arrested were also listed as absconding from their previous employers.

Employers found to be employing absconding workers will have their files closed at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, preventing them from sponsoring future employees or renewing visas of current employees. Kuwait regularly conducts crackdowns in high density areas to reduce the number of illegal and marginal workers living in the country. In March 2016, the Interior arrested and deported 1,053 illegals after raids in Jleeb Al-Shuyukh. In another raid in Khaitan, 1,170 workers were detained and dozens of illegals arrested and deported.

"The raid was part of the security campaigns launched regularly by the ministry to arrest lawbreakers, convicts and wanted people," the interior ministry said. "We checked the documents of those detained and allowed 2,378 people to go. However, 1,170 were referred to the competent authorities for deportation. The list includes seven who were wanted in relation with felonies."

The ministry said that 218 of the detainees had broken the residency rules and overstayed in the country despite the expiry of their permits. Two thirds of the 3.4 million people living in Kuwait are foreigners, including tens of thousands of unskilled workers from Arab and Asian countries.



**KUWAIT:** Stateless Arabs, (known locally as bedoon), protested to demand citizenship in this 9 November 2013 file photo. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## GOVERNMENT TO STUDY CASE OF BEDOONS WITH FAKE PASSPORTS

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** The government has agreed to form a committee to look into cases of stateless people, known locally as bedoons, who have obtained fake passports from a number of foreign countries, head of the national assembly human rights committee said yesterday.

MP Adel Al-Damkhi said the committee will be formed by the interior ministry and the Central Bedoons Agency and will provide the assembly panel on August 24 with a detailed report on the issue including the number of bedoons holding fake passports and the proposed method to deal with the issue.

Thousands of bedoons are believed to have obtained passports of other

countries against paying money since the 1990s after the interior ministry began imposing restrictions on bedoons. Many of these passports were found to be fake and the foreign countries refused to recognize or renew them. As a result, the problem of those bedoons, whose numbers are not known, became compounded as authorities granting certain services.

There are about 110,000 stateless people living in Kuwait and who claim the right to Kuwaiti citizenship while the government says that a majority of them or their ancestors have deliberately lost their original passports of other countries to claim Kuwaiti citizenship.

Speaking after a meeting with the interior minister and the head of the Bedoon Agency, MP Damkhi said the

ministry will soon announce a mechanism to receive those who hold fake passports in order to estimate their numbers and consider a proper solution. The lawmaker said the panel will send questions related to the issue to the interior ministry in a bid to help resolve the problem. He also called on bedoon holding fake passports to submit their documents to the planned committee after its formation.

MP Faraj Arbeed yesterday warned he would grill the health minister at the start of the next assembly term in October if he takes wrong decisions in new appointments in the ministry.

He claimed that the minister is planning to make the appointments in the absence of the national assembly through summer recess.

## FOREIGN MINISTER, US SEC. OF STATE DISCUSS WAYS TO RESOLVE GULF CRISIS

**KUWAIT:** Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, in the presence of Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and acting Information Minister Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah yesterday received at Bayan Palace US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. The two sides discussed efforts exerted to resolve the Gulf crisis and the results of Tillerson's tour in the region. Tillerson reiterated and emphasized the importance of Kuwait's mediation efforts and his country's full support of efforts exerted by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to resolve the crisis.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah, Assistant Foreign Minister for the First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister's Office, Ambassador Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah in addition to other senior officials. Tillerson later traveled to Doha where he met with Qatar's Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani and Kuwait's State Minister for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Information Minister Sheikh

Mohammad Al-Abdallah Al-Sabah for tripartite talks on resolving the crisis.

The meeting, which discussed the crisis amid Kuwaiti and international efforts to mediate a solution, was held in the attendance of the Wmir of Qatar

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani.

Yesterday's talks come after Tillerson met his counterparts from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Egypt in Jeddah in a bid to defuse tensions between that Arab quartet and Qatar.— KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson yesterday.

— Photo by KUNA

Friday Times

# International

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

**Rex Tillerson leaves Gulf with no end in sight to Qatar crisis**



**Merkel, Macron put defense at heart of blooming ties**



**Afghan girls will be allowed into US for robotics contest**



PARIS: US President Donald Trump (L) and French President Emmanuel Macron stand during the US and French national anthems, during a welcome ceremony at Les Invalides in Paris, yesterday.—AFP

## TRUMP IN PARIS WITH RUSSIA SCANDAL IN TOW

**PARIS:** France rolled out the red carpet to welcome Donald Trump yesterday on a presidential visit laden with military pomp that the White House hopes will offer respite from a growing scandal back home. The US president's brief 24-hour trip to the French capital coincides with celebrations for Bastille Day, France's national day which is marked on Friday, and the 100th anniversary of US involvement in World War I.

Accompanied by First Lady Melania Trump, the 71-year-old stepped onto French soil for the first time as president hoping the visit will distract from weighty allegations that his family and inner circle colluded with Russia to win the 2016 US election. The scandal has put his son and top aides in legal jeopardy, cast a pall over his efforts to remake the political agenda and may yet imperil his presidency.

During the brief visit, Trump—who sees himself as a transformative figure in US history—will be the guest of honor for Friday's Bastille Day festivities that mark a pivotal

point in the French Revolution. This year's event—featuring 63 planes, 29 helicopters, 241 horses and 3,720 soldiers—also coincides with the centenary of America entering World War I. More than 50,000 Americans died in what then-president Woodrow Wilson described as the "war to end all wars," a conflict that forged the trans-Atlantic alliance in steel.

### Eiffel Tower dinner

On the eve of the parade, Trump will visit Napoleon's tomb, hold talks with French President Emmanuel Macron and share a Michelin-starred dinner atop the Eiffel Tower. Talks between the two leaders are expected to focus on joint efforts to combat the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, where American and French troops are in action side-by-side. Macron, 39, is hoping to use the weight of history and French grandeur to charm the unpredictable Trump.

But it remains to be seen whether the all the frills and delicate cuisine of acclaimed chef Alain Ducasse will woo this steak-and-

ketchup president. Trump may struggle to stop his mind wandering back to explosive emails in which his oldest son Donald Trump junior appeared to embrace the offer of dirt on Hillary Clinton from Russian interlocutors. Shortly before leaving Washington, he had to parry criticisms that his administration was in disarray and his legislative agenda on the rocks. "The W.H. is functioning perfectly, focused on HealthCare, Tax Cuts/Reform & many other things. I have very little time for watching T.V." he tweeted

### Point of convergence?

In London, Berlin, Brussels and Paris, European leaders are wondering how best to handle the US president, whose nationalist "America First" agenda has upended transatlantic relations. There are already tensions over climate change and trade, while Trump was openly critical of the EU last year and snubbed a handshake with German Chancellor Angela Merkel during their first meeting in March.

"The Western world is fracturing since the American election," Macron said in an interview with regional newspaper Ouest-France published yesterday. Trump and Macron appear to have little in common, with their views at odds on everything from globalization to immigration. Macron was even described as the "anti-Trump" during his run for the French presidency this year and is half the US president's age.

"It's very difficult to play chess with a man whose strategy is a complete mystery and whose only consistency is his pursuit of American national interest," foreign affairs expert Bertrand Badie of Sciences Po university in Paris said. "To imagine that you might change his mind on something is simply mad." Macron also told Ouest-France that Paris and Washington had "an essential point of convergence: fighting terrorism and protecting our vital interests". However, he also lamented "a protectionist tendency (which) has resurfaced in the United States". "I want to defend free and fair trade," he added.—AFP

## TRUMP ENVOY MEDIATES WATER DEAL BETWEEN ISRAEL, PALESTINIANS

**JERUSALEM:** US President Donald Trump's Middle East peace envoy said yesterday Israel supplied the Palestinians with millions of cubic meters of water annually, as Washington seeks to build confidence for fresh negotiations. Jason Greenblatt hailed an "important step forward" in a wider regional water deal, as Israel announced it would provide more than 32 million cubic meters of water to the Palestinians annually.

"Water is a precious commodity in the Middle East. The United States welcomes the agreement reached by the Palestinian Authority and the government of Israel which will allow for the sale of up to 33 million cubic meters of water from Israel to the PA," Greenblatt said at a signing ceremony in Jerusalem. Israel's Regional Cooperation Minister Tzachi Hanegbi and Mazin Ghunaim, head of the Palestinian Water Authority, also attended. Palestinians suffer from water shortages and say the unequal distribution of water resources favors Israel.

The deal announced yesterday is part of a wider water project involving the Red and Dead Seas to be developed over the next five years, but the Palestinians are likely to begin receiving water from it before then, Hanegbi said. It came after Greenblatt helped broker an agreement between the two sides on the price and quantities of water, as well as where the connection points will be. The deal is supposed to ease water scarcity in the Palestinian territories, including in the Gaza Strip, where more than 95 percent of water is undrinkable.

Ghunaim said 22 million cubic meters would go to the Israeli-occupied West Bank, while a further 10 million would go to Gaza. "This will reduce the suffering of the Palestinian people which has been worsened by the beginning of summer and the crises that they are living through," he said. The deal is part of a pre-existing plan to link the Dead Sea and the Red Sea by pipes in Jordan. The plan would also seek to reverse the disappearing of the Dead Sea, which sinks by about a meter a year according to Israeli officials.

The primary cause is overuse of water upstream. In 2013, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians signed a memorandum of understanding on the water project that included plans to build a desalination plant at the Red Sea. Hanegbi said the wider agreement was the "most ambitious" in the history of the region. "It will supply (a) significant amount of water to Jordan, to Israel and to the Palestinians."

Greenblatt is seeking to restart peace negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians, stalled since talks collapsed in 2014, with Trump saying he wants to reach the "ultimate deal". There is however heavy skepticism over whether meaningful talks can be held

now, with 82-year-old Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas unpopular and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu heading what is seen as the most right-wing government in his country's history.—AFP



**JERUSALEM:** Jason Greenblatt, center, US President Donald Trump's Middle East envoy, sits next to Tzachi Hanegbi, left, Israeli Minister of Regional Cooperation and Mazin Ghoneim, right, head of the Palestinian Water Authority, during a news conference about a water-sharing agreement between Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian Authority, in Jerusalem yesterday.—AFP



**JEDDAH:** A handout picture provided by the Saudi Royal Palace shows Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, right, meeting with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson in Jeddah.—AFP

## REX TILLERSON LEAVES GULF WITH NO END IN SIGHT TO QATAR CRISIS

TENSIONS REMAIN HIGH BETWEEN QATAR AND ARAB STATES

**DOHA:** US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson yesterday wrapped up a four-day mission to the Gulf with little sign of progress in resolving the diplomatic crisis pitting Saudi Arabia and its allies against Qatar. Tillerson met Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani for the second time in 48 hours, together with a Kuwaiti mediator, on the final leg of his trip, before heading back to Washington. Despite an intense round of shuttle diplomacy that also took him to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, tensions remained high between Qatar and four Arab states that accuse Doha of supporting extremism and being too close to their arch-rival Iran.

The diplomatic slack now appears likely to be picked up again by the Europeans, with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian heading to the region at the weekend. A French diplomatic source in Paris said that Le Drian would try "to recreate confidence, create an interest of all parties to engage in de-escalation". "We must find a way out." Le Drian's visit will follow similar trips made by his counterparts from Germany and Britain in recent weeks.

### Impossible situation

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt have imposed a boycott on Qatar since June 5. They have imposed sanctions on Doha, including closing its only land border, refusing Qatar access to

their airspace and ordering their citizens back from Qatar. They also presented the emirate with a list of 13 demands with which to comply to end the worst political crisis in the region for years. Qatar denies the charges of extremism and called the demands "unrealistic".

It also claims the boycott has led to human rights violations, and yesterday one group said abuses were one consequence of the crisis. "Hundreds of Saudis, Bahrainis, and Emiratis have been forced into the impossible situation of either disregarding their countries' orders or leaving behind their families and job," said Sarah Leah Whitson of Human Rights Watch.

### Crisis, yet opportunity?

Tillerson arrived back in Doha after meeting Saudi Arabia's King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman 24 hours earlier. On his previous visit on Tuesday, the US and Qatar signed an agreement to combat terror funding, subsequently dismissed as "insufficient" by the Saud-led states. The United States, a longtime ally of Sunni-ruled Saudi Arabia, has given mixed signals about its policy on the Gulf crisis. While President Donald Trump welcomed the Arab states' decision to sever air and land links to their gas-rich neighbor, the State Department has taken a more neutral position and Tillerson has sought to broker a diplomatic solution.

The crisis has presented Tillerson,

well known in the Gulf from his former role as chief of energy giant ExxonMobil, with his first big challenge as Washington's top diplomat. Speaking after meeting with Prince Mohammed—the Saudi king's son and a highly influential figure in regional politics—Tillerson stressed the two countries shared a "strong partnership". The United States and its Western allies have vast economic and political interests in the Gulf, which pumps one fifth of the world's oil supplies.

While Saudi Arabia is a key US ally, Qatar is home to the US military's largest air base in the region, Al-Udeid. Rival Bahrain houses the US Navy Fifth Fleet. On Tuesday, speaking in Doha, Tillerson described Qatar as being "reasonable" in its dispute with the four states. But an ongoing crisis may not be looked upon as such a bad thing in the west, at least according to one analyst. "For public consumption at least, the US State Department is trying to send out a signal that it has worked hard with its three allies—Saudi, UAE, Qatar to try to find a mutually agreeable solution," Christopher Davidson, an expert on Middle East politics at Britain's Durham University, said. "Britain, and now France, are also trying to do much the same. "Underneath the surface however... the US—including Tillerson—likely sees significant strategic and lucrative benefits to any long-running stand-off between these states."—AFP



**MAIDUGURI:** This file photo shows professor Danjuma Gambo, official university spokesperson and director of the University of Maiduguri radio station, working at his office, in Maiduguri, Nigeria. —AFP

## BYLOCK: SHADOWY APP TURKEY SAYS WAS KEY TO COUP BID

**ANKARA:** It's the app Ankara says provided the messaging hub for many of the suspected plotters who took part in last year's failed coup. Thousands of people have been arrested simply on charges of downloading it, including a top UN judge and the chairman of Amnesty International in Turkey. An NBA star is also charged with being a user. Yet until the aftermath of the botched July 15, 2016 bid to oust President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, even top experts had not heard of the shadowy encrypted messaging application.

Now it's mere name has now become a whispered symbol of involvement in the coup bid. ByLock, Turkey says the app was especially created for supporters of Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen to create a network for organizing his sympathizers across the country. Almost every day police detain suspects or authorities issue arrest warrants for suspected users. But some of those caught up in the investigation have either denied use of the app or having any link to the Gulen movement. Ankara accuses Gulen, who has lived in self-imposed exile in the United States since 1999, of ordering the July 15 failed coup that left 249 people dead, not including the plotters. He denies the charges.

### Bylock users

Turkey's National Intelligence Organization (MIT) began decrypting messages sent on the app in May 2015, according to Turkish officials. This provided the authorities with the names of more than 100,000 within the preacher's network, according to the Information and Communication Technologies Authority (BTK). It is not known whether the coup was

planned on ByLock but officials have said a large number of people identified via ByLock were directly involved in the coup attempt.

Turkish authorities said the chairman of Amnesty International in Turkey, Taner Kilic, who was detained last month, had the encrypted messaging application on his phone in August 2014. But Amnesty has angrily denied the charges against him of membership of a terrorist organization as "baseless". Retired ambassador Aydin Sefa Akay, a judge attached to the UN's Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals, was handed a jail sentence last month over his use of ByLock, which the authorities deemed to be proof of his links to Gulen.

Akay, who is free pending appeal, denies any link to Gulen. Another alleged ByLock user is the US-based Enes Kanter, a centre for Oklahoma City Thunder basketball team, who has previously expressed support for Gulen and is an outspoken critic of Erdogan.

### Users are Gulenists

The app's patent holder is an American citizen of Turkish origin, who spoke to the Hurriyet daily in October 2016, giving his name as David Keynes. He told Hurriyet he had studied at Gulen-linked schools and after moving to the United States for his masters degree in 2001, he stayed in the same homes as Gulenists. But Keynes denied he is a member of the movement, only saying he knew Gulenists. He said "90 percent of the app's Turkish users are Gulenists". "It became a medium for the Gulenists to communicate," he added.

The patent-holder said an individ-

ual nicknamed "Fox" was the app's designer and had links to the movement. Keynes lived with "Fox" in Portland between 2003 and 2004. But Science, Industry and Technology Minister Faruk Ozlu said last September the app had been developed by former employees-and Gulenists-at the Scientific and Technological Research Council, known by its Turkish initials as TUBITAK. To get the app, users have to download a file, cybersecurity expert Alper Basaran said.

Initially it had been available on Apple's App Store and Google Play Store in September 2014 and March 2015 respectively. Its server was in Lithuania. "If you search on the internet, you can find the file," Basaran said. Once a user has ByLock-unlike with WhatsApp where users need an individual's mobile number to make contact-people can only communicate with each other if they know the person's user ID.

### Moved to new app

According to MIT, there were over 215,000 ByLock users. Once the Gulenists realized the app had been compromised, they switched to an app called Eagle after January 2016, Eva Galperin, the director of cybersecurity at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, said. "(ByLock) was not a secure messaging application. The Turkish government was reportedly spying on communications by Gulenists carried out over ByLock," she said. When Eagle was compromised, they simply switched to WhatsApp. Officials have most recently said the movement's members were now using an app called "Cryptnote". —AFP

## NIGERIAN UNIVERSITY DIGS IN AGAINST BOKO HARAM

**MAIDUGURI, Nigeria:** A giant bulldozer digs a deep ditch among the bushes surrounding the University of Maiduguri in northeast Nigeria, turning it into a fortress to prevent further suicide attacks by Boko Haram. About 27 kilometers of trenches are being dug around the institution, known locally as UNIMAID, which has since the start of the year become a main target of the Islamist militants. From the fringes of the university campus, the silent, arid bushland of Borno state stretches out as far as the eye can see.

"Suicide bombers usually come on foot or by motorbike," said one security guard, stepping down from an old iron watchtower overlooking the vast, 43-hectare site. The eastern side of the campus is not fenced, leaving kilometers of open ground for attackers to try to get in. According to AFP reporting, since January there have been at least eight suicide bomb attacks against the university, which teaches the "Western" education the jihadists despise.

But unlike most state primary and secondary schools, which were either destroyed or closed because of attacks or kidnappings, university classes have not been disrupted. Christians and Muslims from across Nigeria have studied together since the 1970s. Nearly 45,000 students were registered last year, making it one of the biggest state-run universities in the country.

The campus itself was spared from attack until January 16. Muhammadu Nur, a 20-year-old law student, remembered the day vividly, as he ran to the mosque near his dormitory when a loud explosion went off at morning prayers. Two students and a lecturer were killed when explosives being carried by a young girl were detonated at the entrance to the mosque. Muhammadu's friend, Abba, was injured and taken to hospital. He had a leg amputated a few days later. "Everyone was in shock," said Muhammadu.

### Call for action

The university campus had until then been seen as a haven of peace in Maiduguri, where Boko Haram was founded in 2002 and which has been repeatedly attacked since the insurgency began in 2009. Across the city, suicide attackers and bombs have targeted camps for those displaced by the conflict, markets, mosques and bus stations. "It becomes a habit to see mutilated bodies, arms and legs, blood all over the place," said Muhammadu at the university cafeteria, wringing his hands. —AFP

## SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL MURDERER IN PAROLE LIMBO

**VEREENIGING, South Africa:** Inside South Africa's maximum security Groenpunt prison, hawk-eyed guards stroll between rows of wooden benches, watching inmates closely as they meet visitors. Among the notorious jail's residents is 51-year-old triple murderer Percy Chepape, an anti-apartheid fighter serving a 60-year sentence for his "politically motivated" crimes committed in the chaos that followed liberation in 1994.

The former underground operative of an armed group linked to the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) has been behind bars for 20 years, convicted of a deadly armed robbery on a benefits office in a remote town in the country's north. He claims the aim of the June 1997 heist, which was carried out with seven accomplices, was to raise funds to buy arms and ammunition to help those who broke away from the PAC defend themselves from violence.

He has since shown remorse and sought to apologize to his victims' families, while the widely-publicized release of fellow activist Kenny Motsamai this year has offered a ray of hope. Chepape was among 149 prisoners jailed for "political crimes", who were considered for parole under a special pardon scheme launched in 2007. Some 2,100 applied. Only 51 prisoners were found to be eligible and a task force has helped release 39 of them.

But Chepape is among the remaining 12 who do not know if they are still under consideration or will ever see freedom-leaving them in nervous limbo. "I am paying for what I did, but a part of me feels that my sentence was punishment for who I was not what I did," he said, folding his muscular arms. "Sometimes I ask myself if my political activism was worth it." —AFP

# LONDONERS HOLD VIGIL FOR TOWER BLOCK FIRE VICTIMS

**LONDON:** Hundreds of people held a vigil on Wednesday evening for the victims of the London tower block inferno, as anger simmers over the official reaction and the ongoing investigation. Four weeks after a devastating fire ripped through Grenfell Tower in west London, mourners lit candles in an area filled with pictures, flowers and hand-written notes of remembrance. "I know people who have been lost, I know people who have lost people, I know people who are besides themselves with grief. It is really, really difficult," local MP Emma Dent Coad said.

after which people attending the vigil sang Bob Marley's "One Love". At least 80 people were killed when the high-rise went up in flames at an incredible speed, with the ferocity of the blaze prompting investigators to admit some victims may never be found. "Four weeks ago a terrible tragedy unfolded within Grenfell Tower. The human cost of that tragedy is something we are all still trying to fully comprehend," police commander Stuart Cundy said in a statement on Wednesday.

The Metropolitan Police's disaster victim identification coordinator, Alistair Hutchins, told the BBC that Grenfell Tower was the worst incident he has dealt with in his 18-year

career. Describing the painstaking search through the debris, Hutchins said his team will employ 6mm sieves to pick up fragments such as bones and teeth. With the recovery operation expected to take months, there has been anger within the local community at the official handling of the fire.

At a meeting with survivors earlier on Wednesday, police investigator Matt Bonner was met with cries of "arrest someone" as people grew frustrated with his explanations of the probe. The incoming leader of the local authority, Elizabeth Campbell, was meanwhile heckled by one audience member. — AFP



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**MOSCOW:** Khamzat Bakhayev, second left, Temirlan Eskerkhanov, center, and Shadid Gubashev, listen to the sentence in a court room in Moscow, Russia yesterday. — AP

## RUSSIA SENTENCES NEMTSOV HITMEN TO LENGTHY JAIL TERMS

**MOSCOW:** A Russian court yesterday handed lengthy jail terms to five Chechen men convicted of the contract killing of Kremlin critic Boris Nemtsov as his allies insisted the masterminds remained unidentified. Zaur Dadayev, who carried out the shooting, was sentenced to 20 years in prison while four other defendants were jailed for between 11 and 19 years, judge Yury Zhitnikov told the Moscow courtroom after a lengthy trial by jury.

The prosecutor had asked for longer sentences for all the defendants including life in jail for Dadayev—a former internal troop officer in Russia's Chechnya region.

A jury in June found all five guilty of carrying out the hit for a fee of \$250,000 (220,000 euros) after a marathon trial that Nemtsov's supporters say failed to unmask those who ordered the killing. Nemtsov, a 55-year-old former deputy prime minister and fierce critic of President Vladimir Putin, was gunned down just meters from the Kremlin as he walked home with his girlfriend on the evening of February 27, 2015. The brazen murder in central Moscow was the most high-profile political killing in Russia since Putin rose to power some 17 years ago.

Those convicted—Dadayev, brothers Shadid and Anzor Gubashev, Temirlan Eskerkhanov and Khamzat Bakhayev — are all ethnic Chechens from Russia's volatile North Caucasus. Nemtsov's family and supporters say that people close to Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov who were linked to the murder have not been investigated. During the trial the judge refused a request to summon Kadyrov for questioning. "Neither the organizers nor the masterminds were in the dock," lawyer Vadim Prokhorov, representing Nemtsov's daughter, told journalists after the sentencing.

"No one any longer doubts that the trail leads to the close circle of Ramzan Kadyrov. The trail leads at least as far as Grozny, and perhaps higher," he said, hinting at complicity from top Russian officials. Nemtsov's close ally, opposition politician Ilya Yashin, slammed the sentence for Dadayev and said "it's impossible to consider the crime solved while the masterminds and organizers are still at liberty." "We expected a life sentence for Dadayev. What is 20 years for a human life?" he said.

### Lie

The convicted men have always denied they were involved in the killing and several retracted initial confessions they said were made under torture. During the sentencing, Eskerkhanov exhaled on the glass window of the enclosure where the defendants were being held and wrote with his finger "lie," while the men's relatives wept in the courtroom. Investigators have said the case is still ongoing over a suspected organizer who has fled.

The suspect, Ruslan Mukhudinov, was the driver of the Chechen interior ministry commander under whom the gunman Dadayev served. Investigators said Mukhudinov offered the defendants the money for the murder but they never explained why the low-ranking official would have wanted Nemtsov dead or from where he got the funds. In a statement after the sentencing at Moscow district military court, Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes major crimes, said it was continuing "to gather evidence on the organizers of the Nemtsov murder." — AFP

## MERKEL, MACRON PUT DEFENSE AT HEART OF BLOOMING TIES

### JOINT FIGHTER JET PROPOSAL, A PROFOUND REVOLUTION

**PARIS:** France and Germany agreed yesterday to begin work on a joint fighter jet, a major advance in their relations designed to underline their united front in the face of fracturing Western relations. Newly elected French President Emmanuel Macron welcomed German Chancellor Angela Merkel to the Elysee Palace in Paris yesterday for a joint cabinet meeting between their governments. Among a host of measures agreed between their economy, culture and education ministers, the joint fighter jet proposal underscored their plans to create a new dynamic in the Franco-German motor at the heart of the European Union.

"The aim of this joint fighter jet project is to do research and development together... to use it together... and to coordinate on exports," Macron said, calling it "a profound revolution." Europe currently produces two fighter jets, the Rafale manufactured by French arms maker Dassault and the Eurofighter, produced by a consortium of companies from Germany, Britain, Italy and Spain. Macron also won a commitment from Merkel to support a Paris-backed joint anti-jihadist regional force in Africa called the G5 Sahel made up of soldiers from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

The two countries also agreed to align their corporate tax policies by the end of the year in a bid to avoid rivaling each other for investment and company headquarters. Macron, 39, was elected in May promising to create a "Europe that protects" and he is pushing for new measures for the 28-member bloc in defense, trade, immigration and security. Some of his bigger plans—creating a new common budget for the countries that share the euro and a finance minister for the area—will have to wait until after German elections in September.

"I have nothing against a eurozone budget (and) we can talk about creating a European finance minister," Merkel said ahead of the vote, which her centre-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is expected to win.

### United front vs. Trump

Macron and Merkel also stressed their common position on climate change and trade, issues on which they have major disagreements with US President Donald Trump who also arrived in Paris yesterday for talks with Macron. The French leader said Paris and Berlin would "continue to fight on one hand against all types of protectionism and on the other hand against any attempts at dumping." He also said they were firmly opposed to the decision by Trump to withdraw the United States from the Paris global accord on climate change reached at the end of 2015.

Europe has been alarmed by the prospect of new US tariffs on steel imports, which could hit European manufacturers, while Macron has urged tougher action by the EU against low-cost Chinese imports. As well as dealing with a radically different transatlantic relationship, the EU is grappling with the fallout from Britain's shock vote to exit the bloc in a referendum in June 2016. But Brexit, along with perceived threats from Trump, as well as from Russia, has given Europe a renewed sense of purpose.

The EU last month created a European defense fund with an annual budget of 5.5 billion euros (\$6.1 billion), laying the basis for long-stalled military cooperation. The blooming Franco-German relationship reflects this new dynamic, but differences are likely ahead. Macron has warned Germany that it must move to correct the "dysfunctions" of the eurozone and give it "the fate it deserves". He wants Germany with its large trade surpluses and healthy public accounts to contribute to a eurozone budget which would be used to stimulate growth and investment in weaker members of the bloc with high unemployment.

"I want the eurozone to have more coherence and convergence," Macron said in an interview with Ouest-France newspaper yesterday. "France must reform its economy to give it more vigor," he added, but Germany, for its part, "must support a revival of public and private investment in Europe". Immediately after meeting Merkel, Macron headed off to welcome Trump to Paris at the former military hospital Les Invalides, Napoleon's final resting place. The two men and their wives Brigitte and Melania are set to have dinner at the Michelin-starred restaurant in the Eiffel Tower later yesterday.—AFP



**PARIS:** German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, and French President Emmanuel Macron leave the Elysee Palace in Paris yesterday, after an annual Franco-German Summit. — AFP

## EU TO CRACK DOWN ON TERROR ART TRAFFICKING

**BRUSSELS:** The EU said yesterday it would cut off financing for terror groups from the lucrative trade in priceless cultural artifacts stolen in war zones such as Syria and Iraq by imposing tough import controls. "Money is the life blood of war for the terrorists who attack our continent or who fight in Iraq and Syria," EU Economic Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici said. "For our own security, we must at all costs cut off their sources of funds, starting with the traffic in antiquities stolen in these countries."

Historic sites such as the Roman town of Palmyra in Syria and countless other even older cities in Iraq have been looted and damaged by extremist groups such as Islamic State who sell the cultural treasures to fund their wars. Murky middlemen sell them on to collectors in the west who may, or may not, care too much about the origin of priceless artifacts of national or even global cultural importance. The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, said it aimed "to stop this traffic in its tracks by banning the import into the EU of cultural goods exported illegally from their home countries."

"Diverging and ineffective existing national legislations in this area means that EU action is necessary to ensure consistent treatment of imports of cultural goods all along the EU's external borders," a statement said. Among the measures, the Commission said it wanted EU member states to agree a common definition for "cultural goods" which would cover "a broad range of objects including archaeological finds, ancient scrolls, the remains of historical monuments, artwork, collections and antiques."

A new licensing system will require importers to obtain clearance from EU authorities before bringing these objects into the bloc, not afterwards. For other less sensitive items, importers will have to submit proof that the goods have been exported legally from the third country. Customs will have the power to seize and retain goods if it cannot be shown that they have been legally exported, the statement said. Lastly, member states will also have to ensure that "effective, proportionate and dissuasive penalties are in place."

The Commission said the legal global art and antiques market was estimated to be worth 56 billion euros (\$62 billion) in 2016, with Europe accounting for 19 billion euros. It said the illicit trade could be worth up to 6.0 billion euros, catching up with drugs, arms or counterfeit goods trafficking. "A string of crimes against our common cultural heritage have been perpetrated by warring factions and terrorist entities all over the world," it said.—AFP

## US REPUBLICANS ROLL DICE ONCE MORE ON HEALTH CARE

**WASHINGTON:** Top US Senate Republican Mitch McConnell tried to pull a political rabbit out of his hat yesterday when he unveils a revamped health care bill, after unpopular earlier versions frustrated conservatives and moderates in his party. With opposition growing, and McConnell postponing the Senate's August recess by two weeks to allow more time to bring skeptical lawmakers on board and salvage Donald Trump's top legislative priority, the president used his bully pulpit to urge fellow Republicans to rally round the effort.

He warned in a Wednesday interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network that he would be "very angry" if Congress failed to pass legislation which repeals and replaces large parts of Obamacare, the health reforms of his predecessor Barack

Obama. "For years, they've been talking about repeal-replace, repeal-replace," Trump said. "They have to do it. They have to get together and get it done."

With Democrats united in opposition, McConnell needs support from at least 50 of the Senate's 52 Republicans to pass the measure in the 100-member chamber. Ten Republicans have said they will not support the bill as written. The test is whether leadership can convince most of them to get on board. "I will be very angry about it" if the bill collapses, Trump said. "I'm sitting waiting for that bill to come to my desk. I hope that they do it."

### Cheaper plans

Polls show the previous version to be widely unpopular. An analysis by the non-

profit Congressional Budget Office forecast that under the bill, ranks of the uninsured would swell by 22 million people by 2026 compared to current law. McConnell's intent is to roll out the revised measure, most likely at a Republican caucus meeting set for 11:30 am. He then wants to receive a CBO score on the new version as early as next Monday, and hold a vote to begin debate on the bill next week.

The plan scoffed at by several Senate Republicans would keep parts of Obamacare intact, but strip away much of its funding. It also rolls back the expansion of Medicaid, the federal health care program for the poor and disabled. Conservatives say they want a bill that is less like Obamacare, and that cancels all of the law's taxes.

Republican centrists fear that slashing Medicaid funding by more than \$700 billion could devastate millions of families. One option under consideration is an amendment by Senator Ted Cruz that would allow insurers to offer cheaper plans that do not cover many of the health services required under current law.

But some Republicans warn that move could end up abolishing protections for people with pre-existing conditions and send costs soaring for children and older insurance holders in the individual market. Top Democrat Senator Chuck Schumer called on Republicans to abandon the plan and "start over," working together to shore up Obamacare. "When you have a rotten product, time is not on your side," Schumer told colleagues. — AFP

## VENEZUELA HIGH COURT FAILS TO ISSUE RULING ON ATTORNEY GENERAL

**CARACAS:** Venezuela's top court failed to meet a Wednesday deadline on whether to suspend Attorney General Luisa Ortega—one of the most prominent detractors of President Nicolas Maduro—and put her on trial. Ortega, 59, is the most senior figure to defy Maduro as he fends off efforts to remove him from power in the volatile oil-exporting nation which has been gripped by more than three months of deadly unrest amid a desperate economic crisis. "I have not committed any crimes, I denounce the magistrates who are prosecuting me because they are not legitimate," Ortega said in a radio interview. "The most they can do is kill me. I'm not afraid," she declared.

The Supreme Court could be taking its time in making a decision, said attorney Jesus Ollarves, who noted that the law allows up to 30 days in these types of cases.

"They may be taking the pulse of the political situation before deciding," he said. Ortega has accused the pro-government Supreme Court of undermining democracy through a short-lived ruling that seized power from the opposition-led legislature. As violence swelled, Ortega accused police of killing protesters—comments that enraged Maduro, who branded her a traitor.

Ortega also accused Maduro of violating the constitution with his plan to hold an unelected special assembly to rewrite it. She has vowed to remain in office, even if the high court orders her dismissal.

Ortega's stand has raised the prospect of a split in the government camp that could tip the balance in a power struggle that has left more than 90 people dead in street protests. Critics blame Maduro, a socialist, for the country's economic crisis. He says the chaos is the result of a US-backed conspiracy. Ortega backed the "Chavista" socialist movement launched by Maduro's late predecessor Hugo Chavez, but broke ranks with the current president in March. — AFP

## HAITI REVIVES ARMY, RAISING FEARS OF POLITICAL CRACKDOWN

'EVEN IF THERE ISN'T A HIGH THREAT-LEVEL, WE STILL HAVE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES'

**PORT-AU-PRINCE:** After two decades with no army, Haiti has announced plans to rebuild its military to handle disasters and smuggling, though some fear the force could return to misdeeds, and be a tool of oppression. The poorest country in the Americas has announced an initial recruitment of 500 men and women aged 18 to 25, invoking the need to "reclaim national sovereignty" as a 13-year UN peacekeeping mission, known as the blue helmets, comes to an end.

The UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was deployed in 2004 to stem violence following the sudden departure of former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide, and is set to leave in October amid an improving security situation and a successful electoral process after two years of political turmoil. It will leave behind a residual training force of international police officers. "The departure of the blue helmets is a challenge, but it is something we have planned for," Defense Minister Herve Denis told AFP.

### Checked past

The government says it plans to deploy troops along the border with the Dominican Republic in the fight against smuggling, and in regions hit by natural disasters. Denis added it will also wage war on terrorists: "Even if there isn't a high threat-level, we still have regional responsibilities," said Denis, while recognizing that, for the time being, the chronically unstable country is not being threatened by any external enemies. Re-forming an army is merely a requirement of the country's constitution, which calls for a military alongside the police, Denis said, but added he prefers to use the term "defense and security force." "I want people to understand that it's a new kind of institution that we want to create, one which is with the country in its quest towards development," he said.

A major part of that rebranding effort is the institution's checkered past. Haiti's armed forces were dissolved in 1995 by then-president Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was ousted in a military coup seven months after he took power in 1991 — bringing an end to decades of political interference and dozens of coups. But the nation has a bloody history of brutal militias, which brought terror to the mountainous Caribbean nation under various leaders.

### Political militia?

More than 20 years after the soldiers were sent home, the fresh recruitment drive is causing dis-



**Port-Au-Prince:** This file photo shows Haitian President-elect Jean-Bertrand Aristide (left) flanked by Haitian Armed forces Commander General Herard Abraham at the presidential palace in Port-au-Prince. — AFP photos

quiet among civil society groups. "There is no legal framework to define the missions of this army," said Pierre Esperance, director of the National Network Defense of Human Rights. "Those in power want to create a political militia or a paramilitary group, not an army." With Haiti's total national budget just \$2.2 billion, the cost of

the force which will eventually count between 3,000 and 5,000 staff, has been questioned by local and foreign observers.

"It would be better if authorities concentrated their efforts on the national police force...who should be better equipped to do their job," said Esperance. — AFP



**Port-Au-Prince:** This file photo shows Supporters of Haitian President Michel Martelly's decision to reinstate the army perform in front of the presidential palace on in Port-au-Prince.



**HERAT, Afghanistan:** In this file photo, teenagers from the Afghanistan Robotic House, a private training institute, practice at the Better Idea Organization center, in Herat, Afghanistan. —AP

## AFGHAN GIRLS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO US FOR ROBOTICS CONTEST

‘IF THERE’S WORK TO BE DONE THEN WE SHOULD BE HERE’

**WASHINGTON:** The nation’s capital is bracing for a long, hot summer, and that’s not even counting the weather. The White House is immersed in allegations of scandal. Congressional Republicans are ensnared in their own divisions. Instead of movement on health care, taxes and more, partisan differences and even infighting within the ranks of majority Republicans figure to produce a grim summer slog as lawmakers and the Trump administration grind it out into August and beyond. That’s traditionally summer vacation time in Washington, DC, a time when Congress goes on a five-week recess and much of the rest of the town follows suit to escape the stultifying heat and humidity. President Barack Obama would embark on an extended annual visit to Martha’s Vineyard.

Not this year. With Republicans six months into full control of Congress and the White House, but with practically nothing to show, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell announced that the Senate would stay in session an extra two weeks, into mid-August. Whether results will improve remains to be seen. The Senate is currently tied in knots trying to produce the “Obamacare” repeal-and-replace bill Republicans have promised for years. As Russia US election details have unspooled, President Donald Trump has not been seen for days, though he did grant an interview to the Christian Broadcasting Network to announce he’d be “very angry” if Congress failed to produce on health care. Despite Trump’s low approval ratings and the relentless developments involving Russia’s election meddling - which now feature Donald Trump Jr in a

starring role - the president still commands loyalty from a significant slice of the GOP base. So few elected Republicans want to cross him by criticizing him over Russia, much less provoke his anger. It’s all adding up to frustration, even misery, for Republicans who’ve seen their ambitions thwarted on many fronts.

### ‘Complex issues’

And the merciless summer slog may prove the fitting metaphor for an administration that’s brought stasis and dysfunction to new levels in Washington. “This has been a difficult time,” acknowledges moderate Republican Sen Susan Collins of Maine, pointing to the polarization and divisions in the country. “Unfortunately the president has not united people,” Collins says. “And so that’s made it a difficult time to serve, by far the most difficult of the 20 years that I’ve been here.” Republican Sen Jeff Flake of Arizona, who faces a difficult re-election campaign made more complicated by his past opposition to Trump, demurred when asked about the lack of progress in the past six months. “I would have liked to have gotten more done, certainly,” Flake said. Why didn’t you? “Complex issues,” Flake said, smiling.

President Trump and Russia didn’t have anything to do with it? “I don’t want to go there,” he said. Sen Ben Sasse, R-Neb, refused to discuss the first six months of the year, but offered a withering historical critique of Congress in general. “This institution is stunningly dysfunctional,” Sasse said. “I’ve done crisis and turnaround projects in nine sectors of the economy. The human capital problems in Washington, DC, make everything else pale in comparison.”

### Government shutdown

Health care is not the only issue vexing Republicans. Divisions on taxes, government spending and infrastructure raise doubts about whether the GOP can chalk up any major legislative achievements before 2018 re-election campaigns heat up. And the split over spending even creates the possibility of a government shutdown at the end of September. Some Republicans are quick to point fingers, with the traditional resentments between the House and the Senate reaching new levels. House Republicans, who’ve already managed to pass a health care bill, snipe across the Capitol at their counterparts.

“If there’s work to be done then we should be here,” said GOP Rep Mark Amodei of Nevada, of the Senate’s decision to delay its summer recess (the House has not followed suit). “If it’s we’re going to sit here and watch the Senate hopefully do something” - Amodei uttered an expletive which he then amended: “Why don’t you say bovine scat.” GOP Rep Thomas Massie of Kentucky offered a pointed query over Twitter: “If a mechanic had your car from January to July and didn’t fix a thing, would you insist he keep working on it in August?”

Democrats derive some pleasure from their opponents’ difficulties, but they, too, have little desire to hang around Washington for weeks not doing much of anything. And many don’t bother to hide their resentment. “We’re waiting to see if the Republicans can get past the scandals and get their act together,” said Rep. Linda Sanchez of California. “The president and the Republican Congress promised a bold agenda that was going to help those who are struggling, and I haven’t seen much of an actual agenda or anything bold.” —AP

## CALIBRI IN SPOTLIGHT AS FONTGATE COULD LEAVE PAKISTAN SANS SHARIF

**ISLAMABAD:** A typeface has sparked uproar in Pakistan after documents using the font were produced in a corruption case against Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif-despite being dated a year before the design was released. Microsoft’s Calibri font was used to type certified papers naming Sharif’s daughter Maryam as a trustee for several of the family’s high-end London properties. The plush apartments are at the heart of the case against the Sharif family, with authorities and the opposition questioning the legitimacy of funds used to buy them via offshore companies.

The identity of the legal beneficiaries has formed part of the probe, and the documents were meant to show that Maryam, who is Sharif’s presumptive political heir, was a trustee only. But the papers were dated February 2006 — a year before the font in which they are typed was in widespread commercial use, according to its creator. The same conclusion was drawn by a joint investigative team (JIT) tasked by Pakistan’s Supreme Court with examining the corruption claims, which had London’s Radley Forensic Document Laboratory assess the documents.

Based on that assessment, the JIT rejected the papers as “falsified” in a report issued earlier this week, and seen by AFP. The conclusion, dubbed #Fontgate, set Pakistani social media alight with jokes and memes, and was widely repeated in mainstream press, adding fuel to opposition calls for the prime minister to step down.

### ‘More than porn’

“Today #calibri was searched more than porn in Pakistan”, wrote one Twitter user, Sherry. Journalist Mubashir Zaidi said the PM should now write his resignation “in #Calibri font”. Supporters of Sharif’s ruling PML-N party argued that Calibri has been publicly available since 2004. Microsoft did not immediately respond to AFP’s requests for comment. But the font’s creator, a Dutch designer named Lucas De Groot, told AFP in a statement that it was “unlikely” Calibri had been used in any official documents in 2006. “(I)n my opinion the document in question was produced much later,” he said.

De Groot said he began designing Calibri in 2002 and sent the finalized version to Microsoft in 2004. After that, he said, it was used in beta versions that would have required “serious effort” to obtain. The first Microsoft product to use Calibri on a large scale was Office 2007, he said, which was available to resellers by November 20, 2006 and for retail by January 30, 2007. —AFP

## FOUR POLICEMEN KILLED IN SW PAKISTAN

**QUETTA, Pakistan:** Unidentified gunmen on motorcycles killed four policemen in southwest Pakistan yesterday, the latest attack to target authorities in restive Balochistan province. The incident took place in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan, which has been wracked by separatist and Islamist violence for more than a decade. Senior police official Abdul Razzaq Cheema told AFP that police superintendent Mubarak Shah was on his way to the office along with three police guards when the gunmen opened fire on their vehicle. “The attackers opened fire from different directions, killing Mubarak Shah and his three police guards,” Cheema said, adding that gunmen then fled the scene. Mohammad Tayyab, a senior Quetta government official, confirmed the attack and casualties.

Both described the incident as “an act of terrorism”. No group has yet claimed responsibility. The killing came four days after a bomb killed a high-profile police chief and his guard while wounding 11 others in Chaman, a tense border town in southwestern Balochistan. Pakistan media reported the Islamic State group had claimed the Chaman attack. The country has been battling Islamist and nationalist insurgencies in mineral-rich Balochistan since 2004, with hundreds of soldiers and militants killed in the fighting.

Bordering Iran and Afghanistan, it is the largest of Pakistan’s four provinces, but its roughly seven million inhabitants have long complained they do not receive a fair share of its gas and mineral wealth. A greater push towards peace and development by Pakistani authorities has reduced the violence considerably in recent years. —AFP





OSLO: File picture shows Nobel Committee Chairman Thorbjorn Jagland speaking during the Peace Prize Ceremony in Oslo in front of a photo of Nobel peace laureate Liu Xiaobo who died yesterday. —AFP

## CHINA'S NOBEL LAUREATE LIU XIAOBO DIES AGED 61

**SHENYANG, China:** China's Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo died yesterday while still in custody following a battle with cancer, authorities said, after officials ignored international pleas to let him spend his final days free and abroad. The prominent democracy advocate died aged 61, more than a month after he was transferred from prison to a heavily-guarded hospital to be treated for late-stage liver cancer. The legal bureau in the northeastern city of Shenyang said on its website that Liu died three days after going into intensive care at the First Hospital of China Medical University.

The writer's death silences a government critic who had been a thorn in the side of the authorities for decades and became a symbol of Beijing's growing crackdown on dissenting voices. Liu's death puts China in dubious company as he became the first Nobel Peace Prize laureate to die in custody since German pacifist Carl von Ossietzky, who passed away in a hospital while held by the Nazis in 1938. International human rights groups, Western governments and local activists had urged

authorities to free Liu and grant his final wish to be treated abroad.

Germany had offered to treat Liu, calling for a "signal of humanity" from China. The United States also said it was willing to take him in. But officials insisted that Liu was receiving treatment from top Chinese doctors since being granted medical parole following his diagnosis in late May.

In response to calls to allow Liu to leave China, the foreign ministry repeatedly said other countries should not interfere in China's internal affairs. In early July, Liu's Chinese doctors said he was not healthy enough to be sent abroad for treatment, a position that was contradicted by US and German medical experts invited by the hospital to examine Liu's condition. The physicians offered to treat the laureate at hospitals in their home countries.

Human rights groups decried the way the government treated Liu, accusing authorities of manipulating information about his health and refusing to let him leave because they were afraid he would use the freedom to denounce China's one-party Communist regime.

As a gaunt Liu lay in his sickbed, a video was leaked showing the Western doctors praising their Chinese counterparts—a scene that was denounced as "grotesque propaganda" by Human Rights Watch. The German embassy said the video seemed to show that security organs were "steering the process, not medical experts".

### Empty chair

Liu was arrested in 2008 after co-writing Charter 08, a bold petition that called for the protection of basic human rights and reform of China's political system. He was sentenced to 11 years in prison in December 2009 for "subversion". At the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo in 2010 he was represented by an empty chair. Liu is also known for his role in the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing.

His wife, Liu Xia, was placed under house arrest in 2010, but she was allowed to see him at the hospital. Her fate will now worry human rights groups, which had urged the government to free her alongside Liu Xiaobo. —AFP

## DR CONGO MUST IDENTIFY THOSE BEHIND KASAI MASSACRES

**KINSHASA:** DR Congo must identify both senior army personnel and politicians behind the massacres in the volatile Kasai region, a top UN human rights official told AFP yesterday. Jose-Maria Aranaz, the UN human rights director in the Democratic Republic of Congo, was speaking just a day after the UN said another 38 suspected mass graves had been discovered in this central part of the country. "With more than 80 mass graves identified ... it is essential that the inquiry goes beyond those who physically did it and identifies command responsibilities at the military and political level," said Aranaz.

Aranaz dismissed as "unconvincing" the suggestion that

rogue elements of the security forces were responsible for the violence. "We have to stop the killing," he said. Congolese government spokesman Lambert Mende brushed off the comments, saying: "Those who are saying that we must investigate civil and military officials are out of line. "We are probing everybody," he said, adding that if Aranaz's office "has any names and proof about generals they must produce it." The international community has voiced alarm over the violence, which has claimed the lives of more than 3,000 people, according to statistics compiled by the Roman Catholic Church. —AFP

## MAN ARRESTED OVER BRUTAL RAPE, MURDER OF INDIAN SCHOOLGIRL

**SHIMLA, India:** Indian police yesterday arrested a key suspect in the gang rape and murder of a teenage girl near the hill resort of Shimla, shocking a small community where such brutal violence is rare. The discovery of the 16-year-old's bruised and naked body has triggered outpourings of grief and anger in Himachal Pradesh, a northern state with some of India's lowest rates of sexual violence. An autopsy confirmed the girl—whose body was found in a forest two days after she was allegedly kidnapped on her way home from school—was gang raped and murdered by strangulation.

She sustained severe injuries in the assault, including a broken leg. Zahur S Zaidi, inspector general of Himachal Pradesh police, said a 29-year-old man who was the main suspect in the attack had been arrested and was assisting investigators with their inquiry. It is expected more arrests will be made in the case. The accused is a drug addict and suspected of involvement in other sexual offences, another officer said. India has a gruesome record on rape. Nearly 40,000 rape cases are reported every year but the real number is thought to be much higher, with victims wary of how their complaints will be dealt with or the social stigma attached to sex crimes.

In the capital New Delhi, nearly 2,200 rape cases were registered in 2015

an average of six a day, according to most recent official figures. Himachal Pradesh—the Himalayan state where stunned residents held protests demanding justice—recorded 244 rapes that same year, among the lowest rates in India. India strengthened its laws on sexual violence after the fatal gang rape of a Delhi student in 2012 caused global outrage, but attacks on women are still widespread. —AFP



ALLAHABAD, India: Indian tourists take a boat ride in the river Ganges in Allahabad, India, yesterday. —AP

## INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY SETS NEW RULES TO PROTECT GANGES

**NEW DELHI:** India's main environmental agency has banned the dumping of any kind of waste within 500 meters (yards) of the most polluted parts of the Ganges, a river considered sacred by devout Hindus. In its order yesterday, the National Green Tribunal also asked the governments of the northern states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand to establish clear guidelines for religious activities performed on the banks of the river.

Even though hundreds of millions of Hindus worship the Ganges, millions of tons of garbage, chemicals and sewage make their way into the river, which emerges from a glacier in the Himalayas and makes its way through the plains of India before draining into the Bay of Bengal. India has struggled for decades to clean and rejuvenate the river. —AP

## CHINA'S UIGHUR MUSLIMS STRUGGLE UNDER 'POLICE STATE' 'THIS IS NOT A GOOD PLACE FOR RELIGION'

**KASHGAR, China:** Worshippers quietly passed through metal detectors as they entered the central mosque in China's far western city of Kashgar under the stern gaze of stone-faced police officers. The increasingly strict curbs imposed on the mostly Muslim Uighur population have stifled life in the tense Xinjiang region, where beards are partially banned and no one is allowed to pray in public. For years, the square outside the mosque in Kashgar was packed with teeming crowds as worshippers jostled for space to unroll their prayer rugs and celebrate the end of

Beijing says the restrictions and heavy police presence seek to control the spread of Islamic extremism and separatist movements, but analysts warn that Xinjiang is becoming an open air prison. China is "essentially creating a police state of unprecedented scale," said James Leibold, an expert on Chinese security at Australia's La Trobe University.

### 'Great wall of steel'

The government began ramping up security and religious restrictions in Xinjiang in 2009, following a series of

Public signs say no one is permitted to pray in public or grow a beard before the age of 50, while government employees are forbidden from fasting during Ramadan. In Tashkurgan, near the Pakistan border, authorities shut a halal restaurant as "punishment" for refusing to serve food during the holiday, according to a shopkeeper working next door. A teacher and a government official told AFP that schools discourage students from using the traditional Arabic Muslim greeting "As-Salaam Alaikum" ("peace be upon you").

"The government thinks this Islamic word is equal to separatism," the official said. The region's ubiquitous surveillance cameras are particularly abundant in places of worship: an empty mosque in the southern city of Yarkand had three of them pointing directly at the spot where the imam leads prayers. Even more hung from the wooden rafters like bats. At police stations, officers monitor screens with direct feeds from mosques as well as other buildings and nearby streets.

In the run-up to Eid in the southwestern desert oasis town of Hotan, police manned checkpoints with rifles and crude spears made from metal pipes. At one intersection, men in bulletproof vests stopped traffic for a fleet of dozens of heavily armored trucks, personnel carriers with mounted guns and black vans. The caravans patrolled the city every day during the month of Ramadan, a police officer said.

At a mosque in the heart of Hotan, Muslims gathering for Friday prayers passed through a police barricade and showed identity documents at two checkpoints before entering. Inside, plainclothes men with Communist Party lapel pins and sunglasses kept a close eye on hundreds of worshippers. At the front of the mosque, an LED signboard reminded people that "the greatest task for Xinjiang's masses is harmonizing ethnic unity and religion." Such signs are a common sight throughout Xinjiang, where tensions between Uighurs and the majority Han ethnic group have led to violent clashes. —AFP



**KASHGAR, XINJIANG, China:** This picture shows men dancing in front of the Id Kah Mosque after the morning prayer on Eid Al-Fitr in the old town of Kashgar in China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region. —AFP

Ramadan. But no longer.

This year, an eerie silence hung over the plaza outside the imposing prayer hall as devotees gathered to mark the end of a month of fasting—the lowest turnout in a generation according to residents. Authorities declined to comment on the numbers. But local businessmen told AFP the government had used the multiple checkpoints encircling the city to

prevent travellers to Kashgar from joining Eid prayers. "This is not a good place for religion," said one trader.

riots in the regional capital Urumqi that left around 200 dead. In March, President Xi Jinping ordered security forces to build a "great wall of steel" around the region after Uighurs claiming to belong to a division of the Islamic State group in Iraq threatened to return home and "shed blood like rivers".

Over the last year, Beijing has flooded Xinjiang with tens of thousands of security personnel, placed police stations on nearly every block, and rolled out tough regulations aimed at "eliminating extremism".

## POLICE CHARGED WITH PHILIPPINE MAYOR'S MURDER BACK ON DUTY

**MANILA:** Philippine policemen accused of killing a town mayor or when he was in jail on drugs charges are back on duty, an official said yesterday, in a case cited as a sign of growing impunity under President

Rodrigo Duterte. Superintendent Marvin Marcos and 18 other officers have been reinstated, police chief Ronald Dela Rosa said, despite still being on bail for the murder of Albura town mayor Rolando Espinosa. "They are back on normal duties" after serving a suspension period, Dela Rosa told reporters.

Justice Department investigators said the men, who have yet to stand trial, shot dead Espinosa and cellmate Raul Yap during a night-time raid on the jail in November last year. But Dela Rosa said they were allowed to return to duty after investigators "tried everything, all the legal remedies were used, the functions of our justice system". The officers' return comes just days after Duterte reiterated that he would not allow any policeman to go to jail for waging his brutal war on crime,

specifically citing the Espinosa case. In a speech earlier this week, Duterte said, "I will never, never allow a military man, a government man, a policeman to be imprisoned for doing his duty and obeying my order."

Duterte singled out Superintendent Marcos, saying he had not yet been found guilty. "Give him back his job," he said. Duterte, who took office a year ago, is already under fire from human rights groups for his brutal anti-drug campaign which has seen at least 3,200 people slain in police operations with thousands more killed by vigilante groups. Opposition Congressman Gary Alejano said "the reinstatement of Superintendent Marcos et al. to active duty is the height of impunity." "This gives a signal to the police and military that they will be protected by the president even if they violate the law and human rights," he said in a statement. "While (Duterte) is still the president, let us expect that more killings will happen under the war on drugs and under his administration," he added. —AFP

## TEARY-EYED MALAYSIAN MH17 FAMILIES DEMAND JUSTICE

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Teary-eyed families of Malaysians killed when a Malaysia Airlines jet was shot down over Ukraine yesterday demanded those responsible be brought to justice, ahead of the third anniversary of the disaster. All 298 people on board were killed when the jet was downed in conflict-torn eastern Ukraine on July 17, 2014 on a flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur. A joint international investigation has determined that the Boeing 777 was hit by a Russian-made BUK missile fired from rebel-held territory, but a separate criminal probe has yet to arrest any suspects.

Moscow has repeatedly denied any involvement in the downing of flight MH17, putting the blame on Kiev. Forty-three Malaysians were killed in the tragedy, including 15 crew members. About 90 of the victims' family members, many wearing black, yesterday attended a commemoration to mark the anniversary of the disaster, hosted by the Malaysian transport minister. "I want the suspects hunted down and punished for their crime," Fateen Izzah, whose engineer brother Hasni Hardi Parlan was killed in the disaster, told AFP.

"Only swift justice will ease the pain my family and I have endured these three years," added the teary-eyed 27-year-old, as she clutched the hand of her husband. Mohamad Zaki, 40, who lost his 30-year-old student brother Mohamad Ali Mohamad Salim, echoed the call. "We want the authorities to nail those who shot the plane down. I know it will take a long time, but I will be patient," he said.

The families were briefed by Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai on the latest developments in the investigation. "We are confident ... investigators will be able to identify the criminals responsible for the MH17 tragedy and we will be able to charge them in Netherlands," he said, adding the probe into the tragedy could be wrapped by early 2018. Dutch officials announced last week that the trial of any suspects arrested in the shooting down of flight MH17 will be held in the Netherlands after an agreement was reached with several countries leading a joint probe. Most of the victims were Dutch. —AFP



**PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia:** Salim Sarmo, 68, the father of Mohamad Ali Mohamad Salim, 30, who was killed in the shutdown of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, displays a photograph of his late son in Putrajaya, outside Kuala Lumpur yesterday. —AFP

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Friday Times

# Lifestyle

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In this photo 22-year-old Jefferson Valdivia poses for a portrait in the Sinakara Valley, in Peru's Cusco region, during the Qoyllur Ritii festival, translated from the Quechua language as Snow Star. — AP

**Disneyland China falls a-fowl  
of huge turkey leg demand**

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# AP PHOTOGRAPHER USES **BOX CAMERA** FOR PERU FESTIVAL PORTRAITS



19-year-old Guido Yupanki poses for a portrait in the Sinakara Valley, in Peru's Cusco region, during the Qoyllur Rit'i festival, translated from the Quechua language as Snow Star. — AP photos

One by one, Associated Press photographer Rodrigo Abd positioned the traditional dancers, musicians and vendors in front of an old-fashioned box camera in Peru's Sinakara Valley as a colorful Andean festival exploded all around them. The men, women and children were among the tens of thousands of pilgrims representing some eight nations who came to this sacred place in Quispicanchis province in Peru's Cuzco region for the annual Snow Star Festival, shortly before this year's Christian feast of Corpus Christi.



A 15-year-old Aldair Monchea poses for a portrait.



A 19-year-old Fabio Luis Calancha, dressed as a half-bear, half-man creature known as a ukuku.

assignment there in 2006. With a lens and space for a developing lab inside, the box camera uses 19th century technology to produce luminous, black and white images.

"The idea of making portraits with my wooden camera of the pilgrims ... was beguiling," Abd said of the project. "But once on the ground, the project also represented an enormous logistical complexity." Abd and two assistants, Victor Zea and Ignacio Gonzalez Vigil, used three pack horses to transport the heavy camera, its tripod, black cloth to block light during developing, processing chemicals and a tent through near-freezing temperatures to a plain about 14,700 feet (4,500 meters) high, set amid a snow-capped mountain range adored by the Quechua people.

Inscribed on UNESCO'S Intangible Cultural Heritage list, the Peruvian festival features a pilgrimage by local people to the sanctuary where a boulder with an image of Jesus Christ known as the Lord of Qoyllur Rit'i (pronounced KOL-yer REE-chee), or Snow Star in the Quechua language. People in colorful indigenous costumes, some wearing masks, others holding harps or other musical instruments, sat still for up to two minutes as Abd made exposures, light shining through the lens onto photographic paper inside the box. Abd produced negative prints of each picture by passing the photo paper through developer and fixer sloshing inside the box. The negative prints were then hung with plastic clothespins to dry in the Andean air.

With each one, the process was repeated to make a positive print. The result was a series of stunning images of people from ancient tribes, in traditional garb little known outside the Peruvian Andes. For dancer Guido Yupaniki Cereceda, worship of the Lord through the festival "is very meaningful for the Andean world. He's God and love for all of us." — AP



Roger Barrios poses for a portrait.



A 30-year-old Ivan Flores poses for a portrait.



Rudy Espiriya and his three-year-old son Dayiro Tahuara, pose for a portrait.

After their portraits were made, the subjects spoke of the beliefs and rituals they keep alive in the 21st century. "I'm proud to be another soldier for the Lord of Qoyllur Rit'i," said 33-year-old Aldo Machaca Quispe, referring to the image of Jesus Christ venerated in the region. He sat for a portrait with his son Brandon, 6, and said he hoped to pass down the traditions to the boy. Last year, Abd used digital equipment to photograph the three-day festival that also coincides with the reappearance of the star cluster Pleiades in the Southern Hemisphere, signaling the abundance of the harvest season.

But this year, he chose to bring his old-fashioned box camera, a primitive device built of wood and modeled on ones he saw portrait photographers using in Afghanistan while he was on



Sebastiana Jara poses for a portrait.



A nine-year-old Jose Carlos Cahuana, dressed as a character known as "Majeno", poses for a portrait.

A 21-year-old Nelida Soto poses for a portrait.



# Pamper yourself at home

## The Real Fouz

**W**inding down and relaxing after a long tiring day is something we all enjoy doing and it's one of my favorite ways to feel fresh and relaxed with my busy schedule. I'll be sharing with you how I have an "at home" spa/pamper night as well as sharing my favorite DIY recipes, and I encourage all you ladies to make this a part of your weekly routine!

I always start by setting the relaxing mood by lighting a candle, my favorite one is by Organique. It smells amazing and you can use the candle wax as a body oil too! Another thing I like to do is play some relaxing spa music, which makes the whole process so much more enjoyable and relaxing. I make myself a cup of green tea, refreshing smoothie, or fruit infused water and put on my favorite fuzzy robe and start with my routine.

The first step is to remove all of your make up and cleanse your face thoroughly with your favorite cleanser. I then use my favorite facemask and massage some pure coconut oil into my hair as a hair mask. I love making my own at home masks and I will share my favorite recipes at the end of this article. I even make my own under eye treatment, which works wonders. Another thing I love to do is a foot soak. Having tiring days and constantly wearing heels can put a lot of strain and stress on your feet so doing this can make you feel so much better. I then finish with a lip scrub and use a mixture of organic yogurt and honey as a lip treatment to hydrate and soften my lips.

### Brightening tumeric and lemon face mask

#### Ingredients

3 tbsp of rolled oats (ground into oat flour in food processor)  
1 tbsp of manuka honey  
1/2 teaspoon of turmeric  
a squeeze of lemon juice

### Preparation

Combine all the ingredients into a bowl and apply to your face and leave on for 15-20 minutes. Rinse off gently with warm water.

### Soothing cucumber eye gel

#### Ingredients:

5-8 tbsp of aloe vera gel  
1/2 cucumber, cut into cubes

#### Preparation:

Blend the cucumber with a blender or food processor until liquid. Strain the juice of the cucumber through a sieve and set aside. Mix 2 tbsp of cucumber juice with the aloe vera gel and whisk it until it forms into a thick gel like consistency. Apply under your eyes before bed. (this mixture will last you 6 weeks)

### DIY foot soak

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup of any mouthwash  
- 1/2 cup of vinegar  
\* 1 cup of warm water

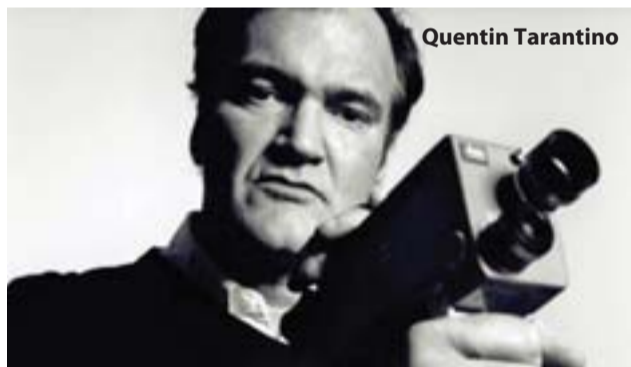
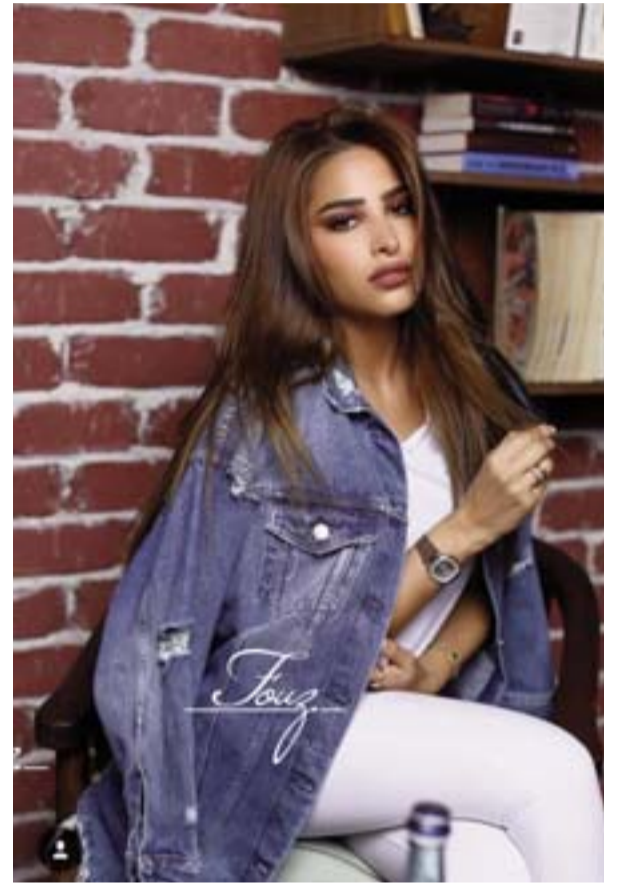
#### Preparation:

Mix them into an appropriate sized container and soak your feet for 15 mins.

### DIY lip scrub

Mix a tablespoon of brown sugar with just enough honey (or olive oil) to get it to stick together. Rub the scrub onto your lips enough to loosen the dead skin. Let it sit for 1 minute, and then wipe off with a damp towel.

Hope you girls enjoy pampering yourselves! We all deserve it!



Quentin Tarantino

## Tarantino to make film on Manson Family murders

**O**scar-winning filmmaker Quentin Tarantino is planning a movie based on the notorious Manson Family killings, according to US media. The American director is discussing the project with several A-list actors, the Hollywood Reporter said Tuesday, and will direct from his own script. The weekly trade paper, citing unnamed sources, said Brad Pitt, who starred in Tarantino's "Inglourious Basterds" (2009), and Jennifer Lawrence have been approached.

Legendary producers Harvey and Bob Weinstein, who have worked with Tarantino on all his recent films, will also be involved, the publication reported. The plan is reportedly to shoot in 2018, although no distribution deal is yet in place. Charles Manson, who at 82 is still behind bars, was the leader of a California cult called "The Family" which murdered several people, including the pregnant Hollywood star Sharon Tate. Lawrence and Australian actress Margot Robbie are being considered for the role of Tate, who was slain while Manson was not present, said Variety magazine.

Pitt could play Vincent Bugliosi, the lawyer who prosecuted the family. In a bloody killing spree in August 1969, Manson and his followers killed seven people in two days. Although he has been branded "America's icon of evil", Manson is not regarded as a serial killer, as others mostly carried out the murders he was initially sentenced to death for. Tarantino, who dropped out of high school insisting he could learn more on his own, won best screenplay Oscars for black comedy western "Django Unchained" in 2013 and cult favorite "Pulp Fiction" in 1995. — AFP

## DISNEYLAND CHINA FALLS A-FOWL OF HUGE TURKEY LEG DEMAND

**O**ver nearly a century Disney has exported US culture across the globe, but the company was astonished to find one slice of Americana wildly popular in China—the turkey leg. The entertainment giant opened its \$5.5 billion theme park in Shanghai in June last year, expecting to shift mainly bok choy, Mickey Pork Buns and Minnie Red Bean Buns to hungry customers. "If you go to Disneyland or Disney World, we sell gigantic turkey legs—they're like the size of my arm," Bob Iger, chairman and CEO of the Walt Disney Company, told reporters on Wednesday.

"And when I heard we were putting them on the menu in Shanghai I thought our group was crazy. Why are we selling turkey legs in China?" Iger was quickly proved wrong, however. Glazed in a special Disney-recipe hoisin sauce, thousands of the turkey legs began selling every day. "We were there a few weeks ago for the

anniversary and we sold 4,500 in one day. We couldn't buy enough of them," Iger said at a panel for the international press in the company's Burbank, California, studio lot.

Demand for the juicy snack quickly grew to 4,000 units a day in Shanghai alone—more than Disney's Polish supplier could manage—and buyers were sent to track down more of the poultry legs in South America. "That surprised us, and there were other things about food that surprised us—not bad, by the way, just things that we had to adjust to," said Iger. Incorrect rumors that the turkey legs sold at its theme parks are actually emu meat have circulated online for years, boosted most recently by March 9 segment on TBS's "Conan" talk show. In fact, they look bigger than normal turkey legs simply because they are from the male and not the female. Americans are used to seeing in their traditional Thanksgiving meals.—AFP

## Country legend Loretta Lynn pushes back album after stroke

**C**ountry music legend Loretta Lynn on Wednesday delayed her upcoming album and tour following a stroke but said she was steadily recovering. The 85-year-old singer, one of the pioneering women in country whose fashion trademark is her floor-length gowns, suffered a stroke in May at her ranch in Tennessee. She has remained active despite her age and her latest album "Wouldn't It Be Great"—her second since 2016 -- was scheduled to come out in August.

"I now want to wait to release it next year because this record is so special for me. It deserves me at my best and I can't wait to share it," Lynn said in a statement on her website. "I want to thank everyone for hanging in there with me. I am getting stronger every day and can't wait to get back out there with all of you," she said. Lynn also canceled a series of upcoming concerts that had been due to kick off next week in Dubuque, Iowa. Lynn—a protegee of Patsy Cline, who broke through the gender barrier in country music—has won a fan base with songs that highlight the woes of white Southern women faced with philandering and floundering husbands. — AFP



This file photo shows US President Barack Obama presenting the Presidential Medal of Freedom to country music legend Loretta Lynn during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington, DC. — AFP



This photo made available by the Auschwitz Museum shows a model of a plan the German Nazis were making for the enlargement of the Auschwitz death camp. — AP photos



In this photo made available by the Auschwitz Museum the original top of the 'Arbeit Macht Frei' (Works Sets You Free) gate of the Nazi German death camp of Auschwitz, that was made by the early inmates is on display.

## Art exhibit in Poland shows Auschwitz through inmates' eyes

A new exhibition in southern Poland shows the brutality of the Nazi German death camp of Auschwitz through the artistic work of its inmates. Some of the artworks are being shown publicly for the first time. The "Face to Face: Art in Auschwitz" exhibition opened last week at the Kamienica Szolayskich (Szolayski Tenement House) of the National Museum in Krakow to mark 70 years of the Auschwitz Museum. The museum's task is to preserve the site in the southern town of Oswiecim and to educate visitors about it. More than 2 million people visited the museum last year.

The curator of the Krakow exhibit, Agnieszka Sieradzka, said Wednesday it includes clandestine as well as commissioned drawings and paintings by Jews, Poles and other citizens held at Auschwitz during World War II. "These works help us see Auschwitz as the inmates saw it and experienced it," Sieradzka told The Associated Press. "We stand face to face with the inmates."

The Nazis sometimes ordered talented inmates to make paintings for various purposes. One such painting is a portrait of a Roma woman that pseudo-scientist Josef Mengele experimented on. Mengele ordered portraits like this from inmate painter Dina Gottliebowa, a Jewish woman from Czechoslovakia. The task helped Gottliebowa survive. After the war she traveled to the US and started a family. She died in 2009 in California under the name Dina Babbitt.

Among the clandestine art is the so-called Auschwitz Sketchbook by an unknown author. It has 22 drawings of scenes of beatings, starvation and death. It was found in 1947, hidden in a bottle in the foundation of a barrack at Birkenau, a part of the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex. It is the first time it is being shown to the general public. It is housed at the museum and only shown on request. Also being displayed is the original "Arbeit Macht Frei" (Work Sets You Free) gate



This reproduction shows a pencil sketch by unknown inmate of the Nazi German death camp of Auschwitz showing the arrival of a transport of Jews, guarded by armed German soldiers.

top that was stolen and retrieved in 2009 and is now kept under guard at the museum.

From 1940-1945, some 1.1 million people, mostly European Jews but also Poles, Roma and Russians, were killed in the gas chambers or died from starvation, excessive forced labor and disease at Auschwitz, which Nazi Germany operated in occupied Poland. — AP



In this reproduction of the drawing 'double portrait' by Peter Edel, a Jew from Germany, shows him before Auschwitz, right, and as an inmate of the death camp and asking 'Is this still me?' It is one among some 200 drawings and other pieces of art now on display at a 'Face to Face.'



Salvador Dali

## Spanish judge schedules Dali exhumation for July 20

A Spanish judge has scheduled the exhumation of the remains of Salvador Dali on July 20, the artist's foundation and a court said yesterday, although this date may change if an appeal is accepted. The remains of the world-famous surrealist, who is buried in his museum in Figueras, in northeastern Spain, were ordered exhumed after a woman who claims to be his daughter filed a paternity claim. Pilar Abel, a 61-year-old who long worked as a psychic in Catalonia, says her mother had a relationship with the artist when she worked in Port Lligat, a tiny fishing hamlet where the painter lived for years.

A spokeswoman for the Salvador Dali Foundation, which manages the artist's estate and has lodged an appeal against the exhumation, told AFP they had been notified by a judge that it would take place on Thursday, July 20. A spokesman for Madrid's high court, which oversees other courts in the area including the one that ordered the exhumation, added it was scheduled for 9.30 am local time (0730 GMT). Experts will take DNA samples directly from the grave where Dali was buried after his death in 1989, which will then be sent to Madrid to undergo the necessary tests.

But the foundation hopes to avoid it if its appeal is successful. On Tuesday, medical experts extracted saliva from Abel to obtain her own DNA and cross-check it against that of Dali. In an interview with AFP last month, just days after a court ordered the exhumation, she said her grandmother first told her she was Dali's daughter when she was seven or eight years old, and her mother admitted it much later. Abel is from the city of Figueras, like Dali, and she said she would often see him in the streets.

"We wouldn't say anything, we would just look at each other. But a glance is worth a thousand words," she said. Notoriously eccentric, Dali's life was marked as much by the genius of his work as by his own extravagances. A question has always hung over his sexuality, with some claiming he was a closet homosexual who preferred to watch others having sex rather than taking part. But according to Abel's lawyer Enrique Blanquez, his affair was "known in the village, there are people who have testified before a notary". — AFP



This photo provided by The Metropolitan Museum of Arts shows 'The Gate' by Tanabe Chikuunsai IV. — AP photos

# MET EXHIBIT LOOKS AT JAPAN'S FINE CRAFT OF BAMBOO BASKETRY

## 'Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection'

**B**amboo is getting attention these days as a versatile and sustainable material for housewares, so the timing is good for a Metropolitan Museum of Art exhibit that explores Japan's ancient craft of basketry. "Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection" is devoted to masterworks, including a half dozen works by two artists designated as Living National Treasures in Japan. To highlight the works' virtuosity and context, they have been displayed alongside paintings, ceramics, bronzes, kimonos and other pieces from different genres.

The exhibit also explores other traditional Japanese arts that are entwined with bamboo basketry, such as ikebana flower arranging and tea ceremony. Bamboo is so central to Japanese culture that the Japanese and Chinese character for bamboo is part of over a thousand other characters, including those for many items traditionally made of bamboo, such as flutes, writing brushes, boxes and baskets. The Met's show, organized by Monika Bincsik, assistant curator in the department of Asian art, tells the story of bamboo through almost 100 works dating from the late 19th century to the present. It focuses on the refined beauty and technical complexity of Japanese basketry. The exhibit will remain on view through Feb 4, 2018.

### Rare tiger bamboo

Although the oldest Japanese baskets date to the 700s and were mainly used as offering trays and holders for lotus petals, there was little focus on Japanese bamboo art in the Western world until relatively recently, Bincsik says. Most of the works featured in this show are taken from the Diane and Arthur Abbey Collection, and most have never before been shown to the public. More than 70 of the works exhibited were recently promised as gifts to the Met. The show opens with a dramatically curvaceous floor-to-ceiling sculpture by master craftsman Tanabe Chikuunsai IV. With its voluptuous shape, the site-specific piece is woven out of rare tiger bamboo, which is mottled with dark spots.

The introductory section shows how bamboo was used for hundreds of years for everyday utensils as well as refined containers. It was a craft generally honed by specific families, with expertise handed down from one generation to the next. Some leading bamboo artisans created their own schools, many still active today. But

it was not until the late 19th century, the exhibit explains, that bamboo craftsmanship began to be recognized as, first, a veritable Japanese decorative art and, later, as a bona fide art form. Later masters such as Iizuka Rokansai created innovative works that were the foundation for contemporary bamboo art.

The show includes textiles passed from bamboo basketry mentors to their students as a sort of diploma, or graduation gift, signaling an apprentice's elevation to the rank of skilled craftsman. These precious textiles were passed down time and again over generations. Most of the exhibit is organized geographically into three major Japanese regions; Kansai (mainly Kyoto and Osaka), Kanto (mainly Tokyo) and the southern area of Kyushu.

### National Treasure of bamboo art

Highlights include "Basket for Transporting Tea Ceremony Utensils," made in the late 1800s by Hayakawa Shokosai I. He is believed to be the first bamboo craftsman to sign his work, paving the way for increased recognition of the works of individual masters. "Moon reflected on Water" was made in 1929 by Sakaguchi Sounsai. It was the first bamboo work accepted into a government-sponsored art exhibition, that year. Another major work is "Offering or fruit tray with intersecting circles design," made in about 1947 from smoked timber bamboo by Shono Shounsai, who in 1967 became the first Living National Treasure of bamboo art.

There are baskets that incorporate ancient arrows, still revealing their red or black lacquer. A vase called "Dragon in Clouds" by Iizuka Shokansai is twisted out of a single stick of bamboo. Another work, "Woman," made in 2004 by Nagakura Ken'ichi, is also formed from a single stick of bamboo, and resembles a sculpture by Giacometti. One takeaway from the show is that the possibilities of bamboo may turn out to be as vast and limitless as the form is ancient. The exhibit will not travel beyond New York, but is accompanied by a slim but detailed publication, "Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection," with text by Bincsik and photos (Metropolitan Museum of Art, Bulletin, Spring 2017). — AP



This photo shows "Flowing Pattern" by Honma Hideaki.



This photo provided by The Metropolitan Museum of Arts shows "Dancing Frog Flower Basket" by Hayakawa Shokosai III.



This photo shows 'Dance' by Honda Syoryu.

# Pair salmon with beans and you've got a hearty summer supper

By Melissa D'Arabian

Sometimes, it's just too hot to turn on the stove. The key is to stock up your kitchen with "healthy convenience food" that doesn't require any heat, such as fresh produce, canned beans, canned fish and small boxes of pre-cooked legumes found in the prepared produce section.

You can throw together a hearty meal in minutes without breaking a sweat. Sure, you will pay an extra dollar or two for steamed lentils, for instance, but if having a well-stocked fridge keeps you from hitting the drive-thru even once, then you'll come ahead financially (and nutritionally). Canned salmon is one of my favorite healthy fast-foods. When it goes on sale, you can stock up the pantry with a few cans of it, making wild salmon downright inexpensive.

Not only is canned salmon full of protein (12 g grams of protein per 2 ounces of fish) and omega-3 fatty acids, but it actually has more calcium than

its fresh counterpart, since the small bones stay in the meat (and go unnoticed; remove any large bones, however). Pair the salmon with beans or legumes plus some chopped fresh vegetables and vinaigrette, and you've got a dish hearty enough for a summertime supper. And it will keep nicely in the fridge, so you can graze on this fiber and protein filled salad for a day or two no problem.

Today's recipe, a Lentil and Salmon Salad with Smoky Mustard Dressing, was inspired by my favorite bagel toppings - red onion, tomato, capers, salmon and a hint of smokiness in the vinaigrette, which elevates the canned salmon into a little wink at lox. The flavors marry into a surprisingly complex dish, never hinting at the fact that this recipe is of the 5-minute-dump-stir-and-serve variety.



## LENTIL AND SALMON SALAD WITH SMOKY MUSTARD DRESSING

### Ingredients

Servings: 6  
Start to finish: 10 minutes  
2 1/2 cups cooked lentils  
2 medium tomatoes, chopped (about 1 1/2 cups)  
1 medium cucumber, seeded and chopped (about 1 cup)  
1/4 medium red onion, chopped  
3 tablespoons capers  
8 ounces canned wild salmon, large bones and skin removed  
1/4 cup lightly chopped dill leaves  
1/3 cup Lemon-Dijon vinaigrette, recipe follows  
Salt and pepper

Lemon-Dijon Vinaigrette:  
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard  
1 teaspoons smoked paprika  
2 tablespoons lemon juice  
1 tablespoon water  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
Salt and pepper

### Preparation

Mix (or layer) the lentils, tomatoes, onion, cucumber, capers and salmon in a large salad bowl or on a platter. In a small bowl, whisk together the mustard, smoked paprika, lemon juice and

water until smooth. Drizzle in the olive oil while whisking to make an emulsion. Season with salt and pepper. Pour 1/3 cup of the dressing over the salad. Top with the fresh dill leaves. Toss and enjoy. Serve on leafy greens, if desired. Will keep for two days in refrigerator, in covered glass container. — AP

### Nutrition information per serving

211 calories; 64 calories from fat; 7 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 25 mg cholesterol; 364 mg sodium; 20 g carbohydrate; 8 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 18 g protein.





## COOKING ON A DEADLINE: Pasta with Sautéed Kale, Bread Crumbs

By Katie Workman

There are lots of varieties of kale on the market. They start appearing now and stay seasonal all through the winter. You can play around with any and all of them in this recipe. You also can use other dark greens, like mustard greens, collards, Swiss chard - even chopped broccolini or broccoli rabe. Spinach is another option, but cook it for only about 4 or 5 minutes or it will probably get a bit too soft. There are plenty of pasta and greens recipe out there, but this one is elevated and made super-amazing by the topping of Parmesan-infused fried fresh bread crumbs. And a smidge of anchovies and red pepper flakes.

I always rush to mention that if you have people at the table who think they don't like anchovies, you should conveniently leave out that little nugget of information when describing this dish. But leave out the information, not the anchovies. (Unless you're serving a possible vegetarian, then full disclosure is in order).

Pasta with sautéed kale and toasted bread crumbs  
Ingredients Serves 6; Start to finish: 25 min.

1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil, divided, plus extra for drizzling  
1 cup coarse fresh breadcrumbs  
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste  
1 tablespoon minced garlic, divided  
4 oil- or salt-packed anchovy fillets, rinsed and minced

1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes, or more to taste  
2 pounds kale, thick stems cut off, rinsed well and roughly chopped  
1 pound spaghetti  
Juice from 1 lemon  
1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese, divided

### Preparation

Bring a large pot of water to a boil, and season generously with salt. Meanwhile, heat half of the 1/3 cup oil in a very large, deep skillet with a lid over medium heat. Add the bread crumbs, season with salt and pepper, and toast them, stirring frequently, until the bread crumbs are light golden brown, about 4 minutes. Add half the garlic and cook and stir for one more minute, until you can smell the garlic. Use a slotted spoon to transfer the toasted crumbs to a paper-towel-lined plate.

Pour out any remaining oil and wipe out the skillet with paper towels (carefully!). Return the skillet to medium heat, and add the rest of the 1/3 cup oil and heat over medium heat. Add the remaining minced garlic, the anchovies and red pepper flakes, and stir for a few seconds. Then add the kale and 1/4 cup water (if the kale is damp from rinsing it, skip the additional water), partially cover the pot, and cook, stirring occasionally, for about 10 minutes, until the kale is fairly wilted and tender.

While the kale is cooking, cook the spaghetti in the boiling water according to package directions until al dente. Remove 1/2 cup of the pasta cooking water, then drain the pasta. Add the pasta, half of the reserved cooking water, and the lemon juice to the pan with the wilted kale, and toss to combine well (use the pot you cooked the pasta in if that works better size-wise). Add more cooking water if the mixture seems dry. Taste and adjust seasonings as needed.

In a small bowl, stir together the toasted breadcrumbs with 1/4 cup of the Parmesan. Transfer the pasta and kale to a serving bowl or to individual plates, and top with the Parmesan bread crumbs. Sprinkle with the remaining 1/4 cup Parmesan, and serve hot or warm. Let people give their servings an extra drizzle of olive oil if they wish. — AP

### Nutrition information per serving

518 calories; 149 calories from fat; 17 g fat (2 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 12 mg cholesterol; 211 mg sodium; 75 g carbohydrate; 8 g fiber; 6 g sugar; 19 g protein.

# WONDER WOMAN VS. SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING

## EVALUATING THE SUMMER'S BIGGEST COMIC-BOOK BLOCKBUSTERS

By Aakash Bakaya

Looking back at these two films, it's easy to note that they stand quite well on their own. So instead of writing a review for each film as I would normally do, I thought it would be a fun exercise to compare them on common ground and see how they perform. These two adaptations couldn't be more different on paper but if the last decade of comic book movies dominating the box-office is any indication - there must be one and only one that must stand above the rest. So in true comic fashion - let us face-off Wonder Woman against Spider-Man and see who comes out on top.

### PLOT

'Wonder Woman' (WW) starts off at the turn of the 20th century on the mythical Island Themyscira (pronunciations may vary) where a young Diana is being taught the origins of her people as well as how to beat the ever-living snot out of anyone who dares interfere with the woman of their secluded home. Known as the Amazons, they believe to be the creations of the God Zeus, they train and prepare themselves to defeat Ares, the God of War who struck down their maker before succumbing to defeat himself. Unbeknownst to them, World War 1 is raging right outside their borders and soon the battle reaches their shores with the arrival of American spy Steve Taylor who crash lands near the coast and is rescued by Diana. After a brief interrogation with the soldier, she believes it is her divine right to stop Ares himself who she is convinced is responsible for causing this global conflict.

The barrage of exposition is a bit rushed but the opening act masterfully sets up an adventure and story you can't help but be excited for. It's filled with emotion and our time in Themyscira is



short but immensely memorable. Director Patty Jenkins shows deft skill with the pacing and knows how to get the best out of her actors. We'll get into more detail on the story further down but after so many drawn-out and dull origin stories, it's great to see a director nail this particularly tricky execution.

'Homecoming' barely bothers with any sort of set-up. It starts off right where 'Civil War' left off and introduces our new Peter Parker with quick montages and sight-gags. It's fast paced and

gets the audience comfortable knowing that we are not going to see Uncle Ben die for the third time. Our main antagonist Adrian Toomes also gets a couple of scenes and even though they are as by-the-numbers as it gets, seeing Michael Keaton in another comic book film (25 years after Batman: Returns) is enough of a treat for me. The lack of substantial screen-time for our main character however comes to hamper the movie more than I would like but the overall plot is as enjoyable as the one in WW. So even though WW follows a more traditional movie structure than 'Homecoming' the overall plot-lines are equally enjoyable.

**Winner:** First round ends in a tie

### CHARACTER

This is the point for me where the two films start diverging in quality. Gal Gadot may have had her naysayers when first cast but she absolutely nails the character of Diana Prince here in her first solo outing. From her teary goodbye with her mother and homeland to the deft way she carries herself in the outside world, Jenkins refuses to sink to any cliched fish-out-of-water moments. She takes it all in and surveys her surroundings much like any normal person would but manages to stay head-strong in her quest to find and defeat Ares, no matter how far-fetched that sounds. It also helps that Steve and his trusty recruits who accompany them to the Western Front are all lively and have their own sense of character. When we finally get to the film's set-piece action scene, not only has the movie earned this epic moment but so have the characters. This sequence in 'No Man's Land' will go down in the genre's history books and is simply one of the best ever introductions to a superhero. It's grandiose, thrilling and is actually shot in a coherent manner the audience can follow. The next scene where Diana and Steve take in and just live in the moment as it slowly starts to snow (something Diana has never seen before) is easily my favourite part of the film. This scene alone proved that Warner Brothers and DC made the right choice with their director whose more personal touch lends the film much needed breathing space and really solidifies who these characters really are.

Tom Holland's Peter Parker in comparison never gelled with me. The story of Peter juggling the duties of being a super hero and an ordinary kid isn't anything we haven't seen before but Marvel once again is unable to take any sort of risks with its main character. Sam Raimi's Spider-Man might have been a bit goofy but at least Raimi took the time to develop who he was and what his motivations are. Here, the motivations are all over the place. At first Peter seems hell-bent on impressing Tony Stark so he could





get into the Avengers (or at least help them out when needed), then after getting entangled with Adrian Toomes' plot to sell energy weapons to criminals, he seems determined to seek out and stop them. All the while trying to get the pretty girl he has a crush on to notice him. This wouldn't matter too much if they actually showed him enjoying the aspects of being a genetically modified super person but he seems to take his gifts as more of a lottery win than a burden of responsibility. Those endearing human aspects that made Spider-Man as a character such a household name is lost in a performance given no real direction. Holland seems to float-by in his role and it comes off under developed and uninteresting.

**Winner:** Gal Gadot becomes an iconic Wonder Woman for the ages while Tom Holland is the third best Spider-Man ever put on film.

#### VILLAINS

Only comic book movies can get justly get away with a category just for its villains. Thankfully for those who got this far into the article - I'll keep it short. Ares as the chief baddie behind the war is never really obvious and clues that reveal who he actually is are peppered through-out the movie. But when they reach that point - it's only a moderate twist on the genre's conventions. This leads to a climactic battle that tests Diana's resolve physically and morally and they almost manage to sell it...almost. If the scene was a little smaller and more personal in scope maybe it would have worked better but its bombastic nature and rambling exposition drags the entire film down a few notches. It betrays the moral messages that was so nicely done earlier in the film and leaves the final product messy and muddled in ethical conundrums that reeks of studio interference. Ares is so tied up in the ending's faults his influence on the film suffers from it as well.

On the other hand, I found Adrian Toomes easily the best

thing about 'Homecoming'. Keaton breathes a refreshing bout of humanity into his portrayal and is given a veneer and background that ties well into the movie and lingering consequences of Marvel's cinematic universe. Toomes is just a regular salvage collector, tasked with cleaning up the messes of superhero clashes in New York. After being fired by Tony Stark's company, he seeks to use the salvaged material his company collected for his own purposes - the chief among them being constructing dangerous, destructive weapons. He doesn't want to take over the planet, he just wants to make a living. And if that livelihood comes from the sales of weapons - how is that any different to how Tony Stark made his fortune? It's an intriguing backstory that never overblows the fact that underneath Toomes' uber-powered Vulture suit, he's just a man desperate to provide for his family.

**Winner:** Ares is cool. Michael Keaton is cooler. 'Homecoming' takes round three.

#### TECHNICALITIES AKA THE OTHER STUFF

For a long time now, Marvel Studio films have been feeling flat. A common complaint amongst most audiences is that the films have begun simply feeling just bland and inconsequential. Ever since the first 'Avengers' movie the studio couldn't shake the fact that they've just discovered a golden (money-making) product. This attitude seems to have seeped in the movies as wellmaking the rest of the line-up feel more like a corporate product, made to be mass-produced and sold rather than an integral piece of singular art. The overbearing need to have each movie become just another cog in the chain that is the MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE has resulted in each individual film becoming more of a television episode than a movie. TV episodes are allowed to have their characters go through the bare minimum of character development and at times just pad the season until the big finale. Movies are and should be held to a higher standard though.

There is an inherent beauty in weaving a singular, whole tale in two-hours and that's what sets films apart.

Wonder Woman understands this and I allude that wholly to Patty Jenkins for sneering DC away from copying that particular style from Marvel. She was a life-long fan of the character and put both that passion and her understanding of film structure to weave an epic, satisfying story. The gorgeous landscapes of Themyscira are in stark contrast to the grey, sepia-tone of war-torn Europe and it gives each act their personality to them. 'Homecoming' is set in New York but the way Marvel shoots their film, it could very well be just another generic cityscape. It might not seem like such a big deal on the surface but the backdrop to a film is integral in giving your story an extra bit of life. Coming to the music, 'Homecoming' gives a cheesy orchestral backing to the classic Spider-Man theme which sounds decent at parts and out of place in others. WW's tracks aren't all that exciting either but the few moments they use Hans Zimmer's fantastic Wonder Woman theme from 'Batman v Superman' is a definite improvement over what 'Homecoming' offers.

**Winner:** 'Homecoming' seems fine taking no risks and leaves it feeling lifeless while 'Wonder Woman' adheres to the qualities that make films an art to itself. Round 4 and the empathic victory goes to 'Wonder Woman'.

So there you have it. In a drawn out, four round brawl - DC finally gets one over Marvel with their best film since Christopher Nolan wrapped up his 'Dark Knight' trilogy. Box-office receipts and critical reception for both films are pretty equal so it's impossible to think that this is the film that makes Marvel alter their game-plans. There's no doubt that 'Homecoming' is an fun, entertaining film but when put up against its counter-part I think time will look back much more kindly on DC's bold take on their famous heroine.



Friday Times

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

# Travel

## Mumbai for free:

**Ten experiences in  
India's city of dreams**





***Amidst the swirl and chaos of Mumbai's slums, high rise towers and buzzing bazaars, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. But as you delve deeper into Mumbai, the captivating madness can grow on you like a passion. Here's our guide to the best things to do in India's capital of finance, film and fashion, without feeling a pinch to your wallet.***

#### **Rediscover the Gateway to India**

Built to commemorate the arrival of King George V and Queen Mary in Mumbai in 1911, and free to all, the Gateway to India is a Mumbai icon. Constructed in classic Indo-Saracenic style, the basalt arch is thronged daily by tourists, locals, hawkers and souvenir-photo-wallahs. It's most atmospheric in the evening, lit up against the backdrop of Mumbai harbour. Just metres away is another opulent colonial-era monument - the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, still timelessly grand after more than a century as Mumbai's top hotel. Staying in the palace-esque rooms costs a fortune, but there's no charge for visiting the lobby to admire the lavish interiors at this resilient Mumbai landmark.

#### **Meander through Mumbai's markets**

A never-ending shopping boardwalk, the market at Colaba Causeway is a sneak peek into Mumbai's love affair with getting a bargain. By day, the whole area is lined with stalls selling everything from animal print skirts to glittering mojari sandals and clanking jewellery. If you are up for a little adventure, head north to the Chor Bazaar or Thieves Market, famous for selling stolen moments of Mumbai history - light fittings, telephones, old cameras, vintage gramophones and old movie posters.

#### **Browse Mumbai's open-air library**

Adjacent to the subway at Churchgate station, the colonial-era Flora Fountain has become a hub for second-hand book sellers. Browsing the towering columns of books is a bibliophile's fantasy.





As you walk through the narrow alleys, you can thumb through everything from Indian classics to thrillers, romances and comics. Look out for fascinating local tomes on Mumbai's Jewish past, the culture of the city's chawls (tenements) and the murky underworld inhabited by crime kingpins such as Dawood Ibrahim.

#### Find peace at Mani Bhavan

Built in the late 20th century, this charming three storied, brown and white home at Grant Road was a focal point for India's freedom struggle. Home to Mahatma Gandhi during his stay in Mumbai from 1917 to 1934, the Mani Bhavan displays photographs, letters, political resolutions and appeals from Gandhi's long campaign to free India from colonial rule. Don't miss Gandhi's thought-provoking letter to Adolf Hitler, entreating him not to go to war.

#### Meet the original Mumbaikers

Modern Mumbai is a magnet to migrants from across India and the world, but for a slice of indigenous life, head to Sassoon Docks. The array of fishes, rays and crustaceans hauled up daily from the Arabian Sea is almost as colourful as the clothes of the Koli fishermen and women who dominate Mumbai's fishing trade. A feverish atmosphere pervades at dawn as Koli women navigate the tangles of fishing nets and fish baskets, haggling for crabs, baby sharks, shrimps, and local favourite bombil, the key ingredient in 'Bombay duck'.

#### Come face to face with the Arabian Sea

When you tire of the city crush, you'll find peace and free sea breezes along the waterfront at Nariman Point, Worli Sea Face or Marine Drive. Take a seat on the seawall and watch fashion-conscious teenagers strutting their stuff, children stuffing down gola (crushed ice with fruit syrup) and ice cream and young college couples professing their love in the unchaperoned privacy of Mumbai seafront.

#### Discover creative Mumbai

Think Mumbai is just skyscrapers and shanties? Think again. Amid all the chaos, local artists find myriad ways to express their

creativity, from the rainbow murals along Senapati Bapat Marg in Dadar to street-stall fashions, whipped up by shoestring designers in the markets of Bandra. On the south side of Fort, Kala Ghoda is one of Mumbai's busiest artistic hubs, hosting the lively Kala Ghoda Arts Festival in February, and adorned daily with the daubings of local artists who set up stalls along the roadside in front of the Jehangir Art Gallery.

#### Breathe deep in Mumbai's green spaces

Though Mumbai is painted as a city of skyscrapers and slums, it has more than its fair share of green open spaces. If the crowds close in, follow the example of the locals and head to Cross Maidan, Azad Maidan and Oval Maidan, where Mumbaikers come to doze,

promenade and watch enthusiastic games of cricket in front of the grand facades of the University of Mumbai and the High Court.

#### Go on a spiritual quest

While Mumbai is famous for its pursuit of wealth, the city still moves to profoundly spiritual rhythms. Every religion under the sun has set up stall in Mumbai, and most temples, mosques and shrines welcome respectful visitors. Dip into the colonial past at Bandra's Mount Mary Church, north Mumbai's most beautiful basilica, or discover a slice of Japan at Worli Naka's Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist Temple. Join pilgrims circumnavigating the gleaming Burmese-style Global Pagoda at Gorai, or step into a peaceful world of aqua blue at the historic Kneset Eliyahoo

Synagogue in Fort, then cap it all off at sunset at the dargah (mausoleum) of the Sufi saint Haji Ali, surrounded by the haunting melodies of qawwalis (Islamic devotional songs).

#### A piece of Portugal in Mumbai

Every city has its own history, and its own forgotten secrets, shrouded in mystery. Despite ruling for over a century, the Portuguese left few marks on downtown Mumbai, but traces of Portuguese rule can be seen in the northern suburb of Vasai, an easy train-ride from Churchgate station. With a rented autorickshaw, you can roam to the ruins of a 500-year-old Portuguese fort, whose framed arches, crumbling walls and embellished graves are dotted through an overgrown jungle of wild grasses and palm trees. — (www.lonelyplanet.com)





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

You know when you have done a good job and your duty this birth year is to back off requests to be recognized. It is okay that no comments are made regarding your work and it does not mean the people do not like your work. You have now exercised your talents enough to know when something needs adjusting or when your work is well received. Think on this and be proud of your accomplishments. In fact, it might be a good idea to write down your accomplishments: personal, professional and charity contributions. Be brave now, this is the beginning of a brave new world for other people around you, as well as you. Contracting out to businesses will create a good opportunity to fine tune your skills. Get to know yourself better! Happy birthday!



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

You will prosper by pursuing your most deep-seated dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to project your strong image. Begin now to make plans toward your personal dreams. Ideas of group cooperation and communion could further your career. You are becoming better focused and conscientious about your work. Taking care of the necessary ingredients that help to make life comfortable and interesting-health, work and such-becomes a greater preoccupation now. Sorting things out and getting them organized keeps you quite busy. This afternoon may be the quiet time you have been looking forward to-perhaps it is warm and you are outside soaking in the sunshine. Whatever the situation-this day is a healing day.



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

You may not be able to keep your mind on your project or whatever you are doing just now and it could be hard to make good decisions. Add a bit of humor and inventiveness to your day and you will find your efforts pay well! You maintain an even flow of performance when it comes to work and you set an example for anyone to follow. Someone needs your attention this afternoon and you are helpful, as usual. Listen to your body and learn when to call it a halt to strenuous activities. This afternoon you may feel like staying home and making a few repairs to your living area or you might want to secure your surroundings in better ways. Laughter, if you are experiencing stress, is a great release. Perhaps you can just sit back and enjoy a good movie.



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

A jealous spat between two friends may gain your attention today. For the most part, this is a day of forward-moving transactions. Play and tending to your own responsibilities makes this a day full of good experiences. There is much laughter to go around later in the afternoon. You are able to enjoy most of the day for your own creative ideas. A neighborhood child wants to show off the new magic trick. You may find yourself trading knock-knock jokes. A new or renewed love relationship provides for a joy-filled time later today. It seems to be your day for listening, as you hear all the plans this charming person has for expressing personal talent in the future. You share an enthusiasm of art. This is a contented time.



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

Teamwork or volunteer work may involve sports for this day. A time of some fun competition has come and sides are chosen. After the games are over the energies are strong for further communication-perhaps while sharing a noon meal. You look for ways to help your loved ones and they will pay you back with delight. Ideas are flowing and could come with ease. You can talk, talk, talk. Activities with neighbors, friends or relatives make the day go along with the strong feelings of support and appreciation for life in general. By probing deeper into your inner being you will learn to be less structured in your fixed routines. Demands on you and on others loosen. However, some people may attempt to encourage you to act prematurely-careful.



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

Take time to smell the roses. A dialogue with an older person may take place this morning and you could be volunteering to help this person with some seasonal changes. This may mean an air-conditioner problem or a problem lawn, etc. This morning you may learn quite a lot from a new book. You could walk away with new ideas of your own and certainly an appreciation of the relationship between you and this older person. At home today you will find yourself in discussions surrounding some new technology. You are willing to take chances this afternoon. This is a time to gamble and trust the fates, so be prepared for good things to happen, whether you have earned them or not. Enjoy games with animals this evening.



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

Transformations in your personal life are positive. You just got lucky and the fun side of life is enhanced. Artistic, inspired projects are especially successful. You bask in the limelight, enjoying the opportunity to express your essence in whatever fashion you choose. A lack of information could hold you back-educate yourself to what is happening. Your self-expression is strong and you get good results from your efforts. Perhaps there is a recalcitrant child or you are learning some new craft. This afternoon or evening you may have made plans for a social occasion. You are rich with friends, and you have many blessings to count. You will enjoy entertaining today. Much laughter can be heard coming from your place.



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

You are in an affectionate mood and will enjoy intimate moments with a loved one this morning. An instinctive urge to get serious about taking care of yourself may find you and a friend signing up for exercise classes or some swimming time at a nearby indoor pool later today. The domestic scene gains new appeal and now is a good time to talk with your parents and family. The team attitude is easy to achieve this afternoon-conversations while working on a home or family project can be stimulating and productive. Your emotions are steady and nurturing. There is a chance to understand those around you and to empathize and lend an ear to their thoughts. General good feeling and a sense of support and harmony makes this a happy time.



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

Your physical appearance seems to have been buffed or polished overnight. Compliments are many today and people are not quite sure what, if anything, you have changed. Your energies are high and you look forward to seeing particular people or just being where you are in your life at this time. You could be most persuasive with others because your thinking is of the highest form and you will not have to audit what you say. This situation is a natural for self-expression and when it is your turn to speak many people will listen. Outer circumstances tend to work in your favor. Take advantage of the gradual metamorphosis that is taking place within you now and get to know the adventurer and achiever that are inside of you.



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

Keeping things lighthearted is a good way to start out the weekend and that is where your energy is focused. A visit to the zoo with family or friends brings your thinking around to preparing food for your own animals. Later today you may do a little experimenting in the kitchen with different recipes for your faithful pets. Because of some overdue correspondence or writing project that you had previously disregarded, you might also spend some time answering your mail and returning phone calls. Off-the-cuff conversations about future plans bring you insight. There are some exciting new opportunities coming in your direction and you will want to be ready. Your significant other has a pleasant surprise for you tonight.



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

There is an attitude of enthusiasm and new beginnings in the air today. Snap decisions should be squelched. This is a favorable time for any kind of beginning and for making changes. Work requiring your special knowledge will go well at this time. The added touch of hesitancy will cause you to think before making rash decisions. Others may laugh because you seem to stay focused and duty-conscious. Acknowledging your intensity may be a signal to stop soon and plan some sort of vacation that will allow you a different scenery and focus for a week or so. Wanting to reassure yourself that all is going in the right direction is a good thing but you will soon know you are where you need to be as you become involved with ideas and people on a grand scale.



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

Others may try to sway you from your project today. Allow for the interruptions and then you can return to your choice activity. You know that spring has sprung with all the beauty around you. A trip to the park with a sketchpad may allow you to bring a sample of spring into your own home. Give your charitable urges attention and find something that really gives you great joy to contribute your time and energies toward-at least once every two weeks. Today you may decide to join a therapeutic horsemanship group that aids handicapped people. You will find many rewards when you volunteer in surroundings that make you happy. This evening is a good time for surrounding yourself with friends. A new novel keeps you busy tonight.

**COUNTRY CODES**

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



00:20 Wheeler Dealers  
 01:05 Ocean Warriors  
 01:50 How Do They Do It?  
 02:35 Storage Hunters UK  
 02:57 Storage Hunters UK  
 03:20 Fast N' Loud  
 04:05 Deadliest Job Interview  
 04:50 Gold Rush  
 05:35 How Do They Do It?  
 06:00 Blowing Up History  
 06:45 Strip The City  
 07:30 Gold Divers  
 08:15 Deadliest Catch  
 09:47 How Do They Do It?  
 10:10 The Wheel: Survival Games  
 10:55 Marooned With Ed Stafford  
 11:40 Heavy Rescue  
 12:25 How Do They Do It?  
 12:47 Fast N' Loud  
 13:32 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 13:55 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 14:17 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theatre  
 15:02 What On Earth?  
 20:10 How Do They Do It?  
 21:00 Fast N' Loud  
 21:50 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 22:15 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 22:40 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theatre  
 23:30 Deadliest Catch



00:00 The First 48  
 01:00 Robbie Coltrane's Critical Evidence  
 02:00 Homicide Hunter  
 03:00 The First 48  
 05:00 Robbie Coltrane's Critical Evidence  
 06:00 Evil Up Close  
 07:00 Evil Up Close  
 08:00 The First 48  
 09:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
 10:00 Babies Behind Bars  
 11:00 Babies Behind Bars  
 14:00 The First 48  
 15:00 Crimes That Shook Australia  
 16:00 Evil Up Close  
 17:00 Homicide Hunter  
 18:00 Homicide Hunter  
 19:00 The First 48  
 20:00 Crimes That Shook Britain  
 21:00 Crimes That Shook Australia  
 22:00 They Took Our Child, We Got Her Back  
 23:00 Deadly Wives



00:30 Unchained Reaction  
 01:20 Weather Top Tens  
 02:10 Storm Chasers  
 03:00 Destroyed In Seconds  
 03:25 Destroyed In Seconds  
 03:50 Ultimate Survival  
 04:40 How It's Made  
 05:05 How It's Made  
 05:30 Dirty Jobs  
 06:20 Mythbusters  
 07:00 Doki  
 07:25 Kids vs Film  
 07:50 Bad Dog  
 08:40 How It's Made  
 09:05 How It's Made  
 09:30 Unchained Reaction  
 10:20 Mythbusters  
 11:10 React To That  
 11:35 React To That  
 12:00 React To That  
 12:25 React To That  
 12:50 React To That  
 13:15 React To That  
 13:40 React To That  
 14:05 React To That  
 14:30 Doki  
 14:55 Kids vs Film  
 15:20 Bad Dog  
 16:10 Unchained Reaction  
 17:00 Now That's Funny  
 17:50 The Carbonaro Effect  
 18:15 The Carbonaro Effect  
 18:40 Breaking Magic  
 19:05 Breaking Magic  
 19:30 How It's Made  
 19:55 How It's Made  
 20:20 Mythbusters  
 21:10 Now That's Funny  
 22:00 The Carbonaro Effect  
 22:25 The Carbonaro Effect  
 22:50 Destroyed In Seconds



00:00 Hank Zipzer  
 00:25 Alex & Co.  
 00:45 The Hive  
 00:50 Evermoor Chronicles  
 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 02:05 Binny And The Ghost  
 02:55 Hank Zipzer  
 03:15 The Hive  
 03:20 Hank Zipzer  
 03:45 Alex & Co.  
 04:35 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
 05:25 Binny And The Ghost  
 05:45 The Hive  
 05:50 The 7D  
 06:00 Jessie  
 06:50 The Adventures Of Disney Fairies  
 07:15 Tsum Tsum Shorts  
 07:20 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 07:45 The Zhuzhus  
 08:10 Bizaardvark  
 08:35 Bunk'd  
 09:00 Stuck In The Middle  
 09:25 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
 09:50 Best Friends Whenever  
 10:15 Liv And Maddie  
 10:40 The Swap  
 12:20 Jessie  
 13:10 Girl Meets World  
 13:35 Austin & Ally  
 14:00 Austin & Ally  
 14:25 Lolirock  
 14:50 The Zhuzhus  
 15:15 Whisker Haven Tales With The Palace Pets  
 15:20 Bizaardvark  
 15:45 Elena Of Avalor

16:10 Liv And Maddie  
 16:35 Tangled Before Ever After Sneak Peek  
 16:40 Double Teamed  
 18:20 Tangled Before Ever After Sneak Peek  
 18:25 Alex & Co.  
 18:50 Best Friends Whenever  
 19:15 Tangled Before Ever After Sneak Peek  
 19:20 Liv And Maddie  
 19:45 Mako Mermaids  
 20:10 The Adventures Of Disney Fairies  
 20:35 Cracked  
 20:40 Bizaardvark  
 21:05 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir  
 21:30 Stuck In The Middle  
 21:55 Tangled Before Ever After Sneak Peek



00:00 Henry Hugglemonster  
 00:15 Calimero  
 00:30 Art Attack  
 00:55 Zou  
 01:05 Loopdidoo  
 01:20 Henry Hugglemonster  
 01:35 Calimero  
 01:50 Zou  
 02:05 Art Attack  
 02:30 The Hive  
 02:40 Loopdidoo  
 02:55 Henry Hugglemonster  
 03:10 Art Attack  
 03:35 Loopdidoo  
 03:50 Calimero  
 04:05 Art Attack  
 04:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
 04:45 Zou  
 05:00 Art Attack  
 05:30 Henry Hugglemonster

05:45 Loopdidoo  
 06:00 Zou  
 06:15 Calimero  
 06:30 Loopdidoo  
 06:45 Henry Hugglemonster  
 07:00 Sofia The First  
 07:25 PJ Masks  
 07:50 The Lion Guard  
 08:15 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
 08:40 Doc McStuffins  
 09:05 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
 09:35 Disney Lights, Camera, Lexi!  
 09:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
 10:30 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
 11:00 PJ Masks  
 11:25 Goldie & Bear  
 11:50 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
 12:15 Sofia The First  
 12:40 The Lion Guard  
 13:10 Doc McStuffins  
 13:35 PJ Masks  
 14:00 My Friends Tigger & Pooh  
 14:30 The Lion Guard  
 14:55 Unbungalievable  
 15:00 Goldie & Bear  
 15:30 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
 16:00 Disney Lights, Camera, Lexi!  
 16:05 The Lion Guard: Return Of The Roar  
 16:50 PJ Masks  
 17:05 Doc McStuffins  
 17:35 The Lion Guard  
 18:05 PJ Masks  
 18:35 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
 19:05 Sofia The First  
 19:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
 20:05 The Lion Guard  
 20:35 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
 21:00 Goldie & Bear



06:00 Gravity Falls  
 06:25 Disney11  
 06:50 Supa Strikas  
 07:15 Right Now Kapow  
 07:40 Future-Worm!  
 08:05 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
 08:10 K.C. Undercover  
 08:35 Milo Murphy's Law  
 09:00 Walk The Prank  
 09:25 Supa Strikas  
 09:50 Gravity Falls  
 10:15 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
 10:20 K.C. Undercover  
 10:45 Right Now Kapow  
 11:10 Lab Rats  
 11:35 Mech-X4  
 12:00 Teen Beach Movie  
 13:45 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
 14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 14:15 Future-Worm!  
 14:40 Kirby Buckets  
 15:05 Lab Rats  
 15:30 Walk The Prank  
 15:55 Right Now Kapow  
 16:25 K.C. Undercover  
 16:50 Disney11  
 17:15 Mech-X4  
 17:40 Milo Murphy's Law  
 18:05 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 18:10 Gravity Falls  
 18:35 Lab Rats  
 19:00 Supa Strikas  
 19:25 Milo Murphy's Law  
 19:50 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
 19:55 K.C. Undercover  
 20:20 Mech-X4  
 20:45 Disney11  
 21:10 Walk The Prank  
 21:35 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
 21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
 21:45 Lab Rats  
 22:10 Lab Rats  
 22:35 Phineas And Ferb  
 23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am

15:10 Royal Recipes  
 16:00 Inside Windsor Castle  
 16:55 Royal Stories  
 17:25 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
 17:50 Blue Go Mad In Ibiza  
 18:45 Emmerdale  
 19:45 Coronation Street  
 20:10 Royal Recipes  
 21:00 Inside Windsor Castle  
 21:55 Royal Stories  
 22:25 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
 22:50 Emmerdale  
 23:15 Emmerdale  
 23:40 Coronation Street



00:15 What's For Sale?  
 00:45 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
 01:10 Chocolate Covered  
 01:40 A Is For Apple  
 02:05 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
 02:35 Island Hunter  
 03:30 Chocolate Covered  
 03:55 Chocolate Covered  
 04:25 Eat: The Story Of Food  
 05:20 Cesar Millan's Dog Nation  
 06:15 Dog Whisperer  
 07:10 A Is For Apple  
 07:35 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
 08:05 Island Hunter  
 09:00 Chocolate Covered  
 09:25 Chocolate Covered  
 09:55 Eat: The Story Of Food  
 10:50 Cesar Millan's Dog Nation  
 11:45 Dog Whisperer  
 12:40 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
 13:35 Island Hunter  
 14:30 Street Food Around The World  
 14:55 Carnival Eats  
 15:25 Confucius Was A Foodie  
 16:20 Cesar Millan's Dog Nation  
 17:15 Dog Whisperer  
 18:10 Chasing Time  
 18:35 Chasing Time  
 19:05 Confucius Was A Foodie  
 20:00 Cesar Millan's Dog Nation  
 21:00 Dog Whisperer  
 22:00 Chasing Time  
 22:25 Chasing Time  
 22:55 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
 23:50 Island Hunter



00:20 Croc Invasion  
 01:10 Rescue Ink  
 02:00 Super Predators  
 02:50 The Monster Project  
 03:45 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
 04:40 Prehistoric Predators  
 05:35 Super Predators  
 06:30 The Monster Project  
 07:25 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
 08:20 Prehistoric Predators  
 09:15 Python Hunters  
 10:10 King Of The Mountain Baboon  
 11:05 Gorilla Murders  
 12:00 Pond Stars  
 12:55 Cobra Mafia  
 13:50 The Monster Project  
 14:45 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
 15:40 Prehistoric Predators  
 16:35 Safari Live  
 17:30 Savage Island Giants  
 18:25 Mind Of A Giant  
 19:20 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
 20:10 Prehistoric Predators  
 21:00 Safari Live  
 21:50 Savage Island Giants  
 22:40 Mind Of A Giant  
 23:30 Pond Stars



00:05 Famously Single  
 00:55 Famously Single  
 01:50 E! News  
 02:50 Celebrity Style Story  
 03:20 Celebrity Style Story  
 03:50 WAGs Miami  
 04:40 WAGs Miami  
 05:30 Celebrity Style Story  
 06:00 Just Jillian  
 06:55 E! News  
 07:10 Just Jillian  
 08:10 E! News: Daily Pop  
 09:10 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
 12:00 E! News  
 12:15 WAGs Miami  
 13:10 WAGs Miami  
 14:05 WAGs Miami  
 15:00 E! News  
 15:15 E! News: Daily Pop  
 16:15 Botched  
 17:10 Botched  
 18:05 Botched  
 19:00 E! News  
 20:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
 21:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
 22:00 Hollywood Medium With Tyler Henry  
 23:00 E! News



00:10 Pick Me!  
 01:00 Emmerdale  
 01:30 Coronation Street  
 02:30 Royal Recipes  
 03:25 The Royal Good Guys  
 04:20 Royal Stories  
 04:50 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
 05:15 Blue Go Mad In Ibiza  
 06:10 Pick Me!  
 07:05 Royal Recipes  
 08:00 The Royal Good Guys  
 09:00 Royal Stories  
 09:30 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
 10:00 Blue Go Mad In Ibiza  
 10:55 Pick Me!  
 11:50 Royal Recipes  
 12:45 Emmerdale  
 13:45 Coronation Street  
 14:15 Pick Me!



00:10 Breakthrough  
 01:00 Earth Live  
 03:00 World's Most Extreme  
 04:00 Breakthrough  
 05:00 Yukon Gold  
 06:00 Science Of Stupid  
 06:30 Science Of Stupid  
 07:00 Scam City  
 08:00 Years Of Living Dangerously  
 09:00 Yukon Gold  
 10:00 Locked Up Abroad  
 11:00 Border Wars  
 12:00 Somewhere In China  
 13:00 Science Of Stupid  
 13:30 Science Of Stupid  
 14:00 Years Of Living Dangerously



THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD



FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017

- 15:00 Primal Survivor
- 16:00 Locked Up Abroad
- 17:00 Border Wars
- 18:00 Underworld, Inc.
- 19:00 Primal Survivor
- 20:00 Locked Up Abroad
- 20:50 Border Wars
- 21:40 Underworld, Inc.
- 22:30 Primal Survivor
- 23:20 Science Of Stupid
- 23:45 Science Of Stupid



- 00:03 Max & Ruby
- 00:25 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 00:36 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 00:46 The Day Henry Met
- 00:51 The Day Henry Met
- 00:57 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 01:19 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 01:41 Zack & Quack
- 02:03 Team Umizoomi
- 02:25 Olive The Ostrich
- 02:30 Olive The Ostrich
- 02:36 Paw Patrol
- 02:58 Little Charmers
- 03:10 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 03:22 Dora The Explorer
- 03:45 Max & Ruby
- 04:08 Nella The Princess Knight
- 04:32 Shimmer And Shine
- 04:55 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 05:17 Zack & Quack
- 05:28 The Day Henry Met
- 05:33 The Day Henry Met
- 05:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 06:00 Rusty Rivets
- 06:13 Paw Patrol
- 06:37 Dora The Explorer
- 07:00 Zack & Quack
- 07:21 Dora The Explorer
- 07:44 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 08:07 Paw Patrol
- 08:30 Shimmer And Shine
- 08:53 Nella The Princess Knight
- 09:15 The Day Henry Met
- 09:22 Paw Patrol
- 09:45 Rusty Rivets
- 09:57 Bubble Guppies
- 10:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 10:40 Zack & Quack
- 10:52 Team Umizoomi
- 11:15 Shimmer And Shine
- 11:38 Shimmer And Shine
- 12:01 Max & Ruby
- 12:25 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 12:36 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 12:47 The Day Henry Met
- 12:52 The Day Henry Met
- 12:57 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 13:19 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 13:41 Zack & Quack
- 14:03 Team Umizoomi
- 14:25 Olive The Ostrich
- 14:30 Olive The Ostrich
- 14:35 Paw Patrol
- 14:58 Little Charmers
- 15:10 Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom
- 15:22 Dora The Explorer
- 15:44 Max & Ruby
- 16:07 Nella The Princess Knight
- 16:31 Shimmer And Shine
- 16:54 Dora And Friends: Into The City!
- 17:17 Zack & Quack
- 17:29 The Day Henry Met
- 17:34 The Day Henry Met
- 17:38 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 18:00 Rusty Rivets
- 18:13 Paw Patrol
- 18:37 Dora The Explorer
- 19:00 Zack & Quack
- 19:21 Dora The Explorer
- 19:44 Blaze And The Monster Machines
- 20:07 Paw Patrol
- 20:30 Shimmer And Shine
- 20:53 Nella The Princess Knight
- 21:15 The Day Henry Met
- 21:22 Paw Patrol
- 21:45 Rusty Rivets
- 21:57 Bubble Guppies
- 22:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies
- 22:40 Zack & Quack
- 22:52 Team Umizoomi
- 23:15 Shimmer And Shine
- 23:38 Shimmer And Shine



## THE LADYKILLERS ON OSN MOVIES HD



- 01:10 Alien Outpost
- 02:45 Life On The Line
- 04:35 Hard Target 2
- 06:30 The Man From U.N.C.L.E.
- 08:30 Golden Eye
- 10:40 Life On The Line
- 12:20 Kingsglave: Final Fantasy XV
- 14:20 The Man From U.N.C.L.E.
- 16:20 Tomorrow Never Dies
- 18:25 Ladder 49
- 20:25 Terminator Genisys
- 22:35 Bloodrayne: The Third Reich



- 00:50 Alice In Wonderland
- 02:40 Race To Witch Mountain
- 04:20 Max Keeble's Big Move
- 05:45 The Rescuers
- 07:05 Alice In Wonderland
- 08:55 Robots
- 10:25 Frozen
- 12:05 Max Keeble's Big Move
- 13:30 Robots
- 15:00 The Land Before Time: Journey Of The Brave
- 16:25 Underdog
- 17:50 The Muppets
- 19:35 The Lizzie McGuire Movie
- 21:10 The Land Before Time: Journey Of The Brave
- 22:30 The Muppets



- 01:50 The Chronicles Of Narnia: Voyage Of The Dawn...
- 03:45 Beaches
- 05:50 A.I. Artificial Intelligence
- 08:25 The Chronicles Of Narnia: Voyage Of The Dawn...
- 10:20 Everest
- 12:25 The War
- 14:30 The Ladykillers
- 16:20 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 18:05 Steve Jobs
- 20:10 The Color Of Money
- 22:10 Swordfish
- 23:55 Black Snake Moan



- 01:40 Awful Nice
- 03:15 With This Ring
- 04:50 Ride
- 06:35 A Thousand Words
- 08:20 With This Ring
- 09:55 Ride
- 11:35 A Thousand Words

- 13:10 Twins
- 15:05 Kicking And Screaming
- 16:50 The Final Girls
- 18:25 Father Of The Bride
- 20:20 When In Rome
- 22:00 A Million Ways To Die In The West



- 00:00 The Shining
- 02:00 My Old Lady
- 03:45 Grand Central
- 05:20 Spotlight
- 07:25 My Old Lady
- 09:15 Grand Central
- 10:50 Oleanna
- 12:25 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 14:25 I Believe In Miracles
- 16:10 Pele: Birth Of A Legend
- 18:00 Frankie And Johnny
- 19:55 The Homesman
- 22:00 The Manchurian Candidate



- 01:15 The Heart Of The Oak
- 02:40 Pooh's Heffalump Halloween Movie
- 04:00 The Adventures Of Don Quixote
- 05:30 Memory Loss
- 06:55 Winnie The Pooh
- 08:00 Ghosthunters On Icy Trails
- 09:40 Hocus Pocus Alfie Atkins
- 11:00 Cher Ami
- 12:30 The Heart Of The Oak
- 13:45 Bonta
- 15:10 Ghosthunters On Icy Trails
- 16:50 Mamma Moo And Crow
- 18:20 We're Back! A Dinosaur's Story
- 19:40 Bonta
- 21:05 Winnie The Pooh
- 22:15 Mamma Moo And Crow
- 23:35 Hocus Pocus Alfie Atkins



- 00:30 How Do They Do It?
- 00:55 Food Factory
- 01:20 The Quick And The Curious
- 01:45 The Quick And The Curious
- 02:10 Extreme Engineering
- 03:00 Weird Or What?
- 03:48 Mythbusters
- 04:36 How Do They Do It?
- 05:00 Food Factory
- 05:24 The Quick And The Curious
- 05:48 The Quick And The Curious
- 06:12 Extreme Engineering
- 07:00 How Do They Do It?
- 07:26 Weird Or What?
- 08:14 Mythbusters

- 09:02 Extreme Engineering
- 09:50 How Do They Do It?
- 10:14 Food Factory
- 10:38 The Quick And The Curious
- 11:02 The Quick And The Curious
- 11:26 Weird Or What?
- 12:14 Mythbusters
- 13:02 How Do They Do It?
- 13:26 Food Factory
- 13:50 Extreme Engineering
- 14:38 Weird Or What?
- 15:26 The Quick And The Curious
- 15:50 The Quick And The Curious
- 16:14 Mythbusters
- 17:02 Extreme Engineering
- 17:50 Weird Or What?
- 18:40 Mythbusters
- 19:30 Mythbusters: The Search
- 20:20 How Do They Do It?
- 20:45 Food Factory
- 21:10 Extreme Engineering
- 22:00 Mythbusters: The Search



- 00:20 Oprah: Where Are They Now?
- 01:05 Oprah's Master Class
- 01:50 90 Day Fianc?: Happily Ever After?
- 02:35 Oprah's Master Class
- 03:20 Little People, Big World
- 03:42 Little People, Big World
- 04:05 Toddlers & Tiaras: Coach Wars
- 04:50 Ultimate Shopper
- 05:35 Say Yes To The Dress
- 06:00 Little People, Big World
- 06:22 Little People, Big World
- 06:45 Little People, Big World
- 07:07 Little People, Big World
- 07:30 Little People, Big World
- 07:52 Little People, Big World
- 08:15 Kate Plus 8
- 09:00 Say Yes To The Dress
- 09:25 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
- 10:10 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
- 10:55 Love At First Swipe
- 11:17 Love At First Swipe
- 11:40 Love At First Swipe
- 12:02 Love At First Swipe
- 12:25 Love At First Swipe
- 12:47 Love At First Swipe
- 13:10 Oprah: Where Are They Now?
- 13:55 Oprah's Master Class
- 14:40 Cake Boss
- 15:02 Cake Boss
- 15:25 Cake Boss
- 15:47 Cake Boss
- 16:10 Cake Boss
- 16:35 Cake Boss
- 17:00 Cake Boss
- 17:25 Cake Boss
- 17:50 Suddenly Rich
- 18:50 Kate Plus 8
- 19:40 Cake Boss
- 20:10 Say Yes To The Dress
- 20:35 Say Yes To The Dress



- 00:00 Mud Men
- 01:00 The Colour Of War
- 02:00 Missing In Alaska
- 02:50 Ancient Aliens
- 03:40 What Really Happened
- 04:30 Engineering Disasters
- 05:20 Mud Men
- 06:10 The Universe
- 07:00 The Colour Of War
- 08:00 Missing In Alaska
- 09:00 Ancient Aliens
- 10:00 What Really Happened
- 11:00 The Universe
- 12:00 Mud Men
- 13:00 The Colour Of War
- 14:00 Missing In Alaska
- 15:00 Ancient Aliens
- 16:00 What Really Happened
- 17:00 The Universe
- 18:00 Mud Men
- 19:00 The Colour Of War

- 20:00 Brad Meltzer's Lost History
- 21:00 Ancient Aliens
- 22:00 The Lost Evidence
- 23:00 Engineering Disasters



- 00:20 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar
- 01:10 Lost Worlds
- 02:00 Ax Men
- 02:50 Storage Wars
- 03:15 American Pickers
- 04:05 Pawn Stars
- 04:30 Pawn Stars
- 05:00 Mountain Men
- 06:00 Hunting Hitler
- 06:50 Time Team
- 07:40 American Pickers
- 08:30 Ronnie O'Sullivan's American Hustle
- 09:20 Mountain Men
- 11:00 American Pickers
- 12:40 American Restoration
- 13:30 Pawn Stars Best Of
- 14:20 Pawn Stars
- 15:10 Detroit Steel
- 16:00 American Pickers
- 16:50 The Curse Of Oak Island
- 18:30 Car Hunters
- 19:20 Counting Cars
- 20:10 Mountain Men
- 21:00 Sean Bean On Waterloo
- 21:50 The Warfighters
- 22:40 Forged In Fire
- 23:30 101 People Who Made The 20th Century



- 00:00 Kids BBQ Championship
- 01:00 Rev Run's Sunday Suppers
- 02:00 Dinner At Tiffani's
- 03:00 Chopped
- 04:00 Kids BBQ Championship
- 05:00 Guy's Grocery Games
- 06:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics
- 07:00 The Kitchen
- 08:00 The Pioneer Woman
- 09:00 Siba's Table
- 09:30 Siba's Table
- 10:00 Bake With Anna Olson
- 11:00 The Kitchen
- 12:00 The Pioneer Woman
- 13:00 Siba's Table
- 14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
- 15:00 Chopped
- 16:00 The Kitchen
- 17:00 Bake With Anna Olson
- 18:00 Chopped
- 19:00 Guy's Grocery Games
- 20:00 Restaurant: Impossible
- 21:00 Mystery Diners
- 22:00 The Big Eat - Middle East
- 22:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives



## MY OLD LADY ON OSN MOVIES FESTIVAL HD

WORD SEARCH

Las Vegas

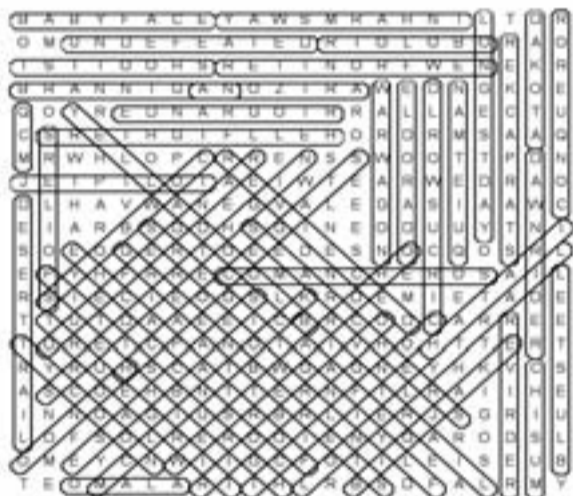
Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 24 letters spell something you might see in Las Vegas.



- |              |                 |             |                  |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| ATTRACTIONS  | ENTERTAINMENT   | NEON SIGNS  | SINGERS          |
| SUFFETS      | FOOD            | NEVADA      | SOUVENIRS        |
| CASINOS      | FREMONT STREET  | NIGHTLIFE   | SPRING MOUNTAINS |
| CELEBRITIES  | HOTELS          | PERFORMERS  | SUNNY            |
| CLARK COUNTY | IMPERSONATORS   | PLAYS       | TOURISTS         |
| COMEDIANS    | LAS VEGAS STRIP | RESORTS     | TOURS            |
| CONCERTS     | LIGHTS          | RESTAURANTS | TRIBUTE ACTS     |
| CONVENTIONS  | MAGICIANS       | SHOPPING    | VACATION         |
| DESERT       | MARRIAGES       | SHOPS       | WARM             |
| DINING       | MUSICALS        | SHOWS       | WEDDING CHAPELS  |
| DRINKS       |                 |             |                  |

Yesterday's Solution

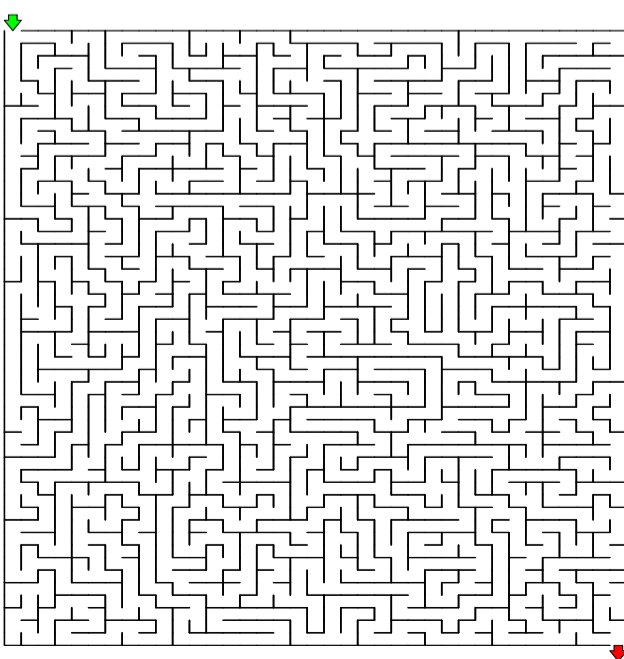
John Wayne Movies



- |                  |                   |                   |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ALAMO, The       | COWBOYS, The      | JET PILOT         | KID LOBO         |
| ARIZONA          | DAKOTA            | LOVELY TRAIL, The | SEA CHASE, The   |
| BABY FACE        | DAWN RIDER, The   | LONGEST DAY, The  | SEARCHERS, The   |
| BIG JAKE         | DECEIVER, The     | MCLINTOCK         | SHOOTIST, The    |
| BIG TRAIL, The   | DESERT TRAIL, The | MCQ               | SPIES, The       |
| BLOOD ALLEY      | EL DORADO         | NEW FRONTIER      | STAGECOACH       |
| BLUE STEEL       | FLYING TIGERS     | NIGHT RIDERS, The | STAR Packer, The |
| BRAWNMAN         | PORT APACHE       | PITTSBURGH        | TRUE GRIT        |
| CHISUM           | GREEN BERETS, The | QUET MAN, The     | TYCOON           |
| CIRCUS WORLD     | HATARI            | RANGE FEUD        | UNDEFEATED, The  |
| CORNBACHERS, The | HELL FIGHTERS     | RED RIVER         | WAR WAGON, The   |
| COMPLEX          | HONDO             | RID BANG          | WESTWARD HO      |
| CONQUEROR, The   | IN HAWKS WAY      | KID GRANGE        |                  |

The hidden message is: TOMORROW HOPES WE HAVE LEARNED SOMETHING FROM YESTERDAY

CHALLENGING MAZE



CROSSWORD 1659



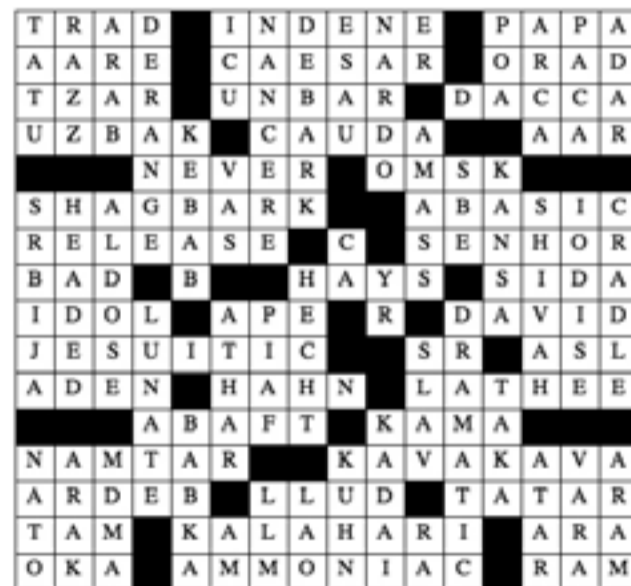
ACROSS

1. A metabolic acid found in yeast and liver cells.
5. (biology) Of unlike parts or organs.
11. God of love and erotic desire.
15. An independent ruler or chieftain (especially in Africa or Arabia).
16. Forest bird of warm regions of the New World having brilliant lustrous plumage and long tails.
17. Extremely robust.
18. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
19. Worn or shabby from overuse or (of pages) from having corners turned down.
20. (in Gnosticism) A divine power or nature emanating from the Supreme Being and playing various roles in the operation of the universe.
21. Little known Kamarupan languages.
24. Proboscis monkeys.
28. A hard gray lustrous metallic element that is highly corrosion-resistant.
29. Ox of southeast Asia sometimes considered a domesticated breed of the gaur.
33. An abnormally large amount of this fetoprotein in the fetus can signal an abnormality of the neural tube (as spina bifida or anencephaly).
37. Biennial or perennial herbs of north temperate regions.
40. 11th President of the United States.
42. American dramatist (1928-).
43. (British slang) An absolute certainty.
44. Relating to or like or divided into areolae.
47. Half the width of an em.
48. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
49. Alternatively, a member of the family Nymphaeaceae.
50. Not static or stable.
54. Having an eye or eyes or eyelike feature especially as specified.
55. Any of a number of fishes of the family Carangidae.
57. An esoteric or occult matter that is traditionally secret.
58. English scholastic philosopher and assumed author of Occam's Razor (1285-1349).
61. A port and tourist center in southwestern Italy.
68. A constellation in the southern hemisphere near Telescopium and Norma.
69. Wild ginger.
72. Any organic compound containing the group -CONH2.
73. A flexible container with a single opening.
74. Of or relating to or supporting Islamism.
76. Any place of complete bliss and delight and peace.
77. (Hawaiian) A small guitar having four strings.
78. United States poet (1869-1950).
79. American political cartoonist (1840-1902).

DOWN

1. Large dark brown North American arboreal carnivorous mammal.
- Naked freshwater or marine or parasitic protozoa that form temporary pseudopods for feeding and locomotion.
- Wild ox.
- The mountain peak that Noah's ark landed on as the waters of the great flood receded.
- A highly unstable radioactive element (the heaviest of the halogen series).
- Sediment that has settled at the bottom of a liquid.
- The Hebrew patriarch who saved himself and his family and the animals by building an ark in which they survived 40 days and 40 nights of rain.
- A city in northern India.
- Having a toe or toes of a specified kind.
- Either extremity of something that has length.
- Deciduous South African tree having large odd-pinnate leaves and profuse fragrant orange-yellow flowers.
- A sharp narrow ridge found in rugged mountains.
- Open to debate.
- A former copper coin of Pakistan.
- The branch of computer science that deal with writing computer programs that can solve problems creatively.
- Agency of the United States government charged with mediating disputes between management and labor.
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects.
- Doglike nocturnal mammal of Africa and southern Asia that feeds chiefly on carrion.
- A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
- A French abbot.
- Small Old World burrowing desert rodent with long soft pale fur and hind legs adapted for leaping.
- The basic unit of money in Macao.
- A sudden short attack.
- A military trainee (as at a military academy).
- A percussion instrument consisting of a pair of hollow pieces of wood or bone (usually held between the thumb and fingers) that are made to click together (as by Spanish dancers) in rhythm with the dance.
- A radioactive element of the actinide series.
- A long noosed rope used to catch animals.
- Either of two spiral-horned antelopes of the African bush.
- A unit of luminous flux equal to the amount of light given out through a solid angle of 1 steradian by a point source of 1 candela intensity radiating uniformly in all directions.
- The value of a coordinate on the horizontal axis.
- Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike.
- Long-tailed arboreal mustelid of Central and South America.
- The region of the body of a vertebrate between the thorax and the pelvis.
- Before noon.
- An assertion of a right (as to money or property).
- (Norse mythology) Giant who lives in the roots of Yggdrasil and guards the well of wisdom.
- Any of various strong liquors distilled from the fermented sap of toddy palms or from fermented molasses.
- Especially one side of a leaf.
- A cloud of fine particles suspended in a gas.
- Large genus of tropical subshrubs or herbs some of which yield fibers of mucilaginous substances.
- In the Roman calendar.
- Caused or enabled to go or be conveyed or transmitted.
- Thickening of tissue in the motor tracts of the lateral columns and anterior horns of the spinal cord.
- Any of various long-tailed rodents similar to but larger than a mouse.
- A soft silver-white ductile metallic element (liquid at normal temperatures).

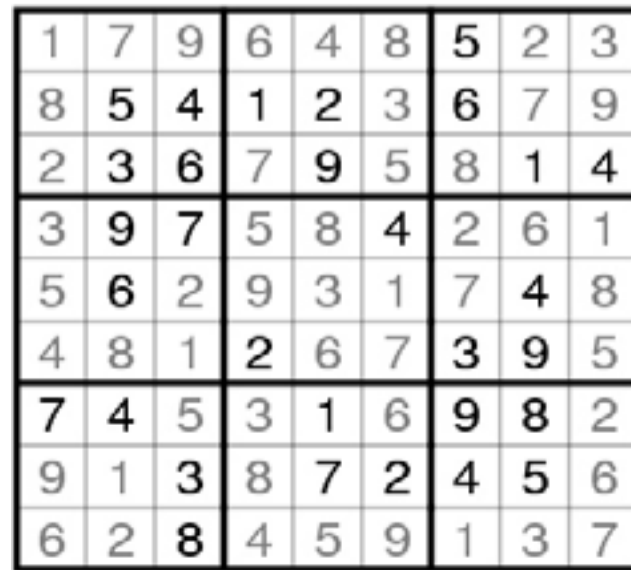
Yesterday's Solution



Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



# SCIENCE SAYS: NOT ALL CANCERS NEED TREATMENT RIGHT AWAY

'IF YOU HAVE A LOW-RISK CANCER YOU DON'T NEED TREATMENT, CERTAINLY NOT URGENTLY'

**WASHINGTON:** The biopsy shows cancer, so you have to act fast, right? Not necessarily, if it's a prostate tumor. Men increasingly have choices if their cancer is found at an early stage, as most cases in the US. They can treat it right away or monitor with periodic tests and treat later if it worsens or causes symptoms. Now, long-term results are in from one of the few studies comparing these options in men with tumors confined to the prostate. After 20 years, death rates were roughly similar for those who had immediate surgery and those initially assigned to monitoring, and surgery had more side effects. "Many men, when they hear the word cancer, you want to do something about it," said one study leader, Dr Gerald Andriole, urology chief at Washington University in St Louis, Missouri.

"The reality is, if you have a low-risk cancer, like the study shows, you don't need treatment, certainly not urgently." It's not all black and white, though. Early stage doesn't necessarily mean low risk. Some results in the study lean in favor of surgery, and it does have some advantages. It also may improve survival for certain groups. Here's what this and other studies tell us about who does and doesn't benefit from surgery.

### Why not treat everyone?

Start with a fact many find hard to accept: Not all cancers are destined to kill. Some prostate tumors are deadly, but most grow so slowly that men will die of something else. Treatments - surgery, radiation or hormone therapy - can cause impotence, incontinence, infections and other problems, and sometimes do more harm than the disease ever would. Monitoring doesn't mean do nothing. Men can get frequent tests, and there are

more and better ways to detect disease progression now than there used to be, so there's usually still a chance to treat and potentially cure it if it starts to worsen, Andriole said.

### What the evidence says

Only a few studies have tested monitoring versus immediate treatment. One found no



**CHICAGO:** In this file photo a surgeon performs robotic prostate surgery on a patient in Chicago.—AP

difference in death rates after more than 20 years; another found surgery improved survival odds, but only for men under 65. Those were done before wide use of PSA blood tests, back when more tumors were found because they caused symptoms, which often means more advanced disease. Researchers wondered: Would the results be the same with modern screening and treatments?

The new study, sponsored by the US

Department of Veterans Affairs, aimed to answer that. Doctors assigned 731 men to observation or surgery. After a decade, survival rates were similar, but doctors wanted longer follow-up. Now, after 20 years, two thirds of these men have died and the original conclusions still stand, though the numbers leaned in surgery's favor. Fewer men

died in the surgery group, but the difference was small enough that it could have been due to chance. Only about 9 percent of men ultimately died from prostate cancer, showing how relatively seldom the disease proves fatal. Results are in yesterday's New England Journal of Medicine.

### Did surgery do any good?

Yes. Fewer men in the surgery group later

had treatment because there were signs the disease might be worsening - 34 percent, versus 60 percent of the group assigned to monitoring. In many cases, it was prompted by rising PSA levels, but surgery also clearly prevented more cases from spreading throughout the body. Half of the group assigned to monitoring wound up getting some sort of treatment within five years. In one quarter of those cases, men "just got fed up" with monitoring and thinking about cancer, Andriole said. The rest were prompted by signs of progression. Surgery also may have improved survival for men in the middle range of risk, with PSA levels between 10 and 20, and a Gleason score (a measure of how aggressive cancer cells look under a microscope) of 7. Only about one quarter to one third of men in the US fall in this category, though. Most men are early stage and low risk. "Surgery is right for the right person, and it's somebody with intermediate-risk disease," Andriole said.

### Side effects

Surgery had more side effects - 15 percent of men in that group later sought treatment for trouble having sex, and 17 percent, for incontinence. The numbers were 5 percent and 4 percent, respectively, of men assigned to observation.

"You can't divorce quality of life outcomes from cancer outcomes because they both count for patients," said Dr David Penson, Vanderbilt University's urology chief, who had no role in the study. "Some guys will look at this and say, 'I don't want to be impotent, I don't want to be incontinent, and will forgo surgery even if there's a chance it will help them live longer, he said. "In the end, each man's going to make his own decision."—AP

CLINIC  
PAGE



Kuwait Times  
THE LEADING INDEPENDENT DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

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



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (13/07/2017 TO 19/07/2017)

<b>SHARQIA-1</b> CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	11:40 AM 1:55 PM 4:10 PM 6:30 PM 8:45 PM 10:45 PM 12:45 AM
<b>SHARQIA-2</b> SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	11:45 AM 2:30 PM 4:30 PM 6:25 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>SHARQIA-3</b> DESPICABLE ME 3 WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 4:15 PM 7:00 PM 9:45 PM 12:30 AM
<b>MUHALAB-1</b> DESPICABLE ME 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:15 AM
<b>MUHALAB-2</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES DESPICABLE ME 3 WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	1:00 PM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:30 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>MUHALAB-3</b> SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	12:15 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:45 PM 12:30 AM
<b>FANAR-1</b> PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: Dead Men Tell No Tales TISBAH ALA KHAIR DESPICABLE ME 3 THE HUNTER'S PRAYER TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR THE HUNTER'S PRAYER	12:15 PM 2:50 PM 4:50 PM 6:50 PM 8:50 PM 10:50 PM 12:50 AM
<b>FANAR-2</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES DESPICABLE ME 3 WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	1:15 PM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:45 PM 9:45 PM 12:30 AM
<b>FANAR-3</b> JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) THE HUNTER'S PRAYER DESPICABLE ME 3 JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) TUBELIGHT (Hindi) SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	12:30 PM 12:30 PM 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 6:00 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>FANAR-4</b> DESPICABLE ME 3 SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	11:30 AM 1:30 PM 4:20 PM 7:05 PM 10:00 PM 12:45 AM
<b>FANAR-5</b> CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: Dead Men Tell No Tales TISBAH ALA KHAIR	12:30 PM 2:45 PM 5:00 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 12:25 AM
<b>MARINA-1</b> CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: Dead Men Tell No Tales	1:15 PM 3:30 PM 5:45 PM 8:00 PM 10:15 PM 12:15 AM
<b>MARINA-2</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES DESPICABLE ME 3	1:00 PM 1:45 PM

<b>FRI</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	3:45 PM 6:30 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>MARINA-3</b> SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	12:15 PM 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:45 PM 12:30 AM
<b>AVENUES-1</b> TUBELIGHT (Hindi) JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) THU TUBELIGHT (Hindi) THE HUNTER'S PRAYER	1:00 PM 3:45 PM 3:45 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:15 PM 1:00 AM
<b>AVENUES-2</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES -3D-4DX CARS 3 -3D-4DX WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES -3D-4DX CARS 3 -3D-4DX SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING -3D-4DX WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES -3D-4DX	11:30 AM 2:15 PM 4:30 PM 7:15 PM 9:30 PM 12:15 AM
<b>AVENUES-3</b> DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 THE MUMMY	12:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:45 PM 6:45 PM 8:45 PM 10:45 PM 12:45 AM
<b>360°-1</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES -3D WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	12:35 PM 3:25 PM 6:20 PM 9:05 PM 11:55 PM
<b>360°-2</b> TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR TISBAH ALA KHAIR	11:55 AM 2:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:05 PM 8:05 PM 10:05 PM 12:05 AM
<b>360°-3</b> JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) TUBELIGHT (Hindi) JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) JAGGA JASOOS -Hindi TUBELIGHT (Hindi) TUBELIGHT (Hindi)	11:45 AM 11:45 AM 3:00 PM 5:45 PM 5:45 PM 8:55 PM 8:55 PM 12:15 AM
<b>AL-KOUT.1</b> SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING DESPICABLE ME 3 DESPICABLE ME 3 SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING	12:30 PM 3:15 PM 5:15 PM 7:15 PM 10:00 PM 12:45 AM
<b>AL-KOUT.2</b> CARS 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR CARS 3 CARS 3 CARS 3 TISBAH ALA KHAIR PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: Dead Men Tell No Tales	11:30 AM Digital(2D) 1:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 8:15 PM 10:30 PM 12:30 AM
<b>AL-KOUT.3</b> WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES DESPICABLE ME 3 FRI WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	12:45 PM 1:35 PM 3:30 PM 6:30 PM 9:15 PM 12:05 AM
<b>AL-KOUT.4</b> THE HUNTER'S PRAYER PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: Dead Men Tell No Tales THE HUNTER'S PRAYER KHAMMIS & JUMMA (Horoob Ejbary) TISBAH ALA KHAIR THE HUNTER'S PRAYER THE HUNTER'S PRAYER	11:35 AM 1:30 PM 4:15 PM 6:15 PM 9:00 PM 11:00 PM 1:00 AM

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<b>Fajr:</b>	<b>03:24</b>
<b>Shorook</b>	<b>04:48</b>
<b>Duhr:</b>	<b>11:47</b>
<b>Asr:</b>	<b>15:21</b>
<b>Maghrib:</b>	<b>18:47</b>
<b>Isha:</b>	<b>20:18</b>

## EMERGENCY

112

## Hospitals

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

## Clinics

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

Friday Times

# BUSINESS

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017



German Daimler manipulated emissions in one million cars

TRANSFORMER-THEME BUILDINGS RISE IN WORLD'S HIGHEST BIG CITY

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DOHA: Qatari takes a photo during the inaugural signing of a wall bearing a portrait of Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani in Doha yesterday.

## QATAR SLAM AMERICAN AIRLINES FOR ENDING CODESHARE DEALS

AMERICAN TO NOT SHARE FLIGHTS OVER ILLEGAL SUBSIDIES

**DOHA:** Qatar Airways and Abu Dhabi's Etihad said yesterday they were disappointed with an American Airlines decision to end its codeshare relationships with them as part of its push against government subsidies of Middle Eastern carriers. On Wednesday, American notified both carriers of its decision to no longer share flights with them over what it described as "illegal subsidies". "We are disappointed," Akbar al-Baker, chief executive of Qatar Airways, said yesterday. But he said the decision would not lead to his airline reducing services to the United States.

"If this is any way for them to make us reduce or stop our operations to the United States, we are not going to do so," he said. "We have other partners who want to work with us so we will continue." An Etihad spokesman said the carrier was also "disappointed" by American's decision. "We view the decision by American Airlines as being anti-competitive and anti-consumer," the spokesman said, adding it will "reduce choices for consumers and may result in higher fares".

He said Etihad rejected the "allegations of American and the two other dominant

US carriers regarding violations of the relevant air transportation agreements". American-along with fellow US carriers Delta Air Lines and United Airlines-has called for the White House to crack down on an alleged \$50 billion in state subsidies to Middle East carriers. The US companies say the home-country financial backing allow the airlines to illegally compete in the American market, something which Qatar Airways has also denied.

An American Airlines spokesman on Wednesday said that maintaining the program "no longer (makes) sense for us".

"This decision has no material financial impact on American and is an extension of our stance against the illegal subsidies that these carriers receive from their governments." American's decision came after Qatar Airways said in June that it wanted to buy as much as a 10 percent stake in American Airlines, which caught the US carrier by surprise. Foreign policy experts viewed the move as an attempt by Qatar to garner foreign support amid a diplomatic clash between Qatar and four neighboring states, including Saudi Arabia.—AFP

## CHINA SAYS UPHOLDS UN SANCTIONS AS NK TRADE RISES

**BEIJING:** China insisted yesterday it was upholding UN sanctions on North Korea despite a jump in its trade with the nuclear-armed nation that comes amid growing US calls for Beijing to rein in its neighbor. Sino-US relations have soured in recent weeks as President Donald Trump has urged Beijing to step up diplomatic and economic pressure on North Korea over its nuclear and missile programs. Tensions rose after North Korea's test this month of an intercontinental ballistic missile that could reach the US mainland.

Despite Washington's calls for action, trade between China and its neighbor increased 10.5 percent to \$2.5 billion in the first six months of the year compared to the same period last year, including a 29.1 percent jump in exports. But customs administration spokesman Huang Songping said Beijing was upholding the UN sanctions against the regime of Kim Jong-Un. "Simple accumulated data cannot be used as evidence to question China's severe attitude in carrying out UN Security Council resolutions," Huang told a news briefing.

He pointed to a 13.2 percent drop in imports from North Korea in the same period as an example of the pressure, adding that there have been sharp decreases every month since March. "UN Security Council sanctions are not a total ban on shipments. Trade related to DPRK people's livelihood, especially those that reflect humanitarianism should not be influenced by the sanctions," Huang said.

### Iron ore up

China announced in February the suspension of coal imports from the North, striking a blow at a major source of income for the hermit state. Huang said coal imports dropped by three-quarters in the first half, and all those shipments had been made before February 18. At the same time, iron ore imports have surged between January and May to \$74.4 million compared to \$24 million over the same period last year.

But foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said UN resolution 2321 allows imports of iron and iron ore if the income is for the livelihood of civilians. "It has nothing to do with creating income for DPRK nuclear programs, so it is not on the sanctions list," Geng told a regular news briefing. By comparison, imports of coal alone were worth \$97.6 million just in the month of February.

### US pressure

Trump has complained that trade increased between the two despite calling on his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping to use the nation's unique diplomatic and economic clout over North Korea as leverage. "Trade between China and North Korea grew almost 40 percent in the first quarter. So much for China working with us-but we had to give it a try!" Trump tweeted on July 5.

Previous Chinese customs data showed two-way trade with the North had risen 30.6 percent in dollar terms in the first three months of the year. The US ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley, said on Sunday that Washington would crank up pressure on China to ensure it implements sanctions over the missile test.

She told the Security Council last week that the US planned a new resolution that would also ensure existing measures are enforced.—AFP



**SHANDONG:** In this file photo, heavy machines move imported iron ore at the dock in Rizhao in eastern China's Shandong province.—AP



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

## EUROPEAN EQUITIES EXTEND GAINS ON YELLEN

**LONDON:** Europe's main stock markets extended gains yesterday after shooting higher the previous day on supportive remarks from Federal Reserve chief Janet Yellen. Nearing midday, London's benchmark FTSE 100 index was up 0.1 percent compared with the close on Wednesday. In the eurozone, Frankfurt's DAX 30 added 0.2 percent and the CAC 40 in Paris won 0.6 percent. Europe's main indices had Wednesday jumped by between 1.2 and 1.6 percent after Yellen pledged a "gradual" approach to US interest rate increases.

The Fed news boosted investor appetite for risky assets like equities, dealers said. "Risk appetite is back in force after Janet Yellen hinted that the cost of borrowing could increase slower than previously thought," said London Capital Group analyst Ipek Ozkardeska. The euro fell further back to \$1.404 after striking a 15-month high at \$1.1489 Wednesday. Playing catch-up following another overnight record-high on Wall Street, Asian indices mostly surged yesterday.

In closely watched testimony to Congress, Yellen said the US central bank would keep lifting borrowing costs as long as the world's top economy showed improvement, taking into account inflation remained below its two percent target. The remarks lit a fire under equities, with the Dow posting its highest close, on the prospect that money would continue to be cheap for the time being. The Fed is watching developments carefully, Yellen told the House Financial Services Committee during the first of two days of testimony on Capitol Hill.

Later she will appear before the Senate Banking Committee. In Asia, Hong Kong stocks jumped 1.2 percent to its highest level since mid-2015 and Sydney climbed 1.1 percent. Shanghai was 0.6 percent stronger after data showed Chinese imports and exports both rose more than expected in June thanks to a pick-up in global demand. Tokyo ended flat however with early gains eroded by a stronger yen, which hit exporters. While equity markets were mostly sharply higher, the dollar came under pressure as expectations for further monetary tightening from Washington this year eased.

There had been talk of late that the Fed would announce up to two more increases in rates before the end of the year. Adding to downward pressure on the greenback is the ongoing crisis surrounding Donald Trump after his son released emails showing he had embraced Russia's efforts to support the tycoon's presidential campaign against Hillary Clinton. The White House has been battered by accusations over Russian collusion and accusations of cover-ups-fuelling worries about the president's ability to push through his market-friendly economic agenda.—AFP

## ANGELA MERKEL SAYS OPEN TO CREATING EUROZONE BUDGET, FINANCE MINISTER

**PARIS:** German Chancellor Angela Merkel said yesterday she was open to the creation of a finance minister and budget for the eurozone as proposed by French President Emmanuel Macron. "I have nothing against a eurozone budget (and) we can talk about creating a European finance minister," Merkel said after talks in Paris with Macron. "We agree that the eurozone must be stabilized and further developed," Merkel said at a joint press conference with the French leader.

"It is in our greatest interest that all eurozone countries are strong,"

she said. Macron has warned Germany that it must move to correct the "dysfunctions" of the eurozone and give it "the fate it deserves". A eurozone budget and finance minister would require changes to EU treaties. Merkel reiterated yesterday that major reforms would have to wait until after September elections in Germany—which her centre-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is expected to win. "We need a mandate from parliament, which we will seek after the elections," she said.—AFP

## UBER CEDES CONTROL IN RUSSIAN MARKET WITH YANDEX TIE-UP



**SAN FRANCISCO:** This file photo shows the exterior of the headquarters of Uber in San Francisco. —AP

**MOSCOW:** Uber is ceding control of the Russian market by agreeing to merge its ridesharing business in the country with Yandex, the Russian search-engine leader that also runs a popular taxi-booking app. For Uber, the deal marks the exit from another big market after it sold its operations in China last year to local rival Didi Chuxing. Yandex said in a statement on Thursday that Uber and Yandex Taxi would combine into a new company in Russia as well as in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Yandex will own 59 percent, Uber roughly 37 percent, and employees the rest. The CEO of Yandex Taxi, Tigran Khudaverdyan, will become the chief executive of the new combined company. Uber will invest \$225 million in the new company and Yandex

\$100 million, putting its value at over \$3.7 billion. The companies said that together they deliver over 35 million rides a month, with \$130 million in gross bookings in June. Yandex is the bigger company, with roughly the twice the business Uber currently has in the region.

Shares in Yandex jumped 15 percent on the Moscow stock exchange on news of the deal. The company is one of Russia's most successful Internet enterprises, accounting for some 65 percent of all searches and operating popular maps and public transit apps. Once the deal is closed toward the end of this year, consumers will be able to use both Yandex and Uber apps to hail rides while for drivers, the apps will be integrated.—AP

## US WEEKLY REQUESTS FOR JOBLESS AID FALL TO 247,000

**WASHINGTON:** Fewer Americans applied for jobless aid last week, as the number of people seeking benefits has stayed near historic lows pointing to a robust job market. Weekly unemployment applications fell by 3,000 to a seasonally adjusted 247,000, the Labor Department said yesterday. The less volatile four-week average rose by 2,250 to 245,750. The number of people collecting unemployment benefits has fallen 8.8 percent over the past 12 months to 1.9 million.

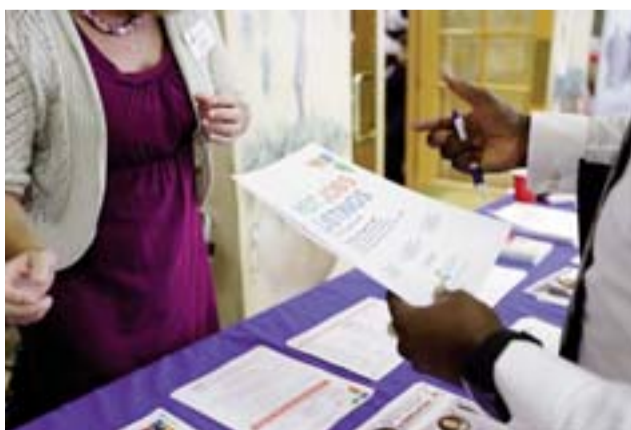
### The takeaway

The job market appears solid as the US enters its ninth year of recovery from the Great Recession. Applications are a close indication of layoffs. Employers are holding onto workers with the expectation that business will continue to improve. Jobless claims have come in below 300,000 for 123 weeks in a row. That's the longest such stretch since 1970, when the US population was much smaller.

### Key drivers

The economy is expected to grow at roughly 2 percent after a weak start to 2017. That would be roughly in line with annual gains during the recovery. Consistent hiring has helped sustain the gradual recovery, although the expansion is starting to show its age as the pace of job gains has slowed this year. The unemployment rate has fallen to a healthy 4.4 percent.

The Labor Department's report for June showed that US employers added a robust 222,000 jobs, the most in four months and a reassuring sign that businesses may be confident enough to keep hiring despite a slow-growing economy. In testimony to Congress on Wednesday, Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen took note of several encouraging factors, such as strong job gains and rising household wealth that she said should fuel economic growth over the next two years.—AP



**FLORIDA:** In this file photo, employment opportunities are discussed at a job fair for veterans, in Pembroke Pines, Florida. —AP



**PENNSYLVANIA:** This photo shows bananas for sale at a Wholesale Foods Market in Upper Saint Clair, Pennsylvania. —AP

## WHOLESALE PRICES POST MODEST INCREASE IN JUNE

**WASHINGTON:** Inflation at the wholesale level remained muted in June. The Labor Department says its producer price index, which measures prices before they reach consumers, rose 0.1 percent last month after being flat in May. The index was up 2 percent in June from a year earlier. Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen told Congress Wednesday that Fed officials are planning to continue gradually raising short-term interest rates, but want to see inflation creep back toward their

annual target of 2 percent.

Most of the June increase came from rising prices for services, including a 4 percent jump in the cost of brokerage and other investment services. Wholesale energy prices fell 0.5 percent, including a 1.1 percent drop in gasoline prices. The price of repairing and maintaining cars and trucks fell 1 percent, most in more than two years.

Excluding volatile food and energy prices, wholesale inflation was up 0.1

percent last month from May and 1.9 percent from a year earlier. The central bank has hiked the short-term rate it controls three times since December. But its favored measure of inflation, contained in a separate Commerce Department report on consumer spending and personal income, was running at annual rate of just 1.4 percent in April. The Labor Department will release its report on June consumer prices today.—AP

## PEUGEOT-CITROEN'S LIFTED BY IRAN DESPITE CHINA SALES PLUNGE

**PARIS:** French auto giant Peugeot Citroen (PSA) said yesterday global sales rose slightly in the first half with its Iran comeback compensating for problems in China where volumes plunged by almost 50 percent. Between January and June, PSA's sales in China fell by 48.6 percent to 152,380 units, while in Europe, its main market, turnover was down 1.9 percent to 1.03 million units, largely due to a poor performance by its luxury DS brand.

Overall the carmaker, which is pushing plans to buy General Motors' European brands Opel and Vauxhall, sold nearly 1.58 million vehicles in the first half of 2017, with global sales up 2.3 percent. In the Middle East and Africa, sales tripled largely due to renewed production in Iran where it entered into a partnership deal with a local manu-

facturer following the easing of international sanctions. The French manufacturer has been struggling to contain sharp sales falls in China since 2016, but said it had put in place "specific action plans" to address the situation.

But PSA's woes in China were offset by its performance in the Middle East and Africa region where sales more than tripled to 277,931 units, of which 207,900 were produced in Iran under a Peugeot license. It also saw growth in Latin America where turnover was up by 8.5 percent in the first half with the sale of 96,357 vehicles. If the planned takeover of GM's Europe business is successful, it would see PSA regaining its position as the second-biggest car manufacturer in Europe after Germany's Volkswagen group.—AFP

## PERSONAL COMPUTER MARKET CONTINUES TO SLUMP

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Worldwide shipments of personal computers (PC) continued to slump in the recently ended quarter but showed signs of stabilizing, according to figures released Wednesday by market trackers. Preliminary estimates released by Gartner indicated that 61.1 million PCs were shipped in the second quarter of this year in a 4.3 percent decline from the same period a year earlier. An IDC Worldwide Quarterly Personal Computer Device Tracker report put the figure at 60.5 million in a year-over-year decline of 3.3 percent.

Higher prices due to tight supplies of

some components, particularly solid state drives, were felt to be among factors that hampered sales. Gartner maintained that the PC industry is in the midst of a 5 year slump, and said the latest figures represented an 11th straight quarter of declining shipments. "Amid some unevenness in market trends across the regions, the global PC market has continued to trend toward stabilization," IDC research manager Jay Chou said in a release.

"Despite recent issues wrought by component shortages and its effect on system prices, we expect the momentum of commercial market replacements will

contribute to eventual market growth." Chou expected consumer demand for PCs to remain under pressure, but saw potential boosts from the growing popularity of powerful computers for game play and sleek new Windows machines. Factors hitting PC sales included growing demand for Google-backed Chromebook laptops that essentially act as gateways to services and computing power hosted in the internet cloud, according to Gartner.

Worldwide Chromebook sales grew by 38 percent last year, while the overall PC market shrank six percent, Gartner reported. "The Chromebook is not a PC

replacement as of now, but it could be potentially transformed as a PC replacement if a few conditions are met going forward," said Gartner principal analyst Mikako Kitagawa.

"For example, infrastructure of general connectivity needs to improve; mobile data connectivity needs to become more affordable; and it needs to have more offline capability." Both market trackers ranked HP as the top computer seller, saying its sales have grown despite the shrinking market. HP was followed by Lenovo, Dell and Apple in that order. —AFP



**Hildesheim:** Picture shows a Mercedes Benz car of German auto giant Daimler AG undergoing a TUEV technical inspection in Hildesheim, northern Germany. —AFP

## GERMAN DAIMLER MANIPULATED EMISSIONS IN ONE MILLION CARS

### INVESTIGATORS SUSPECT USE OF DEFEAT DEVICE

**FRANKFURT AM MAIN:** German luxury automaker Daimler manipulated the engines of around one million diesel vehicles to make them appear less polluting, local media reported yesterday, raising echoes of competitor Volkswagen's 'dieseltgate' scandal. "The Stuttgart-based firm sold vehicles with higher levels of damaging emissions than allowed for almost a whole decade between 2008 and 2016, in Europe and the United States," daily Sueddeutsche Zeitung said.

Along with regional broadcasters NDR and WDR, the newspaper had access to a search warrant from a Stuttgart court allowing prosecutors to raid 11 sites belonging to the Mercedes-Benz and Smart maker in late May. Investigators suspect that the world's largest luxury carmaker used a similar so-called "defeat device" to Volkswagen, which in 2015 admitted to manipulating emissions readings on some 11 million diesel vehicles worldwide.

Software in the motor runs the emissions treatment system at a higher setting when it detects the vehicle is undergoing regulatory testing. Investigators believe cars fitted with the OM 642 and OM 651 engines filter out 95-99 percent of harmful nitrogen oxides under test conditions, but only between 35-85 percent in real on-road driving. The motors were built into more than one million cars and vans by Daimler, including C, E and R class Mercedes.

A Daimler spokeswoman contacted by AFP declined to comment on an ongoing investigation, but said the carmaker was cooperating with the authorities. Prosecutors reiterated that two employees from the team that created the software are

under formal investigation on suspicion of fraud and false advertising, neither of them senior executives.

#### Initial suspicion

"We have always said that there is an initial suspicion of manipulation in emissions treatment of diesel engines from Daimler," a spokesman for the Stuttgart prosecutors' office said. According to the warrant, prosecutors sought to recover emails between 99 Daimler employees during the raids in May, one of them a member of the group's executive board. The document suggests that officials believe more people were involved than the two presently targeted, and expect suspects will be added to the probe. Daimler also faces an investigation by the United States Department of Justice, as well as a number of class-action lawsuits in the US accusing it of false advertising. After the Volkswagen scandal broke in September 2015, a German investigation revealed emissions irregularities in vehicles from 16 different manufacturers in spring 2016. Daimler was one of five German carmakers identified in the probe, and agreed to recall around 280,000 cars and small vans for a software update to meet European emissions limits.

But that episode did not resemble Volkswagen's diesel cheating, as manufacturers had exploited a loophole allowing cars to shut down exhaust treatment under certain conditions, such as low external temperatures. Shares in Daimler AG were one of the worst performers on Germany's blue-chip DAX index Thursday morning, losing 0.95 percent to trade at 64.84 euros (\$73.94) by 1010 GMT, against a market up 0.33 percent. —AFP

## FRANCE TO APPEAL GOOGLE TAX RULING

**PARIS:** The French government will appeal a court ruling that US internet giant Google is not liable for 1.12 billion euros (\$1.27 billion) in taxes claimed by the state, Budget Minister Gerald Darmanin said yesterday. "We will appeal this ruling to safeguard the interests of the state," Darmanin told parliament. The court ruled Wednesday that France could not claim tax on revenues generated by Google in France that were transferred to its Irish subsidiary GIL. Taxes are far lower in Ireland, a legal loophole prized by many multinationals in Europe.

The French claim was the latest in a series against the California-based group, with Britain and Italy agreeing settlements over the Irish tax arrangement. European action has become increasingly aggressive against US technology giants Amazon, Facebook and Apple as well as Google. The EU hit Google with a record 2.4 billion euro fine on June 27 for abusing its dominant position in the search engine business and illegally favoring its own shopping service over rivals.

Newly elected French President Emmanuel Macron promised to get tough on US internet giants during his campaign, seeing their low tax rates as a source of resentment about globalization and unfair on European companies. The French claim is a fraction of the company's annual profits. In April, Alphabet, Google's parent company, declared a 29 percent jump in profit to \$5.4 billion in the first quarter of 2017. —AFP

## INDIA'S TCS PROFITS FALL BY 6%

**MUMBAI:** India's largest IT services firm Tata Consultancy Services reported a nearly 6 percent fall in quarterly earnings yesterday owing to a strengthening rupee, the company said. Net profit for the three months ending June fell to 59.5 billion rupees (\$923.2 million) from 63.18 billion rupees for the same period last year, the software giant said in a statement. "During the quarter high currency volatility, including sharp rupee appreciation against the dollar, resulted in (6.5 billion rupees) loss in reported revenues," chief financial officer V. Ramakrishnan said in a statement.

For the quarter TCS reported revenue of 295.8 billion rupees, marginally up from 293 billion rupees for the same period last year. TCS gets about 82 percent of its revenues from the US and Europe and a strengthening rupee hurts profits. India's \$150-billion IT sector has long been one of its flagship industries but is facing upheaval in the face of automation, a failure to keep up with new technologies and US President Donald Trump's clampdown on visas.

Indian media has reported major IT firms are gradually laying off thousands of staff while research has claimed hundreds of thousands of jobs could disappear in the next four years. The companies themselves have refused to comment on numbers. TCS competitor Infosys is set to release its first quarter results today. —AFP





LA PAZ: In this photo, people walk next to a mini mansion decorated in the Transformers animated cartoon characters motif, in La Paz, Bolivia.—AP photos

## TRANSFORMER-THEME BUILDINGS RISE IN WORLD'S HIGHEST BIG CITY

**EL ALTO, Bolivia:** The Transformers have been transformed yet again. Already featured as toys and video games, comic books, television series and movies, they've now been reconfigured as exuberantly colorful multistory buildings that loom unexpectedly over the hardscrabble streets of El Alto, the world's highest big city. A fan of the series, Santos Churata, designs the facades and interiors of lurid colors, jutting angles and plenty of gleaming metal.

"I think it brings out your inner child. The owner feels part of the movies," Churata said. So far, the 33-year-old has designed five buildings inspired by the Optimus and Sentinel Prime characters and one by a non-Transformer robot, "The Iron Giant." The rental ballroom on the ground floor of one five-story building looks like the interior of a gargantuan toy. Apartments hide behind the gaudy decor on the floors above.

"It's as if you were on a journey to the future

or to space, with tridimensional figures that make you feel as if you're in constant movement," Churata said. El Alto, at an elevation of nearly 14,000 feet (more than 4,100 meters) is a fast-growing city of roughly 1 million people that neighbors Bolivia's capital of La Paz. It's an often chaotic place, the streets crowded with vendors selling all manner of goods, many of them counterfeit knockoffs of well-known brands.

The Transformer buildings themselves are

an unlicensed homage to the franchise held by Hasbro, which did not respond to a request for comment. Until now, the city's best known architectural features have been colorful mini-mansions adorned with indigenous Andean symbols that have been built for a new middle class in a country that has seen rapid economic growth over the past decade. The Transformers treatment can sharply raise the price of the structures. But Churata insists it's worth the price: "If it makes you happy, why not?"—AP



EL ALTO: In this photo, Valerio Condori poses for a photo in the ballroom in his mini-mansion called 'The Iron Giant' built to resemble a non-Transformer robot animated cartoon character motif, in El Alto, Bolivia.



EL ALTO: In this photo, a mini-mansion called 'Golden Prime' decorated in the Transformers animated cartoon characters motif, stands in El Alto, Bolivia.

## FARAH TO MAKE BIRMINGHAM HIS BRITISH TRACK FAREWELL

**LONDON:** Athletics legend Mo Farah will run his final race as a track athlete in Britain at the Diamond League meeting in Birmingham on August 20, the organisers announced yesterday. The 34-year-old—a four-time Olympic champion—had been expected to bring the curtain down on his track career in Britain when he attempts a third successive world championship double

in the 5000 and 10000 metres at the London Stadium.

The championships-in the stadium where he memorably won double Olympic gold in 2012 — run from August 4 to August 13. However, Farah—who warmed up for the worlds with a gritty win in the 3000m at last Sunday's Diamond League meet in London—will give it one last hurrah in Birmingham

before he turns his focus to road racing, primarily marathons.

"I'm really looking forward to what will be my final track race in Britain at the Grand Prix Birmingham on August 20, and I'm sure it will be a day I remember for the rest of my life," said Farah on the Athletics Weekly website. "To get the opportunity to say goodbye to the track in front of a British crowd is

something that means a lot to me and I hope I can take everything in. "I've run many great races at the Alexander Stadium over the years, and have a history there, so it's a fitting venue for my last track race.

"The meet is only a week after the world championships, so it will be a great chance for the fans who didn't make it down to London to see me race." — AFP

## CRUSADERS, LIONS BATTLE FOR TOP SUPER SPOT

**SYDNEY:** Canterbury Crusaders and the Golden Lions are embroiled in a final-round battle this weekend to claim the top rankings spot and home advantage throughout the Super Rugby playoffs. The Crusaders, just two points ahead of the Johannesburg-based Lions, must beat defending champions Wellington Hurricanes to go into next week's top-eight play-offs as top seed and in the box seat to host the final on August 5. Should the seven-time champions stumble in Wellington tomorrow then the Lions could leapfrog them to finish top of the final-season standings if they down the Coastal Sharks in Durban later that day. Eight teams have already qualified for the play-offs with the top four conference winners having home advantage in the first week of the finals against the fifth to eighth-placed wild card teams.

Only the exact final places are to be decided this weekend. All Blacks TJ Perenara, Beauden Barrett and Ardie Savea return for the Hurricanes against Crusaders, in the only changes to the team that started during last month's 31-31 draw with the touring British and Irish Lions. The Crusaders are vying to retain their unbeaten Super Rugby record and ensure they finish top of the regular season ladder, giving them home advantage throughout the play-offs. A win for the Hurricanes would mean a trip to Canberra to play the Brumbies in the quarter-finals, while a loss would send the defending champions off to Cape Town to face the Western Stormers.

### VENGEFUL SHARKS

The Lions face a vengeful Sharks, still rankled by their dramatic 34-29 loss at Ellis Park earlier this season. "We have been looking forward to this game for some time, especially after what happened at Ellis Park where we felt we should have won, so we are definitely excited about this one," Sharks scrum-half Cobus Reinach said.

"In that Johannesburg game it did not work out. Hopefully we can put in a great performance and it will go our way this time." The Sharks can avoid a long trip to play the Crusaders in the first week of the finals if they beat the Lions with a bonus point and the Otago Highlanders are upset at home by Australia's Queensland Reds.

Centre Juan de Jongh and loose forward Sikhumbuzo Notshe will be available for selection for the third-ranked Stormers against the Northern Bulls at Loftus Versfeld on Saturday.

Australian conference winners ACT Brumbies have made 12 changes to the team that was beaten by the Reds in Brisbane last week for their final game of the regular season against the Waikato Chiefs in Hamilton. Only winger Henry Speight, fly-half Wharenui Hawera and flanker Scott Fardy remain from the side that went down by a point at Suncorp Stadium, as head coach Stephen Larkham rests players ahead of their home quarter-final against either the Hurricanes or the Chiefs on July 21.

In this weekend's other games with no finals bearing, Western Force may play their final game in Super Rugby against the New South Wales Waratahs in Perth, the Rebels host Argentina's Jaguares in Melbourne and Japan's Sunwolves take on the Auckland Blues in Tokyo.

The Southern Kings and Central Cheetahs, already officially dumped from the 2018 competition, play their final Super Rugby game in Port Elizabeth.— AFP



**AUCKLAND:** File photo shows referee Roman Poite gestures as he talks to New Zealand captain Kieran Read during the third and final rugby Test between the British and Irish Lions and the All Blacks at Eden Park in Auckland, New Zealand last week. —AP

### RUGBY

## ALL BLACKS TO BOLSTER NZ TEAMS IN SUPER RUGBY'S LAST ROUND

**WELLINGTON:** As many as a dozen All Blacks who played in last weekend's third Test against the British and Irish Lions will line up for either the Crusaders or Hurricanes tomorrow in a crucial New Zealand derby in the last round of the Super Rugby regular season.

The importance of the match for the defending champion Hurricanes is underscored by the fact that all of their available All Blacks - including six who played in the drawn Test at Eden Park - are backing up only seven days later.

Fullback Jordie Barrett and center Ngani Laumape, who both made their first starting appearances for the All Blacks last weekend, return to the Wellington-based Hurricanes backline along with winger Julian Savea, flyhalf Beauden Barrett and scrumhalf T.J. Perenara. Backrower Ardie Savea was included among the forwards and will start beside lock Vaea Fifita, who made his All Blacks debut against Samoa last month.

The Crusaders had still to name their lineup but All Blacks lock Sam Whitelock was expected to return to the captaincy and other veterans of the Lions' series, including props Joe Moody and Owen

Franks, hooker Codie Taylor and winger Israel Dagg were under consideration. While much has been decided in the 17-week regular season, much is at stake in what may be a dramatic round in which the playoff fate of some teams will depend on the results achieved by others.

The four conference winners have already been found - the Crusaders in New Zealand, the Canberra-based Brumbies in Australia and the Lions and Stormers in South Africa - but seedings through the playoffs will be determined this weekend.

### HOME ADVANTAGE

If the Crusaders beat the Hurricanes, they will finish the regular season unbeaten and will take the No. 1 seeding which guarantees home advantage through the playoffs. If they lose, the Johannesburg-based Lions can take the No.1 seeding with a win over the Durban-based Sharks.

The Lions and Crusaders can't be displaced from the No.1 and No.2 seedings. The Cape Town-based Stormers and Canberra-based Brumbies have the No. 3 and No. 4 seedings sewn up by virtue of their top placings in their conferences.

The Dunedin-based Highlanders are

likely to finish as the No. 7 seed and the Sharks as the No. 8 seed if, as expected, they lose to the Lions tomorrow. That would mean the No. 1 seed - either the Crusaders or the Lions - will likely host the Sharks in the quarterfinals and the No. 2 seed will likely face 2015 champions the Highlanders. Things become complicated and more urgent from that point.

The No. 4 seeded Brumbies will face either the Hurricanes or the Hamilton-based Chiefs depending on which of those teams finishes in fifth place. The Hurricanes have to beat the Crusaders to achieve that finish, while the Chiefs have an easier assignment against the Brumbies. The Chiefs have decided to rest All Blacks Brodie Retallick, Anton Lienert-Brown and Sam Cane who played in all three tests against the Lions but have selected flyhalf Aaron Cruden, who came off the bench in each of those matches.

The Brumbies, who can't be displaced from first place in the Australian conference, are resting 12 frontline players to ensure their fitness for the playoffs. That may hand the Chiefs a win which carries them into fifth place and into a rematch with the Brumbies in the quarterfinals.—AP

## CYCLING

FROOME KEEPING  
EYE ON KEY STAGE

**PAU:** Chris Froome believes the 12th stage of the Tour de France will be key to claiming a fourth overall title. The 32-year-old Briton leads the race by 18 seconds from Fabio Aru but the overall contenders face a daunting task ahead of them. "It's a tough day, over 200km, we go over some big climbs—the Port de Bales is the most significant climb of the day, the third from final one," said Froome.

"We go down just before the final climb... and then 4km up to the finish." It's a 214.5km Pyrenean mountain stage from Pau to Peyragudes that includes six categorised climbs, with riders expected to spend more than six hours in the saddle.

Five years ago Froome finished second to Spain's Alejandro Valverde on the 17th stage finish at Peyragudes, a stage which Froome believes he could have won had he not been ordered to wait for his then-team leader Bradley Wiggins. "It's a bit different to 2012 this time. The finish is on an airstrip, an uphill airstrip with an over 20 percent gradient.

"It's savage! If someone blows over those last few hundred metres, there could be some significant time gaps."

July 13 also marks an important anniversary in British cycling as it is 50 years since the death of Tom Simpson during the 1967 Tour on Mont Ventoux due to a mix of heat exhaustion and a cocktail of performance-enhancing drugs. "Certainly Tom Simpson left a legacy on which I'd like to believe a lot of us British guys racing in the Tour de France continue to build upon," added the race leader.

Froome has unfinished business with this stage finish and he admitted to having felt "frustration" in 2012 when ordered to wait for Wiggins rather than chase down Valverde.

He missed out on the stage win by just 19 seconds and certainly appeared to be strong enough to catch the Spaniard.

But this time he's more concerned with holding onto the yellow jersey. "There are only two uphill finishes now... so it's going to really be one of the key stages to this year's race," added Froome. He said he will be sticking to second-placed Aru "like glue" as his lead over the Italian is just 18 seconds.

But that might give third-placed Romain Bardet of France the chance to make up his own 51sec deficit. And he believes the stage is ideal for him. "There are many queen stages at the Tour de France, and this is an important stage—a beautiful mountain stage with a summit finish," said the 27-year-old AG2R leader.—AFP

PACQUIAO TO 'CONTINUE TO  
FIGHT', HORN SEEKS REMATCH

**MANILA:** Manny Pacquiao says he will "continue to fight" as the new World Boxing Organization welterweight champion Jeff Horn called for a rematch to validate the Australian's stunning victory. Philippines legend Pacquiao, winner of an unprecedented eight world titles in different weight divisions, defiantly suggested he was not ready to hang up his gloves after controversially losing to Horn in Brisbane on July 2. "I love this sport and until the passion is gone, I will continue to fight for God, my family, my fans and my country," the 38-year-old declared on social media.

A bloodied picture of his face accompanied the posts on his Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts and appeared to open the way for a rematch. The posts were made Wednesday as Horn was telling reporters in the United States he was the deserving winner of the bout but that only a rematch will settle the controversy.

Horn stunned the boxing world with a unanimous 12-round decision over Pacquiao, a hotly contested result that triggered an outcry in the Philippines. The WBO moved to quell the controversy by re-scoring the fight with a different set of judges—who found that Horn won by seven rounds to five. "I kind of feel it has been put to bed and that I definitely won the fight because it has been rescored," Horn told AFP in Los Angeles. "But people are always going to have their opinions and you're not going to be able to change those. So I guess the only way you're going to be able to do it is to have a rematch. And I think I would do better a second time." Pacquiao's camp did not immediately respond to AFP on Thursday when asked about Horn's challenge.—AFP



**TOKYO:** This file photo taken on June 04, 2016 shows Japanese parliamentarian and mixed martial artist Antonio Inoki, who fought boxing legend Muhammad Ali in 1976 (background), speaking at a press conference at a hotel in Tokyo following the news of Ali's death.—AFP

## BOXING

ARUM PROMOTED INFAMOUS BOUT  
BETWEEN MUHAMMAD ALI, INOKI

**LOS ANGELES:** There are many in the boxing world who are appalled by the prospect of Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor climbing into a ring next month.

Bob Arum is, emphatically, not one of them. After more than half a century in the fight game, the legendary 85-year-old promoter often gives the impression of a man who has seen it all before. And when it comes to cross-code duels in the vein of Mayweather-McGregor, he has.

Forty-one years ago, Arum promoted the infamous Tokyo bout between Muhammad Ali and Japanese professional wrestler Antonio Inoki. That shambolic night at the Nippon Budokan arena on June 26 1976 saw Inoki spend most of the bout on his back, attempting to kick out at Ali's legs. Ali meanwhile threw only six punches in 15 rounds of farce. The spectacle is widely seen as a tawdry lowpoint in Ali's glittering career, a cynical, no-holds-barred grab for a multi-million-dollar payday. Or as Arum remembers it: "It was the most atrocious crap that I've ever put on."

The contest had been born a year earlier when Ali met Ichiro Hata, the president of the Japanese Amateur Wrestling Association, and mischievously lamented about the fact that he had never faced an Asian challenger. The remark caught Inoki's attention and soon Ali was being offered \$6 million to fight the Japanese wrestler.

Arum recalled a fruitless attempt to hash out the ground rules for the fight between himself, Ali's trainer Angelo Dundee, manager Herbert Muhammad

and Inoki's handlers.

## 'IT'S ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR!'

"I spent two weeks in a conference room in Tokyo, with the Japanese, trying to get rules for that fight. And in the end we went into that fight without any rules at all," Arum told reporters at a recent lunch in Los Angeles. "Inoki spent most of the fight on his back kicking out at Ali. There was one round where he stood up and Ali threw a punch and he missed him by two feet. By two feet! Because Ali was frustrated. But Inoki staggered back into the ropes like he'd been hit. It was ridiculous."

According to Arum, the plan had initially been to concoct a stage-managed conclusion to the fight that would have kept all sides happy. US wrestling promoter Vince McMahon came up with a narrative that would have seen Inoki declared the winner while Ali could claim a moral victory. "Vince figured out a scenario, which I didn't take that seriously, where Ali would get Inoki on the ropes," Arum said. "And Inoki as a professional wrestler, would have a razor in his mouth, and he would cut his own eyebrow, so he'd be bleeding and everything. And Ali would have him on the ropes and ask the referee to stop the fight, and the referee would refuse. "And eventually Ali would turn his back on Inoki and plead with the referee to stop the fight. At which point Inoki would jump on Ali and get him to the canvas and the referee would count '1-2-3 out' and declare Inoki the winner. "And then Ali was supposed to yell 'It's another Pearl Harbor!'. But Ali got spooked when

he got there and he wouldn't go through with it. "So after that we spent two weeks trying to figure out what the rules would be. And we couldn't come up with anything."

## BAD FOR BOXING? -

Memories of Tokyo perhaps explain why Arum is unwilling to join the legions of critics who have disparaged Mayweather and McGregor August 26 fight as being "bad for boxing."

"Mayweather-McGregor will make a lot of money for the people involved," Arum said. "The idea of whether its good for boxing is sort of irrelevant. I don't even know what 'Good or bad for boxing' means. It really has nothing to do with boxing as it carries on."

"It's a spectacle. And people will either watch it or they won't. And that's why those kind of questions bother me because nobody is putting a gun to anybody's head."

"If you want to buy the fight and pay the \$100 to watch it on pay-per-view then you do, if you don't, you don't. It's the free market. And the free market should be able to exist without people telling them that it's good for boxing or not good for boxing. Let them do it."

"But at the same time, do I think it's going to be a real fight? No I don't." Arum also had a warning for anyone expecting to see Mayweather risk trading blows with McGregor, predicting that the 40-year-old former welterweight king would opt for the sort of cagey style which marked his fight with Manny Pacquiao in 2015.—AFP

## BASEBALL CHASING DODGERS, ASTROS ON EVE OF SECOND HALF

**CHICAGO:** The Washington Nationals have Bryce Harper anchoring one of baseball's best lineups, and a glaring hole at the back of their bullpen. The Boston Red Sox are enjoying life with Chris Sale, and missing David Ortiz at times. The Chicago Cubs are searching for answers for their pesky championship hangover.

The Los Angeles Dodgers and Houston Astros are looking down at the rest of the majors right now, and it's quite a gap at the moment. With the All-Star Game in the rearview mirror and the trade deadline inching closer, the World Series favorites are as clear as the beautiful blue waters of Miami that hosted

baseball's best players for the past couple days. The Dodgers and Astros are each on pace to win 100-plus games, something that hasn't happened for two teams in a single season since the St. Louis Cardinals and New York Yankees in 2004.

"I don't think there's one key, but I think that's probably why we're doing so well - is that there's not one specific thing you can hone in on as to why we're playing so well," Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw said.

Los Angeles leads the majors with a 61-29 record, one game better than Houston and 7 1/2 ahead of second-place Arizona in the loaded NL West. The Dodgers' plus-163 run dif-

ferential is the best in National League history at the All-Star break, according to STATS LLC.

Kershaw has been, well, Kershaw, and Kenley Jansen remains one of the majors' best closers. But rookie Cody Bellinger has provided an unexpected lift with 25 homers, and left-hander Alex Wood is 10-0 with a 1.67 ERA.

"Every night it's somebody different, and that's a sign of a good team," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "It seems like I say depth every single night, but that's probably been the biggest reason for our success."

The Astros are feeling pretty good, too. Led by All-Stars Carlos Correa, Jose Altuve and George Springer, they top the majors in runs,

hits, home runs, RBIs and batting average. Perhaps most importantly, they also have a whopping 16 1/2-game lead in the AL West, allowing them to go slowly with Dallas Keuchel after the 2015 AL Cy Young Award winner was shelved by a neck injury.

"You don't think you're going to play that well but you don't think you're going to play badly either," Springer said. "I'll take it." A year ago, the Cubs were in the same position as the Dodgers and Astros, on top of the game heading into the second half of the season. They went on to their first World Series championship since 1908, but their title defense has been one bumpy ride so far. —AP



**LAS VEGAS:** Lonzo Ball #2 of the Los Angeles Lakers drives to the basket against Jonah Bolden #43 of the Philadelphia 76ers during the 2017 Summer League at the Thomas & Mack Center on Wednesday in Las Vegas, Nevada. —AFP

### BASKETBALL

## BALL SCORES 36 FOR LAKERS IN NBA SUMMER LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

**LOS ANGELES:** Lonzo Ball's dud of a debut is long forgotten. And on Wednesday night, so were his Big Baller Brand sneakers. Now he has the best game of the NBA Summer League - and another playoff game for a chance to top it. Ball had 36 points, 11 assists, eight rebounds and five steals to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to a 103-102 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers in their opening game of the tournament stage. The No. 2 overall draft pick came back from a one-game absence - and did so wearing Nike Kobe AD sneakers instead of a pair from the line that his father, LaVar, is marketing for \$495 a pair. Then he brought the Lakers back from a 15-point deficit to claim a spot in the round of 16 on Thursday against No. 2 seed Cleveland. Ball was having an up-and-down start to his pro career in Las Vegas. He was 2 for 15 from the field in an opening loss, responded with a triple-double in another loss, then sat out the third game with a sore groin as critics said he was avoiding having to face No. 5 pick De'Aaron Fox in that game against Sacramento. Ball looked fine Wednesday while playing against a Philadelphia team playing without Markelle Fultz, the player drafted before Ball who is sitting out with an ankle injury. The point guard from UCLA scored 28 points in the second half, but the Lakers couldn't get him the ball on an inbounds pass trailing by one. Instead, Ivaca Zubac got free and was fouled with 4.6 seconds left, making both free throws to give the No. 15 seeds the lead for good.

### WARRIORS 77, TIMBERWOLVES 69

Patrick McCaw scored 26 points, Jordan Bell had another big defensive effort and the Warriors won their opening game of the tournament stage. After losing all three games of the preliminary round, the 22nd-seeded Warriors avenged a loss to the Timberwolves in the sudden-death second overtime a night earlier and advanced to a second-round game against No. 6 Boston, which is 3-0 in Las Vegas. McCaw, a UNLV product who started for the eventual NBA champions in the first round while Kevin Durant was injured, was 10 for 16 from the field back on his college campus. Bell, a second-round pick from Oregon whose rights

were acquired by the Warriors, had six points, 16 rebounds and three blocked shots. He had 11 rebounds and six blocks in the final preliminary game. C.J. Williams, who hit the winning basket in that matchup, topped the No. 11 Timberwolves with 19 points.

### SUNS 97, JAZZ 81

No. 4 pick Josh Jackson had 21 points and 15 rebounds to power 13th-seeded Phoenix into a round of 16 matchup with unbeaten Memphis. Dragan Bender and Mike James each added 18 points for the Suns (2-2), who will meet the fourth-seeded Grizzlies on Thursday. Utah rested rookie Donovan Mitchell a night after his 37-point performance and fell to 0-4. Eric Griffin had 18 points and 10 rebounds for the No. 20 seed.

### KINGS 69, BUCKS 65

Skal Labissiere had 19 points and nine rebounds, Georgios Papagiannis added 17 points and 13 boards, and short-handed Sacramento advanced with its first victory. All-Rookie selection Buddy Hield and No. 5 pick De'Aaron Fox sat out, then college player of the year Frank Mason left after 4 minutes with an apparent ankle injury. But rookie Justin Jackson from North Carolina shook off a 2-for-14 night from the field to make two free throws with the game tied at 65 with 13.2 seconds remaining, and the No. 19 Kings (1-3) moved on to a meeting with unbeaten and third-seeded Dallas. Rashad Vaughn and Sterling Brown scored 12 points apiece for the No. 14 Bucks (1-3).

### PELICANS 105, HAWKS 95

Quinn Cook had 26 points, seven assists and five rebounds as New Orleans picked up its first victory after three losses. Cheick Diallo and Jalen Jones each added 21 points for the No. 24 seeds, who advance to face No. 8 San Antonio. John Collins had 25 points and nine rebounds for ninth-seeded Atlanta (2-2). —AP

### WNBA

## GRINER PRODUCES 10TH CAREER DUNK, AS MERCURY BEAT ATLANTA

**PHOENIX:** Brittney Griner had her 10th career dunk and scored 28 points to help the Phoenix Mercury beat the Atlanta Dream 89-84 on Wednesday night. Griner's offensive rebound and layup extended Phoenix's lead to 85-82 with 44 seconds left. After Elizabeth Williams' basket at the other end, Diana Taurasi hit her sixth 3-pointer with 12.1 seconds to go for a four-point lead. Taurasi finished with 20 points for Phoenix (11-6), which opened the fourth on a 17-6 run for a 78-73 lead. Griner made all 10 of her free throws and Phoenix hit 22 straight free throws - a franchise record for a single game - before Camille Little missed with 2.9 seconds left. Layshia Clarendon scored 21 points on 9-of-12 shooting and had 10 assists for Atlanta (8-9). Brittney Sykes added 16 points, and Williams grabbed 10 rebounds. Atlanta started the third on a 19-9 spurt, with nine points by Tiffany Hayes and six by Clarendon, for a 65-53 lead.

### SUNS 83, STORM 79

Shekinna Stricklen made a career-high seven 3-pointers to equal a franchise record, accounting for all 21 of her points in Connecticut's victory over the Seattle Storm. Stricklen was 7 of 10 from 3-point range. She equaled Nykesha Sales' team record from 2000. Jasmine Thomas added 15 points, six assists and five steals to help Connecticut (11-7) win its fifth straight. Jonquel Jones had 14 points and 12 rebounds, and Alyssa Thomas had 13 points, eight rebounds and five assists. Breanna Stewart pulled Seattle to 78-77 with 3:18 left, but the Storm's next points came on Jewell Loyd's basket with 31 seconds to go, making it 81-79. Connecticut missed on its next possession, and Stewart was called for an offensive foul with 10.6 seconds left. Courtney Williams made two free throws with 9.4 seconds left for a two-possession lead. Stewart had 22 points and eight rebounds for Seattle (8-10). Loyd added 17 points and six assists, and Sue Bird had 15 points and seven assists.

### STARS 79, FEVER 72

Kayla McBride scored 18 points and Erika de Souza had 14 points and seven rebounds as San Antonio beat Indiana for its first road victory. Hamby added 13 points and rookie Kelsey Plum had career highs of 12 points, six rebounds and four assists for San Antonio (2-16). Candice Dupree scored 14 points for Indiana (7-10). The Fever set a franchise best on kids' day with a crowd of 12,282.

### SKY 90, WINGS 84

Allie Quigley made five 3-pointers and scored 22 points, Jessica Breland had 12 points and 12 rebounds, and Chicago beat Dallas. Keisha Hampton added four 3s and scored 12 points. Chicago (5-12) was 12 of 25 from 3-point range. Skylar Diggins-Smith led Dallas (9-11) with 20 points, and Allisha Gray added 18. —AP

## CRICKET AUSTRALIA, PLAYERS ARE A 'WIDE' APART IN PAY DISPUTE

**MELBOURNE:** The chairman of Cricket Australia has heavily criticized the country's top players for their stance in a long-running pay dispute, and accused their union of a "reckless strategy that can only damage the game."

In an opinion piece for The Australian newspaper, Cricket Australia chairman David Peever said he was a victim of "personality focused myth-making." Those comments, combined with social media posts from Australia captain Steve Smith earlier this week, suggest the game's governing body and its top players are further apart than ever.

Peever, a former managing director of mining giant Rio Tinto's Australian operations, wants to erase

the revenue-sharing model that has helped determine player payments since the first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the administration and the Australian Cricketers' Association was set up 20 years ago.

The previous agreement expired on June 30, but CA and the union remain deadlocked, leaving about 230 players technically unemployed. Last week, the players pulled out of a development tour to South Africa. A two-test tour of Bangladesh scheduled to start in August remains in doubt, and the five-Test Ashes series against England beginning in Brisbane in late November is also under threat.

Former Test stars have urged both sides to reach an

agreement, although there's not unanimous agreement among the ex-players about which side should concede. Cricket Australia chief executive James Sutherland reportedly met with the head of the ACA this week - getting involved in the direct negotiations for the first time - but there was no official word on the outcome of the meeting.

Smith said there was no chance of the players folding in the pay dispute. "I'll say what we as players have been saying for some time now: we are not giving up the revenue-sharing model for all players," Smith said in an Instagram post. "But, through the ACA (we) are willing to make important changes to modernize the existing model for the good of the game." —AP

### CRICKET

## SOUTH AFRICA LOOK TO DU PLESSIS AGAINST ENGLAND

**NOTTINGHAM:** South Africa will hope the return of captain Faf du Plessis leads to a revival in their fortunes in the second Test against England at Nottingham's Trent Bridge starting today. The senior batsman missed the series opener following the birth of his first child but returned in time to see the Proteas suffer a convincing 211-run defeat inside four days at Lord's as England went 1-0 up in the four-match series. Dropped catches and wickets off no-balls cost South Africa dear, while their second innings collapse to 119 all out showed how much they could do with Du Plessis's customary resilience with the bat.

Their task in levelling the series in Nottingham has been complicated by pace bowler Kagiso Rabada being ruled out as he serves a one-game for swearing at Ben Stokes after dismissing the England all-rounder in the first innings at Lord's.

South Africa now face some tricky selection decisions made all the more complicated by the fact that since the end of the first Test, coach Russell Domingo's mother has died from the injuries she suffered in a recent car crash.

South Africa could select both all-rounder Chris Morris and young seamer Duanne Olivier or stick with the same balance, with the struggling JP Duminy in line to make way for du Plessis in any event. "Losing KG (Rabada), do you look at playing a four-seamer attack, because you're losing quite a high-quality bowler?" du Plessis said after South Africa's loss at Lord's.

"That means a batsman would miss out. Obviously, that's one option." South Africa twice gave Joe Root reprieves early in his first innings as England captain, with the new skipper marking the occasion with 190.

"We made a lot of basic mistakes that we don't normally do as a team," said du Plessis. "That will cost you, if you're playing against a strong team like England."

### 'LEAD FROM THE FRONT'

It was a point echoed by fast bowler Morne Morkel, now the holder of the unwanted record for most wickets chalked off for no-balls in Tests. His tally hit 13 after an over-step cost him the dismissal of Stokes at Lord's.

"It's not acceptable, it's a controllable," he said of the no-balls. There will be an even greater responsibility upon Morkel, the most experienced bowler in the attack with 260 wickets in 75 Tests, in Rabada's absence.

"I still have a role as a senior player in the team to lead from the front," he said. Root had a dream start as skipper, a point emphasised by former captain Alastair Cook. "For Joe Root to get off and win a game by 200 runs and get 190, it doesn't get much better than that," said Cook, still in the England side as an opening batsman.

England are set to field an unchanged team after off-spinning all-rounder Moeen Ali took 10 wickets at Lord's and scored 87 in England's first innings, with Hampshire left-arm spinner Liam Dawson likely to retain his place.

Doubts persist, however over Gary Ballance's role at number three while Trent Bridge will be a chance for fast bowler Mark Wood, beset by ankle problems throughout his career, to prove he can stand the strain of back-to-back Tests. "We have bowlers waiting in the wings," said Wood. "Probably if they were fit, I wouldn't have played."

"Chris Woakes had a great year and it will be interesting to see what happens when he's back playing," added Durham quick Wood, who took the Ashes-clinching wicket at Trent Bridge two years ago. "The challenge becomes to prove to you guys, to my team-mates and the coaches that I can play three (matches) in a row." —AFP



**NOTTINGHAM:** South Africa's, from left, Andile Phehlukwayo, Chris Morris and Dean Elgar attend a the nets session at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, England, yesterday. —AP

## SHASTRI TO ALLOW 'FUN' IF INDIA CRICKET STARS REMAIN WINNERS

**NEW DELHI:** India's new coach Ravi Shastri will allow players to have fun as long as they put in the hard work, signalling a more relaxed approach to his taskmaster predecessor Anil Kumble.

"As long as there's a level of commitment, the hard yards are being put in and results are showing, why shouldn't there be fun?" Shastri told the Times of India in an interview released yesterday that could reassure captain Virat Kohli.

Shastri, 55, took over as India's chief coach this week after spin great Kumble quit last month saying his relationship with Kohli had become untenable.

Kumble lasted just a year in the post, amid reports that Kohli resented his style and wanted Shastri brought in. India is the world's number one Test side and its players are used to being treated like stars.

Shastri insisted that contrary to his reputation, he could be authoritarian if needed. "But there's no point in showing authority when it's not required and there's a sense of bonding that works better," the former India all-rounder said in the interview.

Shastri, a popular TV commentator, enjoyed a stellar 11-year career, accumulating 6,938 runs and 280 wickets from 80 Tests and 150 one-day internationals.

He was also known for his flamboyant image, attracting media attention for his alleged affairs and late-night partying. His first assignment starts with India's tour of Sri Lanka this month. "It's not about 'tutoring' them about everything and telling them what and what not to do. There's very little coaching at the highest level," he said.

"It's about fine-tuning and mentoring, about effective communication." —AFP

## BELFAST BRACES FOR HIGH-OCTANE VISIT OF CELTIC

**BELFAST:** Scottish champions Celtic should not have too many problems on the pitch with Northern Irish title holders Linfield in their Champions League second qualifying round first leg today, but they can expect a hostile reception.

The first ever meeting of the two teams will also be the first Champions League game to be played today-to avoid clashing with the tinderbox date of July 12, when Protestants celebrate King William of Orange beating the deposed Catholic ruler James II at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690.

While Celtic retain a Catholic heritage, Linfield's associations are Protestant, and there will be no Celtic fans present at Windsor Park. The Scottish

champions turned down Linfield's offer of 3,000 tickets, a stark contrast to their game against nationalist leaning Cliftonville in Belfast four years ago, when it appeared the entire crowd were best friends.

But even then, with no Linfield involvement, Celtic fans were warned not to wear their jerseys while walking the streets of Belfast before the game. Indeed Wednesday's commemorations for the Battle of the Boyne anniversary showed there was little love for Celtic.

### 'NICE LITTLE EDGE TO IT'

There were green and white shirts on many of the traditional bonfires built for the occasion, with Scott Sinclair, Celtic's English winger, singled out for racist

abuse on one particularly distasteful banner.

Celtic fans, many of whom travel regularly from Ireland to Scotland, were disappointed by their club's decision to reject the offer of tickets from Linfield.

Celtic manager Brendan Rodgers, born less than an hour north of Linfield's Windsor Park, expressed his own disappointment with the news, arguing "it's a different country now".

Rodgers, who has not been to Windsor Park, which is also where the national side play, since he was 14, admits not having the supporters there is a drawback. "I don't see it as a bad tie for us. The only negative to it is that our supporters won't be there," Rodgers told reporters. —AFP



**SYDNEY:** Arsenal player Joe Willock's (R) shot on goal is blocked by Sydney FC goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne (L) as Michael Zullo (C) looks on in their football friendly played in Sydney yesterday. —AFP

### SOCCER

## LACAZETTE SCORES ON DEBUT IN ARSENAL WIN AGAINST SYDNEY

**SYDNEY:** Arsenal's record signing Alexandre Lacazette scored on debut in the Gunners' 2-0 win over Australian champions Sydney FC yesterday. Lacazette, signed last week in a £52.5 million (\$68 million) deal from Lyon, came off the bench in the second half to score Arsenal's second goal before more than 80,000 fans at Sydney's Olympic stadium.

Lacazette side-footed home to beat goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne from close range after skipper Per Mertesacker had opened the scoring for the Gunners in the fourth minute. "It's important that he gets that off his shoulders because you as a striker expect to score, so you could see he was happy," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger told reporters.

"But overall what we look for basically is to play at a good pace and develop our collective game and for long periods in the game that was quite good for us. "They gave us tough opposition, they tried for every ball and I would say at the end of the day their goalkeeper was man of the match."

Up to Lacazette's slick finish Redmayne, a one-time triallist at Arsenal, had denied the Gunners with a string of spectacular saves to give Sydney FC an outside chance of snatching a draw against the English aristocrats. The Gunners got off to a dream start when defender Mertesacker latched onto an overhead kick off a corner from fellow German Mesut Ozil to put his team ahead in the opening minutes.

Mertesacker pivoted and let fly to beat Redmayne from close range. Youngster Reiss Nelson was lively down the right wing and troubled the home defence before he tired late in the half. "All the youngsters did well, Nelson and Joe Willcock had a very strong performance, they are very young, just 18 years old, so that's very promising and they are English as well," Wenger said.

### REDMAYNE ACROBATICS

Sydney made few inroads into Arsenal territory but almost equalised when striker Matt Simon hit the side netting after Petr Cech made a low parry save off a Josh Brillante volley in the box. Redmayne made a double save shortly afterwards and then flung himself to prevent Willock from scoring with three minutes to half-time.

Nelson came close just after the resumption before substitute keeper Emi Martinez had to get down sharply to keep out Chris Zuvela. Arsenal received a dubious penalty decision 10 minutes into the second half when Theo Walcott's shot hit the back of scrambling Sebastian Ryall defender but referee Shaun Evans signalled hand ball and pointed to the spot.

But Redmayne again came to Sydney's aid with a diving save to his right to keep out Danny Welbeck's spot kick. "We made a mistake, we should have given them the ball back, it's always difficult to know how to behave, we should have just rolled the ball back," Wenger said.

"I don't know if Danny Welbeck saw it on video, but on the video it was obvious it was no penalty." Wenger made mass changes midway through the second half, taking off all 10 of his outfield players and among his substitutes on came the club's new record signing Lacazette.

Redmayne again produced another acrobatic save to keep out an Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain free kick. But Lacazette delivered the clinching goal when he finished off Alex Iwobi's cross from the right to find the net.

Arsenal play the second of a double-header of friendly matches in Sydney against Western Sydney Wanderers tomorrow before they head to China. —AFP

## CHELSEA LOOK SET TO SECURE FRENCH MIDFIELDER BAKAYOKO

**LONDON:** Chelsea look set to put the disappointment of losing out on Romelu Lukaku by signing French midfielder Tiemoue Bakayoko, according to the British media yesterday. The 22-year-old-who played a pivotal role in Monaco winning the French title and reaching the Champions League semi-finals last season-will cost the English champions up to 39.7 million pounds (45m euros, \$51.2m), according to The Guardian.

The deal is conditional on him passing a medical-Bakayoko underwent keyhole surgery on his knee after the season ended and is likely to miss the Community Shield match with Arsenal and the first three Premier League games. There had been speculation Manchester United might try and stymie the bid for Bakayoko-who made his senior international debut earlier this year-just as they did with Lukaku, as they broke the record for a deal between British clubs of £75m to prise him away from Everton on Monday. However, Bakayoko-whom Monaco will make a tidy profit on having signed him from Rennes for £7m in 2014 — had always made clear that Chelsea was his preferred destination.

Bakayoko's arrival-which Chelsea hope to conclude by the time they leave for Asia for a pre-season tour next Monday-should see Serbian midfielder Nemanja Matic leave for a similar fee to that of the Frenchman. However, Chelsea are not keen to sell him to the original suitors Manchester United, as relations between the two rivals have cooled considerably since the Lukaku affair.

Bakayoko's signing-joining veteran Argentinian goalkeeper Willy Caballero and German defender Antonio Rudiger as new recruits-would not be the last for manager Antonio Conte.

The 47-year-old Italian, who along with his coaching staff are yet to sign new contracts offered at the end of last term, is hoping to conclude deals for Juventus' Alex Sandro and Spanish international striker Alvaro Morata from Real Madrid.

Morata is Italian Conte's preferred fallback option for Lukaku, having lured him to Juventus in 2014 before leaving to take over as national team coach, and would replace temperamental Spanish striker Diego Costa. Morata told The Guardian earlier this year that he dreamt of playing under Conte because he was a man who had bet on him and understood him.

Costa, whom Conte told was not part of his plans, is likely to rejoin Atletico Madrid even though he would not be able to play for them until January because of the club's transfer ban. —AFP

## CORRUPT FORMER FIFA OFFICIAL BLAZER DEAD

**LOS ANGELES:** Corrupt football official-turned-whistleblower Chuck Blazer, whose evidence helped trigger the FIFA bribery scandal, died Wednesday, his lawyers said. Blazer, who was banned for life from all football activities for corruption in 2015, had been battling cancer up to his death. He was 72.

"We are truly saddened by the passing of our client and friend, Chuck Blazer," his lawyers said in a statement to AFP. "His misconduct, for which he accepted full responsibility, should not obscure Chuck's positive impact on international soccer," the statement added.

The bearded, hulking football official was a pivotal figure in the corruption scandal which convulsed FIFA in 2015 and ultimately led to the downfall of former supremo Sepp Blatter. Yet for years Blazer himself was seen as emblematic of the worst excesses of FIFA during the Blatter era, unapologetically pocketing millions to fund a luxurious, globe-trotting VIP lifestyle. His notorious excesses included a \$18,000-a-month apartment in Trump Tower in New York and a separate \$6,000 unit in the same

building just to keep his mob of unruly cats. Blazer had pleaded guilty in 2013 to charges of racketeering, wire fraud, money laundering and tax evasion as part of a web of corruption that spanned multiple decades. "Chuck felt profound sorrow and regret for his actions," his attorneys said Wednesday. "He expressed sincere remorse towards his former constituents and colleagues, and to all of the soccer players and fans disappointed by his conduct."

While FIFA banned Blazer in 2015, he had in fact cut a deal to work with investigators years earlier, taking recording devices into meetings to help build a case against corrupt officials across the globe.

### 'MR TEN PERCENT'

Blazer had risen to power through his work with CONCACAF, the ruling body for football in North America, Central America and the Caribbean, where he served as general secretary from 1990 until 2011.

He was a powerful member of FIFA's corruption-tainted Executive Committee from 1996 to April

2013, when he was succeeded by US Soccer's Sunil Gulati. Blazer notoriously trousered vast earnings during his years as a football powerbroker, with one estimate suggesting he raked in millions to fund his extravagant lifestyle.

A 2013 report by CONCACAF's integrity committee said Blazer had received more than \$20.6 million in commissions, fees and rental payments from the organisation between 1996 to 2011. Between 2004 and 2011, some \$26 million of CONCACAF expenses were charged to his personal American Express account.

He was a close confidante of former CONCACAF President Jack Warner, who is also facing charges in the United States related to the scandal. Blazer was nicknamed "Mr Ten Percent" due to an arrangement he had with CONCACAF which granted him 10 percent of the regional confederation's revenues.

Blazer was unrepentant about the sums directed his way, however, insisting they were just reward for his work in helping to build the profile of football in the CONCACAF region. —AFP

## MORRIS SCORES TWICE AS US BEAT MARTINIQUE

**TAMPA:** Jordan Morris put the United States back on track in the CONCACAF Gold Cup. Morris' second goal of the game broke a tie in the 76th minute, and the US edged tiny Martinique 3-2 Wednesday night after wasting a two-goal lead against a team that is not even a member of FIFA.

That hardly mattered to Jordan and his teammates, though, who rebounded from a disappointing 1-1 tie against Panama in their tournament opener last weekend. "It's all about team, all about the three points," Morris said after the Americans improved to 31-1-4 during the Gold Cup group stage.

Martinique "made it very tough for us," Morris added. "It was a battle all night." Failing to break through in the first half, the U.S. built a 2-0 lead on goals by Omar Gonzalez in the 53rd minute and Morris in the 64th.

But Martinique, a French overseas department, tied the score on a pair of goals by Kevin Parsemain in the 66th and 74th minutes. The first was a shot from the edge of the arc that took a bounce and went in off goalkeeper Brad Guzan's left arm and the second a shot by Johan Audel that hit a leg of Parsemain, who was down on the field, and deflected in over Guzan, who had stopped Parsemain's initial attempt.

Morris got his fourth international goal just 98 seconds later. He spotted Gyasi Zardes streaking in on the left side, and Zardes laid the ball back for the 22-year-old forward, who scored with a right-footed shot from just past the penalty spot.

"They didn't stop running, didn't stop playing," Gonzalez said. "We need to be smarter, more focused throughout the entire game." The US, which opened last weekend with a 1-1 tie against Panama, completes group play Saturday in Cleveland against Nicaragua, which lost to Panama 2-1 earlier Wednesday.

"We're certainly guilty of making the game a lot more difficult on us than it needed to be," said US coach Bruce Arena, who thought his team played well. The Americans improved 5-0-5 since Arena returned for a second stint as national team coach, replacing Jurgen Klinsmann.

Using a mostly junior varsity lineup in the tournament, the US leads Group B with four points, ahead of Panama on goal difference. Martinique is third with three, following by Nicaragua with none. The top two teams in each of the three groups advance to the quarterfinals along with the two best third place teams.

"I saw a lot of good performances out of some of our players. A lot of positives there," Arena said. "One of the things we're trying to do in this tournament is really look at some players in our pool that we haven't seen much of and help us make some decisions for qualifying in September and October." —AFP



**LONDON:** Spain's Garbine Muguruza returns against Slovakia's Magdalena Rybarikova during their women's singles semi-final match on the tenth day of the 2017 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest yesterday. —AFP

### TENNIS

## MUGURUZA STORMS INTO SECOND WIMBLEDON FINAL

**LONDON:** Garbine Muguruza stormed into her second Wimbledon final in three years with a 6-1, 6-1 demolition of nerve-ridden Magdalena Rybarikova in just 64 minutes on Centre Court yesterday. Muguruza, seeded 14th, took advantage of a woeful performance from the Slovak world number 87 to secure her third Grand Slam final appearance.

The 23-year-old, beaten by Serena Williams in the 2015 Wimbledon final, will take on Britain's Johanna Konta or five-time champion Venus Williams in tomorrow's title match. "I played very well for sure. Today I stepped on court super confident and everything went well," Muguruza said.

"Once you are in these situations before you know how to handle them better. Definitely that helped me. "I'm playing well. I want to keep it up for my last match and hopefully it goes well. "I'm going to enjoy it. Being in a Grand Slam final is a great achievement."

Since winning her maiden Grand Slam title at the French Open last year, Muguruza had endured something of a sophomore slump as

her ranking dropped out of the top 10. But she has rediscovered her mojo on grass, dropping the fewest games of any player in this year's tournament after burying Rybarikova with 22 winners compared to eight from the Slovak.

Muguruza is guaranteed to regain her top 10 ranking next week and would climb into the top five if she wins Wimbledon. She is the first Spanish woman to reach more than one Wimbledon final since Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the 1990s. Rybarikova, the lowest ranked Wimbledon semi-finalist for nine years, was making her first Grand Slam last four appearance at the 36th attempt. That lack of big-game experience seemed to leave the 28-year-old paralysed by stage-fright and a limp double fault gifted Muguruza a break before the crowd had even got comfortable in their seats.

Although Rybarikova had an 18-1 record on grass this season and knocked out new world number one Karolina Pliskova in the second round, she looked completely out of her depth as Muguruza over-powered her from the baseline.

### OUT-CLASSED

Another wayward backhand from the Slovak gave Muguruza a second break and, presented with a 4-0 lead, the Spaniard closed out the set in emphatic style. Muguruza is coached by Conchita Martinez, the only Spanish woman to win Wimbledon in 1994, and her compatriot's knowledge has helped make her a formidable force on grass.

With Muguruza slugging away effectively with her ground-strokes and mixing in occasional forays to the net, Rybarikova was out-classed. Muguruza kept her stranglehold with a break at the start of the second set and when she broke again for a 3-0 lead the mismatch was all over.

Later, Konta has set her sights on Wimbledon history as the world number seven aims to become the first British woman to reach the final for 40 years. Konta is the first British woman to make the Wimbledon semi-finals since Virginia Wade in 1978 and a victory over Williams would make her the first Briton into the women's final since Wade won the title in 1977. —AFP

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# Sports

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017



LONDON: Spain's Garbine Muguruza returns against Slovakia's Magdalena Rybarikova during their women's singles semi-final match on the tenth day of the 2017 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, yesterday. — AFP

## Muguruza storms into second Wimbledon final

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